

“The Future Court” Tennis Court Design Competition Official Rules

CONTEST OPEN TO LEGAL RESIDENTS OF THE 50 UNITED STATES AND WASHINGTON D.C. (EXCLUDING PUERTO RICO, GUAM, THE U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS AND OTHER U.S. TERRITORIES), WHO ARE STUDENTS AT A COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY IN THE U.S., AND AT THE AGE OF MAJORITY IN THEIR JURISDICTION OF RESIDENCE (18 YEARS OF AGE IN MOST STATES, 19 IN ALABAMA AND NEBRASKA, 21 IN MISSISSIPPI). NO ENTRY FEE NECESSARY TO ENTER. VOID WHERE PROHIBITED BY LAW.

AS EXPLAINED BELOW, THESE RULES REQUIRE THAT DISPUTES ARISING OUT OF OR RELATING TO THIS CONTEST BE RESOLVED ON AN INDIVIDUAL BASIS, RATHER THAN BY CLASS ACTIONS, AND LIMIT YOUR RIGHTS AND REMEDIES IN THE EVENT OF A DISPUTE.

1. CONTEST DESCRIPTION.

“The Future Court” Tennis Court Design Competition (the “Contest”) invites eligible participants to propose innovative ideas for future tennis courts and play models, with a focus on sustainability, durability, visual quality, and cost (as further described in the “THEME” section below). The Sponsor of the Contest is the United States Tennis Association Incorporated (“USTA”). No entry fee necessary to enter.

The Contest entry period begins upon USTA’s posting of the contest on April 2, 2026 and ends on July 1, 2026 at 11:59 PM (the “Contest Entry Period”). Eligible contestants (“Contestants”) are invited to create and submit design proposals as further described below and at <https://www.usta.com/en/home/coach-organize/tennis-support/facility-assistance.html#student-design-competition> (a “Submission”).

THIS IS NOT A SWEEPSTAKES. By entering the Contest, each Contestant agrees to abide by these Official Rules. USTA reserves the right to permanently disqualify from the Contest any Contestant it believes has violated these Official Rules. The costs incurred in creating and submitting a Submission are to be borne by the Contestant and Contestants are not to be reimbursed by USTA or anyone else.

EXCEPT FOR WHAT MAY BE EXPRESSLY PROVIDED FOR IN THE TERMS OF THE CONTEST, NO MONETARY COMPENSATION, REIMBURSEMENT, PAYMENTS, RESIDUALS, REUSE FEES OR OTHER REMUNERATION WILL BE MADE TO

CONTESTANTS FOR THEIR PARTICIPATION OR FOR USTA'S USE OF ANY SUBMISSION OR OTHER ASPECT OF THEIR PARTICIPATION.

2. ELIGIBILITY.

Submissions may be submitted individually or by teams of up to four (4) members. To enter and participate in the Contest, each Contestant (including, if applicable, each member of a team Submission) must satisfy each of the following eligibility requirements:

- A. Contestants must be legal residents of the fifty (50) United States and the District of Columbia (excluding Puerto Rico, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands and other U.S. Territories).
- B. Contestants must be at least the age of majority in their jurisdiction of residence (18 years of age in most states, 19 in Alabama and Nebraska, 21 in Mississippi).
- C. Contestants must be an undergraduate or graduate student enrolled for the spring 2026 semester (or equivalent period) at a college or university in the United States.
- D. USTA reserves the right to request proof of age and residency in the form of valid, government issued identification/documentation and proof of student status in the form of a valid, institution-issued identification at any time from Contestants, and a Contestant will be disqualified if USTA, in its sole and exclusive discretion, finds that the proof is unsatisfactory.
- E. Contestants must not be (i) employees, officers or directors of United States Tennis Association Incorporated, USTA's Sectional and District Associations, or any person or entity involved in the Contest's development or execution; (ii) employees, officers or directors of the aforementioned entities' respective parent companies, subsidiaries, affiliates, promotion and advertising agencies; (iii) members of the immediate families of any such employees, officers or directors (meaning spouse, spousal equivalent, parents, siblings, children and their spouses, regardless of whether any of the above are step-relatives); or (iv) members of the households of any such employees, officers or directors (whether related to such employees or not).

