



## **2026 SENIORS COMPETITION STRUCTURE GUIDE. UPDATED MAY 5, 2026**

### **USPA Seniors Circuit (Age Group Competition)**

Beginning in 2026, the USPA Age Group Circuit will be renamed the USPA Seniors Circuit, aligning with FIP naming conventions. The circuit consists of two levels of competition: the Seniors National Championships, the premier annual event that crowns national champions and is open to all eligible players, and the Seniors Regional Championships, with five events hosted across the United States. Competition is offered in Men's and Women's age categories: 35+, 45+, and 55+. A team may compete in only one age category per tournament. When age categories are combined due to limited entries, ranking points are awarded solely in the age category in which the player ultimately competes.

Seniors' ranking points are awarded based on both the level of the tournament and the player's final placement. Seniors National Championships award up to 1,500 ranking points for the winners, while Seniors Regional Championships award up to 1,000 ranking points for the winners. The further a player advances in the tournament, the more points they earn, with winners receiving the highest point allocation and progressively fewer points awarded to runner-up and semifinal finishers. Players may earn ranking points from either the main or the consolation draw, not both.

Separate rankings are maintained for each age group category and gender on a 12-month rolling cycle, calculated using a player's top four results from that age category. Rankings are updated following the conclusion of each Seniors event. Players are encouraged to review and audit their results, first contacting the Tournament Director in the event of a discrepancy, and if necessary, following up with [info@padelusa.org](mailto:info@padelusa.org) with supporting details. The Seniors Circuit is designed to encourage participation, reward competitive performance, support tournament seeding and qualification, and assist in selecting U.S. National teams.

The information below is intended as a quick reference guide for players, officials, and tournament directors. If any specific instance is not covered in this document, the USPA circuit rules and regulations, and the FIP rules of padel will apply. This document should be used in conjunction with the [USPA Rules and Regulations](#) and the [FIP Rules of Padel](#). For a complete list of the [USPA Ranking Points tables see here](#).

## SENIORS' QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE

	<b>National / 1500</b>	<b>Regionals / 1000</b>	<b>Locals / 250</b>
	35+, 45+, 55+	35+, 45+, 55+	35+, 45+, 55+
Ranking Points for the winning pair	1500	1000	250
Maximum Draw Size	32 pairs	32 pairs	32 pairs
Minimum Draw Size	3 pairs. If only three pairs play, 50% of the ranking points will be awarded.	3 pairs. If only three pairs play, 50% of the ranking points will be awarded.	3 pairs. If only three pairs play, 50% of the ranking points will be awarded.
Draw Format	3-5 pairs = Round Robin, 6-7 pair = 2 Group Round Robin with 1v1 Final. 8+ Pairs = Main Draw & Consolation	3-5 pairs = Round Robin, 6-7 pair = 2 Group Round Robin with 1v1 Final. 8+ Pairs = Main Draw & Consolation	3-5 pairs = Round Robin, 6-7 pair = 2 Group Round Robin with 1v1 Final. 8+ Pairs = Main Draw & Consolation. Other formats with approval
Tournament Length	Up to 3 days if required.	2 days	1-2 days
Number of seeded pairs	6-11 pairs = 2, 12-23 pairs = 4, 24-32 pairs = 8	6-11 pairs = 2, 12-23 pairs = 4, 24-32 pairs = 8	6-11 pairs = 2, 12-23 pairs = 4, 24-32 pairs = 8
Seeding Criteria	USPA Seniors Rankings for the category (i.e., 35+ Rankings only) are used for 35+ Seedings.	USPA Seniors Rankings for the category (i.e., 35+ Rankings only) are used for 35+ Seedings.	USPA Seniors Rankings for the category (i.e., 35+ Rankings only) are used for 35+ Seedings.
Draw Selection Criteria	USPA Seniors Rankings for the category	USPA Seniors Rankings for the category	USPA Seniors Rankings for the category
Wild Cards	2 per category	2 per category	2 per category
Scoring Format	Main & Consolation: Best of 3 Sets. 10 Point Tiebreak for 3rd set. Star Point		
Matches per day*	2 if the main draw. 3 if includes any back draw matches		3
Social Event	Mandatory	Mandatory	Mandatory
Official Requirements* From 4/1/2026	Minimum of USPA Certified Level 1 Official or FIP International Padel Referee Level 1. This person can also be the tournament director		

## SENIORS TOURNAMENT ORGANIZATION TABLE

Draws Open	90 days prior to the tournament. Tournament directors must have set up the tournament in their account on the USPA Tournament Management System (TMS).
Draws Close	The entry deadline for all Senior tournaments is 11:00 PM local time on the Thursday of the week preceding the tournament. For example, the Tournament is on Sat & Sun, Jan 17/18. Entries close Thursday, January 8th, at 11:00 PM local time.
Draws Published	For Seniors. Draws should be published no later than 3:00 PM on the Monday before the tournament (Ideally earlier)
Registration and collection of entry fees from players	One player from each pair must enter and pay for the team online in the USPA TMS. Accessed from the <a href="#">USPA Calendar</a> . Players pay a \$1.50 platform fee, in addition to their entry fee. For example, if the entry fee is \$80 pp, then one player pays \$163 to enter the team.
Allocation of Entry Fees, Distribution to the Club, and Refunds.	USPA Seniors, the USPA retains \$10 per player from the entry fees. The club receives the remainder, less the Stripe transaction fees. Each club enters its banking information into the USPA TMS via Stripe and is paid the entry fees as players register for the tournament. Clubs are responsible for managing all player refunds through the Clubs Stripe account.
Players joining the USPA	Managed by the players on the <a href="#">USPA website</a>
Seeding	Conducted by the USPA.
Draws, Schedule, results, updates	Managed by the tournament director using the USPA TMS.
Management of players, and draws	Managed by tournament directors using the USPA TMS.
Supervises all aspects of play	The tournament director and the Tournament Referee are responsible for running all sanctioned tournaments per the USPA Rules and Regulations and this Competition Guide. The USPA is always available in a supporting role.
Prizes, gifts, entertainment, supplies, first aid, etc.	Tournament director and club.