

Important Info About The 2006 A2 City Adult Tennis Tournament

FORMAT shall be best 2 of 3 sets. At 6-6 a 12-point tiebreaker will be used. A 10-point Match Tiebreaker will be used in lieu of a third set in Senior and Super Senior events. Warm-up is limited to 10 minutes. **DEFAULT TIME IS 10 MINUTES FROM THE TIME OF THE SCHEDULED MATCH.** Players should be prepared to play two matches a day; seniors and super senior men will play one match a day; round robin format for super senior women will require multiple rounds of abbreviated matches per day.

SUPER SENIOR WOMEN will play a round robin format. Partners and opponents will rotate.

RESIDENCY & AGE REQUIREMENTS: Participants must be Washtenaw County residents with two exceptions: 1) residency requirements are waived for "Open" events and 2) one member of a doubles team may be a non-resident. Players must be at least 19 by the end of the year in order to participate (except "Open" events).

RAIN POLICY: All participants should report to their tournament site on the designated play date 15 minutes before the start time, RAIN or SHINE. The Tournament Director will determine whether or not to delay matches or to reschedule. If the Tournament Director determines that matches may be played on inside courts due to weather, all players must agree to the move. The Tournament Director will determine what courts will be used. Players will be responsible for any court fees incurred. AAACATA will pay for indoor court fees for final events that must be moved inside.

TENNIS BALLS: Each player/team provides a new can of USTA approved balls for each match. Winner takes the new can, loser takes used can.

ENTRY FORMS: Additional entry forms are available at www.aaacta.org

DRAWS will be posted in the Ann Arbor News Sports section and on www.aaacta.org the day before the start of each event. Divisions with small draws may be combined with others.

LEVELS OF PLAY: Events are divided into Levels according to NTRP rating levels. Details of the criteria for each level are provided below and also at www.aaacta.org. Doubles events are combined ratings of the participants (round up if necessary, e.g., 3.5 + 4.0 = 8.0). The Century Division is for players with a combined age equal or greater than 100.

TO RATE YOURSELF

A. Begin with 1.5. Read all categories carefully and then decide which one best describes your present ability level. Be certain that you qualify on all points of all preceding levels as well as those in the level you choose.

B. When rating yourself assume you are playing against a player of the same gender and the same ability.

General Characteristics of Various NTRP Playing Levels (Wheelchair players please see note below)

- 1.5 You have limited experience and are working primarily on getting the ball in play.
- 2.0 You lack court experience and your strokes need developing. You are familiar with the basic positions for singles and doubles play.
- 2.5 You are learning to judge where the ball is going, although your court coverage is limited. You can sustain a short rally of slow pace with other players of the same ability.
- 3.0 You are fairly consistent when hitting medium-paced shots, but are not comfortable with all strokes and lack execution when trying for directional control, depth, or power. Your most common doubles formation is one-up, one-back.
- 3.5 You have achieved improved stroke dependability with directional control on moderate shots, but need to develop depth and variety. You exhibit more aggressive net play, have improved court coverage and are developing teamwork in doubles.
- 4.0 You have dependable strokes, including directional control and depth on both forehand and backhand sides on moderate-paced shots. You can use lobs, overheads, approach shots and volleys with some success and occasionally force errors when serving. Rallies may be lost due to impatience. Teamwork in doubles is evident.
- 4.5 You have developed use of power and spin and can handle pace. You have sound footwork, can control depth of shots, and attempt to vary game plan according to your opponents. You can hit first serves with power and accuracy and place the second serve. You tend to overhit on difficult shots. Aggressive net play is common in doubles.

Players above 4.5 must enter Open division.

Players in wheelchairs should use these general characteristics to determine their NTRP skill level. The only differences are as follows: Mobility: while players in wheelchairs may have skills that would normally provide them a certain rating, the mobility factor suggests that when competing against able-bodied players, they should participate at an NTRP skill level that provides for competitive rather than compatible play. Serving ability: Due to the nature of the player's injury or disability, a powerful serve may not be possible. In this case, it may be more realistic to self-rate below 4.0 as service strength becomes key beyond this level.

Many tournament players in wheelchairs have already received an NTRP rating. Wheelchair players should check with players whose skills match their own before determining their rating. The very best world-class players in wheelchairs have an NTRP rating in the low 4.5s.