## **USTA LEAGUE SUSPENSION POINT SYSTEM**

**ROLLOUT INFORMATION - 3/14/23** 

#### Introduction

The USTA League Suspension Point System has been modified for 2023 and will govern all grievance decisions under League Regulation 3.0, made on or after <u>March 24, 2023</u>. No changes will occur for any grievance decision (other than those following the appeal process, under League Regulation 3.04) made before this date.

Please read the critical information below and distribute/post/share as appropriate!

All public facing materials embargoed until National Staff confirms the successful TennisLink enhancement release on 3/23/23!

### 2023 League Suspension Point System Changes

#### **Internal Changes**

- Change in Authority to Determine Length of Suspension when a player/Captain will be suspended for "12 months or more"
  - Language change from 2022 "may not be less than one year and may be permanent" to "12 months or more" for 2023
  - When a player or Captain reaches this threshold, the length of that suspension will be determined by the Section Grievance Committee (instead of the League Leadership Group, as was the case in 2022).
    - Q&A 1 in <u>USTA League Suspension Point System Internal FAQ 3.23.23</u> provides guidance for Grievance Committees
  - Appeals of a suspension of 12 months or more will be heard by the National League Grievance Appeal Committee (under League Regulation 3.04C).
    - Under League Regulation 3.04C(1) the National League Suspension Group
      — Chair and Vice Chair of the USTA League Committee and Chair of the
      National League Regulation Subcommittee serve as the National League
      Grievance Appeal Committee committee
  - Additional changes are:
    - New language under Section 1. Application to align with amendments to USTA Regulation IV. and Table 17 of Friend at Court, passed at the 2022 Annual Meeting
    - "Failing to comply with a USTA League Regulation or Guideline" has been clarified by adding "Championship Procedure" to it and the point range now extends to 24 (from 10).
    - Additional violations with similar point ranges for conduct in the playing area but not during a match, and conduct outside the playing area but associated with a USTA event or activity, has been more clearly defined.
    - Physical Violence has been reduced from 24 points to 10 to conform with other USTA suspension point systems.



# As the League Suspension Point System is still relatively new, it is imperative that this information is widely distributed as soon as possible.

To track this distribution, League Leadership asks you to update this <u>2023 League Suspension Point Communication Tracker</u>:

- Confirming that you have received this information
- Confirming that you have distributed this information
- Confirming that those to whom you have distributed have received it/acted upon it

**Internal Documents/Links** — Distribute to all those with authority to administer League grievances and suspension points:

- League Suspension Point System 2023 3.23.23
- USTA League Suspension Point System Internal FAQ 3.23.23
- League Merged Penalties Chart and Suspension Points 2023 3.23.23
- <u>TennisLink Suspension Point Tracker training deck</u> and <u>Suspension Point System</u> Module Training (11.22.23)

**External Documents** — Post on the National site, distribute to Sections (to further distribute) for posting, Captain's packets, player guides, etc.

- League Suspension Point System 2023 3.23.23
- USTA League Suspension Point System 2023 External FAQ
- League Suspension Point System 2023 Calculation Tables 3.23.23

## **Suspension Point Entry Process Change**

All suspension points assigned through the League Suspension Point System must now be entered and managed within TennisLink, by staff and volunteers with the required approved authority (from their Section, State/District, etc.).

The JotForm and Google Sheets tracking document used to enter suspension points for Championship Year 2022 will not be used after March 23, 2023. All legacy points previously entered have been recorded in TennisLink.

The TennisLink League Suspension Point System links may be found here:

- <a href="https://tennislink.usta.com/Leagues/Suspension/ViolationRule.aspx">https://tennislink.usta.com/Leagues/Suspension/ViolationRule.aspx</a>
- <a href="https://tennislink.usta.com/Leagues/Suspension/PersonViolationSearch.aspx">https://tennislink.usta.com/Leagues/Suspension/PersonViolationSearch.aspx</a>
- <a href="https://tennislink.usta.com/Leagues/Suspension/SuspensionSearch.aspx">https://tennislink.usta.com/Leagues/Suspension/SuspensionSearch.aspx</a>

If you have any questions or concerns, or challenges accessing the materials, please send a message to Robert Okuly at <a href="mailto:robert.okuly@usta.com">robert.okuly@usta.com</a>.

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