

Recovery Rule:

Extended length of rest between singles matches in Junior, Adult, Senior, NTRP and Wheelchair Divisions. In all singles matches in Junior, Adult, Senior, NTRP, and Wheelchair Divisions in which the match format is two out of three standard tiebreak sets or more, a rest period of two hours shall be offered by the Referee before the player's next singles match. This Rule does not apply to short set matches and matches that play a tiebreak in lieu of a final third set, nor to any match played indoors where the duration of the match is less than 120 minutes.

Also note that the amendment deleted USTA Regulation III.H. in its entirety.

While the new rule requires this longer rest to be offered and players may decline, the match schedule planning should take into account the longer rest as the intent of the new policy is to recognize that longer rest between matches is important to the health and well being of the players.

Some interpretations of the new Recovery Rule

- A player who has completed a best-of-three singles match and whose next match is a Tiebreak-in-lieu singles match (i.e., lost their main draw singles and next match is consolation singles) still must be offered two hours rest. The format of the first singles match is what invokes the Recovery Rule.
- A player competing in more than one age division is entitled to be offered two hours rest if the first match is best-of-three and the second match is singles in another division, regardless of format. This is a major change from the default position of Table 11 that a player competing in more than one age division is only entitled to 30 minutes rest between matches.
- If a doubles match follows singles, the Recovery Rule does not come into play, regardless of the format or length of the singles match (thus, a tournament might choose to intersperse doubles and singles matches rather than the typical convention of scheduling all singles matches first, then doubles later).