RULES & REGULATIONS

Requirements and Guidelines for the North East Junior UTR Series

Rules as at January 2021

tennis

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NSW JUNIOR UTR SERIES

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1. Introduction

The North East Junior UTR Series and Northern State UTR Series events are designed to give players competitive matches against people of a similar ability by implementing the Universal Tennis Rating (UTR) system. The series is designed to give young players an enjoyable but competitive match play experience in their local region.

These series consist of round robin events culminating in a Champion of Champions event in the region.

Junior UTR Series – Entry level offering for players. One day events

NSW State UTR Series – Designed for Tournament players with a UTR of 3.00 and above, to be held over two-days

2. Age Groups and Eligibility

Players in the North East Junior UTR Series will be required to enter in to the following categories, based on their age;

1. 8/U – Orange, modified ball – non-UTR verified event
2. 10/U – Green, modified ball – non-UTR verified event
3. 12/U – Yellow, full compression ball
4. 14/U – Yellow, full compression ball
5. 16/U and Opens – Yellow, full compression ball

2.1 Age Eligibility

Players must fit the age eligibility of the event as at the 31st December 2021.

- 10/U – players must be 10 or under at the 31st December, ie born in 2011 – 2014
- 14/U – players must be 14 or under at the 31st December, ie born 2007 - 2010
- 18/U – players must be 18 or under at the 31st December, ie born 2003 - 2006

  Players are strongly encouraged to play in their correct age group

***CASE**: My daughter turns 13 on 23rd October in 2021, can she play in the 12/U events this year?*

***ANSWER**: No. As your daughter turns 13 before the age eligibility date cut-off of 31st December, she will need to participate in the 14/U events this year.*

2.2 Divisional Events

After entering via age-groups, all players above 11 years of age will be split out into divisions based on their UTR. There will be a maximum of 20 players in any division. The divisions will be selected by the North East Selection Committee. Players being split out into divisions will allow for level-based play for all players aged 11 and above.

2.3 Regional Eligibility - Out of Region Players

Out of Region (OOR) players will be accepted into the North East Junior UTR Series and Northern NSW State UTR Series events. OOR players will be eligible for progression into playoff matches at each event, however they will not be eligible to accumulate points for the North East Junior UTR Series.

If an Out of Region player wins an event, the North East player who comes second will be awarded the winning points in the North East Junior UTR points race.

If Out of Region players would like to sign over to another region, the regional sign over form must be emailed to the Regional Administrator by 30th April 2021. Please contact your Regional Administrator for a copy.

3.Entry Fees

Entry fee: $25 per player for Junior UTR Series,

$45 per player for NSW State UTR Series

*8/U Junior UTR Events will be $15 per player.

4. Entry to Events

Entry for all events will be online using the Tennis Australia Tournaments website;
https://tournaments.tennis.com.au/

Entries will close at 11:59pm on the Wednesday prior to the tournament date.

Unfortunately, due to the administration involved for each event, late entries cannot be accepted.

It is the player's responsibility to confirm their entry/playing time prior to the event they have entered.

4.1 Player Eligibility

All players who play in the North East Junior UTR Series and the Northern NSW State UTR Series of events **MUST** be a registered member of Tennis Australia and have a UTR profile.

4.2 Tennis Australia Member ID

All players must provide their Tennis registration (ID) number upon entry into all North East Junior UTR Series Events and Northern NSW State UTR Series events. A player's registration number is an 11-digit number starting with 61. If a player cannot provide their registration number, they will need to become a member of their club and contact Tennis Australia Customer Service on **1800 PLAY TENNIS (1800 752 983)** to be given their number.

4.3 Universal Tennis Rating

The North East point score will be used in all North East Junior UTR Series and Northern NSW State UTR Series Events to determine where players sit in their respective draws.
Information about UTR including how your rating is calculated can be found here.

All players who play in Junior and NSW State UTR Series events **MUST** have a UTR profile.

If you don't already have a profile, that's okay. Use the below information and link to join and you can start your journey as a player.

Here's How To Get Started!

Step 1: Go to MyUTR.com.
Step 2: **Click Join** at the top-right corner of the page.
Step 3: Enter your email address and a password and **click Sign Up With Email.**
Step 4: Enter your profile info! Note that if you're signing up for your child, this information and e-mail address should be uniquely their own as each child needs their own account at MyUTR.com.
Step 5: **Click Continue as a player.**

Further information can be found here.

4.4 Up to Date Player Information

As per any other Tennis NSW Tournaments and Competitions, the primary method of communication with players and parents will be via email. The onus is on the players and parents to ensure that their contact information is up to date. Emails will need to be regularly checked leading up to and during the event to ensure relevant information is being received. Player information from event entry is also used to send information regarding Champion of Champions and State Teams events.

4.5 Late Entries and Reserve Lists

Players and parents are required to be accountable and organised in their commitment to playing these events. All events will be on a '**First-in, Gets in'** basis. If there is an instance that a draw is full, players may be placed on the reserve list, no matter what their rating or ranking is.

