

## Highlights of the New Junior Structure & Schedule

**Renewed Importance of Sectional Play:** Access to the USTA National Championships will be primarily through Sectional endorsement, and access to Closed USTA Regional Tournaments will be exclusively by endorsement. This will place an increased importance on achieving excellence at the Sectional level before advancing to regional and national competition.

**Concurrent National Tournaments:** During 5 date blocks throughout the year (Feb., May, July, Oct. and Nov.), the USTA will sanction concurrent tournaments with different National Ranking Levels. Players will be able to enter concurrent tournaments, but will be selected for one. The intent is to provide more level-based competition to players of various abilities, improve the competitiveness of the matches, and establish a clear pathway from one level of competition to the next.

**Increased Focus on Team Competition:** Because nationally-ranked players aspire to play college tennis, more team-based competitions at the highest national ranking levels have been added to the schedule: USTA National Doubles Championship, USTA National Spring Team Championships and USTA BG14 Intersectional Team Championships.

**Quota System:** Quota is a mathematical calculation that determines the number of players each Section endorses to Nationals and Closed Regionals. It is currently based solely on size of junior membership. To give weight to the strength of a Section's players, the new quota will be based on 40% size and 60% strength. Strength will be determined by the number of players each Section has in the top 150 in all divisions. The calculation is done at the beginning of each year using data as of December 31.

### Changes to USTA National Championships:

- The 128-draw USTA National Spring Championships is replaced with a 64-draw "Easter Bowl" for BG 16, 14, and 12, that selects players based on national standings. The BG18 ITF events remain unchanged.
- The National Hards and Clays remain on the schedule. All have draws of 128, except the BG18-16 will also have a 64-draw qualifier to qualify eight for the main draw. All qualifier players will be guaranteed two matches and are eligible to play doubles.
- The National Winters remain unchanged.

### New National Tournaments:

- USTA National Selection Tournaments: Four concurrent events will be held four times each year. Entry and selection will be similar to the discontinued USTA National Opens. Three events will have 32 draws, one will be 64.
- USTA BG14 Intersectional Team Championships: Held for years for only the BG16 divisions, a new event for the 14s has been added.
- USTA National Doubles Championship: The L3 Doubles Tournament has been transformed into an L1 Compass Draw USTA National Championship for 32 teams for BG16-14. The first event will be held August 2013.
- USTA National Spring Team Championships: Modeled after the NCAA Championships, this Gold Ball event will incorporate coaching, training and education. 32 boys and 32 girls from each division will be selected from National Standings Lists (NSLs), plus a limited number of wild cards, and waterfalled onto 16 teams.
- National Warm Up Tournament: Within driving distance to the August Hard Courts, a 64-draw warm up event will be held. Selection is based on the NSLs.
- USTA National Masters: Starting October 2013, this progressive singles tournament for the top players in the 14s (4 players), 16s (7 players) and 18s (14 players) will incorporate training and education. Selection is based on the NSLs.
- USTA National Sweet Sixteen: This singles and doubles event for the top 16s and 14s players will be held in May. Selection is based on the NSLs and wild cards, and the event incorporates training and education.

### USTA Open and Closed Regional Tournaments:

Three segments of four concurrent USTA Regional Tournaments will be held each year (February, October and November).

- The November "Open" Regional segment resembles the existing Regionals - a 32 draw with similar entry and selection, but with 4 total events in each division.
- The February and October "Closed" Regional segments will be regionalized: there will be 4 concurrent events, but players may only enter and play in a Closed Regional to which their Section has been assigned and selection will be based on quota and endorsement.

**Region 1:** Hawaii Pacific, Intermountain, NorCal, Pacific NW, Southwest, SoCal

**Region 2:** Midwest, Missouri Valley, Northern, Texas

**Region 3:** Eastern, Mid-Atlantic, Middle States, New England  
**Region 4:** Caribbean, Florida, Southern



## USTA National Junior Competitive Structure & Schedule of Tournaments

In an effort to improve the junior tournament experience for thousands of young players throughout the country, the USTA unanimously approved changes to the National Junior Competition Structure that will take effect on January 1, 2014.

The new structure has been designed to maximize a player's competitive experiences, whether that be at the national, regional, sectional or district level. Players will advance to higher levels as they earn their way through the pathway.

This pamphlet gives an overview of the new structure and includes a month-by-month calendar of National Junior Tournaments - also known as the National Junior Tournament Schedule or NJTS.

