

NTRP Grievance Protocol

Any USTA League Captain, Coordinator or member of a championship committee has the right to file a NTRP Grievance against a player and/or captain. The grievance will claim that the player and/or captain committed or condoned obtaining a Self Rate or possesses a rating which is at a lower NTRP level but has demonstrated the ability to compete at a higher NTRP level.

League administrators are not required to accept such filings unless the specific claims within the grievance meet certain conditions. The items listed below suggest a framework for administrators to use to judge the admissibility of such filings.

Conditions Which Must Be Present:

1. The Grievance must be against a player of the following rating types: This list includes S, M, T, Dynamic Early Start League and Medical type ratings. A player with a valid NTRP Computer (C) rating, a Benchmark (B) rating, or a granted Automatic Appeal of a Computer (C) rating is not subject to a NTRP grievance.
2. The complaint must state that the player has self-rated or possesses a rating which is too low and may also include information that a team captain or other person conspired to obtain that incorrect rating.
3. Factual information including the player's history that can be validated.

Conditions Which Would Give Credibility to a NTRP Grievance:

- The player participated on a college team at a significant NCAA level (note: age of player, injuries, position on team, and strength of tennis team at particular school could affect a significant change in rating over time).
- The player participated at the professional level (including tennis or other sports).
- The player has earned international, national, sectional or state/district rankings that would reflect a strong probability that the player should have a higher rating.
- The player has ratings equivalent to national or sectional in some other country.
- The player has a history in league tennis and/or sanctioned tournaments that would substantiate a claim that the player has misrepresented their current skill level.
- The player may have produced one or more strikes in her/his current player record. (An administrator should review match results within TennisLink for determination.)
- There is credible written or online documentation that the player answered falsely or omitted information while obtaining a Self Rate.

Contentions or claims that would not, on their own, be accepted as evidence in a NTRP Grievance. However, several of these, presented with additional tennis specific information that clearly suggests a pattern of abuse, may be grounds for filing a NTRP Grievance:

- I haven't lost a match all year and he beat me like a drum!
- My player is at the top of his level and the opponent beat him easily!
- That player is a teaching pro!
- This player won all his matches by a significant margin in straight sets!
- My player is very strong and was beaten 6-0, 6-0!