

# USTA PNW LEAGUE REGULATIONS

Update 12/8/23

## 1.02A WAIVER OF REGULATIONS AND PROCEDURES PROHIBITED.

1.02A(1)(PNWREG) – A waiver may be submitted for any USTA PNW Regulation. Waivers will be considered based on the hardship of the specific situation, alternative options which have been tried or failed, and/or how the waiver will benefit the Local League or PNW Section.

## 1.02B AMENDMENTS.

1.02B(1)(PNWREG) – PNW Regulations may be amended at any time by the USTA PNW Adult Competition Committee with approval from the USTA/PNW Board of Directors.

## 1.02C WRITTEN INTERPRETATION.

1.02C(1) (PNW REG) – The final interpretation of any USTA/PNW Regulation will be determined by the USTA/PNW Regulation Subcommittee and the USTA/PNW Section League Coordinator.

## 1.04A USTA LEAGUE PROGRAM.

1.04A(1) (PNW REG) – The USTA PNW has the option to provide the following additional USTA Leagues (\*denotes leagues without a Section Championship): Regional League Coordinators are also authorized to introduce supplementary non-advancing Local Leagues, which are not listed in the chart below.

USTA LEAGUE PROGRAM ORGANIZATION AT THE PNW LEVEL			
DIVISION	AGE GROUP	LEAGUE FORMAT	NTRP LEVELS
Adult	18 & Over	1-Singles/2 Doubles	2.5 Men, Open
Adult	40 & Over	1-Singles/2 Doubles or 3 Doubles	2.5, 5.0, Open
Adult	65 & Over	3-Doubles	6.0, 7.0, 8.0, 9.0
Adult	70 & Over*	3-Doubles	Open
Adult	Tri-Level *	3-Doubles	4.5/4.0/3.5, 4.0/3.5/3.0
Adult	Combo*	3-Doubles	5.5, 6.5, 7.5, 8.5, 9.5
Adult	One Doubles	1-Doubles	2.5, 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5, 5.0
Adult	Flex Singles*	1-Singles	2.5, 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5, 5.0
Mixed	55 & Over	3-Doubles	6.0, 7.0, 8.0, 9.0
Mixed	Coed*	WTT	2.5, 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5, 5.0/6.0, 7.0, 8.0, 9.0
Mixed	18 & Over	3 Doubles	5.0
Mixed	40 & Over	3 Doubles	5.0

## 1.04B ADMINISTRATION.

1.04B(1)a (PNW REG) – The USTA PNW Adult Competition Committee shall assist to determine procedural and certain operational matters with USTA League in the PNW. The committee members will be appointed by the President of the USTA PNW Board of Directors.

### 1.04C OFFICIAL INFORMATION SYSTEM.

1.04C(1)a (PNW REG) - Players may be added to the roster at any time before the last two scheduled matches of the season providing the team remains in compliance with all other regulations (Exception – One Doubles, Mixed 55, Adult 65 – players may be added to the roster with one match remaining on the local league schedule).

1.04C(1)b (PNW REG) - Single Team Leagues must comply with the local league registration deadline for registering their team. Single Team Leagues may add players until the posted deadline. This only applies to Adult 18 & Over (2.5 men, Open), Adult 40 & Over (2.5, 5.0, Open), Adult 65 & Over, Mixed 55 & Over, Coed 18-39, Coed and One Doubles Local Leagues.

### 1.04D LOCAL LEAGUE.

1.04D(4)a (PNW REG) - A team shall consist of players eligible to compete at a specific NTRP level of competition in accordance with the following table.

