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GLOSSARY

Active Membership: Any NCTTA member school that has completed all the membership requirements in 1.2 and will participate in NCTTA competition.

Limited Membership: Any NCTTA member school that has completed all the membership requirements in 1.2 but is only participating in the Spring semester. These schools may only qualify for the post season through singles. They may play in team league

competition but cannot qualify for the postseason unless they are a part of a Transitional division (see 5.6).

Varsity Teams: Any NCTTA member school's top coed team is called a Varsity team or "A Team". Any NCTTA member school's top women team is called a Varsity Women's team or "Women's A team". Note all student athletes must be academically eligible via NCTTA eligibility rules.

Junior Varsity: Any NCTTA member school is allowed to have secondary teams called this or even "B, C etc. Teams". These teams are students not strong enough to be on the A team/Varsity or faculty/staff or alumni. These do NOT have to pass an NCTTA eligibility form.

Uniform (what it is): NCTTA requires that every student athlete whether in Teams or Singles play must wear a school jersey, shirt, uniform. Teams must be matching color, design, etc.

Retirement: A retirement occurs when a player has started and is unable to continue playing a match or resume a suspended match b/c of injury, illness, or personal emergency. Note this is different than a default and the student athlete will lose rating points.

Default: Disqualification of a player in a match. There are several kinds of defaults:

- a. *Match default* – forfeiture of an individual (singles or doubles match) due to injury or any other reason.
- b. *Contest default* – forfeiture of a scheduled team contest because a team has a roster of fewer than three players present for the start of a scheduled contest.
- c. *Meet default* – forfeiture of all scheduled team contests at a particular meet. Meet defaults are due to a failure to show up for a meet with a minimum roster of 3 players or if a team has 2 or more contest defaults in a particular meet.

1 Membership

Application for membership shall be open to any college or university that supports the NCTTA purpose statement. Continuing membership is contingent upon the membership guidelines outlined in this section.

Membership is handled on a yearly basis with membership benefits taking effect upon fulfillment of the Membership Requirements and continuing until June 30.

1.1 Who can be a member?

Any college or university that has at least four interested student athletes. For institutions with multiple registrations, NCTTA will evaluate membership on a case-by-case basis.

1.2 Membership Requirements

NCTTA membership is obtained once:

- a. The school's table tennis club/organization/group president, coach or organization contact has signed the NCTTA membership agreement.
- b. The school pays the annual membership fee (see Section 1.4).
- c. The club/team fills out the school information form and turns it in to NCTTA.

Steps (a), (b), and (c) can be completed online through the NCTTA website.

NCTTA reserves the right to ask members to post our sponsors' banners and/or links on their club websites if it does not conflict with their institutional policies.

1.3 Membership Status

- a. **Active:** Has completed all the membership requirements described in Section 1.2 and will participate in NCTTA competition this season.
- b. **Limited:**
 - Has completed all the membership requirements described in Section 1.2 .
 - May participate in NCTTA singles competition.
 - May participate in the team competition during the Spring Semester (can apply to a former NCTTA member school returning to a division after a semester or more hiatus) .
 - May participate in all competitions of a *transitional division* as described in Section 5.6.
- c. **Inactive:** Has completed all the membership requirements in Section 1.2, but opted not to participate in NCTTA competition this year/season.
- d. **Delinquent:** Schools that don't pay their membership fees will be placed on probation. Both the team/school and any players

representing the school during the delinquent season are banned from NCTTA competition until fee is paid.

1.4 Membership Fees

Membership fees can be found:
<http://www.nctta.org/content/fee-schedule>.

Payment deadlines: Membership fees are due by the start of the competition season; either postmarked by October 1, or paid online by October 1, 11:59 PM Eastern time. Late payments will be assessed a late fee and must be paid online at least 48 hours prior to the first scheduled Division competition.

