



ITF®

World Tennis  
Masters Tour

# ITF WORLD TENNIS MASTERS TOUR 2025

## REGULATIONS

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Please note that where amendments have been made in these Regulations the text is underlined.

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**SECTION I**  
**REGULATIONS FOR THE ORGANISATION OF ITF WORLD TENNIS MASTERS TOUR**  
**(“WTMT”) TOURNAMENTS AND THE ITF WORLD INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

The following Regulations apply to all WTMT Tournaments in Grades MT100, MT200, MT400, MT700, MT1000 and World Individual Championships, with some exceptions to National Closed Championships, as well as the World Team Championships and other international team competitions. These exceptions are given in Section II (ITF World Team Championships), together with additional clauses in Appendix I for National Closed Championships.

For all other WTMT Tournaments without an ITF sanction, whether listed in the WTMT Calendar or not these Regulations are to be regarded as guidelines to be followed in order to achieve desirable standards and uniformity for the benefit of WTMT players worldwide.

**I. THE COMPETITION**

**1. Title**

The Competition, an international singles, doubles, and mixed doubles competition, shall be called the ITF World Tennis Masters Tour.

**2. Mission Statement**

The ITF’s Mission is to make Tennis the leading competitive sport in terms of player participation for those aged 30 and above.

**3. Ownership**

The Competition shall be owned and managed by ITF Limited, hereinafter referred to as the ITF. Ownership shall include, but not be limited to, the following national and international rights: registered trademarks of the ITF; commercial exploitation of the event; television and radio, film and video recordings; plus, new media and internet coverage. In the case of the WTMT Individual Championships, which are conducted by and under the direction and control of the International Tennis Federation, the Board of Directors may assign all or any rights to the host nation in accordance with detailed guidelines issued by the ITF consistent with these regulations.

#### **4. Players Eligible**

Only players who are under the jurisdiction of a national tennis association affiliated to the ITF may compete in any tournament to which these Regulations apply. Players wishing to represent (either as a player or captain) a nation in the World Team Championships or other international team competitions on the WTMT must be in good standing with their national association as defined in Appendix V of the Masters Regulations.

All tournaments shall be open to all eligible players of the appropriate age group, except National Closed Championships that may apply alternative criteria for acceptance as stated in Appendix I.

A player's nationality for the ITF WTMT and the ITF WTMT Ranking is determined at registration for IPIN by the Nationality on a player's passport. The ITF may request from the player at any time a copy of their current, valid passport as proof of nationality.

Players wishing to make a request to change their nationality on the ITF website should send a copy of their current passport for the nation to which they wish to change their nationality to the ITF.

In the event that a request is made where:

- the player was born in the nation to which they wish to change their nationality;
- that nation does not issue its own separate passports, and its citizens are issued a passport from another nation; and
- the player holds a valid passport from that other nation which confirms the player's place of birth as in the nation to which they wish to change their nationality;

the player should send a copy of the passport recording their place of birth to the ITF and make a request to the ITF to change their nationality on the ITF's website to the nation where they were born. If the player complies with the requirements in this paragraph, the ITF will process the change of nationality and update the ITF's website.

In the event that a player does not hold a current passport for the nation to which they wish to change their nationality, the player must provide:

- A copy of their current passport;
- A written explanation setting out:
  - why they are seeking to change their nationality;
  - why they do not hold a current passport for the nation to which they wish to change their nationality;



- any dates that they held nationality in the nation to which they seek to change their nationality, providing copies of expired passports and/or ID cards where available;
- The nature of their ties and affiliation(s) with the nation to which they seek to change their nationality including, but not limited to:
  - familial connections.
  - period(s) of time spent visiting and/or residing in that nation.
  - their commitment to life and tennis in that nation; and
- Details of any second or previous nationalities, including in relation to their tennis participation at an international level.

On receipt of the information detailed above, the request will be considered by the ITF Internal Adjudication Panel (IAP) in accordance with the Procedural Rules Governing Proceedings Before an Internal Adjudication Panel Convened Under ITF Rules, to determine, in its discretion, whether the change of nationality is genuine and not intended to circumvent the application of the Regulations (i.e. a “flag of convenience”). The IAP reserves the right to ask the Player to provide and/or supply further information on request.

The IAP’s first-instance decision is capable of being appealed by the Player to the Independent Tribunal.

### **5. International Player Identification number (IPIN)**

In order to enter ITF WTMT tournaments, players must have registered for a ITF Masters IPIN membership. All players entering WTMT tournaments agree, as a condition of their entry, to accept the related terms and conditions.

Players cannot compete and earn ranking points until the IPIN registration is complete. A player will not earn ranking points from any tournament where IPIN and/or entry fees are outstanding.

Notwithstanding any other provision of these Regulations, the ITF has the absolute right to refuse to accept or revoke any player’s entry to any WTMT tournament(s). The ITF may exercise that right as it sees fit, with or without providing reasons.

Each tournament entry (whether for Singles or Doubles or both) must be accompanied by a USD \$10.00 IPIN fee (Tournament IPIN Fee). The IPIN Fee shall be paid for the first six (6) tournaments in a calendar year, up to a maximum of \$60.00 USD, after which the fee will be waived. The Tournament IPIN Fee will be fully refunded to a player that withdraws from the Tournament prior to the Withdrawal Deadline. For MT700 & MT1000 tournaments, this payment will be required at time of entry via a player’s online IPIN entry. Until advised otherwise, IPIN fees for all other grades will be collected

at the same time as the entry fee (either online or in-person at the event) and treated as an additional payment. Please refer to Appendix I for IPIN Fees for National Closed Championships.

### **National Closed Championships**

National Closed Championships may choose to implement their own criteria for entry and withdrawal dates, in accordance with the regulations of the National Association in whose jurisdiction the tournament is held (see Appendix I).

### **6. Events and Age Groups**

Until otherwise determined by the ITF, the age groups to which WTMT Individual ranking points will be awarded shall be:

Men		Women	
30 years and over	65 years and over	30 years and over	65 years and over
35 years and over	70 years and over	35 years and over	70 years and over
40 years and over	75 years and over	40 years and over	75 years and over
45 years and over	80 years and over	45 years and over	80 years and over
50 years and over	85 years and over	50 years and over	85 years and over
55 years and over	90 years and over	55 years and over	90 years and over
60 years and over		60 years and over	

The following events can be organised at any of the age groups listed above at WTMT tournaments:

- Singles (Qualifying Draw, Main Draw and Bonus Draw)
- Doubles (Main Draw)
- Mixed Doubles (Main Draw)

If a tournament offers 35 years and over in singles, doubles and/or mixed doubles events, 30 years and over must be offered in the same tournament.

All tournaments must offer equal number of male and female draws at the factsheet stage.

### **7. Rules to be Observed**

a) The Competition shall take place in accordance with these Regulations including without limitation the WTMT Code of Conduct and ITF Welfare Policy (together the Regulations), the Constitution of the ITF Limited, the ITF Rules of Tennis and the Duties and Procedures for Officials.

b) In submitting an application, a tournament automatically undertakes to abide by and fulfil all its obligations under the above Rules and Regulations.

c) In submitting an entry to a tournament sanctioned by the ITF as a constituent tournament of the Tour, a player automatically undertakes to commit him/herself to abide by and be bound by the above Rules and Regulations and Code of Conduct.

d) Power to amend

These WTMT Rules and Regulations may only be amended, repealed or otherwise modified, in whole or in part, by the ITF Board of Directors.

e) Extraordinary Circumstances

The Board of Directors may grant dispensation from, modify, waive or otherwise alter these Regulations or their application in extraordinary circumstances.

f) Variations for a particular tournament

Tournaments may apply for a limited variation to the Regulations, pursuant to Section I, Regulation 22.

g) Governing Law

These Regulations and any dispute arising out of or in connection with them (including any dispute or claim relating to non-contractual obligations) shall be governed by and construed in accordance with English law, without regard to the conflict of law principles thereof. Each Player, Covered Person and Nation and each of its Team Members, directors, officials, officers, members of staff, employees, contractors, agents, and representatives agrees to submit any disputes or claims or other matters arising in relation to the Regulations (including any non-contractual disputes or claims) to arbitration pursuant to Regulation 8 of these Regulations, to the exclusion of any other forum

## **8. Enforcement of Regulations and resolution of disputes/On-site enforcement**

It is the responsibility of the Referee, with the assistance of the ITF Representative (if present) to enforce these Regulations on-site.

### **First instance proceedings**

The Referee shall have exclusive jurisdiction, in the first instance, over the following matters:

- (a) unless expressly referred elsewhere, an allegation that a player has committed an offence under the Code of Conduct that is not a Major Offence or a breach of the Welfare Policy;
- (b) any disputes or questions of interpretation that arise on court in respect of the Rules of Tennis; and
- (c) any other decisions, disputes or other matters that are entrusted under these Regulations to the Referee.

The ITF Representative shall have exclusive jurisdiction, in the first instance, over the following matters:

- (a) any disputes or questions of interpretation that arise on-site regarding these Regulations; and
- (b) any other decisions, disputes, questions of interpretation or other matters that are entrusted under these Regulations to the ITF Representative.

The Referee, ITF Masters Committee or other person/entity designated under these Regulations may decide any issues entrusted to them (respectively) under these Regulations. Unless expressly provided otherwise, there will be no right of appeal from their respective decisions.

The ITF Internal Adjudication Panel shall have exclusive jurisdiction, in the first instance, over the following matters (to be determined in accordance with its Procedural Rules):

- (a) any request for a decision that is entrusted under these Regulations (including the Code of Conduct) to the ITF Internal Adjudication Panel;
- (b) any dispute or question about the proper interpretation of these Regulations (including reviewing as appropriate any on-site interpretations);
- (c) any dispute or question about player eligibility arising under these Regulations (unless expressly referred elsewhere);
- (d) any allegation that a player, Related Person or other person or entity bound by these Regulations has failed to comply with any other aspect of these Regulations (unless expressly referred elsewhere);
- (e) any other dispute arising out of or relating in any way to these Regulations that is referred to it by the Board.

The Independent Tribunal shall have exclusive jurisdiction, in the first instance, over the following matters (to be determined in accordance with its Procedural Rules):

- (a) any request for a decision that is entrusted under these Regulations to the Independent Tribunal;
- (b) an allegation that a player, Related Person or other person participating on the ITF's (WTMT) has breached the Tennis Anti-Doping Programme;
- (c) an allegation that a player or Related Person has committed a Major Offence under the Code of Conduct;
- (d) any allegation that a Tournament Offence has been committed under the Code of Conduct; and
- (e) any other dispute arising out of or relating in any way to these Regulations that is referred to it by the Board.

The Procedural Rules for both the Internal Adjudication Panel and the Independent Tribunal are available online at [www.itftennis.com](http://www.itftennis.com), or a hard-copy can be requested in writing to the ITF.

### **Sanctions**

Where the ITF Internal Adjudication Panel and/or Independent Tribunal upholds an allegation of breach of these Regulations, it will determine the sanctions for such breach in accordance with the sanctions provisions in its Procedural Rules, unless these Regulations specify other sanctions for such breach, in which case it will apply the specific sanctions.

### **Appeals**

Save where provided otherwise under these Regulations:

- (a) decisions by the Referee and ITF Representative under these Regulations may only be challenged by way of appeal to the ITF Internal Adjudication Panel, to be determined in accordance with its Procedural Rules (save that there shall be no right of appeal against the ITF Internal Adjudication Panel's decision);
- (b) subject to the preceding paragraph (a) above, decisions of the ITF Internal Adjudication Panel under these Regulations may only be challenged by way of appeal to the Independent Tribunal, in accordance with the Independent Tribunal's Procedural Rules (in particular, the section applicable to the Independent Tribunal sitting as an appeal panel);
- (c) decisions of the Independent Tribunal (sitting as a first instance tribunal) may only be challenged by way of appeal to the Court of Arbitration for Sport, as set out in the Independent Tribunal Procedural Rules;

Such appeals may only be brought by one of the following persons:

- (i) the person or entity that is the subject of the decision being appealed; and/or
- (ii) the ITF.

## **9. Final ITF WTMT World Individual Ranking (Singles, Doubles and Mixed Doubles)**

The final rankings, issued at the end of each calendar year shall be compiled on the basis of points earned for success in singles and doubles play in both individual and team events, as well as points earned for success in mixed doubles play in individual events.

## **II. MANAGEMENT**

### **10. Board of Directors**

#### **a) Management**

The WTMT shall be managed by the Board of Directors of the ITF.

## b) Duties

The duties of the Board of Directors shall be:

- i) to approve, adopt and amend the Rules and Regulations and Code of Conduct for the Tour;
- ii) to register in the name of the ITF any trademarks in connection with the Tour and to protect such trademarks;
- iii) to appoint every two (2) years a Masters Committee, which shall consist of a Chair, who shall be a member of the Board of Directors, and further members as deemed necessary.

## 11. Masters Committee

The duties and powers of the ITF Masters Committee shall be:

- (a) to guide the strategy for and monitor the management of the Tour;
- (b) to recommend changes to and to ensure the uniform application of these Rules and Regulations and the Code of Conduct;
- (c) to administer the approved funds of the Tour within the financial framework of the ITF;
- (d) to report to the Board of Directors on all financial matters;
- (e) to submit regular reports to the Board of Directors; and
- (f) to approve events for all ITF WTMT Competitions and to select the dates and venues for each of those events.

## III. RULES OF THE TOUR

### 12. Tournament Application and Approval

For the purposes of these Regulations, **Applicant** means any sanctioning National Association and/or the Tournament Organiser awarded a one (1) year sanction on the ITF WTMT.

Applications for inclusion in the Tour, giving full details of new or existing tournaments, are to be sent to the ITF, or as otherwise directed by the ITF, in accordance to the following:

- a) Completed tournament applications must be submitted to the ITF Masters department in line with the following deadline unless otherwise communicated to National Associations:
  - Grade MT1000 – as soon as possible. Minimum 16 weeks before the tournament start date;
  - Grade MT400 & MT700 – 12 weeks before the tournament start date;
  - Grade MT100 & MT200 – 8 weeks before the tournament start date.

Tournament applications may be rejected if they are submitted after the deadline. The ITF reserves the right to downgrade a tournament application up to the entry deadline based upon a review of travel restrictions and accessibility into the city/nation. This is based on the number of players who can access and play the tournament.

b) Only tournaments sanctioned by the host National Association concerned will be considered for inclusion.

c) All tournaments awarded ITF status will start at Grade MT100 level in their first year on the Tour. In exceptional cases, a tournament may begin at Grade MT200 or Grade MT400 subject to approval of the ITF. When considering whether an exception should be made, the ITF shall have regard to previous experience of the Tournament Organisers and/or Venue in hosting any ITF tournaments or events, and the balance of grades within the nation and region.

d) The ITF reserves the right to refuse approval of or cancel any previously sanctioned Tournament or series of Tournaments for reasons of health, safety, security or any other potential threat to any persons attending the Tournament(s) or to the successful running of the Tournament(s). The ITF bears no liability to any Applicant, Tournament Organiser, Host, National Association, player, Related Person, Covered Person or any other person or entity for any loss incurred as a result of a delayed, rescheduled, postponed or cancelled Tournament. For the avoidance of doubt, neither the ITF or the Applicant shall be liable to any player, Related Person, Tournament Participant or any other persons or entities for any costs that they might have incurred in relation to such delayed, rescheduled, postponed or cancelled Tournaments, including, without limitation, any travel, transport and/or accommodation costs. This decision (to refuse approval of or cancel any Tournament) will be made on behalf of the ITF by the ITF Masters Committee, or by the ITF Executive if the Committee so delegates its decision-making power, and may be appealed by the Applicant only, to the Independent Tribunal.

e) If a tournament is included in the calendar and subsequently withdraws within 15 weeks of the scheduled first day of play, that tournament shall be subject to the Tournament Offences provision as set out in Article VI of the Code of Conduct. These tournaments must still pay the full amount of the sanction fee, as outlined in Section I, Regulation 14 below.

f) Application to host the ITF World Team and Individual Championships:

Any National Association wishing to stage the above Events shall submit its application in writing on the approved form provided by the ITF. Applications to host must be submitted to the ITF Masters department in accordance with correspondence sent to National Associations.

National Associations may submit a joint bid with other National Associations to stage the Competition.

The ITF will only consider bids offering to host both the ITF World Team Championships and the ITF World Individual Championships in the same year, in two consecutive weeks.

### **13. Insurance**

The Applicant is responsible for taking out a suitable insurance policy which is compliant with local laws and regulations and which insures against claims made for damage to property and for death/injury caused to people at the event for which the applicant is legally liable. ITF Ltd and ITF Licensing (UK) Ltd must be named in the policy and on the certificate of insurance, and a copy should be provided to the ITF on request.

The Applicant is encouraged to take out those insurance policies that safeguard against employer's liability, business interruption and personal injury as well as any other appropriate insurance policies recognised under local law. In addition, it is strongly recommended that the Applicant obtain and maintain event cancellation and abandonment insurance which insures against all reasonably known financial risks arising from the rescheduling, cancellation and/or abandonment in whole or in part of a Tournament due to force majeure.

### **14. Sanction Fees**

All tournaments on the ITF WTMT must pay the relevant fee below in order to be included on the Calendar. All fees listed are in US Dollars (USD).

Grade MT1000	\$ <u>1100</u>
Grade MT700	\$ <u>950</u>
Grade MT400	\$ <u>725</u>
Grade MT200	\$ <u>500</u>
Grade MT100	\$ 325*

\*New tournaments at MT100 will pay a discounted sanction fee of \$100 USD in their first year only. The amount of \$325 shall only be charged if a Grade MT100 Tournament has 100 or more players in the Tournament and/or 5+ age and gender events. Existing Tournaments with less than 100 total players and who stage 4 or less age and gender events shall pay a sanction fee of \$50 per age and gender that is held.

Sanction fees for Team events will apply and will be agreed between the ITF and the host nation and/or region in advance of the event.

Approval to sanction a tournament on the ITF WTMT may be subject to conditions imposed by the ITF in its discretion.



## **15. ITF Responsibilities**

The ITF is responsible for the overall administration of the Tour and shall do its utmost to ensure that the calendar is widely publicised.

The ITF shall process results from all the tournaments on the WTMT and shall issue on a weekly basis latest world individual ranking points for singles, doubles and mixed doubles accumulated by players. These shall be published on the WTMT website: [www.itftennis.com/masters](http://www.itftennis.com/masters)

## **16. Tournament Responsibilities**

All tournaments must be played in accordance with these Regulations, the WTMT Code of Conduct, the Constitution of the ITF Limited and the ITF Rules of Tennis. See also Section I, Chapter V, Organisational Requirements.

## **17. Insurance**

Each player is responsible for ensuring that he/she (as well as any accompanying person) is fully and adequately covered by medical and travel insurance for the purposes of attending and participating in ITF WTMT events and ITF World Individual Championships. The ITF Ltd, the host association and the host site cannot accept any liability for any participant or visitor in this respect.

## **18. Tournament Grading**

There are six (6) tournament grades. The entry level tournament grade is MT100, followed by MT200, MT400, MT700, MT1000 and World Championships (WC). Tournaments awarded the MT1000 grade must not overlap event dates with the World Team & Individual Championships for the corresponding age group(s). MT700 grade tournaments must not overlap event dates with MT1000 grade tournaments in the same region, unless approved by the ITF and where in its discretion there is a sufficiently large distance between the two tournament locations.

MT100 and MT200 grade tournaments may only take place in the same nation and same tournament week where, in the ITF's discretion there is a reasonable distance between the two tournament locations, and if approved by the National Association and ITF.

The Masters Committee are responsible for the allocation of grades at all ITF World Tennis Masters Tour.

The ITF department will proactively contact a National Association if an upgrade/downgrade is applicable, in line with the timelines and assessment of the

measures outlined below. Therefore, National Associations are no longer requested to submit special upgrade requests for the consideration of the ITF.

The Tournament Referee report must be completed on time and will be reviewed by the ITF to support the assessment. This Referee report confirms whether the minimum delivery standards were met, and if the tournament over delivered in any area. Both forms must be received within 14 days of completion of tournament for a tournament to be considered for upgrade.

The ITF World Tennis Masters Tour Grading Criteria is available on the ITF website [HERE \(https://www.itftennis.com/en/about-us/organisation/publications-and-resources/tournament-organisers/\)](https://www.itftennis.com/en/about-us/organisation/publications-and-resources/tournament-organisers/)

## **19. Method of Ranking**

To be ranked on the ITF WTMT Individual ranking in singles, doubles and/or mixed doubles a player must have registered for a valid IPIN membership. Players must have paid their entry fee and IPIN fees to receive ranking points from any tournament.

### **Singles**

A player may in a year, but not during the same WTMT tournament play in more than one singles age group and therefore may appear in more than one singles age group ranking.

A player may compete in more than one (1) World Individual Championships singles event throughout the calendar year. Singles ranking points earned will remain in the age group event in which the player competed and will not be awarded in their own age group if they choose to play in a younger age category.

### **Doubles/Mixed Doubles**

A player may in a year, and during the same WTMT tournament play in more than one doubles and/or mixed doubles age group, if permitted by the tournament. Ranking points from the event in which the player reached the furthest round will be awarded to their actual age group and therefore will only appear in one doubles and/or mixed doubles age group ranking.

A player may compete in more than one (1) World Individual Championships doubles event throughout the calendar year. Ranking points from the event in which the player reached the furthest round will be awarded to their actual age group and therefore will only appear in one doubles and/or mixed doubles age group ranking.

To be ranked in singles, doubles and mixed doubles a player must reach a round where points are available (see points table in Section I, Regulation 21 below). The number of

points available will vary dependent upon the grading of the tournament and the round reached.

The official published ITF Masters Tour Rankings in singles, doubles and mixed doubles will be calculated on a 52-week rollover system.

At any given time, only the latest Grade MT1000, ITF World Individual and Team Championships (MT1000, WC & C) will count for ranking purposes. This may lead to the points from a previous year's grade MT1000, WC or C event not being included in a player's ranking for the entire 52 weeks or the points staying in the player's ranking longer than 52 weeks depending on the dates of the respective tournaments in the calendar.

Rankings are published each Monday and will include results from tournaments that have completed up to and including the previous Sunday and used ITF Tournament Planner software. Tournaments that complete on Monday, based on local time zone, shall be processed for Rankings published the following week. National Closed Tournaments that do not use Tournament Planner will be added within 21 days of the tournament end date.

The best four singles results in WTMT Tournaments in Grades MT100, MT200, MT400, MT700, MT1000 and WC, and sanctioned ITF Masters Team Competitions and will be counted for the Singles World Individual Ranking.

The best four doubles results in WTMT Tournaments in Grades MT100, MT200, MT400, MT700, MT1000 and WC, and sanctioned ITF Masters Team Competitions will be counted for the Doubles World Individual Ranking.

The best four mixed doubles results in WTMT Tournaments in Grades MT100, MT200, MT400, MT700, MT1000 and WC, and sanctioned ITF Masters Team Competitions will be counted for the Mixed Doubles World Individual Ranking.

If two or more players receive the same number of points, their ranking will follow the number of points they earned in Grade WC tournaments, if these feature among the players' best four results. If two or more players are still equal, their ranking will follow the number of points they earned in Grade MT1000 tournaments, if these feature among the players' best four results. If two or more players are still equal, their ranking will follow the number of points they earned in Grade MT700 tournaments and so on down to Grade MT100 tournaments, excluding (Team Competitions).

When players qualify for a new age group, they shall carry over all ranking points to the new age group, so that those ranking points are included in their 'Own Age Group' (OAG)

ranking points. These players shall be marked as *bis* on all ranking lists. *Bis* will continue to be displayed until points won in the previous age group no longer count towards the player's ranking.

Ranking points earned by a player in their previous qualified age group at the most recent edition of the World Individual Championships will remain countable until the week after the World Individual Championships of their current age group has taken place. Therefore, a player who has moved up to the 60+ age group in the current year will retain ranking points earned in the 55+ age group from the previous edition of the World Individual Championships, until the 60+ World Individual Championships takes place in the current year.

## **20. Allocation of Points**

World Individual Ranking points for singles, doubles and mixed doubles will be awarded as set out in the points table in Section I, Regulation 21 below. For ranking purposes, the definition of a tournament is determined by the ITF. A tournament can be played across multiple dates and locations with different entry deadlines. This will be indicated in the Masters Calendar and factsheet.

- i) Points shall be awarded for main draw singles, doubles and mixed doubles events and singles bonus events. Only at World Individual Championships (WC), Grade MT1000 and Grade MT700 tournaments, will points be awarded in singles qualifying events.
- ii) A player will earn 1 ranking point if he/she loses their first match in the main draw. A greater value of points will only be awarded to a player who has won at least one round in either the main draw, qualifying or bonus\_draw. A walkover will be counted as a match won. The player receiving the walkover will not receive points for the following round if they withdraw before playing the next match.
- iii) Should a player win ranking points in more than one (1) doubles or mixed doubles events at the same tournament, he/she will receive ranking points for the event in which the player reached the furthest round.
- iv) In knock-out draws, if a tournament is abandoned, players will receive points for the round reached up to that point. In round robin draws, players will receive a percentage (%) of points available depending on the number of matches won, and the ranking points awarded to the winner of the event. E.g., if a player is in a round robin group of 5 players and has played and won 2 out of 4 scheduled matches, she/he will earn 50% of the ranking points that would be awarded to the winner of the event.

- v) Should any age group be amalgamated with a lower age group, and players in the former are obliged to play down, then those players shall be awarded points in their own age group.
- vi) Should a tournament not offer a specific age group and a player of that age group participate in a lower age group, this player shall be awarded points in his/her own age group. In Singles, this does not apply to players who deliberately enter a lower age group in a tournament where their own age group is offered. Any player who leaves a tournament prior to his/her elimination from all entered events or retires from a tournament without a valid medical certificate (from the official Tournament Doctor or Sports Physiotherapist), will forfeit all ranking points won in all events at that tournament. The player shall also be subject to additional penalties under Section III, Code of Conduct.
- vii) Should a player compete in one (1) singles event in a tournament that takes place over multiple dates and locations, ranking points won will be awarded to the age group in which the player participated.
- viii) Should a player compete in two (2) singles events in a tournament that takes place over multiple dates and locations, ranking points won in each event will be awarded in the age group in which the player participated.

## **21. ITF Points Tables for Singles, Doubles, Mixed Doubles Rankings and World Team Championships**

The following points tables apply to all WTMT events from 1 January 2025.

### a) Knock-out Events

<b>Grade</b>	<b>World Championships</b>	<b>Grade MT1000</b>	<b>Grade MT700</b>	<b>Grade MT400</b>	<b>Grade MT200</b>	<b>Grade MT100</b>
Main Draw Winner	1600	1000	700	400	200	100
Main Draw Runner-Up	1100	700	500	280	140	70
Main Draw Semi-finalist	800	500	330	190	90	45
Main Draw Quarter Finalist	550	330	210	120	60	30
Main Draw Loser in R16	375	210	140	80	40	20
Main Draw Loser in R32	220	140	75	40	20	10
Main Draw	130	75	35	0	0	0

Loser in R64						
Bonus Draw Winner*	<u>370</u>	<u>205</u>	<u>135</u>	<u>75</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>20</u>
Bonus Draw Runner Up*	<u>215</u>	<u>135</u>	<u>70</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>15</u>
Bonus Draw Semi Finalist*	<u>125</u>	<u>70</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>15</u>	-
Bonus Draw Quarter Finalist*	<u>70</u>	<u>45</u>	-	-	-	-

\*Players in bonus draw events cannot earn a greater value of ranking points than players winning matches in the main draw. For main draws consisting of 33-64 players, the winner of the Bonus Draw event will receive Bonus Draw Runner-Up ranking points for the grade, with points cascading through the rounds. For main draws consisting of 65 or more players, the winner of the Bonus Draw will receive the Bonus Draw Semi-Final ranking points for the grade, with points cascading downwards.

