

U.S. PROFESSIONAL SINGLES PLAYING FOR THE SCHOCHET CUP

Approved by USCTA Board on 2/18/12 and amended in February 2013, June 22, 2013, November 8, 2014, June 6, 2015, December 9, 2017, and September 6, 2018 meetings.

1) Tournament Committee

A Tournament Committee ("TC") shall be established by the Host Club to organize and oversee the tournament. The TC Chair shall act as a liaison to the USCTA.

2) Dates

The tournament will take place at a date agreed to by the host club and the USCTA. Various closing and posting dates for the draw shall follow the USCTA's U.S. Open Policies. This is as follows: the TC must close the draw no fewer than 2 and no more than 3 weeks prior to the start of the tournament. Within this timeframe, the TC should make all efforts to include prior tournaments that may have an impact on handicaps of players likely to enter the tournament. Completed draws are to be posted 3-5 days after they are closed.

3) Draws and Draw Size

The main draw shall be limited to 16 spots with the seeds determined by World Ranking Points and then off handicap (as of the date of the draw closure). The host club may elect to hold a satellite tournament to determine who gets into the main draw. Information on the possible satellite tournament will be posted on the tournament notice. The satellite tournament shall determine the qualifiers for the main draw. These qualifiers will all be drawn randomly into the main draw. The satellite tournament is best of three sets and is to be played to completion. The main draw is best of five sets format.

4) Seeding and Inactive Handicaps

Seeding for the satellite and main draws will follow the USCTA's U.S. Open Policies, accordingly, this is as follows: seed one for every two players for a maximum of 8 seeds. Place 1 and 2, draw for 3 and 4, draw 5, 6, 7, and 8. Seeds are based on players with World Ranking Points first and then,

secondarily, on handicaps (as of the date of the draw closure). The USCTA's U.S. Open Policies apply to players with inactive handicaps. This is as follows: a player without a singles result in RTO in the twelve months prior to the closing of the draw cannot be seeded but may enter the tournament. A player with World Ranking Points but without a singles result would still be seeded. If players have exactly the same handicap, use the most recent head-to-head result as the tiebreaker. If no head-to-head, then look up RTO records to determine the player that has had the lower handicap the longest and seed that player higher.

5) Last Minute Withdrawals

This will follow the USCTA's U.S. Open Policies. This has been modeled after the Tennis & Rackets Association's (T&RA) approach and is as follows:

If a player withdraws after the closing or posting of the draw and before 48 hours before the start of play, the TC will, in the interests of balance, alter the draw using the procedure below. If there is less than 48 hours before the start of play, a walkover will be awarded.

If seed 1 withdraws, seed 3 moves into seed 1 position and is replaced by seed 5. The 9th best player in the draw moves into seed position 5 and is replaced by the next best entrant to the tournament (if there is one).

If seed 2 withdraws, seed 3 moves into seed 2 position and is replaced by seed 5. The 9th best player in the draw moves into seed position 5 and is replaced by the next best entrant to the tournament (if there is one).

If seed 3 or 4 withdraw, they are replaced by seed 5. The 9th best player in the draw moves into seed position 5 and is replaced by the next best entrant to the tournament (if there is one).

If seed 5-8 withdraws, the 9th best player in the draw moves into seed position 5 and is replaced by the next best entrant to the tournament (if there is one). The next best entrant is the lowest handicap player in the qualifying event not to qualify.

If two players have the same handicap at #9, then the player who has had that handicap the longest shall become the ninth seed.

If a non-seeded player withdraws or if a spot opens up due to re-seeding: His / her place should be taken by the next best Qualifier from the Qualifying Tournament (with handicap used as a tiebreaker, if needed). If no Qualifier Tournament, then a walkover will be awarded.

6) Marking Policy

This will follow the USCTA's U.S. Open Policies. This is as follows: players are expected to mark at least one match. If they opt out, they are deducted the club's rate for marking fees from their prize/appearance funds. The TC is encouraged to post and/or circulate a marking schedule for all players to see but overall marking policy is up to the TC to administer. Singles matches may not be marked from the marker's box. Refer to the USCTA's policy on player conduct, marker authority, and incident reporting for more information.

7) Injury and Unsafe Conditions

This will follow the USCTA's U.S. Open Policies. This is as follows: a player must ask the Marker for an injury timeout, which shall be granted at the discretion of the Marker. Only one timeout per match is permitted and it shall be for no longer than five minutes. During the timeout, the player can receive treatment. Bathroom breaks are permitted at the Marker's discretion and are not considered a timeout. A player can ask the Marker for play suspension due to unsafe court conditions. This shall be granted at the discretion of the Marker who may consult with the TC.

