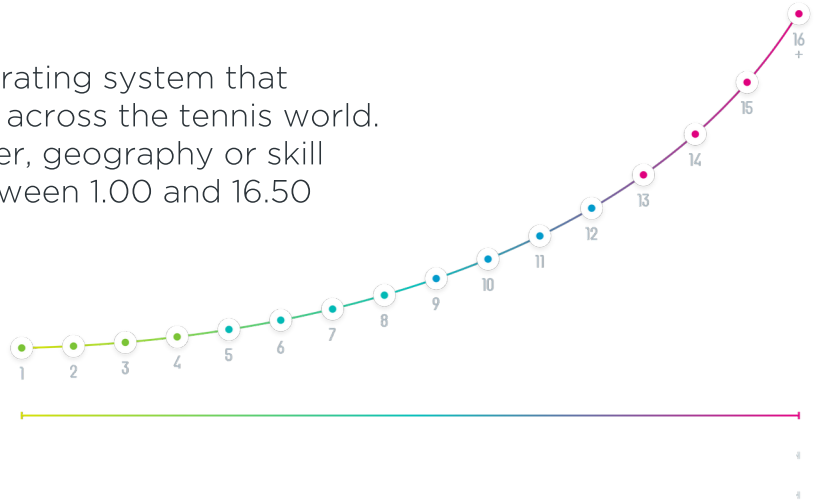## Introduction

UTR Powered by Oracle is a global rating system that promotes fair and competitive play across the tennis world. All players, regardless of age, gender, geography or skill level, are rated on a same scale between 1.00 and 16.50 based on actual match results.

Benefits of UTR

UTR provides a real-time view of a player's true skill level. Having a UTR enables you to track your progress, find level-based play, and expand your tennis network to play with people across age, gender and tennis silo.

Who has a UTR?

Every tennis player can have a UTR, whether you are a recreational, junior, high school, college or pro player.

Recreational

Juniors

College

Pros

Verified UTR vs UTR

UTR counts all results, including matches played in verified tournaments/events and non-verified matches. Verified UTR counts match results played in only verified tournaments and events.

For example, Tennis Australia comps/tournament matches count toward Verified UTR and UTR. Casual/practice matches and self-posted scores count only toward UTR.

UTR Powered by **ORACLE**

How is UTR calculated?

UTR is calculated by an algorithm using a player's last 30 eligible match scores from the last 12 months. For each eligible match, the algorithm calculates a match rating and a match weight; a player's UTR is the weighted average of all the match ratings.

Match Rating: Actual Performance vs Expectation

In every match, there is an expected outcome, based on the UTR difference between opponents. Let's say you play an opponent with the following:

- **Same UTR:** The algorithm would project that you win the same number of games as your opponent. If you win more games, then your rating will go up.

- **Lower UTR:** If the system expects you to win 6-2, 6-2 but you end up winning 6-1, 6-1, then your rating would go up.

- **Higher UTR:** If you are expected to lose 6-3, 6-3 but you lose 6-4, 6-4, your rating will go up.

Your UTR will go up or down based on how you perform vs. expectation.

After one match result, you receive a projected UTR (P). After approximately five matches, the rating becomes reliable. Your UTR continues to update as more matches are added.

Match Weight

The following factors are used in the match weight calculation:

- FORMAT – More weight is given to longer match formats. A match with a three-set format receives more weight than an eight-game pro set or 4-game mini-set format.
- COMPETITIVENESS - The closer the UTR difference between the players, the greater the match weight. For example, if a player with a UTR of 6.00 plays an opponent with a UTR of 5.00 (UTR difference of 1), the match receives more weight than one played against a UTR of 4.00 (UTR difference of 2).
- RELIABILITY – The more reliable the opponent's UTR, the greater the match weight. A match played against an opponent who competes often and has a reliable UTR receives more weight.
- TIME DEGRADATION – The algorithm represents current form; it gives more credit to matches played within the last few months.

What is the best way to improve my UTR?