3. HOW TO ENTER.

Entries must be submitted through the official Contest upload portal available at https://ustayeqzp.formstack.com/forms/usta_student_design_competition_interest (the “Portal”). All Submissions must be made solely through the specified Portal. Contestants must submit their Submission by completing the requisite form within the Portal and providing up to three (3) 24x36” Arch D landscape-oriented presentation boards with sketches, renderings, plans, sections, elevations, diagrams, and/or other presentation tools to explain their proposal. Each presentation board must be provided as a separate picture file (.jpg or .jpeg extensions) and the file size of each board must not exceed 10 megabytes (MB). No video files are accepted. All information provided in writing must be in English. Presentation boards must not indicate any information related to an individual's or team's identity.

All Submissions must be the original work of the Contestant or team of Contestants. The visual materials of the Submission must not have been previously published by any Contestant.

All Submissions for the Contest must be received by the end date of the Contest Entry Period. An individual may participate in only one (1) Submission, whether as an individual or as a member of a team. In the event an individual is part of more than one Submission, all Submissions involving that individual may be disqualified at USTA's discretion.

Contestants who do not comply with the requirements may be disqualified without explanation.

4. **THEME.**

As one of the most popular sports in the world with over 100 million players, and a recent surge in growth, the classic tennis court archetype is due for a decisive reimagining. Through the prioritization of design expression, durability, sustainability, expandability, and innovation—USTA now invites Contestants to adapt the DNA of the classic tennis court, and retool it for the future.

The Tennis Court is one of the world's great cultural sporting landscapes. Through this lens we invite students to reimagine the future of play. While retaining the spirit of the sport, USTA asks Contestants to imagine bold new approaches and material innovations in court design that express unique cultural traditions, respond to changing climatic conditions, have the capacity to extend daily and seasonal play, and can be tailored to U.S. culture, climate, codes, and costs. There is no fixed proposal

location within the U.S. however each Contestant or team of Contestants should identify a theoretical location so the design responsiveness can be evaluated.

Each design should identify one of the following three climate types for each proposal:

- 1) Warm climates: Hot, arid or humid conditions, high cooling need.
- 2) Universal climates: Temperate or mixed conditions, requiring balanced seasonal strategies.
- 3) Cold climates: Long winters, high heating demand, potential snow/ice management.

To keep the challenge grounded in reality, the Contest uses simple reference points. Submissions should be designed for a standard public park battery of four tennis courts. Surface materials should be either hard courts or soft courts, with an emphasis on visual quality, care, playability, durability, and sustainability. The four tennis courts must be regulation-sized, utilizing the standards of the American Sports Builders Association (ASBA), <http://sportsbuilders.org>, located on 1 acre of land. The Submissions should also include a variety of site elements to enrich the physical environment. These elements include site lighting, shading, seating, stormwater management features, spectator areas, hitting walls, wind protection, sun protection, ecologically focused plant materials and sustainable court materials including netting, surfacing, innovative striping materials, etc.

5. SUBMISSION SPECIFICATIONS AND REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES.

Contestants must not contact any member of the Judging Panel at any time during the Contest.

Each Submission must be the original work of the Contestant. Generative artificial intelligence software may not be used by Contestant in the creation of the Submission. Contestants represent and warrant that the Submission does not infringe any copyright, trademark, trade secret, design, patent, or other intellectual property right of any third party. If a Contestant's Submission contains any material or elements that are not owned by the Contestant, such materials or elements must be identified to USTA, and the Contestant is responsible for obtaining, prior to submission, all releases and consents necessary to permit the use of the Submission by USTA as set forth in these Official Rules. USTA reserves the right to require proof of these permissions from any Contestant at any time. In the event a third party asserts a claim against USTA alleging that any Submission infringes its intellectual property rights, the Contestant shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless USTA from and against all losses, damages, and costs (including reasonable attorneys' fees) arising out of such claim.

Submissions may not have been previously published and may not have won previous awards.

