

## **2024 ITF World Tennis Tour Junior Finals – Rules**

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### **1. Competition Format**

- 1.1. The ITF World Tennis Tour Juniors Finals shall consist of the following rounds (in the following order):
    - 1.1.1. A singles round robin of eight (8) boys and eight (8) girls.
      - 1.1.1.1. Each shall be split into two (2) round robin groups with four (4) players in each. Players shall be seeded according to the Seed Rankings (ITF Junior World Rankings of the Monday seven (7) days before the start of the tournament week).
      - 1.1.1.2. All matches shall be the best of three (3) tie-break sets.
    - 1.1.2. The 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> placed players in each group shall progress to the Semi-Finals. Players from the same group will be placed in opposite halves of the draw, i.e., 1<sup>st</sup> place in Group A shall play 2<sup>nd</sup> place in Group B, and 1<sup>st</sup> place in Group B shall play 2<sup>nd</sup> place in Group A.
      - 1.1.2.1. The losing players in the Semi-Finals shall compete in a 3<sup>rd</sup> / 4<sup>th</sup> playoff match.
      - 1.1.2.2. If a semi-finalist player withdraws prior to the start of their semi-final match, they shall be replaced in the semi-final round by the 3<sup>rd</sup> place player from their round robin group. E.g., 3<sup>rd</sup> place in Group A shall replace any player in Group A who withdraws prior to the Semi Final. Where this occurs, the 4<sup>th</sup> place player in the group shall be deemed as finishing in 3<sup>rd</sup>, and the alternate will take the 4<sup>th</sup> place position from that group in the 5-8 playoff draw.
    - 1.1.3. Playoff Matches
      - 1.1.3.1. The 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> placed players in each group shall be placed in a playoff draw for positions 5-8. Players from the same group will be placed in opposite halves. I.e., 3<sup>rd</sup> place in Group A will play 4<sup>th</sup> place in Group B.
      - 1.1.3.2. The winning players from the Semi-Final round shall compete in a playoff match for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> position.
      - 1.1.3.3. The losing players from the Semi-Final round shall compete in a playoff match for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> position.
    - 1.1.4. Off-Court Coaching
      - 1.1.4.1 Off-court coaching shall be permitted for all matches, in line with the ITF's Off-Court Coaching Regulations.
2. **Entries for boys' and girls' competitions**
    - 2.1. There shall be 8 boys and 8 girls who shall be direct acceptances into the main draw. In addition, there shall be one (1) alternate player selected in each event.

Acceptances will be determined in the following order:

- 2.1.1. The top seven (7) ranked players in the ITF World Tennis Tour Juniors Qualification Rankings as of 11 September 2023 shall be direct acceptances.
- 2.1.2. One (1) player from the People's Republic of China, nominated by the Chinese Tennis Association, shall be a direct acceptance, on the condition that:
  - i) no player from the People's Republic of China has qualified under 2.1.1. above; and
  - ii) the nominated player is in the top 25 of the ITF World Tennis Tour Juniors Qualification Rankings as of Monday 9 September 2024;
- 2.1.3. If 2.1.2. is not satisfied, the eight (8) direct acceptance shall be decided by the ITF World Tennis Tour Juniors Qualification Rankings as of 9 September 2024;
- 2.1.4. The alternate player shall be from the People's Republic of China provided they are ranked in the Top 75 of the ITF WTT Juniors Qualification Rankings as of 9 September 2024.
- 2.1.5. If 2.1.4 is not satisfied, the next highest positioned player on the ITF World Tennis Tour Juniors Qualification Rankings as of 9 September 2024 list shall be designated as the alternate and shall replace any player who subsequently withdraws.

### **3. Withdrawals before the competition**

- 3.1. Any withdrawal of a direct acceptance or alternate player before the draw is made shall be replaced by the next highest ranked player according to the ITF World Tennis Tour Juniors Qualification Rankings as of 9 September 2024;

### **4. Draw Process and Standings Calculation Method**

- 4.1. The competition shall be divided into two (2) groups of four (4) players each. The competition shall be drawn as follows:
  - 4.1.1. The player seeded one (1) shall be placed in Group A and the player seeded two (2) shall be placed in Group B.
  - 4.1.2. Players seeded three (3) and four (4); five (5) and six (6); and seven (7) and eight (8) shall then be drawn in pairs with the first drawn placed into Group A and the second drawn place in Group B.
- 4.2. Each player shall play every player in his/her group to determine the final standings in each group. Once the draw has been made the ITF Supervisor will draw which lines will play each other on the first day of competition, ensuring that the two highest seeded players in each group do not play in the first match. On the second day of competition winning players from the first day will play losing players from the first day.
- 4.3. The final standings shall be determined as follows and in the following order:
  - 4.3.1. Greatest number of wins; then
  - 4.3.2. Greatest number of matches played. Note: A player with a 1-2 record will be placed higher than a player with a 1-0 record.
  - 4.3.3. If two (2) players are tied, their head to head results; or

- 4.3.4. If three (3) players each have one (1) win, a player having played less than all three (3) matches is automatically eliminated and the player advancing to the single elimination competition is the winner of the head to head of the two (2) players tied with 1-2 records; or;
  - 4.3.4.1. Highest percentage of sets won;
  - 4.3.4.2. if percentage of sets is tied for two (2) players then the head to head results for those players; then
- 4.3.5. If three (3) players remain tied:
  - 4.3.5.1. highest percentage of games won;
  - 4.3.5.2. if after 4.3.5.1. two (2) players remain tied, head to head results; then
  - 4.3.5.3. If all three (3) players remain tied after applying 4.3.4.1 and 4.3.4.2, standing will be determined by the Seed Rankings.