Emailed late entries will only be accepted if a vacancy exists, at the discretion of the Regional Administrator, whose decision shall be final.

5. Withdrawals

Once a player has entered a North East Junior UTR Series or Northern NSW State UTR Series event, they are expected to play unless prevented by **illness or injury**. For all North East Junior UTR Series and Northern NSW State UTR Series events, the withdrawal deadline is the following;

For all North East Junior UTR Series and Northern NSW State UTR Series events, the withdrawal deadline is 11.59pm Thursday prior to the tournament date.

5.1 Withdrawal Deadline and Procedure

To withdraw from an event, players must withdraw online prior to the closing date. Once entries are closed players need to email the Regional Administrator who will withdraw the player.

Players are no longer required to provide a medical certificate to support their withdrawal, however, players are entitled to three late withdrawals per calendar year, across the tournaments system, before penalties are imposed.

Players will be issued one (1) disciplinary point under the Tennis Australia Code of Behaviour policy when they have incurred their fourth late withdrawal in a calendar year.
Note:

- It is the responsibility of the player to be aware of the correct withdrawal procedures
- Players are advised to keep copies of all withdrawal documentation in case of appeal

- Withdrawal notification must be in writing (by email, fax or post – not via SMS or social media channels) and submitted to the Tournament Director or Referee prior to the start of the tournament
- Tournaments reserve the right to request a medical certificate at any time to support a withdrawal. Failure to provide a certificate when requested will result in a late withdrawal code violation.

Given the current Covid-19 situation, if anyone in your family is unwell, we respectfully request that you stay at home and **do not** attend the event.

5.2 Refunds

Players will be provided with a full refund should they withdraw before the withdrawal deadline. Players that withdraw after the withdrawal deadline will not be entitled to a refund.

Refunds will be processed upon completion of each event.

If an event is washed out, the policy for the North East region will be the following;

- If play is washed out before 10:30am, a refund will be provided.
- If play is washed out after 10:30am, a refund will not be provided.

6. North East Junior UTR Series – Key Information

6.1 Start Time

ALL North East Junior UTR Series events will start at 8:30am.
Players and parents are asked to arrive at the venue between 8:00am-8:15am to sign-in, to ensure play can commence on time at 8:30am.

The Tournament Director has the right to withdraw a player, should they have not shown by 8:45am and have not contacted the Tournament to inform them that they are running late.

6.2 Format

This is a round robin event with the format consisting of;
Best of 1 tiebreak set. First to 6 games, with a tiebreak played at 6 games all.

In any instance where there are large numbers of entries and not enough courts at venues, the round robin stage may be a shortened format, which may not be transferred across as a verified UTR rating on a player's profile. If this does occur, the event will endeavour to return to the best of 1 tiebreak set format as soon as possible during the day.

6.3 8/U and 10/U Events

In 8/U and 10/U events where there are 2 or more pools, a seeded top pool consisting of 6 players will apply, with the other players being placed into unseeded pools.

All players in the seeded pool will then be joined by the winner and runner-up of the unseeded pools for the playoffs when the pool matches are completed.

The seeded pools will be determined by the North East Selection Committee.

The 8/U and 10/U age groups may be combined where it is deemed best to do so. In this case points will be allocated as if it is one event.

6.4 Divisional Pools

As mentioned in section 2.2, players aged 11 and above will be placed in divisions based on their UTR. This will allow for level-based play for all players.

The North East Selection Committee will reserve the right to make any changes to the divisional pools should they see fit to make them.

6.5 Playoffs

Pool results will be decided in the following order;

- Matches won
- Head to Head result between the two players
- Games won

Two players from each pool will qualify for the finals. All players will be playing off for full feed-in to determine positions in each division.
All players must stay and complete all of their scheduled matches at each event.

The Top 3 and Bottom 3 players in each divisional pool may move up or down for the next North East Junior UTR Event. This will be at the discretion of the North East Selection Committee.

The player finishing in the highest place for their age group at each event will be awarded as the winner of their age group.

PLEASE NOTE: In any instance where there is a tie between two or more players in a pool for a position, if there are scores in matches that are 7-6, or 7-5, the player that wins those respective matches will be awarded 7 games to their overall tally of games won on the day.

6.6 Division 1 or Open Events

Players in the Division 1 or Open Events will compete for prizemoney on the day. Prizemoney will be the following;

- Winner: $150
- Runner-Up: $50

**Prizemoney may be reduced should there be less than 8 entries in this division.*

Players in all other divisions will play for a winner and runner-up trophy at each event.

6.7 Point Score

The below tables will be used to allocate points to players for each event.
A player's point score for the series will be used to determine their qualification for the North East Champion of Champions Event.

POINT SCORE

	POINT ALLOCATION
Winner	12 points
Runner Up	10 points
Third	9 points
Fourth	8 points
Fifth	7 points
Sixth	6 points
Seventh	5 points

Eighth	4 points
Ninth	3 points
Tenth	2 points
Participation	1 point

In the case of a North East Junior UTR Event being partially completed, points will be awarded to players on the basis of the last fully-completed round of matches (e.g. If the final is unable to be completed due to rain, both players will receive runner-up points).

