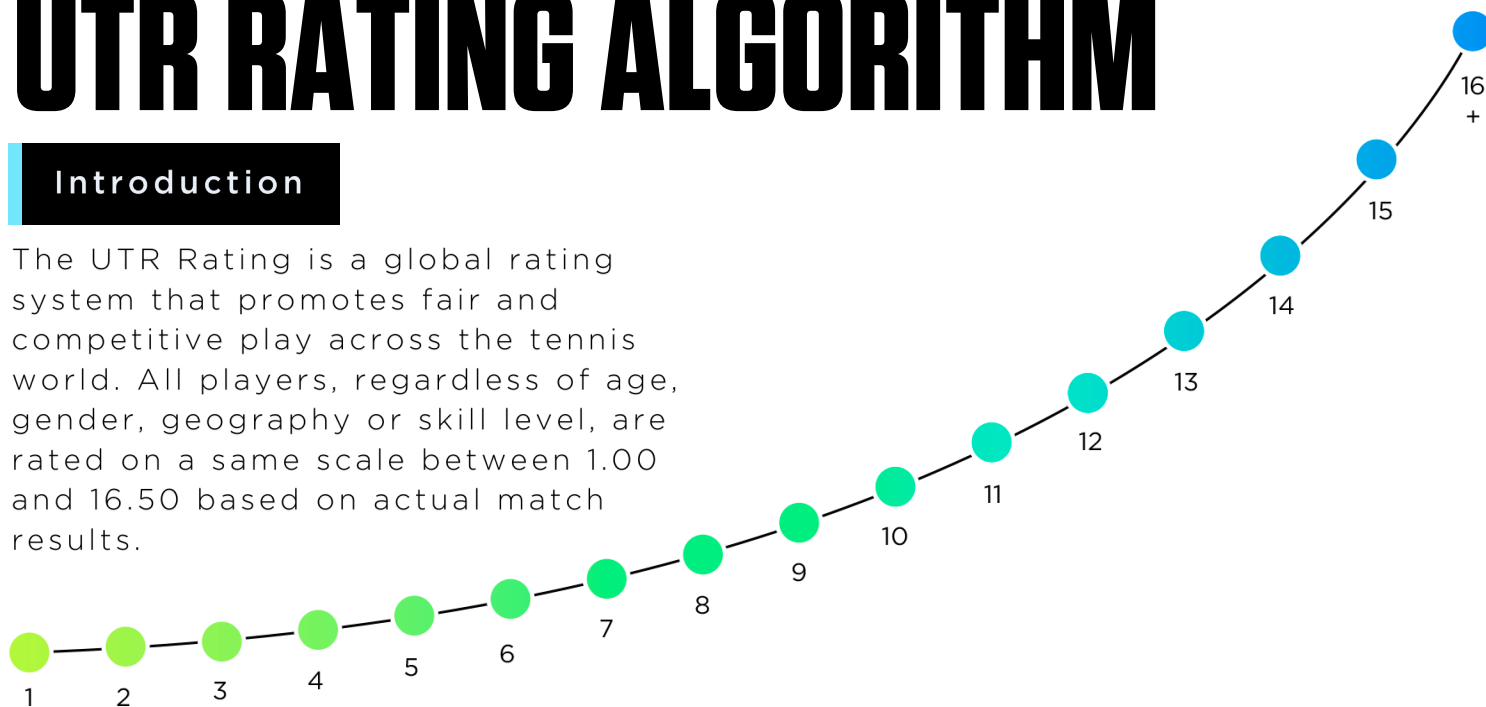**UNDERSTANDING THE**

UTR RATING ALGORITHM

Introduction

The UTR Rating is a global rating system that promotes fair and competitive play across the tennis world. All players, regardless of age, gender, geography or skill level, are rated on a same scale between 1.00 and 16.50 based on actual match results.

16 +
15
14
13
12
11
10
9
8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1

BEGINNER	INTERMEDIATE	ADVANCED	PRO

Benefits of UTR Rating

The UTR Rating provides a real-time view of a player's true skill level. Having a UTR Rating enables you to track your progress, find level-based play, and expand your tennis network to play with people across age, gender and tennis silo.

Who has a UTR Rating?

Every tennis player can have a UTR Rating, whether you are a recreational, junior, high school, college or pro player.

Verified UTR Rating vs. UTR Rating

The UTR Rating counts all results, including matches played in verified tournaments/events and non-verified matches. The Verified UTR Rating counts match results played in only verified tournaments and events.

For example, Tennis Australia comps/tournament matches count toward Verified UTR Rating and UTR Rating. Casual/practice matches and self-posted scores count only toward UTR Rating.

How is the UTR Rating Calculated?

The UTR Rating is calculated by an algorithm using a player's last 30 eligible match scores from the last 12 months. For each eligible match, the algorithm calculates a match rating and a match weight; a player's UTR Rating is the weighted average of all the match ratings.

Match Rating: Actual Performance vs Expectation

In every match, there is an expected outcome, based on the UTR Rating difference between opponents. Let's say you play an opponent with the following:

Same UTR Rating:
The algorithm would project that you win the same number of games as your opponent. If you win more games, then your rating will go up.

Lower UTR Rating:
If the system expects you to win 6-2, 6-2 but you end up winning 6-1, 6-1, then your rating would go up.