When applicable, points will be awarded in Qualifying events as follows:

	WC	Grade MT1000	Grade MT700
Qualifier	80	50	30
Loser in final round	50	35	15

Players will earn a minimum of 1 ranking point for competing in any event in any ITF WTMT tournament. However, players that concede a walkover in their first match will not receive any ranking points.

Players who receive a walkover in their first match of an elimination draw will earn 50% of the total points allocation for the round reached. The player will receive 100% of the points allocation for any further round reached if they play and win further matches, including matches won by retirement.

b) Round Robin Events

Final Position	Grades					
	WC	MT1000	MT700	MT400	MT200	MT100
1st	1600	1000	700	400	200	100
2nd	1100	700	500	280	140	70
3 <sup>rd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup>	800	500	330	190	90	45
5 <sup>th</sup> & 6 <sup>th</sup> & 7 <sup>th</sup>	550	330	210	120	60	30

Distribution of Ranking Points will be awarded to a player/team based on their final position in accordance with the Ranking Points table. For the purposes of this rule:

- i. if one (1) round robin group is played, a player's/team's final standing shall be used;
- ii. if two (2) round robin groups are played in the same event and age group, the winner of each group will progress to a winners/runner-up knockout. The remaining players in each group shall be awarded points based on a player's/team's final standing in each round robin; and
- iii. Points will be scaled for MT700 grade and above as follows based on the number of matches won:
  - a. Full points will be awarded to players who participate in a round robin group of 5 players/team. In all other round robins groups, full points will be awarded if the players/team has won a minimum of 3 singles, doubles or mixed doubles matches.
  - b. 75% of points will be awarded if the player/team has won 2 singles, doubles or mixed doubles; and
  - c. 50% of points will be awarded if the player has won 1 singles, doubles or mixed doubles match.

c) Team Championships

ITF Team Championships sanctioned by the ITF Masters Committee may be awarded ITF Ranking Points decided on a case-by-case basis by the ITF Masters Committee.

Decisions of the Committee regarding ITF Ranking Points at ITF Team Championships shall be available at [www.itftennis.com/masters](http://www.itftennis.com/masters)

Singles and doubles ranking points for matches won at ITF Team Championships (which form part of the ITF WTMT) will be published by the ITF and made available to players in advance of each Competition.

Points tables can be seen within the Rankings Information available online at [www.itftennis.com/masters](http://www.itftennis.com/masters)

The following points tables apply to the 2025 ITF Masters World Team Championships:

- Individual players will earn accumulated ranking points for each match (rubber) won.

- The best four (4) results – based on ranking points earned – for each player will be added together to determine the points earned during the World Team Championships.
- Singles and Doubles points will be applied separately as is the case in Individual Tournaments.

### **Round Robin Stage (Days 1-3)**

All match wins at the Round Robin (days 1-3) stage will earn players the same value of ranking points.

<u>Round of Match</u>	<u>#1 Singles and #1 Doubles</u>	<u>#2 Singles</u>
<u>Round Robin Stage (Days 1-3 of Team Event) Includes any Round-Robin draw in second stage of competition (Days 4-6) for 4th position onwards.</u>	<u>125 points per win</u>	<u>100 points per win</u>

### **Second Stage Play-Off Draws (Day 4-6)**

Additional points may be earned from players competing in the remaining days of competition which recognise the increased strength of opponent.

<u>Round of Match</u>	<u>#1 Singles and #1 Doubles</u>	<u>#2 Singles</u>
<u>Non-Main Draw Playoff Matches</u>	<u>125 points per win</u>	<u>100 points per win</u>
<u>Main Draw Quarter Finals and 5th-8th place playoffs</u>	<u>250 points per win</u>	<u>200 points per win</u>
<u>Main Draw Semi Finals and 3rd/4th place playoff and Second Stage Round-Robin groups for 1st -3rd place</u>	<u>350 points per win</u>	<u>300 points per win</u>
<u>Main Draw Final (1st/2nd elimination match only)</u>	<u>500 points per win</u>	<u>450 points per win</u>

The maximum ranking points that can be earned by a player in the ITF Masters World Team Championships is 1,225 points for the event. Please refer to the following document for further information including examples  
<https://www.itftennis.com/media/11382/itf-masters-wc-individual-ranking-points-for-team-event.pdf>

### **Regional Team Championships**

Unless approved otherwise by the ITF, the following points tables apply to 2025 WTMT

#### **Regional Team events**

- Players must compete in no more than 7 singles and/or 7 doubles matches during the overall event.



- Only the best four (4) results of an individual player during the event – based on ranking points earned - will be included in the final count (Max 360)
- Singles and Doubles points will be applied separately, as is the case in ITF Masters Tour events.

<u>Round Robin Stage &amp; Any Additional Team Matches for 5<sup>th</sup> position onwards</u>
<u>60 points per player for a win in singles and doubles</u>
<u>Main Draw Quarter Finals, Semi-Finals, 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> Playoff and Main Draw Final only</u>
<u>100 points per player for a win</u>

#### **IV. TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS**

##### **22. Variations to Regulations**

If a tournament wishes to vary any of the Regulations in Sections I and II, written application shall be made to the ITF, giving full reasons for the request. The application must be received prior to the approval of the fact sheet. The application shall be considered by the ITF Masters Committee.

##### **23. One tournament**

Once a player is committed to an WTMT tournament, he/she may not enter or compete in any other tournament for which the tournament event dates overlap. It is the player's responsibility to manage his/her entries.

Violation of this section shall subject the player to penalties under Section III, Article II, A.(3) in the Code of Conduct.

##### **24. Number of events per week**

At all WTMT tournament and World Individual Championships, a player may enter a maximum of three (3) events.

A player may compete in one (1) Singles event only either in his /her own age group or in a younger age group.

Tournament Organisers may further limit the number and type of events that a player can enter at their tournament and publish this on the official WTMT Fact Sheet.

## 25. Tournament Types

There are three (3) tournament types:

1. Singles entries close at the Entry Deadline. Doubles entries are possible online and on-site. Doubles on-site entries close at a 12:00hrs (noon) local time the day before the event start date.
2. Singles and Doubles entries close at the Entry Deadline. There is no doubles entry possible on-site.
3. Singles entries close at the Entry Deadline. There is a Singles (reconfirmation) sign-in on site for all entered players. Doubles entries are possible online and on-site. Doubles on-site entries close at a 12:00hrs (noon) local time the day before the event start date.

## 26. Entry and Withdrawal Procedures

ITF (WTMT) tournaments (Grade MT100, MT200, MT400, MT700, MT1000 and WC) and the ITF World Team Championships events are open for players from all countries affiliated to ITF, provided they fulfil the IPIN and Age Eligibility rules as set out in the regulations. National Closed Championships may apply their own criteria for acceptances, as per Appendix I.

To be eligible to participate in any age group, a player shall have reached the minimum age limit by 31<sup>st</sup> December of the year in which the competition is held.

All Singles entries and withdrawals are made online at [www.itftennis.com/ipin](http://www.itftennis.com/ipin) or in exceptional circumstances, to ITF Masters Department using the official Entry Form or Withdrawal Form available on the following links:

- Entry Form: [https://itf.formstack.com/forms/wtmt\\_entry\\_form](https://itf.formstack.com/forms/wtmt_entry_form)
- Withdrawal Form: [https://itf.formstack.com/forms/wtmt\\_withdrawal\\_form](https://itf.formstack.com/forms/wtmt_withdrawal_form)

At the entry deadline a player's entry is confirmed and he/she may not compete in any other age group event unless age groups are amalgamated by the organisers in accordance with Section I, Regulation 42.

A player applying for entry shall be deemed to apply for entry into Main Draw or Qualifying of the tournament.

ii) A player may enter a maximum of three (3) Doubles and/or Mixed Doubles events. However, if a player chooses to enter one (1) Singles event, he/she may compete in a maximum of two (2) Doubles and/or Mixed Doubles events. A player may enter without

a partner, but this entry will be deemed incomplete until a partnership is confirmed. A player may enter in a Doubles event of a lower age group. Doubles teams may consist of players from different nations. For the World Championships, please refer to the official Fact Sheet for confirmation of number of Doubles/Mixed Doubles events permitted.

iii) The Entry Deadline is at 10.00 GMT on the Tuesday six (6) days prior to the Monday of the Tournament week. The withdrawal deadline for the World Individual Championships shall be 10.00 GMT on the Monday seven (7) days prior to the Monday of the Tournament week. If approved by the ITF at application stage, an alternative option of thirteen (13) days prior to the Monday of the Tournament week will be considered for MT700 grade and above.

A Tournament Organiser may choose to extend the Doubles/ Mixed Doubles Entry Deadline by holding a sign-in on-site, details of which shall be published in the official Fact Sheet. Doubles teams that fully completed their entry online, are not required to reconfirm by signing in. If there are changes to an entered doubles team, the players must inform the Referee before the sign-in deadline of such change.

It is the player's responsibility to check the correct Entry Deadline on the official tournament Fact Sheet published within the IPIN online service. Please refer to Appendix 1 for information regarding National Closed Championships. It is also a player's responsibility to check that any online entry made has gone through, that payment of the Tournament IPIN Fee has been received by the ITF, and that they have received a confirmation email.

iv) The Withdrawal Deadline for all tournament grades (MT100, MT200, MT400, MT700 and MT1000) is at 10.00 GMT on the Tuesday six (6) days prior to the Monday of the Tournament week – the same as the entry deadline. The withdrawal deadline for the World Individual Championships shall be 10.00 GMT on the Monday seven (7) days prior to the Monday of the Tournament week. Please refer to Appendix 1 for information regarding National Closed Championships.

Players accepted into a Main Draw or Qualifying Acceptance list at the Withdrawal Deadline are deemed to be committed to play the event and subject to the entry offences and accompanying penalties set out in the Code of Conduct.

Any withdrawal made after the Withdrawal Deadline will be considered a Late Withdrawal. A player's first Late Withdrawal offence within a calendar year will be excused and the player will not be penalised, providing the withdrawal is made using the player's IPIN online account prior to the draw being published.

An excused withdrawal is valid for two consecutive tournament weeks provided the player withdraws, as above, and notifies the ITF about the second week's late withdrawal by the last day of the first tournament withdrawn from

All Withdrawals after the draw has been made will be subject to penalties set out in the Code of Conduct.

It is not necessary to provide a medical certificate in case of a Late Withdrawal.

A player who wishes to withdraw after the Withdrawal Deadline must withdraw online using the player's IPIN online service. Failure to withdraw will be subject to the penalties provided for a No-Show entry offence in the Code of Conduct at Section III. Only in exceptional circumstances may the Official Withdrawal Form be sent by email to the Referee by the applicable deadline. Entry and withdrawal forms submitted by email must be signed by the player and be fully completed.

## **27. Criteria for Acceptance**

### **i. Singles**

Following the Entry Deadline, singles acceptances shall be determined according to following order:

a) All entered players shall be listed in World Ranking order according to the ITF WTMT Individual Singles Ranking using the latest rankings at the time of Entry Deadline – provided the player has earned a minimum of 75 ITF ranking points

b) Players who have not earned 75 ranking points will be positioned based on their ITF World Tennis Number\* as of the Monday immediately prior to the entry deadline. Tied players with the same ITF World Tennis Number\* will be randomised by the entry system.

c) Players who have between 1-74 ITF ranking points, and without an ITF World Tennis Number\*, will next be ordered based on their ITF ranking.

d) Players without an WTMT Individual Singles Ranking or an ITF World Tennis Number\* will be positioned next according to the following criteria:

- Firstly, unranked players from outside the tournament zone will be drawn at random into positions.
- Secondly, unranked players from outside the tournament region will be drawn at random into positions.

- Thirdly, unranked players from the tournament region including the unranked players from the host country will be drawn at random into positions.

Zones and Regions are defined as follows:

**Regions:** (Asia) (Oceania) (Europe) (Africa) (South America) (Central America) (North America)

**Zones:** (Asia/Oceania) (Euro/Africa) (The Americas)

\*Players must achieve a rating confidence level of 50 or better at the time of entry deadline for the ITF World Tennis Number to be applied as part of the singles acceptance process. Players can view their rating confidence level at [ipin.itftennis.com](http://ipin.itftennis.com)

## ii. Recalculated Own Age Group (OAG) points

For acceptance purposes, a player that enters a Singles event in a lower age group in which he/she has no ranking, for the purpose of acceptance, his/her WTMT Individual ranking points will be recalculated as follows:

A player playing down 1 age group: 30% deduction from their OAG ranking points

A player playing down 2 age groups: 60% deduction from their OAG ranking points

A player playing down 3 age groups: 90% deduction from their OAG ranking points

A player playing down 4 age groups or more: 100 % deduction from their OAG group ranking points

This total shall be known as recalculated OAG points.

When a player is ranked in more than one age group, for the purpose of acceptance, the better of the recalculated OAG points or the ranking points of the age group in which he/she is entered shall be used.

## iii. Draw Size and Acceptance

Proposed draw sizes must be submitted to the ITF through the Tournament Fact Sheet process and be made available to players prior to the Entry Deadline. Immediately following the Entry Deadline, the Tournament Organiser must decide the following for each event:

- Whether all entered players can be accepted as Direct Acceptances (DA) into the Main Draw;
  - o In the event that not all entered players can be accepted as Direct Acceptances, the Tournament Organiser must inform the ITF office of the number of players that will be accepted into the Main Draw of each event.

- Players not accepted as Direct Acceptances into the Main Draw will be given Qualifying Acceptance (QA) status. If no Qualifying event is to be played, then those players are to be given Alternate (ALT) status.
- Whether any age group events are to be amalgamated and so inform the ITF office. See Section I, Regulation 42 for the ITF recommendations for amalgamation of draws.

Should the Tournament Organiser fail to contact the ITF before, or immediately after the Entry Deadline, the decisions above will be taken by the ITF.

#### **iv. Doubles**

Teams are selected according to the following method:

- Teams composed of two ranked players in either the WTMT Individual Singles Ranking or the WTMT Individual Doubles/Mixed Doubles Ranking (depending on event as applicable). The combined ranking points of the two players (using best of singles or doubles ranking) shall be added together and the total used to determine the direct acceptances.
- Teams composed of one player in either the WTMT Individual Singles Ranking or the WTMT Individual Doubles/Mixed Doubles Ranking (depending on event as applicable) and one unranked player. The ranking points of the ranked player (using best singles or doubles ranking) shall be used to determine the direct acceptances.
- Teams composed of players, neither of them have a WTMT Individual Singles Ranking or ITF WTMT Individual Doubles/Mixed Doubles Ranking (depending on event as applicable) - Such teams will be drawn by lot.

If two or more teams are tied within any of these combinations, the order shall be drawn by lot.

For the purpose of the above selection method, the WTMT Individual Singles ranking points of the player's OAG shall be used.

A team of two ranked players will always be accepted ahead of a team where only one player is ranked, even if the latter have higher ranking points.

For the avoidance of doubt, the World Tennis Number will not be used for Doubles acceptance.

For Doubles Draws with additional on-site doubles entries (Tournament Types 1 & 3), acceptance rankings are based on the latest available WTMT Individual Singles and Doubles/Mixed Doubles Rankings at the Entry/Withdrawal Deadline.

When a doubles team enters a lower age group event, or when one of the partners in a doubles team is from a higher age group, for acceptance purposes the following percentage is deducted from their ranking points:

- Players playing down 1 age group: 30 % deduction from their own age group ranking points
- Players playing down 2 age groups: 60 % deduction from their own age group ranking points
- Players playing down 3 age groups: 90 % deduction from their own age group ranking points
- Players playing down 4 age groups and more: 100 % deduction from their own age group ranking points

For acceptance purposes, a player that holds a Singles ranking in more than one age group will always be listed in the tournament with Singles ranking of his/her OAG.

#### **v. Draw Size and Acceptance**

Immediately following the Entry Deadline, the Tournament Organiser must decide the following for each event:

For Tournaments where Singles and Doubles close at the Entry Deadline:

- Whether all entered doubles and mixed Doubles teams can be accepted as Direct Acceptances (DA) into the doubles and mixed doubles draws of the respective age categories.
- Decide if any age group doubles event is to be amalgamated and what age group range the amalgamated categories will include.

For Tournaments where Singles entries close at the Entry Deadline or there is a Singles (reconfirmation) sign-in on site for all entered players and Doubles entries are possible online and on-site:

- The Tournament Organiser shall decide if any age group doubles event is to be amalgamated and what age group range the amalgamated categories will include at the doubles sign-in deadline.

## 28. Composition of draws

Depending on the draw size, events are composed as follows:

### Singles Main Draw

Position	8 draw	16 draw	24 draw	32 draw	48 draw	64 draw	96 draw	128 draw
DA	6	14	14 (22)	20 (28)	36 (44)	52 (60)	84 (92)	116 (124)
Q	N/A	N/A	8	8	8	8	8	8
WC	2	2	2	2	4	4	4	4

The DA number in brackets applies to events where Q positions are not used because no Qualifying event is played.

At the discretion of the tournament director and/or Referee and prior to the draw being made, all tournaments may accept an unlimited number of non-seeded players (in accordance with their ranking as at the tournament entry deadline) as late entries to fill empty spaces within a draw (draw size as published on the tournament fact sheet on the ITF website).

A Singles Qualifying Draw may never be larger than the Main Draw. For Singles Main Draws of 16 players or less, no Qualifying Draw may be held.

### Doubles

Doubles draws are composed as follows:

Draw size	8 teams	12 teams	16 teams	24 teams	32 teams	48 teams	64 teams
DA	6	10	14	22	28	44	60
WC	2	2	2	2	4	4	4

There shall be no Doubles Qualifying draws.

## 29. Publication of Acceptance lists

The Singles Acceptance Lists shall be published to [www.itftennis.com/masters](http://www.itftennis.com/masters) two hours after the entry deadline.

For '1B' tournament Doubles events, an Alphabetical Entry List, including incomplete doubles entries, will be published one hour after the Entry Deadline.

## 30. Administrative error on an Acceptance list

If an administrative error is made on a tournament Acceptance list and a player is not included or too many players are accepted into the tournament, the Acceptance list will be corrected at the earliest opportunity, up until the point that the draw is published in accordance with the criteria for acceptances.



### **31. Entry Definitions**

A player's status in a tournament shall not be official until the Entry Deadline and publication of the tournament Acceptance List on the ITF website. Any arrangement, including travel, flights and accommodation made by a player (for themselves and/or their support personnel) to participate in a tournament prior thereto is made at his/her own risk.

Players who don't fulfil the entry fee payment obligation to the tournament they entered as specified on the official Fact Sheet on the ITF Masters website at [www.itftennis.com/masters](http://www.itftennis.com/masters) may be denied participation by the Tournament Organiser.

#### **Direct Acceptances (DA)**

Entered players accepted directly into the Singles Main Draw by virtue of their WTMT Individual Singles Ranking or the acceptance method described below for the applicable Age Group.

#### **Qualifying Acceptances (QA)**

Entered players accepted directly into the Singles Qualifying event by virtue of their WTMT Individual Singles Ranking or the acceptance method described below for the applicable Age Group.

#### **Alternates (Alt)**

Entered players not accepted into the Singles Main Draw or Qualifying event by virtue of their WTMT Singles Ranking, ITF World Tennis Number or the acceptance method described below for the applicable Age Group any time after the Entry Deadline. If there is no Qualifying event, Alternates shall fill any vacant places in the Singles Main Draw, in accordance with their position on the Acceptance List. For vacancies that occur after the Order of Play has been released for the first day of play, the selection shall be made from the players who have signed-in for each day as applicable.

#### **Wild Cards (WC)**

Provided the player/pair has entered by the entry deadline, the tournament committee may consider allowing the following wild cards to be directly included in the qualifying and/or main draw for all tournament grades:

- up to two (2) wild cards for events with 32 players/pairs or less –.
- Up to four (4) wild cards for events with 33 players/pairs or more.

#### **MT700, MT1000 and WC grade tournaments**

Where entries exceed the maximum draw size and provided the player/pair has entered by the entry deadline, wild cards may be seeded players at MT700, MT1000 or WC grade tournaments (in accordance with their ranking as at the tournament entry deadline and acceptance into the tournament).

Main draw wild card requests, including tournaments with on-site doubles sign-in, must be submitted to the Tournament Director and Referee by the entry deadline. Wild cards who withdraw cannot be replaced with new wild cards before the draw is made. Players and tournaments shall retain written confirmation of the offer and acceptance of a wild card. Players and tournaments may not offer and/or receive any compensation for receiving or awarding a wild card, pursuant to Section III, Code of Conduct. Acceptance of the offer of a wild card constitutes a player's commitment to the tournament.

No player who has been accepted into the Qualifying of the tournament may be named as a wild card after the Qualifying Competition has commenced.

### **Late Entries**

Late entries from player/pairs who would warrant a seed position at the Entry Deadline cannot be accepted for MT700 or higher-level tournaments.

At the discretion of the organising committee:

- MT400 grade tournaments consisting of 15 players/pairs or less may accept late entries from players/pairs who would warrant a seed position at the entry deadline.
- MT100 and MT200 grade tournaments of any draw size may accept late entries from players/pairs who would warrant a seed position at the entry deadline.

Any late entry requests may be declined by the Referee if received less than 24 hours before the draw is made.

### **Qualifiers (Q)**

Players who are included in the Main Draw by virtue of their success in the Qualifying Draw.

### **Lucky Losers (LL)**

Players who have lost in the final round of the Qualifying Draw or, if more Lucky Losers are required for substitutions, those players that have lost in the previous rounds of the Qualifying Draw.

## **32. Vacancies and Substitutions**

### **Singles**

#### **From the Withdrawal Deadline until the draw is made:**

Vacancies in the Main Draw (and Qualifying if applicable) shall be filled by entered players selected in accordance with their position on the Acceptance List.

**For tournaments whose Singles entries close at the Entry Deadline and Doubles entries are possible online and on-site and tournaments whose Singles and Doubles entries close at the Entry Deadline:**

**From the Withdrawal Deadline until the draw is made:**

Vacancies created between the Withdrawal Deadline and when the draw is made shall be filled by entered players selected in accordance with their position on the Acceptance List.

When a Qualifying Draw is held:

- 1) If player withdraws from the Qualifying Draw prior to the first ball being struck, vacancies shall be filled by entered players selected in accordance with their position on the Acceptance List.
- 2) If a player withdraws from the Qualifying Draw after the commencement of play, vacancies shall be filled by entered players selected in accordance with their position on the Acceptance List. Such a player must be ready to play within fifteen (15) minutes of being called. If such player is replacing a previously seeded player in the Qualifying draw, the other seed positions remain unaffected.
- 3) If a player withdraws from Main Draw prior to the first ball being struck in the Qualifying Draw, vacancies shall be filled by entered players selected in accordance with their position on the Acceptance List. Such players are then removed from the Qualifying Draw.
- 4) If a player withdraws from Main Draw after the commencement of play in the Qualifying Draw, vacancies shall be filled by players who have played and lost in the Qualifying Draw (Lucky Losers). The order of Lucky Losers is established as described below.

**For tournaments whose Singles entries close at the Entry Deadline with is a Singles (reconfirmation) sign-in on site for all entered players and Doubles entries are possible online and on-site:**

Vacancies created between the Withdrawal Deadline and the Sign-in Deadline shall be filled by entered players selected in accordance with their position on the Acceptance List.

Following the Sign-in Deadline, vacancies shall be filled by signed in players, in accordance with their position on the Acceptance List.

When a Qualifying Draw is held:

- 1) If player withdraws from the Qualifying Draw prior to the first ball being struck, vacancies shall be filled by entered players selected in accordance with their position on the Acceptance List.

- 2) If a player withdraws from the Qualifying Draw after the commencement of play, vacancies shall be filled by entered players selected in accordance with their position on the Acceptance List. Such a player must be ready to play within fifteen (15) minutes of being called. If such player is replacing a previously seeded player in the Qualifying draw, the other seed positions remain unaffected.
- 3) If a player withdraws from Main Draw prior to the first ball being struck in the Qualifying Draw, vacancies shall be filled by entered players selected in accordance with their position on the Acceptance List. Such players are then removed from the Qualifying Draw.
- 4) If a player withdraws from Main Draw after the commencement of play in the Qualifying Draw, vacancies shall be filled by players who have played and lost in the Qualifying Draw (Lucky Losers). The order of Lucky Losers is established as described below.

### **Lucky Losers**

Lucky Losers shall be selected as follows: The order of players with an WTMT ranking shall be randomly drawn, thereafter the order of the unranked players shall be randomly drawn.

The order so established is also used for the Lucky Loser Sign-in lists used on each day of the Main Draw if there are still players to play their first match, whether this is in the first round or subsequent rounds. For such days, the Lucky Loser Sign-in closes 30 minutes before the scheduled start of play of the event and shall open at least 30 minutes before and must be signed in person each day, however a player does not lose their position on this list if they elect not to sign in on a particular day

Once called, a Lucky Loser must be ready to play within fifteen (15) minutes. If a Lucky Loser is called to play but is not ready within fifteen (15) minutes, the player will be moved to the bottom of the Lucky Loser list for that day but will keep his/her original position on the list for subsequent days.

### **Doubles**

All references in this section to Doubles will also be valid for Mixed doubles unless otherwise stated.

### **From the Entry/Withdrawal Deadline until the Sign-in (if applicable) or until the draw is made:**

If a player in a doubles team is forced to withdraw due to injury or exceptional circumstance, he/she can be replaced by another player up to but not later than the time the draw is made. If a replacement partner is not nominated the team shall be withdrawn and the open position shall be filled by the next eligible team, if applicable.

**Substitutes after the draw is made and up to completion of all first matches:**

If a player in a doubles team is forced to withdraw due to injury or other exceptional circumstance, he/she can be replaced by another player up to but not later than the completion of the first match of all pairs in the doubles event. In the case of an unseeded team, any replacement partner must, in the judgement of the seeding committee, be of a similar or lower standard. In the case of a seeded team, any replacement partner must, in the judgement of the seeding committee, be of a similar standard, otherwise the entire team shall be withdrawn and the open position shall be filled by the next eligible team to be seeded or as per Regulation 39 (Withdrawal of Seeds).

A replacement partner may or may not already be entered in the tournament.

**Withdrawal of entire doubles team after draw is made**

If a doubles team is forced to withdraw, or does not show for a match, the open position will be filled by the next eligible team in accordance with their position on the Acceptance List. The Alternates sign-in list will be available daily until 30 minutes before start of play in doubles until all teams have started their doubles match. The other player of the withdrawing team may not team up with another player.

**33. Sign-in/Registration**

Should a tournament choose to hold a sign-in, players must sign-in as follows:

**a) Qualifying**

Players who appear on the Singles Qualifying Acceptance list at the time of the Withdrawal Deadline are committed to play in the Qualifying event.

Entered players on the Alternate list must report to the referee 30 minutes before the first match starts and be ready to play immediately if a vacancy occurs.

**Exceptions for signing-in on-site in person**

Entered players who appear on the Singles Qualifying Acceptance list and have lost in the previous week's tournament on the ITF World Tennis Tour or ITF WTMT on the day of the Singles Qualifying Sign-on or one day earlier may be signed-in by the Qualifying Sign-in Deadline through the Referee of the previous week's tournament, who must verify the schedule of the player. The player must be able to be on-site and play his/her first-round match by the end of the first round of Qualifying of that event.

