

# 2026 UTP ELITE EIGHT PLAYOFFS

Featuring the Top 4 Players  
in each Age Category  
from Luzon & VisMin

*(64 of the best from across the country)*

**DIVISIONS:**  
12U, 14U, 16U, 18U Boys & Girls

**San Carlos City, Negros Occidental**  
**June 4 to 9, 2026**



Sanctioned by:



# 2026 UTP ELITE EIGHT PLAYOFFS TOURNAMENT GUIDELINES

1. Players in the 12, 14, 16 and 18 Under of the Boys and Girls who place in the top four of their respective regions (Luzon/ NCR and VisMin) are eligible to participate. The cut-off period for eligibility is based solely on the tournaments of the Cebuana Lhuillier Tennis Tour (CLTT) and UTP-sanctioned events held from May 1, 2025 to April 30, 2026.
2. A player must have played a minimum of three CLTT or UTP-sanctioned events within the cut-off period to be eligible to participate.
3. The cut-off period may change in the event that some CLTT tournaments will be rescheduled due to conflict with other events and unforeseen circumstances.
4. Due to new guidelines of the PHILTA program, the 10 Unisex will no longer be included in the playoffs.



# 2026 UTP ELITE EIGHT PLAYOFFS TOURNAMENT GUIDELINES (cont'd)

5. The UTP Elite Eight Ranking System will serve as the official reference for tracking points and player positions. Points earned from CLTT tournaments and UTP-sanctioned tournaments will be based on the PHILTA ranking points table.
6. Points will be calculated based on the number of tournaments played within the cut-off period. If a player participates in more than 10 tournaments, only their best 10 results will apply.
7. Players next in line from each region will advance if any of the top 4 eligible players are unable to participate.
8. If a region is unable to complete a particular age group based on CLTT tournament ranking points, UTP reserves the right to nominate a wildcard player from any region.



# 2026 UTP ELITE EIGHT PLAYOFFS TOURNAMENT GUIDELINES (cont'd)

9. Players who qualify in the top four of two age groups may only compete in their primary category.
10. A player's region will be determined by their place of birth as indicated on their Birth Certificate. Players transferring to a different region (e.g., VisMin to Luzon/NCR) must establish at least six months of residency before becoming officially eligible to represent the new region. A notarized letter from the player's guardian confirming the transfer must be submitted, along with supporting proof of residency.
11. The schedule of the Playoffs is tentatively scheduled for May or June. Venue is San Carlos City, Negros Occidental. The date.



# 2026 UTP ELITE EIGHT PLAYOFFS TOURNAMENT GUIDELINES (cont'd)

12. If there is a tie for 4th place, a pre-playoff will be scheduled prior to the playoffs in San Carlos. The date and venue will be announced on a later date and all expenses going to the venue will be the responsibility of the player. It is the sole discretion of UTP to decide on the venue, date and format of the pre-playoff.
13. In case of last-minute withdrawals, replacement players may come from the host club or from any region.
14. UTP and CLTT reserve the right to cancel the event or amend the tournament guidelines, format, scoring, and Incentives, as deemed necessary.



# 2026 UTP ELITE EIGHT PLAYOFFS

## ADDENDUM TO TOURNAMENT GUIDELINES

### ELITE EIGHT PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for participation in the Elite Eight, a player must have competed in a minimum of three (3) CLTT or UTP-sanctioned tournaments within the official qualification period.

If an Elite Eight age group (Top 4 per region) cannot be completed due to an insufficient number of players meeting the three-tournament requirement, players with at least two (2) tournament participations within the qualification period shall be considered in order of ranking to complete the draw. Should slots remain unfilled, players with one (1) tournament participation within the qualification period may likewise be considered in order of ranking until the draw is completed.



# 2026 UTP ELITE EIGHT PLAYOFFS TOURNAMENT FORMAT

1. Players will compete in a round-robin format within their respective age groups, divided into two groups. Each group will consist of two players from each region. The top two seeds from each region will be placed in separate groups, while the 3rd and 4th seeds will be randomly drawn.
2. The top two players from each group emerging from the round-robin stage will advance to the semifinals. The top qualifier from Group A will face the No. 2 qualifier from Group B, and vice versa. In the event of a double tie in the round-robin, it will be decided by a win-over. For a triple tie, a quotient system will be used, calculated as the total number of games won over total number of games played, with the highest ratio determining the winner. A super tie-break win is counted as one game. A knockout system will be applied in the semifinals and finals.