- Compete Well – You can improve your UTR by winning more games than expected, regardless of whether you win or lose the match and whether you play higher- or lower-rated opponents. Compete well and try to win as many games as possible; this is the best way to improve your UTR.
- Play Often – The more matches you play, the quicker your UTR will reflect your current form. It is also best to play against opponents who are close to your rating regardless of whether they are above or below you.
- Be Patient – Since UTR is a rolling weighted average, the effect of new results is slightly lagged. Your UTR may take time to reflect a recent outcome.

UTR Algorithm FAQ

What is the impact of playing against opponents with a lower UTR? Or higher UTR?

Playing against lower-rated opponents does not necessarily hurt your UTR; in some cases, it can boost it. This is also true for playing higher-rated opponents. The impact depends upon the percentage of games you win and the UTR difference between you and your opponent. If you do better than expected, your UTR will go up; if you do worse than expected, your UTR will go down.

Why did my rating change when I haven't played recently?

UTR is a measurement of player skill today and recalculates daily. There can be several reasons why a change (up or down) would occur. Some reasons could include:

- You played a player that was unrated/projected and their rating has become more reliable through more play.
- Scores from more than 12 months ago fell off your record

Why don't some of my matches count towards my UTR?

The algorithm excludes matches in which:

- A player withdraws before the match starts
- The match starts but neither player wins at least four games before the match stops
- There is a UTR difference of more than 2.00. These matches will show up on the player profile but are not counted towards your rating.

Why does the algorithm exclude matches with a UTR difference of more than 2.00?

As the difference in UTR increases, so does the likelihood the higher-rated player wins the match easily. Our data indicates matches with a UTR difference of more than 2.00 are less likely to be competitive. Results like these are not reliable indicators of either player's skill level and are excluded by the algorithm.

Do matches with a UTR difference over 2.00 ever count towards my UTR?

In one case, they can. If a lower-rated player wins the match, this result will count towards each players rating. A match will count if a UTR 5.21 wins against a UTR 7.61, but not if a UTR 7.61 wins a match against a UTR 5.21.

How does the algorithm count tiebreakers?

Set tiebreakers count for 1 game; 3rd set 10-point match tiebreakers count as 2 games.

Should organizers/coaches only enter the matches they believe to be competitive?

Organizers/coaches must enter all matches, otherwise the algorithm may not be accurate. The algorithm will automatically disregard matches that are not eligible, such as matches between opponents with UTR differences greater than 2.00.

UTR
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UTR Algorithm FAQ

How does UTR address walkovers, retirements/withdrawals, and defaults?

Since UTR is based purely on scores, it does not count defaults or walkovers. If a player withdraws either 1) before the match starts or 2) during the match but before either player wins at least four games, the UTR algorithm does not count it. However, these results are still displayed on the player's profile page along with their other scores.

Why does the algorithm count 30 matches? What if I have more/less than 30 matches?

The goal is to balance the long-term sustained level of play vs the recent trend. 30 matches yield the best balance between the long-term and recent term.

If you have played 40 matches within the last 12 months, the algorithm will use the 30 most recent matches. If you have played only 10 matches within the last 12 months, the algorithm will use those 10 matches. 30 is simply the maximum that will be used.

Why are more than 30 matches being used to calculate my rating?

When the 30th most recent match is played on the same day as the 31st most recent match, the algorithm does not try to determine which one to keep; it keeps them both. They will fall off together when the next match is added.

How does the algorithm work for doubles?

The singles and doubles algorithms are very similar. For doubles, the algorithm compares the average UTR of Team A to the average UTR of Team B. Given the UTR difference between those two averages, the algorithm expects a certain percentage of games won. The team who performs better than the algorithm's expectation will see their match rating go up. Both teammates see an increase or decrease by the same amount.

Can my rating be changed if it doesn't look accurate to me?

The ratings are automatically generated by a computerized algorithm and cannot be altered manually. We are able to add or edit incorrect or missing scores on your record, which may impact your rating.