Players who appear on the Singles Qualifying Acceptance list may telephone the Referee to preserve eligibility for known vacant positions in the Singles Main Draw (e.g. following confirmed withdrawals after the Withdrawal Deadline). Such players will be moved into the Main Draw list following their sequence on the Qualifying Acceptance list. NB.

Should such position not become available the player may not play in the Qualifying event and is subject to No-show suspension points.

#### **b) Main Draw**

Entered players who appear on the Singles Main Draw Acceptance list at the time of the Withdrawal Deadline are committed to play in the Singles Main Draw event and must sign-in with the Referee before 18.00 hours local time on the day before start of the Singles Main Draw event (or the Singles Draw, as applicable) (Main Draw Sign-in Deadline). The Main Draw Sign-in Deadline shall open at least two (2) hours earlier.

Entered players who were signed-in to preserve eligibility for the Main Draw during the Qualifying sign-in and who were moved to the Singles Main Draw must also sign-in at this time.

Players shall, if required, present his/her Passport or National ID to the Referee to verify their Date of Birth and Nationality prior to the start of the competition.

#### **Exceptions for signing-in on-site in person**

Entered players who appear on the Singles Main Draw Acceptance list and have lost in the previous week's tournament on the ITF World Tennis Tour or ITF WTMT on the day of the Singles Main Draw Sign-on or one day earlier may be signed-in by the Main Draw Sign-in Deadline through the Referee of the previous week's tournament, who must verify the schedule of the player. The player must be able to be on-site and play his/her first-round match by the end of the first round of Main Draw in that event.

Players who signed-in onsite for the Qualifying event and were subsequently moved to the Main Draw are considered signed in and are not required to sign-in again.

#### **c) Doubles Sign-In**

All references in this section to Doubles will also be valid for Mixed doubles unless explicitly mentioned otherwise.

The Doubles sign-in for Additional On-Site Doubles Entries is conducted by the Referee and closes at a time announced at the tournament venue or confirmed on the official factsheet. Only incomplete doubles entries, changed doubles teams and new doubles team entries must sign-in. Doubles on-site entries close at a 12:00hrs (local time) the day before the event start date.

#### **After the Doubles Sign-in Deadline:**

Following the Doubles Sign-in Deadline the Referee and the Tournament Director must establish if any Doubles or Mixed Doubles draws must be amalgamated and if all entered doubles teams can be accepted. If a player enters two (2) Doubles or two (2) Mixed Doubles events which are subsequently amalgamated, and the Referee has no

possibility of making contact, the player in both events will remain in the Acceptance List for their own age group.

Teams not selected as Direct Acceptances for the Doubles Draw are moved to an Alternates List, with the option to sign-in daily to replace any further vacancies in the draw.

The Doubles Draw shall be conducted immediately thereafter. For seeding and draw procedures, see below.

#### **d) Wild Cards**

Wild Cards are not required to sign-in but must reconfirm their participation by contacting the Referee before their respective event's Sign-in Deadline.

### **34. Draws**

#### **Public Draws**

All draws shall be conducted by the Referee using Tournament Planner Software (Masters TP). If possible, two player representatives shall be present to witness the process, one of which shall be of a different nationality to that of the host nation.

Once a draw has been made there shall be no change unless a seeded player withdraws as described below. Depending on the Entry Deadline and the doubles procedures chosen by the Tournament Organiser the following deadlines apply until when draws must have been made and the Order of Play published:

#### **- Normal Entry Deadline with Additional Entry on Site for Doubles:**

The Referee may conduct the Singles Draw immediately after having received the tournament data from the ITF office after the Withdrawal Deadline, on the Tuesday six (6) days prior to the Monday of the tournament week.

The Order of Play must be published on the ITF website at least 48 hours before the start of the tournament. Referees at all grades are required to email players their match time for the next day using the Tournament Planner email function. The Singles draw must be published at least one hour before the start of the first scheduled match. The Doubles Draw must be made immediately after the Doubles Sign-in Deadline, or at another time to be announced on the official ITF Fact Sheet.

#### **- Entry Deadline without Additional Entry on Site for Doubles:**

The Referee may conduct the Singles Draw and publish the Order of Play immediately after having received the tournament data from the ITF office after the Withdrawal Deadline, on Tuesday six (6) days prior to the Monday of the tournament week.

The Order of Play must be published on the ITF website at least 48 hours before the start of the tournament. The Singles and Doubles draw must be published at least one hour before the start of the first scheduled match.

**- Normal Entry Deadline with Additional Entry on Site for Doubles and Reconfirmation Sign-In for Singles:**

The Singles Qualifying Draw must be made immediately after closure of the Singles Qualifying Draw sign-in. The Singles Main Draw must be made immediately after the Singles Main Draw Sign-in Deadline.

The Doubles Draw must be made immediately after the Doubles Sign-in Deadline, or at another time to be announced on the official ITF Fact Sheet.

**35. Singles Seeding Criteria**

**(a) Singles Seeding Process**

Singles seeding shall be based on the ITF WTMT Individual Singles Ranking points as of seven (7) days before the Monday of the Tournament Week, and strictly in world ranking order.

The number of seeds in Knock-out draws shall be as follows:

Up to 10 Players:	2 seeds
11-20 Players:	4 seeds
21-40 Players:	8 seeds
41-80 Players:	16 seeds
81-128 Players:	32 seeds

The number of seeds in Round Robin draws shall be as follows:

3-5 players:	0 seeds
6-7 players:	2 seeds

Where practically possible the order of play for a round robin of 5 players should schedule the 2 best ranked players on the final day of the event.

Except for Seed Exempt positions as specified in Regulation 37, players without an WTMT Individual Singles Ranking shall not be seeded.

**(b) Seeding in Amalgamated Draws**

For amalgamated draws the better of the recalculated WTMT Individual Singles Ranking points of the player's own age group (recalculated OAG points) and the WTMT Individual Singles Ranking points of the age group he/she is competing in shall be used.



**(c) Players playing in lower age groups**

When a player is ranked in more than one age group, for the purpose of seeding, the better of the recalculated OAG points or the ranking points of the age group in which he/she is entered shall be used.

When a ranked player is entered in a lower age group in which he/she has no ranking, for the purpose of seeding, recalculated OAG points will be applied.

**(d) National Closed Championships**

National Closed Championships may choose to implement their own criteria for seeding, in accordance with the regulations of the National Association in whose jurisdiction the tournament is held (see Appendix I).

**36. Doubles and Mixed Doubles Seeding criteria**

**(a) Doubles seeding process**

Doubles and Mixed Doubles Seeding at WTMT World Individual Championships (WC), Grade MT1000 and Grade MT700 shall be based on the latest available WTMT Individual Doubles/Mixed Doubles Ranking (depending on event as applicable) as of seven (7) days before the Monday of the Tournament Week, and strictly in world ranking order.

Grade MT100, MT200 and MT400 Doubles and Mixed Doubles events shall be based on the latest available WTMT Individual Singles Ranking as well as the WTMT World Individual Doubles/Mixed Doubles Ranking (depending on event as applicable) on the Monday of the week of the Withdrawal Deadline.

Teams are seeded according to the following seed order:

- 1) WTMT Individual Championships, MT700 and MT1000 Tournaments only:  
**Doubles:** The combined WTMT Individual Doubles ranking points of the two players shall be added together and the total used to determine the seed order.  
**Mixed Doubles:** The combined WTMT Individual Mixed Doubles ranking points of the two players shall be added together and the total used to determine the seed order.
- 2) If one player of a team is unranked, that team shall be seeded below any other teams which have the same number of ranking points.

If two or more teams are tied otherwise, the order shall be drawn by lot.

Grade MT100, MT200 & MT400 Tournaments Only:

- 3) **Doubles:** The combined ranking points of the two players, using each players' best WTMT Singles or World Individual Doubles ranking shall be added together and the total used to determine the seed order.  
**Mixed Doubles:** The combined ranking points of the two players, using each players' best WTMT Individual Singles or World Individual Mixed Doubles ranking shall be added together and the total used to determine the seed order.
- 4) If one player of a team is unranked, that team shall be seeded below any other teams which have the same number of ranking points.

If two or more teams are tied otherwise, the order shall be drawn by lot.

The number of seeds in knock-out draws shall be as follows:

Up to 10 teams: 2 seeds

11-20 teams: 4 seeds

21-40 teams: 8 seeds

41-64 teams: 16 seeds

The number of seeds in Round Robin draws shall be as follows:

5 teams: 0 seeds

6-7 teams: 2 seeds

For Doubles seeding, other than for a limited number of exempt seeds as described below, Doubles teams must not be seeded unless one of the players has got an WTMT Individual Singles Ranking or an WTMT Individual Doubles/Mixed Doubles Ranking (depending on event as applicable).

**(b) Seeding in amalgamated draws**

For amalgamated draws the recalculated WTMT World Individual Ranking points of the players' own age group (recalculated OAG points) shall be used in accordance with Regulation 37(a).

**(c) Players playing in lower age groups**

When a ranked player is entered in a lower age group in which he/she has no ranking, for the purpose of seeding, recalculated OAG points will be applied.

**(d) National Closed Championships**

National Closed Championships may choose to implement their own criteria for seeding, in accordance with the regulations of the National Association in whose jurisdiction the tournament is held (see Appendix I).

### 37. Seed Exempts – Singles and Doubles

Unless approved otherwise by the ITF, the following number of seed exempts can be nominated at all Tour tournaments, except for the World Individual Championships where the number of seed exempts is a matter for the discretion of the seeding committee:

For a draw-size of 64 - 128 - up to 4  
 For a draw-size of 48 - up to 3  
 For a draw-size of 8 - 32 - up to 2

Seed exempts can be ranked or unranked players / teams.

If requested, the tournament committee must provide an explanation for the nomination of seed exempt(s) and their order within the seeding list.

### 38. Placing the Seeds/Method of Draw

#### (a) Procedure for placing seeds for main and bonus draws

##### Seed positions

Draw size	8 draw	16 draw	24 draw 32 draw	48 draw 64 draw	96 draw 128 draw
Seed 1	Line 1	Line 1	Line 1	Line 1	Line 1
Seed 2	Line 8	Line 16	Line 32	Line 64	Line 128
Seed 3-4		Draw to lines 5, 12	Draw to lines 9, 24	Draw to lines 17, 48	Draw to lines 33, 96
Seed 5-8			Draw to lines 8, 16, 17, 25	Draw to lines 16, 32, 33, 49	Draw to lines 32, 64, 65, 97
Seed 9-16				Draw to lines 8, 9, 24, 25, 40, 41, 56, 57	Draw to lines 16, 17, 48, 49, 80, 81, 112, 113
Seed 17-32					Draw to lines 8, 9, 24, 25, 40, 41, 56, 57 72, 73, 88, 89 104, 105, 120, 121

##### Distribution of players from the same nation

Seeded players from the same nation shall be distributed throughout the draw based on the seeding order of merit.

For doubles, only teams where both players are from the same nation are considered for such distribution.

Seeded players from the same country shall be distributed as follows:

- No. 1-2 seeds shall be drawn to different halves of the draw.
- No. 3-4 seeds shall be drawn to different quarters of the draw, not previously occupied by another player/team from that nation.

- No. 5-8 seeds shall be drawn to different eights (1/8th) of the draw, not previously occupied by another player/team from that nation.
- No. 9-16 seeds shall be drawn to different sixteenths (1/16th) of the draw, not previously occupied by another player/team from that nation.
- No. 17-32 seeds shall be drawn to different thirty-seconds (1/32nd) of the draw, not previously occupied by another player/team from that nation.

The remaining players from a nation shall be distributed as much as technically possible across the draw without regard to ranking.

If there is an insufficient number of players to fill all the positions in the draw, byes shall be awarded to seeded players in descending order. Any further byes shall then be drawn by lot.

**(b) Procedure for placing seeds for Qualifying Draw**

The Qualifying draw shall be made in sections, and the winner of each section shall be given a place in the main draw.

If four (4) qualifiers are required, there shall be four (4) sections; if eight (8) qualifiers are required, there shall be eight (8) sections; and this principle followed for greater number of qualifying positions in the main draw. Each section shall have two seeded players.

- For a draw with 8 sections: 16 seeds

The first seed shall be placed at the top of the first section, the second seed shall be placed at the top of the second section and so on until all sections have one (1) seed on the top line of each section. The remaining seeds shall be drawn as one group. The first drawn shall be placed on the bottom line of the first section, the second drawn shall be placed on the bottom line of the second section and so on until all sections have one (1) seed on the bottom line of each section.

If there is an insufficient number of ranked players to fill all the positions for seeds in the draw, the section(s) with the highest seeds shall not have a second seeded player. There are no exempt seeds in qualifying.

If there is an insufficient number of players to fill all the positions in the draw, byes shall be awarded to seeded players in descending order.

### **Distribution of players from the same nation**

Seeded players from the same nation shall be distributed throughout the draw based on the seeding order of merit.

Seeded players shall be distributed as follows:

- The top group of seeded players (corresponding to the number of sections in the draw) from one country shall be drawn to different sections of the draw.
- The next group of seeded players (corresponding to the number of sections in the draw) from one country shall be drawn to different sections of the draw.

The remaining players from a nation shall be distributed as much as technically possible across the sections without regard to ranking.

### **39. Withdrawal of Seeds**

If a seeded player/pair withdraws before the event has started, the selection of seeds may be revised to fill the vacancy only if reasonably practicable. Where so revised, seed amendments should cascade as set out below:

<b>Seed Withdrawing</b>	<b>Replacement Seed</b>
1	2
2	3
3 or 4	5
5 to 8	9
9 to 16	17
17 to 32	33

For example, if the number two (2) seed withdraws, the vacant position on the draw will be filled by the number three (3) seed. In turn, the number three (3) seed position will be filled by the number five (5) seed, and the number five (5) seed position filled by the number nine (9) seed, and so on. Where reasonably practical, if an unseeded player/pair withdraws, and there are no alternates, the highest seed remaining who has an opponent shall receive a bye. The previous opponent of the seeded player/pair will move to the line of the player/pair who has withdrawn.

Where a player in Round 2 has no opponent following the application of seed adjustments outlined above, and where reasonably practical to do so, a draw amongst all players in Round 1 will take place to determine the opponent for that player. The previous opponent of the drawn player will receive a bye to Round 2.

Any vacancy created by the withdrawal of a seed which occurs after 4.00 p.m. (1600 hours) local time on the day before the start of that event, or the publication of the order of play, may be filled by:

- a. an alternate if the vacancy occurs prior to the commencement of the Qualifying competition (where a qualifying draw has taken place); or
- b. the eligible Lucky Loser if the vacancy occurs after the commencement of the Qualifying competition.

If there are no Alternates, then the next seed shall receive a bye and the player they were originally playing shall move to the now vacant position in the draw.

In Qualifying, if a seeded player withdraws or is moved from Qualifying to the Main Draw, the remaining seeded players shall stay in their positions and the replacing player inserted in the vacated position.

#### 40. Match Formats for Singles & Doubles

The following tables outline the permitted scoring format for WTMT\_main draw singles and doubles events and the recommended number of matches that may be scheduled per day. It is the decision of the Tournament Committee to decide on scoring formats for each event in line with the below. The chosen scoring format must be displayed for each event on the Tournament Factsheet prior to entry deadline.

<b>SINGLES</b>	<b>Best of 3 Tie Break Sets</b>	<b>2 Tie Break Sets &amp; 10-point Match-Tie Break</b>	<b>2 Short Sets &amp; 10-point Match-Tie Break</b>
<b>World Championships</b>	Permitted in all age groups except for 80-90 age groups.  1 singles per day	Not Permitted for 30-75 age groups singles events.  Permitted for 80-90 age groups 1 singles per day	Not Permitted
<b>Grade MT700 &amp; MT1000</b>	Permitted in all age groups except for 80-90 age groups.  1 singles per day	Permitted for 80-90 age groups. 1 singles per day  Not Permitted for 30-75 age groups with the exception of 30-45 age group events scheduled in 3 or less days. When used for 30-45 age groups, players may play up to 2 singles a day	Not Permitted

<b>Grade MT200 &amp; MT400</b>	Permitted in all age groups except for 80-90 age groups.  1 singles per day	Permitted in all age groups  1 singles per day in 65-90 age groups. A maximum of 2 singles per day in 30-60 events	Not Permitted
<b>Grade MT100</b>	Permitted in all age groups except for 80-90 age groups.  1 singles per day	Permitted in all age groups  1 singles per day in 65-90 age groups. A maximum of 2 singles per day may be played in 30-60 events	Permitted in 30-60 age groups only, where event is scheduled in 3 or less days  2 singles matches per day.  A total of 3 singles per day may be played in the 30-45 age groups if player has no doubles on same day
<b>DOUBLES</b>	<b>Best of 3 Tie Break Sets</b>	<b>2 Tie Break Sets &amp; 10-point Match-Tie Break</b>	<b>2 Short Sets &amp; 10-point Match-Tie Break</b>
<b>Grade MT700, MT1000 &amp; WC</b>	Permitted in all age groups except 80-90  Up to 2 doubles per day  Players may only play 1 doubles if they have 2 singles on same day	Permitted in all age groups  Up to 2 doubles per day  Players may only play 1 doubles if they have played 2 singles on same day	Not Permitted  Tournaments may apply for exception with ITF where there is limited court space
<b>Grade MT100, MT200 &amp; MT400</b>	Permitted in all age groups except 80-90  Up to 2 doubles per day  Players may only play 1 doubles if they have 2 singles on same day	Permitted in all age groups  Up to 2 doubles per day  Players may only play 1 doubles if they have played 2 singles on same day	Permitted in all age groups  Up to 2 doubles per day  3 doubles matches may be played on the same day in the 30-60 age groups if no singles on same day

A shorter scoring format option amongst the scoring format options outlined above may be used in qualifying events, bonus events or where there is inclement weather that heavily affects Main Draw scheduling. For example, a Grade MT1000 tournament may use the Short Sets format in Main Draw singles if the tournament is heavily affected by inclement weather.

Except for unavoidable disruption to a tournament, a player must not compete in more than 3 matches on the same day.

All Tie-Breaks shall be played as Change of Ends Tie-Breaks, with players changing ends after the first point, and thereafter every four (4) points.

**Shorts Sets Scoring Option** (Please refer to the table above for permitted Grades)

Any short set match shall play a 7-point tie-break at 4 games all in Set 1 and Set 2. The final (3<sup>rd</sup>) set shall consist of a 10-point match tie-break. Tournaments may use 'No-Ad Scoring' at the discretion of the Tournament Committee. The 'Short Set Tie-Break' and 'No Let' rule are not permitted on the ITF WTMT. Please refer to Appendix V of the ITF Rules of Tennis.

**41. Draws of Seven (7) or Less Players / Teams**

In singles and doubles/mixed doubles events at Grade MT100, MT200 and MT400, the tournament committee can select a format of play (round-robin or knock-out) of choice.

In singles events at Grade MT700, MT1000 and WC, a round-robin format must be played for any event with seven (7) or less players entered (*except when an event has 5 players and 4 days or less of play, in which case a knock-out draw may be played instead of a Round Robin*)

All events at all tournament grades must comprise of a minimum of three (3) players / teams to qualify for ranking points.

In doubles and mixed doubles events at MT700, MT1000 and WC, , a round-robin format must be played for any event with three (3) teams entered. An event with a minimum of four (4) and a maximum of seven (7) teams entered can be played as a round-robin or knock-out format.

An event with eight (8) or more players/teams entered must be played as a knock-out format.

**42. Amalgamation of Age Groups**

The ITF recommends that tournament organisers consider amalgamation when an event has three (3) players/teams or less. The ITF recommends that a maximum of two (2) age groups are amalgamated.

An age group containing two (2) players/teams or less must be amalgamated with the age group immediately higher or lower. Multiple age groups can be amalgamated if necessary.



Tournament Organisers are responsible for immediately notifying all entered players if their age group is amalgamated, regardless of when the decision to amalgamate occurs. Where there are three (3) or less players/pairs in an event at the entry deadline, players should contact the Referee within 24 hours of the entry deadline if they do not wish to participate in an event that is amalgamated with a younger age group. Amalgamations must be confirmed before the draw is made.

Cancellation of an age group is not recommended by the ITF and should only occur if absolutely necessary. Any decision to cancel an age group must be immediately communicated to both the ITF and to all players in the cancelled age group by the Tournament Organisers.

### **43. Format of Play of Round Robin Events**

#### **3-5 players/teams**

One (1) Round Robin group shall be played.

#### **6-7 players/teams**

Two (2) Round Robin Groups shall be played.

Upon completion of the Round Robin competitions the top two players/teams in each group shall play a final: Winner Group A vs Winner Group B

#### **Number of seeded players/Teams and seed positions**

Draw size	3 draw	4 or 5 draw	6 draw	7 draw
Seeds	0	2	2	2
Based on Round Robin Groups A & B	3 pos in Group A	4 or 5 pos in Group A	3 pos in Group A, 3 pos in Group B	3 pos in Group A, 4 pos in Group B
Seed 1		Line 1, Group A	Line 1, Group A	Line 1, Group A
Seed 2		Line 4 or 5, Group A	Line 1, Group B	Line 1, Group B

The top two seeded players shall be placed in separate Round Robin groups. All other players shall be drawn by lot. If there are seven entries and one Round Robin group is larger than the other, the number 1 seed shall be placed in the smaller group.

#### **Distribution of players from the same nation**

Players from a nation shall be distributed as far as technically possible across the Round Robin groups.

#### **Rules for Round Robin events**

In the Round Robin groups, the following rules apply:

The standings calculation will only include the results of matches played amongst the players/teams who completed all matches in the round robin group. Retired matches count as completed for this purpose. A player/team that concedes 1 or more walkovers

shall be included for the purposes of the standings calculation, however they will finish 1 position lower than players(s)/team(s) who have recorded the same number of wins.

Players/doubles teams are awarded one (1) point for winning a match. The final standings in a Round Robin group are determined by the number of points won by each player/team.

If the number of points is equal for two (2) players/doubles teams, head-to-head results shall determine the final standings.

If the number of points is equal for three (3) or more players/teams, the following criteria shall determine the final standings;

1. The percentage of sets won of sets played against all players/doubles teams in the group,
2. If, after this calculation, only two players/doubles teams remain tied, the result in the head-to-head match played between the two players/doubles teams will be used to break the tie
3. The percentage of games won of games played against all players/doubles teams in the group
4. If, after this calculation, only two players/doubles teams remain tied, the result in the head-to-head match played between the two players/doubles teams will be used to break the tie
5. If there are still players/doubles teams that remain tied, then the World Individual ranking points of the players/doubles teams used for seeding in the event will be used to break the tie\*.
6. If there are still players/doubles teams that remain tied, then drawn by lot.

*\*The WTMT Individual Ranking Points used for seeding in the event are determined as per Section I, Regulation 36 for Singles and Section I, Regulation 37 for Doubles and Mixed Doubles.*

If a withdrawal occurs after the draws have been made which results in a draw size of six (6) or seven (7) players, and it is reasonably practicable to do so prior to the start of the event, the Referee has discretion to amend the draws. If a draw size of seven (7) reduces to six (6) players, a non-seeded player may be moved to another group to create two (2) groups of three (3) players. An elimination draw of eight (8) players may be changed to a round robin draw if entries reduce to seven (7) or less players.

If a player withdraws or is a no-show for the entire tournament, the player is defaulted from the event and all his/her results from matches played are void and not to be considered.

#### **44. Bonus Draws (previously known as Consolation Events)**

Time and court availability permitting, the Tournament Organiser is encouraged to make every effort to hold a Bonus draw for each singles event for all players that lose their first match in either the first or second round of Main Draw.

Where Qualifying is held, players who lose their first match may sign in for the bonus event. A player who progresses to the main draw is not eligible for the bonus event.

Bonus draw matches may be played on a different surface to the main draw provided this information is made clear at sign in for the bonus draw.

Bonus draws shall be played in a knock-out draw format and must consist of three (3) or more players.

When necessary, the amalgamation of up to three (3) age categories is possible.

Bonus draws for players who lose their first match (whether in round one (1) or round two (2)) should be held. Tournament organisers are expected to schedule bonus draws to take place promptly after the completion of first matches.

Bonus draw matches at all tournaments may be scheduled promptly following the completion of the first matches in the event, which can be on the same day provided Regulation 40 permits players to play more than one match per day. Players who lose their first round or first match on a later date can be fed into the bonus draw, provided they sign into the bonus event promptly after losing their first match. The Referee is permitted to amend and re-publish the draw to facilitate this.

Advancement to the second round by virtue of a walkover in a player's first match shall count as a match won for the purpose of the Bonus draw. Players who get a walkover in their first match and lose their second match may choose whether to receive the ranking points won from the walkover or to play the Bonus draw.

ITF WTMT Ranking points will be awarded in the Bonus draw. Results will also be submitted for calculating a player's ITF World Tennis Number.

#### **Bonus Draw at World Individual Championships**

Bonus draws at World Individual Championships shall be played as two short sets and a ten (10) point Match Tie-Break or two Tie-Break sets and a ten (10) point Match Tie-Break instead of a third set. However, the semi-finals and final must be played as two Tie-Break Sets and a ten (10) point Match Tie-Break unless for inclement weather and/or limited court availability.

Events shall follow the same seeding provisions as all other ITF WTMT tournaments.

Advancement to the second round by virtue of a bye in a player's first Main Draw match shall not count as a match won for the purpose of eligibility to participate in the Bonus event.

Advancement to the second round by virtue of a walkover in a player's first match shall count as a match won for the purpose of the Bonus draw at the ITF World Individual Championships only. If the player loses his/her second-round match, the player may choose to forfeit the WTMT Individual Ranking points gained due to advancement to the second round by virtue of a walkover and thus become eligible to participate in the Bonus draw.

Where Qualifying is held, players who lose their first match may sign in for the bonus event. A player who progresses to the main draw is not eligible for the bonus event.

#### **45. Daily Order of Play**

Once the ITF Referee has determined the following day's Order of Play, it should be released by the ITF Referee, both online via ITF Tournament Planner program (Masters TP) and on-site with print outs from the ITF Tournament Planner program (Masters TP), as soon as possible, but no later than 22:00 hours local time.

Once officially released, the Order of Play shall not be amended unless the ITF Referee deems it necessary and/or appropriate. The ITF Referee will inform the ITF Masters department of such occasions.

It is each player's responsibility to ascertain his or her times of play and when their match is called.

#### **46. Suspension and Postponement**

The Chair Umpire or the Referee may suspend a match temporarily due to darkness or conditions of the grounds or weather. Any such suspension by the Chair Umpire must be reported immediately to the Referee. The Referee must, however, make all decisions on the postponement of a match until a later day. Unless and until the Referee postpones a match, the players, Chair Umpire and all on-court officials must remain ready to resume the match.

Upon suspension of a match, the Chair Umpire shall record the time, point, game and set score, and the name of the server, the sides on which each player was situated and shall collect all balls in use for the match.

If suspension is due to darkness it should, whenever possible, be after an even number of games have been played in the set-in progress or at the end of a set. There shall be

five (5) minutes of warm-up before a match. In the case of a suspended or postponed match, the period of warm-up shall be as follows:

0-14 minutes delay	-	no warm-up
15-29 minutes delay	-	three (3) minutes of warm-up
30 or more minutes of delay	-	five (5) minutes of warm-up

#### **47. Players' Rest**

##### **a) Between sets:**

A ten-minute rest period shall be taken after the second set unless the players concerned agree otherwise. Players may leave the court during the ten-minute rest period. Players may interact with their support team members and tournament visitors during the ten-minute rest period.

The above does not apply in the case of a deciding ten (10) point Match Tie-Break, in which case play should be continuous.

