

USA Racquetball- Stay and Play Policy

What is a Stay and Play policy?

Stay and Play means that in order to compete in the tournament, you must be staying in one of the official room blocks set up by USA Racquetball. USA Racquetball will ensure at least one (1) lower price point and one (1) higher price point hotel for each championship is available. All reservations must be made through the official link on the event website or by calling the hotel's reservation number and utilizing the group discount code.

USA Racquetball guarantees the lowest group rates available (exclusions include unconfirmed room types, non-cancellable rates, employee rates, government rates, advanced purchase rates, AAA and AARP rates). USA Racquetball will work with any person, club or team that may have a special situation (please see Exemptions).

Why is there a Stay and Play policy?

A Stay and Play policy is among the most effective tools we have to ensure overall event quality. In addition to lowering rates on hotel packages, this policy increases our negotiating power with future host cities by allowing USA Racquetball to commit to a fixed number of room blocks at hotels. This number translates to a greater economic benefit to the host cities and will encourage greater city support of our events with both amenities and financial contributions.

Exemptions:

The following exemptions are allowed but must be verified as explained below. Please email the requested information to championships@usaracquetball.com. Your subject line should read (Name of the Championship) 2018 EXEMPTION REQUEST.

#1 – USING POINTS FOR A FREE ROOM - If you have enough points to redeem them for an entirely FREE stay, you are allowed to do so. Please book the room through the hotel directly and send a copy of your reservation showing that points were used to book your entire stay to championships@usaracquetball.com. Please make sure to list the athlete's name on your email so they are an approved exemption. Please note that just 'receiving points' for staying at a hotel does not qualify for an exemption. You must be redeeming for an entire free stay.

#2 – LIVE IN CLOSE PROXIMITY - If you live within 75 miles from the venue, you are not required to stay in a hotel. This must be able to be verified through mapquest.com. Please send your name, and address to championships@usaracquetball.com to apply for an exemption.

#3 – MILITARY OR GOVERNMENT DISCOUNT - If you are able to get a lower rate with a military or government discount, this will be accepted. You will need to email a copy of the reservation that was booked at the military or government discount and the athlete's name and club to championships@usaracquetball.com. Please note, the hotel will require the military or government ID to be presented upon check-in, please have this information when you arrive.

#4 – STAYING WITH A FAMILY MEMBER - If you are staying with a family member that lives within 75 miles from the venue, you are not required to stay in a hotel. This must be able to be verified through mapquest.com. Please send the athlete's name, as well as the family member's name and address to championships@usaracquetball.com.

USA Racquetball- Stay and Play FAQ

Who determines the rules for Stay and Play?

USA Racquetball determines the guidelines and procedures for the Stay and Play policy.

What other organizations use Stay and Play?

The concept of the Stay and Play policy is utilized by leagues across the athletic landscape, including USA Volleyball, USA Lacrosse, USA Field Hockey, and many high school sports programs.

What hotels will be available via Stay and Play?

USA Racquetball will consider all hotels willing to offer a contract for rooms at a set price. We then evaluate multiple hotels near a tournament site and factors including cost, location, and amenities when determining which hotels we will contract with for a particular event.

How many rooms do I need to or my team/club have to book?

You or your team/club must book enough rooms to accommodate every player on your tournament roster. Also, your team must book enough rooms to abide the hotel's occupancy policies. This means a maximum of two people per bed per room (some packages may also include sleeper sofas or cots and will include an extra two people per room). Teams must also stay for a **minimum of two nights**. Exceptions to the two night minimum will be considered on a case-by-case basis, and requests for an exception can be made via email to championships@usaracquetball.com.

What happens if my team doesn't want to stay in a tournament-approved hotel?

If you or your team has not booked approved hotel accommodations, USA Racquetball will contact you or your coach/president to discuss the situation. If you or your team/club has not booked in the approved hotel before the event date, you or your team will need to pay the hotel waiver fee of \$50 per person not staying at the host hotel.

May I or my team be allowed to stay at the house of a family member or friend that is near the tournament site?

Yes, if you or your team are staying with a family member or friend that lives within 75 miles of the venue, you are not required to stay in a hotel. This must be able to be verified through mapquest.com. Please send the athlete's name, as well as the family member or friend's name and address to championships@usaracquetball.com.

Why isn't the hotel I want on the list of options?

We consider proposals from any hotel that wants to participate, and actively solicit hotels to negotiate rates. However, a hotel cannot be forced to offer a room block for an event; it is a business decision by the hotel. Sometimes hotels have other business booked on the tournament dates, so they do not have rooms available to provide a block. Also, some hotels offer rooms at rates that are too high.