



PADELISTAS

HANDBOOK

The United States Padel Association Rules and Regulations 2021 Edition v1



FOREWORD

The United States Padel Association (USPA) invites all readers of the *Padelistas Handbook* to submit feedback concerning the guidance contained in this document. Suggestions, comments, and the identification of any errors can be directed to the USPA at info@padelusa.org under the subject heading, “Padelistas.”

In the absence of guidance provided within this document, all situations will be governed by the rules of padel issued by the International Padel Federation (FIP).

We look forward to adding more information in future editions of the handbook to foster consistency and transparency around the USPA and its competition structure.

UNITED STATES PADEL ASSOCIATION (USPA)

Website: www.padelusa.org

Email: info@padelusa.org

Instagram: @usapadel

Facebook: The United States Padel Association USPA

INTERNATIONAL PADEL FEDERATION (FIP)

Website: www.padelfip.com

Instagram: @padelfip

Facebook: FIP – International Padel Federation

AMERICAN PADEL FEDERATION (APF)

Instagram: @american_padel_federation

Facebook: American Padel Federation

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ABOUT THE USPA

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| 1. Definition | 1 |
| 2. Structure..... | 1 |
| 3. Objectives | 1 |

USPA SANCTIONED TOURNAMENTS

| | |
|---|----|
| 4. Sanctioning..... | 3 |
| 5. Facility..... | 3 |
| 6. Application Requirements..... | 4 |
| 7. Branding..... | 4 |
| 8. Pre-Tournament... .. | 5 |
| 8.1 Competition Formats... .. | 5 |
| 8.2 Draw Formats..... | 6 |
| 8.3 Scoring Formats | 6 |
| 8.4 Registration..... | 6 |
| 8.5 Acceptance of Entries... .. | 6 |
| 8.6 Managing Entries..... | 7 |
| 9. Tournament Director..... | 7 |
| 10. Scheduling..... | 8 |
| 11. Draw Formatting..... | 9 |
| 10.1 Round Robin..... | 9 |
| 10.2 First Match Consolation Draw..... | 9 |
| 10.3 Feed-In Championship Draw (FIC)..... | 10 |
| 10.4 Grouping..... | 12 |
| 12. Making the Draw. | 13 |
| 11.1 Seeding..... | 13 |
| 11.2 Byes..... | 14 |
| 11.3 Unseeded Teams..... | 14 |
| 11.4 Drawing Process..... | 15 |
| 13. Changes to the Draw..... | 15 |
| 14. Circuit..... | 16 |
| 15. Rankings.. .. | 17 |

ABOUT THE USPA

1. DEFINITION

The United States Padel Association (USPA), a non-profit entity, is the official governing body of the sport of padel in the United States. The USPA is officially recognized by the International Padel Federation (FIP) and the American Padel Federation (APF).

2. STRUCTURE

The USPA is made up of seven Board of Directors, one Board member serving as President, a Sports Committee and a Rules and Regulations Committee. The Board of Directors maintain general oversight of the USPA and are responsible for achieving organizational objectives (the *Board of Directors Bylaws* are contained in a separate document).

- 2.1** The Sports Committee is composed of select board members and players who possess the following objectives:
 - 2.1.1** Resolve player-disputes and review player-recommendations as they relate to matters of competition.
 - 2.1.2** Assist tournament directors with seeding, draw creation, and scheduling in national tournaments.
 - 2.1.3** Review and approve competition schedule.
- 2.2** The Rules and Regulations Committee is composed of select board members and players who possess the following objectives:
 - 2.2.1** Ensure compliance of rules and regulations set forth in this handbook.
 - 2.2.2** Evaluate and recommend revisions to the rules and regulations as the association and sport continue to grow in the US and worldwide.

3. OBJECTIVES

The USPA's primary objective is to promote and grow padel in the United States. This is accomplished through the following initiatives:

- 3.1** Cultivating strategic partnerships with sponsors, municipalities, and athletic facilities to increase opportunities, participation, and general awareness of padel.
- 3.2** Providing rules and regulations to govern the USPA competition structure. This includes but is not limited to:
 - 3.2.1** USPA sanctioned tournaments and tournament schedule.
 - 3.2.2** USPA ranking format and criteria.
 - 3.2.3** The United States Padel Open

INSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURE



RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR USPA SANCTIONED TOURNAMENTS

4. SANCTIONING

- 4.1** Sanctioning seeks to provide consistency and transparency for all USPA tournaments in the following areas:
 - 4.1.1** Facility requirements
 - 4.1.2** Pre-tournament organization
 - 4.1.3** Tournament Director's responsibilities
 - 4.1.4** Scheduling parameters
 - 4.1.5** Optionality in draw formatting
 - 4.1.6** How to make a draw
 - 4.1.7** How to make changes to a draw
 - 4.1.8** Competition schedule
 - 4.1.9** Rankings
- 4.2** The USPA considers the needs of players, clubs, and sponsors in the sanctioning process when determining the rules and regulations that govern its tournaments.
- 4.3** Clubs that agree to host a USPA sanctioned tournaments are expected to operate their tournament within the guidelines listed in this document.
- 4.4** Players that participate in a USPA sanctioned tournament are expected to follow all player-guidelines listed in this document.

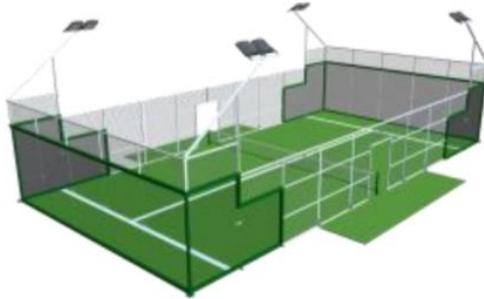
5. FACILITY

- 5.1** Facility must possess a minimum of two padel courts to host a sanctioned tournament. The requisite size and structure of the courts and other requirements are outlined in *Exhibit A*.

Exhibit A

Site requirements to host a USPA Sanctioned Tournament

- At least two (2) padel courts, measuring 33' x 66' with an artificial grass surface in good condition.
- The court shall be enclosed with four walls composed of a combination of glass and fence (with an opening on each side) appearing basically like this:



- In addition to the court, each venue should have a spare net, spare glass and all necessary tools to make any adjustments and repairs to the court and/or net.
- Male and Female Restrooms (permanent or temporary)
- Adequate parking
- Suitable shade for participants and guests and a large enough area for players to rest between matches

5.2 In addition to the venue requirements listed in *Exhibit A*, the host club must:

- 5.2.1** Comply with all local, state, and federal laws.
- 5.2.2** Possess a valid Tax ID number.
- 5.2.3** Maintain valid general liability insurance of a minimum \$1,000,000 per occurrence and name the USPA as an additional insured.
- 5.2.4** Have a medical and first aid kit readily accessible.
- 5.2.5** Provide complimentary water and refreshments to all players.

