UTR Tournaments at Montgomery TennisPlex Starting Soon! Create a UTR Account Today!

Montgomery TennisPlex will start hosting UTR tournaments for junior players beginning April 18th and continuing throughout the spring and summer, with our first two tournaments costing only $10 for players with a UTR power subscription, and $20 for players with a free UTR account. All players are guaranteed 2 matches per tournament. Create an account today to see your rating and to be able to register for our tournaments! Additionally, to help parents and players understand UTR and our tournaments, we have answered some frequently asked questions which are presented below.

What is UTR? – UTR, or Universal Tennis Rating, is an algorithm that gives players of all ages, genders, and abilities a numerical value between 1 and 16.5 based on their skill level.

What are the benefits of UTR? – UTR allows players of different genders and ages to be matched up appropriately based on skill level. This allows tournament organizers to create tournaments with larger draws than the traditional age and gender restricted tournaments, while ensuring more matches with opponents of even skill level. Additionally, due to the accuracy of the rating system, **UTR is the biggest indicator of player skill that college tennis coaches are using when deciding whether to recruit a player**.

What are the differences between UTR and USTA? – UTR is not affiliated with the USTA. Because of this, our UTR tournaments at Montgomery TennisPlex will not be USTA sanctioned and will not give USTA points. However, the benefit of running a verified UTR tournament without USTA sanctioning is that we, as the organizer of the tournament, can charge significantly less money than a USTA tournament, while offering more close matches for players due to the accuracy of the UTR system. Additionally, USTA tournaments also contribute to players' verified UTR, so players looking to improve their verified UTR to play in college, can play USTA tournaments, UTR tournaments, or both.

Do I have to pay to get a UTR rating or account? – No. Everyone can create a **free UTR account at myutr.com**. Once you create an account, be sure to **search for Montgomery TennisPlex on myutr.com and click the "request to join" button**. This will allow us to post match play scores from our programs to UTR, which gives players the ability to track their progress and growth in between tournaments. If a player has played competitive matches in the past, they may already have a UTR, and will be able to claim their account with existing match history.

What is the difference between Verified and Unverified UTR? – Verified UTR is a separate UTR number that comes from official matches like USTA tournaments and Verified UTR

tournaments. Unverified UTR comes from casual match play, or unverified tournaments. Players can also input their own scores from practice matches and see changes to their unverified UTR. Verified UTR is what college coaches and tournament organizers look at to best determine skill levels, while unverified UTR is a great tool for parents, players, and coaches to track individual progress, provide incentive in practice, or to determine an idea of a player's skill level before playing any verified events.

I lost my match. Will my UTR go down? – Not necessarily. The UTR algorithm creates an expected result between two players based on their UTRs. If the score of the match differs from the expected score, the players' UTRs will change. For example, if a UTR 2.50 loses to a UTR 4.0 6-3, 6-3, the UTR 2.50 player's UTR may increase after the match despite losing, because they outperformed the expected score. Likewise, the UTR 4.0 player's UTR may drop, because the match was closer than predicted. This dynamic encourages players to give 100% effort and intensity throughout matches, whether they are winning or losing.

When will Montgomery TennisPlex's UTR tournaments take place? – Our first tournament is scheduled for the weekend of April 18th-19th. The tournament will take place outdoors. In the case of inclement weather, the tournament will be pushed back to the weekend of April 25th-26th. This first tournament will only be open to players currently enrolled in a Montgomery TennisPlex junior program. We then have a second outdoor UTR tournament scheduled for May 2nd- May 3rd, open to all junior players. Following this tournament, we plan to have tournaments throughout the rest of spring and through summer.

How will the tournaments be formatted? Where can I register? – The tournaments' format will be determined by the number of registered players; however, our default format will be traditional sets, no-ad scoring, with a 10-point match tiebreak. We also plan to have one draw for all players registered in our tournaments. Players with higher UTRs will get "byes" through early rounds, to help ensure all players get fair and even matches. Our tournaments will also feature a backdraw so all players are guaranteed 2 matches. **Players and parents can register at Montgomery TennisPlex's UTR page.**

What is a power subscription? – Players with a UTR power subscription get $10 off entry to every verified UTR tournament they enter, no matter where it is in the world. Power subscription users also get to see more precise UTRs (to 2 decimal points), the ability to message coaches and players, access to college research tools, and advanced player stats. Montgomery TennisPlex is offering these power subscriptions for $89 ($10 off) to players registered in our junior programs. Visit the front desk to purchase one today!