



2025 Age Group Circuit  
Competition Structure Guide  
Updated July, 2025

# Table of Contents

- Competition Format
- Age Group Regions
- Tournament Information
- Tournament Organization
- Tournament Director Incentives and Player Engagement
- Draw Regulations & Scoring
- Point Allocations
- The Rankings

## Definitions

USPA - United States Padel Association  
WPR - World Padel Rating  
TD - Tournament Director  
TMS - Tournament Management Software/System

# Competition Format

In 2025 the Senior Circuit will change names to the Age Group Circuit and there will be three levels of tournaments:

- Age Group National Championships - The most prestigious annual event, carrying with it the title of national champion. Open to all players.
- Age Group Regional Championships - Seven premier events, one held in each geographic region each year.
- Age Group Locals - Local tournaments. Designed to introduce players to tournament play. Recommended low entry fee.

## **Age Group Categories**

The tour will consist of Men's and Women's categories.

Men's and Women's event categories will be M35+, M45+, M55+, W35+, W45+, W55+

A team MAY NOT play in two age categories in the same tournament.

If a team registers in an age category that is combined with another age category, ranking points will only be awarded in the age category the player competed in. For example, I am 47, I enter the 45+, but only 1 other team enters, we are both moved to the 35+ age category. I make the semi-finals. I earn semi-final points towards my ranking in the 35+ age category.

# Age Group Regions

<b>SOUTHWEST</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Southern CA, NV, AZ, NM, HI</li></ul>
<b>NORTHWEST</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Northern CA, WA, OR, ID, MT, WY, AK, UT</li></ul>
<b>SOUTHEAST</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• VA, GA, SC, NC</li></ul>
<b>CENTRAL SOUTH</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• TX, OK, KS, AR, LA, MS, TN, KY, AL, CO</li></ul>
<b>MIDWEST</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• MN, IL, IN, OH, MI, WV, NB, ND, SD, IA, WI, MO</li></ul>
<b>FLORIDA / CARIBBEAN</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• FL, PR, USVI</li></ul>
<b>NORTH EAST</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• MD, DE, NJ, NY, PA, CT, RI, MA, VT, NH, ME</li></ul>

# Tournament Information

	Nationals	Regionals	Locals
Ranking Points for winning pair	1500	1000	250
Number of Tournaments per year	1	7	As many as 2 per month, per region
Match Format	All matches will be 2 out of 3 sets with a 10-point tiebreaker played in lieu of a 3rd set. Golden point.		Matches can be 2 out of 3 sets with a 10-point tiebreaker played in lieu of a 3rd set, playing golden point, or depending on draw sizes, a first to 8 or 10, pro-set with golden point. A first to 7 point tiebreaker played at 8-8.
Social Event for Players	Mandatory	Recommended	Optional
Player Gift (T Shirt or similar)	Mandatory	Recommended	Optional
USPA Membership	Required	Required	Not Required
Maximum Draw Size	64	64	64
Minimum Draw Size	3 pairs. If only 3 pairs play, 50% of the ranking points will be awarded. 4 pairs or more and all of the ranking points will be awarded.		
Tournament Duration	3 days	2 days	1 day (Subject to extension if draw size warrants and the USPA approves.
Seedings	Seedings are conducted using the combined total of the pairs USPA Age Group Ranking points for the division that is being played in. Rankings in other divisions are not considered for seedings. If not enough pairs have rankings points to generate seedings, then verified WPR will be used.		

# Tournament Organization

Draws Open	90 days prior to the tournament. Tournament director must have set up the tournament in their account on the USPA TMS.
Draws Close	The entry deadline is 11:59 am Thursday, the week before the tournament. For example. Tournament is on Sat & Sun Jan 13/14. Entries close Thursday January 4th at 11:59 am
Draws Published	Draws should be published no later than 12 noon Monday before the tournament (Ideally earlier). For example, a tournament that is Jan 13/14, the draw is published no later than Mon Jan 8th, 12 noon.
Registration and collection of entry fees from players	USPA Tournament Management System (TMS) using Stripe, paid by the players directly in the TMS and held in Stripe.
Payment of entry fees to the club	Club enters their account information into the USPA TMS via stripe, and are paid directly after the tournament. Players are charged when the draw is created. The club is paid via Stripe the week after the tournament, all entry fees less 3.5% plus 5 cents per transaction will be paid out.
Players becoming USPA members	Managed by the players on the USPA website
Seeding	USPA for National Championships and Regional Championships. TD for Age Group Local
Draws	Managed by tournament director using the USPA Tournament Management System (TMS)
Management of players, and draw changes (not involving seeds)	Managed by tournament director using the USPA Tournament Management System (TMS)
Distribution of entry fees	Players are charged when the draw is created. The club is paid via Stripe the week after the tournament, all entry fees less 3.5% plus 5 cents per transaction will be paid out.
Maintains schedule	Managed by tournament director using the USPA Tournament Management System (TMS)
Documents results	Managed by tournament director using the USPA Tournament Management System (TMS)
Supervises all aspects of play	Tournament director*
Provides prizes, gifts, entertainment, supplies, first aid, etc.	Tournament director

\* The tournament director runs all sanctioned tournaments per the USPA Handbook and this Competition Guide. The USPA is always available in a supporting role concerning tournaments.