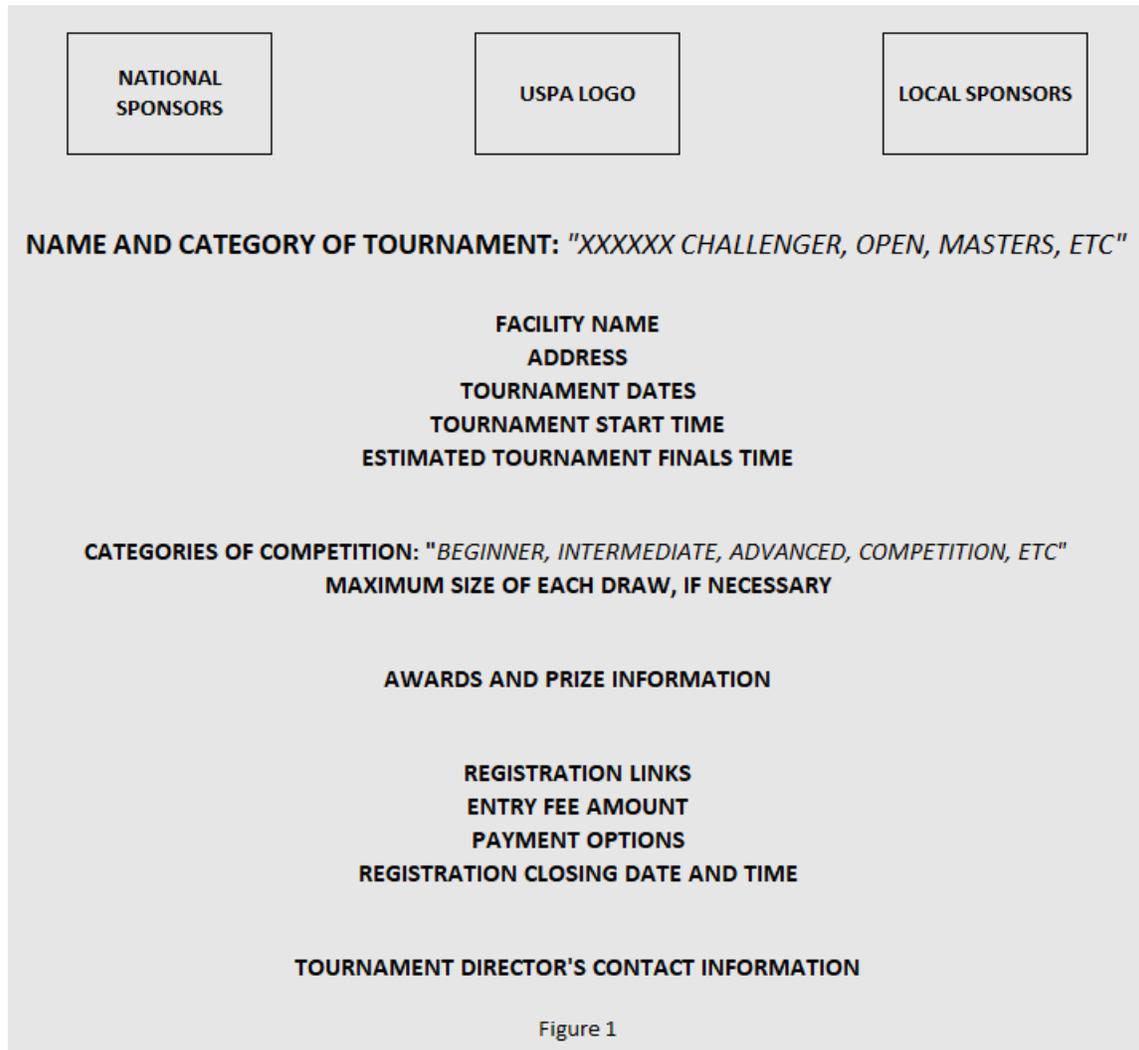
6. APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- 6.1** To host a national level tournament (Open, Master, Master Final, or the US Open) a club must submit a hosting request to info@padelusa.org by October 1st of the preceding year.
 - 6.1.1** Clubs will be notified by November 1st of the chosen locations and dates for these events.
- 6.2** To host a local level tournament (Challenger or Rise), a club must submit a hosting request to info@padelusa.org by November 1st of the preceding year.
 - 6.2.1** The request should include a primary and secondary hosting date for each tournament.
- 6.3** The USPA will issue confirmation of dates and publish the annual tournament calendar on its website www.padelusa.org and social media accounts prior to November 30th of the preceding year.
- 6.4** *Note: further guidance on the application process will be given in the release of the 2022 USPA Handbook later this year.*

7. BRANDING

- 7.1** Promotional documents and flyers issued by the club must include the following information:
 - 7.1.1** Name of the tournament and associated category of the tournament.
 - 7.1.2** Tournament date, location, start time and end time.

- 7.1.3 Registration information (registration links, club address, entry fees, payment options and registration closing date).
- 7.1.4 Categories of competition (see *Section 8.1*).
- 7.1.5 Maximum size of each draw, if necessary.
- 7.1.6 Process for selecting players, if necessary.
- 7.1.7 Tournament director's contact information.
- 7.1.8 Awards and prize information.
- 7.1.9 USPA logo, USPA national sponsors and any local sponsors.
- 7.1.10 Example flyer:



- 7.2 Promotional documents and flyers must be approved in advance by the USPA. The host club must submit all such documents to info@padelusa.org and receive written e-mail approval before publishing.
 - 7.2.1 Each club may seek additional local sponsors in addition to the USPA national sponsors.
 - 7.2.2 Club must consult USPA prior to finalizing any sponsorship agreement to avoid a conflict of interest with existing USPA national sponsors.
 - 7.2.3 Tournament Director must review the sponsor recognition plan with a staff member of the USPA prior to the tournament.