2 Eligibility

2.1 Academic Enrollment

All student athletes must meet the following minimum enrollment requirements and be *making progress toward a degree*:

- a. Undergraduate students must be enrolled in a minimum of 9 credit hours per semester/quarter and 18 credit hours per academic year (fall, spring, and summer).
- b. Graduate students must be enrolled in a minimum of 6 credit hours per semester/quarter and 12 credit hours per academic year (fall, spring, and summer). PHD students are included in this definition. Dissertation hours at some Universities are mislabeled as non-academic credit, we can accept an advisor's letter on University letterhead to prove this information.
- c. As an exception, a student who is in the final semester prior to graduation is eligible if they are enrolled in the minimum number of credit hours required for graduation. Supporting documentation from the institution's registrar's office or equivalent must be approved by NCTTA.
- d. The student/athlete must maintain an institutional cumulative grade point average (GPA) of minimum 2.0 on a 4.0 maximum scale for undergraduate students or a 3.0 on a 4.0 maximum scale for graduate students or be in *good standing*.

2.1.1 Good Standing

To be eligible to represent an institution intercollegiate athletics competition, a student-athlete shall be in *good academic standing* as determined by the academic authorities who determine the meaning of such phrases for all students of the institution.

2.1.2 Definition: Progress toward degree

Progress toward degree is to be interpreted at each member institution by the academic officials who determine the meaning and application of such phrases for all students, subject to the controlling regulations of the institution; the division(s) (or similar associations).

2.2 Proof of Eligibility

Proof of student athlete eligibility status should be sent to NCTTA officials (either the Registrar or Division Director) 72 hours prior to competing in any NCTTA competitions that semester. Forms to

complete will be prior to Division, Regional and Championship tournaments. The following conditions apply:

- a. An exception to the minimum enrollment requirement is permitted if a student participant is graduating by the end of that semester; he or she must take and complete the number of hours required to complete the degree.
- b. An exception to the GPA requirement is permitted if a student is enrolling at an institution for the first time and his or her GPA cannot yet be calculated.

Certification of eligibility status must come from the registrar of the school where the student is enrolled.

2.3 Nontraditional Academic Calendars or Cooperative Education Programs

A student-athlete in an institution that determines enrollment hours on a basis other than traditional semester or quarter system, or that conducts a cooperative educational program, may compete, if at the time of competition the student is enrolled for a comparable minimum academic load.

2.4 Noncredit Work

Hours of noncredit work (including remedial courses) may be counted toward fulfilling the minimum enrollment requirement, provided the noncredit work is given the same academic load value and is considered by the institution to be a requirement for the degree currently being pursued by the student.

2.5 Concurrent Courses at Two Institutions

Courses taken concurrently at a second institution may be counted toward meeting the minimum enrollment requirement, provided:

- a. The certifying institution officially recognizes the student's combined hours as part of the minimum enrollment.
- b. Cross-registered or dual enrolled students may participate for their primary institution *only*.

2.6 Correspondence Courses

A student-athlete may not use a *correspondence course* to meet the minimum enrollment requirement. Correspondence courses are courses taken while on academic dismissal or probation.

2.7 Nontraditional Courses

Courses taught via the Internet, distance learning, independent study, individualized instruction, and courses taught by similar means may be used to satisfy NCTTA credit hour requirements provided that:

- a. Evaluation of the student's work is conducted by the appropriate academic authorities in accordance with the school's established academic policies; and
- b. Is making progress in the degree of choice and is reflected on the certifying institution's transcript.

2.8 Temporary Students

A student-athlete having the status of temporary, transient high school dual enrollment or exchange student shall not represent an institution in intercollegiate athletics competition.

2.9 Length of Eligibility

An NCTTA player may compete in NCTTA competitions for a maximum of four (4) academic years. A player has competed in an academic year if he or she has played at least one match for a varsity team (see Section 4.2) or in NCTTA singles/doubles in any NCTTA competition held that academic year.

