

F. USTA Junior Suspension Point System

1. *Application.* The USTA Junior Suspension Point System applies to sanctioned Junior tournaments, *except that* it does not apply to Junior Red Ball Tennis Tournaments, and *except that* it does not apply to Junior Orange and Green Ball Tennis tournaments unless authorized by the Sectional Association that sanctioned the tournament. It applies to conduct:
 - During all matches (main draw, compass draw, consolation, qualifying, and doubles);
 - During tournament activities;
 - At tournament facilities; and
 - At facilities, such as hotels, dormitories, and homes where players stay.Additionally each suspension point assessed at ITF Junior tournaments becomes one suspension point under the USTA Junior Suspension Point System.
2. *Suspension points.* After consultation with the Sectional Associations and the USTA Junior Competition Department, the Junior Competition Committee shall determine the violations that will result in suspension points and the number of suspension points for each violation, and annually shall publish the violations and suspension points in **Table 18**.
3. *Reporting misconduct.* Persons who observe misconduct on or off the court should report it to the Referee.
4. *Assessing and reporting suspension points.* Only the Referee, designee of a Sectional Association that sanctions the tournament, or the Director of Junior Competition may assess suspension points. Points shall be assessed pursuant to **Table 18** and reported within three days after the end of a tournament. Failure to report shall not invalidate any penalties imposed or suspension points assessed.

FAC Comment IV.F-1: When a violation occurs that involves a doubles team, suspension points shall be assessed only to the doubles player who was responsible for the violation.

FAC Comment IV.F-2: Suspension points are reported in the TennisLink system. When possible the points should be reported at the end of the day so that they immediately appear in the player's records.

5. *Notification to player of points assessed.* The person filing the suspension point report pursuant to **USTA Regulation IV.F.4.** or that person's designee shall notify the player of the suspension points assessed within seven days after the end of the tournament and shall record the method of notification. Failure to notify the player or record the method of notification shall not invalidate any penalties imposed or suspension points assessed.
6. *Appeal of suspension points.*
 - a. *Suspension points assessed at sectional Junior tournaments.* A Sectional Association, at its discretion, may adopt a procedure for permitting a player to appeal suspension points assessed at Junior tournaments it sanctioned. Points removed from a player's record as a result of an appeal process shall not count toward a suspension.

TABLE 18
Suspension Points

	Violation	Suspension Points
Code Violations	Each code violation (point, game, or default) <i>except that</i> players who receive code violations because of delay immediately after a medical timeout or because of obvious cramping are not assessed suspension points.	2
Defaults *	Default for flagrant unsportsmanlike conduct on or off court	8
	Default for refusal to play or continue to play (for reasons other than illness, injury, or personal circumstance)	5
	Default because of an adult discipline	5
	Default for no-show	5
	Default for late arrival	1
	Disqualification for ineligibility	3
	*Suspension points for defaults are in addition to points previously assessed for code violations.	
Improper Entry or Withdrawal	Being entered when entries close in two or more sanctioned tournaments scheduled to overlap unless each Tournament Committee approves the multiple entries in writing	5
	Withdrawal from tournament after entries closed for reason other than injury, illness, personal circumstance, or previously authorized entry into another tournament	4
Unsportsmanlike Conduct	Unsportsmanlike conduct or inappropriate conduct on court after a match that would have resulted in a code violation had it occurred during the match	2
	Unsportsmanlike conduct or inappropriate conduct off court at locations such as the tournament site, hotel, or tournament sponsored event	5
	Not using best efforts to win	2
Gross Misconduct	Physical violence against another person on or off court by a player, relative, coach, or other person associated with a player	10
	Illegal use or possession of drugs	8
	Possessing or drinking alcoholic beverages	8
	Gambling activity as defined in USTA Regulation IV.C.19.	8
	Destruction of property	8
Playing Under Suspension	Playing in any sanctioned tournament while suspended by USTA or one of its Sectional Associations	10
ITF Suspension Points	Each suspension point assessed at ITF Junior tournaments and USTA International Tournaments becomes one suspension point under the USTA Suspension Point System	1

