

ITF WORLD TENNIS MASTERS TOUR 2024

REGULATIONS

Released 12 December 2023

The following pages provide a summary of the proposed changes to the 2024 ITF Masters Regulations. These are not the regulations. The full 2024 Tour Regulations can be seen in the 'About Us' section at www.ITFTennis.com Changes made from the previous year (2023) are shown in underlined text.

With reference to the term 'Consolation Draws' throughout previous Regulations, this will be replaced by 'Bonus Draws'.

SECTION I

REGULATIONS FOR THE ORGANISATION OF ITF WORLD TENNIS MASTERS TOUR ("WTMT") TOURNAMENTS AND THE ITF WORLD INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

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.

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 \$7 IPIN fee (Tournament IPIN Fee). The Tournament IPIN Fee will be fully refunded to a player that withdraws from the Tournament prior to the Withdrawal

Deadline. Effective from 3 April 2024, this payment will be required for MT700 & MT1000 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 Fee for National Closed Championships.

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

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	\$ 1000
Grade MT700	\$ <u>900</u>
Grade MT400	\$ <u>650</u>
Grade MT200	\$ <u>450</u>
Grade MT100	\$ <u>325*</u>

*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.

18. Tournament Grading

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.

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 and therefore may appear in more than one doubles and/or mixed doubles age group ranking*.

IV. TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS

25. Tournament Types

There are three (3) tournament types:

- 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.
- Singles and Doubles entries close at the Entry Deadline. There is no doubles entry possible on-site.
- 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.

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. ITF World Tennis Number must be verified to be used as part of acceptance process.

c) Players who have between 1-74 ITF ranking points, and without a verified 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)

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.

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	<u>8</u>	8	8	8	8	8
WC	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>

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	<u>28</u>	<u>44</u>	<u>60</u>
WC	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>

There shall be no Doubles Qualifying draws.

29. Publication of Acceptance lists

The Singles Acceptance Lists shall be published to 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.

31. Entry Definitions

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.

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.

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.

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:

Seed Withdrawing	Replacement Seed
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.

42. Amalgamation of Age Groups

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.

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.

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 nine (9) weeks before the official start of the tournament. Tournament Directors must specify the precise start and end date of each event at the point of Fact Sheet submission.

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

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.

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.

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:

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 \$7.00 per player. An additional fee for a non-playing captain (5th person) is US\$125.00.

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.

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).

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.

IV. COMPETITION REGULATIONS

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.

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

Players will earn a minimum of 1 ranking point for competing in the World Team Championships.

Full details of the Individual ranking points awarded at the World Team Championships can be viewed [HERE](#)

(<https://cmsadmin.itftennis.com/media/11382/itf-masters-wc-individual-ranking-points-for-team-event.pdf>)

SECTION III

CODE OF CONDUCT

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

APPENDIX II REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

5. Tournament Organisers hosting a Regional Championships level 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.

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.