TEAM COMPOSITION				
DIVISION	AGE GROUP	MINIMUM NUMBER OF PLAYERS	GENDER	NTRP LEVEL
Adult	18 & Over 2.5 Men/Open	5	Same Gender	A player's NTRP rating level shall not exceed the team NTRP level. Combined NTRP rating levels of partners shall not exceed the team NTRP level.
Adult	40 & Over 2.5/5.0/Open	5	Same Gender	A player's NTRP rating level shall not exceed the team NTRP level.
Adult	65 & Over 6.0,7.0,8.0,9.0	6	Same Gender	Combined NTRP rating levels of partners shall not exceed the team NTRP level. The minimum NTRP Level for 6.0 is 2.5; 7.0 is 3.0; 8.0 is 3.5; 9.0 is 4.0
Adult	70 & Over Open	6	Same Gender	All NTRP rating levels - must play in order of strength
Adult	One Doubles 2.5, 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5, 5.0	2	Same Gender	A player's NTRP rating level shall not exceed the team NTRP level.
Adult	Flex Singles 2.5, 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5, 5.0	1	Same Gender	A player's NTRP rating level shall not exceed the team NTRP level.
Coed	18-39 or 18 & Over 2.5, 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5, 5.0/6.0, 7.0, 8.0, 9.0	2 Men 2 Women	Men and Women	A player's NTRP rating level shall not exceed the team NTRP level. Combined NTRP rating levels of partners shall not exceed the team NTRP level. The minimum NTRP Level for 6.0 is 2.5; 7.0 is 3.0; 8.0 is 3.5; 9.0 is 4.0
Mixed	55 & Over 6.0,7.0,8.0,9.0	3 Men 3 Women	Men and Women	Combined NTRP rating levels of partners shall not exceed the team NTRP level. The minimum NTRP Level for 6.0 is 2.5; 7.0 is 3.0; 8.0 is 3.5; 9.0 is 4.0

## 1.04E PLAYER ELIGIBILITY.

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### 1.04E(1)a (PNW REG) – Pacific Northwest Local Area Boundaries

- Alaska Area
- Eastern Washington Area Includes: All points East of the Cascades, Northern Idaho north of the 45th parallel, the Columbia River Gorge, and Baker, Gilliam, Grant, Hood River, Morrow, Sherman, Umatilla, Wasco, Wallowa, Union, and Wheeler counties.
- Northwest Washington Area Includes: All points between Kent and Bellingham, including the greater Seattle/Bellevue/Everett areas and Bainbridge Island (Members from Boeing Employees Tennis Club that are in good standing are exempt from being considered out-of-area and may play as residents of Northwest Washington.)
- Southwest Washington Area Includes: Pierce, Thurston, Lewis, Mason, Grays Harbor counties, Olympic Peninsula & Kitsap County except Bainbridge plus So King County towns: Vashon, Federal Way, Auburn, Pacific, Algona, Enumclaw (Bainbridge Island residents who are members in good standing at Kitsap Tennis & Athletic Club may play out of Kitsap as a Southwest Washington resident.)
- Northern Oregon Area Includes: Greater Portland Metro Area, Vancouver, Longview, Camas
- Southern Oregon Area Includes: Salem, Albany, Corvallis, Salishan/Oregon Coast, Eugene, Central Oregon, Klamath Falls, Medford, Roseburg, Coos Bay, Grants Pass, Ashland, Clatsop, Tillamook counties.

1.04E(1)b (PNW REG) - Throughout the entire league season for Adult 18 & Over and Adult 40 & Over, no more than four rostered players may reside outside the Local Area boundaries (no more than three rostered players for 2.5 and 5.0 divisions).

1.04E(1)c (PNW REG) - Throughout the entire league season for One Doubles, no more than one rostered players may reside outside the Local Area boundaries.

1.04E(1)d (PNW REG) - Throughout the entire league season for Coed 18-39, no more than two rostered players may reside outside the Local Area boundaries.

1.04E(1)e (PNW REG) - Throughout the entire league season for all other leagues, no more than three rostered players may reside outside the Local Area boundaries.

1.04E(1)f (PNW REG) – If no matches have been played by the ineligible players, the captain may choose which player is removed from the roster. If matches have been played by all ineligible players then they are removed based their registration date with the last player registered the first one removed. Matches played by an ineligible player will be scored as a default.

1.04E(1)g (PNW REG) - Players must be prepared to show Government Issue photo I.D. when asked by USTA/ Pacific Northwest staff or designated volunteer.