8) Tennis Balls

Two sets of at least 60 balls shall be used with one set designated for the Satellite and one set designated for the Main Draw. The balls must be regulation size and weight as per USCTA specifications (as of 2/1/11, these specifications are as follows: not less than 2 7/16 inches and not more than 2 9/16 inches in diameter and not less than 2 3/8 ounces and not more than 2 5/8 ounces in weight). The TC Chair is responsible for verification of the size and weight of the balls prior to the beginning of the tournament.

9) Appearance Money

All players in the main and satellite draws will receive a fixed appearance fee based on the tournament purse. Players cannot get two appearance fees. In

order to earn an appearance fee, players must show up on time for their first match.

10) Prize Money

No player in the satellite tournament (even the satellite winner), who does not win a main draw match, can earn more than any main draw match winner. The total purse of prize and appearance money (the "Purse") shall be determined at the discretion of the TC based on the total funds received less all reasonable expenses to manage and operate the tournament. The TC shall use its best efforts to state a realistic minimum Purse on the tournament entry form. See Appendix A for the allocation of the Purse to be used in the tournament. The split between prize money and appearance money shall be 60% / 40%. All prize money will be distributed within sixty days of the completion of the event.

11) Unaffiliated professionals policy

Prize and appearance monies are granted to affiliated professionals and to unaffiliated professionals who are Category 1 players (handicap 5.4 and better). Unaffiliated professionals with a handicap of 5.5 and higher are only eligible to receive prize money. Affiliated pros are those who draw a regular salary from a U.S. court tennis club or who have worked at least twenty (20) days at a U.S. court tennis club in the prior twelve (12) months.

12) Fines

It is expected that all competitors will use their best efforts to attend all social events and related tournament functions. The purpose is to encourage and develop good will with host club members and tournament benefactors. If it is deemed that a competitor has failed to use his best efforts to participate, then the TC at its sole discretion may fine that competitor. Fines will not be deducted from satellite tournament appearance money and/or if first round main draw losers return to their home court. The amount of any fines will be added back to the main pool.

13) Amateur Entries

Based on the tournament's history and tradition, recent amateur interest in this competition, the World Championship Race, and sentiment from American

professionals, the USCTA asks that interested amateurs contact the USCTA at least two weeks in advance of the tournament entry deadline for an entry waiver. If the amateur is a plus handicap or is in (or is on the cusp of) the World Championship Race, entry into the tournament will most likely be granted. Contact should be made via email and sent to the USCTA President or Chair of the Rules & Equipment Committee with a cc to the host tournament committee. The USCTA will monitor this policy over time.

Appendix A - Allocation of Main Draw Prize Money

Tournament Name: _____
 Tournament Dates: _____
 Tournament Chairman: _____
 Tournament Prize Pool: _____
 (Prize Pool = 60% of Purse, Appearance Pool = 40% of Purse)

“Prize Points” to be distributed to Professionals in following manner:

- Quarterfinal Loser(s) = 1.5 points each
- Semifinal Loser(s) = 3 points each
- Finalist = 6 points
- Winner = 10 points

____ Quarterfinal Losers x 1.5 point = ____ (a)
 # ____ Semifinal Losers x 3 points = ____ (b)
 Finalist (6 points) = ____ (c)
 Winner (10 points) = ____ (d)
 Total Prize Pool = \$ _____ (no cents) (e)

Then, Add Items (a) to (d) inclusive = _____ Total Points (f)

Determine Prize Money “Multiplier” (no cents):

Total Prize Pool (e) divided by Total Points (f) = \$ _____ (g)

Allocate Prize Money According to “Multiplier” and “Prize Points”:

Quarterfinal Losers awarded (g) x 1.5 = \$ _____
 Semifinal Losers awarded (g) x 3 = \$ _____
 Finalist awarded (g) x 6 = \$ _____
 Winner awarded (g) x 10 = \$ _____

Note: Check that Total Prize Money to be distributed does NOT exceed Prize Pool Available.

Total Money Distributed \$ _____

Total Prize Pool \$ _____

Satellite prize and appearance money distribution shall be done by the TC based on the number of entrants and the overall amount of prize money raised. No satellite player can earn more than a main draw winner.