



# 27th Annual

## “Road to the Little Mo Nationals”

### Rules and Regulations

Welcome to the 27th Annual “Road to the Little Mo Nationals”! These tournaments are designed to provide outstanding competition at the regional and national level while also encouraging players to develop new friendships, learn good sportsmanship, and most of all, have fun. The Road is the only circuit of its kind for talented, high-performance girls and boys in the United States who compete against others born in the same year. [Please read through the following rules and regulations carefully:](#)

- **Eligibility:** The Road will begin in the spring and summer with the four “Little Mo” Regionals (North, South, East, West) held in different cities across the United States. The regional tournaments are open to any player who lives in the United States and its territories (ages 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12). There are no special qualifications or ranking needed to register for the regional tournaments - any USA player who registers will be accepted into the draw until the entry limit is reached. *\*Please note that players must have lived in the United States for at least six consecutive months prior to the tournament start date in order to be eligible for the “Little Mo” Regionals. If a player does not meet this requirement, they will be withdrawn from the tournament.*
- **Entry Limit / Confirmation Email:** Registration for the “Little Mo” Regionals will be on a first-come, first-served basis up to the entry limit - we will be accepting the first 32 players in each division. If a division reaches the entry limit before the registration deadline, a WAITING LIST will be established at that time. Be sure to register early as the draws typically fill before the registration deadline! *\*Please note that once you have received a confirmation email from UTR/Stripe, your player’s entry has been accepted into the tournament and you can make your travel arrangements.*
- **Multiple Tournaments:** Players may compete in any “Little Mo” Regionals regardless of where they are currently living in the United States or its territories. Players may also compete in as many regional tournaments as desired, but they only need to participate in one regional tournament and finish in the top four (yellow ball division only) to qualify for the “Little Mo” Nationals.
- **Events / Guaranteed Matches:** The “Little Mo” Regionals and the “Little Mo” Nationals will offer Singles events for all divisions (no Doubles or Mixed Doubles events). All players will be guaranteed at least two Singles matches during the regional and national tournaments.
- **Age Eligibility / Registration by Birth Year:** Players must register in the proper age division according to their birth year. This ensures that our players are competing against others who are born in the same calendar year (i.e., a player born in 2014 must play in the 10’s division since they will be turning 10 this year).
  - Girls and Boys 12’s - born in 2012
  - Girls and Boys 11’s - born in 2013
  - Girls and Boys 10’s - born in 2014
  - Girls and Boys 9’s - born in 2015
  - Girls and Boys 8’s - born in 2016 (Only players who are born in 2016 will be allowed to play in the 8’s divisions. Players born in 2017 or 2018 will not be eligible.)
- **Divisions:** Yellow (regular) ball divisions will be offered for girls and boys ages 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12 in addition to a green dot option for ages 8, 9, and 10. Players must register for only one division. This means that players competing in the 8’s, 9’s, and 10’s divisions must choose to play with either the yellow (regular) ball or the green dot ball for their age group. Players in the 11’s and 12’s divisions must play with the yellow (regular) ball. All divisions will be played on a full 78’ tennis court with either the yellow (regular) ball or the green dot ball.