When a ten-minute rest period is taken, the players concerned shall immediately inform the Chair Umpire, or where there is no Chair Umpire, the Referee or Court Official, so that he/she may determine the exact time for play to resume. Any failure by one or more of the players to return and commence play at the agreed time shall subject the player to Time Violations as set out in the Code of Conduct.

##### **b) Between matches:**

Except when weather or other unavoidable circumstances causes schedule disruption, players shall be scheduled for a maximum number of matches per day in line with Section 1. Regulation 40 (Match Formats Singles & Doubles). Where a player is required to play on consecutive days, matches should not be scheduled less than twelve (12) hours after completion of the last match of such player on the preceding day.

Players entered in to three (3) events at the same tournament must be prepared to play three (3) matches a day.

Except when weather or other unavoidable circumstances causes schedule disruption, it is recommended that players shall be scheduled for a maximum of one (1) Singles match per day.

Whenever it is necessary to schedule more than one match in the same day such player shall, unless he/she is in a Singles and Doubles final to be played consecutively, be given the following minimum rest periods:

- i) Played less than one (1) hour – half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) an hour rest
- ii) Played between one (1) hour and one and one half ( $1\frac{1}{2}$ ) hours – one (1) hour rest
- iii) Played more than one and one half ( $1\frac{1}{2}$ ) hours – one and one half ( $1\frac{1}{2}$ ) hours rest

If play has been interrupted for thirty (30) minutes or more due to rain or other warranted delay, the length of match time would be assessed from the moment play resumes following the delay.

If play is interrupted for less than thirty (30) minutes, match time would be considered continuous from the moment the first ball of the match was put into play.

The above rule applies to Main Draw matches and when possible to Bonus matches.

**c) Between Qualifying and Main Draw:**

Other than in exceptional circumstances, no player shall be required to play his/her first round match in the Singles Main Draw until at least twelve (12) hours after the completion of his/her final Qualifying match.

**48. Duties of the Referee**

1. The Referee shall:
  - a) Be present at all times during the playing of matches.
  - b) Prior to the event, conduct such training sessions and meetings as may be necessary to familiarise thoroughly all officials with all applicable Rules and procedures.
  - c) Be responsible for all aspects of play.
  - d) Be the final authority for on court disputes in respect of the Code of Conduct and interpretation of the Rules of Tennis;
  - e) Appoint (or approve the assignment of) all Umpires for matches and replace any Umpire whenever he/she decides it is necessary to improve the officiating of a match. Where Umpires are not available, appoint (or approve) suitably qualified roving officials.
  - f) Prior to making the draws, obtain the Wild Cards from the Tournament and consult with the Tournament to determine the final entry list. The Referee must take all necessary steps (including without limitation, checking player details on the ITF WTMT website) to ensure that late entries are not accepted where those late entries would be seeded.
  - g) Make the draws for all events.
  - h) Designate the official visible timepiece at a fixed location as the official clock of the tournament.

- i) Prepare the daily order of play and ensure that it is posted on the official notice board, that should be in a highly visible place in a general player's area and published online through the WTMT Tournament Planner as early as is possible. In addition to publishing online, Referees are required to email each player daily from Tournament Planner with match times and location for the following day.
- j) Ensure that all courts are fit for play;
- k) Ensure that each court, net, net posts and singles sticks conform to the specifications in the Rules of Tennis and that each court is equipped with singles sticks, a Chair Umpire's chair, players' chairs, water cups and a measuring device.
- l) Decide if a match shall be moved to another court.
- m) Decide when play should be postponed or stopped because of weather conditions, inadequate light or other conditions.
- n) Ensure that all results are accurately recorded on the official draw sheet;
- o) Use Tournament Planner Software (Masters TP) before and during the tournament
- p) In conjunction with the Tournament Organiser, ensure that entry fees and IPIN fees are paid by all players who compete in the tournament.
- q) Upload results daily using the Tournament Planner Software (Masters TP).
- r) Be responsible for investigating Code of Conduct violations, issuing penalties and/or suspension points.
- s) On conclusion of the tournament, send to the ITF the ITF Referee's Report form, including details of all the penalties imposed under the Code of Conduct (through Masters TP reports).

## **2. The Referee's Powers**

- a) The Referee is the on-site representative of the ITF, and is responsible for ensuring the uniform administration and interpretation of the Masters Tour Regulations, the Rules of Tennis, the Organisational Requirements, the Masters Tour Code of Conduct and the ITF Duties and Procedures for Officials.
- b) All decisions of the Referee are final, unless specified otherwise in these Regulations.

## **49. Settlement of On-Site Disputes**

The Referee shall decide on any on-site disputes or interpretation of the Rules and Regulations and Rules of Tennis.

## **50. ITF Representatives**

For the venue staging the WTMT Individual Championships, the ITF shall appoint one or more Representative(s) who shall arrive at least one day prior to the start of the Competition or as available depending on attendance at the Team Competition.

The ITF Representative shall be consulted on all matters and his/her duties shall include:

- a) Verification that the seeding have been correctly implemented.
- b) Liaison between the organising committee and the ITF.
- c) Determining matters of policy in the conduct of the Competition; and
- d) Acting as the on-site representative of the ITF in all matters.

The position of the ITF Representative on site is one of final authority on any decision taken in respect of any change in the agreed programme of events including change of surface due to bad weather conditions.

The Referee is solely responsible for decisions on court regarding the Rules of Tennis and the Code of Conduct, but any interpretation of the WTMT Regulations must be referred to the ITF Representative.

## **V. ORGANISATIONAL REQUIREMENTS**

### **51. Tournament Fact Sheets**

All relevant information on arrangements for the tournament must be made available to the players in the form of the ITF standard Fact Sheet.

The Fact Sheet must be submitted to the ITF for approval no later than eight (8) weeks before the official start of the tournament week for MT400/MT700 & MT1000 grades and 6 weeks for MT100 & MT200 tournaments. Tournament Directors must specify the precise start and end date of each event at the point of Fact Sheet submission.

Any other programme or flyer for the tournament shall publicise and correctly describe the approved grade of the event. A copy must be sent to the ITF as soon as it is produced. The ITF Masters Department ([masters@itftennis.com](mailto:masters@itftennis.com)) must be copied on important organisational email messages sent out to players.

If required, tournaments shall assign to the ITF, free of charge, one (1) page in the official tournament programme for an ITF editorial or advertisement.

In the case of the WTMT World Individual Championships, all information must be submitted to the ITF by the host nation by a date to be agreed with the ITF.

### **52. Entry Fees**

- a) Grade MT100, MT200, MT400, MT700 and MT1000 WTMT tournaments

The tournament committee shall determine a reasonable entry fee following recommendation by the ITF of what is considered reasonable. The entry fee, payment instructions and a deadline for payment shall be published in the official fact sheet. A



tournament committee has the authority to officially withdraw any entered player that has not paid the entry fee according to the payment instructions and deadline published in the fact sheet. Entry fees and IPIN fees must be paid by each player before they play their first match.

Recommended Entry Fees are as follows:

MT1000 from 80 to 110 \$USD or Euros

MT700 from 70 to 100 \$USD or Euros

MT400 from 60 to 90 \$USD or Euros

MT200 from 45 to 80 \$USD or Euros

MT100 from 35 to 70 \$USD or Euros

The recommended entry fees assume entry into one singles event and up to two doubles events. Charging an entry fee per event is permitted and should be consistent with the recommendations above. For example, an MT200 tournament could charge \$30 USD for singles events and \$20 USD per player for doubles events.

b) ITF World Individual Championships

Entry fees for the World Individual Championships shall be as follows:

- (1) The entry fee shall be \$150.00 USD, plus an IPIN fee of \$10.00 USD. The conditions of payment, including a deadline, shall be published in the fact sheet. Failure to meet these conditions of payment may result in the player's official withdrawal from the tournament.
- (2) The conditions of refund shall be published in the fact sheet. A full refund will be made to an entered player that makes an official withdrawal prior to the Withdrawal Deadline. An official withdrawal is made online at [www.itftennis.com/ipin](http://www.itftennis.com/ipin) or by completing and signing an official Withdrawal Form and sending it to the ITF office. If the official withdrawal is made after the Withdrawal Deadline, a refund will be made only for reasons of health and/or injury supported by a medical certificate, or bereavement. A player that withdraws after the draw has been made is not eligible for a refund.

### **53. Results, Report Forms & Tournament Software**

The ITF will provide free of charge to the Referee a licensed copy of the Masters Tournament Planner (Masters TP) software.

The tournament shall have internet access on-site for use by the ITF Referee.

It is also mandatory that the Referee has a working email account and immediate access to a phone open for international calls.

Following conclusion of the tournament, the Tournament Director shall submit to the ITF the Tournament Report form. The report must be submitted on the official form provided by the ITF.

#### **54. Prize Money/Player Hospitality Money**

Prize Money or Player Hospitality Money may be offered to successful players at Grade MT100, MT200, MT400, MT700 and MT1000 tournaments at the discretion of the Organising Committee.

Should prize money be awarded and assuming draw sizes are equal in size, prize money must be equally distributed by gender and equally distributed across all age groups at the tournament.

The amount of prize money for Doubles and Mixed Doubles may differ from the amount of prize money for Singles, but the criteria of equality by gender and across all age groups must be adhered to for Doubles and Mixed Doubles also.

If, due to low participation figures, a round robin draw is played at an event instead of an elimination draw, then the advertised prize money may be reduced by up to a maximum of 50%.

Unless otherwise approved by ITF representative, Hospitality monies awarded to the winner and finalist in the main draw event at the World Individual Championships shall only be awarded if the player attends a medal ceremony that occurs on the same day that the final is held.

#### **55. Officials**

##### **a) WTMT Individual Championships**

The Referee shall, as a minimum, be a certified Silver Badge Referee. Chair Umpires shall be provided for the main draw finals. In addition, the Organising Committee shall make every effort to provide Chair Umpires in the main draw semi-finals. The Host Nation shall appoint on and off court officials as required by the ITF. As a minimum, any Chair Umpire should be a trained and/or qualified Chair Umpire as recognised by the National Association

##### **b) Tournament Directors**

Tournament Directors are not permitted to play in their own tournaments. Subject to ITF approval, Tournament Directors may be able to participate in limited events at MT100, MT200 or MT400 tournaments.

### **c) Grade MT1000 Tournaments**

The Referee shall have ITF Silver Badge or Gold Badge certification. An ITF White Badge certified Referee may be permitted by the ITF but only where this individual refereed the event in previous years.

For Grade MT1000 tournaments, a Chair Umpire is expected for the singles final as a minimum. It is recommended there is a minimum of one (1) Court Supervisor/Off-court Umpire for every five (5) match courts.

### **d) Grade MT200, MT400 and MT700 Tournaments**

The Referee shall have, as a minimum, ITF White Badge certification. A Chair Umpire is encouraged for singles finals at 400 and 700.

For Grade MT700 tournaments, it is recommended there is a minimum of one Court Supervisor/Off-court Umpire for every five (5) match courts.

For Grade MT200 and MT400 tournaments, it is recommended there is a minimum of one Court Supervisor/Off-court Umpire for every eight (8) match courts.

All tournaments with more than 275 unique player entries the previous year must have an Assistant Referee. The Assistant Referee can be a National Official.

### **e) Grade MT100 Tournaments**

For Grade MT100 tournaments, the Referee shall have ITF White Badge certification, unless otherwise approved in writing by the ITF. Where an ITF White Badge referee is unavailable or appointment is impractical, A National Referee may be appointed, but always subject to the approval and requirements of the National Association and the ITF.

For Grade MT100, it is recommended there is a minimum of one Court Supervisor/Off-court Umpire for each eight (8) match courts.

It is further recommended that for tournaments with more than 200 participants, an Assistant Referee, fluent in the English language, is appointed.

## **56. Doctor on call/ Sports Physiotherapist**

All WTMT tournaments must have a doctor on-call.

It is required that all WTMT, Grade MT1000 and MT700 tournaments arrange for a Sports Physiotherapist (*as defined in the ITF Guide to Recommended Health Care Standards*) to be on-site for the duration of the event (see Appendix III). The

appointment of a Sports Physiotherapist is strongly recommended at Grade MT100, MT200 & MT400 tournaments.

If there is no Sports Physiotherapist on site at a tournament, a person who is qualified in first aid and resuscitation must always be on site.

### **57. Courts**

All match courts for each event shall be played on the same surface throughout the tournament. However, in the event of bad weather, play may be moved to another surface, either under cover or not.

The surface of the courts to be used at the World Championships shall be subject to the approval of the Masters Committee.

It is also recommended that in tournaments with foreign participation, on-site player announcements be made in English as well as the local language.

### **58. Practice Facilities**

If practice courts are available at an event, they shall be made available to all participants, free of charge.

### **59. Banner**

Tournaments should display the WTMT banner on their main court.

Minimum requirements for each grade are:

MT1000's = Minimum of 3 WTMT tournament logo banners on site with dimensions of at least 3m x 1m, with WTMT net signage of approximately 0.8m x 0.6m included on at least 2 show courts.

MT700 = Minimum of 2 WTMT tournament logo banners on site with dimensions of at least 3m x 1m, with WTMT net signage of approximately 0.8m x 0.6m included on at least 2 show courts.

MT100 to MT400 = Minimum of 1 WTMT tournament logo banners on site with dimensions of at least 3m x 1m or similar. Net signage recommended on show courts.

### **60. Scoreboards**

Scoreboards must be displayed on-court at all Grade MT700 and Grade MT1000 events. Scoreboards should be used wherever possible at Grade MT100, MT200 and MT400 events.

## **61. Balls**

- a) The balls to be used in the Competition must conform to the specifications in Rule 3 of the Rules of Tennis and must have been approved by the ITF.
- b) In singles, doubles and mixed doubles main draw and qualifying there shall be a minimum of three new balls for each match. Another three or more new balls shall be provided for any third set at, Grade MT1000, Grade MT700 and Grade MT400 tournaments.
- c) New tennis balls for bonus events are recommended at all grades. New balls are mandatory for bonus at semi-finals and finals at MT1000, MT700 and MT400.
- d) Balls shall be provided for practice, but it is not obligatory to give new balls. A refundable deposit can be applied by the host organisers for return of the balls after practice within a reasonable time period published clearly.
- e) At the WTMT World Championships (Grade WC) four new balls will be provided for each match and for any full third set played. New balls shall not be provided for any ten (10) point Match Tie-Break.

## **62. Electronic Line Calling**

The use of Electronic Line-Calling (ELC) systems is permitted at a WTMT tournament, subject to the following conditions and requirements:

- The National Association must make a request to the ITF to use ELC at least nine (9) weeks in advance of the tournament start date;
- The request must have been approved by the ITF;
- The ELC system must have been classified by the ITF and approved by the ITF for use at the tournament in question;
- The ITF may at its sole discretion refuse the use of a particular ELC system during a WTMT tournament, including in the event such decision to refuse its use is taken once the tournament is already underway; and
- The processing of any data arising from the use of the ELC system shall always be subject to the provisions in Appendix VI (Data Rights).

## **63. Code of Conduct**

The Code of Conduct for WTMT tournaments shall be prominently displayed on the official notice board at all tournaments (see also Section III Code of Conduct).

#### **64. Publicity and Promotion**

(a) Each player grants to the ITF, the tournament's sanctioning National Association, the tournament and their agents and assignees the right, in perpetuity and for commercial and non-commercial purposes:

(i) to use or authorise the use of his or her name, voice, photograph, likeness, signature, biographical material and other identification, in any and all media, for the purpose of publicising and promoting the sport of tennis, the ITF, the tournament's sanctioning National Association, the tournament and their respective affiliates and events including the right to use the same on event posters, photos, programs, merchandise and other materials, and for the televising broadcasting and filming of the same; and

(ii) to make, show and otherwise use, in any and all media, still and moving pictures, whether live or otherwise, and any other visual and/or audio-visual reproductions of his or her performance or appearance as a sportsman on and off the court during the event.

(b) With respect to sub sections (a)(i) and (a)(ii) above:

(i) there will be no compensation payable in relation to the grant of such rights; and

(ii) the rights granted may not be used in such a way as to constitute an endorsement by the player of any product or company.

Players acknowledge that their tennis biography (including name, age and nationality) and complete tournament history shall be published on the ITF's website for the purposes of transparency and promotion of the sport.

#### **65. Waiver of Claims**

In submitting an entry into an ITF WTMT event, all players agree, as a condition of entry, that, subject to the limits set out below for themselves, their executors, administrators, heirs and personal representatives, all claims of any kind, nature and description are waived, including past, present or future claims and injuries, if any, sustained in travelling to or from, or participating in an WTMT event, against the ITF, the National Association or the Regional Association sanctioning such events as well as officials, and (if applicable) sponsors, promoters, television or other broadcast licensees, vendors, venues, local organisers and others connected with such WTMT tournaments, including its employees, officer, directors, volunteers, and representatives.

Nothing in these Regulations excludes or limits the liability of the ITF, or any other parties listed above:

(i) for death or personal injury caused by their (respective) negligence;

- (ii) for fraud; or
- (iii) to the extent that such exclusion or limitation is not permitted by applicable law.

## **66. Commercial Rights**

The ITF retains the right to secure sponsors (Title & International) for the Competition. A Title Sponsor or International Sponsor will have the right to exposure at select events of the Competition, and it will be the responsibility of the ITF to negotiate an agreement with each Tournament Organiser of these events with regards to this exposure. The ITF grants all Tournament Organisers of events the right to secure domestic sponsors.

No sponsorship will be permitted to any entity in respect of tobacco or e-cigarette products, hard liquor products, betting companies, political activity or other category deemed to be detrimental to the sport of tennis, as reasonably determined by ITF in consultation with the applicable National Associations. It is permitted to appoint casinos or national, regional or state sports lotteries as part of the above rights (with the prior approval of the ITF) provided they do not offer tennis betting as part of their business activity.

The ITF retains the exclusive right for net branding at each event of the Competition. The Tournament Organiser of each event of the Competition is not allowed to place branding on the net unless agreed otherwise in writing with the ITF.

The ITF will have the right to instruct individual tournaments on the ITF Masters Tour to use the balls of the Official Ball manufacturer providing that the balls are given to the tournament free of charge.

The ITF accepts that certain tournaments may have existing agreements in place with ball manufacturers and in such circumstances, the ITF will waive the right to require the use of the Official Ball at these tournaments for the duration of the existing agreement. Should the ITF inform a tournament on the WTMT of the intention to use an Official Ball, that tournament agrees that once their current agreement has expired, no new agreement with a ball manufacturer will be entered into.

## **67. Related Regulations**

To the extent not covered herein The Constitution of ITF Limited and the Rules of Tennis shall be applicable to all ITF WTMT Tournaments. Such applicability shall not affect the right of the ITF WTMT Tournaments to promulgate and enforce their own special regulations insofar as they are consistent with the applicable provisions of these Rules and Regulations and have been approved by the ITF.

## SECTION II

### REGULATIONS FOR THE ITF WORLD TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

#### I. THE COMPETITION

##### 1. Title

The Competition shall be called "ITF World Team Championships". The ITF World Team Championships Cups are as follows:

##### a) Official Team Competitions of the ITF:

Men's 30 Cup	For men who have reached or will reach the age of 30 years on or before the 31st December in the year in which the Competition is held.
Italia Cup	For men who have reached or will reach the age of 35 years on or before the 31st December in the year in which the Competition is held.
Tony Trabert Cup	For men who have reached or will reach the age of 40 years on or before the 31st December in the year in which the Competition is held.
Dubler Cup	For men who have reached or will reach the age of 45 years on or before the 31st December in the year in which the Competition is held.
Fred Perry Cup	For men who have reached or will reach the age of 50 years on or before the 31st December in the year in which the Competition is held.
Austria Cup	For men who have reached or will reach the age of 55 years on or before the 31st December in the year in which the Competition is held.
Von Cramm Cup	For men who have reached or will reach the age of 60 years on or before the 31st December in the year in which the Competition is held.
Britannia Cup	For men who have reached or will reach the age of 65 years on or before the 31st December in the year in which the Competition is held.
Jack Crawford Cup	For men who have reached or will reach the age of 70 years on or before the 31st December in the year in which the Competition is held.
Bitsy Grant Cup	For men who have reached or will reach the age of 75 years on or before the 31st December in the year in which the Competition is held.



Gardnar Mulloy Cup	For men who have reached or will reach the age of 80 years on or before the 31st December in the year in which the Competition is held.
Lorne Main Cup	For men who have reached or will reach the age of 85 years on or before the 31 <sup>st</sup> December in the year in which the competition is held
Women's 30 Cup	For women who have reached or will reach the age of 30 years on or before the 31 <sup>st</sup> December in the year in which the Competition is held.
Suzanne Lenglen Cup	For women who have reached or will reach the age of 35 years on or before the 31 <sup>st</sup> December in the year in which the Competition is held.
Young Cup	For women who have reached or will reach the age of 40 years on or before the 31st December in the year in which the Competition is held.
Margaret Court Cup	For women who have reached or will reach the age of 45 years on or before the 31st December in the year in which the Competition is held.
Maria Esther Bueno Cup	For women who have reached or will reach the age of 50 years on or before the 31st December in the year in which the Competition is held.
Maureen Connolly Cup	For women who have reached or will reach the age of 55 years on or before the 31st December in the year in which the Competition is held.
Alice Marble Cup	For women who have reached or will reach the age of 60 years on or before the 31st December in the year in which the Competition is held.
Kitty Godfree Cup	For women who have reached or will reach the age of 65 years on or before the 31 December in the year in which the Competition is held.
Althea Gibson Cup	For women who have reached or will reach the age of 70 years on or before the 31st December in the year in which the Competition is held.
Queens' Cup	For women who have reached or will reach the age of 75 years on or before the 31st December in the year in which the Competition is held.
Doris Hart Cup	For women who have reached or will reach the age of 80 years on or before the 31 <sup>st</sup> December in the year in which the Competition is held

Angela Mortimer Cup For women who have reached or will reach the age of 85 years on or before 31 December in the year in which the competition is held

## **2. Ownership**

The Competition shall be owned by and under the direction and control of the International Tennis Federation, hereinafter referred to as the “ITF”.

Ownership shall include, but not be limited to, the following national and international rights: registered trademarks of the ITF; commercial exploitation of the event; television and radio, film and video recordings, plus new media and internet coverage. The Board of Directors may assign all or any rights to the host nation in accordance with detailed guidelines issued by the ITF consistent with these Regulations.

## **3. Format**

The Competition shall be played at one venue unless the Masters Committee decides to approve an application to play in zones. The Competition shall be played under a Round Robin format in the initial stages after which a knock-out principle can be adopted to produce the final list of all teams.

## **4. Nations Eligible**

The Competition shall be open to Class B and Class C members of the ITF and only players who are eligible to represent a nation in accordance with Section II, Regulation 25 (Eligibility of a Player to Represent a Nation) may be nominated members of the team of that country.

Entry fees to be paid in US Dollars (USD). The Entry Fee for each Team Cup is US\$650.00 for a maximum of 4 players, plus an IPIN fee of US \$10.00 per player. An additional fee for a non-playing captain (5<sup>th</sup> person) is US\$125.00.

## **5. Prize Money**

No prize money shall be awarded unless approved by the ITF.

## **6. Trophies**

A list of trophies donated by National Associations can be found on the WTMT website ([masters@itftennis.com](mailto:masters@itftennis.com)).

## **7. Rules to be Observed**

The Competition shall take place in accordance with these regulations, and the approved Code of Conduct (together the Regulations), the Constitution of the ITF Limited and the Rules of Tennis.

In submitting an entry, a National Association and its team members, including the Captain, automatically undertake to abide by and fulfil all its obligations under the above Rules and Regulations.

Any National Association and its team members, including the Captain, failing to honour this undertaking shall be subject to penalties.

The ITF reserves the right to refuse approval of or cancel any previously sanctioned Tournament or series of Tournaments for reasons of health, safety, security or any other potential threat to any persons attending the Tournament(s) or to the successful running of the Tournament(s). The ITF bears no liability to any Applicant, Tournament Organiser, Host, National Association, player, Related Person, Covered Person or any other person or entity for any loss incurred as a result of a delayed, rescheduled, postponed or cancelled Tournament. For the avoidance of doubt, neither the ITF or the Applicant shall be liable to any player, Related Person, Covered Person or any other persons or entities for any costs that they might have incurred in relation to such delayed, rescheduled, postponed or cancelled Tournaments, including, without limitation, any travel, transport and/or accommodation costs. This decision (to refuse approval of or cancel any Tournament) will be made on behalf of the ITF by the ITF Masters Committee, or by the ITF Executive if the Committee so delegates its decision-making power, and may be appealed by the Applicant only, to the Independent Tribunal.

## **8. Variations**

### **(a) Power to amend**

These ITF Masters Tour Rules and Regulations may only be amended, repealed or otherwise modified, in whole or in part, by the ITF Board of Directors.

### **(b) Extraordinary Circumstances**

The Board of Directors may grant dispensation from, modify, waive or otherwise alter these Regulations or their application in extraordinary circumstances.

### **(c) Variations for a particular tournament**

Tournaments may apply for a limited variation to the Regulations set out under Section II, pursuant to Section I, Regulation 22

## **9. Enforcement of Regulations and resolution of disputes**

### **On-site enforcement**

It is the responsibility of the Referee and on-site ITF Representative(s) (if present) to enforce these Regulations on-site.

### **First instance proceedings**

The Referee shall have exclusive jurisdiction, in the first instance, over the following matters:

- (a) unless expressly referred elsewhere, an allegation that a player has committed an offence under the Code of Conduct that is not a Major Offence or a breach of the Welfare Policy;
- (b) any disputes or questions of interpretation that arise on court in respect of the Rules of Tennis; and
- (c) any other decisions, disputes or other matters that are entrusted under these Regulations to the Referee.

The ITF Representative shall have exclusive jurisdiction, in the first instance, over the following matters:

- (a) any disputes or questions of interpretation that arise on-site regarding these Regulations; and
- (b) any other decisions, disputes, questions of interpretation or other matters that are entrusted under these Regulations to the ITF Representative.

The Referee, ITF Masters Committee or other person/entity designated under these Regulations may decide any issues entrusted to them (respectively) under these Regulations. Unless expressly provided otherwise, there will be no right of appeal from their respective decisions.

The ITF Internal Adjudication Panel shall have exclusive jurisdiction, in the first instance, over the following matters (to be determined in accordance with its Procedural Rules):

- i. any request for a decision that is entrusted under these Regulations (including the Code of Conduct) to the ITF Internal Adjudication Panel;
- ii. any dispute or question about the proper interpretation of these Regulations (including reviewing as appropriate any on-site interpretation by the ITF Representative);
- iii. any dispute or question about player eligibility arising under these Regulations (unless expressly referred elsewhere);
- iv. any allegation that a Covered Person has committed a breach of the Welfare Policy;
- v. any allegation that a player, Related Person or other person or entity bound by these Regulations has failed to comply with any other aspect of these Regulations (unless expressly referred elsewhere); and
- vi. any other dispute arising out of or relating in any way to these Regulations that is referred to it by the Board.

The Independent Tribunal shall have exclusive jurisdiction, in the first instance, over the following matters (to be determined in accordance with its Procedural Rules):

- (a) any request for a decision that is entrusted under these Regulations to the Independent Tribunal;
- (b) an allegation that a player, Related Person or other person participating in the ITF Team Championships has breached the Tennis Anti-Doping Programme;
- (c) an allegation that a player or Related Person has committed a Major Offence under the Code of Conduct;
- (d) any allegation that a Tournament Offence has been committed under the Code of Conduct;
- (e) any allegation that a Covered Person has committed a breach of the Welfare Policy; and
- (f) any other dispute arising out of or relating in any way to these Regulations that is referred to it by the Board.