### Questions?

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Month	2014 Dates	Tournament	National Ranking Level	Age Groups	Draw Size/Type	Selection Process (NSL = National Standings List)
Jan	Section Choice	Section Tournaments - Recommended in January	Level 3 or 4 Recorn.	BG 12-18	Section Choice	Section Regulations
Feb	Feb 15-17	USTA National Selection Tournaments (4 per Division)	Level 2	BG 12-18	32; FIC	Most Current NSL of Division & Next-Younger
	Presidents' Day Wknd	USTA Closed Regional Tournaments (4 per Division)	Level 4	BG 12-18	32; FIC	Section Quota - Must Play within Region
March	Mar 8-13	USTA National Spring Team Championships Gold Ball	Level 1	BG 12-18	32 players per division/16 teams College Format; Compass Draw	NSL of Division, WC
April	Apr 7-13	Easter Bowl ITF	Level 1	BG 18	64 Draw + 64 Draw Qualifying SE	ITF Selection Process
	Apr 11-14	Easter Bowl USTA National Tournament	Level 1A	BG 12-16	64; FIC	NSL of Division
May	May 24-26	USTA National Sweet Sixteen	Level 1A	BG 14-16	16; Compass Draw	NSL of Division; Up to 4 WC per Division
	Memorial Day Wknd	USTA National Selection Tournaments (4 per Division)	Level 3	BG 12-18	32; FIC	Most Current NSL of Division & Next Younger
June	Section Choice	Section Tournaments - Must Be Held in June <i>Winners Advance to August USTA National Championships</i>	Level 3	BG 12-18	Section Choice	Section Regulations
July	July 3-7	USTA Zone Team Championships (July 4th Date Block)	Level 2	BG 16-12	Up to 12 teams of 6-7 players @ 4 Zones; Round Robin + Playoffs	Section Regulations
	July 5-9	USTA Intersectional Team Championships	Level 1	BG 16-14	17 teams of 3-4 players Round Robin + Playoffs	Section Regulations
	July 10-11	USTA National Clay Court Championships Qualifying	Qualifier-Pts	BG 16-18	64 (R1 Losers Get 2nd Match)	Section Endorsed Players on NSL of Division
	July 12-18	USTA National Clay Court Championships - Gold Ball	Level 1	BG 12-14	128; Compass Draw	Section Quota, WC
	July 13-19			BG 16-18	128; FIC	BG18/16 Only - Qualifiers
	July 26-29	USTA BG18 National Team Championships	Level 1	BG 18	17 teams of 6-7 players; Compass	Section Regulations
	July 26-29	USTA National Warm-Up Tournament for National Hard Courts	Level 3	BG 16-18	64; FIC	NSL of Division
	July 28-31			BG 12-14		
	July 30-31	The USTA National Championships Qualifying	Qualifier-Pts	BG 16-18	64 (R1 Losers Get 2nd Match)	Section Endorsed Players on NSL of Division
Aug	Aug 2-8	The USTA National Championships - Gold Ball	Level 1	BG 12-14	128; Compass Draw	Section Quota, Section Champion, WC
	Aug 2-8			G 16-18	128; FIC	BG18/16 Only - Qualifiers
	Aug 2-9			B 16-18	128; FIC	
	Aug 21-23	USTA National Doubles Championships - Gold Ball	Level 1	BG 14-16	32 teams; Compass Draw	Team Combined Standings on NSL of Division
Sept	Section Choice	Section Tournaments - Recommended in September over Labor Day Wknd	Level 3 or 4 Recorn.	BG 12-18	Section Choice	Section Regulations
Oct	Oct 11-13	USTA National Selection Tournament (4 per Division)	Level 2	BG 12-18	32; FIC	Most Current NSL of Division & Next-Younger
		USTA Closed Regional Tournaments (4 per Division)	Level 4	BG 12-18	32; FIC	Section Quota - Must Play within Region
	Oct 22-26	USTA National Masters	Level 1	BG 14-18	4 14s; 7 16s; 14 18s - Progressive Draw	NSL of Division
Nov	Nov 28-31	USTA National Selection Tournaments (4 per Division)	Level 2	BG 12-18	64; FIC	Most Current NSL of Division & Next-Younger
Thanksgiving	Nov 28-30	USTA Open Regional Tournaments (4 per Division)	Level 4	BG 12-18	32; FIC	Most Current NSL of Division & Next-Younger
Dec	Dec 27-Jan 2	USTA National Winter Championships - Gold Ball	Level 1	BG 12-14 BG 16-18	128; Compass Draw 128; FIC	Section Quota; WC