8. PRE-TOURNAMENT

8.1 Competition Formats

8.1.1 The Tournament Director will set the categories of competition. Each USPA sanctioned tournament may have the following optional categories:

- 8.1.1.1** Men's Competition
- 8.1.1.2** Women's Competition
- 8.1.1.3** Advanced Coed
- 8.1.1.4** Intermediate Coed
- 8.1.1.5** Beginners Coed

8.1.2 *Note: Coed divisions are integrated with men and women. A man may play with a man and a woman may play with a woman or a man may play with a woman. Historically, the purpose of coed divisions in the USPA has been due to low participation. The coed criteria will be revisited for the 2022 USPA Handbook.*

8.2 Draw Formats

8.2.1 The Tournament Director and/or Sports Committee will determine the draw format to be used for each division and formats may vary by tournament. Special consideration will be given to the number of participants entered and number of courts available. Available draw formats are as follows:

- 8.2.1.1** Round Robin
- 8.2.1.2** First Match Consolation Draw
- 8.2.1.3** Feed-In Championship Draw (FIC)
- 8.2.1.4** Grouping

8.3 Scoring Formats

8.3.1 The Tournament Director and/or Sports Committee will determine the scoring format to be used for each division and formats may vary by tournament. Special consideration will be given to the number of participants entered and number of courts available. Available scoring formats are as follows:

- 8.3.1.1** Best of three tiebreak sets with ad scoring (7-point tiebreaker)
- 8.3.1.2** Best of three tiebreak sets with no-ad scoring (7-point tiebreaker)
- 8.3.1.3** Two tiebreak sets with super-tiebreaker in lieu of third set with ad scoring (10-point tiebreaker for third set)
- 8.3.1.4** Two tiebreak sets with super-tiebreaker in lieu of third set with no-ad scoring (10-point tiebreaker for third set)
- 8.3.1.5** Pro-set with ad scoring
- 8.3.1.6** Pro-set with no-ad scoring

8.3.2 Front draw matches are typically best of three tiebreak sets with ad scoring, with no-ad scoring, or two tiebreak sets with super-tiebreaker in lieu of third set with ad scoring.

8.3.3 Back draw matches are typically two tiebreak sets with super-tiebreaker in lieu of third set with no-ad scoring.

8.3.4 Rain-shortened tournaments may switch to pro sets if necessary. Pro-sets are one set with first team to eight games by a margin of two. If the match reaches 8-8, a 7-point tiebreaker is played to decide the pro-set.

8.4 Registration

8.4.1 Host club has the right to collect registration fees from registered players and is responsible for the administering and collection of all registration fees.

8.4.2 Host club may charge separate registration amounts for USPA members and non-members. The maximum registration fee for USPA members is \$45 per player.

8.4.3 Tournament registration deadline is 11 days before the beginning of an event (typically two Sunday's before the beginning of an event). Host club must submit a list of players

to the USPA, by category, ten days prior to the event for membership verification. USPA will notify the host club if discrepancies exist with membership claims.

8.5 Acceptance of Entries

- 8.5.1** Teams must register for a tournament using the correct entry form by the published deadline. Email, text or phone entries will only be accepted by the tournament director if stated on the tournament information sheet.
- 8.5.2** There is to be no discrimination in acceptance of entries based on race, sexual orientation, religion, or color.
- 8.5.3** A player may be refused the right to participate in a tournament for the following reasons:
 - 8.5.3.1** Player has an unpaid registration.
 - 8.5.3.2** Player has been disqualified or received a sanction from the USPA, host club, or any other international federation.
 - 8.5.3.3** Player's age or nationality do not correspond to the event category.
 - 8.5.3.4** Host club receives the player's registration after the deadline.
- 8.5.4** If there are limits on the draw size, the Tournament Director will accept players into the draw by the following methods.
 - 8.5.4.1** For Competition categories, entries are accepted based upon the team's ranking (the team's combined USPA points). Thus, if the number of registrations exceeds the draw size, the Tournament Director will maintain a waiting list in order of ranking.
 - 8.5.4.2** For non-Competition categories, entries are accepted as they are received. Thus, if the number of registrations exceeds the draw size, the Tournament Director will maintain a waiting list in order of registration date.

8.6 Managing Entries

- 8.6.1** Up until the registration deadline, players may change their partners on their registration.
- 8.6.2** Once the registration deadline has passed, Competition level players will not be allowed to change their partner and must withdraw from the tournament.
- 8.6.3** Once the registration deadline has passed, the Tournament Director has the discretion to allow for a change of partners up until the start of the tournament for non-Competition level players.
- 8.6.4** Withdrawal of entries:
 - 8.6.4.1** A formal withdrawal must come in writing from a member of the team that is withdrawing. No third party can officially withdraw a team or player.
 - 8.6.4.2** If a team withdraws after the registration deadline, but before the draw is made, the entire team is removed and the next team on the waiting list is moved into the main draw.
 - 8.6.4.3** If a team withdraws after the registration deadline, but before the draw is made, registration fees may be returned. If the draws have been made, registration fees will not be returned.

9. TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR

- 9.1 The Tournament Director shall use discretion in all circumstances not specifically discussed by the USPA Regulations or FIP Regulations.

| Tournament Director's Responsibilities |
|---|
| Pre-Tournament |
| Obtain sanction with the USPA |
| Arrange courts so the tournament can be completed on time |
| Determine the means to enter the tournament |
| Works with the Sports Committee to make decisions about format and structure |
| Accepts entries |
| When appropriate, accepts late entries |
| Provides the Sports Committee with list of entries |
| Refunds entry fees when necessary |
| The Draw |
| Determines the time and place for the draw to be made |
| Works with the Sports Committee to determine seedings |
| Works with the Sports Committee to handle substitutions |
| Conducting the Tournament |
| Assures membership requirements and collects USPA fees |
| Provides new padel balls |
| Maintains the schedule during the tournament |
| Notifies teams affected by schedule changes |
| Assures minimum rest periods between matches are observed |
| Responds to player requests for match times |
| Assesses penalties for lateness |
| Supervises all aspects of play including but not limited to the conduct and action of players, coaches, parents, spectators, administrative, etc. |
| Settles scoring disputes |
| Defaults players for cause |
| When inclement weather, health concerns or safety concerns cause the tournament to be shortened, follows established procedures |
| Suspends and postpones play |
| Handles player requests for a medical timeout |
| Resolves ties in grouping or round robin tournaments |
| Provides supplies - first aid, water, etc. |
| Post-Tournament |
| Submits signed, completed, and legible draw sheets with scores within three days to the USPA. |
| Ships USPA banners and materials to the next national tournament site. |