- **Draw Formats:** All divisions will use the same draw formats regardless of age or ball type, but we will be using several different draw formats based on the draw size:
  - **32-size draw:** A **Modified Feed-in Consolation format through the Round of 16 with a 3rd/4th Place playoff and 5th/6th Place playoff** will be used. This means that any player who loses before the Quarterfinal Round (Main Draw) will feed back into the Consolation bracket. The losers of the Quarterfinal Round (Main Draw) will move into a 5th/6th Place playoff and the losers of the Semifinal Round (Main Draw) will move into a 3rd/4th Place playoff.
  - **16-size draw:** A **Feed-in Consolation format through the Quarterfinals with a 3rd/4th Place playoff** will be used. This means that any player who loses before the Semifinal Round (Main Draw) will feed back into the Consolation bracket. The losers of the Semifinal Round (Main Draw) will move into a 3rd/4th Place playoff. A 5th/6th Place playoff is not possible as the Consolation Winner and Consolation Runner-Up are the 5th/6th Place winners in this format.
  - **8-size draw:** A **First Round Losers Consolation format with a 3rd/4th Place playoff** will be used. This means that any player who loses in the First Round (Main Draw) will move into the Consolation bracket. A Feed-in format is not possible as the Second Round (Main Draw) is the Semifinal Round, and the losers of the Semifinal Round (Main Draw) will move into a 3rd/4th Place playoff. A 5th/6th Place playoff is also not possible as the Consolation Winner and Consolation Runner-Up are the 5th/6th Place winners in this format.
  - **5 or less players:** A **Round Robin format** will be used.
- **Scoring Format:** All divisions will use the same scoring format regardless of age, ball type or draw format. All Singles matches (Main Draw and Consolation) will consist of two tiebreak sets (first to 6 games). At 6 games all, a 7-point set tiebreak (first to 7, win by 2) will be played. If players split sets, a 10-point match tiebreak (first to 10, win by 2) will be played in lieu of a third set. Regular scoring (**with ad**) will be used for all Main Draw matches and a 5-minute warm-up will be given before each match. No-ad scoring will be used for all Consolation matches in addition to the 3rd/4th Place playoff and the 5th/6th Place playoff. A 2-minute rest period will be given between the first and second sets, and a 3-minute rest period will be given between the second set and match tiebreak. **No coaching is allowed at any time.** *\*Shortened scoring may be used in the case of rain.*
- **\*NEW IN 2024 - Bathroom Break Courtesy Point:** If a player needs to go to the bathroom, they need to get permission from an official. *To minimize loss of momentum during the set caused by a bathroom break, the player taking the break will give a courtesy point to their opponent. This is not a penalty point. A courtesy point will not be given for a bathroom break taken at the end of a set. This rule is unique to the “Little Mo” tournaments.*
- **Advancing to “Little Mo” Nationals:** The top four yellow ball players (semifinalists) in each age division from each “Little Mo” Regionals will advance to the prestigious “Little Mo” Nationals in Austin, Texas from September 27-30, 2024. These players will form a 16-size draw in each age division at the Nationals. If you advance to the Semifinal Round (Main Draw) in your age division at the Regionals and you (and your parent/coach) have followed the Code of Conduct, you will receive your Nationals invitation with a special code needed for registration by email from the MCB office following the regional tournament. The top 160 players who reach the Nationals are the youngest and brightest future stars in American tennis!
- **Alternate Players for “Little Mo” Nationals:** If one of the top four yellow ball players (semifinalists) from a “Little Mo” Regionals cannot attend the “Little Mo” Nationals, we will contact the 5th and 6th Place winners (if applicable) to take their place as the first and second alternates. If neither player can attend, we will consider other players in the draw and players from other regional tournaments as replacements based on their results and UTR. If there is **not** a 5th/6th Place playoff, we will contact the Consolation Winner as the first alternate instead. If the Consolation Winner cannot attend, we will consider other players in the draw and players from other regional tournaments as replacements based on their results and UTR. The MCB office will let you know as soon as possible via email if there is an opening to attend the Nationals. *While the green dot players will not be able to advance to the Nationals, they might be considered as replacement players if all of the qualified yellow ball players have been contacted.*
- **Universal Tennis Rating (UTR) / Color Ball Rating (CBR):** All yellow ball results from the “Road to the Little Mo Nationals” (Regionals, Nationals) will count towards your player’s Universal Tennis Rating (UTR). All green dot results will count towards your player’s Universal Tennis Color Ball Rating (CBR).

**Good luck to all players!**





# 2024 “Little Mo” Internationals (Colorado, New Jersey, Florida) Rules and Regulations

Welcome to the 2024 “Little Mo” Internationals (Colorado, New Jersey, Florida)! These tournaments are designed to provide outstanding competition at the international level while also encouraging players to develop new friendships, learn good sportsmanship, and most of all, have fun. The Internationals are the only tournaments of their kind for talented, high-performance girls and boys worldwide who compete against others born in the same year. [Please read through the following rules and regulations carefully:](#)