2.10 FERPA (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act)

This is a federal law designed to protect the privacy of student education records. NCTTA requires that each student understand and sign the NCTTA Eligibility document for the verification of academic eligibility for athletic table tennis competition within our events. Refusing to sign our eligibility document will result in default.

2.11 Transcript checks

NCTTA reserves the right to request transcript checks at any point during the season for the verification of academic eligibility and compliance and accuracy.

Student must agree to the following statement, "I allow NCTTA to receive personally identifiable information from my education records for the purpose of reporting or verifying compliance/accuracies with regard to NCTTA rules and regulations. I understand and agree that the information provided to NCTTA is for the purpose of determining my athletic eligibility (without such disclosure constituting a violation of my rights under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act)."

3 Competition Rules






3.1 Rules of Table Tennis

NCTTA will follow ITTF rules unless otherwise specified in this document including the following:

- **Playing Conditions (Championships only):** The playing space shall be rectangular and not less than 9.2m long, 4.6m wide (30ft Long, 15ft wide) and 5m high.
- **Playing Conditions (Championships only):** The light intensity, measured at the height of the playing surface, shall be at least 300 lux in the entire playing area.
- **Service Judges (Championships only):** Play may be interrupted by a service judge to inform the umpire of a service violation.
- Service judges may be appointed for a match.
- If service judges are appointed then there shall be 2 service judges, one service judge shall be positioned at each end of the court and for each rally the service judge on the end opposite the server is active, the service judge on the same end of the server is inactive. The active service judge may inform the umpire that a player's service action is illegal.
- **Timeout:** In a team event a time out may be made by the player or pair or anyone authorized to be at the playing area.
- **Seeding:** Seeding shall follow the order of the latest ranking list published by NCTTA at the time of the initial draw of the competition.
- **Unrated players** may be seeded by estimated ranking, at the discretion of the referee.
- In the event that there is a tie in ranking, the tie shall be broken by lot unless otherwise specified by the tournament management committee.
- **Alteration to the Draw:** Vacancies in round robin groups may be filled by moving or adding players, at the referee's discretion.

3.2 Uniforms

Uniforms are **required** to be worn at all NCTTA Team competitions and must, at minimum, consist of matching and identical shirts of the same design and color, and must include the school or club name or logo on the front. Shirts may be different on the back, for example, player name or number. For Team competition please see here to see what works and what does not:

Shirt #1	Shirt #2	What's wrong?
My University	My University	Same font size, different font
My University	My University	Same font, different font size
My University 	My University 	Same font and size, different color logo
My University	My University 	Same font and size, one without logo, one with logo
My University	MYU	Spelled out, acronym
My University 	My University 	Different design

Uniform requirements for singles are the same as teams except they do not have to be matching with other players in the same competition.

Violations must be reported immediately to the competition referee and the violator must immediately remedy the violation. If the situation cannot be remedied, the following penalty will be applied:

Default of that particular team match will occur.

3.3 Equipment

- NCTTA will supply balls for all NCTTA competitions.
- Equipment used at NCTTA competitions must conform to ITTF regulations.

3.4 Officials

The division director, regional director or another designated official will serve as the *competition referee* for a particular meet. The referee will enforce all rules and make final decisions at meets. The division or regional director may designate another individual to act as referee, if necessary. The referee should be an official certified by the ITTF, USATT, or another member association of the ITTF.

3.5 Rule Violations

- Any player, school, or NCTTA representative who would like to report field-of-play related rule violations must do so within 48 hours of the violation otherwise the point/game/match result will stand as is.
- Eligibility or other non-field-of-play rule violations are not subject to the 48-hour reporting window.

- c. NCTTA rules violations should be reported to the Ethics/Grievance Committee. Possible penalties for breaking rules include, but are not limited to:
 - i. Loss of match
 - ii. Exclusion from the Championships
 - iii. Suspended or revoked NCTTA membership

3.6 Appeals

- a. The Ethics/Grievance Committee decision on a particular violation of the rules can be appealed to the Executive Board in writing by contacting the NCTTA President.
- b. The Executive Board will meet to discuss the matter and either agree with the findings of the Ethics/Grievance Committee or overturn the findings. All decisions by the Executive Board are *final*.