The Procedural Rules for both the Internal Adjudication Panel and the Independent Tribunal are available online at [www.itftennis.com](http://www.itftennis.com), or a hard-copy can be requested in writing to the ITF.

### **Sanctions**

Where the ITF Internal Adjudication Panel and/or Independent Tribunal upholds an allegation of breach of these Regulations, it will determine the sanctions for such breach in accordance with the sanctions provisions in its Procedural Rules, unless these Regulations specify other sanctions for such breach, in which case it will apply the specific sanctions.

### **Appeals**

Save where provided otherwise under these Regulations:

- (a) decisions by the Referee or ITF Representative under these Regulations may only be challenged by way of appeal to the ITF Internal Adjudication Panel, to be determined in accordance with its Procedural Rules (save that there shall be no right of appeal against the ITF Internal Adjudication Panel's decision);
- (b) subject to preceding paragraph (a) above, decisions of the ITF Internal Adjudication Panel under these Regulations may only be challenged by way of appeal to the Independent Tribunal, in accordance with the Independent Tribunal's Procedural Rules (in particular, the section applicable to the Independent Tribunal sitting as an appeal panel);
- (c) decisions of the Independent Tribunal (sitting as a first instance tribunal) may only be challenged by way of appeal to the Court of Arbitration for Sport, as set out in the Independent Tribunal Procedural Rules;

Such appeals may only be brought by one of the following persons:

- (i) the Nation that is the subject of the decision being appealed;
- (ii) the team member who is the subject of the decision being appealed;
- (iii) the Nation of the team member who is the subject of the decision being appealed;
- (iv) any Nation that is directly affected by the decision being appealed; and/or
- (v) the ITF.

A Nation will not be 'directly affected' pursuant to this Regulation based solely on it or its players being a competitor of the person or organisation that is the subject of a decision sought to be appealed.

### **10. International Player Identification number (IPIN)**

To play in the ITF WTMT Team Championships, a player must have registered for a WTMT IPIN membership (International Player Identification Number) and have paid the event IPIN fee.

### **11. Sponsorship**

Commercial Rights for the ITF World Team Championships shall be as set out in the Hosting Agreement.

## **II. MANAGEMENT**

### **12. Board of Directors**

#### **a) Management**

The Competition shall be managed by the Board of Directors of the ITF in co-operation with the National Association(s) of the country or countries where the Competition is played.

#### **b) Duties**

The duties of the Board of Directors shall be:

- (i) to appoint every two (2) years a Masters Committee, which shall consist of a Chair, who shall be a member of the Board of Directors, and further members as determined necessary.
- (ii) To register in the name of the ITF any trademarks in connection with the Competition, and to protect such rights;
- (iii) To select the venues and decide the dates for the Competition;
- (iv) To decide the entry fee and allocation of any prizes;
- (v) To administer the funds of the Competition within the financial framework of the Competition;

- (vi) To refuse the entry of any National Association, or refuse the further participation of such National Association in the Competition, if in its opinion the participation of the said nation may result in the Competition being endangered and/or brought into disrepute.

### **13. Masters Committee**

The duties and powers of the Masters Committee shall be:

- (a) to manage the Team Competitions;
- (b) to recommend changes to and to ensure the uniform application of these Rules and Regulations and the Code of Conduct;
- (c) to administer the funds of the Team Competitions within the financial framework of the ITF;
- (d) to report to the Board of Directors on all financial matters;
- (e) to submit regular reports to the Board of Directors; and
- (f) to approve events for the Competition and to select the dates and venues for each of those events.

## **III. RULES OF THE COMPETITION**

### **14. Application to Stage the Competition**

Any National Association wishing to stage the Competition shall submit its application in writing on the approved form provided by the ITF.

National Associations may submit a joint bid with other National Associations to stage the Competition.

The ITF will only consider bids offering to host both the ITF World Team Championships and the ITF World Individual Championships in the same year, in two consecutive weeks.

### **15. Financial Arrangements for On-Site Organisation**

The financial arrangements for the on-site organisation shall be negotiated between the ITF and the host nation.

### **16. Entries**

Entries from National Associations shall be sent to the ITF to arrive no later than twelve (12) weeks before the Competition begins, or such earlier date as may be decided and announced in advance by the ITF.

The list of entries shall be forwarded to the Organising Committee after the Entry Deadline.

The fee will be stipulated in the Application Form, and by submitting an application, a National Association is liable to pay the entry fee.

### **17. Default in Payment**

Any default in payment in respect of its team's participation in a previous Competition, shall render the nation liable to have its entry refused for any future Competitions until such payment has been made in full.

### **18. Withdrawals**

Any team that withdraws after the player nomination deadline prior to the start of the Competition (as stated on the entry form) will not be refunded the team entry fee and shall be subject to a fine of up to \$1,500.

If a team leaves the event prior to completion of all their matches, they shall be subject to removal of all ranking points earned and subject to a fine of up to \$1,500.

### **19. Number of Entries**

A maximum of 32 teams shall compete in the Competition.

If more than 32 entries are received preliminary rounds shall be arranged whenever possible.

### **20. Facilities**

The host nation shall provide sufficient facilities for the Competition to be completed over a period within which:

- a) a maximum of seven (7) days shall be allocated for the purpose of conduct of matches within the Competition, unless decided otherwise by the ITF;
- b) practice courts for a maximum of two (2) days prior to the commencement of play shall be available to competing nations.

For the purpose of these Regulations, the Competition shall be deemed to commence on the first day of the period agreed between the host nation and the Federation.

### **21. Composition of Teams**

Each team shall consist of a minimum of three (3) and a maximum of four (4) players. A player shall be nominated as Captain, or alternatively a nation can appoint an additional non-playing Captain.

### **22. Nomination of Players/Seeding**

Nominations of individual players, in order of merit for singles, must be received by the ITF by the nomination deadline (refer to official factsheet).



The Order of Merit submitted by National Associations must reflect the standard of the players and ensure that the best player is included at No1 regardless of National and/or ITF rankings.

A players world tennis number (WTN) and previous ATP/WTA rankings should be considered for age groups 30+,35+,40+,45+.

National Associations may be required to provide evidence to justify the order of merit where rankings or head to head records indicate that the order submitted does not accurately reflect their players' ability.

Only those players present on-site at the time of and signed-in by the captain at the captains' meeting shall be considered for seeding purposes.

### **23. Changes to Nominations and Order of Merit**

#### **Nominations**

Changes or additions to team nominations may be made no later than fourteen (14) days prior to the scheduled first day of play of the Competition. Thereafter no change may be made except for exceptional circumstances including reasons of health, injury or bereavement and any such changes must be authorized by the ITF.

Changes to team nominations due to exceptional circumstances may be made up to 1 hour before the start of the Captains' Meeting and must be supported by written documentation from the relevant National Association. Such changes must be submitted to the ITF Representative attending the Meeting for approval.

#### **Order of Merit**

Changes to a team's Order of Merit may be made at the Captains' Meeting and must be supported by written documentation from the relevant National Association.

Any change to the Order of Merit must be based on recent tournament results and will be subject to the approval of the ITF Representative(s) on site

Captains of teams shall be prepared to justify to ITF at or before the Captains' Meeting the Order of Merit, producing supplementary data, current national rankings and other relevant documentation to substantiate their order. The ITF Representative attending the Meeting must change any clear mistake in an Order of Merit and has the final authority to adjust any Order of Merit. The ITF Representative must take such changes into account when determining the final seeding of the teams.

## **24. Passport**

The Captain shall present any outstanding passports of any team members, including that of the Captain, to the Referee prior to the start of the Captains' Meeting. Failure to present passports by the time determined by the Referee may render a team liable to disqualification.

## **25. Eligibility of a Player or Captain to Represent a Nation**

25.1 Any player or captain who is in good standing with his/her National Association in accordance with Appendix V shall be qualified to represent that nation as a player or captain in the ITF World Team Championship if:

- (a) he/she has not previously represented any other nation in the same Official Team Competition in the ITF World Team Championship; and
- (b)
  - (i) is a citizen of that nation and holds a current valid passport of that nation; or
  - (ii) is a citizen of that nation, but in circumstances where that nation does not issue its own passport, holds a qualifying passport issued by or on behalf of that nation which confirms the player or captain's place of birth as that nation; or
  - (iii) after a consecutive period of two (2) years (24 months) residence in that nation, can provide a genuine reason for being unable to hold or make application to hold a current valid passport where:
    - a. he/she was born, or has a parent or grandparent born, in that nation; or
    - b. he/she has obtained or procured the right to remain permanently or has been granted humanitarian protection in that nation.

25.2 A National Association may apply to the ITF Internal Adjudication Panel to nominate a player or captain who is not eligible under the above Regulations on the basis that the full circumstances of the player's case demonstrate he/she has a sufficient, genuine connection or commitment to life and tennis in the nation that he/she wishes to represent such that an exemption to Regulation 25.1 is warranted. Such an application must be received by the ITF Internal Adjudication Panel at least two months prior to the event for which the player or captain wishes to be nominated.

25.3 If:

(a) a player/captain is, or may be, qualified under Regulation 25.1 to represent more than one nation, and the National Association of one of those nations wishes to nominate him/her to represent that nation; or

(b) a nation applies to nominate a player or captain under Regulation 25.2 and that player/captain is, or may be, eligible to represent another nation(s);

the National Association wishing to nominate the player/captain must submit the nomination/application to the ITF at least two months prior to the event for which they wish to nominate the player/captain. The ITF will notify the other nation(s) concerned, which shall be entitled to comment within 15 days of receipt, should it wish to do so.

25.4 If a player/captain is nominated without an application being made under Regulation 25.2, the ITF Executive will decide on the eligibility of the player/captain having taken into account all relevant matters. The decision of the ITF Executive may be appealed to the ITF Internal Adjudication Panel, which will consider the matter as an appeal in accordance with its Procedural Rules. The appeal must (i) be made in writing, (ii) detail the basis of the appeal, and (iii) be filed with the ITF Internal Adjudication Panel within 14 days of notification of the decision of the ITF Executive. There is no right to appeal or challenge the ITF Internal Adjudication Panel's decision.

25.5 If an application to nominate a player/captain is made under Regulation 25.2, the ITF Internal Adjudication Panel will decide on the application having taken into account all relevant matters.

25.6 In exceptional circumstances, the other nation(s) concerned may not be notified before the player/captain's eligibility is considered by the ITF Executive or the ITF Internal Adjudication Panel. In such circumstances, the ITF Executive or ITF Internal Adjudication Panel shall reach a provisional view under Regulation 25.4 or 25.5 respectively, subject to any subsequent comments received from the other nation(s). If the provisional view is to approve the eligibility of the player/captain to represent the nominating/applying nation, and the nation wishes to proceed with the nomination and/or application, the other nation(s) concerned will then be notified of the nomination/application that has been received by the ITF and will have 15 days from receipt to comment should it wish to do so. The ITF Executive or ITF Internal Adjudication Panel will then reach its

decision having considered any comments from the other nation(s) concerned, in accordance with Regulation 25.4 or 25.5 above.

25.7 The ITF Executive and ITF Internal Adjudication Panel have the right to ask a National Association to produce evidence to show how a player or captain is qualified to represent that nation.

25.8 A player or captain who has represented, or has been eligible to represent, a nation and such a nation is divided into two or more nations, shall immediately be eligible to represent any one of those nations.

25.9 A player or captain who has represented, or has been eligible to represent, a nation and such nation is absorbed in whole or in part by another nation, shall immediately be eligible to represent such other nation.

25.10 A player or captain who represented a nation under the Regulations for the ITF World Team Championships in force at 31 December 2016 or prior thereto shall continue to be eligible to represent that nation even if he/she is no longer qualified to do so under the terms of this Regulation save that he/she must remain in good standing in accordance with Appendix V.

25.11 A player shall be deemed to have represented a nation if he/she shall have been nominated at the time of the draw.

## **26. Waiver of Claims**

In submitting an entry, a National Association, its officers, directors, employees and its team members agree, as a condition of entry, that, subject to the limits set out below, for themselves, their executors, administrators, heirs and personal representatives, all claims of any kind, nature and description are waived, including past, present or future claims and injuries, if any, sustained in travelling to or from, or participating in an ITF WTMT event, against the ITF, the National Association or Regional Association sanctioning such events as well as officials, and (if applicable) sponsors, promoters, television or other broadcast licensees, vendors, venues, local organisers and others connected with such WTMT tournaments, including its employees, officer, directors, volunteers, and representatives.

Nothing in these Regulations excludes or limits the liability of the ITF, or any of the above parties:

- (i) for death or personal injury caused by their (respective) negligence;
  - (ii) for fraud; or
- to the extent that such exclusion or limitation is not permitted by applicable law.

## **27. Insurance**

National Associations are responsible for ensuring that all members of their team(s), and any accompanying officials in their delegation, are fully and adequately covered by medical and travel insurance for the purposes of attending and participating in the event. The ITF, the title sponsor, the host National Association and the host venue cannot accept any liability for any participant or visitor in this respect.

## **28. Publicity and Promotion**

(a) Each player grants to the ITF, the tournament's sanctioning National Association, the tournament and their agents and assignees the right, in perpetuity and for commercial and non-commercial purposes:

(i) to use or authorise the use of his or her name, voice, photograph, likeness, signature, biographical material and other identification, in any and all media, for the purpose of publicising and promoting the sport of tennis, the ITF, the tournament's sanctioning National Association, the tournament and their respective affiliates and events including the right to use the same on event posters, photos, programs, merchandise and other materials, and for the televising broadcasting and filming of the same; and

(ii) to make, show and otherwise use, in any and all media, still and moving pictures, whether live or otherwise, and any other visual and/or audio-visual reproductions of his or her performance or appearance as a sportsman on and off the court during the event.

(b) With respect to sub sections (a)(i) and (a)(ii) above:

(i) there will be no compensation payable in relation to the grant of such rights; and

(ii) the rights granted may not be used in such a way as to constitute an endorsement by the player of any product or company.

(c) Players acknowledge that their tennis biography and complete tournament history shall be published on the ITF's website for the purposes of transparency and promotion of the sport.

## **29. Related Regulations**

To the extent not covered herein The Constitution of ITF Limited and the Rules of Tennis shall be applicable to the Competition.

### **30. Failure to Abide by the Rules and Regulations**

Any competing nation that fails to conform to the Rules and Regulations may be immediately disqualified and/or shall be liable to have its entry refused for future Competitions until assurances of compliance with the Regulations are given, and subject to any further penalties set out in these Regulations.

## **IV. COMPETITION REGULATIONS**

### **31. Conduct of Event – Local Organising Committee**

An Organising Committee shall be appointed which shall be approved by the National Association of the country where the Competition is played (the host nation). The Organising Committee shall keep the ITF informed of the arrangements for the event.

### **32. The Captain**

The Captain must qualify as defined in Section II, Rule 25.

The Captain shall be allowed to sit on court beside the chair of his/her team but he/she may not move away from that area and in particular may not cross the net to the opposite side of the court. The Captain is the only member of the team permitted to talk to the Chair Umpire and, in case of an appeal on a question of tennis law, only the Captain may request to talk to the Referee. If the Captain is unable to fulfil his/her duties on court he/she may be replaced only by one of the nominated players who shall be allowed to sit on court and who shall under these circumstances be permitted to talk to the Chair Umpire and/or request to talk to the Referee.

### **33. Captains' Meetings & Team Registration**

Team Registration will take place the morning of the Captains meeting. Team Captains will be required to confirm that all team members will be present from day one (1) of play and that the player nomination order is correct.

A Captains' Meeting shall be held on the day preceding the commencement of match play at which the ITF Representative shall be Chairperson. He/she shall re-confirm the seedings and ensure that all appropriate announcements are made by the Host Nation's representatives and shall also direct the Draw. Without prior approval of the ITF Representative, only Captains or their appointed delegates may attend the Captains' Meeting. Additional Captains' Meetings shall be arranged at the discretion of the ITF Representative.

Should the Captain of a team or the appointed delegate fail to attend the Captains' Meeting without having notified the ITF in advance, the team shall be fined half the amount of the entry fee. Captains are responsible for confirming that all players are present for first day of match play.

Should the Captain of a team or the appointed delegate fail to attend the Captains' Meeting without having notified the ITF in advance, the team will not be included in the draw.

#### **34. Arbitration**

See Section II, Regulation 9, above.

#### **35. Officials**

The Host Nation shall appoint on and off court officials as required by the ITF.

The Referee shall as a minimum be certified as a White Badge Referee, unless otherwise approved by the ITF.

#### **36. Duties of the Referee**

1. The Referee shall:
  - a) use Tournament Planner software (ITF Masters Team Event Planner (TP) before and during the Championships;
  - b) upload results daily on the ITF WTMT website using the Tournament Planner software (ITF Masters TP);
  - c) send the ITF office regular backups of the ITF WTMT TP files during the event as well as on completion of the event;
  - d) prior to the event conduct such training sessions and meetings as may be necessary to familiarise thoroughly all officials with all applicable Rules and Procedures;
  - e) be responsible for all aspects of play;
  - f) assist the ITF Representative in conducting the Captains Meeting and make the Draw for all events;
  - g) prepare the daily order of play and ensure that it is posted on the official notice board and it is published online through the ITF Masters TP as early as is possible;
  - h) ensure that all courts are fit for play;
  - i) ensure that all courts are equipped with singles sticks, a Chair Umpire's chair, players' chairs, linespersons chairs, water cups and a measuring device;
  - j) decide if a match shall be moved to another court;
  - k) decide when play should be postponed or stopped because of weather conditions, inadequate light or other conditions;
  - l) be the final authority for on court disputes in respect of the Code of Conduct and interpretation of the Rules of Tennis;
  - m) be responsible for arranging the bonus event and draw;
  - n) ensure that all results are accurately recorded on the official draw sheet;
  - o) designate the official visible timepiece at a fixed location as the official clock of the tournament; and
  - p) be present at all times during the playing of matches.

## 2. The Referee's Powers

- a) The Referee is the on-site representative of the ITF, and is responsible for ensuring the uniform administration and interpretation of the Masters Tour Regulations, the Rules of Tennis, the Organisational Requirements, the Masters Tour Code of Conduct and the ITF Duties and Procedures for Officials.
- b) The Referee shall have the following power and discretion in relation to Captain misconduct before and during the period of the tournament:
  - (i) he/she may give a formal warning, and after two warnings, remove the Captain from his/her duties for the match in course and/or for any or all of the remaining matches of that Tie, in which case the Captain may be replaced only by a member of the nominated team. The Referee may remove the Captain without a formal warning for a single incident of misconduct, if in his/her discretion, it is warranted; and/or
  - (ii) remove the Captain's accreditation, order his/her removal from the site, and/or order continued denial of access for a specified period of time or for the remainder of the tournament. However, prior to removal of accreditation, removal from site and/or denial of access to the site, the Referee must use best efforts to obtain the approval of the Executive Director.

In addition, the Captain may be subject to the applicable provisions and penalties in Section III, Code of Conduct.

All decisions of the Referee are final, unless stated otherwise in these Regulations.

### **37. ITF Representative**

The position of the ITF Representative on site is one of final authority on any decision taken in respect of any change in the agreed programme of events including change of surface due to bad weather conditions.

The Referee is solely responsible for decisions on court regarding the Rules of Tennis, but any interpretation of the WTMT Rules must be referred to the ITF Representative.

The Captain of any competing nation may refer to the ITF Representative if he/she considers any act or decision of the Referee to be inconsistent with these Regulations. For the avoidance of doubt, this does not confer any appeal rights beyond those set out in Section II, Regulation 8.

### **38. Seeding**

The number of seeds shall be recorded on the Format of Play document communicated to Team Captains prior to the Team Championships but shall be no



more than a maximum of half the draw. The selection of seeds shall be decided by the ITF Representative(s) based on the following:

Seeding will be decided in advance of the event by the ITF Masters Committee representatives for the event. The number of seeds allocated to each draw is based on the number of entries received and the Format of Play for that respective draw size. Preliminary seeding will be based on the team's previous year results using the following metrics:

- Finishing position of the team in previous three (3) editions of the event
- ITFWorld Team Ranking
- Where two (2) or more players are moving up an age group since the last edition was played, the ITF World Team Ranking from the age group lower will be considered
- Head-to-Head results from the teams in previous three (3) editions.

The final seeding shall consider player data and results using the following metrics in relation to the nominated players:

- ITF Masters Rankings of nominated players
- Career high ITF Masters rankings
- ITF World Tennis Number of nominated players
- Career high professional Men's & Women's rankings up will be considered for the 30+ to 60+ age groups
- Head-to-Head Results between individual players

### **39. Format of Play**

All possible formats of play for the ITF WorldTeam Championships for entry sizes from 3 to 32 teams will be communicated to the Team Captain in advance of the event and published online and in a prominent place at each tournament venue on Day 1.

The Competition will be played on a Round Robin basis, followed by Knock-out and/or Round Robin in the later stages, depending on number of entries, to give complete final standings of all teams.

For draw sizes consisting of 17-23 teams, 'byes' in the knockout stage shall be filled by teams that finish in 2<sup>nd</sup> position in the first Round Robin stage and shall be drawn by lot. For draw sizes consisting of 6 teams and 12-16 teams, group winners and 2<sup>nd</sup> placed teams will advance to Quarter Finals.

As far as is practicable, teams from the same Round Robin group shall be placed in different halves of the draw in the first round of the Knock-out stage. This will be applied to all draws in the second stage. Full details can be found [here:](https://www.itftennis.com/media/13412/2024-itf-masters-world-championships-progression-of-2nd-placed-teams-in-draw-formats.pdf)  
<https://www.itftennis.com/media/13412/2024-itf-masters-world-championships-progression-of-2nd-placed-teams-in-draw-formats.pdf>

#### **40. Match Formats**

Unless stated, singles matches shall be played over the best of three (3) tie-break (7 points) sets. In the following exceptions, a ten (10) point Match Tie Break will be played in the final set to decide the match:

- The Gardnar Mulloy Cup M80 (singles & doubles)
- The Doris Hart Cup W80 (singles & doubles)
- The Lorne Main Cup (M85) (singles & doubles)
- The Angela Mortimer Cup (W85) (singles and doubles)

Doubles matches in all round robin and all knockout stages of the World Team Championships shall be played as two tie-break sets and a Match Tie-Break (10 point) in place of a third set, unless otherwise approved by the ITF.

#### **41. Draw**

The Draw shall be made by the Referee, under the supervision of the ITF Representative.

The Draw shall be made in public at the venue for the Competition no later than twelve (12) hours before the commencement of the Competition. Once the draw has been made there can be no change unless a team retires or is forced to retire from the time the draw is made until the daily nomination deadline on the first day of play, the Referee in his discretion and in agreement with the ITF Representative may remake in part or in full the draw of that Cup.

#### **42. Order of Play**

The order of play shall be as follows:

First Match:	Number 2 v Number 2
Followed by:	Number 1 v Number 1
Followed by:	Doubles Match

It may be necessary on occasions such as bad weather to play both singles matches simultaneously. If this is necessary, every effort will be made to play both matches on

neighbouring courts. This may result in any unfinished matches and/or matches that have not started from the previous day being moved to a different court.

If the doubles match has not started by a specific time confirmed in the official order of play or official factsheet, the Referee, at their discretion may delay the match until the following day and schedule on a different court.

#### **43. Court Surface**

The surface of the courts to be used shall be subject to the approval of the Masters Committee.

#### **44. Balls**

The balls to be used in the Competition must conform to the specifications in Rule 3 of the Rules of Tennis and must have been approved by the ITF.

There shall be a minimum of four new balls for each match; another four new balls shall be provided for a third set. New balls shall not be provided for any ten (10) point Match Tie-Break.

Balls shall be provided for practice, but it shall not be obligatory to give new balls for this purpose.

#### **45. Notification of Singles and Doubles Players**

The Referee shall determine the time by which he/she shall receive from the Captains the daily nominations of the two (2) singles players and the doubles pairing. The doubles pairing may be altered by the Captain after the completion of the second singles match by formal application to the Referee. Failure to formally advise the Referee of a change to the doubles pairing will result in the forfeit of the doubles match.

#### **46. Composition of the Doubles Pairing**

Any two (2) members of the team may be nominated by the Captain to play any of the doubles matches.

#### **47. Entitlement to Rest**

If a player is called upon to play more than one (1) round in one day, the Referee shall decide his or her entitlement to rest.

#### **48. Substitutions**

If a player is unable to play his/her match due to health or injury or bereavement following notification of his/her name to the Referee, a substitution may be made by the Captain from the final nominated team. The Referee's decision to allow or not allow substitution shall be final.

Any player who is nominated but unable to compete in a match must see the doctor/physio to be deemed unfit to play. If a team has a minimum of 2 players that can compete, the tie must be played.

Any team that is unable to put out a team must provide confirmation from the doctor/physio.

#### **49. Interval between Singles and Doubles**

Singles matches should follow each other immediately. There shall be a maximum of twenty (20) minutes between the finish of the Number 2 singles and the start of the Number 1 singles match. There shall be an interval of thirty (30) minutes between the singles and doubles matches, unless decided otherwise by the Referee.

#### **50. Relocation of Doubles Match**

The Referee shall have the discretion to transfer a doubles match to another court.

#### **51. Method of Determining Positions in Round Robin Events**

Each tie will consist of three matches; two singles and one doubles. The nation which wins the majority of the matches in the tie shall be declared the winner and shall be awarded one point.

- If two nations score an equal number of points, the head-to-head result between these nations shall decide the winner.
- If three or more nations score an equal number of points the following procedure shall be used:
  - The number of matches won shall decide the winner.
  - If matches won are equal, the percentage of sets won of sets played against all teams in the pool shall decide the winner.
  - If the percentages of sets won are equal, the percentages of games won against all teams in the pool shall decide the winner.

When three or more nations are tied, head-to-head results are never used to determine the positions in the group.

If any match is stopped and not completed for reasons of injury, etc., the full score shall be recorded. Example: Player A leads over Player B by 6-1, 2-0 when Player B is injured and unable to continue. Player A's victory shall be recorded as 6-1, 6-0.

#### **52. Team Identification**

Team Identification is strongly recommended, and the Identification on Dress and Equipment Rule shall apply (see Section III, Code of Conduct).

### **53. ITF World Team Championships – Individual Player Ranking Points**

Singles and doubles ranking points for matches won at ITF World Team Championships (which form part of the WTMT) are outlined in Regulation 21.

### **54. World Tennis Masters Tour - World Team Rankings/Individual Player rankings**

Points for the ITF Masters World Team Rankings will be awarded in each of the World Team Championship age groups and this will enable a ranking to be generated for each nation in each age group.

The rankings will consider the finishing position of nations in the World Team Championship Cup events over a three (3) year period.

The points total will be worked out over the three (3) year period with the number of points counting towards the ranking with the following percentages:

Year 1: 100%

Year 2: 80%

Year 3: 60%

Points allocation according to final position:

Position	Points	Position	Point	Position	Points
1	8500	12	2100	23	320
2	7500	13	1800	24	260
3	6800	14	1500	25	220
4	6100	15	1200	26	180
5	5500	16	900	27	140
6	4900	17	800	28	100
7	4300	18	700	29	80
8	3700	19	600	30	60
9	3300	20	500	31	40
10	2900	21	440	32	20
11	2500	22	380		

The ITF World Team Rankings will be published following the completion of World Team Championships and published on the WTMT website.