## 1.04F OFFICIAL LEAGUE RATING PROGRAM.

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1.04F(1)a (PNW REG) - Throughout the entire league season, Adult 18 & Over and Adult 40 & Over teams must have 50% of the rostered players rated “in-level.” Exception(s):

- a) Teams that advance to a National Championship are exempt from this rule for one year. (See National Reg 2.06A(3)) Flights with only two teams must have 40% of the rostered players rated in-level (See National Reg 1.04D(5)). This does not apply to individual line-ups in team matches.
- b) Flights with only two teams must have 40% of the rostered players rated in-level (See National Reg 1.04D(5)). This does not apply to individual line-ups in team matches.

1.04F(1)b (PNW REG) - Throughout the entire league season, One Doubles teams must have 50% of the rostered players rated “in-level.” In any One Doubles individual match, at least one doubles player must be at level.

1.04F(1)c (PNW REG) - If no matches have been played by the ineligible players, the captain may choose which players are removed from the roster. If matches have been played by all ineligible players the player(s) are removed based on their registration date with the last player registered the first one removed.

1.04F(1)d (PNW REG) - For the Adult 18 & Over Open division, players must be rated at least 5.0 to participate.

### **1.04G PLAYER PARTICIPATION ELIGIBILITY.**

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1.04G(4)a (PNW REG) - Players may compete at more than one NTRP level in the same league within the same local area.

### **2.01C COMPETITION FORMAT.**

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2.01C(3)a (PNW REG) - Captains must alert the area league coordinator immediately when defaulting an entire team match. Total Team Defaults will be recorded in favor of the opponent and the standings will reflect 6-0, 6-0 for all individual matches within a team default. All prior matches of a team that commits a total team default will stand as played. Teams that default an entire team match will not advance to local League Playoffs or a Sectional Championship.

2.01C(3)a1 (PNW REG) – For One Doubles, teams that default two entire team matches may not advance to Local League Playoffs or a Sectional Championship.

2.01C(3)b (PNW REG) - Individual matches which are not completed by the end of the season and prior to playoffs, if any, will be recorded as a double default.

2.01C(3)c (PNW REG) – The following will be used for matches affected by inclement weather.

2.01C(3)c1 (PNW-REG) - Day(s) before or day of: When bad weather is known ahead of time, captains are encouraged to work together and reschedule the match.

2.01C(3)c2 (PNW REG) - Day of and before the line-up exchange: If bad weather occurs before teams have exchanged line-ups, captains may agree to “wait-out” the conditions or reschedule.

2.01C(3)c3 (PNW REG) - After the match(s) have begun: When bad weather forces a match(s) to be postponed after they have begun, record scores on the scorecard as they stand. Both captains initial both scorecards. Captains work together to reschedule the match. Once the scorecard is exchanged it cannot be changed if all individual matches have already begun. If individual matches have not started and are played on a different day then those individual matches may be changed on the line-up card.

2.01C(3)d (PNW REG) - Line-Call Help. One Line Assistant to represent each team may be called to the court at any time to assist players making line calls. If only one person is available, then one line assistant may be used. Line Assistants cannot make a line call or foot fault call. They can confirm or over-rule a line call when asked by a player. Line Assistants can confirm an egregious foot fault. Line Assistants may not interpret any other rule of tennis and should stand quietly at both ends of the net. If two Line Assistants disagree on a call a let is played.

2.01C(3)e (PNW REG) - USTA PNW League Coordinators may use the Point Penalty System at their discretion during any USTA League match in accordance with the Point Penalty System as described in Friend at Court.

2.01C(4)a (PNW REG) - Best of three sets. In lieu of a 3rd set, a 10-point match tiebreak shall be played. Regular scoring in all areas except Northwest Washington and Southwest Washington. No-ad will be used in Northwest Washington and Southwest Washington for all local league matches. No-ad will be used for all Northwest Washington playoff matches. Regular scoring will be used for all Southwest Washington playoff matches.

2.01C(5)a (PNW REG) - Official Match Clock is indicated by a cell phone.