4 Team Regulations

4.1 Team Requirements

To be eligible for participation in NCTTA singles or team competitions and to be considered an **official Men's/Coed and or Women's team**, a team and any participating individuals must be associated with an NCTTA member school that has:

- a. Fulfilled all of the membership requirements as described in Section 1.2.
- b. Submitted an academic eligibility form for its athletes proving that they are eligible to compete as described in Section 2.
- c. Limited NCTTA member schools (Section 1.3b) that satisfy these requirements will be considered official teams, but cannot qualify as a team or individually to the Regional or National Championships.
- d. Delinquent NCTTA members or teams are not considered official teams.

4.2 Varsity Teams

Each school may field one official competing varsity coed team (consisting of any number of men and/or women) and one varsity competing women's team (consisting entirely of women) in NCTTA competitions.

- a. Varsity Matches are considered when a Women's team plays another Women's teams and when A teams (Varsity teams) play other A teams (Varsity teams).

4.3 Junior Varsity Teams

For division competitions, schools may field extra junior varsity scrimmage teams to give more club members an opportunity to compete. Scheduling of junior varsity matches is at the discretion of the division director. Junior varsity team contest results are unofficial and will not count in division standings, but individual match results will still count for individual ratings.

4.4 Rosters

The roster, a list of all potential competitors on a team, must have a minimum of 3 players (except National Championship, see Section 7.6) with 8 as a maximum. Only those players listed on the roster are eligible to compete in the meet. The captain will place the players in any order. The order of this roster will be followed for all matches in that meet.

- a. Each school must submit an ordered roster to the division director or regional director by the online NCTTA competition deadline.
- b. Roster changes between meets are permitted up until the time a roster is submitted for a meet. Roster changes during a meet are not allowed.
- c. Female players can be included on the rosters for both coed and women's teams. However, if both teams are scheduled to play within the same time period such players can only be included in the lineup for one of the contests. In other words they must choose which team contest to participate in. No match will be held up unnecessarily.
- d. To be eligible for an NCTTA Team (A team or Women's team) post season must:
 - Be on the roster for A team or Women's Team (team in which they plan to play for).
 - Have a passing academic NCTTA eligibility form for those teams.
 - If no rating is known, they must have an NCTTA rating that can be used by December 31st or play an NCTTA match.
 - Any players without an NCTTA rating will have their rating converted to an NCTTA rating subject to our NCTTA Ratings committee
 - No player can enter the post season without a rating.

5 Competition Format

5.1 Team Contests

- a. Team contests consist of 4 singles matches and 1 doubles match.
- b. All teams must submit a lineup form prior to each contest indicating the players competing.
- c. All singles matches will be played out, regardless of the score in the contest (if the score is 3-0 after the first three singles, the fourth singles will still be played). Doubles will only be played if necessary to decide the contest outcome (if the contest is tied 2-2 after the singles matches).
- d. Individual matches are best of 5 games to 11 points.
- e. In round-robin play, the team ranking order shall be determined by the number of match points won. Teams will be awarded:
 - 2 points for winning a team contest
 - 1 point for a non-default loss
 - 0 points for a default loss
- f. In division competition, women's varsity teams will only earn match points for wins against other women's varsity teams from the same division and coed varsity teams will only earn match points for wins against other coed varsity teams from the same division.
- g. Tie-breaking procedure: ITTF tie-breaking procedures will be used to determine winners among teams with the same number of match points.
- h. In a division with only one registered women's team, that team needs to be present at the division competition and compete against at least 1 team (Coed "A" team or Jr Varsity "B/C/D/E" team). The team must complete the full NCTTA Registration process (including registration, roster, eligibility form...etc).
- i. Should any team member default, if the match is tied after the singles have been played, the offending team will then forfeit the doubles match.
- j. Teams with three players present will default the 4th singles and the doubles, if necessary.
 - Two teams with three players each will play 3 singles matches to determine a winner (best of 3, instead of best of 5 matches).
- k. Teams with lineups of 1 or 2 players will NOT be permitted to compete.

