

2023 USTA Tom Fey Tri-Level League National Invitational

FACT SHEET

Tournament Directors:

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Location: San Diego, CA at the Barnes Tennis Center and Balboa Tennis Club

Dates: Thursday, March 7th - Monday, March 11th

Divisions:

- 3.0/3.5/4.0
- 3.5/4.0/4.5
- 4.0/4.5/5.0

Tennislink: All teams must be set up in the 2023 Championship year. We are not able to move teams in from previous years or pull teams in from the 2024 Championship year. If you are hosting a sectional in early 2024, please make sure that you set it up in the 2023 Championship year.

Website: Information for this event will be posted up on our [website](#) as it becomes available.

Registration: More information coming soon.

Format: Each team will play 4 unflighted matches. The top 4 teams based on Tennislink Standings will move on to the semifinals on Sunday.

Team Selection: It is up to the discretion of each individual section as to how their team is selected. Please reach out to your section office for more information about Tri-Level play and advancement in your area. The USTA National Staff Representative will verify all player ratings and eligibility prior to the start of the Invitational once rosters have been received from the respective section offices.

Roster Sizes and Requirements: Teams must have a minimum of six (6) registered players, providing for one doubles team at each level. This can be any combination of NTRP levels as long as each doubles line has the eligible **NTRP levels in the 3.0/3.5/4.0, 3.5/4.0/4.5 and 4.0/4.5/5.0 divisions**. For example, a team could have five 3.5, five 4.0 and four 4.5 players. As this Invitational is intended to provide level-based play, players should not play up NTRP levels unless

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there is an on-site injury or extenuating circumstances that require a team to play a player up a level to avoid defaulting a court. **There is no maximum number of registered players per team.**

Non-Playing Captain: We will allow for one non-playing captain to attend and not be counted towards the rostered team. This captain must be the same captain that is listed in TennisLink.

Minimum Match Requirement/Player Eligibility: All players must

- Be current USTA members
- Be on the official TennisLink roster of the advancing team
- **Have** played in at least 2 matches in the advancing division for the same section through section championships.
 - A default may count as a match played for advancing purposes.
 - A retired match shall count for all players involved.
- Meet the rating requirements outlined in the section below.

A player cannot compete in two or more NTRP divisions at the Invitational. Example: a 4.0 player cannot play in the 3.5, 4.0, 4.5 NTRP division and the 4.0, 4.5, 5.0 NTRP division. There will be no crossover of players in any divisions.

Individual Eligibility Waiver Requests: Individual and team eligibility waivers will not be accepted for the 2023 Tri Level National Invitational **for any division**. Players that do not meet the match requirements will not be eligible to participate in the National Invitational.

Ratings: **These rules apply to all NTRP divisions.**

All individual team members must be from the appropriate level of play in accordance with the NTRP system. To be eligible to compete in the Invitational:

- Players must have a valid “C” or “A” computer-generated NTRP rating **of that “C” rating** after the 2023 year-end ratings are published. “S”, “M”, and “T” rated players are not eligible to compete.
- **Players may not play at an appeal of the 2023 C rating if granted. Automatic Appeals of year end 2022 ratings will be accepted.**

The USTA National Staff Representative will verify all player ratings and eligibility prior to the start of the Invitational once rosters have been received from the respective Section offices. Final rating eligibility determinations will be made by the tournament committee.

Computer “C” Rated Players: Players must have a valid “C” rating after the 2023 year-end ratings have been published in order to participate in the Tri-Level National Invitational in 2024. All C rated players must play at the level at which they were rostered in the 2023 season.

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All “A”, “T”, “S” and “M” rated players must play at the C rating generated/published at the end of the 2023 season.

Question: If a “C” computer-generated player who competes in 2023 gets bumped up when year-end ratings are released, can they still participate at the NTRP level they played at in 2023? Example: 3.5 “C” computer-rated player gets bumped up to 4.0 “C”. Can they still play in the invitational at 3.5 “C”?

Answer: Yes, as a “C” computer-generated player, this player MAY play in the Tri-Level National Invitational held in 2024 at the NTRP level they played at in 2023. Example: 3.5 “C” computer-rated player gets bumped up to 4.0 “C” is eligible to play in the invitational at 3.5 “C”. Should a player move up TWO LEVELS at year-end, they must play at their NEW HIGHEST LEVEL, instead of their original rostered level. Example: If a 3.5 “C” computer-rated player gets bumped up to 4.5 “C” they must play at the 4.5 level.

Question: If a “C” rated player appeals their 2023 year-end rating down and is now showing as an “A” appealed player, are they able to play at their lower appealed rating?

Answer: **No.** If a player earned a "C" year-end rating in 2023 and they appealed their rating down through TennisLink Auto Appeal and their appeal was granted, they must still play at their original 2023 year-end "C" rating.

“S” Self-Rated, “M” Mixed, or “T” Tournament

“S” Self rated, “M” Mixed, or “T” Tournament players may only play if they earn a “C” computer year-end rating when the 2023 year-end ratings are published, and they must play at the “C” rating level that they earned with the 2023 year-end ratings.

Question: If a “S” self-rated, “M” mixed, or “T” tournament player who competed in 2023 gets bumped up in the 2023 year-end ratings, can they still participate at the NTRP level they played at in 2024? Example: A 3.5 “S” self-rated, “M” mixed, or “T” tournament player gets bumped up to 4.0 “C”. Can they still play in the 2023 event at the 3.5 level?

Answer: No. An “S” self-rated, “M” mixed, or “T” tournament player may ONLY play if they earned a "C" year-end rating in 2023 and they MUST play at the "C" computer rating that they earned in the 2023 year-end ratings. Example: An 3.5 “S” self-rated, “M” mixed, or “T” tournament player gets bumped up to 4.0 “C” they must play at the 4.0 NTRP level at the Tri Level National Invitational held in 2024. Note that a 4.5 “S” self-rated, “M” mixed, or “T” tournament who got bumped up to 5.0 or 5.5 “C” WOULD NOT be eligible to play in the event held in 2024.