2.01C(5)b (PNW REG) - When a player is late in arriving for the player's scheduled match time, and their court is available, the captain shall start the lateness penalty clock. A player is not deemed to have arrived until the player is properly clothed, equipped, and ready to play (If there is a circumstance/situation outside of human control that is unpredictable and unpreventable, e.g., natural disasters, sudden infrastructure failures, or sudden transportation interruption due to emergency, that makes it impossible for the majority of a team to arrive on time the Regional League Coordinator may extend leniency). The lateness penalty is as follows:

- 5 minutes or less late: Loss of service toss plus one game
- 5:01 – 10 minutes late: Loss of service toss plus 2 games
- 10:01 or more minutes late: Default

\* Late players receive the benefit of at least a 7-minute warm-up. Single Weekend Leagues and Local League Playoff matches will be as follows, per Friend at Court, unless the Tournament Director or Referee deems an exception for extenuating circumstances. (At the Tournament Director's discretion: any individual playing in two divisions regardless of whether they are currently playing in a match, and not available for a called match may be assessed late penalties based on the Point Penalty System.)

- 5 minutes or less late: Loss of service toss plus one game
- 5:01 – 10 minutes late: Loss of service toss plus 2 games
- 10:01 – 15 minutes late: Loss of service toss plus 3 games
- 15 or more minutes late: Default

2.01C(6)a (PNW REG) - All players participating in the match must be listed online with TennisLink prior to the initial exchange with the opposing captain. In the event a player is not listed, the point penalty and individual match default procedures are to be used if play is delayed while waiting for an unregistered player to register. All players must be registered before taking a court for warm-up.

2.01C(6)b (PNW REG) - When match start times are split into more than one match start time on the same day, the complete line-up (all 3, 4 or 5 lines) must be exchanged at the start time of the first match. Any individual matches not exchanged at the first match start time will be defaults and recorded 6-0, 6-0 in favor of the opponent. If a team match is played on multiple days, then the remaining matches are exchanged on the new date played.

**2.02A LOCAL LEAGUE.**

2.02A(1)a (PNW REG) - Team Match wins will be used to determine standings. If there is a tie in team match wins, the following shall be used to break the tie in the order listed until the tie is broken: Individual Wins, Head-to-Head, Least Sets Lost, Least Games Lost, Head-to-Head Individual Wins, Head-to-Head Least Sets Lost, Head-to-Head Least Games Lost, Coin Flip.

2.02A(1)b (PNW REG) - For Adult 40 & Over league with 4 lines for an individual team match. If a team match ends in an exact 2-2 tie, the following shall be used to break the tie in the order listed until the tie is broken: Least Sets Lost, Least Games Lost. If there is still a tie, Tennislink is programmed to determine the winner as the team which won the #1 doubles position.

**2.02B CHAMPIONSHIPS.**

2.02B(1)a (PNW REG) - All players must play two (2) matches during a multi-week regular season to be eligible to play in Local League Playoffs (exception Adult 65 & Over, Mixed 55 & Over, and One Doubles one (1) match required). One (1) default received may count as a match played. One (1) match is required for Eastern Washington Area Championships and One Weekend Leagues.

<b>PNW CHAMPIONSHIP ADVANCEMENT</b>		
<b>To Advance To:</b>	<b>Multi-Week Local League Playoff</b>	<b>Sectional Championship</b>
Adult 18 & Over	2(1)	2(1)
Adult 40 & Over	2(1)	2(1)
Adult 55 & Over	2(1)	2(1)
Mixed 18 & Over	2(1)	2(1)
Mixed 40 & Over	2(1)	2(1)
One Doubles	1 (1)	1 (1)
Adult 65 & Over	1 (1)	1 (1)
Mixed 55 & Over	1 (1)	1 (1)

(Number in parenthesis is the number of allowed defaulted matches that count toward eligibility.)

2.02B(1)b (PNW REG) - Single team leagues as designated in 1.04C(1)b may advance directly to Sectionals and are exempt from rule 2.02B(1)a.

**2.03A ELIGIBILITY.**

2.03A(2)a(1) (PNW REG) - Players who qualify to play in a Sectional Championship in two or more Local Areas at the same NTRP level must declare which team they will represent prior to the first match played by any such team, regardless of whether or not the player is in the line-up. If a player does not declare ahead of time, the first match played by that player in the Sectional Championship will be the team they will represent. Players who qualify to play on two or more teams at different NTRP levels in a Sectional Championship may compete on all teams.