10. SCHEDULING

- 10.1** Players should prepare for matches to begin as listed on the tournament flyer. This may require players to arrive as early as Thursday evening or Friday morning to the tournament site.
- 10.2** Players should prepare for tournament finals to begin Sunday afternoon, if necessary.
- 10.3** Tournament Director and/or Sports Committee shall aim to schedule matches so that teams in the same section of the draw will start all matches in each round at similar times.
- 10.4** Tournament Director and/or Sports Committee shall aim to schedule no more than two main draw matches per day.
 - 10.4.1** Due to time and court constraints, this may not always be possible.
 - 10.4.2** A team may be scheduled for more than two matches in a day if one or more matches occurs in the consolation or feed-in championship (FIC) bracket.
- 10.5 Rest**
 - 10.5.1** The following match formats require a minimum 90-minute rest between matches, unless all players agree to waive this requirement:
 - 10.5.1.1** Best of three tiebreak sets (ad or no-ad scoring).
 - 10.5.1.2** Two tiebreak sets with third set super-tiebreaker (ad scoring).
 - 10.5.2** The following match formats require a minimum 60-minute rest between matches, unless all players agree to waive this requirement:
 - 10.5.2.1** Two tiebreak sets with third set super-tiebreaker (no-ad scoring).
 - 10.5.2.2** Pro-sets or any other shortened scoring format.
- 10.6** Tournament Director and/or Sports Committee may schedule in increments of 60, 75 or 90-minute intervals. The following increments are recommended for each format:
 - 10.6.1** Best of three tiebreak sets with ad scoring: 90 minutes
 - 10.6.2** Best of three tiebreak sets with no-ad scoring: 75 minutes
 - 10.6.3** Two tiebreak sets with third set super-tiebreaker and ad scoring: 75 minutes
 - 10.6.4** Two tiebreak sets with third set super-tiebreaker and no-ad scoring: 60 minutes
 - 10.6.5** Pro sets or any other shortened scoring format: 60 minutes
- 10.7** Match schedule is set by the Tournament Director and/or Sports Committee. Players are expected to adhere to the schedule. Players may request changes to the schedule but should be prepared to honor the existing schedule if changes cannot be made. In the event a player request for a schedule change cannot be accommodated, that player and his partner must show for the originally scheduled match time or they will be defaulted.
- 10.8** Matches may be delayed or ahead of the projected schedule. It is the responsibility of the player to know his or her match time and any revised times due to various changing circumstances.

11. DRAW FORMATTING

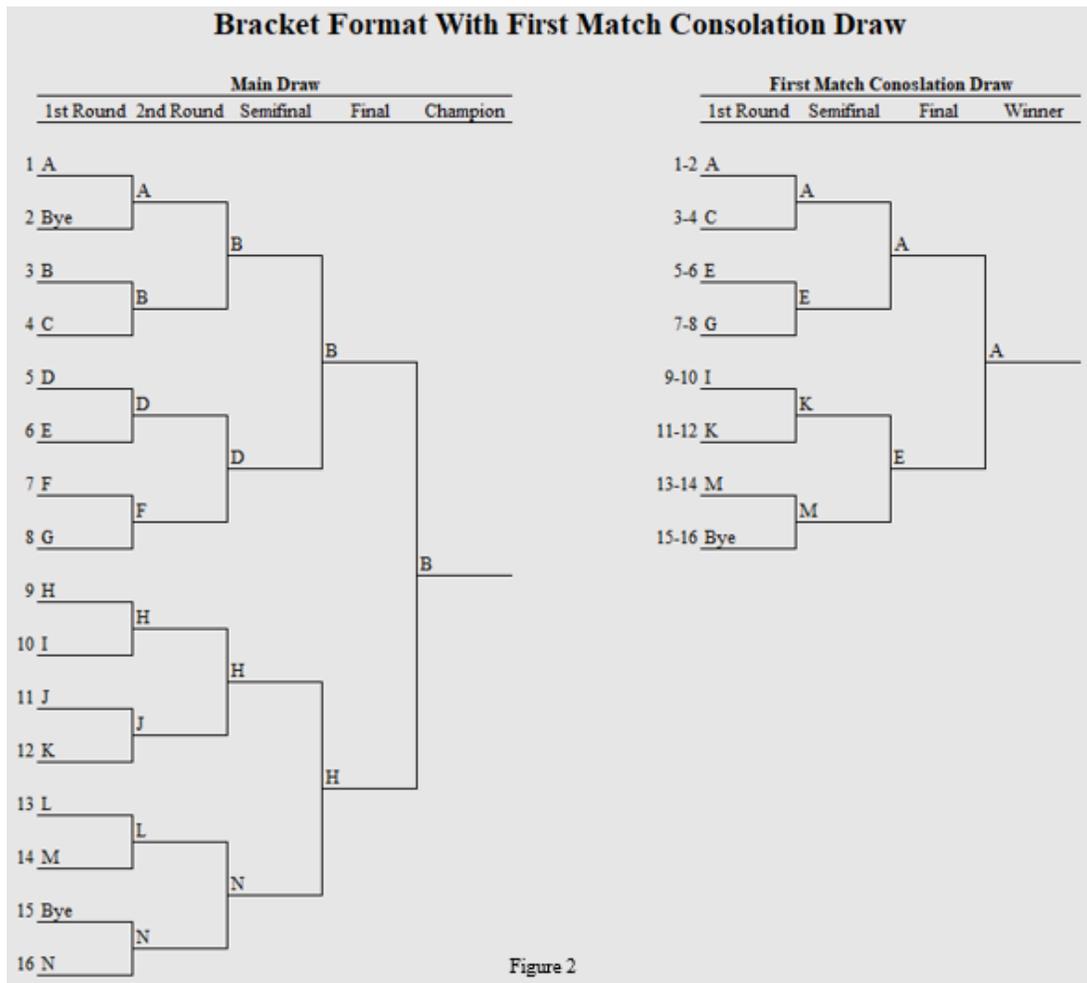
11.1 Round Robin

- 11.1.1** Each team must play every other team.
- 11.1.2** Required for divisions consisting of five teams or less.
- 11.1.3** May be used for a division of up to seven teams if facility can manage the format over a reasonable timeframe.
- 11.1.4** Four-team minimum requirement for all round robin formats.
- 11.1.5** The team who wins the most matches is the winner. If two teams are tied, then the winner of the head-to-head match is the winner. If three or more teams are tied, the following tiebreakers will be used, in order, to break all ties:
 - 11.1.5.1** Head-to-head win/loss record in matches involving the tied teams only.

