

# 2024 JTT Section Championship Advancement and Rules

**Team Qualification:** To qualify for the Midwest Section event, districts may use any of the following procedures:

1. Local League Season (with or without district championships event)
2. Stand-alone District Qualification Event

In the event an age group and level are unable to run in either the local league season or district qualification event, the district may endorse a team in that age group and level into that event provided they meet the WTN band. The team will need to have WTN verified by the Section Coordinator.

**Player Qualification:** Players need to have played in at least 1 team match locally to play at the sectional event.

**Age Groups:** Championships will be offered at the following levels.

Age Group	WTN Band for Championship Play
10U (Green Dot)	No Rating Band
12U	No Rating Band
14U (Intermediate)	40-28
14U (Advanced)	40-1
18U (Intermediate)	40-25
18U (Advanced)	40-1

**Age Eligibility:** Players must remain age-eligible through August 31st of the championship year.

## **Draw Sizes:**

Every district may qualify one team in each division (12U, 14I and 14A, 18I and 18A) to attend the section championship. The draws will consist of a max of 16 total teams per division (1 team per 13 districts and 3 automatic wildcards). In the event a district does not send their advancing team to sectionals, additional wildcards may be offered. The wildcard list/order will be provided to districts by June 1, 2024.

**\*Note, the Midwest section has final say for the number of teams selected for each division.**

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For the 10's green ball division, it will be an open registration to the first 16 teams who have played locally in their district. A waitlist will be started in order of registration if total team entries exceed 16.

**Format:** Championships will be hosted by the USTA Midwest Section over a 3-day (Friday-Sunday) window.

**10U Green Ball** will play one (1) six game set (Tiebreak at 5-5) in the following format.

- 2 Gender Neutral Singles
- 2 Gender Neutral Singles
- 1 Gender Neutral Doubles

**12U** will play one (1) six game set (Tiebreak at 5-5) in the following format.

- Boys/Girls Doubles
- Boys/Girls Singles
- Mixed Doubles

**10U:** Each team match will use two courts. Matches will start with (2) gender neutral singles, followed by (2) additional gender-neutral singles and finish with (1) gender neutral doubles. A total of 5 matches.

**\*Note, a player can only play 1 singles match within a team match.**

**12U:** Each team match will use two courts. Matches will start with girls' and boys' doubles, followed by girls' and boys' singles, and then finish with one mixed doubles match- a total of 5 matches.

**\*Note, a player may not play more than 2 matches within a team match.**

The team match is decided by total games won. In the event this is tied, one doubles 7-pt tiebreaker will be played to break the tie. (10U will be gender neutral doubles, 12U will be mixed doubles)

**14U/18U** will play one (1) eight game set (Tiebreak at 7-7) in the following format.

- Boys/Girls Doubles
- Boys/Girls Singles
- Mixed Doubles

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Each team match will use two courts. Matches will start with girls' and boys' doubles, followed by girls' and boys' singles, and then finish with one mixed doubles match- a total of 5 matches.

**\*Note, only one girl & one boy may play two matches within a team match. The player playing twice must play singles and mixed or doubles and mixed.**

The team match is decided by total games won. In the event this is tied, one mixed doubles 7-point tiebreaker will be played to break the tie.

**Standings:** For FINAL team/pool standings ONLY, overall, **TEAM WINS will determine final placings, not total games of all matches as in past years.** Should there be a tie in the FINAL POOL standings, team head-to head between the involved teams will be compared. If no team has won against all other teams involved in the tie, the total overall games won will determine the winner. If teams are tied in overall games, the next tiebreak progression will be fewest total sets lost followed by fewest total games lost if needed. **THIS DOES NOT APPLY TO INDIVIDUAL DUAL MATCHES, ONLY TO DETERMINE POOL STANDINGS.**

**Substitutions:** Should a team need additional players to come to section championships, each team is able to bring one boy (1) and one girl (1). Players need to have played a match in the local league or district qualification event at the age and level of the team competing at sectionals.

## **Team Composition:**

- 10s is gender neutral and 4 players are required, but it is recommended to bring 6 players.
- 12s must have 2 boys and 2 girls to compete, but it is recommended to bring 3 of each.
- 14s and 18s must have 3 boys and 3 girls to compete. It is strongly recommended to bring 4 of each.

**\*Note: All players who attend section championships must play in at least one (1) team match during the event.**

If a team falls short of a boy or girl after starting the event, they will be required to forfeit the singles match for that gender. **\*A team may not start the tournament if they are below the required player minimum.**

**Coaches:** Each team must have a Safe-Play Approved coach or parent responsible for the team. On-court coaching will be allowed in all age groups and divisions. Coaching will follow college rules and cannot interrupt play. Coaching guidelines will be provided at the start of the event by the Tournament Director.

**Rules and Regulations Changes:** USTA Midwest Section and Junior Play Committee reserve the right to make changes to these rules as needed on an annual basis.