- b. *Suspension points assessed at national Junior tournaments.* A player may appeal suspension points assessed at national Junior tournaments only after the player has accumulated sufficient points to be suspended.
 - c. *Appeal of suspension points.* After the player has accumulated sufficient points to be suspended, all suspension points are appealable.
 7. *Player suspension.* The USTA shall suspend Junior players according to the following schedule:
 - a. *First suspension.* If a player receives 10 suspension points within a 12-month period, the player shall be suspended from competing in sanctioned tournaments for three months. (If no USTA National Championship falls during the 3-month period, the player shall not be accepted into the USTA National Championship immediately following the 3-month suspension period.) Upon suspension these 10 points shall be cleared from the player's record. All other suspension points shall remain on the player's record and count toward a second suspension.
 - b. *Second suspension.* If a player receives 8 suspension points within the 12 months immediately following the first suspension, the player shall be suspended from competing in sanctioned tournaments for six months. Upon suspension these 8 points shall be cleared from the player's record. All other suspension points shall remain on the player's record and count toward a third suspension.
 - c. *Subsequent suspensions.* If a player receives 6 suspension points within the 12-month period immediately following the second suspension (and any suspensions subsequent to the second suspension), the player shall be suspended from competing in sanctioned tournaments for a period to be determined by the Director of Junior Competition, the Chairperson of the Junior Competition Committee, and one additional member of the Junior Competition and Sportsmanship Committee to be appointed by the Chairperson. The suspension period shall not be less than one year and may be up to the remainder of the player's junior career. These 6 points shall be cleared from the player's record.
 8. *Written notice of suspension to player and Sectional Association.* After the USTA has determined that a player will be suspended, the Director of Junior Competition shall send a notice by first class mail and by certified mail (return receipt requested) to the player at the address shown on the records of the USTA Membership Department with a copy to the player's Sectional Association. The notice shall set forth:
 - That the player is being suspended;
 - The length of the suspension;
 - The player's right to appeal the suspension under **USTA Regulation IV.F.10.**;
 - The procedure for appealing the suspension; and
 - A statement that if the player chooses not to appeal the suspension, then the suspension shall begin 30 days after the date the notice was mailed.

Failure of the Director to notify a Sectional Association shall not invalidate the suspension.

9. *Player may request that suspension start immediately.* When a player accumulates sufficient points to be suspended, the player may request that the suspension period begin immediately. The player shall mail the request by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the Director of Junior Competition. If the Director confirms that the player has accumulated sufficient points to be suspended, the suspension shall begin on the date that the certified notice was mailed.
10. *Right to appeal suspension.*
 - a. *Suspension points at national Junior and ITF Tournaments.* When at least one suspension point that results in a suspension is assessed at a tournament listed on the National Junior Tournament Schedule or at an ITF Junior tournament, any appeal shall be filed with the USTA Grievance Committee in accordance with **USTA Bylaw 43f.ii**. Absent good cause shown, any appeal shall be barred unless it is made in writing within 30 days of mailing the notice of suspension. The notice of appeal shall be mailed first class, certified, or registered mail to the Grievance Chairperson, c/o USTA Office of the General Counsel, 70 West Red Oak Lane, White Plains, New York 10604.
 - b. *All suspension points at tournaments sanctioned by one Sectional Association.* When all suspension points that result in a suspension are assessed at tournaments sanctioned by one Sectional Association, any appeal shall be filed with the Sectional Association that sanctioned the tournaments. Unless the Sectional Association grievance procedures provide a longer period for appeal or absent good cause shown, any appeal shall be barred unless it is made in writing within 30 days of mailing the notice of suspension. The notice of appeal shall be mailed first class, certified, or registered mail to the Grievance Chairperson of the Sectional Association. The Sectional Association shall notify the Director of Junior Competition of the appeal.
 - c. *Suspension points at tournaments sanctioned by more than one Sectional Association.* When suspension points are accumulated at different tournaments sanctioned by different Sectional Associations, the same procedure shall be used as set forth in **USTA Regulation IV.F.10.a**.
11. *Effective date of suspension.*
 - a. If the player does not appeal the suspension, the suspension begins 30 days after the Director of Junior Competition mails the certified notice of suspension to the player or such earlier date as may be requested in writing by the player under **USTA Regulation IV.F.9**.
 - b. If the player appeals the suspension and the appeal is denied, the suspension begins on the date the decision is mailed unless the decision states otherwise or unless a stay is granted.