5.1.1 Line-up Example

Team Loopers - Meet 1 Roster

1. Player A
2. Player B
3. Player C
4. Player D
5. Player E
6. Player F
7. Player G
8. Player H

Sample playing order for team contest based on competition roster:

Contest 1

1. Player A
2. Player B
3. Player C
4. Player D

Contest 2

1. Player B
2. Player D
3. Player F
4. Player H

Contest 3

1. Player A
2. Player C
3. Player D
4. Player G

5.1.2 Doubles Matches

- a. In a doubles match that will decide the winner of a team contest (i.e. a doubles match played when the score is 2-2), the player who played in the #1 singles position *in that particular team contest* must be a part of the doubles team.
- b. If a player, other than the first player, that is scheduled to play doubles according to the contest lineup is injured and unable to play the doubles match, the team can select a substitute player from the roster. This substitute selection must be made by the end of the singles matches or the team will forfeit the doubles match. The injured player may not return for the remainder of the tournament or competition events. If the injured player is substituted, the opposing team may also substitute their second doubles player.

5.2 Singles Competition

- a. Individual matches are best of 5 games to 11 points.
- b. Players will be initially placed into round robin groups, advancing to a single elimination bracket when possible.
- c. Any players from an NCTTA member school meeting the eligibility requirements (see Section 2) are eligible to participate in division singles competition provided they register and pay the appropriate participation fee by the deadline set by the division director.

- d. In a division where only one men's or women's singles player has registered, that player need not be present at the division competition to win the division by default, however, the player must complete all NCTTA paperwork (including registration, eligibility form...etc.) as if s/he was competing.
- e. The NCTTA will extend one complimentary NCTTA Limited Membership and registration to the divisional singles round to a player coming from a school that has not participated in the NCTTA in five academic years. To qualify, a school must host a club or intramural tournament, and advertise it as being a lead-in to the NCTTA singles competition. The limited membership fee and the division fee for the singles competition will be refunded at the end of the competition if the athletes play in all matches.
- f. Starting at the Regional level all fees apply to any singles player that advances.

5.3 Seeding and Ratings

- a. **Singles:** Singles seeding will be based on NCTTA individual ratings. In cases where NCTTA ratings are not available, USATT ratings or other available information may be used for seeding at the discretion of the competition referee.
- b. **Team:** Team ratings are calculated based on the individual NCTTA ratings of the top 4 players (A, B, C, and D, in order) of a school. The team rating will be $[1.5 * (A + B) + C + D]$. If there is no D player, the team rating will be $[A + B + C]$.
- c. **Team Qualification Ratings:** For wild card qualification purposes, the ratings of the 4 highest rated eligible players at each school will be used to calculate team ratings. More specifically however only players who have participated (Played in an NCTTA match) in an NCTTA divisional during the current season will be eligible to be counted towards team qualification ratings.
- d. **Team Seeding:** For seeding purposes, the ratings of the 4 highest rated players (as labeled in section c) and registered for that particular competition will be used. At Divisional and Regional competitions, teams will be seeded based on team ratings. At the National Championships, teams will be seeded using the method described here: <http://nctta.org/content/rankings>.

5.4 Schedule

- a. The NCTTA regular season for division competition officially starts October 1st and ends February 8th.
- b. Each school must play every other school the same number of times with the minimum being twice during the regular season. Every team must play each other at least once before December

31st. This rule does not apply to limited member schools or schools with remote school participation waiver (see section 5.7).