- 11.1.5.2** The team with the highest percentage of sets won of all sets completed.
- 11.1.5.3** Head-to-head win/loss record in matches involving the tied teams who remain tied.
- 11.1.5.4** The team with the highest percentage of games won of all games completed.
- 11.1.5.5** Head-to-head win/loss record in matches involving the tied teams who remain tied.
- 11.1.5.6** The team with the highest percentage of sets won of all sets completed among teams who remain tied.
- 11.1.5.7** Head-to-head win/loss record in matches involving the tied teams who remain tied.
- 11.1.5.8** The team with the highest percentage of games won of all games completed involving the teams who remain tied.
- 11.1.5.9** Head-to-head win/loss record in matches involving the tied teams who remain tied.

11.2 First Match Consolation Draw

- 11.2.1** Six-team minimum requirement for all bracket formats.
- 11.2.2** Bracket format with first match losers moving to a consolation bracket. All teams guaranteed a minimum of two matches.
- 11.2.3** First match losers from the main draw will move to the corresponding line in the consolation bracket.
 - 11.2.3.1** Example: if line 6 loses to line 5, line 6 will move to line 5-6 of the consolation draw.
 - 11.2.3.2** Example: if line 1 receives a bye and loses second round, line 1 will move to line 1-2 of the consolation draw.



11.3 Feed-In Championship (FIC) Draw

11.3.1 Six-team minimum requirement for all bracket formats Bracket format with first round, second round and quarterfinal (semifinal optional) losers moving to a feed-in bracket. All teams guaranteed a minimum of two matches.

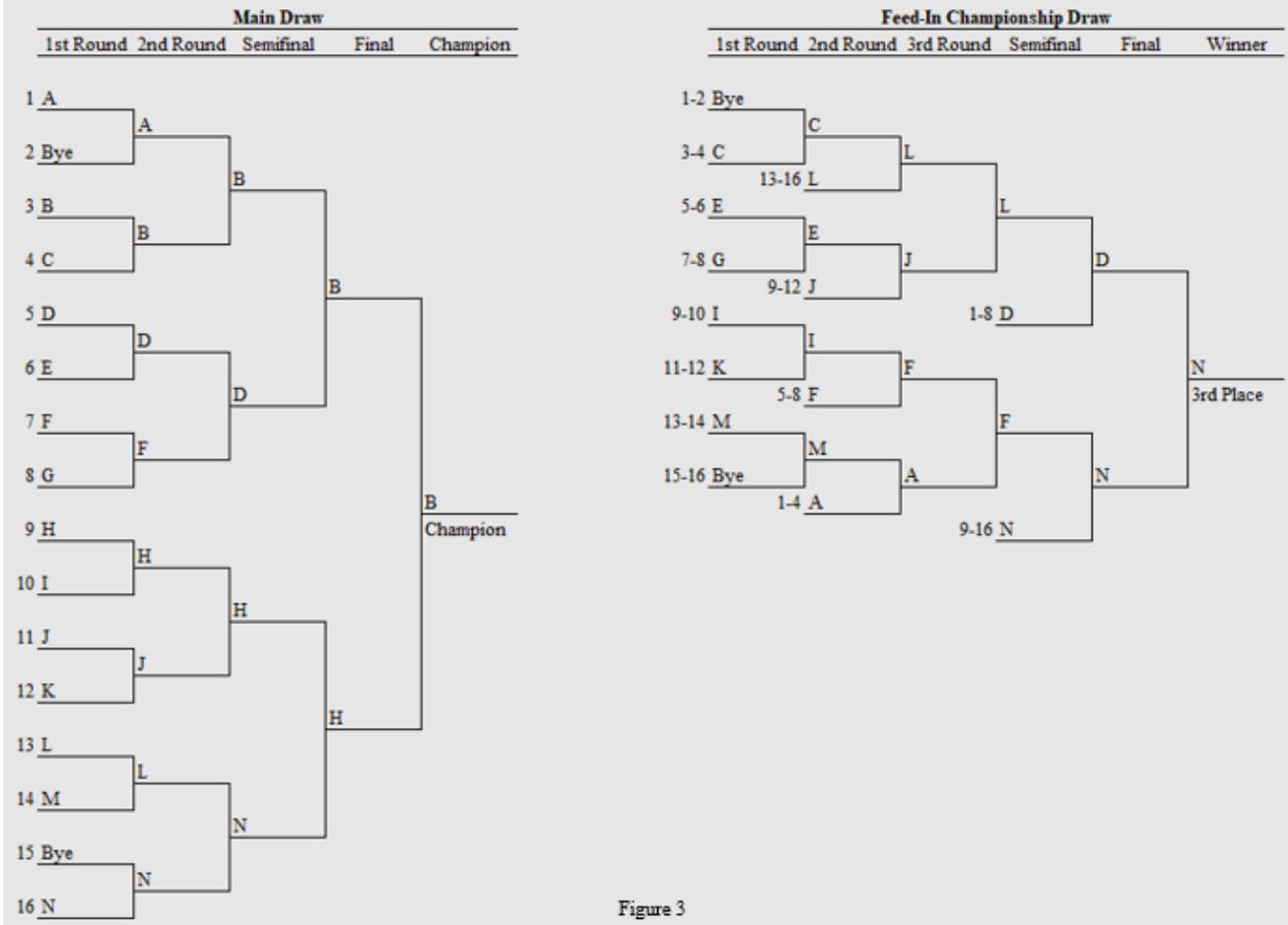
11.3.2 First round, second round and quarterfinal (semifinal optional) losers from the main draw will move to the corresponding line in the feed-in bracket.

11.3.2.1 Example: if line 5 loses to line 6, line 5 will move to line 5-6 of the feed-in bracket.

11.3.2.2 Example: if line 1 receives a bye and loses second round, line 1 will move to line 1-4 of the second round of the feed-in bracket.

