

2019 ENDORSEMENT PROCESS FOR SOUTHERN JR CLOSED CHAMPIONSHIPS

A player wishing to play in the Southern Junior Closed Championships must play in the MS JR Endorsement State Closed Championships. The purpose of this tournament is to qualify for the Southern Closed Junior Championships. Entry in the Qualifying/Endorsement should be with the intent to attend the Southern Closed, if selected.

Each state in the Southern Section is given various quotas (numbers) of players who may be endorsed for the Southern Closed. These quotas are determined by the relative proportionate number of USTA junior members in each state compared to the total in the STA. For 2019, Mississippi's quota is 11 places in the 10-year-old west division (32 draw), 10 place in the 12-year-old division (160 draw), and 12 places in the 14, 16 and 18-year-old division (192 draw). "Closed" means that only players who are U.S. citizens or meet the resident alien requirements, hold a current USTA membership assigned to Mississippi and have established a legal residency in MS are eligible to play in this tournament. Only players who reside in the Southern Section may compete in the Southern Closed Junior Championships.

Birth certificates need to be given at the Mississippi Endorsement tournament and sent to the Southern Section office when playing this event.

Players Eligibility for Southern Closed Championships

Each state has a designated person or committee who selects the players eligible to compete in the Southern Closed Championships. The MTA Ranking Committee will be responsible for the selection of the players. The primary basis for selection will be the player's performance in the Mississippi Junior Endorsement Tournament. For other details, refer to the Criteria for Selection. For ranking purposes, the MS Junior Qualifying Closed Championship will carry the highest Mississippi point value. The MTA Ranking Committee and the Junior Council Committee will be available at the Endorsement to answer questions about how selections are made. The selection process is not usually complete until the day after the tournament. It is every player's responsibility to enter the appropriate Closed Championship online. This can be done at any time after registration opens so it is recommended that you sign up early. Your credit card will not be charged until you are selected. The Ranking Committee or the Junior Tennis Council should be notified of a player's intent to play in the Southern Closed or already registered online by the end of the Mississippi Qualifying tournament.

It is the player's responsibility to notify the tournament if he/she is unable to play. Please do this as early as possible so an alternate can be notified. If you have been chosen as an alternate, it is the player's responsibility to call the tournament director of the Southern Closed for that age group to determine if he/she is in the draw. Please wait until after the draw has been made to call the Tournament Director. The committee will not be advised of alternates in the draw.

CRITERIA FOR THE SELECTION OF MS PLAYERS IN THE SOUTHERN CLOSED CHAMPIONSHIPS:

The Mississippi Quota for Southern Closed Championships: B/G 10s- 32 Draw – 11; B/G 12s 160 draw- 10; 14s-18s 190 draw- 12.

Justyn Schelver – Ranking Committee Chairman

To qualify for the Southern Closed Championships, a junior must play in the Mississippi Closed Qualifying tournament in the age division they wish to play in the Southern Closed. The following finishers in the Qualifier will automatically be selected: in the 160 draw (12's, 14's, 16's and 18's) the 4 semifinalists in the championship (main) bracket and the 2 finalists in the consolations; for the 32 compass draw in the (10's) the 4 semifinalists in the championship (main) bracket and the 2 finalists in the consolations. Selection of the remaining players for Mississippi's quota will be based on Southern standings immediately following the Endorsement Tournament. Waivers into the Southern Closed will be considered for medical reasons, family crisis or unavoidable circumstances. Players who fall into this category will be placed at the bottom of the endorsement list.

[**Southern Closed Guidelines**](#) – click here

[**Mississippi Endorsement Information**](#) – click here