- c. Competition can be held in several small meets over the course of a season or in large meets or a combination of both.
- d. Division singles competition can be held in either Fall or Spring semesters, but there will only be 1 singles competition in a full NCTTA Season (October to February).
- e. The division director must announce the team contest schedule and singles competition date(s) for the season by October 1st. Schools that fail to provide the division director input into the scheduling process are still obligated to compete according to the division schedule.
- f. Any decision to reschedule a division meet is at the discretion of the division director.
- g. If a school joins a division mid-season, the division director may accommodate them in the team or singles competitions, assuming they have satisfied the NCTTA membership requirements (see *Limited Membership* in Section 1.3c above).
- h. **The NCTTA Board reserves the right to make adjustments to the makeup of division qualifications under extraordinary circumstances.**

5.5 Defaults

- d. *Match default* – forfeiture of an individual (singles or doubles match) due to injury or any other reason.
- e. *Contest default* – forfeiture of a scheduled team contest because a team has a roster of fewer than three players present for the start of a scheduled contest.
- f. *Meet default* – forfeiture of all scheduled team contests at a particular meet. Meet defaults are due to a failure to show up for a meet with a minimum roster of 3 players or if a team has 2 or more contest defaults in a particular meet.

5.6 Divisions

For the purposes of NCTTA competition, NCTTA member schools are assigned to *divisions*:

- a. Divisions are arranged geographically. If a school does not conveniently fit into an already existing division, the executive board may create a new division.
- b. *Division size*: the number of *official teams* (Section 4.1) that compete without any meet defaults during a season. The minimum division size is 3 coed teams. Divisions with fewer than 3 coed teams are considered *transitional divisions*.

- c. One or more women's teams in an existing division (satisfying the other requirements of this section) are required to form a women's division.
- d. Divisions that fail to comply with the scheduling guidelines in 5.4b will be considered *transitional divisions*.
- e. *Transitional divisions*: Any division that does not have the minimum number of official member schools (as described in 5.6b) at the start of the season
 - Results and standings from league matches will not be counted officially.
 - Transitional divisions from the start of the season cannot qualify teams or players to the Regional or National Championships.
- f. *Transitional Divisions*: Divisions that fail to maintain the minimum number of schools, which is 3 Men's/Coed schools at any given competition in a season.
 - i. Any school in a Transitional Division can only qualify teams to the Regionals via wild card.
- g. The NCTTA Board reserves the right to make adjustments to the makeup of regional qualifications under extraordinary circumstances.

5.7 Remote School Participation Waiver (RSPW)

- a. Any NCTTA school that needs to drive more than 8 hours or must cross an ocean to attend a given divisional tournament is eligible to apply.
- b. Each application will be reviewed by **eligibility committee** and must be submitted two weeks prior to the divisional tournament date.
- c. Schools that have been granted a RSPW must still submit eligibility forms and rosters prior to the divisional tournament.
- d. A school can be granted a RSPW a maximum of three times consecutively.

RSPW Regional Championship qualification

- a. Teams
 - If RSPW is used for both divisional tournaments in the same season, all players on the team must have participated in sanctioned tournament or event between September 1st and December 31st. NCTTA needs these players to have an active rating that can have an adequate conversion to our ratings system.

- Any team using at least one RSPW can only qualify for the regional tournament through wildcard qualification rules.
- Only players present on the team roster will be eligible to represent the school at regionals and nationals.

b. Singles

- A singles player using RSPW must have participated in sanctioned tournament or event between September 1st and December 31st. NCTTA needs these players to have an active rating that can have an adequate conversion to our ratings system.
- A singles player using RSPW can only qualify for the regional tournament through wildcard qualification rules.

c. Ratings

- Any players without an NCTTA rating will have their rating converted to an NCTTA rating subject to our NCTTA Ratings committee

5.8 Rosters

Division Rosters are due 72 hours prior to competition date via the online roster submission form. Failure to do so will result in random roster order.