- **Eligibility:** The three “Little Mo” Internationals will be held in Colorado, New Jersey, and Florida. The international tournaments are open to any player worldwide (ages 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12). The “Big Mo” divisions have also been added in Colorado and Florida for ages 13, 14, 15, and 16. There are no special qualifications or ranking needed to register for the international tournaments - any player who registers will be accepted into the draw until the entry limit is reached. *\*Please note that players do not need to compete in the “Little Mo” Regionals or the “Little Mo” Nationals in order to participate in the “Little Mo” Internationals.*
- **Entry Limits / Confirmation Email:** Registration for the “Little Mo” Internationals will be on a first-come, first-served basis up to the entry limit - we will be using several different entry limits based on the tournament (see below). If a division reaches the entry limit before the registration deadline, a WAITING LIST will be established at that time. Be sure to register early as the draws typically fill before the registration deadline! *\*Please note that once you have received a confirmation email from UTR/Stripe, your player's entry has been accepted into the tournament and you can make your travel arrangements.*
  - **Colorado:** Registration will be limited to the first 30 players in each division with 2 wildcards to be determined by MCB. All divisions will initially be limited to a 32-size draw (maximum), but it may be possible for some divisions to expand into a 64-size draw based on court capacity.
  - **New Jersey:** Registration will be limited to the first 14 players in each division with 2 wildcards to be determined by MCB. All divisions will initially be limited to a 16-size draw (maximum due to limited courts in New Jersey), but it may be possible for some divisions to expand into a 32-size draw based on court capacity.
  - **Florida:** Registration will be limited to the first 30 players in each division with 2 wildcards to be determined by MCB. All divisions will initially be limited to a 32-size draw (maximum), but it may be possible for some divisions to expand into a 64-size draw based on court capacity.
- **Multiple Tournaments:** Players may compete in any “Little Mo” Internationals regardless of where they are currently living in the United States or worldwide. Players may also compete in as many international tournaments as desired.
- **Events / Guaranteed Matches:** The “Little Mo” Internationals will offer Singles, Doubles, and Mixed Doubles events for all divisions. All players will be guaranteed at least two Singles matches during the international tournaments in addition to one Doubles match and one Mixed Doubles match (only if they are able to find a partner for each event).
- **Age Eligibility / Registration by Birth Year:** Players must register in the proper age division according to their birth year. This ensures that our players are competing against others who are born in the same calendar year (i.e., a player born in 2014 must play in the 10’s division since they will be turning 10 this year).
  - Girls and Boys 16’s (“Big Mo”) - born in 2008
  - Girls and Boys 15’s (“Big Mo”) - born in 2009
  - Girls and Boys 14’s (“Big Mo”) - born in 2010
  - Girls and Boys 13’s (“Big Mo”) - born in 2011
  - Girls and Boys 12’s - born in 2012
  - Girls and Boys 11’s - born in 2013
  - Girls and Boys 10’s - born in 2014
  - Girls and Boys 9’s - born in 2015
  - Girls and Boys 8’s - born in 2016 (Only players who are born in 2016 will be allowed to play in the 8’s divisions. Players born in 2017 or 2018 will not be eligible.)
- **Divisions:** The “Little Mo” Internationals will be offering several different divisions based on the tournament:
  - **Colorado and Florida:** Yellow (regular) ball divisions will be offered for girls and boys ages 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, and 16 in addition to a green dot option for ages 8, 9, and 10. Players must register for only one division. This means that players competing in the 8’s, 9’s, and 10’s divisions must choose to play with either the yellow (regular) ball or the green dot ball for their age group. Players in the 11’s and 12’s divisions must play with the yellow (regular) ball. All divisions will be played on a full 78’ tennis court with either the yellow (regular) ball or the green dot ball.