## **55. Electronic Line Calling**

The use of Electronic Line-Calling (ELC) systems is permitted at the ITF World Team Championships, subject to the following conditions and requirements:

- The Host Nation must make a request to the ITF to use ELC at least nine (9) weeks in advance of the tournament start date;
- The request must have been approved by the ITF
- The ELC system must have been classified by the ITF and approved by the ITF for use at the tournament in question;
- The ITF may at its sole discretion refuse the use of a particular ELC system during the ITF World Team Championships, including in the event such decision to refuse its use is taken once the tournament is already underway; and
- The processing of any data arising from the use of the ELC system shall always be subject to the provisions in Appendix VI (Data Rights).

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## SECTION III

### CODE OF CONDUCT

#### ITF WORLD TENNIS MASTERS TOUR, ITF WORLD TEAM AND INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS (WTMT)

##### I. GENERAL

References in this Code of Conduct (Code) to the ITF Executive Director shall hereafter mean the ITF Senior Executive Director of ITF Tours and Player Pathway.

References in this Code to the Committee shall hereafter mean the ITF Masters Committee.

##### A. Purpose

The International Tennis Federation promulgates this ITF Code of Conduct (Code) in order to maintain fair and reasonable standards of conduct by players, any Related Persons and Tournament Participants (for the purposes of Article III-1) at all tournaments, continental championships, international WTMT team and individual competitions included in the WTMT Calendar, and to protect their respective rights, the rights of the public and the integrity of the Sport of Tennis. All references to the International Tennis Federation or the ITF shall mean the ITF limited.

##### B. Exclusive Applicability

This Code is applicable as stated herein to the ITF WTMT and ITF World Team and Individual Championships. Any reference to players in this Code shall apply to all team members in the ITF World Team Championships, including the Captains, where appropriate.

This Code shall be the exclusive basis for disciplinary action against any player, Related Person, Covered Person or tournament in ITF sanctioned WTMT tournaments, except to the extent that disciplinary jurisdiction is established in relation to such tournaments under (i) the Tennis Anti-Doping Programme and/or (ii) the ITF Welfare Policy.

For the purposes of this Code, 'Related Person' is defined as any coach, trainer, therapist, physician, management representative, agent, family member, tournament guest, business associate or other affiliate or associate of any player, or any other person who receives accreditation at an ITF WTMT tournament at the request of the player or any other Related Person.

For the purposes of Article III-1 of this Code, 'Covered Person' is defined as any player, and any player's coach, trainer, manager, agent, medical or para-medical personnel and/or family member, tournament guest, or other similar associate of any player, and any tournament personnel, such as an official, tournament director, staff, volunteer, sponsor, health care provider, ITF staff member and members of the media that accredited to attend an WTMT tournament.

## **II. ENTRY OFFENCES**

### **A. Entry Offences**

#### **1. Late Withdrawal/No Show**

Any late withdrawal from a player accepted into the Main Draw or Qualifying that occurs after the Withdrawal Deadline shall be considered a late withdrawal. A player's first (1) late withdrawal offence within a calendar year is excused, provided the withdrawal is made using the player's IPIN online account prior to the draw being published.

Any unauthorised late withdrawal or any subsequent late withdrawal shall subject a player to sanction points in accordance with the Suspension Point Schedule below.

A player will have committed a No-Show Offence if:

- the player is accepted into the Qualifying Draw and fails to arrive on-site for his/her first match in the tournament; or
- the player is accepted into the Main Draw or has a wild card entry and fails to arrive on-site for his/her first match in the tournament. The Referee may waive the No Show Offence for a player who arrives on-site after the scheduled commencement time for his/her match, and penalise him/her for the On-Site Offence of Punctuality instead

A player with one (1) no show at WTMT tournaments will be prevented from entering and/or playing any further WTMT tournaments until all outstanding entry fees and IPIN fees are paid. The player will be prevented access to the IPIN system until payment has been made.

In circumstances that are flagrant and particularly injurious to the success of the tournament, or are singularly egregious, a single violation of this Section shall also constitute the Major Offence of Aggravated Behaviour.



## **2. On-Site Medical Withdrawal**

If a player is forced to retire or withdraw during a tournament for medical reasons, the ITF Medical Certification form must be completed by the medically qualified physician on-site verifying that the player is unfit to continue playing in the current tournament.

For the purpose of this rule, the ITF Medical Certification form must be completed and submitted to the ITF no later than the last day of the tournament.

A valid ITF Medical Certification form will excuse a late withdrawal penalty including for any subsequent tournament until the player next competes in any tennis event, provided the late withdrawal is submitted prior to the draw being made.

## **3. One Tournament**

No player who has entered and been accepted into the Qualifying or Main Draw of an ITF WTMT tournament shall play in any other tennis event during the period of such tournament.

Violation of this section shall result in a default by the ITF Referee and forfeiture of all WTMT Individual Ranking points and forfeiture of all prize money and/or hospitality money earned during the given period.

In circumstances that are flagrant and particularly injurious to the success of the tournament, or are singularly egregious, a single violation of this Section shall also constitute the Major Offence of Aggravated Behaviour.

## **B. Wild Cards**

No player or Related Person, directly or indirectly, shall offer, give solicit, receive or accept, or agree to offer, give, solicit, receive or accept anything of value in exchange for a Wild Card. Violation of this Section by a player or Related Person shall subject that player or related Person to sanction in accordance with Section D below.

The maximum penalty for a breach of this Section B by a player or Related Person shall be permanent denial of access to any ITF tournament, event or circuit.

In circumstances that are flagrant and particularly injurious to the success of a tournament, or are singularly egregious, a single violation of this section shall also constitute the Major Offence of Aggravated Behaviour and shall be subject to the additional penalties below therefore.

### **C. Falsifying Official Documentation**

Should a player submit documentation that the ITF deems to be false evidence, including but not limited to documents pertaining to tournament entry and withdrawal and Code of Conduct appeals, the player shall be subject to sanction points.

In circumstances that are flagrant and particularly injurious to the success of an WTMT tournament, or are singularly egregious, a single violation of this section shall also constitute the Major Offence of Aggravated Behaviour and shall be subject to the additional penalties below therefore.

### **D. Determination and Penalty**

The ITF or Referee shall make such investigation as is reasonable to determine the facts regarding all entry offences and upon determining that a violation has occurred shall specify punishment therefore and where possible notify the player or Related Person.

### **E. Appeals**

Any player or Related Person found to have committed an Entry Offence may appeal to the ITF Internal Adjudication Panel, which shall determine the matter in accordance with its Procedural Rules (save that there shall be no right of appeal against the ITF Internal Adjudication Panel's decision). The appeal shall be made in writing using the form prescribed by the ITF and must be filed with the ITF by 5.00PM GMT within fourteen (14) days from the date the player is notified of the violation (the Notice of Appeal). The Notice of Appeal must include a statement by the player as to the facts and circumstances of the incident along with any other evidence the player wishes to submit.

## **III. ON-SITE OFFENCES**

### **A. General**

Every player, and in relation to team competitions, the team captain, team member/extra players, coach, trainer or officials of the participating teams (Team Member), shall during all matches and at all times while within the precincts of the site (which shall include any official venue or location related to the tournament) and while engaged in activities directly related to the tournament conduct himself/herself in a professional manner. The provisions below shall apply to each player's and Team Member's conduct while engaging with Officials preparing for and running a tournament in which a Covered Person is entered/involved, and/or within the precincts of each such site, and references to the site shall include tournament hotels, transport, all tournament facilities and locations of tournament functions or activities.

## **B. Punctuality**

Matches shall follow each other without delay in accordance with the announced order of play. The order of play shall be posted at a highly visible place in a general player's area as designated by the Referee.

Matches shall be called in accordance with the order of play using all available and reasonable means. Players shall be ready to play when their matches are called.

Any player not ready to play within fifteen (15) minutes after his/her match is called shall be defaulted unless the Referee in his/her sole discretion, after consideration of all relevant circumstances, elects not to declare a default. The Player may also be subject to additional penalties set out in Article III, O.

## **C. Dress and Equipment**

Every player shall dress and present himself/herself for play in a professional manner. Clean and customarily acceptable tennis attire shall be worn.

Any player who violates this Section may be ordered by the Court Official or Referee to change his/her attire or equipment immediately. Failure of a player to comply with such order may result in an immediate default. (The ITF reserves the right to interpret the following rules so as to give effect to the intent and purposes of these Regulations).

### **1. Unacceptable Attire**

Inappropriate attire shall not be worn during a match (including the warm-up). Players may wear warm-up clothing during the warm-up and during the match provided it complies with the foregoing provisions.

#### **a) Unacceptable Attire**

Sweatshirts, gym shorts, dress shirts, T-shirts or any other inappropriate attire shall not be worn during a match (including the warm-up).

#### **b) Shoes**

Players are required to wear tennis shoes generally accepted as proper tennis attire. Shoes shall not cause damage to the court other than what is expected during the normal course of the match or practice. Damage to a court may be considered as physical or visible, which may include a shoe that leaves mark beyond what is considered acceptable. The ITF Referee has the authority to determine that a shoe does not meet the criteria and may order the player to change.

##### **i) Grass Court Shoes**

At grass court tournaments, no shoes other than those with rubber soles, without heels, ribs, studs or coverings, shall be worn by players. Shoes

with pimples or studs around the outside of the toes shall not be permitted. The foxing around the toes must be smooth.

The Referee has the authority to determine that a tennis shoe's sole does not conform to such customs and standards and can prohibit its use at grass courts tournaments.

#### ii) Clay Court Shoes

Players are required to wear tennis shoes generally accepted for play on clay courts or granular surfaces. The Referee has the authority to determine that a tennis shoe's sole does not conform to such customs and standards and can prohibit its use at clay courts tournaments.

Grass court shoes shall not be worn during a match on clay courts.

## **2. Doubles Teams**

In ITF Team Competitions members of doubles teams shall be dressed in substantially the same colours.

## **3. Team Identification (Team Competitions)**

Players and Captains are encouraged to dress in compliance with Team Identification principles. To comply a Player or Captain shall display the Nation's name on the back of his/her shirt or he/she shall dress in National colours.

## **4. General**

No identification shall be permitted on a player's clothing or equipment that promotes/displays betting companies, tobacco or e-cigarette products, hard liquor products, political activity or other category deemed to be detrimental to the sport of tennis, the ITF or the ITF World Tennis Masters Tour, or that, in the opinion of the ITF Supervisor, shares a clear visual likeness with any such entity so that the identification could reasonably be mistaken for such entity.

In the event the utilisation of any non-prohibited commercial identifications would violate any governmental regulation then the same shall be prohibited.

## **5. Warm-up Clothing**

Players may wear warm-up clothing during the warm-up and during a match provided it complies with the foregoing provisions and provided further that the players obtain approval of the Referee prior to wearing warm-up clothing during a match.

## **D. Time Violation/Delay of Game**

Following the expiration of the warm-up period play shall be continuous and a player shall not unreasonably delay a match for any cause.

A maximum of twenty five (25) seconds shall elapse from the moment the ball goes out of play at the end of the point until the time the ball is struck for the first serve of the next point. If such serve is a fault then the second serve must be struck by the server without delay.

When changing ends a maximum of ninety (90) seconds shall elapse from the moment the ball goes out of play at the end of the game until the time the first serve is struck for the next game. If such first serve is a fault the second serve must be struck by the server without delay. However, after the first game of each set and during a Tie-Break, play shall be continuous and the players shall change ends without a rest period.

At the conclusion of each set, regardless of the score, there shall be a set break of one hundred and twenty (120) seconds from the moment the ball goes out of play at the end of the set until the time the first serve is struck for the next set.

If a set ends after an even number of games, there shall be no change of ends until after the first game of the next set.

The receiver shall play to the reasonable pace of the server and shall be ready to receive within a reasonable time of the server being ready.

A Time Violation may be issued prior to the expiration of twenty five (25) seconds if the receiver's actions are delaying the reasonable pace of the server.

The first violation of this Section, as either server or receiver, shall be penalised by a Time Violation - Warning and each subsequent violation, as either server or receiver, shall be penalised as follows:

- Server: The Time Violation shall result in a fault
- Receiver: The Time Violation shall result in a point penalty

In each case, the Chair Umpire/Referee may determine that an extension of time is necessary and not impose a penalty.

When a violation is a result of a medical condition, refusal to play or not returning to the court within the allowed time a Code Violation (Delay of Game) penalty shall be assessed in accordance with the Point Penalty Schedule.

### **E. Audible Obscenity**

Players and Team Members shall not use audible obscenity within the precinct of the tournament site. If such violation occurs during a match (including the warm-up), the player shall be penalised in accordance with the Point Penalty Schedule below. In circumstances that are flagrant and particularly injurious to the success of a tournament, or are singularly egregious, a single violation of this Section shall also

constitute the Major Offence of Aggravated Behaviour and shall be subject to the additional penalties below.

For the purposes of this Rule, audible obscenity is defined as the use of words commonly known and understood to be profane and uttered clearly and loudly enough to be heard by Court Officials or spectators.

#### **F. Visible Obscenity**

Players and Team Members shall not make obscene gestures of any kind within the precincts of the tournament site. If such violation occurs during a match (including the warm-up), the player shall be penalised in accordance with the Point Penalty Schedule below. In circumstances that are flagrant and particularly injurious to the success of a tournament, or are singularly egregious, a single violation of this Section shall also constitute the Major Offence of Aggravated Behaviour and shall be subject to the additional penalties below.

For the purposes of this Rule, visible obscenity is defined as the making of signs by a player with his/her hands and/or racquet or balls that commonly have an obscene meaning.

#### **G. Verbal Abuse**

Players and Team Members shall not at any time verbally abuse any official, opponent, spectator, or other person within the precincts of the tournament site or official hotel(s). If such violation occurs during a match (including the warm-up), the player shall be penalised in accordance with the Point Penalty Schedule below. In circumstances that are flagrant and particularly injurious to the success of a tournament, or are singularly egregious, a single violation of this Section shall also constitute the Major Offence of Aggravated Behaviour and shall be subject to the additional penalties below. For the purposes of this Rule, verbal abuse is defined as a statement about an official, opponent, sponsor, spectator, or other person that implies dishonesty or is derogatory, insulting or otherwise abusive.

#### **H. Physical Abuse**

Players and Team Members shall not at any time physically abuse any official, opponent, spectator, or other person within the precincts of the tournament site or official hotel(s). If such violation occurs during a match (including the warm-up), the player shall be penalised in accordance with the Point Penalty Schedule below. In circumstances that are flagrant and particularly injurious to the success of a tournament, or are singularly egregious, a single violation of this Section shall also constitute the Major Offence of Aggravated Behaviour and shall be subject to the additional penalties below. For the purposes of this Rule, physical abuse is the unauthorised touching of a Court Official, opponent, spectator, or other person.

### **I. Abuse of Balls**

Players shall not violently, dangerously or with anger hit, kick, or throw a tennis ball within the precincts of the tournament site except in the reasonable pursuit of a point during a match (including warm-up). If such violation occurs during a match (including the warm-up) the player shall be penalised in accordance with the Point Penalty Schedule below.

For the purposes of this Rule, abuse of balls is defined as intentionally or recklessly hitting a ball out of the enclosure of the court, hitting a ball dangerously or recklessly within the court or hitting a ball with negligent disregard of the consequences.

### **J. Abuse of Racquets or Equipment**

Players shall not violently or with anger hit, kick, or throw a racquet or other equipment within the precincts of the tournament site. If such violation occurs during a match (including the warm-up), the player shall be penalised in accordance with the Point Penalty Schedule below.

For the purposes of this Rule, abuse of racquets or equipment is defined as intentionally and violently destroying or damaging racquets or equipment or intentionally and violently hitting the net, court, umpire's chair, or other fixture during a match out of anger or frustration.

### **K. Coaching and Coaches**

Players shall not receive coaching during a match (including the warm-up) (except in team competitions by the captain as permitted by the Rules of Tennis and the Regulations). For the avoidance of doubt, off court coaching (as defined in the Rules of Tennis) is not permitted on the ITF World Tennis Masters Tour. Communications of any kind, audible or visible, between a player and an off-court individual may be construed as coaching. Players shall also prohibit their coaches (1) from using audible obscenity within the precincts of the tournament site, (2) from making obscene gestures of any kind within the precincts of the tournament site, (3) from verbally abusing any official, opponent, spectator or other person within the precincts of the tournament site, (4) from physically abusing any official, opponent, spectator or other person within the precincts of the tournament site and (5) from giving, making, issuing, authorising or endorsing any public statement within the precincts of the tournament site having, or designed to have, an effect prejudicial or detrimental to the best interests of the tournament and/or of the officiating thereof. If such violation occurs during a match (including the warm-up), the player shall be penalised in accordance with the Point Penalty Schedule below. In circumstances that are flagrant and particularly injurious to the success of a tournament, or are singularly egregious, the Referee may order the Coach to be removed from the site of a match or the precincts of the tournament site and upon his failure to comply with such order may declare an immediate default of such player.

For the purposes of this Rule, a coach shall also include any representative and/or relative of a player.

#### **L. Unsportsmanlike Conduct**

Players and Team Members shall at all times conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner and give due regard to the authority of officials and the rights of opponents, spectators, and others. If such violation occurs during a match (including the warm-up), the player shall be penalised in accordance with the Point Penalty Schedule below. In circumstances that are flagrant and particularly injurious to the success of a tournament, or are singularly egregious, a single violation of this Section shall also constitute the Major Offence of Aggravated Behaviour and shall be subject to the additional penalties below.

For the purposes of this Rule, Unsportsmanlike Conduct is defined as any misconduct by a player that is clearly abusive or detrimental to the Competition, the ITF, or the sport of tennis. In addition, unsportsmanlike conduct shall include, but not be limited to, the giving, making, issuing, authorising, or endorsing any public statement having, or designed to have, an effect prejudicial or detrimental to the best interests of the tournament and/or the officiating thereof.

#### **M. Best Efforts**

A player shall use his best efforts to win a match when competing in an WTMT tournament.

For purposes of this Rule, the Referee and/or Chair Umpire and/or Court Official shall have the authority to penalise a player in accordance with the Point Penalty Schedule. In circumstances that are flagrant and particularly injurious to the success of the tournament or Tie, or are singularly egregious, a single violation of this Section shall also constitute the Major Offence of Aggravated Behaviour and shall be subject to the additional penalties below, therefore.

#### **N. Leaving the Court**

A player shall not leave the court area during a match (including the warm-up) without the permission of the Chair Umpire, Referee, or Court Official. A player who violates this section may be defaulted by the Referee and subjected to the additional penalties for Failure to Complete Match as below, therefore.

#### **O. Failure to Complete Match or Tournament**

A player/team must complete a match/tie in progress, and complete the tournament, unless he/she/team is reasonably unable to do so. Violation of this Section shall subject a player to immediate default and shall also constitute the Major Offence of Aggravated Behaviour and shall be subjected to the additional penalties below, therefore. Any player nominated for any match in the Tie must commence or complete such match



unless he/she is incapacitated by illness, accident, or other unavoidable hindrance. Any player in violation of this section shall not be eligible to represent his/her nation in the next Tie whether in the current Competition or subsequent Competitions.

If a doubles team fails to complete a match/tie in progress or the tournament, the Referee shall have discretion over whether one or both team members will be sanctioned under this section.

#### **P. Ceremonies**

All nominated players and Captains are required to attend the official functions in appropriate team dress unless reasonably unable to do so, as determined by the Referee.

Any player in violation of this section shall not be eligible to represent his/her nation in the subsequent Competitions. In circumstances that are flagrant and particularly injurious to the success of the tournament, or are singularly egregious, a single violation of this Section shall also constitute the Major Offence of Aggravated Behaviour and shall be subject to the additional penalties below, therefore.

#### **Q. Point Penalty Schedule**

The Point Penalty Schedule to be used for violations set forth above is as follows:

FIRST Offence	WARNING
SECOND Offence	POINT PENALTY
THIRD AND EACH SUBSEQUENT Offence	GAME PENALTY

However, after the third Code Violation, the Referee shall determine whether each subsequent offence shall constitute a default.

The imposition of a penalty under the Point Penalty Schedule shall be final and unappealable.

#### **R. Defaults**

The Referee may declare a default for either a single violation of this Code or pursuant to the Point Penalty Schedule set out above.

In all cases of default, the decision of the Referee shall be final and unappealable.

Any player who is defaulted as herein provided may be defaulted from all other events and/or from the remainder of the Tie, except when:

- (a) the player or team was defaulted for a violation of the Punctuality or Dress and Equipment provisions above at Article III, B and C; or
- (b) the player or team was defaulted as a result of a medical condition; or
- (c) the player's doubles partner commits the Code Violation which causes the default.

Default of a player from the remainder of the tournament may include at the Referee's discretion, the removal of accreditation and denial of access to the site. A default as a result of a violation by a Team Member other than a player may subject that Team Member to removal of accreditation, and at the Referee's discretion, denial of access to the site.

Any player who is defaulted as herein provided shall lose all prize money and/or hospitality money and points earned for that event at that tournament or Tie (where applicable).

#### **S. Doubles Events**

Warnings, Point Penalties, Game Penalties and/or a Default if assessed for violation of the Code shall be assessed against the team.

#### **T. Determination and Penalty**

The Referee shall make such investigation as is reasonable to determine the facts regarding all On-Site Offences and upon determining that a violation has occurred shall specify the punishment, other than under the Point Penalty Schedule, and give written notice thereof to the player.

#### **U. Appeals**

Any player or Team Member found to have committed an On-Site Offence may appeal the determination of a violation and/or the punishment imposed under Article III, (T) above (but not any point penalties or defaults) to the ITF Internal Adjudication Panel, which shall determine the matter in accordance with its Procedural Rules (save that there shall be no right of appeal against the ITF Internal Adjudication Panel's decision). The appeal shall be made in writing using the form prescribed by the ITF and must be filed with the ITF by 5.00PM GMT within fourteen (14) days from the date the player/Team Member is notified of the violation (the Notice of Appeal). The Notice of Appeal must include a statement by the player as to the facts and circumstances of the incident along with any other evidence the player wishes to submit.

## V. SUSPENSION POINTS

Suspension points shall be recorded against a player according to the following:

a) Late withdrawals	
Singles:	
From Withdrawal Deadline to the time the draw is published	3
From the time the draw is published to the start of the event	4
Doubles:	
From the time the draw is published to the start of the event*	2
b) Failure to appear at a tournament/No Show )	5
Failure to appear at a tournament or No Show and failure to pay entry fee	7
c) For on-site offences:	
For a warning + a point penalty	2
For a warning + a point penalty + first game penalty	3
For a warning + a point penalty + second game penalty	4
For any subsequent game penalty in a match	+1
For a Default after any of the above	+1
For Any Default for a single violation of the Code (Immediate Default)	6
d) Any Default for reason of dress and equipment or punctuality	2
e) Failure to Complete Match/Tie	5
f) Soliciting a Wild Card	4
g) Submitting False Documentation	7
h) Failure to obtain on-site medical prior to withdrawal	5

*\* There can only be one late withdrawal code per player per tournament, therefore the higher number of suspension points will be applied*

Any player receiving a total of ten (10) or more suspension points shall be suspended from competing WTMT Tournaments for a period of four (4) weeks.

At the Appeal Deadline, the suspended player will be removed from the entry list of any tournament entered that is due to commence during the period of suspension and prevented from entering any tournament due to commence during the period of suspension. Once the period of suspension has been served, the ten (10) points will be deducted from the player's suspension points total. Should a player have more than ten (10) suspension points when he/she commences his/her period of suspension, the balance of the points will be carried over.

The suspension shall commence from a date to be specified by the ITF, which shall take into account the time required to notify the player's National Association and all other relevant parties.

The ITF is responsible for notifying the Regional and/or National Associations of any suspension incurred by a player. Referees and WTMT Tournaments shall be in breach of the Regulations if they allow any player to play that has been notified to them as suspended.

The ITF Internal Adjudication Panel may reduce or waive the suspension points on appeal.

### **III-1. COVID-19 PROTOCOLS (COVERED PERSONS)**

In response to the Covid-19 pandemic, the ITF introduced an obligation for Covered Persons to comply with the *ITF Return to International Tennis Protocols* including without limitation the *Minimum Standard of Behaviour* (the "**Protocols**").

The ITF reserves the right at any time to reintroduce the obligation for Covered Persons to comply with the Protocols. The ITF's decision to reintroduce the obligation for Covered Persons to comply with the Protocols shall be made entirely at the ITF's discretion and shall be made without any obligation to notify Covered Persons, National Associations, Regional Associations or other governing bodies.

In the event the ITF decides to reintroduce the obligation for Covered Persons to comply with the Protocols, the provisions in Article III-1. A, B and C below shall apply.

#### **A. Minimum Standards of Behaviour**

All Covered Persons shall comply with the Protocols. Any failure to comply with the Protocols shall amount to a violation of this Article III-1. Violation of this Article III-1 may result in the following sanctions:

- (i) For a player: one or more point penalties in accordance with the Suspension Points Schedule pursuant to Article III.V (Suspension Points) or an Immediate Default and six (6) suspension points in accordance with Article III.R (Defaults). If such violation occurs during a match (including the warm-up), the player shall be penalised in accordance with the Point Penalty Schedule at Article III.Q. One violation of this Article III-1.A that is flagrant and particularly injurious to the success of the tournament, or is singularly egregious, or a series of two (2) or more violations of this Article III-1.A within a twelve (12) month period which when viewed together establish a pattern of conduct that is collectively

egregious and is detrimental or injurious to the tournament may also constitute the Major Offence of Aggravated Behaviour.

- (ii) For a Related Person or any other Covered Person: immediate revocation of accreditation and denial of access to the tournament. One or more violations which are singularly or collectively flagrant or egregious or detrimental or injurious to the tournament may also result in permanent revocation of accreditation and denial of access to all ITF tournaments, competitions and events as determined by the ITF.

### **B. Determination and Penalty**

The ITF Referee shall make such investigation as is reasonable to determine the facts regarding an alleged violation of this Article III-1. Upon determining that a violation has occurred, the ITF Referee shall specify the sanction(s) to be imposed and give written notice thereof to the Covered Person. The ITF Referee shall not revoke a Covered Person's entry and/or access to an WTMT tournament without first consulting the ITF Executive Director save where the immediate revocation of entry and/or access to a tournament is, in the reasonable opinion of the ITF Referee, necessary to preserve the health and safety of other Covered Persons.

### **C. Appeal**

Any Covered Person found to have committed an offence under Article III-1. A may appeal the determination of a violation and/or the punishment imposed under section A. above (but not any Immediate Default issued to a player) to the ITF Internal Adjudication Panel, which shall determine the matter in accordance with its Procedural Rules (save that there shall be no right of appeal against the ITF Internal Adjudication Panel's decision). The appeal shall be made in writing, using the form prescribed by the ITF and must be filed with the ITF by 17:00 (5.00pm) GMT within fourteen (14) days from the date the Covered Person is notified of the violation. The Notice of Appeal must include a statement by the Covered Person as to the facts and circumstances of the incident along with any other evidence the Covered Person wishes to submit.

## **IV. MAJOR OFFENCES**

### **A. Wagers**

No player or Related Person may wager anything of value in connection with any WTMT tournaments. Violation of this section shall subject the player to a suspension from play in WTMT tournaments for a period of up to three (3) years. Violation of this section shall subject a Related Person to a maximum penalty of permanent denial of access to all ITF WTMT tournaments.

## **B. Bribes or Other Payments**

No player or Related Person may offer, give, solicit, or accept, or agree to offer, give, solicit, or accept, anything of value to or from any person with the intent to influence any player's efforts or participation in any WTMT tournament.

Violation of this section shall subject the player to a suspension from play in WTMT tournaments for a period of up to three (3) years. Violation of this section shall subject a Related Person to a maximum penalty of permanent denial of access to all WTMT tournaments.