11.3.2.3 Example: if line 16 loses in the semifinal, line 16 will move to line 9-16 of the feed-in bracket.

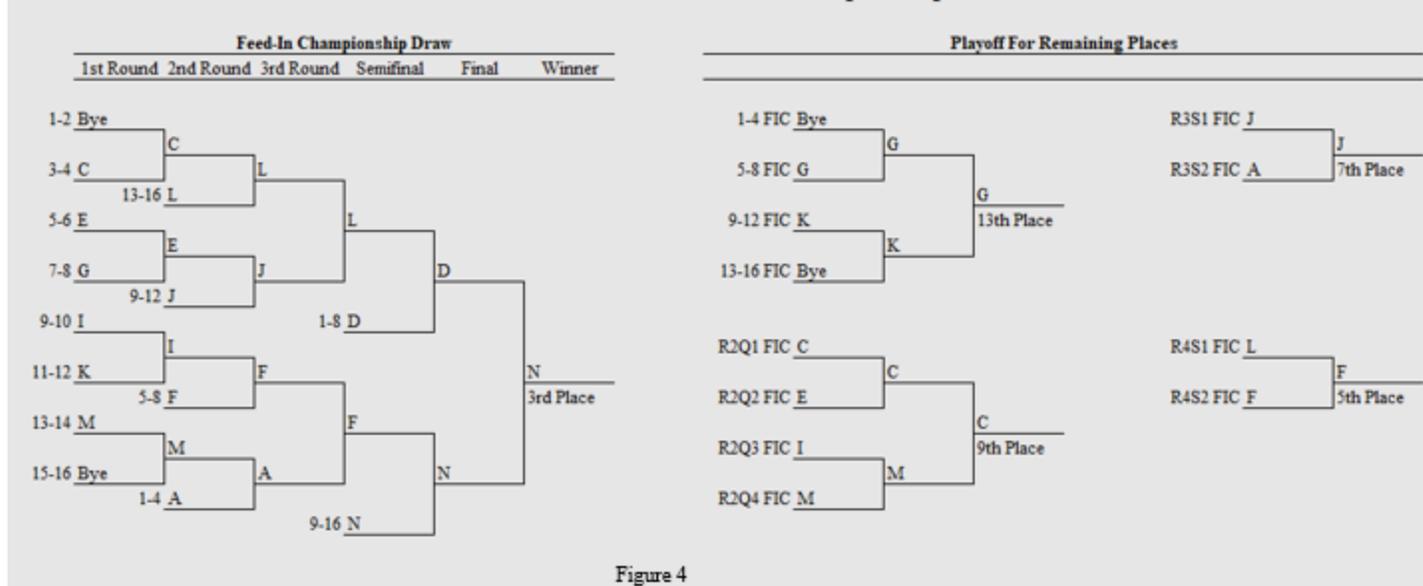
Bracket Format With Feed-In Championship Draw



11.3.3 An FIC draw retains the option to play off for more places after losing in the feed-in bracket.

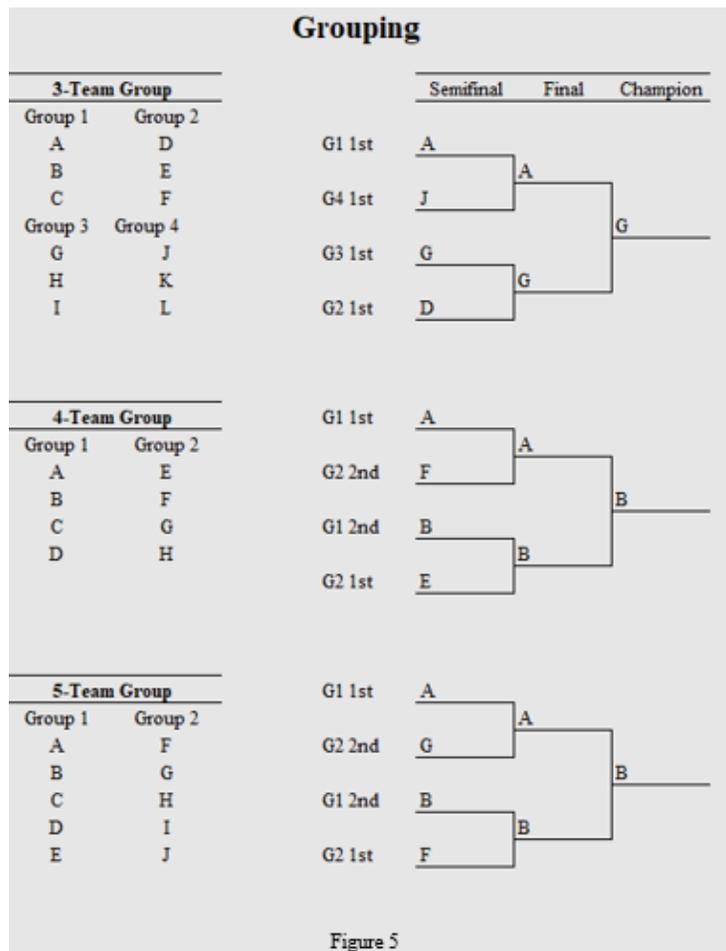
- 11.3.3.1** Example: if line 11-12 loses to line 9-10, line 11-12 feeds to line 9-12 FIC to play off for 13th place against other first round losers of the feed-in bracket.
- 11.3.3.2** Example: if line 13-14 receives a bye and subsequently loses to line 1-4, line 13-14 feeds to line R2Q4 (round 2 quarterfinal #4) to play off for 9th against other second round losers of the feed-in bracket.
- 11.3.3.3** Example: if line 1-4 loses third round in the feed-in bracket, line 1-4 moves to R3S2 (round 3 semifinal #2) to play off for 7th place.
- 11.3.3.4** Example: if line 5-8 loses fourth round in the feed-in bracket, line 5-8 moves to R4S2 (round 4 semifinal #2) to play off for 5th place.

Bracket Format With Feed-In Championship Draw



11.4 Grouping

- 11.4.1** Groups consist of three, four or five teams with predetermined slots in the bracket for teams who win their group (or finish second).
- 11.4.2** The following grouping formats are prohibited:
- 11.4.2.1** An odd number of groups.
 - 11.4.2.2** An unequal number of teams in groups. All groups must have the same number of teams or an imbalance is created among matches played by teams that advance to the knockout stage.
 - 11.4.2.3** Issuing byes in the bracket stage of the main draw. The bracket stage for main draw must include two, four or eight teams. The bracket stage for back draw (if there is one) may include byes, if necessary.
- 11.4.3** A back draw is not required when the grouping format is used.
- 11.4.4** The team who wins the most matches is the winner of the group. If two teams are tied, then the winner of the head-to-head match is the winner of the group. If three or more teams are tied, the following tiebreakers will be used, in order, to break all ties:
- 11.4.4.1** Head-to-head win/loss record in matches involving the tied teams only.
 - 11.4.4.2** The team with the highest percentage of sets won of all sets completed.
 - 11.4.4.3** Head-to-head win/loss record in matches involving the tied teams who remain tied.
 - 11.4.4.4** The team with the highest percentage of games won of all games completed.
 - 11.4.4.5** Head-to-head win/loss record in matches involving the tied teams who remain tied.
 - 11.4.4.6** The team with the highest percentage of sets won of all sets completed among teams who remain tied.
 - 11.4.4.7** Head-to-head win/loss record in matches involving the tied teams who remain tied.
 - 11.4.4.8** The team with the highest percentage of games won of all games completed involving the teams who remain tied.
 - 11.4.4.9** Head-to-head win/loss record in matches involving the tied teams who remain tied.