USTA reserves the right to disqualify any Submission for any reason, in its sole and absolute discretion.

6. OWNERSHIP AND ASSIGNMENT OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

USTA's goal is to make the winning designs a reality. Therefore, as a condition of entry, all intellectual property rights in your Submission must be assigned to USTA as further detailed below.

As a condition of entry, each Contestant agrees that all right, title, and interest in and to their Submission, including all ideas, concepts, designs, discoveries, inventions, works of authorship, improvements, and other intellectual property disclosed therein, whether or not patentable or copyrightable (collectively, "Inventions"), shall be the sole and exclusive property of USTA. Each Contestant hereby irrevocably assigns to USTA all such right, title, and interest in and to the Submission and the Inventions. To the maximum extent permitted by law, each Submission shall also be deemed a "work made for hire" for the benefit of USTA. Contestant acknowledges that this assignment is supported by consideration, including consideration for a prize and Contestant's interest in the public use of Contestant's Submission.

Each Contestant agrees to execute all documents and take all other actions reasonably requested by USTA to evidence and perfect USTA's rights in the Submission and Inventions, including assisting USTA, at USTA's expense, to apply for, obtain, maintain, and enforce patents or other intellectual property protections for the Inventions and Submissions in USTA's name. This obligation shall survive the conclusion of the Contest.

If any Contestant is unavailable, unwilling, or otherwise fails or refuses to execute any document or take any action necessary to evidence, perfect, or enforce USTA's rights in the Submission or Inventions as set forth herein, the Contestant hereby irrevocably designates and appoints USTA and its duly authorized officers and agents as the Contestant's agent and attorney-in-fact to act for and on behalf of the Contestant, with full power of substitution, to execute and file any such documents and to do all other lawfully permitted acts to further the purposes of this Section 6 with the same legal force and effect as if executed by the Contestant. This power of attorney is coupled with an interest and shall be irrevocable.

Except where legally prohibited, submission of a Submission into this Contest constitutes Contestant's irrevocable permission for USTA to use the Contestant's name, in whole or in part, in print, electronic media, broadcast media, or any other media or manner, whether now known or later created, in perpetuity, in any way USTA deems appropriate in connection with promoting the Contest and USTA's business or any other purposes without further review, notice, approval, consideration or compensation.

7. WINNER SELECTION AND NOTIFICATION.

Submissions will be judged by a panel of qualified judges selected by USTA (the "Judging Panel"). The Contestant (or team of Contestants) submitting the three top scoring Submissions, as determined by the Judging Panel, will receive the Prizes, subject to confirmation. USTA reserves the right to not award any Prize, in its sole discretion, if it does not receive a sufficient number of eligible and qualified Submissions. **The Judging Panel's and USTA's decisions are final and binding on all matters.**

While considering the theme described in Section 4 above, Submissions will be judged by the Judging Panel based on the following criteria:

Design Concept Core Ideas and Themes

- Comparison of Concepts: USTA will conduct an in-depth comparison of the underlying design concepts of Submissions to determine whether the core ideas and themes are similar or if there are unique interpretations. This includes an examination of the architectural philosophy and objectives that guided each project.
- Originality and Innovation: USTA will assess the level of originality and innovation in each design, focusing on how each Submission interprets its core concept uniquely. This will involve analyzing how the concept is manifested in the design and any novel approaches used in its development.
- Influences and Inspirations: The investigation will consider documented influences and inspirations for Submissions to understand the context in which they were developed. USTA will explore the historical, cultural, or personal influences that may have shaped the design choices and assess whether these influences are common or unique to each project.

Functional Elements Layout and Space Utilization

- Spatial Organization: USTA will evaluate the spatial organization of each Submission, examining how spaces are arranged and interconnected. This includes analyzing the flow of movement, the relationship between different functional areas, and how efficiently the space is utilized.
- Purpose and Functionality: USTA will assess whether Submissions serve similar purposes or functions and identify any significant overlaps. This involves reviewing the intended use of each space and how well each design achieves its functional goals.
- Design Efficiency: The investigation will examine the efficiency of the layout, including how well the design optimizes space usage, facilitates user interaction, and meets the needs of its intended users.