## **C. Aggravated Behaviour**

No player or Related Person at any ITF WTMT event shall engage in Aggravated Behaviour which is defined as follows:

- i) One or more incidents of behaviour designated in this Code as constituting Aggravated Behaviour.
- ii) One incident of behaviour that is flagrant and particularly injurious to the success of an WTMT event or is singularly egregious.
- iii) A series of two (2) or more violations of this Code within a twelve (12) month period which singularly do not constitute Aggravated Behaviour, but when viewed together establish a pattern of conduct that is collectively egregious and is detrimental or injurious to the WTMT.

Violation of this section shall subject the player to a maximum penalty of permanent suspension from play in any ITF tournament, event, or Tour.

Violation of this Section by a player, directly or indirectly through a Related Person or others, shall subject them to a maximum penalty of permanent denial of access to any ITF tournament, event, or circuit.

Violation of this Section shall subject a Related Person to a maximum penalty of permanent revocation of accreditation and denial of access to any ITF tournament, event, or Tour.

## **D. Conduct Contrary to the Integrity of the Game**

No player or Related Person shall engage in conduct contrary to the integrity of the Game of Tennis. If a player is convicted of a violation of a criminal or civil law of any country, the punishment of which includes possible imprisonment for more than one year, he/she may be deemed by virtue of such conviction to have engaged in conduct contrary to the integrity of the Game of Tennis and the ITF Executive Director may provisionally suspend such player from further participating in WTMT tournaments pending a final determination in section E. In addition, if a player has at any time behaved in a manner severely damaging to the reputation of the sport, he/she may be

deemed by virtue of such behaviour to have engaged in conduct contrary to the integrity of the Game of Tennis and be in violation of this section.

Violation of this Section by a player, directly or indirectly through a Related Person or others shall subject the player to a maximum penalty of permanent suspension from play in any ITF tournament event or Tour.

Violation of this section shall subject a Related Person to a maximum penalty of permanent denial of access to any ITF tournament, event, or Tour.

#### **E. Determination and Penalty**

The ITF will investigate all facts concerning any alleged Major Offence. All Players and Related Persons must cooperate fully with such investigations. The ITF may make a written demand to a Player or Related Person (a Demand) to furnish to the ITF any information that may evidence or lead to the discovery of evidence of a Major Offence, including (without limitation) requiring the Player or other Related Person to attend an interview and/or to provide a written statement setting forth his/her knowledge of the relevant facts and circumstances. The Player or Related Person must furnish such information within seven business days of the making of such Demand, or within such other deadline as may be specified by the ITF.

Where, as the result of an investigation under this Article IV.E, the ITF forms the view that a Player or Related Person has a case to answer for commission of a Major Offence, the ITF shall send a written notice to the Player or Related Person (the "Notice of Charge") setting out:

- (a) the Major Offence(s) alleged to have been committed, a summary of the facts upon which such allegations are based;
- (b) the potential consequences applicable if it is determined that the alleged Major Offence has been committed; and
- (c) the Player or Related Person's entitlement to respond to the Notice of Charge in one of the following ways:
  - (i) to admit the Major Offence(s) charged, and accede to the consequences specified in the Notice of Charge;
  - (ii) to admit the Major Offence(s) charged, but to dispute and/or seek to mitigate the consequences specified in the Notice of Charge, and to have the Independent Tribunal determine the consequences at a hearing; or
  - (iii) to deny the Major Offence(s) charged, and to have the Independent Tribunal determine the charge and (if the charge is upheld) any consequences, at a hearing;

- (d) if the Player or Related Person wishes to exercise his/her right to a hearing before the Independent Tribunal, he/she must submit a written request for such a hearing so that it is received by the ITF as soon as possible, but in any event within 10 days of the Player or Related Person's receipt of the Notice. The request must also state how the Player or Related Person responds to the charge in the Notice and must explain (in summary form) the basis for such response. In the event no such response is received by that deadline, the Player or Related Person will be deemed to have admitted the Major Offence(s) charged, and to have acceded to the consequences specified in the Notice of Charge.

In the event that the ITF withdraws the Notice of Charge, or the Player or Related Person admits the Major Offence(s) charged and accedes to the consequences specified by the ITF (or is deemed to have done so), a hearing before the Independent Tribunal shall not be required. Instead, the ITF shall promptly issue a decision confirming (as applicable) its withdrawal of the Notice of Charge or the commission of the Major Offence(s) and the imposition of the specified consequences and shall send a copy of the decision to the Player or Related Person.

### **Provisional Suspension**

- i. At the time, afterwards, or (exceptionally) before, it issues a Notice of Charge, the ITF may impose a Provisional Suspension on the Player or Related Person in question pending determination of the charge(s), where it considers it necessary to protect the integrity and/or reputation of the Competition, the ITF, and/or the sport of tennis.
- ii. Where a Provisional Suspension is imposed, the ITF shall notify the Player or Related Person of his/her right:
  - (a) at his/her election, to make an application to the Chair of the Independent Tribunal convened to hear his/her case, either immediately or at any time prior to the full hearing, for an order that the Provisional Suspension should not be imposed (or, if the Provisional Suspension has been imposed, that it should be vacated). The Chair of the Independent Tribunal, sitting alone, will rule on the application as soon as reasonably practicable; and
  - (b) to have the proceedings before the Independent Tribunal expedited so that the hearing is held, and the charge against him/her is determined, as soon as possible, consistent with the requirements of due process.
- iii. In circumstances where the ITF decides not to impose a Provisional Suspension, the Player or Related Person shall be offered the opportunity to accept a



voluntary Provisional Suspension pending the resolution of the matter. If the Player or Related Person wishes to accept the offer (and receive credit against any period of suspension that might be imposed), the Player or Related Person must communicate his/her acceptance in writing to the ITF, in a form acceptable to the ITF.

- iv. No admission shall be inferred, or other adverse inference drawn, from the decision of a Player or Related Person (a) not to make an application to avoid (or to vacate) a Provisional Suspension, or (b) to accept a voluntary Provisional Suspension.
- v. A Player or Related Person may not, during the period of any Provisional Suspension, play, coach or otherwise participate in any capacity in any tournament, event or Tour owned or sanctioned by the ITF.
- vi. Any period of Provisional Suspension served by the Player or Related Person (whether imposed or voluntarily accepted in writing, in a form acceptable to the ITF) shall be credited against any period of suspension imposed by the Independent Tribunal, provided that the Player or Related Person must have respected the terms of the Provisional Suspension in full. No credit against a period of suspension shall be given for any time period before the effective date of the Provisional Suspension (whether imposed or voluntarily accepted in writing, in a form acceptable to the ITF), regardless of the Player's or Related Person's status or lack of participation during such period. If a period of suspension is served pursuant to a decision that is subsequently appealed, then the Player or Related Person shall receive a credit for such period of Provisional Suspension served against any period of suspension that may ultimately be imposed on appeal.

### **Hearing**

If the Player or Related Person charged exercises his/her right to a hearing, the matter shall be referred to the Independent Tribunal and shall be resolved in accordance with the Independent Tribunal's Procedural Rules.

### **F. Commencement of Penalty**

A suspension imposed on a Player for a Major Offence shall take effect from the later of the following, unless specified otherwise by the Independent Tribunal or the ITF when issuing a suspension:

- (a) the date of notification by the ITF or the Independent Tribunal;
- (b) if the Player is participating in a Tournament on the date of notification, the day after he or she finishes competing in that Tournament.

The revocation of accreditation or denial of access to any ITF tournament, event or Tour imposed on a Related Person shall take effect immediately upon notification.

Any breach by a player or Related Person of the terms of their sanction under this section IV shall be referred to the ITF Internal Adjudication Panel and dealt with pursuant to clause 5 of the *Procedural Rules governing an Internal Adjudication Panel convened under ITF Rules*.

### **G. Appeal**

The ITF, the Player and/or the Related Person may appeal the Independent Tribunal's decision to the Court of Arbitration for Sport. The appeal proceedings shall be conducted in accordance with the CAS Code of Sports-related Arbitration, in the English language, and shall be governed by English Law.

## **V. MEDICAL CONTROL – ANTI-DOPING POLICY**

Any Player, Player Support Personnel or other Person who enters or participates in the WTMT shall be bound by and shall comply with all of the provisions of the 2024 ITF Tennis Anti-Doping Programme.

The 2024 ITF Tennis Anti-Doping Programme is set out in full on the ITF website ([www.itftennis.com/antidoping](http://www.itftennis.com/antidoping)) and in a separate rulebook that is published and distributed by the ITF to all National Associations.

## **VI. TOURNAMENT OFFENCES**

### **A. Applicability**

This Article shall apply to each ITF Masters Tour Tournament and Applicant. References in this Article to a Tournament shall hereafter mean an ITF Masters Tour Tournament or applicant for such a tournament, and where applicable refers to the legal entity (personal or corporate) that is applying for, administering, operating, or otherwise organising the ITF Masters Tour Tournament.

### **B. Guarantees**

The owner(s), operator(s), sponsor(s) or agent(s) of a Tournament shall not offer, give or pay money or anything of value, nor shall the Tournament permit any other person or entity to offer, give or pay money or anything of value to a player, directly or indirectly, to influence or guarantee a player's appearance at a Tournament, other than prize money and permitted amateur expenses, unless authorised to do so by the Committee. Violation of this Section shall subject the Tournament to a fine up to \$5,000 plus the amount or value of any such payment, forfeiture of all sums, if any, previously paid to the ITF, and/or withdrawal of its sanction. In the event the ITF Executive Director

believes that a Tournament may be violating this Section, then upon demand the Tournament must furnish or cause to be furnished to the ITF Executive Director or his agent, access to and copies of all records to which it has access relating in any way to such alleged guarantee, or, in the absence of such records, an affidavit setting forth the facts in detail with respect to any transaction under question by the ITF Executive Director.

#### **C. Wild Cards**

No Tournament, directly or indirectly, shall offer, give, solicit, receive, or accept, or agree to offer, give, solicit, receive, or accept anything of value in exchange for a Wild Card. Violation of this section shall subject the Tournament to a fine of up to \$5,000, forfeiture of all sums, if any, previously paid to the ITF, and/or withdrawal of its sanction.

#### **D. Conduct Contrary to the Integrity of the Game**

No Tournament, or any owner, promoter, or operator thereof, shall engage in conduct contrary to the integrity of the Sport.

Violation of this Section may subject the Tournament to a fine up to \$5,000, forfeiture of all sums, if any, previously paid to the ITF, and/or withdrawal of its sanction.

#### **E. ITF WTMT Rules**

No Tournament shall violate any provisions of these ITF Masters Tour Rules. Violation of this Section shall subject the Tournament to a fine up to \$5,000, forfeiture of all sums, if any, previously paid to the ITF, and/or withdrawal of its sanction.

#### **F. Late Cancellations**

No Tournament shall cancel less than sixty (60) days prior to the scheduled commencement of the event.

Violation of this section may subject the Tournament to a fine up to \$5,000, reimbursement of unrecoverable expenses incurred, forfeiture of all sums, if any, previously paid to the ITF, and/or withdrawal of its sanction.

#### **G. COVID-19 Protocols**

In response to the Covid-19 pandemic, the ITF introduced an obligation for Tournaments to comply with the *ITF Return to International Tennis Protocols* including without limitation the *Minimum Standard of Behaviour* (the “**Protocols**”).

The ITF reserves the right at any time to reintroduce the obligation for Tournaments to comply with the Protocols. The ITF’s decision to reintroduce the obligation for Tournaments to comply with the Protocols shall be made entirely at the ITF’s

discretion and shall be made without any obligation to notify Tournaments, National Associations, Regional Associations or other governing bodies.

In the event the ITF decides to reintroduce the obligation, a Tournament shall comply with the Protocols. Any failure to comply with the Protocols shall amount to a violation of this Article VI.G. Violation of this Article VI.G shall subject the Tournament to a fine of up to \$5,000, forfeiture of all sums, if any, previously paid or due to the ITF, an order for reimbursement of unrecoverable expenses incurred by Covered Persons, withdrawal of its sanction and/or denial of subsequent applications to host.

#### **H. Determination and Penalty**

The ITF shall cause an investigation to be made of all facts concerning any alleged Tournament Offence by a Tournament and shall provide written notice of such investigation to the Tournament involved. The Tournament must cooperate fully with such investigations.

The ITF may make a written demand to a Tournament (a Demand) to furnish to the ITF any information that may evidence or lead to the discovery of evidence of a Tournament Offence, including (without limitation) requiring the Tournament to attend an interview and/or to provide a written statement setting forth its knowledge of the relevant facts and circumstances. The Tournament must furnish such information within seven business days of the making of such Demand, or within such other deadline as may be specified by the ITF.

Where, as the result of an investigation under this Article VI, the ITF forms the view that a Tournament has a case to answer for commission of a Tournament Offence, the ITF shall send a written notice to the Tournament (the "Notice of Charge") setting out:

- (a) the Tournament Offence(s) alleged to have been committed, a summary of the facts upon which such allegations are based;
- (b) the potential consequences applicable if it is determined that the alleged Tournament Offence has been committed; and
- (c) the Tournament's entitlement to respond to the Notice of Charge in one of the following ways:
  - (i) to admit the Tournament Offence(s) charged, and accede to the consequences specified in the Notice of Charge;
  - (ii) to admit the Tournament Offence (s) charged, but to dispute and/or seek to mitigate the consequences specified in the Notice of Charge, and to have the Independent Tribunal determine the consequences at a hearing;or

- (iii) to deny the Tournament Offence (s) charged, and to have the Independent Tribunal determine the charge and (if the charge is upheld) any consequences, at a hearing;
- (d) if the Tournament wishes to exercise its right to a hearing before the Independent Tribunal, it must submit a written request for such a hearing so that it is received by the ITF as soon as possible, but in any event within 10 days of the Tournament's receipt of the Notice. The request must also state how the Tournament responds to the charge in the Notice and must explain (in summary form) the basis for such response. In the event no such response is received by that deadline, the Tournament will be deemed to have admitted the Tournament Offence(s) charged, and to have acceded to the consequences specified in the Notice of Charge.

In the event that the ITF withdraws the Notice of Charge, or the Tournament admits the Tournament Offence(s) charged and accedes to the consequences specified by the ITF (or is deemed to have done so), a hearing before the Independent Tribunal shall not be required. Instead, the ITF shall promptly issue a decision confirming (as applicable) its withdrawal of the Notice of Charge or the commission of the Tournament Offence(s) and the imposition of the specified consequences and shall send a copy of the decision to the tournament.

### **Hearing**

If the tournament charged exercises its right to a hearing, the matter shall be referred to the Independent Tribunal and shall be resolved in accordance with the Independent Tribunal's Procedural Rules.

### **I. Payment of Fines**

All fines levied by the Independent Tribunal shall be paid by the tournament to the ITF within thirty (30) days after receipt of written notice thereof.

### **J. Appeals**

Any Tournament found to have committed a Tournament Offence may, after paying all fines as above provided, appeal the decision of the Independent Tribunal to the Court of Arbitration for Sport. The appeal proceedings shall be conducted in accordance with the CAS Code of Sports-related Arbitration, in the English language, and shall be governed by English Law.

## **VII. WELFARE POLICY**

Covered Persons (as defined in the ITF Welfare Policy) that attend and/or participate on the ITF WTMT shall be bound by and shall comply with the provisions of the Welfare Policy set out in Appendix IV.

## **VIII. RECIPROCITY & INFORMATION SHARING**

Defined terms used in this Appendix are:

- (a) Tennis Organisation means any organisation involved in the governance, regulation, sanctioning, organization, or administration of tennis, including but not limited to the Women's Tennis Association, Association of Tennis Professionals, the Grand Slam Board, and each member national association;
- (b) Disciplinary Sanction means a suspension, ineligibility or other sanction issued against a Covered Person (as defined in Appendix IV - ITF Welfare Policy) pursuant to a conduct or disciplinary process, under a code of conduct or disciplinary policy (including where some or all of the sanction is suspended, but strictly excluding monetary fines);
- (c) Reciprocate means the affirmation, modification or extension of a Disciplinary Sanction;

The ITF reserves the right to ask the ITF Internal Adjudication Panel to Reciprocate with respect to any or all Tournaments and/or Competitions referred to under these Regulations, a Disciplinary Sanction issued by or on behalf of the ITF, any other Tennis Organisation or other relevant authority. When considering whether to Reciprocate a Disciplinary Sanction, the ITF Internal Adjudication Panel will have regard to the following matters :

- i. Whether the Disciplinary Sanction was so unreasonable as to be manifestly excessive or unduly lenient;
- ii. Whether the disciplinary proceedings that resulted in the Disciplinary Sanction were procedurally unfair or contrary to natural justice, having regard to all the circumstances.

A decision by the ITF Internal Adjudication Panel to Reciprocate a Disciplinary Sanction may be appealed by the Covered Person to the Independent Tribunal, which shall determine the matter in accordance with its Procedural Rules (save that there shall be no right of appeal against the Independent Tribunal's decision).

The ITF shall have the right in its absolute discretion to share information concerning any complaint against a Covered Person with and/or conduct an investigation in conjunction with any Tennis Organisation or any other relevant authorities. The ITF Internal Adjudication Panel may also refer the complaint and/or any information received during the course of investigating an allegation or prosecuting a charge to any authorities they consider appropriate in their absolute discretion. The ITF shall have the absolute discretion, where it deems appropriate, to stay its own investigation pending the outcome of investigation being conducted by any Tennis Organisation and/or any relevant authority.

Without prejudice to the ability of the ITF to exercise the powers set out above, the ITF requires a National Association and requests other Tennis Organisations to inform the ITF in the event that it imposes a Disciplinary Sanction of 6 months or longer (or of equivalent or greater seriousness).

## **IX. INTERPRETATIONS**

Any person or entity subject to this Code may file with the ITF Internal Adjudication Panel a request for an interpretation or clarification of the Code and/or its applicability and effect on a particular event or transaction.

## **X. NOTICE**

All written communications to the ITF Executive Director should be addressed as follows, unless notice of change is subsequently published:

ITF Senior Executive Director, ITF Tours and Player Pathway  
International Tennis Federation  
Bank Lane  
Roehampton  
London SW15 5XZ  
United Kingdom  
Tel: (44) 20 8878 6464  
Fax: (44) 20 8392 4737  
Email: [Masters@itftennis.com](mailto:Masters@itftennis.com)

## **A. PLAYER**

Notice that a player is being investigated pursuant to a possible Major Offence charge shall be served personally upon him/her via letter issued to the players nominated email address. Service of any other document required by the Code shall be deemed complete if mailed to the subject player at their home address or other address (including email address) designated by the player, along with a copy to any player association of which

he/she is a member provided that the ITF Executive Director has notice of such membership.

**B. TOURNAMENT**

Service of any document on an WTMT Tournament as required by this Code shall be deemed complete if mailed to the ITF WTMT Tournament Director along with a copy to the relevant National Association.

**GO TO NEXT PAGE FOR APPENDIX I – NATIONAL CLOSED CHAMPIONSHIPS**



**APPENDIX I**  
**NATIONAL CLOSED CHAMPIONSHIPS**

1. National Closed Championships shall be hosted by a National Association and shall be open only to competitors who are eligible according to the rules of each National Association.

2. MT100, MT200 and MT400 Tournaments

Each tournament entry (whether for Singles or Doubles or both) must be accompanied by a USD \$4.00 IPIN fee (“Tournament IPIN Fee”). The Tournament IPIN Fee will only be fully refunded to a player that withdraws from the Tournament prior to the Withdrawal Deadline.

3. MT700 National Closed Tournaments

Each tournament entry (whether for Singles or Doubles or both) must be accompanied by a USD \$10.00 IPIN fee (“Tournament IPIN Fee”). The Tournament IPIN Fee will only be fully refunded to a player that withdraws from the Tournament prior to the Withdrawal Deadline.

4. National Closed Championships may choose to run the tournament in accordance with the regulations of the National Association where the tournament is held, including criteria for acceptances, entry and withdrawal deadline dates, seeding and appointment of referee.

5. A National Closed Championships may not be graded higher than Grade MT700 level. National Closed Championships shall be subject to the ITF WTMT grading criteria and may be upgraded or downgraded accordingly. Ranking points will be awarded according to the points tables in Section I, Regulation 21.

6. Tournament Organisers hosting a MT700 level must use the official ITF tournament software (TP) for collecting and submitting results to the ITF. Tournament organisers are strongly encouraged to use the online entry facility provided by the ITF.

7. If a Tournament Organiser hosting a MT100, MT200 or MT400 level tournament chooses not to use the ITF Tournament Planner (TP), an additional sanction fee of \$100 will be charged to contribute to the costs of manually inputting of results. Tournaments that do not use Tournament Planner will be added within 21 days of the tournament end date.

8. All players must obtain an WTMT IPIN membership to receive ITF ranking points from National Closed Championships.

9. Each National Association is permitted to have one National Closed Championships tournament on the WTMT Calendar per year.

Nations that hosted more than one National Closed Championships tournament per year when this Appendix was introduced may continue to host those pre-existing tournaments. In exceptional circumstances approved by the ITF, additional closed tournaments may be approved.

10. It is the player's responsibility to check the correct Entry/Withdrawal Deadline displayed on the official tournament Fact Sheet published within the IPIN online service. It is also a player's responsibility to check that any online entry (if applicable) made has gone through and that they have received a confirmation email.

**GO TO NEXT PAGE FOR APPENDIX II – REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

**APPENDIX II**  
**REGIONAL TEAM & INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

1. Each Regional Association can host one (1) Regional Team Championships and one (1) Regional Individual Championships per year, with applications needing approval from both the Regional and National Association.
2. There is no restriction to the number of Regional Individual Championships that a player may compete at, in a calendar year. Regional Individual Championships are open to all players, regardless of their nationality (subject to a valid WTMT IPIN membership).
3. Eligibility for participation in the Regional Team Championships is determined by the entry criteria established by the Regional Association in collaboration with the ITF.
4. A Player/Team participating in Regional Team and Individual Championships must have registered for a valid WTMT IPIN membership and must have paid the tournament entry fee and IPIN fee to the tournament organiser
5. Regional Individual Championships shall follow the Regulations for their relevant Grade and shall be upgraded or downgraded based upon their annual grading criteria explained in 18. Tournament Grading.
6. Grading and Ranking Points for Regional Team Championships shall be agreed between the ITF and Region in advance of the event.
7. Ranking points for Regional Individual Championships will be allocated according to the points tables in Sec 1, Regulation 21
8. Tournament Organisers hosting a Regional Individual Championships must use the official ITF tournament software (TP) for collecting and submitting results to the ITF. Tournament organisers must use the online entry facility provided by the ITF.
9. Unless otherwise approved, Tournament Organisers hosting a Regional Team Championships must use the official ITF Teams tournament software (TEP) for collecting and submitting results to the ITF. Tournament organisers will collect entries and forward to the ITF at entry deadline.
10. In submitting an application, a tournament automatically undertakes to abide by and fulfil all its obligations set out in the Regulations including Code of Conduct.

## APPENDIX III

### MEDICAL, EXTREME WEATHER CONDITIONS & TOILET/CHANGE OF ATTIRE BREAKS

#### MEDICAL

##### a. Medical Condition

A medical condition is a medical illness or a musculoskeletal injury that warrants medical evaluation and/or medical treatment by the Sports Physiotherapist (as defined in the ITF Guide to Recommended Health Care Standards) during the warm-up or the match.

- Treatable Medical Conditions
  - Acute medical condition: the sudden development of a medical illness or musculoskeletal injury during the warm-up or the match that requires immediate medical attention.
  - Non-acute medical condition: a medical illness or musculoskeletal injury that develops or is aggravated during the warm-up or the match and requires medical attention at the changeover or set break.
  
- Non-Treatable Medical Conditions
  - Any medical condition that cannot be treated appropriately, or that will not be improved by available medical treatment within the time allowed.
  - Any medical condition (inclusive of symptoms) that has not developed or has not been aggravated during the warm-up or the match.
  - General player fatigue.
  - Any medical condition requiring injections, or intravenous infusions, except for diabetes, for which prior medical certification has been obtained, and for which subcutaneous injections of insulin may be administered. The use of supplemental oxygen on-court is not permitted at any time.
  - Any medical condition requiring oxygen, unless prior medical approval has been given by the ITF. Except as permitted by this provision, the use of supplemental oxygen is not permitted at any time, for any reason.

##### b. Medical Evaluation

During the warm-up or the match, the player may request through the Chair Umpire for the Sports Physiotherapist to evaluate him/her during the next

change over or set break. Only in the case that a player develops an acute medical condition that necessitates an immediate stop in play may the player request through the Chair Umpire for the Sports Physiotherapist to evaluate him/her immediately.

The purpose of the medical evaluation is to determine if the player has developed a treatable medical condition and, if so, to determine when medical treatment is warranted. Such evaluation should be performed within a reasonable length of time, balancing player safety on the one hand, and continuous play on the other. At the discretion of the Sports Physiotherapist, such evaluation may be performed in conjunction with the Tournament Doctor, and may be performed off-court.\*

If the Sports Physiotherapist determines that the player has a non-treatable medical condition, then the player will be advised that no medical treatment will be allowed.

### **c. Medical Time-Out**

A Medical Time-Out is allowed by the Referee or Chair Umpire when the Sports Physiotherapist has evaluated the player and has determined that additional time for medical treatment is required. The Medical Time-Out takes place during a change over or set break, unless the Sports Physiotherapist determines that the player has developed an acute medical condition that requires immediate medical treatment.

The Medical Time-Out begins when the Sports Physiotherapist is ready to start treatment. At the discretion of the Sports Physiotherapist, treatment during a Medical Time-Out may take place off-court, and may proceed in conjunction with the Tournament Doctor.\*

The Medical Time-Out is limited to three (3) minutes of treatment. However, at non-professional events the Referee may extend the time allowed for treatment if necessary.

A player is allowed one (1) Medical Time-Out for each distinct treatable medical condition. All clinical manifestations of heat illness shall be considered as one (1) treatable medical condition. All treatable musculoskeletal injuries that manifest as part of a kinetic chain continuum shall be considered as one (1) treatable medical condition.

*Muscle Cramping:* A player may receive treatment for muscle cramping only during the time allotted for change of ends and/or set breaks. Players may not receive a Medical Time-Out for muscle cramping.

In cases where there is doubt about whether the player suffers from an acute medical condition, non-acute medical condition inclusive of muscle cramping, or non-treatable medical condition, the decision of the Sports Physiotherapist, in conjunction with the Tournament Doctor, if appropriate, is final. If the Sports Physiotherapist believes that the player has heat illness, and if muscle cramping is one of the manifestations of heat illness, then the muscle cramping may only be treated as part of the recommended treatment by the Sports Physiotherapist for the heat illness condition.

**Note:**

A player who has stopped play by claiming an acute medical condition, but is determined by the Sports Physiotherapist and/or Tournament Doctor to have muscle cramping, shall be ordered by the Chair Umpire to resume play immediately.

If the player cannot continue playing due to severe muscle cramping, as determined by the Sports Physiotherapist and/or Tournament Doctor, he/she may forfeit the point(s)/game(s) needed to get to a change of end or set-break in order to receive treatment. There may be a total of two (2) additional change of ends treatments for muscle cramping in a match, not necessarily consecutive.

If it is determined by the Chair Umpire or Referee that gamesmanship was involved, then a Code Violation for Unsportsmanlike Conduct could be issued.

A total of two (2) consecutive Medical Time-Outs may be allowed by the Referee or Chair Umpire for the special circumstance in which the Sports Physiotherapist determines that the player has developed at least two (2) distinct acute and treatable medical conditions. This may include: a medical illness in conjunction with a musculoskeletal injury; two or more acute and distinct musculoskeletal injuries. In such cases, the Sports Physiotherapist will perform a medical evaluation for the two or more treatable medical conditions during a single evaluation and may then determine that two consecutive Medical Time-Outs are required.

