

The USTA Jr. Team Tennis Program uses the NTRP system for rating players. Players must be rated according to the NTRP Guidelines. Parents or coaches may rate players. Be sure that ranked players are rated properly. Players rated incorrectly will become ineligible, thus losing any points won. It is the team captain's and team coach's responsibility to make sure all juniors are rated properly. **RATE SOLELY ON ABILITY; DO NOT ADJUST FOR AGE.**

Rate according to the following descriptions:

NTRP GUIDELINES

1.0 This is an absolutely beginning player with little or no instruction. The player holds the racket incorrectly, is inconsistent in making contact with the ball, even from a set position. The player does best when placed near the net to volley tossed balls. The player is unable to coordinate footwork when hitting the ball. **There will be very few players that fit this category.** In most cases, only new beginner teams will be considered for this level. _____

1.5 A 1.5 player is only slightly more advanced than a 1.0 player. He/she is still unable to coordinate moving when hitting the ball. In fact, the player is still concentrating on getting the ball over the net from a set position. The junior is learning to serve and keep score.

2.0 The player is now beginning to coordinate footwork when hitting the ball but is not consistent in hitting the ball over the net. The player can serve to some degree but double faults frequently. Scoring is understood, as well as serving and receiving rotation. There is some understanding of court positioning in singles and doubles. _____

2.5 At 2.5 the player is able to judge where the ball is going, but court coverage is still weak. A slow paced rally can be sustained. The player double faults less than the 2.0 player. Volleys are improving, as is court coverage. _____

3.0 Player is getting better at moving the ball and can sustain a medium-paced rally. Seldom double faults, but the serve lacks depth and speed. Court coverage is good, but the player does not always have proper footwork. There is not good control on groundstrokes. _____

3.5 A rally can be sustained, and the player is beginning to develop control over placement and depth of groundstrokes. The serve is beginning to have more power, and the player seldom double faults. There is more aggressive play, and the player is understanding teamwork in doubles. _____

4.0 The player has more control, power and depth of groundstrokes, plus is using more variety in shot selection by using lobs, overheads, volleys, and approach shots. Serve is now forcing some errors. Court coverage is good, and there is evidence of good teamwork in doubles. _____

4.5 The player is using more power and exhibits sound footwork. There is depth on groundstrokes, and the serve is consistent, with good depth, placement and spin. The player frequently forces errors from the opponent, and is aggressive in his/her style of play. _____

5.0 The player has one or more shots around which a game can be structured. The player can regularly hit winners or force errors off short balls. Volleys can be put away, as can over-heads. The serve is an offensive weapon, and the second serve has good depth and spin.