Aesthetic Features

- Design Style: USTA will analyze the design style and visual language of the Submissions. This includes reviewing the overall form, structure, and stylistic elements that define each design.
- Materials and Detailing: USTA will evaluate the choice of materials, construction techniques, and detailing used in each Submission. This involves comparing the textures, colors, finishes, and craftsmanship to determine if there are significant similarities.
- Artistic Expression: The investigation will consider the artistic expression of each design, focusing on how aesthetics contribute to the project's overall impact and character. USTA will assess the creativity and uniqueness of the visual elements and how they enhance the design concept.

Contextual Response

- Environmental and Site-Specific Considerations: USTA will analyze how each Submission responds to its specific site and environmental conditions. This includes assessing how the design integrates with its surroundings, addresses site constraints, and takes advantage of natural features.
- Cultural and Social Context: USTA will evaluate how each Submission reflects or responds to its cultural and social context. This involves reviewing the cultural significance of the design, its impact on the community, and how well it aligns with local values and traditions.
- Sustainability and Environmental Impact: USTA will assess the sustainability features of each Submission, including energy efficiency, resource conservation, and environmental impact. This evaluation will consider how each design incorporates sustainable practices and whether these elements are similar.

Request for Explanation

If USTA deems it necessary, Contestants may be asked to provide a comprehensive explanation of their design process. This request may include:

- Design Process: A detailed description of the design process, including the steps taken to develop the project and the reasoning behind key design decisions.
- Sources of Inspiration: A clear identification of any sources of inspiration, including architectural works, cultural references, or other influences that have contributed to the design.
- Evolution of Ideas: Documentation or explanation of how the project concept evolved from initial ideas to the final submission, highlighting any changes and innovations made during the development process.

USTA is not obligated to disclose the evaluation process or findings publicly. After the evaluation is conducted, the Judging Panel will determine whether a Submission is to be disqualified. USTA's decisions and evaluations are final.

A potential winner will be notified through email approximately twenty-four (24) hours after being selected and instructed to contact USTA by telephone within twenty-four (24) hours. Before a potential winner will be deemed a winner, he/she may be required to sign and return a prize verification form, participation agreement, a publicity release (except where prohibited) and any other legal documents that USTA may require, including IRS Form W-9 (collectively, "Prize Verification Forms"), within two (2) days from the date USTA sends the Prize Verification Forms to the potential winner, or the potential winner will be subject to disqualification. If a selected winner does not respond within twenty-four (24) hours following the initial notification attempt, is found to be not in compliance with these Official Rules, fails to timely return the requisite documents in a timely manner, or if the prize notification or prize is returned as undeliverable, the prize will be forfeited and, at USTA's discretion and if time allows, awarded to the Contestant submitting the Submission with the next highest score, subject to confirmation in accordance with these Official Rules.

8. PRIZES.

Monetary awards will be granted as follows: First Prize USD \$7,500; Second Prize USD \$5,000; Third Prize USD \$2,500.

In addition, each of the three (3) winning Contestants or teams of Contestants will receive grounds passes for each Contestant team member to the 2026 US Open at the

National Tennis Center in New York City during the first week of the tournament (ARV of each Grounds Pass is \$250).

Approximate retail value ("ARV") of all potential prizes, which may vary depending on the number of Contestants on a team for a winning Submission - \$18,000.

The ARV is determined as of the date of the printing of these Official Rules. The difference in the value of the prize as stated herein and value at time of prize notification, if any, will not be awarded.

The exact date of the grounds passes will be determined by USTA and communicated to the winner once confirmed.

