

# Arkansas Rankings Rules

## GENERAL RANKINGS RULES AND REGULATIONS

### I. Statement of Purpose

The Ranking Committee of the Arkansas Tennis Association is charged with the duty of fairly ranking the players who participate in tennis events sanctioned by the Arkansas Tennis Association.

### II. Ranking Committee and Publication of Rankings

A. The ATA President will annually appoint a Ranking Committee Chairman and members.

B. Ranking deliberations shall be confidential.

C. Rankings will be compiled on a calendar year basis, January 1 through December 31.

D. Tentative rankings will be published on the ATA web site ([www.arktennis.com](http://www.arktennis.com)) for the preceding ranking year.

E. Protests to the tentative rankings must be submitted in writing by the player protesting (not a coach or parent) to the Chair man of the Ranking Committee. The protest deadline will be published on the ATA website. Each written protest must be received by the posted deadline and must state why the individual should be ranked higher and/or why other individuals should be ranked lower. The Ranking Committee shall consider all protests and determine the final rankings.

F. Final rankings will be posted to the ATA web site within days following their approval at the ATA annual meeting and may appear in print publications thereafter.

### III. Ranking Divisions and Minimum Qualifying Requirements

Official Arkansas Tennis Association (ATA) rankings of qualified players shall be made annually for the divisions listed below in which sufficient competitive matches have been played to make possible a fair ranking decision:

Men's and Women's Open, 35,40,45,50,55,60,65,70 and 75 (singles and doubles)

Men's and Women's NTRP 2.5,3.0,3.5,4.0,4.5, and 5.0 (singles and doubles)

Mixed Doubles Open and NTRP 5.0,6.0,7.0,8.0 and 9.0

Father and Son Open Doubles

Boys' and Girls' 10,12,14,16 and 18 (singles and doubles)

Boys' and Girls' 10,12,14,16 and 18 level 5 (formally novice) (singles and doubles)

### IV. Player Eligibility

A. Only persons who are USA members in good standing shall be considered for ranking.

B. A player must have maintained at least two (2) months continuous residence in the ATA District and competed in an Arkansas closed (adults only) event while a resident to qualify for a ranking.

C. In order for a player to participate in any Arkansas Closed Tournament, he/she must be a bona fide resident of Arkansas. To establish proof of residency, a player must:

1. Have a valid USTA membership address and,

2. Be an Arkansas registered voter or meet the requirements to be an Arkansas registered voter.

D. A player denied residency status may appeal that ruling to a Committee comprised of the ATA President and two appointed members who shall consider any special circumstances and rule thereon. Such appeal must precede by at least thirty (30) days the commencement of any closed tournament in which the player wishes to participate.

## ADULT RANKINGS REGULATIONS

### I. Minimum Requirements

A. To be considered for ranking, a player must compete in the following:

1. Open Singles – three Arkansas tournaments including one ATA Closed

2. Open Doubles – two Arkansas tournaments including one ATA Closed

3. Age Divisions – Two Arkansas tournaments including one ATA Closed (singles and doubles)

4. NTRP – three Arkansas tournaments including one ATA Closed (singles and doubles)

B. In any division which does not hold at least two ATA Closed events, the total participation requirement is unchanged, but the requirement that the total include one ATA Closed is waived.

C. To be ranked first in a division, a player must have more wins than losses or other evidence of a strong record.

### II. Rankings Considerations

A. A player's record for the entire ranking year, including main draw, playoff, and consolation matches, shall be the sole basis for ranking.

B. The results of all tournaments sanctioned by the Arkansas Tennis Association, the Southern Tennis Association and/or the United States Tennis Association and held in Arkansas during the ranking year shall be considered for ranking purposes.

C. A player or team may be ranked in more than one age group provided the player or team has qualified in each age group in which he/she or the team is to be ranked.

D. Considerations taken into account in ranking players include wins, losses, and exposure.

E. Matches count only in the division played and may not be considered with records in another division.

F. Protest Committee considerations include head-to-head matches, record length, and quality of wins and losses.

G. Defaults

1. A player who fails to show up for a match (qualifying, main draw, or consolation) is charged with a loss. His/her opponent, if present on time, will be credited with a win.

2. A player defaulted by an official during the course of a match will be charged with a loss. The opponent in this match will be credited with a win.

3. Once the draw is made, a withdrawal becomes a default.

4. Defaults shall be limited to one per player, per event, in any one tournament.

H. A player may not enter a tournament in which he knows he will be unable to finish, nor transfer his entry in a tournament to another player.

I. A player may not enter more than one tournament scheduled for any part of the same **time** period unless each tournament committee involved understands the situation and concurs with such arrangements as are made.

J. After the draw has been made, a player may not withdraw from the tournament except for illness, personal emergency or other bona fide reason.

K. Any player entering a tournament for which they are also the referee must notify the ATA office. The ATA will oversee the seeding, draw, and scheduling of the event.

### III. Classifications

A. Open Division – Any player may enter an Open Division event.

B. Age Divisions – An adult player is considered the age reached on his/her birthday in the current calendar year and may play in any adult age division designated for that age or younger.

C. NTRP Divisions

1. Players with a current NTRP rating must participate at their rated level or higher. Players without a current NTRP rating may self-rate.

2. Any player not participating in USA League Tennis and ranked #1 in a division must play in a higher division the next ranking year.

3. Any doubles team having players not rated at the same NTRP level must play in the division of the higher-rated player.

4. Players must be 19 or older during the calendar year to participate in NTRP tournaments.

D. NTRP Mixed Doubles

The rules for Mixed Doubles in tournament play shall be the same as the current USTA Mixed Doubles League guidelines.

Example: Each individual player's rating may not be more than 1.0 apart (i.e. a 3.0 player and a 4.0 player may play 7.0).