**d. Medical Treatment**

A player may receive on-court medical treatment and/or supplies from the Sports Physiotherapist and/or Tournament Doctor during any changeover or set break. As a guideline, such medical treatment should be limited to two (2) changeovers/set breaks for each treatable medical condition, before or after a

Medical Time-Out, and need not be consecutive. Players may not receive medical treatment for non-treatable medical conditions.

**e. Penalty**

After completion of a Medical Time-Out or medical treatment, any delay in resumption of play shall be penalized by Code Violations for Delay of Game. Any player abuse of this Medical Rule will be subject to penalty in accordance with the Unsportsmanlike Conduct section of the Code of Conduct.

**f. Bleeding**

If a player is bleeding, the Chair Umpire must stop play as soon as possible, and the Sports Physiotherapist must be called to the court by the Chair Umpire for evaluation and treatment. The Sports Physiotherapist, in conjunction with the Tournament Doctor if appropriate, will evaluate the source of the bleeding, and will request a Medical Time-Out for treatment if necessary.

If requested by the Sports Physiotherapist and/or Tournament Doctor, the Referee or Chair Umpire may allow up to a total of five (5) minutes to assure control of the bleeding.

If blood has spilled onto the court or its immediate vicinity, play must not resume until the blood spill has been cleaned appropriately.

**g. Vomiting**

If a player is vomiting, the Chair Umpire must stop play if vomiting has spilled onto the court, or if the player requests medical evaluation. If the player requests medical evaluation, then the Sports Physiotherapist must determine if the player has a treatable medical condition, and if so, whether the medical condition is acute or non-acute.

If vomiting has spilled onto the court, play must not resume until the vomit spill has been cleaned appropriately.

**h. Incapacity**

If any concern arises about a player's medical condition (whether physical or psychological) that they are unable to compete, or they pose a serious health risk to players, officials or tournament organisers or staff, the Sports Physiotherapist and/or Tournament Doctor should be called to assist the player.

If the issues arises during a match the Chair Umpire should immediately call for the Tournament Doctor and/or Sports Physiotherapist to assist the player.

The Tournament Doctor is responsible for ensuring that the player is afforded the best medical attention, that his/her well-being is not put at risk, and that his/her medical condition is not a risk to other players or the public at large. All discussions between the Tournament Doctor and the player take place within the context of a doctor-patient relationship and are therefore confidential and may not be divulged to a third party without the informed consent of the player. However, if the Tournament Doctor determines that the player's medical condition makes the player unable to participate safely in the tournament, the player must permit the Tournament Doctor to advise the Referee of their determination (only disclosing medical information to which the player has consented). Upon receipt of such a report from the Referee will decide whether to retire the player from the match in progress or withdraw the player from the match to be played (as applicable). The Referee shall use great discretion before taking this action and should base the decision on the best interests of professional tennis, as well as taking all medical opinion and advice, and any other relevant information into consideration.

If the player's medical condition improves sufficiently to return to match play, the Tournament Doctor may inform the Referee accordingly. The player may subsequently compete in another event at the same tournament (e.g., doubles), either that day or on a subsequent day.

It is recognized that national laws or governmental or other binding Regulations imposed upon the tournament by authorities outside its control may require more compulsory participation by the Tournament Doctor in all decisions regarding diagnosis and treatment.

## **EXTREME WEATHER CONDITIONS**

### **Extreme Weather Conditions**

#### **a. Definitions**

#### **Extreme Heat Condition: Modification of Play**

Extreme Heat Condition: Modification of Play criterion is defined as when the Web-Bulb Globe Temperature (WBGT) on court meets or exceeds 30.1°C (86.2°F). If the WBGT cannot be measured, then the Heat Index should be calculated using the chart below, and Extreme Heat Condition: Modification of Play criterion is defined as when the Heat Index meets or exceeds 34.0°C (93.2°F).



**Extreme Heat Condition: Suspension of Play**

Extreme Heat Condition: Suspension of Play criterion is defined as when the WBGT on court meets or exceeds 32.2°C (90.0°F). If the WBGT cannot be measured, then the Heat Index should be calculated using the chart below, and Extreme Heat Condition: Suspension of Play criterion is defined as when the Heat Index meets or exceeds 40.1°C (104.2°F).

Air temperature											
	21.1° C 70°F	23.9° C 75°F	26.7° C 80°F	29.4° C 85°F	32.2° C 90°F	35°C 95°F	37.8° C 100°F	40.6° C 105°F	43.3° C 110°F	46.1° C 115°F	48.9° C 120°F
Relative humidity	Heat Index (combined index of air temperature and relative humidity)										
<b>0%</b>	17.8° C 64°F	20.6° C 69°F	22.8° C 73°F	25.6° C 78°F	28.3° C 83°F	30.6° C 87°F	32.8° C 91°F	35°C 95°F	37.2° C 99°F	39.4° C 103°F	41.7° C 107°F
<b>10%</b>	18.3° C 65°F	21.1° C 70°F	23.9° C 75°F	26.7° C 80°F	29.4° C 85°F	32.2° C 90°F	35°C 95°F	37.8° C 100°F	40.6° C 105°F	43.9° C 111°F	46.7° C 116°F
<b>20%</b>	18.9° C 66°F	22.2° C 72°F	25°C 77°F	27.8° C 82°F	30.6° C 87°F	33.9° C 93°F	37.2° C 99°F	40.6° C 105°F	44.4° C 112°F	48.9° C 120°F	54.4° C 130°F
<b>30%</b>	19.4° C 67°F	22.8° C 73°F	25.6° C 78°F	28.9° C 84°F	32.2° C 90°F	35.6° C 96°F	40.1° C 104.2°F	45°C 113°F	50.6° C 123°F	57.2° C 135°F	64.4° C 148°F
<b>40%</b>	20°C 68°F	23.3° C 74°F	26.1° C 79°F	30°C 86°F	33.9° C 93°F	38.3° C 101°F	43.3° C 110°F	50.6° C 123°F	58.3° C 137°F	66.1° C 151°F	
<b>50%</b>	20.6° C 69°F	23.9° C 75°F	27.2° C 81°F	31.1° C 88°F	35.6° C 96°F	41.7° C 107°F	48.9° C 120°F	57.2° C 135°F	65.6° C 150°F		

<b>60%</b>	21.1° C 70°F	24.4° C 76°F	27.8° C 82°F	32.2° C 90°F	37.8° C 100°F	45.6° C 114°F	55.6° C 132° F	65°C 149°F			
<b>70%</b>	21.1° C 70°F	25°C 77°F	29.4° C 85°F	33.9° C 93°F	41.1° C 106°F	51.1° C 124°F	62.2° C 144° F				
<b>80%</b>	21.7° C 71°F	25.6° C 78°F	30°C 86°F	36.1° C 97°F	45°C 113°F	57.8° C 136°F					
<b>90%</b>	21.7° C 71°F	26.1° C 79°F	31.1° C 88°F	38.9° C 102° F	50°C 122°F						

**b. Measurement Procedure**

The WBGT or Heat Index should be measured at least three (3) times daily by the Referee or his/her designee. Ideally, measurements should be taken every 2 hours, but a minimum three (3) readings should be taken at the following times:

1. 30 minutes before match play begins.
2. Middle of the scheduled day's play; and
3. Just prior to beginning the last match of the day, or just prior to the start of the first evening session match.

The WBGT or Heat Index should also be measured under the following circumstances:

1. Following any suspension of play; and
2. At the discretion of the Referee, in consultation with the Tournament Doctor and/or Sports Physiotherapist.

Details on the measurement of WBGT and Heat Index are provided in the current edition of the *ITF Guide to Recommended Health Care Standards for Tennis Tournaments*.

**c. Extreme Heat Condition: Modification of Play**

When the Extreme Heat Condition: Modification of Play criterion is met before the start or resumption of a match, the procedures set out below in sub-section (d) should be followed. For the avoidance of doubt, the Referee has the discretion to apply the procedures set out in sub-section (d) at a WBGT or Heat Index below the Extreme Heat

Condition: Modification of Play criterion, if in his or her opinion it is required in the safety and wellbeing of players, officials, spectators, or others.

If there is a change in weather conditions and the Extreme Heat Condition: Modification of Play criterion is met while a match is in progress, as determined by the periodic monitoring set out above in sub-section (b), the procedures set out below in sub-section (d) should be followed on all courts, including matches already in progress. Once notified that the Extreme Weather Condition: Modification of Play criterion is met, the Chair Umpire must inform the players at the next change of ends or set break.

If there is a change in weather conditions and the Extreme Heat Condition: Modification of Play criterion is no longer met, as determined by the periodic monitoring set out above in sub-section (b), those matches already in progress should continue to follow the procedures set out below in sub-section (d) until they are completed or suspended.

**d. Modification of Play Procedures (Singles and Doubles)**

A 10-minute break will be allowed between the second and third sets (in a best of 3 tie-break sets match only) if one or more of the players requests such a break. If neither/none of the players requests such a break, then play will continue.

However, if a match has already resumed following the suspension of play and one set was completed before the suspension of play (in a best of 3 sets match), the 10-minute break will no longer be available, unless otherwise decided by the Referee.

The Referee, in consultation with the Tournament Doctor/Sports Physiotherapist, may choose to delay the starting time for matches until such a time as the Extreme Heat Condition: Modification of Play criterion is no longer met.

- i. During the 10-minute break:
  - a. A Medical Evaluation, Medical Time-Out or Medical Treatment is not allowed, unless approved by the Referee. This would normally be restricted to requests for the Tournament Doctor/Sports Physiotherapist that are made on-court to the Chair Umpire, or were already agreed before the end of the second set (in a best of 3 sets match). However, a player is allowed to receive an adjustment of medical support, medical equipment and/or medical advice from the Tournament Doctor/Sports Physiotherapist during the 10-minute break.

- ii. Immediately following the 10-minute break:
  - a. Any delay in resumption of play will subject a player to Time Violations (Warning, Point Penalties only apply).
  - b. No re-warm up is allowed.
  - c. A player is not allowed to receive a Medical Evaluation, Medical Time-Out or Medical Treatment, unless approved by the Referee.

- iii. Consecutive Breaks

An Extreme Weather Condition: Modification of Play 10-minute break and a Bathroom/Change of Attire break cannot be taken consecutively.

- e. **Extreme Heat Condition: Suspension of Play (Singles and Doubles)**

When the Extreme Heat Condition: Suspension of Play criterion is met before the start or resumption of a match, the start or resumption of play should be suspended until Extreme Heat Condition: Suspension of Play criterion is no longer met. If a game is in progress when the Extreme Heat Condition: Suspension of Play criterion is met, play should be suspended at the end of that game. Once the Extreme Heat Condition: Suspension of Play criterion is no longer met, the Referee should give the players reasonable notice of the time at which play will resume. For the avoidance of doubt, the Referee has the discretion to suspend play at a WBGT or Heat Index below the Extreme Heat Condition: Suspension of Play criterion, if in his or her opinion it is required in the safety and wellbeing of players, officials, spectators or others.

- f. **Lightning**

The Referee or his/her designee is responsible for monitoring the local weather for lightning. The Referee has the authority to suspend play when a thunderstorm appears imminent (for instance if lightning is sighted and thunder occurs in 30 seconds or less). Everyone on-site should be advised to seek appropriate shelter immediately. Play should not resume until the likelihood of a lightning strike has passed (as a guideline, at least 30 minutes after the last lightning strike is seen and the last sound of thunder is heard). Additional information on thunderstorms and lightning is provided in the *ITF Guide to Recommended Health Care Standards for Tennis Tournaments*.

## **TOILET/CHANGE OF ATTIRE BREAK**

A player is allowed to request permission to leave the court for a reasonable time for a toilet break / change of attire break (women's matches).

Toilet breaks should be taken on a set break. Change of attire (women's matches) breaks must be taken on a set break.

In women's singles events, a player is entitled to two (2) breaks during a match. In men's singles events, a player is entitled to one (1) toilet break.

In a doubles match, each team is entitled to a total of two (2) breaks.

If partners leave the court together, it counts as one (1) of the team's authorised breaks. These breaks may be taken for toilet visits, change of attire (women's matches), or both, but for no other reason whatsoever.

Any time a player leaves the court for a toilet break, it is considered one of the authorised breaks regardless of whether or not the opponent has left the court. Any toilet break taken after a warm-up has started is considered one of the authorised breaks. Additional breaks will be authorised but will be penalised in accordance with the point penalty schedule if the player is not ready to play within the allowed time.

The Referee shall have the authority to deny a player permission to leave the court during a match for a toilet and/or change of attire break if it is interpreted by the Referee as gamesmanship and/or flagrant abuse of the Rules.

A player should not take a toilet/change of attire break and a medical time out consecutively unless approved by the Referee.

A player may change her attire during a toilet break.

Any player abuse of this rule will be subject to penalty in accordance with the Unsportsmanlike Conduct section of the Code of Conduct.

## APPENDIX IV: WELFARE POLICY

A “**Covered Person**” is bound by all sections of this Welfare Policy, and is defined as any person who:

- Receives accreditation and/or otherwise competes, coaches, officiates, works at, or otherwise participates in any tennis tournament, event or activity organised or sanctioned by the ITF;
- Holds a valid player registration to enter or compete in any ITF tennis tournament (**Player**);
- Is a parent, legal guardian or chaperone of a Player;
- Is a coach, trainer, manager, agent, team staff, official, medical, paramedical personnel, therapist or any other Person supporting, working with, treating or assisting any Player participating in or preparing to participate in a tennis tournament, event or activity organised or sanctioned by the ITF;
- Attends, or is a resident or is employed at, an ITF Regional Training Centre;
- Is a member of an ITF Touring Team in any capacity;
- Is an ITF employee or ITF-appointed consultant;
- Holds an ITF or ITF-recognised Officiating or Coaching qualification or certification;
- Attends, whether by payment or otherwise, any ITF tournament, event or activity; or
- Acts as an ITF contractor or volunteer or is involved in the administration of or preparation for any of the above.

Each Covered Person is deemed, as a condition of their participation in the activities described above, to have agreed to be bound by this Policy, and to have submitted to the authority of the ITF to enforce this Policy, including any consequences for breach thereof, and to the jurisdiction of the hearing panels identified in these Regulations and in the ITF Safeguarding and Case Management Procedures to hear and determine cases and appeals brought under this Policy.

### **Section A.**

Criminal Conduct – illegal drugs and substances

Any Covered Person convicted of or having entered a plea of guilty or no contest to a criminal charge or indictment relating to the use, possession, distribution or intent to distribute illegal drugs or substances will be deemed to be in violation of this Section A of the ITF Welfare Policy and shall be subject to sanction in accordance with the *Procedural Rules Governing Proceedings before an Internal Adjudication Panel Convened Under ITF Rules*.

**Section B.**

Children Safeguarding Policy

*Published separately and available in full on the ITF website at*

<https://www.itftennis.com/en/about-us/governance/rules-and-regulations/>

**Section C.**

Adult Safeguarding Policy

*Published separately and available in full on the ITF website at*

<https://www.itftennis.com/en/about-us/governance/rules-and-regulations/>

**Section D.**

Safeguarding and Case Management Procedures

*Published separately and available in full on the ITF website at*

<https://www.itftennis.com/en/about-us/governance/rules-and-regulations/>

**APPENDIX V  
THE PLAYERS**

Any reference to players in this Article shall apply to the Captain where appropriate.

**1. Definition of Good Standing of a Player**

A National Tennis Association shall deem a player to be of Good Standing where he/she:

- (a) is free from a suspension for breach of a code of conduct or other disciplinary regulations, imposed by his/her National Tennis Association, the ITF, or by another relevant organisation enforcing a Code of Conduct that the ITF considers is relevant to a player's Good Standing;
- (b) is accepted by his National Tennis Association as being under its jurisdiction while competing in events for which his National Tennis association has selected him/her;
- (c) makes himself/herself available for selection for World Team Championships and accepts the jurisdiction of his National Tennis Association while competing in events for which they have selected him/her;
- (d) respects the spirit of fair play and non-violence at all times;

(e) accepts the conditions of entry of the events he/she enters, including the conditions of any code of conduct adopted for those events and the terms and conditions contained in the IPIN registration system;

(f) agrees to undergo any medical control and/or other tests,, which are in operation at any event which he/she enters;

(g) has not been convicted by a competent court of a country of an offence:

(i) in respect of which an unsuspended sentence of at least 12 months was imposed; or

(ii) which involved any act or omission which would reasonably be considered to compromise the integrity of tennis, his/her National Tennis Association, the ITF and/or the safety of those taking part in and/or attending an WTMT tournament or World Championships; and

(h) has not otherwise engaged in conduct which brings his/her National Tennis Association and/or the ITF into disrepute.

(Defined collectively as the **Good Standing Criteria**)

A National Association shall make an initial determination of whether a player meets the Good Standing Criteria (an '**NA Determination**').

An NA Determination can only be reviewed where:

- a. It relates only to Good Standing Criteria (a), (g) and/or (h);
- b. The player has exhausted any internal National Tennis Association appeal mechanisms (if the review is sought by the player); and
- c. The request for a review is lodged no later than 21 days after the party requesting the review receives notice of a final NA Determination.

A review by a player or the ITF of an NA Determination shall be heard by the ITF Internal Adjudication Panel (IAP).

The IAP may set aside the NA Determination only where it would be unreasonable in all the circumstances to deny or allow (as applicable) the player eligibility to represent their nation, including but not limited to:



- i. Where the NA Determination was so unreasonable as to be manifestly excessive or manifestly prejudicial to the player;
- ii. Whether the proceedings that resulted in the Determination were procedurally unfair or contrary to natural justice, having regard to all the circumstances; or
- iii. Where the reputation of the competition or the ITF would suffer serious prejudice if the player were to participate.

Any decision of the IAP made under this Appendix shall be final and binding. For the avoidance of doubt, the IAP shall not act as a further appeal body for, nor have any powers to dismiss or modify any disciplinary suspension or sanction that falls within Good Standing Criteria (a), and appeals against any such decision shall be handled in accordance with the procedural rules applicable to that decision.

A Player with unpaid fines of \$500 or above owing to the ITF, having been afforded sufficient time to pay the fine(s), shall not be considered in 'Good Standing' and shall be ineligible to play in ITF Team Competitions until the fine(s) have been paid.

## **2. Definition of a National**

A national of a country is a player who is eligible for and holds a passport of that country and for the purposes of Section II, Regulation 25, the tennis nationality of a player shall be:

- (a) In the case of a player who has represented a country, that of the country which he/she last represented.
- (b) In all other cases, that of the country which he/she is for the time being qualified to represent under Section II, Regulation 25.

## **3. Transgender Players**

The ITF will deal with any cases involving transgender and non-binary players in accordance with the principles set out in the ITF Gender Eligibility Policy, which can be found on the ITF website: <https://www.itftennis.com/en/about-us/governance/rules-and-regulations/>

## **4. Proof of Nationality**

The ITF may request from a player at any time a copy of their current, valid passport as proof of nationality.

## **APPENDIX VI DATA RIGHTS**

### **1. Definitions**

The following terms shall have the following ascribed meanings:

<b><u>APPROVED PAT</u></b>	<u>means any system of Player analysis technology that is approved by ITF (which may include a Eligible ELC System).</u>
<b>DATA RIGHTS</b>	shall mean the right to in any way use or create or assemble official data including without limitation the right to collect, collate, store, use, reproduce, exploit, onward supply or make available any and all official data including but not limited to the live scoring rights.
<b><u>ELC DATA</u></b>	<u>means any data collected, generated or derived from a Eligible ELC System.</u>
<b><u>ELIGIBLE ELC SYSTEM</u></b>	<u>means an electronic line calling system that: (i) is an Approved PAT; (ii) is classified by the ITF or Joint ELC Committee (as applicable to the level of classification); and (iii) has been approved by ITF for use at the relevant Tournament or event.</u>
<b>MATCH PERIOD</b>	shall mean in respect of each match the period commencing at the start of that match and expiring 30 seconds after conclusion of the last game in said match.
<b>LIVE SCORING RIGHTS</b>	shall mean the right to exercise data rights during the applicable match period.
<b>LIVE STREAMING</b>	shall mean the transmission and/or making available of coverage from a tournament through a live audio-visual signal by means of the internet, mobile wireless technology or mobile broadcast technology or any similar or derivative technologies.
<b>OFFICIAL DATA</b>	shall mean any order of play/schedule, draw, scoring (including, without limitation live match scores/in-

match incident such as match starting, challenge, a point being scored, number of aces etc.) And/or other statistical information relating to the competition, any match and/or the participants therein, howsoever generated and including without limitation PAT data;

## **PAT DATA**

shall mean player performance analysis data and/or other data or information (and any analysis derived from that data or information) that is collected during a ITF World Tennis Masters Tour tournament (“Tournament”) or ITF World Team Championships, and by means of an Approved PAT in accordance with these Regulations (including this Appendix VI). PAT Data can include ELC Data.

## **2. Data rights**

The ITF will have the exclusive right to exercise the data rights including without limitation the live scoring rights in respect of any and all matches and/or any and all elements of the competition. Each Tournament organiser will assist the ITF in its efforts to exercise the data rights.

ITF hereby confirms that each Tournament organiser may on a royalty free basis use official data by the following means:

- (a) the right to use the official data excluding PAT data in official publications and on official websites, mobile applications and/or other media outlets **provided that** any such use takes place after the applicable match period and is for non-gambling purposes;
- (b) the right to supply the official data excluding PAT data to official sponsors **provided that** any such supply takes place after the match period and is for non-gambling purposes; and
- (c) the right to use the official data excluding PAT data for in-venue purposes (including by way of example and not limitation on in-venue scoreboards) before the expiry of the match period for non-gambling purposes;

### **(a) Traditional Television Broadcast**

In addition the Tournament organiser of an event and (if applicable) the licensees of traditional broadcast television in the host country may use official data in their live and/or delayed transmissions of that event provided that (i) such use is an integral part of the transmission of the television signal of the event; (ii) the official data is not used

in connection with gambling or for gambling purposes; and (iii) the official data used relates only to the event which is being broadcast.

In addition, ITF confirms that where ITF provides a live score centre of any match on the ITF website the Tournament organiser may request ITF's permission to incorporate a link on their respective official websites that enables viewers to access and view such live score centre. ITF will not unreasonably refuse any request to incorporate such a link provided that the link is incorporated in accordance with ITF directions.

#### (b) Live Streaming

Except for the rights granted directly below, the National Association does not have any rights to carry out or authorize Live Streaming of a tournament.

The National Association may conduct and/or authorise third parties to conduct Live Streaming of the tournament in its domestic territory subject to the following:

- (a) the prior written approval of the ITF in its sole discretion;
- (b) such Live Streaming shall not be transmitted or made available with a less than 30 second delay between the action taking place at the tournament and the Live Streaming being available to viewers;
- (c) such Live Streaming being satisfactorily geoblocked to within the domestic territory of the Tournament;
- (d) the Live Stream being made available to the ITF free of charge and in a timely manner on request for publication on its own digital channels;
- (e) such Live Streaming not being made available for gambling or betting purposes, or in any way associated with gambling or betting; and
- (f) the National Association granting, or procuring that the producer of the Live Stream grants, all copyright in the Live Stream to the ITF at the conclusion of the tournament.

All other rights to use or create or assemble official data or in any way to exercise the data rights are reserved exclusively to ITF and may be exploited by ITF at its sole election.

### **3. Data rights protection**

Tournament organiser shall not allow or authorise the dissemination, transmission, publication or release of any official data and/or any match score or other related statistical data from the venue.

The use of laptop computers, mobile phones or other handheld electronic devices within the venues to collate, collect, use, store, reproduce, onward supply or make available any official data and/or any match score or other related statistical data or for purposes relating to gambling shall be prohibited and each Tournament organiser national association shall take reasonable steps to enforce such prohibition (including without limitation by means of venue regulations, ticket conditions and accreditation terms), **save for incidental use within editorial reporting**. The exception to this provision is Tournament organiser and/or ITF credentialed personnel when used in the performance of their duties.

The Tournament organiser shall co-operate with the ITF in relation to:

- Any system or scheme that the ITF implements for the exercise, collection, supply and/or licensing (in each case by the ITF itself or via an appointed 3<sup>rd</sup> party) of live scoring rights;
- Any measures that the ITF takes to protect the exclusivity of live scoring rights and the prevention of any unauthorised collation, collection, use, storage, reproduction, onward supply or making available of official data.

#### **4. Use of Approved PAT**

National Associations shall be entitled to use Approved PAT at their Tournaments, and Players and coaches shall be entitled to use their own Approved PAT in matches which they participate in, in each case provided that: (i) they notify and obtain prior written approval of the ITF in advance of each Tournament where they are seeking to use an Approved PAT; and (ii) their use of the Approved PAT and PAT Data generated therefrom complies at all times with the terms of these Regulations (including this Appendix VI).

Players and coaches are not allowed to operate their own Eligible ELC Systems but they shall be entitled to use Eligible ELC Systems operated by the ITF or any National Association in accordance with these Regulations.

#### **5. PAT data exploitation**

If ITF authorises use of an Approved PAT which generates ELC Data it may also agree that such ELC Data can be used by the relevant National Association for officiating

purposes in respect of a match or Tournament, and the National Association shall comply with any directions or additional terms and conditions ITF may require in relation to such use.

Otherwise, use of PAT Data by any National Association, Player or coach shall be subject to the following conditions:

- i. PAT data shall only be used for internal analysis and coaching purposes of the respective player (or in the case of a National Association, players under their jurisdiction) and such use shall be strictly subject to Rule 31 of the Rules of Tennis.
- ii. Each National Association, coach or player who collects PAT Data shall (and shall procure that any technology provider or service operator involved in the collection, collation and/or analysis of PAT Data on their behalf shall):
  - a) Not publish, use or otherwise exploit any PAT Data or supply any PAT Data to third parties for any purposes other than as described above or that have otherwise been pre-approved in writing by ITF and shall take such steps as ITF may reasonably require to prevent any unauthorised access to and/or use of such PAT Data, in particular but without limitation no PAT Data or product derived therefrom shall be used or supplied to any third party for any purpose related to betting;
  - b) Ensure that ITF shall be able to access free of charge any and all such PAT Data live and/or delayed at the venue of the match and/or such other point as may be agreed and ITF shall be free to use such PAT Data and authorise third parties to use such PAT Data for any purposes;
- iii. In the event that such PAT Data is accessed by unauthorised third parties and/or ITF reasonably believes that PAT Data and/or Approved PAT are being used for any purposes in breach of these regulations ITF shall be entitled to rescind its approval the National Association, coach or players (as applicable) will immediately cease use of the Approved PAT pending resolution.

# APPENDIX VII

## CONTACTS

### INTERNATIONAL TENNIS FEDERATION

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Jackie Nesbitt – Senior Executive Director, ITF Tours & Player Pathway

Matt Byford – Head of Juniors & Masters

Hayley Iveson – Senior Manager, Masters

Paul Midgley – Senior Coordinator, Masters

Annabelle Blandford – Coordinator, Masters

Nick Searle-Donoso – Coordinator, Masters

## **APPENDIX VIII**

### **ITF MASTERS COMMITTEE**

Chair: Salma Mouelhi Guizani (TUN/BoD)

Carol Clay (USA)

Eziz Dovletov (TKM)

Martin Lager (SWE)

Mario Monroy (PER)

Bruce Osborne (AUS)

David Rawlinson (GBR/BoD)

Sabine Schmitz (GER)

Wenbing Sun (CHN)

Martha Tirop (KEN)

Irwin Tobias (CAN)

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