

### ITF World Tennis Masters Tour — 2025 Organiser Summary

This document provides a concise summary to getting started as a prospective organisers of an ITF World Tennis Masters Tournament. This is a guideline document and does not supersede the ITF World Tennis Masters Tour Regulations which must be adhered to for all tournaments.

### What is the ITF World Tennis Masters Tour?

The ITF's World Tennis Masters Tour provides opportunities for tens of thousands of players aged 30 and upwards to enjoy competitive tennis for life, testing themselves against their own age-groups, domestically or with travel to popular destinations.

The Tour is made up of 500+ tournaments in 75 countries. As the global guardian of the game, the ITF's mission for the Masters Tour is to help tennis to become the world's leading sport for tournament participation among those aged 30+.

### Who Plays?

Participants range from former professionals and national players to club-level competitors, with many continuing in the sport long after their peak playing years. It's a diverse, vibrant community with a passion for tennis and competition.

### Why Host a Masters Tournament?

- Provide exciting competitive opportunities for adult tennis players to help showcase tennis as a *lifelong sport* in your country
- Become part of a growing global network of event organisers and boost national and international visibility for your venue as host of international events

#### **Tournament Grades**

Events are classified from **MT100** (entry level) up to **MT1000** (top tier), plus Regional and World Championships. The majority of tournaments are held at the MT100 / MT200 level aimed at club level players in the host nation, with new tournaments joining the Tour at the MT100 grade.

Higher grades such as MT700 and MT1000 offer more ranking points and attract more competitive players, some of whom may have formerly played Professional Tennis.

Grading is determined through an established <u>Grading Criteria</u> which assesses player participation, draw strength, and organisational standards.

## ITF Masters MT100 - Minimum Organisational Requirements

#### Tournament Dates and Events Offered

- Organisers can choose to run as little as one (1) age group which could be for Men's Singles, Women's Singles, Men's Doubles, Women's Doubles and/or Mixed Doubles.
- Tournaments may be scheduled for as little as 2-3 days, up to several days.
- Events dates, draw format and scoring formats may be adapted to allow for shorter length tournaments. E.g. maximum draw size of 16 players.

#### Venue & Courts

- In most cases **4 match courts** of ITF-approved surface (clay, hard, or grass) are required. More courts will be required if multiple events are offered which attract good player entries.
- More courts allow for more events to be offered and larger draw sizes.
- Courts must be well maintained and have adequate lighting if night play is scheduled.



# 🗹 Officials

- For MT100 tournaments, the Referee shall have ITF White Badge certification. Where an ITF White Badge referee is unavailable, a National Referee may be appointed, subject to the approval and requirements of the National Association and the ITF.
- An ITF White Badge referee is a requirement for MT200 and MT400 level tournaments.
- One (1) off-court umpire is recommended for every 8 match courts.

# 🗹 Player Services & Facilities

- Tournament Desk to manage registrations and general player questions.
- Tournament to provide new balls for matches, and prizes (e.g. medal or small trophy) for winners and runners up. Prize money is not required.
- Catering options and locker rooms with showers to be available to players on-site.
- Recommended services: stringing services, physio access, scoreboards on court.
- Optional small social events are a valued part of the Masters experience

# 🗹 Technology & Systems

- Entry and acceptance handled via ITF IPIN system
- All tournaments are managed using **ITF Tournament Planner** which allows for automated processing of tournament entries, draws, scheduling, results and rankings post event.

## 🗹 Tournament Finances

- Tournaments are required to pay a **Sanction Fee** to the ITF. The fee is \$325 USD for MT100 level tournaments, although this shall be \$100 USD only in the first year of a tournament.
- Tournament charge and retain an **Entry Fee** from each player. Guidance is provided by the ITF. As an example, entry fees should range between \$35 USD to \$70 USD per player at MT100 level tournaments where players are able to play in one (1) singles event and one (1) doubles event.
- Players are required to pay a \$10 USD **IPIN fee for** their participation in each tournament. This only applies for their first six (6) tournaments in a calendar year. The IPIN fee is paid to the ITF.
- Tournament costs usually include a referee, an off court-umpire, a tournament organiser, balls and prizes. Court fees may apply. With limited costs, tournaments usually break even or make a profit.

# Branding & Promotion

- Use of ITF World Tennis Masters Tour branding on signage, draws and other items.
- Templates and assets supplied by the ITF
- Event listed on the ITF calendar and promoted internationally

## How to Get Started

1. Contact your <u>National Tennis Association</u> to discuss your interest in hosting a tournament. They will support your application and submit it to the ITF (via the ITF Tournament Management System).

## **Useful Links**

- ITF World Tennis Masters Tour Regulations (2025)
- 2025 Tournament Guidelines
- Contact the ITF Masters Team: <u>masters@itftennis.com</u>