Winners are responsible for all travel, lodging, and other expenses not expressly included in the prize in order to use the grounds passes, including any required travel documents. Tickets may not be rescheduled or exchanged. USTA shall not be liable if the applicable US Open session is postponed, canceled, or otherwise changed. Tickets are subject to all ticket terms and conditions as well as all venue procedures, policies, and protocols, including, without limitation, security and guest conduct, health and safety, and applicable bag policies. USTA will not be responsible for weather conditions; acts of God; acts of terrorism; civil disturbances; local, state, or federal regulation, order, or policy; work stoppage; epidemic, pandemic, or any other issue concerning public health or safety; or any other event outside of its control that may cause the cancellation or postponement of the applicable US Open session. Ticket holders must comply and abide by all such terms, conditions, procedures, policies, and protocols. Tickets are NOT for resale. USTA is not responsible for any legal or other restrictions on any winner's use of the prize, including without limitation travel, transportation (including airline and ground transportation), accommodations, and restrictions or conditions for travel. Incidental expenses and all other costs and expenses which are not specifically listed as part of the prize in these Official Rules and which may be associated with the award, acceptance, receipt and use of all or any portion of the awarded prize are solely the responsibility of the winner. Winners are solely responsible for any and all applicable fees and taxes associated with receipt and use of the prize. PRIZE IS AWARDED "AS IS," "WHERE IS," WITH NO WARRANTY OR GUARANTEE EXPRESS OR IMPLIED. Prize is non-assignable, non-substitutable, and non-transferable. Notwithstanding the foregoing, USTA may, at its sole discretion, substitute cash or a prize of equal or greater monetary value.

9. GENERAL CONDITIONS.

Contestants agree to be bound by the terms of these Official Rules and decisions of USTA which are final and binding on all matters relating to this Contest. By entering, Contestants release and hold harmless United States Tennis Association Incorporated, its Section and District Organizations, USTA National Tennis Center Incorporated, and each of their respective subsidiaries, affiliates, advertising and online technology agencies, prize suppliers and all others associated with the development or execution of this Contest and the directors, officers, employees or agents of any of the above organizations (the "Released Parties") from any and all liability or any injuries, loss or damage of any kind arising from or in connection with participation in this Contest or acceptance, use, misuse or nonuse of any prize or parts thereof (including activity or travel related thereto), including, without limitation, liability for death, personal injury, damage or loss of any kind, and from liability to any other persons relating to or resulting from entering or downloading materials or software in connection with this Contest. The Released Parties do not make any warranty, representation or guarantee, express or implied, in fact or in law, relative to the use of any prize, including, without limitation, quality, merchantability, and fitness for a particular purpose. Further, no responsibilities are accepted for any additional expenses, omissions, delays, re-routing, or acts of any government or authority, or if the Contest cannot take place or if the Prizes cannot be awarded due to acts of war, natural disasters, weather, acts of terrorism, or if the Events are cancelled for any reason. USTA reserves the right to modify this Contest in any way it deems necessary or appropriate and to cancel this Contest if it deems necessary or appropriate.

With respect to the release set forth above, Contestants who are California residents hereby knowingly waive any and all rights and protections under California Civil Code Section 1542, which section reads as follows: "A GENERAL RELEASE DOES NOT EXTEND TO CLAIMS THAT THE CREDITOR OR RELEASING PARTY DOES NOT KNOW OR SUSPECT TO EXIST IN HIS OR HER FAVOR AT THE TIME OF EXECUTING THE RELEASE AND THAT, IF KNOWN BY HIM OR HER, WOULD HAVE MATERIALLY AFFECTED HIS OR HER SETTLEMENT WITH THE DEBTOR OR RELEASED PARTY."

10. INTERNET.

The use of any automated launching or entry software or any other mechanical or electronic means that permits the Contestant to automatically register and/or enter repeatedly is prohibited. If for any reason this Contest is not capable of running as planned due to infection by computer virus, bugs, tampering, unauthorized intervention, fraud, technical failures, or any other causes which corrupt or affect the administration, security, fairness, integrity, or proper conduct of this Contest, USTA reserves the right at its sole discretion, to disqualify any individual who tampers with the entry process, and to cancel, terminate, modify or suspend the Contest for any