6 Regional Championships Regulations

6.1 Date and Location

- a. Regional Championships will be held at a date and location selected by the regional director, with input from the division directors in the region.
- b. Regional Championships will be held between February 19 and March 5th.
- c. The regional director will announce the date and location of the Regional Championship by November 1st.

6.2 Regional Championships Qualification Eligibility

Teams and singles participants must have received an invitation to the regional tournament and signed up and paid for the respective regional events.

6.3 Team Qualification

12 Men's/Coed teams and 8 Women's teams will be invited to the Regional Championships according to the following selection procedure:

- a. *The Men's/Coed and Women's division champions* will receive automatic invitations to the Regional Championships as direct qualifiers.
- b. **If the automatic invitation is declined**, the 2nd place team within that particular division will be invited to the Regionals.
- c. **If a division has 6 schools (see Section 5.6b) or larger**, the 2nd place team within that particular division will be invited to the Regionals.
- d. *All remaining spots will be filled on a wild card basis* in order of decreasing team rating (see Section 5.3).

6.4 Singles Qualification

- a. *24 men's singles players* will be invited to the Regional Championships according to the following selection procedure:
 - For regions with 4 or fewer divisions, the top 4 finishers in each division will receive automatic invitations.
 - For regions with 5 or more divisions, the top 3 finishers in each division will receive automatic invitations.
- b. *8 to 16 women's singles players* will be invited:
 - For regions with 3 or fewer women's divisions, 8 spots.
 - For regions with 4 women's divisions, 12 spots.
 - For regions with 5 or more women's divisions, 16 spots.

- The top 2 finishers in each division will receive automatic invitations to the Regional Championships.
- c. Any remaining spots after automatic invitations will be filled on a wildcard basis in order of decreasing individual NCTTA rating.
- d. The Board of Directors reserves the right to grant wildcards to individuals that miss division singles to represent their country in competition, for example.

6.5 Rosters

- a. Players must have represented the school in at least one division competition in a varsity team or women's team contest or be on the roster in any divisional before being allowed on a Regional Championship roster unless previously approved by the eligibility committee via RSPW (5.7).
- b. Only women that have played at least one (1) coed divisional team contest for their school or appeared on the roster for this particular team can be included on a school's coed Regional Championship roster. Similarly, only women that have played at least one (1) women's divisional team contest or been on the roster for their school can be included on their school's women's Regional Championship roster.
- c. For any team that wins their divisional tournament all players on the submitted roster will be considered eligible.
- d. Regional Rosters are due 72 hours prior to competition date via the online roster submission form. Failure to do so will result in random roster order.

6.6 Coaching Advantages

- a. Any team with a NCTTA Certified coach will have their regional registration team fee refunded as long as the coach travels and is present at the Regional Competition.

6.7 Regional Alumni Doubles

Pair must both be alumni that have previously participated in NCTTA and has an NCTTA rating or comparable rating.

Pair can consist of any gender or school mix.

May only participate in 1 Regional Alumni Doubles event.

Format is decided by Regional Director.

7 National Championships Regulations

7.1 Host Location and Organization

NCTTA Championships will be held at the conclusion of the NCTTA competition season, after the Regional Championships. The exact dates and location are determined through a formal bidding process (please see the document titled, *NCTTA Championship Bidding Guidelines*).

7.2 Team Qualification

24 Men's/Coed teams and 16 Women's teams will be invited to the Team National Championships according to the following selection procedure:

- a. *The top 3 finishing Men's/Coed teams and top 2 finishing Women's teams at each Regional Championship* will receive automatic invitations as Direct Qualifiers to the National Championships.
- b. **If an automatic invitation is declined**, the next highest finisher within that particular region will be invited to the Championships. This invitation will not exceed 4th place for Men's/Coed and 3rd place for Women.
- e. *The host school, if any, will receive an automatic invitation to the National Championships.* However, since the Championships site was determined prior to competition, the host's school's invitation will be withdrawn if the school does not exhibit sufficient effort to participate in league play or otherwise fails to fulfill the terms of NCTTA membership.
- f. *All remaining National Championship spots will be filled on a wild card basis* in order of decreasing team rating (see Section 5.3) from among the teams participating at the Regional Championships.
- g. **The NCTTA Board reserves the right to make adjustments to the makeup of national qualifications under extraordinary circumstances.**

7.3 Singles Qualification

80 men's singles players and 40 women's singles players will be invited to the National Championships according to the following selection procedure:

- a. *The top 8 men's singles finishers and the top 4 women's singles finishers at each Regional Championship* will receive automatic invitations as Direct Qualifiers to the National Championships.

- b. In very rare cases, the Board of Directors reserves the right to grant wild cards to individuals that miss the regional championships in order to represent their country in competition.
- c. *All remaining National Championship spots will be filled on a wild card basis* in order of decreasing individual rating (see Section 5.3) from among the singles participants at Regional Championships.

7.4 Doubles Qualification

32 coed/men's doubles pairs and 16 women's doubles pairs will be selected to participate in the National Championships doubles competition according to the following selection criteria:

- a. Doubles pairs must be formed of players from the same school.
- b. Doubles pairs must consist of players already qualified for the National Championships in either singles or the team event.
- c. Doubles pairs must register their interest to participate in the doubles competition by a deadline listed on the Championships website.
- d. No player is allowed to play in both events.

From the list of registered doubles pairs, pairs will be selected to participate in the doubles competition in order of decreasing rating of the pairs, up to the maximum for the men's and women's doubles event. Doubles ratings and seeding will be based on the combined NCTTA ratings of the players on the doubles team.

7.5 Paralympic Events

Qualification and format for NCTTA Paralympic events will follow the *NCTTA Paralympic Championships Guidelines* as defined by the NCTTA Championships Committee.

7.6 Rosters

- a. Rosters for the National Championships are subject to the requirements of Regional Championship rosters (Section 6.5), plus the additional requirements outlined in this section.
- b. *Championship rosters must have a minimum of 4 players.* A team that submits a 3-player lineup for a contest, or submits a 4-player lineup in which one or more of the players listed are not present at the Championships, will default that contest.
- c. Players and teams must register for the Championships via the Championships website by the published deadline.
- d. Preliminary rosters listing all the players that could play for a team in the Championships are due by a deadline decided by the NCTTA Championships Committee.

- e. Changes or additions to this roster after the deadline require explicit approval of the NCTTA Championships Committee.

7.7 Format

The NCTTA Championships will follow NCTTA League Competition Rules with the following exceptions:

- Championship-specific rule modifications are permitted as decided by the NCTTA Championships Committee and Host Organizing Committee. Any such changes will be noted in the Championship's Athlete Handbook.

7.8 Financial Assistance

- a. NCTTA is able to provide **limited** funding for eligible schools to participate in the NCTTA Championships provided that the teams have exhausted all available resources and contacts at their institution.
- b. Before filing for NCTTA financial assistance, the eligible championship teams should:
 - Read the document entitled, *NCTTA Funding Request Information*, on the NCTTA Championships website.
 - Apply for institutional assistance according to the guidelines outlined in that document.
- b. If after exhausting institutional resources, a team still has unmet funding needs, it can then ask for NCTTA financial assistance through a formal application. The application must be submitted to NCTTA by March 31st.
- c. NCTTA will consider all such requests after completion of the Championships and notify involved teams of their decisions in a timely fashion.

7.9 National Eligibility Forms

All players are required to submit a National Championship-specific eligibility form prior to the deadline specified on the form.

7.10 Refunds

For all NCTTA events in Division, Regionals and Championships. If there is another team/player to take your place you are refunded everything but an administrative fee, If another player/team is not found within the deadline for competition then there will be no refund.

The administrative fee is 25% of the original registration fee.