12. MAKING THE DRAW

12.1 Seeding

12.1.1 Players who are given preferential positions in the draw based on USPA and FIP rankings. Seeds will be determined by using the combined USPA points of the two players to create a total number of points. Team with the most points receives the highest seed.

12.1.1.1 Special exemption exists to seed teams who maintain international rankings that are not subject to USPA ranking criteria.

12.1.2 If two teams have the same total number of points, a random drawing will decide the higher seed.

12.1.3 There shall be no more than one seeded team for every three teams in the draw.

12.1.4 The same number of seeds shall fall in each half of the draw, each quarter of the draw, etc.

12.1.5 The number of teams seeded shall equal a power of two (1, 2, 4 or 8 seeds).

12.1.6 The number of seeds shall be as follows:

12.1.6.1 6 – 11 teams: two seeds

12.1.6.2 12 – 23 teams: four seeds

12.1.6.3 24 – 32 teams: eight seeds

12.1.7 Placement of seeds shall be as follows:

12.1.7.1 Seed 1 on line 1 of the draw.

12.1.7.2 Seed 2 on last line of the draw.

12.1.7.3 Seeds 3 and 4 to be drawn and placed in quadrants 2 and 3.

12.1.7.4 Seeds 5, 6, 7 and 8 to be drawn and placed in quadrants 1, 2, 3 and 4 at the opposite end of the quadrant from seeds 1 thru 4.

12.2 Byes

12.2.1 Priority shall be given to the highest seeds in descending order. In the event where more byes exist than seeds, remaining byes will be awarded by random draw.

12.2.2 Since priority is given to the highest seeds to receive a bye, any preliminary or first round matches must occur in the same quadrant of the bracket as the highest seeds in descending order.

12.2.3 The same number of byes shall fall in each half of the draw, each quarter of the draw, etc., if possible.



12.3 Unseeded Teams

12.3.1 Once the seeded teams and byes have been entered into the draw, the rest of the teams shall be drawn. The selections should begin from the top of the draw and move downward.

12.3.2 Placing non-seeded teams in the draw is prohibited. All non-seeded teams shall be drawn to their location in the bracket.

12.3.3 The Tournament Director has discretion to separate first round opponents from the same club. If this scenario occurs in the process of drawing teams, a new selection will be made.

12.4 Drawing Process

- 12.4.1 The Tournament Director maintains responsibility for the drawing process.
- 12.4.2 A minimum of two people must be present to create the draw.
- 12.4.3 It is prohibited for a player to take part in creating his/her own draw.
- 12.4.4 The draw may be created with manual drawing or computer
- 12.4.5 The entire drawing process shall be broadcast online or via social media.

13. CHANGES TO THE DRAW

- 13.1 Except in extremely unusual circumstances, the draw will not be altered after it has been announced unless approval is given by the Sports Committee.
- 13.2 Replacing a seeded team that withdraws before play starts, whether the draw has been posted or not:
 - 13.2.1 If a waitlist exists and the withdrawing team is not the lowest seed, bump all seeds forward and move the next eligible non-seeded team into the last remaining seeded position. *Note: There is no redrawing of seeding positions. The 4 seed will move into the 3 seed's draw position, 3 seed to 2 seed's draw position, etc.*
 - 13.2.1.1 If the withdrawing team is the lowest seed, simply move the next eligible non-seeded team into the last remaining seeded position.
 - 13.2.1.2 Place the next-in-line team from the waitlist into the vacated spot of the draw.
 - 13.2.2 If a waitlist does not exist, no changes should be made to the draw and the opponent of the withdrawing team will receive a walkover.
- 13.3 Replacing a non-seeded team that withdraws before play starts and after the draw is posted:
 - 13.3.1 If a waitlist exists, place the next-in line team from the waitlist into the vacated spot of the draw.
 - 13.3.2 If a waitlist does not exist, no changes should be made to the draw and the opponent of the withdrawing team will receive a walkover.
- 13.4 Replacing a non-seeded team that withdraws before play starts and before the draw is posted:
 - 13.4.1 If a waitlist exists, place the next-in line team from the waitlist into the vacated spot.
 - 13.4.2 If a waitlist does not exist and the draw has been made but not posted, the opponent of the withdrawing team will receive a bye unless one of the following occurs:
 - 13.4.2.1 If the bye creates a "double-bye" scenario, a team from an adjacent draw should be chosen at random to take the spot of the withdrawn team.

