

Policy on the Use of Certified Officials at Sanctioned Junior Tournaments

Purpose: This policy sets forth the requirements for the use of officials at USTA sanctioned junior tournaments held in South Carolina. Tournament levels reference the USTA National structure of seven levels.

Policy:

1. All sanctioned junior tournaments held in South Carolina are required to have a USTA Certified Referee with the exception of National Level 7 tournaments. **Levels 1 to 4** are sanctioned by National or Southern. Requirements for staffing should be in compliance with policies from National or Southern. In the absence of specific policies for a certain level tournament, the tournament should use the policy for Level 5.
2. At **Level 5** Junior Tournaments Umpires must be a ratio of not less than 1 for every 6 courts. Court Monitors may be used in ADDITION to referees and umpires.
3. For **Level 6** tournaments, the Referee shall be assisted by at least **one** certified roving Umpire per **six** courts. This ratio may be increased to **one** per **eight** courts provided each Roving Umpire is supplemented by one or more Court Monitors. One relief Umpire will be required for every four Umpires unless Court Monitors are used. When fewer than four umpires are used, the Referee should provide relief.
4. For **Level 7** tournaments it is recommended that at least **one** Roving Umpire shall be employed for each **eight** courts and one or more Court Monitors be used.
5. An umpire assigned as the primary person to run a site desk should not be included in the count for primary court coverage but can be used to provide relief.
6. The use of Court Monitors is at the discretion of the Tournament Director if he/she has a sufficient number of roving umpires to meet the ratios listed above. The training and scheduling of Court Monitors shall be the **responsibility of the Referee**. The Referee shall conduct a **short course of standardized training for all Court Monitors prior to the start of the tournament**. The Referee will not issue designated identification to Court Monitors until training has been completed. Additionally, the **Referee shall ensure that Umpires and Court Monitors are available to meet the minimum court coverage requirements throughout the tournament**, and that all alternate sites have no less than one official present whenever matches are being played. It is recommended that Court Monitors who are volunteers not be scheduled to work more than half-days.

7. The Referee and all Umpires shall be dressed in the standard USTA official's uniform, unless tournament-specific shirts, that are not worn by players, are provided for officials. Court Monitors shall wear an attire approved by the Referee.
8. To allow the Referee to spend more time roving courts, Tournament Directors should provide competent staff to operate the tournament desk and put matches on court. Such staff will operate under the supervision of the Referee.

Board Approval Date: September 20, 2020