# Tournament Director Incentives and Player Engagement

## **Tournament Director Incentives**

For Age Group Regional Championships, each tournament director will receive a \$25 Amazon Gift Card from the USPA for each age category with 8 or more entries participating (maximum \$150 if all 6 age categories have 8 or more entrants participating).

## **Player Incentives**

Required for National Championships and recommended for all regional tournaments: a player party (recommended Saturday night) – with food/drink/pizza/beer. Provide no less than a nice athletic shirt with custom event specific printing, or similarly valued swag, with a slightly higher entry fee to compensate for this.

Clubs are strongly encouraged to award division winners and finalists some recognition of their achievement in the form of prizes, trophies, etc. as the club may elect.

# Draw and Scoring Formats

For National, Regional, Local Championships:

- a. If there are only 3 entries then the points awarded are reduced by 50%.
- b. 3-4-5 entries – single round robin with no semi-finals or finals.
- c. 6-7 – round robin with two groups. Top two seeds divided by groups. 1<sup>st</sup> place in each group feed into a final. At option of tournament director 2nd, 3rd, and 4th in each round robin can play a playoff for 3rd/4th, 5th/6th and 7th/8th.
- d. 8 – or more entries. Feed in consolation draws with a back draw for first round main draw loser and first round consolation loser back draw, minimum of 2 matches per team. (Byes and defaults count as a match)
- g. All matches employ golden points.
- h. All matches will be 2 out of 3 sets with a 10 point tiebreaker played in lieu of a 3rd set.

For Local Championships:

- a. These tournaments should be completed in one day.
- b. Matches may be a first to 8 or first to 10, pro-set with no-ad (golden point)scoring, with a 7 point tiebreaker played at 7-7, or 9-9.
- c. Tournaments should consult with the USPA regarding draws if they have concerns about completing the matches in one day.
- d. USPA membership is not required to play in a USPA Local Championship.
- e. In a Age Group Local Championship, at the tournament directors choice, in an 8 team draw, they may play a Compass Draw

# Ranking Point Allocations

## Details

- Ranking points allocated to participants are based on the level of the tournament and the results of the player in that tournament.
- If a team registers in an age category that is combined with another age category, ranking points will only be awarded in the age category the player competed in. For example, I am 47, I enter the 45+, but only 1 other team enters, we are both moved to the 35+ age category. I make the semi-finals. I earn semi-final points towards my ranking in the 35+ age category.
- Players can only earn ranking points from one draw per tournament and it will be the points earned from the last match played. For example, if a player loses first match main draw and then loses their next match in the back draw, they will earn the back draw points.

# 2025 Age Group Ranking Points Allocations

This is the standard ranking points table for 2025 and which will apply to all Regional Age Group Championships that play out all positions.

In the instance of a main and back draw, the standard USPA points table will be used.

1	1000
2	600
3	450
4	360
5	240
6	220
7	200
8	180
9	160
10	130
11	120
12	110
13	100
14	90
15	80
16	70

This is the standard ranking points table for 2025 and which will apply to all Regional Age Group Championships:

The US National Age Group Championships ranking points will be at a 50% premium to the above schedule. 1500 points for the winners.

Local Age Group Championships will award ranking points at a 75% discount to the above schedule. 250 points for the winners.



# Rankings

## Calculating Rankings

- An individual player rankings list will be maintained for each Age Group on a 12-month rolling cycle.
- A player's rankings point total and the resulting ranking will be determined using the four highest ranking points awarded to a player over the preceding 12 months from the same Age Group category events the player participated in.
- Rankings will be updated in the week following each Age Category event's conclusion.
- Each player will have the ability to audit their own results, identify errors in the calculation.
- In case of a potential ranking error, it is recommended to contact the TD first.
- For any additional rankings issues, contact [info@padelusa.org](mailto:info@padelusa.org) with a screen shot of the error

## Purpose

- To encourage participation.
- To create an objective, mathematical-based system that rewards the players with the *best* results.
- To determine the qualification for entry into various tournaments.
- To assist in determining seeding in all tournaments.
- To help selections for US National teams and/or tryouts.
- USPA will calculate the rankings manually and update them weekly.