7. Champion of Champions

The North East Junior UTR Series will culminate in a Champion of Champions at the end of the year. Players will accumulate points throughout the year based on their performance at each event. The Champion of Champions is an invitation only event.

7.1 Pointscore and Qualification for the Champion of Champions

Based on pointscore, the top 8 players from each of the following age-groups will be invited to the Champion of Champions: 10/U, 12/U, 14/U & 16/U

Based on pointscore, the top 4 players from each of the following age-groups will be invited to the Champion of Champions: 8/U & Open

A player's top 6 results will be taken from the year to determine your standing in the pointscore. If players are tied for pointscore, head-to-head results from the 2021 North East Junior UTR Series will be used to decide the position.

To qualify for the Champion of Champions, players must participate in a minimum of 3 events in one age group of a particular event.

If a player is selected for the following events and is unable to participate in a North East Junior UTR Series event, this will be counted as one of their minimum of 3 qualification events. The player will also be allocated 6 points toward their pointscore;

- 10/U, 12/U or 14/U NSW State Teams Championship Event
- NIAS trip that falls on the same weekend as a North East Junior UTR Series Event

8. Code of Behaviour

All Clubs/Associations and Players must abide by the Tennis Australia 'Code of Behaviour'. This can be found at the following link - https://www.tennis.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/Code-of-Behaviour-Tournaments-and-Competitions-V2-FINAL-approved-9-November-2020-v2.pdf

TA Officials are available to deal with player behaviour, player dress code, off-court parent/coach interference, player disputes, playing conditions (i.e. inclement weather).

The Code of Conduct applies to parents, coaches and friends off the court as well as players on the court. **Any interference from any parties off the court will not be tolerated.**

Code Violations may be issued under the Tennis Australia Code of Behaviour.

The Regional Administrator is to be made aware of any issues/incidents that occur at any event.

If there is any issue at a North East Junior UTR Series, the player and parent must take it up with the Tournament Director and/or appointed Tournament Referee on the day.
Enquiries or matters that cannot be solved on the day shall be referred to the Regional Administrator via email.

8.1 Publicity, Promotions and Use of Image

I. In consideration of accepting your entry into the Junior Super Series, you grant and assign to TNSW and the Event Host and any applicable third party (at the reasonable discretion of TNSW) the right in perpetuity throughout the world to make, use, show and reproduce moving pictures, still pictures and live, taped or filmed television, sound recordings and any other reproductions of any description of you during or in connection with the Junior Super Series. You agree that your name, voice, likeness, image and biographical material may also be used and reproduced in any way for the purpose of providing information and news in relation to the super series, audio visual coverage, distribution and broadcast of the super series, archival purposes, and publicising, promoting and advertising Tennis NSW and the super series. You acknowledge and agree that this usage, including for commercial purposes, is without compensation or notice to you, heirs, executors, administrators or assigns.

II. TA or the Event Host may appoint third parties to attend selected Super Series events and produce recordings of on-court action (Authorised Filming). Third parties appointed to conduct Authorised Filming may make and reproduce still and motion pictures of participants for the purposes of selling footage back to TA, broadcasters or participants. You must give verbal or written notice to any person conducting Authorised Filming prior to the match starting if you do not wish to be filmed. It is your responsibility to seek out the person conducting Authorised Filming if you do not wish to be filmed. TA and the Event Host will take reasonable steps to comply with your wishes regarding filming, subject to any agreements regarding broadcast of Super Series matches.

8.2 Filming and Photography

You acknowledge that, other than for private domestic purposes only, you and your coach, trainers and other guests are strictly prohibited from taking any photographs, still images, sound recordings, visual footage, audio-visual footage and any other reproductions in connection with the Super Series by any means (Recordings) for commercial purposes. If you do take any Recordings without TAs consent you will, on request from TA: a) assign all copyright and all other intellectual property rights in the Recordings to TA; and b) consent to TAs use, dealing and exploitation of the Recordings for any purpose in any media in perpetuity world-wide and without payment to you.

Filming or photography of players on court for private domestic purposes is only permitted where: a) both players provide their express consent both to the filming/photography and to the purpose for which it is being taken (or, where a player is under 18, their parent or guardian provides express consent); b) the Event Host provides its express consent to the proposed filming/photography on its premises; and c) a flash is not used.

Filming and photography is strictly prohibited in restricted areas of a Super Series including change rooms.

At all times, the referee has discretion in relation to filming and photography. Any person acting inappropriately in the opinion of the referee may be directed to cease taking photographs/film, may have his/her recording device confiscated while onsite at the event or may be asked to leave the venue.

TA may arrange for officials to wear cameras to record matches at the Super Series and their interactions with players and other attendees at the tournament. By participating in the Super Series, you consent to your voice, name, image, and/or likeness being recorded and used for monitoring, training and education purposes.

9. Key Contacts

NORTH EAST SELECTION COMMITTEE

- Eli Baylis
- Brandon Rowe

REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR CONTACT DETAILS

Name: - Michael Spry
Email: - mspry@tennis.com.au