# 2026 UTP ELITE EIGHT PLAYOFFS

## ADDENDUM TO TOURNAMENT FORMAT

### TIE-BREAKING PROCEDURE

In the event of a tie after applying the quotient system, the following procedures will apply:

- **Two-way tie:**

The tie will be resolved based on the head-to-head result (win over) between the players involved.

- **Three-way tie:**

The tied players will compete in a special short-set knockout match to determine the winner.



# 2026 UTP ELITE EIGHT PLAYOFFS TOURNAMENT SCORING

## **12U, 14U, 16U and 18U Round Robin**

- Best of 3 regular sets (up to 6) with no-ad scoring. In case of one set all, the deciding or 3rd set is a 10-point super tie-break with a two-point margin.

## **12U, 14U, 16U and 18U Semifinals and Finals**

- Best of 3 regular sets with ad scoring. In case of one set all, the deciding 3rd set is also a regular set with ad scoring.



# 2026 UTP ELITE EIGHT PLAYOFFS TOURNAMENT INCENTIVE

1. The finalist and champion of each age-group category will earn an incentive trip in one international tournament in Malaysia or Thailand within the year. In case any of the players are not available to participate, the trip will be extended only up to the 3rd place player, with no further extensions.
2. The 3rd place will be decided by a quotient system between the two losing semi-finalists.
3. The cut-off date for substitution of a 3rd place player is September 30, 2026. Any withdrawals by the finalist or champion after September 30, 2026 will no longer be eligible for substitution.
4. UTP will sponsor and arrange the international airfare, hotel, land transportation, tournament entry fee, and travel tax of the players during the tournament. Budget for food expenses is (USD 15.00) daily..



# 2026 UTP ELITE EIGHT PLAYOFFS TOURNAMENT INCENTIVE (cont'd)

5. Airfare is non-transferable and cannot be rebooked. Any changes, for whatever reason – including external incentives from the foreign organizer – will be the sole responsibility of the player.
6. Players with ITF points in the 18U Boys and Girls categories may be given an option to participate in other Southeast Asian tournaments, subject to ITF acceptance and UTP's internal and budget guidelines. The player will not be accompanied by a UTP official and the final decision rests solely with UTP.
7. Other incidental expenses will be the sole responsibility of the player.
8. The incentive is not convertible to cash.
9. Luzon/NCR players are responsible for arranging their own transportation to NAIA on the tournament departure date, while VisMin players must do the same for Mactan International Airport.



# 2026 UTP ELITE EIGHT PLAYOFFS TOURNAMENT INCENTIVE (cont'd)

10. Players are responsible for securing their passports, obtaining DSWD clearance, and covering any local expenses incurred for travel to the domestic airport.
11. Parents wishing to accompany their children are responsible for covering their own expenses and making their own travel arrangements.
12. The quarter finalists, semi-finalists, finalist and champion will earn Group 2 points.



# 2026 UTP ELITE EIGHT PLAYOFFS BOARD AND LODGING

1. **Dorm Accommodation:** SACATA will provide complimentary dorm accommodations for players. Each player is allowed to bring one parent or guardian, who may also stay in the dorm. Due to limited space, priority will be given to those with genuine needs.
2. **Hotel Accommodation:** A designated hotel for players will also be available, but at the player/parent's expense. Parents are responsible for making their own hotel bookings. The hotel's name and contact details will be provided separately.
3. **Room Rates:** The average room rate at a boutique hotel is ₱2,500 per room, while a budget hotel rate is ₱700 per room.
4. **Meal Arrangements:** Players and their parents are responsible for their own meals, except for the fellowship and championship dinners.



# 2026 UTP ELITE EIGHT PLAYOFFS TRANSPORTATION

1. **Travel to San Carlos City:** Players are responsible for covering the cost of their transportation to San Carlos City, Negros Occidental.
2. **Shuttle Service for Luzon/NCR Players:** SACATA will provide a limited shuttle service for players arriving from Luzon/NCR.
3. **Return Shuttle Service:** A limited shuttle service will also be available for players returning to Bacolod-Silay Airport. The pick-up time and location will be announced closer to the event.
4. **Eligibility:** The shuttle service is strictly available for one player and one parent or guardian.



**See you in  
San Carlos!**



SANCTIONED BY:

