

2024 Nats Ump meeting-Nuts & Bolts:

1. Web site www.ustaboys.com / “Match App” will be used by players checking in 15 min. prior to match time. Players **NEED NOT** report scores in chaired matches. Scores will be tracked with iOnCourt electronically and by new format hardcopy scorecards .
2. Credentials: Needed for admission to Stowe only. Should be hidden while on court.
3. Limited parking around Stowe Stadium. WMU tournament desk is located at lower courts.
4. “Fuschia 1” P.A. announcement = lunch is here.
5. Standard **USTA rules** used throughout
 - a. No “warning” code, which pro players may expect
 - b. Calling lots more lets than ITA
6. USTA Coaches: Scott Elbin and Alan Steinhauser will be available to help with the fine points of officiating.
7. Walkie – Talkie:
 - a. **Know how to use them before you go to court.** Turn off during play.
 - b. Clear, concise sentences followed by listening for confirmation of receipt and action plan.
 - c. **Court #7, match complete.** Nothing else is needed for chaired matches.
8. Seat cushions: Umps deliver and retrieve / day.
9. Get from tournament desk for chaired matches: a pre-printed scorecard with player sticker, player display name cards, balls and court assignment. A source of new / used balls will be located between certain courts. Protocol slightly different if we have roved matches.
10. Score card protocol: **MUST** record codes **accurately** and **legibly** on card!!!!!!! Make sure the site referee reviews your card and attaches a **red sticker if a code was issued**.
11. Ump chair location: Off-set from center of net post for good reasons; your safety at Stowe, ability to reach all numerals in the score tree, & players clearance on changeovers. Do not move them to center of net post.
12. Score tree: (@ Stowe only)
 - a. Show first set score using numerals nearest player name cards and work outward as sets progress.

- b. Rotate score tree 90 degrees on changeovers to face spectators for viewing, then return parallel to sideline for play.
 - c. Place players' names on top or bottom positions in the plastic name holders according to how they are listed on your pre-printed match label @ WMU / iOnCourt entry @ Stowe. **Place player name cards in between the two plastic holder plates** on the score tree @ Stowe.
15. Used balls: Take a couple of used balls out to your match.
16. **KNOW YOUR MATCH FORMAT**, it varies throughout the tournament.
17. Support staff: Each venue has a site referee & field staff. We scramble a bit when we have to go indoors but we try to maintain this same support.
18. Weather:
- a. As an on-court umpire, if you “think” the court surface is too slippery to continue play safely, call it into the site referee. The referee will then check your court and decide what to do. Do not of your own choosing “announce” any stoppage of play without a referee assessment or P.A. announcement.
 - b. When chairing, you are responsible for resuming **your match**, so; retrieve the match balls, update your score card, get instructions from the desk regarding the delay and / or resumption of play, go to your appropriate site for resumption of play. Take some used balls for the warm up at the new venue. The match cannot be resumed without the chair umpire so proceed to your appropriate site promptly to avoid resumption delays.
19. Appealing a code violation issued by an on-court umpire: Always comply with a player’s request to have a referee review any code violation you issue. The referee’s on court decision will then be final. This is the correct process and saves precious time by precluding the tournament appeals committee involvement.
20. Road construction: All over the place around town! Be prepared for delays. Leave early. Drive your route ahead of time.
21. Official uniform: Only official NATS uniform items and kaiki lower wear may be worn on court with the exception of dark blue, label free outerwear if needed.
22. Scoring matches: We are using **iOnCourt tablets** for electronic scoring of all chaired matches. Each chair umpire will be issued a blank standard USTA tri-fold scorecard to have on hand in the event any issue occurs with the electronic system. Otherwise, final match results will also be recorded on the new single page USTA hardcopy scorecard and turned into the tournament desk.

Darrell Davies / Head Referee / 7-10-24

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