reason. Released Parties assume no responsibility for any error, omission, interruption, deletion, defect, delay in operation or transmission, communications line failure, theft or destruction or unauthorized access to, or alteration of, entries. Released Parties are not responsible for lost, late, garbled or misdirected entries or for any problems or technical malfunction of any telephone network or telephone lines, computer on-line systems, servers, or providers, computer equipment, software, failure of any e-mail or entry to be received by USTA on account of technical problems, human error or traffic congestion on the Internet or at any website, or any combination thereof, including any injury or damage to Contestant's or any other person's computer relating to or resulting from participation in this Contest or downloading any materials in this Contest. CAUTION: ANY ATTEMPT TO DELIBERATELY DAMAGE ANY WEBSITE OR UNDERMINE THE LEGITIMATE OPERATION OF THE CONTEST IS A VIOLATION OF CRIMINAL AND CIVIL LAWS AND SHOULD SUCH AN ATTEMPT BE MADE, USTA RESERVES THE RIGHT TO SEEK DAMAGES OR OTHER REMEDIES FROM ANY SUCH PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ATTEMPT TO THE FULLEST EXTENT PERMITTED BY LAW.

11. DATA COLLECTION.

All personal information submitted in relation to the Contest will be handled in accordance with applicable privacy laws, these Official Rules, and the USTA Privacy Policy, which may be found at <https://www.usta.com/en/home/about-usta/who-we-are/national/usta-privacy-policy.html>. All information submitted by Contestants is subject to, and will be treated in a manner consistent with, the USTA Terms of Use accessible at <https://www.usta.com/en/home/about-usta/who-we-are/national/usta-terms-of-use.html>. By entering the Contest, you agree to receive emails from USTA related to the administration of the Contest. You may also receive marketing communications from USTA, from which you may opt out at any time as described in the USTA Privacy Policy.

12. WINNER LIST.

For the names of the Winners, available after August 1, 2026, send a self-addressed stamped envelope to: United States Tennis Association Incorporated, Attn: 2026 Tennis Court Design Contest, 10000 USTA Blvd., Orlando, Florida 32827. Requests must be received by December 31, 2026.

13. DISPUTES.

Contestants agree that this Contest is governed solely by the laws of the State of New York. Any claims arising out of the Contest shall be governed solely by New York law

and may be brought only in a federal or state court in New York. If any provisions of these Rules are held to be invalid or unenforceable, all remaining provisions hereof will remain in full force and effect.

EXCEPT WHERE PROHIBITED, CONTESTANT AGREES THAT: (1) ANY AND ALL DISPUTES, CLAIMS AND CAUSES OF ACTION ARISING OUT OF OR CONNECTED WITH THIS CONTEST OR ANY PRIZE AWARDED SHALL BE RESOLVED INDIVIDUALLY, WITHOUT RESORT TO ANY FORM OF CLASS ACTION; (2) ANY AND ALL CLAIMS, JUDGMENTS AND AWARDS SHALL BE LIMITED TO ACTUAL OUT-OF-POCKET COSTS INCURRED, INCLUDING COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH ENTERING THIS CONTEST, BUT IN NO EVENT ATTORNEYS' FEES; AND (3) UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES WILL CONTESTANT BE PERMITTED TO OBTAIN AWARDS FOR, AND CONTESTANT HEREBY WAIVES ALL RIGHTS TO CLAIM, INDIRECT, PUNITIVE, INCIDENTAL AND CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES AND ANY OTHER DAMAGES, OTHER THAN FOR ACTUAL OUT-OF-POCKET EXPENSES, AND ANY AND ALL RIGHTS TO HAVE DAMAGES MULTIPLIED OR OTHERWISE INCREASED.

14. SPONSOR.

The sponsor of the Contest is United States Tennis Association Incorporated, 2500 Westchester Avenue, Suite 411, Purchase, New York 10577 ("USTA").

USTA trademarks and copyrights are proprietary to the USTA.

Any third-party trademarks mentioned herein are the property of their respective trademark owners. The use or mention of such third-party trademarks in these Official Rules or in the Contest is solely for descriptive purposes and shall in no way imply an endorsement or sponsorship of the Contest. This Contest may be advertised on social media sites/platforms, but this Contest is in no way sponsored, endorsed or administered by, or associated with, such social media sites/platforms (such as TikTok, X (formerly Twitter), Instagram or Facebook).