2.03A(5)a (PNW REG) - At all Section Championships, a minimum number of team members as shown in the following table, who were on the final roster of their local league team at the conclusion of local league play, must individually register, be available, and eligible to compete or to combine and compete, as appropriate. The required minimum number of team members available and eligible may be reduced with an approved waiver, but to not less than the minimum as noted in the following table. Registration minimums will not be waived.

<b>MINIMUM NUMBER OF TEAM MEMBERS REQUIRED AT PNW SECTION CHAMPIONSHIP</b>			
<b>Division</b>	<b>Age Group</b>	<b>Minimum Number At PNW Section Championships</b>	<b>Minimum Number With Approved Waiver PNW Section Championships</b>
Adult	18 & Over 2.5, 5.0, Open	5	3
Adult	18 & Over 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5	8	4
Adult	40 & Over 2.5, 5.0, Open	5	3
Adult	40 & Over 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5	7	5
Adult	55 & Over	6	4
One Doubles	18 & Over	2	2
Adult 65 & Over	65 & Over	6	4
Mixed 18 & Over	18 & Over	3 Men 3 Women	2 Men 2 Women
Mixed 40 & Over	40 & Over	3 Men 3 Women	2 Men 2 Women
Mixed 55 & Over	55 & Over	3 Men 3 Women	2 Men 2 Women



**2.03E TEAM MATCH AND SCORING.**

2.03E(a) (PNW REG) - A team match will consist of the matches as shown in the following table. The team winning the majority of individual matches will be awarded one team point at PNW Section Championships. For each team match, a majority of the individual matches must actually be played by the two teams to constitute a valid team match. The Championship Committee has the authority to determine the actions to take when the combination of individual match defaults given by the two teams in the team match would result in a situation where the majority of the individual matches would not be played.

<b>TEAM MATCH AND SCORING AT PNW SECTION CHAMPIONSHIPS</b>		
<b>Division/Age Group</b>	<b>Team Match</b>	<b>One Team Point Awarded For</b>
Adult 18 & Over 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5	2 Singles/3 Doubles	3 Individual Matches Won
Adult 18 & Over 2.5, 5.0, Open	1 Singles/3 Doubles	2 Individual Matches Won
Adult 40 & Over 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5	1 Singles/ 3 Doubles	3 individual matches won; If tied 2-2, the tie shall be broken by the first of the following methods to do so: a) Sets: Loser of the fewest number of sets. b) Games: Loser of the fewest number of games. c) Game Winning Percentage: Total games won divided by total games played d) Winner of No. 1 Doubles
Adult 40 & Over 2.5, 5.0, Open	1 Singles/3 Doubles or 3 Doubles	2 Individual Matches Won
Mixed 18 & Over	3 Doubles	2 Individual Matches Won
Mixed 40 & Over	3 Doubles	2 Individual Matches Won
One Doubles	One Doubles	1 Individual Match Won
Adult 65 & Over	3 Doubles	2 Individual Matches Won
Mixed 55 & Over	3 Doubles	2 Individual Matches Won

2.03E(a) (PNW REG) – Line Assistants in Championships – Use Regulation 2.01C(3)d (PNW REG).

## 2.03I INDIVIDUAL DEFAULTS.

2.0311 (PNW REG) - When a player is late in arriving for the player’s scheduled match time at a Sectional Championship and his/her court is available, the Tournament Desk shall start the lateness penalty clock unless the Tournament Director or Referee deems an exception for extenuating circumstances. (At the Tournament Director’s discretion: any individual playing in two divisions regardless of whether they are currently playing in a match, and not available for a called match may be assessed late penalties based on the Point Penalty System.) A player is not deemed to have arrived until the player is properly clothed, equipped, and ready to play. The lateness penalty is as follows per Friend at Court:

- 5 minutes or less late: Loss of service toss plus one game
- 5:01 – 10 minutes late: Loss of service toss plus 2 games
- 10:01 – 15 minutes late: Loss of service toss plus 3 games
- 15 or more minutes late: Default
- Late players receive the benefit of at least a 7-minute warm-up.