## **5. Default, Retirement and Withdrawal**

- 5.1. A player who retires from a match in the round robin due to illness or injury may continue in the competition if certified as fit by the Tournament Doctor and/or Physiotherapist. If the player is not deemed able to continue, they will be replaced by the alternate player.
- 5.2. The alternate player shall take the player's position in the Round Robin or Playoff Stage. Where this occurs prior to the final match of the tournament (e.g. 5<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> place), the alternate shall compete in this match and shall receive an additional travel grant amount of \$1,250 if they win. In this scenario, the alternate will receive the equivalent of 7<sup>th</sup> placed ranking points if they win, or 8<sup>th</sup> place if they lose. Regardless of result, the opponent shall be deemed to finish in the higher position in the final standings for the purposes of the ranking point allocation (see Regulation 7.4). For example, the player originally in the 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> playoff match shall finish in 5<sup>th</sup> position for the purpose of ranking point allocation regardless of whether they win or lose the final match against the alternate.
- 5.3. Any retirement or default (due to physical condition or dress and equipment) shall count as a straight sets loss for the player.
- 5.4. Any player who is defaulted pursuant to the ITF Code of Conduct during the round robin competition shall be defaulted from all other matches in the knock-out rounds and the default provision of the ITF Code of Conduct shall apply.
- 5.5. Any results recorded against a withdrawing player remain countable for the purposes of the standings calculation, provided there is an alternate available to take their place for all remaining matches in the group.
- 5.6. If there is no alternate player available to begin a round robin stage match, the matches recorded against the withdrawing player will not be counted for the purposes of the round robin standings calculation.
- 5.7. Where no alternate player is available in the playoff stages, the opponent shall receive a walkover win.

**6. Travel Grants (all listed in US Dollars)**

- 6.1. All direct acceptances who attend the event (8 players in each event), and completes at least one (1) match, shall receive the sum of \$6,000. A direct acceptance who attends the full duration of the event with the intention but does not participate in any matches due to illness or injury shall receive \$3,000.
- 6.2. The alternate player will receive \$3,000 if they remain on-site for the full event duration.
- 6.3. All players, including alternate players, can increase the value of their travel grant payment based on the following:
  - 6.3.1. Any match won in the round robin stage, including retirements and walkovers from their opponent, shall earn a player \$1,500 for each match win.
  - 6.3.2. A player finishing in 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the Round Robin group and qualifies for the Semi Finals shall earn an additional \$2,250
  - 6.3.3. A match won in the Main Draw Semi-Final stage shall earn \$4,000.
  - 6.3.4. A match won in the Final shall earn \$2,250
  - 6.3.5. A match won in the 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> playoff shall earn \$1,500 per match win.
  - 6.3.6. A match won for any playoff match for 5<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> position shall earn \$1,250 per win
  - 6.3.7. The maximum travel grant payable is \$19,000 should a direct acceptance win all matches in the round robin stage, semi-final and final.
  - 6.3.8. Travel grants of any amount will not be issued to any player who withdraws from the event without a medical certificate from the on-site doctor or physiotherapist.
- 6.4. Travel grants will be paid to players by bank transfer within 28 days following completion of the event. Payment will be made by the International Tennis Federation.
- 6.5. The ITF Head of Juniors, in their discretion, shall have ultimate authority on the distribution of travel grants.

**7. Ranking Points**

- 7.1. ITF Combined Junior Ranking Points will be awarded based on round reached. The following table outlines the points that will be awarded:

Winner = 850 points	Runner Up = 600 points	3 <sup>rd</sup> Place = 480 points	4 <sup>th</sup> Place = 420 points
5 <sup>th</sup> place = 370 points	6 <sup>th</sup> place = 320 points	7 <sup>th</sup> place = 280 points	8 <sup>th</sup> place = 240 points

- 7.2. A direct acceptance who withdraws due to injury or illness prior to the completion of their round-robin group matches shall receive 100 ranking points for each win in the round robin stage, which shall be awarded on a cumulative basis if they have won multiple matches. E.g., 2 wins = 200 points.

- 7.3. A player withdrawing due to illness or injury after completing all matches in the round robin stage will earn 240 points, unless the player qualifies prior to their participation in the main draw semi-finals, in which case they shall receive 420 points.
- 7.4. The alternate shall receive 100% of ranking points for their final position provided they play 2 or more matches. 50% of points shall be awarded if they play only one match.