Higher UTR Rating:
If you are expected to lose 6-3, 6-3 but you lose 6-4, 6-4, your rating will go up.

Your UTR Rating will go up or down based on how you perform vs. expectation.

After one match result, you receive a projected UTR (P). After approximately five matches, the rating becomes reliable. Your UTR Rating continues to update as more matches are added.

Match Weight

The following factors are used in the match weight calculation:

Format:
More weight is given to longer match formats. A match with a three-set format receives more weight than an eight-game pro set or 4-game mini-set format.

Competitiveness:
The closer the UTR Rating difference between the players, the greater the match weight. For example, if a player with a UTR Rating of 6.00 plays an opponent with a UTR Rating of 5.00 (difference of 1), the match receives more weight than one played against a UTR Rating of 4.00 (difference of 2).

Reliability:
The more reliable the opponent's UTR Rating, the greater the match weight. A match played against an opponent who competes often and has a reliable UTR Rating receives more weight.

Time Degradation:
The algorithm represents current form; it gives more credit to matches played within the last few months.

What is the best way to improve my UTR Rating?

- Compete Well – You can improve your UTR Rating by winning more games than expected, regardless of whether you win or lose the match and whether you play higher- or lower-rated opponents. Compete well and try to win as many games as possible; this is the best way to improve your UTR Rating.

- Play Often – The more matches you play, the quicker your UTR Rating will reflect your current form. It is also best to play against opponents who are close to your rating regardless of whether they are above or below you.

- Be Patient – Since the UTR Rating is a rolling weighted average, the effect of new results is slightly lagged. Your UTR Rating may take time to reflect a recent outcome.

UTR Rating Algorithm FAQ

What is the impact of playing against opponents with a lower UTR Rating? Or higher UTR Rating?

Playing against lower-rated opponents does not necessarily hurt your UTR Rating; in some cases, it can boost it. This is also true for playing higher-rated opponents. The impact depends upon the percentage of games you win and the UTR Rating difference between you and your opponent. If you do better than expected, your UTR Rating will go up; if you do worse than expected, your UTR Rating will go down.

Why did my UTR rating change when I haven't played recently?

The UTR Rating is a measurement of player skill today and recalculates daily. There can be several reasons why a change (up or down) would occur. Some reasons could include:

- You played a player that was unrated/projected and their rating has become more reliable through more play.
- Scores from more than 12 months ago fell off your record

Why don't some of my matches count towards my UTR Rating?

The algorithm excludes matches in which:

- A player withdraws before the match starts
- The match starts but neither player wins at least four games before the match stops
- There is a UTR Rating difference of more than 2.00. These matches will show up on the player profile but are not counted towards your rating.

Why does the algorithm exclude matches with a UTR Rating difference of more than 2.00?

As the difference in UTR Rating increases, so does the likelihood the higher-rated player wins the match easily. Our data indicates matches with a difference of more than 2.00 are less likely to be competitive. Results like these are not reliable indicators of either player's skill level and are excluded by the algorithm.

Do matches with a UTR Rating difference over 2.00 count towards my UTR?

In one case, they can. If a lower-rated player wins the match, this result will count towards each players rating. A match will count if a UTR 5.21 wins against a UTR 7.61, but not if a UTR 7.61 wins a match against a UTR 5.21.

How does the algorithm count tiebreakers?

Set tiebreakers count for 1 game; 3rd set 10-point match tiebreakers count as 2 games.

Should organizers/coaches only enter the matches they believe to be competitive?

Organizers/coaches must enter all matches, otherwise the algorithm may not be accurate. The algorithm will automatically disregard matches that are not eligible, such as matches between opponents with UTR Rating differences greater than 2.00.

UTR Rating Algorithm FAQ

How does the UTR Rating address walkovers, retirements/withdrawals, and defaults?

Since the UTR Rating is based purely on scores, it does not count defaults or walkovers. If a player withdraws either 1) before the match starts or 2) during the match but before either player wins at least four games, the algorithm does not count it. However, these results are still displayed on the player's profile page along with their other scores.

Why does the algorithm count 30 matches? What if I have more/less than 30 matches?

The goal is to balance the long-term sustained level of play vs the recent trend. 30 matches yield the best balance between the long-term and recent term.

If you have played 40 matches within the last 12 months, the algorithm will use the 30 most recent matches. If you have played only 10 matches within the last 12 months, the algorithm will use those 10 matches. 30 is simply the maximum that will be used.

Why are more than 30 matches being used to calculate my rating?

When the 30th most recent match is played on the same day as the 31st most recent match, the algorithm does not try to determine which one to keep; it keeps them both. They will fall off together when the next match is added.

How does the algorithm work for doubles?

The singles and doubles algorithms are very similar. For doubles, the algorithm compares the average UTR Rating of Team A to the average UTR Rating of Team B. Given the difference between those two averages, the algorithm expects a certain percentage of games won. The team who performs better than the algorithm's expectation will see their match rating go up. Both teammates see an increase or decrease by the same amount.

Can my rating be changed if it doesn't look accurate to me?

The ratings are automatically generated by a computerized algorithm and cannot be altered manually. We are able to add or edit incorrect or missing scores on your record, which may impact your rating.