

IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR ADVANCING & WILDCARD CAPTAINS

Re: 2027 Early Start (ES) Fall League Registration vs. 2026 Sectionals

Because the 2027 Early Start Fall Season deadlines occur *before* the 2026 Sectionals, you must plan your team strategy for the fall. If your team wins Sectionals (or advances to Nationals), **National Regulation 2.06 (Move Up / Split Up)** triggers immediately. Teams are not permitted to drop from the league after the deadline for any reason.

LEAGUE	DEADLINE TO DROP from ES 2027 FALL	SECTIONALS for 2026
18&O Men & Women	July 24, 2026 (NOON)	August 7-9, 2026
18&O and 40&O Mixed	July 24, 2026 (NOON)	October 2-5, 2026
55&O Men & Women	September 1, 2026 (NOON)	September 18-20, 2026

See the [Captains Corner](#) for more registration open and minimum roster deadlines. Extension may be granted by LLC.

Team Options:

- **Option A:** Register your 2027 team at the same level as your 2026 advancing team but in a **Different Age Division** - Keep your roster together and move to a **different age division** (players must be age-eligible).
- **Option B:** Register your 2027 team at the same age division as you 2026 advancing team, but **One NTRP Level Higher** - Keep your roster together and **move up one NTRP level**. (If chosen, the 60% at-level rule is waived.)
- **Option C:** Register your 2027 team at the same age and level as your 2026 advancing team and **Be Prepared to "Split Up" AND Fill your Courts and Stay in the 2027 League Even if your 2026 team Wins Sectionals**. – Sign up a Fall ES 2027 team at the same age, level, and division before 2026 Sectionals, and don't drop from the league even if your 2026 team wins Sectionals keeping a maximum of 3 players from the 2026 team on roster. See ⚠ Critical Warning Below
- **Option D:** Do not register a 2027 team. Split your 2026 advancing players into groups of 3 and have them **Join Other 2027 Fall Teams**. If you do not win Sectionals, your team can sign up for the Spring season. Players can gather in groups of more than 3 if your 2026 team doesn't win Sectionals.

⚠ OPTION C - CRITICAL WARNING:

Option C only works if the captain fully understands the risks and is prepared in advance. This option requires recruiting many new players, and tons of roster management and communication - such that your 2027 team has enough "other players" who are not advancing to 2026 Sectionals to it shore up and fill the courts throughout the season even if your 2026 team wins Sectionals.

- Grievance/Suspension** - Teams may not drop from the league after the deadline for any reason (including winning prior year's Sectionals.) A team that abandons a league is subject to grievance. All players are subject to suspension points in this situation.
- Player Freeze Warning** (mixed only)- Because multiple 2027 ES matches will be played before the 2026 Sectionals it is important that **all your 2027 lineups have a maximum of the same three 2026 advancing players prior to Oct 6th**. If your team wins Sectionals, any player beyond the 3 permitted who has played in a 2027 ES fall match will be "frozen" (DQd) on your roster and prohibited from joining any other fall team at the same age and level. No credits or refunds are available for such players.
- Doubts?** If you have doubts about being able to "shore up" your 2027 fall team with "other players" who are not advancing to 2026 Sectionals, choose option A, B, or D.