## 2.03K TEAM DEFAULTS.

2.03K(1)a (PNW REG) -TOTAL TEAM DEFAULT AT SECTION CHAMPIONSHIPS – A Grievance will be filed by the SLC against Captain(s) and all rostered team members of the defaulting team. Team penalties may include but are not limited to non-advancement, disqualification, or suspension.

<b>ALLOWABLE DEFAULTS AT PNW SECTION CHAMPIONSHIP</b>			
<b>Division/Age Group</b>	<b>Minimum Number Of Eligible Players Required To Be Available Per Match</b>	<b>Maximum Number Of Positions That Can Be Defaulted</b>	<b>Minimum Number With Approved Waiver PNW Section Championships</b>
Adult 18 & Over 2.5, 5.0, Open	3	1	No. 1 Singles Or No. 2 Doubles
Adult 18 & Over 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5	4	2	Singles: No. 2 Singles before No. 1 Singles Doubles: No. 3 Doubles before No. 2 Doubles, and No. 2 Doubles before No. 1 Doubles
Adult 40 & Over 2.5, 5.0, Open	3	1	No. 1 Singles Or No. 2 Doubles
Adult 40 & Over 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5	5	1	No. 1 Singles Or No. 3 Doubles
Adult 55 & Over	4 Players Who Are Eligible To Combine and Compete	1	No. 3 Doubles
One Doubles 18 & Over	0	0	None
Adult 65 & Over	4 Players Who Are Eligible To Combine and Compete	1	No. 3 Doubles
Mixed 18 & Over	4 Players Who Are Eligible To Combine and Compete	1	No. 3 Doubles
Mixed 40 & Over	4 Players Who Are Eligible To Combine and Compete	1	No. 3 Doubles
Mixed 55 & Over	4 Players Who Are Eligible To Combine and Compete	1	No. 3 Doubles

## **2.04B NTRP DYNAMIC DISQUALIFICATION PROCEDURES.**

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2.04B(2)a1 (PNW REG) - Dynamic rating calculations will be run throughout play at all Local League Playoffs.

2.04B(2)b1 (PNW REG) - Dynamic rating calculations will be run after the conclusion of all Sectional Championships.

## **2.04E SCORING PROCEDURES.**

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2.04E(1)a (PNW REG) - During local league play, all matches played at the disqualified level will be reversed in favor of the opponent, 6-0, 6-0. Players who are DNTRP disqualified may join a team at a higher level at any time if otherwise eligible and the team remains in compliance with all other regulations.

## **2.05B YEAR-END COMPUTER RATINGS.**

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2.05B3(b)1 (PNW REG) – Players who are found to have valid computer ratings, after the appeal process, that place them above the NTRP level at which they are competing may continue their participation at the lower NTRP level through the conclusion of the Local League Playoffs). Players who are found to have valid computer ratings, after the appeal process, that place them above the NTRP level at which they are competing will not be allowed to participate at the lower NTRP level for the Sectional Championships.

## **3.03A GENERAL PROCEDURES.**

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3.03A(1)a (PNW REG) – All grievances, except NTRP grievances, require a \$50 fee payable to the USTA/PNW. If a grievance is upheld, the \$50 fee is returned. If the grievance is denied, the \$50 fee will not be returned.

3.03A(1)b (PNW REG) All league programs organized at the PNW Level will follow the USTA League Suspension Point System and Grievance Process.

## **3.03B LOCAL LEAGUE PROCEDURES.**

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3.03B(4)a (PNW REG) Scoring of Eligibility Disqualification in Local League. In the event of an eligibility disqualification during the local league season and up to 14 days after the end of the local league season, but prior to any playoff, all matches played by the disqualified player shall be considered defaults and those matches shall be considered wins for the opposing players or doubles teams and scored 6-0, 6-0 for determining standings.

## **3.03E NTRP GRIEVANCES.**

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3.03E(5)a (PNW REG) NTRP Grievances will be adjudicated after a championship event.

