

Provisional ITA Training Procedures:

Welcome to ITA Tennis! College tennis is very exciting but it also differs from USTA tennis in several ways. NCPTUA wants all Provisional ITA officials to receive the best training available so that you will achieve both success and enjoyment as an ITA official. Please review the following guidelines for training as an ITA official. If you are interested, contact one of the ITA Training Coordinators, Diane Spangler (East: dispangler@aol.com) or Sol Flynt (West: solusta@aol.com) so you can get started.

Training Process for New ITA officials:

1. All ITA officials must complete and pass the test for USTA Umpires and for ITA certification at a Certification School.
2. There will be 3 steps to becoming a compensated ITA official.
 - a. **Observe** a collegiate tennis event from the stands with stopwatch or perhaps a scorecard
 - b. **Shadow** with an experienced official who has been approved by an ITA Training Coordinator to train a Provisional ITA official. You will shadow this approved official and receive *hands on* experience in the basic duties including: prepare balls & courts, measure nets, set single sticks, pre-match speech, coin toss, timing the warm-ups and changeovers and general officiating procedures during a match. A trainee shall NOT make any rulings or calls. Data card should be signed by the supervising official.
 - c. **Volunteer**. A Provisional ITA official who has completed steps one and two may work a dual match under the supervision of an approved official with all the duties of a compensated official. He/she will train and be evaluated by at least two different approved officials for at least two different match/teams. The ITA Training Coordinator will work with the new official for one of their dual matches if scheduling permits. The Provisional ITA Trainee should work a minimum of three matches as a “volunteer official,” before being assigned to a match for compensation. There may be exceptions to this rule based on the Trainer Coordinator’s evaluations. Data card should be signed by the supervising official.
3. It will be the responsibility of the supervising official to report to the ITA Training Coordinator the progress of Provisional officials they have supervised. The ITA Training Coordinator will be responsible for gathering these reports and evaluations from the approved training officials which will be used in the determination of the readiness of the trainee. The trainee shall obtain signatures on the data card (as instructed above) and will send the ITA Training Coordinator a copy prior to the first compensated match. The ITA Training Coordinator, in consultation with the supervising officials, will determine readiness of the Provisional ITA official.
4. **Uniforms:** The *Provisional ITA Trainee Uniform* should be khaki pants/shorts, navy or white polo shirt, white socks, clean white tennis shoes, khaki/ brown belt, navy/black jacket, sweater or sweatshirt, navy/black or Khaki hat. None of these items can have collegiate or commercial logos on them.