- **New Jersey:** Yellow (regular) ball divisions will be offered for girls and boys ages 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12 in addition to a green dot option for ages 8, 9, and 10. The “Big Mo” divisions for ages 13, 14, 15, and 16 will **not** be offered due to limited courts in New Jersey. Players must register for only one division. This means that players competing in the 8’s, 9’s, and 10’s divisions must choose to play with either the yellow (regular) ball or the green dot ball for their age group. Players in the 11’s and 12’s divisions must play with the yellow (regular) ball. All divisions will be played on a full 78’ tennis court with either the yellow (regular) ball or the green dot ball.
- **Draw Formats:** All divisions will use the same draw formats regardless of age or ball type, but we will be using several different draw formats based on the event type and draw size:
  - **Singles:**
    - **64-size draw, 32-size draw, 16-size draw or 8-size draw:** A **First Match Losers Consolation format with a 3rd/4th Place playoff** will be used. This means that any player who loses in the First Round (Main Draw) will move into the Consolation bracket. Any player who has a bye in the First Round (Main Draw) and loses in the Second Round (Main Draw) will also move into the Consolation bracket. The losers of the Semifinal Round (Main Draw) will move into a 3rd/4th Place playoff.
    - **5 or less players:** A **Round Robin format** will be used.
  - **Doubles and Mixed Doubles:** A **Single Elimination format** will be used for all draw sizes. This means that any team who loses in any round will **not** advance in the draw. A Consolation bracket is not possible as there is only a Main Draw in this format.
- **Scoring Formats:** All divisions will use the same scoring formats regardless of age, ball type or draw format, but we will be using several different scoring formats based on the event type:
  - **Singles:** All Singles matches (Main Draw and Consolation) will consist of two tiebreak sets (first to 6 games). At 6 games all, a 7-point set tiebreak (first to 7, win by 2) will be played. If players split sets, a 10-point match tiebreak (first to 10, win by 2) will be played in lieu of a third set. Regular scoring (**with ad**) will be used for all Main Draw matches and a 5-minute warm-up will be given before each match. No-ad scoring will be used for all Consolation matches in addition to the 3rd/4th Place playoff. A 2-minute rest period will be given between the first and second sets, and a 3-minute rest period will be given between the second set and match tiebreak. **No coaching is allowed at any time. \*Shortened scoring may be used in the case of rain.**
  - **Doubles and Mixed Doubles:** All Doubles and Mixed Doubles matches will consist of an 8-game pro set (first to 8 games). At 8 games all, a 7-point match tiebreak (first to 7, win by 2) will be played. Regular scoring (**with ad**) will be used for all matches and a 5-minute warm-up will be given before each match. **No coaching is allowed at any time. \*Shortened scoring may be used in the case of rain.**
- **Bathroom Break Courtesy Point:** If a player needs to go to the bathroom, they need to get permission from an official. ***To minimize loss of momentum during the set caused by a bathroom break, the player(s) taking the break will give a courtesy point to their opponent(s). This is not a penalty point. A courtesy point will not be given for a bathroom break taken at the end of a set. This rule is unique to the “Little Mo” tournaments.***
- **Doubles / Mixed Doubles Information:** The “Little Mo” Internationals entry fee includes Singles, Doubles, and Mixed Doubles so there are no additional fees to participate in these events. All registrations for Doubles and Mixed Doubles will be taken on-site during the tournament (no registrations will be taken in advance or by email). If a player already has a partner selected for Doubles and/or Mixed Doubles, there will be a desk on-site at the host site on the first day where they will be able to sign up together with their partner(s). If a player would like to try and find a partner before the tournament, we will be posting the official Player List in the weeks leading up to the tournament (**not before the registration deadline**) and players will be able to contact each other through the UTR system at that time. If a player **does not** have a partner selected before the tournament and they would still like to play in Doubles and/or Mixed Doubles, there will be a “Looking for Partner” sign-up sheet posted at the host site on the first day. Players will be able to place their name and cell phone on this sheet in order to connect with possible partners. Eligibility for Doubles and Mixed Doubles is as follows:
  - **Doubles:** Players must compete in the same exact age division and ball type as they are registered in for Singles. For example, a player registered in the Boys 10 (yellow ball) division for Singles must play in the Boys 10 (yellow ball) division for Doubles.
  - **Mixed Doubles:** Players may compete with someone younger or older in a different age division, but they must play in the division of the older player. Players may also compete in a different ball type, but a yellow ball player cannot “play down” into a green dot division. For example, a Boys 9 (green dot) player who decides to play Mixed Doubles with a Girls 10 (yellow ball) player must play in the Mixed 10 (yellow ball) division since that is the older division between the two players.
  - **Please note that there is no guarantee a player will be able to compete in Doubles and/or Mixed Doubles unless they have a partner for each event - players are ultimately responsible for finding their own partners.**
- **Universal Tennis Rating (UTR) / Color Ball Rating (CBR):** All yellow ball results from the “Little Mo” Internationals (Colorado, New Jersey, Florida) will count towards your player’s Universal Tennis Rating (UTR). All green dot results will count towards your player’s Universal Tennis Color Ball Rating (CBR).

**Good luck to all players!**