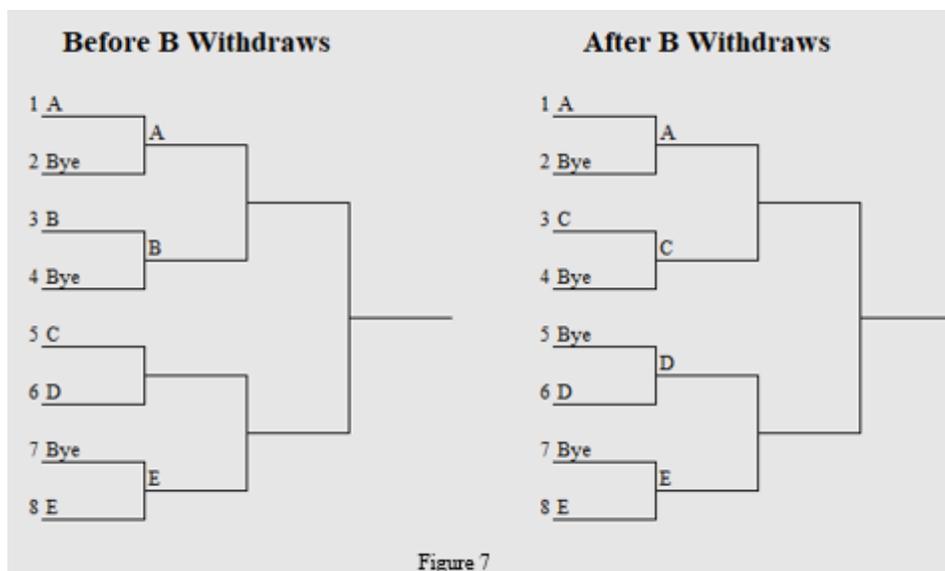
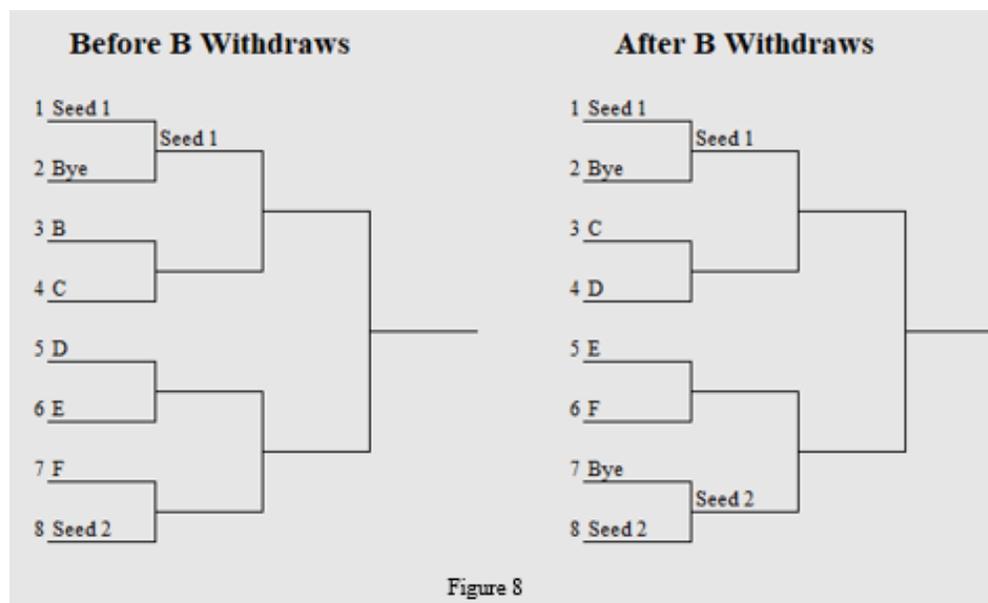


Figure 7

- 13.4.2.2** If the bye creates a bye for a non-seeded team and other seeded teams in the draw are scheduled for first round matches, the bye will be given to the highest remaining seed with a first round match and their opponent will be moved to the vacated spot in the draw.



- 13.4.2.3** If the bye creates an inordinate number of byes in one section of the draw, the location of the newly created bye must be redrawn to a different part of the bracket. *See Section 12.2.3.*

13.5 Entering a team into the draw that was mistakenly omitted because of administrative error:

13.5.1 A team whose entry is received on time will not be denied a place in the draw due to administrative error. The entire draw does not have to be remade.

13.5.1.1 If play has not begun and the omitted team would be unseeded, then the team's place in the draw should be determined by random drawing.

13.5.1.2 Allocation of byes by quadrant must remain intact, if possible. *See Section 12.2.3.*

13.5.1.3 If there are no byes, the same random drawing procedure should be used to decide who will play a preliminary match and the drawing includes the omitted team.

13.5.1.4 If play has not begun and the omitted team would be seeded, then the seeding should be changed. *The 4 seed will move into the 3 seed's draw position, 3 seed to 2 seed's draw position, etc.*

14. CIRCUIT

14.1 Categories of Tournaments

14.1.1 Open

14.1.2 Master

14.1.3 Master Final

14.2 Open

14.2.1 Open level tournaments retain the standard scoring format seen in *Figure 9.*

14.3 Master

14.3.1 Master level tournaments retain a double-pointed scoring format from the one seen in *Figure 9*. All earned points are multiplied by two.

14.3.2 The 2021 calendar has three Master level tournaments, one in each section of the U.S.

14.4 Master Final

14.4.1 The Master Final tournament retains a double-pointed scoring format from the one seen in *Figure 9*. All earned points are multiplied by two.

14.4.2 The Master Final will be the last tournament of the year on the 2021 calendar.

14.4.3 Entry into the Master Final will be based on ranking at the entry deadline. The top 32 players from each division will receive an invitation. If a player declines an invitation, another will be sent to the next highest player not yet invited.

14.4.4 All teams must be filled from the invitation list and a player will not be allowed to play with someone who does not appear on the list.

15. RANKINGS

15.1 USPA national rankings are calculated on a 52-week rolling basis.

15.1.1 All points earned at USPA tournaments over the previous 52-weeks are summed to create a point total. The player with the most points is ranked number one, second most points number two, etc.

15.2 Rankings shall be updated by the first of every month unless a tournament coincides with this day. In this case, the rankings shall be updated the following week.

15.3 The point totals in *Figure 9* outline the number of points a player will earn by division, round achieved, and draw size. For a Master level tournament, the point totals by classification are multiplied by two. See *11.4.1*.

15.4 *Note: the 2022 USPA point system will be altered to reflect the current FIP point system. Further guidance will be given in the release of the 2022 USPA Handbook later this year.*

USPA RANKING SYSTEM

| Main Draw | | | | | | |
|--------------|--------|--------|----|--------|--------|--------|
| Draw of 32 | 1st Rd | 2nd Rd | QF | SF | F | Winner |
| Competition | 32 | 64 | 96 | 128 | 160 | 192 |
| Advanced | 15 | 17 | 19 | 22 | 25 | 28 |
| Intermediate | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 11 |
| Beginner | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| Draw of 16 | 1st Rd | QF | SF | F | Winner | |
| Competition | 32 | 64 | 96 | 128 | 160 | |
| Advanced | 15 | 17 | 19 | 22 | 25 | |
| Intermediate | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 10 | |
| Beginner | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | |
| Draw of 8 | 1st Rd | SF | F | Winner | | |
| Competition | 32 | 64 | 96 | 128 | | |
| Advanced | 15 | 17 | 19 | 22 | | |
| Intermediate | 4 | 5 | 6 | 9 | | |
| Beginner | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | | |

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