

I. Southern Closed Endorsement Guidelines

1.- The LTA Junior Competition Committee will select Louisiana players based on their standing in a specific standing list chosen by the Junior Competition Committee which shall include the results from the Junior Qualifying tournament.

- a. Any Louisiana player that by May 15th of the current year is in the top 75 on the USTA National Standings List will automatically be endorsed into Southern's in his/her age division; allowing such player the flexibility to participate in any upper age division at the Louisiana Qualifier, and if qualifying, (to qualify, this player will have to develop a good enough win-loss record at qualifying), this player may be endorsed into Southern's in that age division giving him/her the choice of which Southern event to participate.

This automatic endorsement will count towards Louisiana's quota.

- i. This does not apply to the 10's division
 - ii. Louisiana will allow age eligible 10 players who played in the 12's age division at Junior Qualifying endorsement into Southern Closed as an ALTERNATE on the Louisiana 10's endorsement list provided the player/parent notifies the Louisiana Tennis Association, in writing, with a request for endorsement in the 10's Southern Closed tournament.
2. Entry to the Southern Closed is through TennisLink at southerntennis.com. It is the player's responsibility to timely enter ONLINE for the Southern Closed. However, only those players who have timely entered the Southern Closed online and been endorsed by Louisiana as part of its quota or otherwise accepted into the draw as alternates, will be allowed to compete in the Southern Closed. Players are urged to register early so as to allow for LA's quota to be filled and alternates moved up accordingly. It is the player's responsibility to timely enter online as well as thereafter inquire as to whether he or she has been endorsed for the Southern Closed or is accepted into the draw as an alternate. Endorsement lists will be posted to the LTA website. No notification will be given to those players endorsed, as it is each player's responsibility to ascertain their status.

- a. Guidelines for Endorsement Committee:

- i. The Junior Tennis Council Chairman shall appoint a committee comprised of four individuals who shall determine those players to be endorsed plus any alternates. This committee shall, as practicable as possible, be comprised of individuals from various parts of Louisiana.
- ii. The JTC chairman shall also appoint one alternate to serve on the committee. This alternate will serve as a voting member only in those instances in which one of the committee members develops a conflict in the endorsement decision concerning a specific player(s).
- iii. If, at any time during the endorsement process, a player under considerations is related to or is a student of one of the committee members, then that member shall immediately so advise the committee. That committee shall be prohibited from any involvement in the deliberations/decision regarding the player. The

alternate identified above shall then serve in place of the excused committee member for the decision concerning the player in question.

- iv. A majority of the four members shall determine whether a player is to be endorsed. In the event the four committee members are evenly split as to a specific player, the District Selector shall then cast the deciding vote.
- v. A record shall be kept of the committee's decision-making process. One member of the committee shall be designated by the JTC Chairman as the "contact person" responsible for responding to all inquiries concerning the endorsement process and the committee's decision. All inquiries shall be directed to the "contact person", and committee members shall not disclose or discuss the committee's decisions with any non-committee individual.

3. Louisiana Endorsement Criteria

- a) Louisiana will allow age eligible 10 players who played in the 12's age division at Junior Qualifying endorsement into Southern Closed as an ALTERNATE on the Louisiana 10's endorsement list provided the player/parent notifies the Louisiana Tennis Association, in writing, with a request for endorsement in the 10's Southern Closed tournament.