



AGM AGENDA

Ritz Carlton Grande Lakes,
Orlando, Florida, USA

16 August 2018



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AGENDA

1. OPENING ADDRESS FROM THE PRESIDENT

ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM – ARTICLE 18(b):

The quorum shall be one half of the Class B Members or any number of Class B Members holding, in aggregate, at least half of the Class B Shares, but a vote may be taken even if at any time some of the Class B Member delegates comprising a quorum have left the conference hall.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

APPOINTMENT OF A PARLIAMENTARIAN

To approve the appointment of Jonathan Taylor QC (Bird & Bird LLP) as Parliamentarian for the duration of the 2018 Meeting.

ELECTION OF SCRUTINEERS – ARTICLE 18(f):

At the commencement of each General Meeting, three scrutineers shall be elected. Nominations for such scrutineers shall be accepted from any delegate of either a Class B or Class C Member, provided that no such delegate may put forward the name of more than one candidate. The vote for the election of the three scrutineers shall be taken by a show of hands.

APPROVAL OF THE 2017 MINUTES – ARTICLE 14(b)(i):

To approve the minutes of the previous General Meeting.

OBITUARIES

2. FINANCE

REPORT BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE TO ALL NATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR 2017

The enclosed financial summary provides a comparison of the actual 2017 results, as detailed in the financial statements which accompany the ITF Annual Report, with the 2017 Budget presented to the AGM in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam.

This report is provided in conjunction with the Annual Report and Accounts and the Consolidated Financial Statements, which give more detail on the performance as well as detailed Cash Flow and Balance Sheet information.

In addition to the historical information, the financial summary also gives information on the budget for 2018. Further information will be given in the Update Session on Finance.

2017 RESULTS SUMMARY

The budget for 2017, presented to the Board in November 2016 and subsequently approved by the AGM in Ho Chi Minh City, outlined a total surplus for the year of \$2.2m arising from an operating surplus of \$1.1m, net investment income of \$1.5m and a taxation charge of \$0.3m.

The financial statements of the ITF Trust ("ITF") record a total operating surplus of \$0.5m for the year (after spending on strategic projects approved at the board meeting in Paris in June 2017 which are designated as Strategic Initiatives). Net investment gains were much larger than budgeted returning \$4.8m giving a total surplus after tax (of \$0.2m) of \$5.3m – an improvement of \$3.1m from budget.

The total surplus combines with a favourable foreign exchange rate movement on the ITF's outstanding currency hedges of \$2.9m, resulting in an increase of reserves of \$8.2m to \$57.8m.

Operating Income

Operating income for 2017 was \$68.9m versus a budget of \$70.3m.

The budget included an uncontracted sponsorship target of \$1.5m. Whilst tie-by-tie sponsorship sales were strong, \$0.8m of this target remained unsold as a global or regional sponsorship deal was not secured representing an adverse variance to budget.

Television income increased \$4.6m from the previous year as it was in the first year of the beIN SPORTS deal. However, a sharing agreement on technical income and costs negotiated after the budget had been approved gave rise to an adverse variance to budget of \$1.4m. This was offset against reduced costs as discussed in the Operating expenses section below.

Anti-Doping was \$1.2m higher than budgeted under the revised terms of the approved Anti-Doping agreement with the other governing bodies resulting in greater cost sharing of an increased Anti-Doping programme. Again, this offsets against greater costs described below.

Development Generation Funding is a new income stream for 2017 with the aim of raising money from donations and campaigns to fund development programs. \$0.7m was raised to support the new 12&Under regional tournaments, but the full target of \$1.2m was not achieved resulting in a \$0.4m adverse variance to budget.

Operating expenses

Operating costs were \$68.4m, \$0.8m lower than the budget of \$69.2m. The operating costs are split between ongoing activities of \$67.3m and Strategic Initiative costs of \$1.1m.

There are a number of expenditure variances that relate directly to Income variances outlined above including: commercial income budgeted for distribution of \$1.2m was not distributed due to the shortfall in commercial income; Television costs decreased \$1.2m against budget with the beIN cost sharing agreement; Anti-Doping costs increased \$1.3m against budget with the new Anti-Doping agreement; and ITF Development costs decreased \$0.4m against budget after not achieving the full Development Generation Funding target.

Other expenditure variances include commercial costs increasing \$0.7m against budget with additional activation spend to boost engagement in the BNP Paribas brand at the Davis Cup by BNP Paribas semifinals and final in France; Regulation & Governance increasing \$0.5m with the creation of in-house legal department, high profile eligibility and integrity appeals and work to ensure compliance with the new Data Protection regulations; and foreign exchange gains of \$0.5m.

The operating result before Strategic Initiatives was delivered at \$0.5m better than budget reflecting effective budgetary control and a reasonable balance of risk and opportunity having been built into financial projections, which then provided partial funding for the Strategic Initiative projects.

Strategic Initiatives

Strategic Initiative expenditure totalled \$1.1m in 2017. The ITF executives presented several key projects to the Board in June 2017 and approval was given to funding these projects from reserves as they directly support the ITF2024 strategic priorities.

The projects include improving the ITF's social media presence which, in turn, will help us to service sponsors and encourage future sponsorship opportunities; an initial IT review and subsequent expenditure to augment the ITF's IT systems; the new Transition Tour including research, marketing and project planning for a successful January 2019 launch; commercial market insight analysis, marketing & sales materials and setting out ITF brand guidelines; and Data protection regulation compliance and legal advice on the World Cup of Tennis project.

BUDGET FOR THE PERIOD 1 JANUARY TO 31 DECEMBER 2018

The budget for 2018 provided in the financial summary outlines the expected result for 2018 approved by the Board in November 2017. The budget result shows an ongoing operating result of breakeven, and Strategic Initiative project expenditure of \$4.8m supporting the delivery of ITF2024 key projects.

The budget includes \$18.6m of contracted income from existing sponsors and \$2.1m of uncontracted sponsorship. Television income of \$14.6m includes the fixed income from beIN SPORTS media rights and Sportradar Data Rights revenue is guaranteed at \$12.6m.

The budget includes investment in Davis Cup and Fed Cup by BNP Paribas in line with ITF2024, including 3% increases in prize money and entry fees continue to be waived. Strategic Initiative expenditure in the Davis Cup and Fed Cup include additional player incentives and prize money of \$2.2m.

Commercial income distributions of \$4m have been included, split \$2.7m of estimated contractual distributions per the Davis Cup Regulations, and an additional \$1.3m of incremental discretionary distributions to be distributed out of available surpluses.

The budget includes total development expenditure (excluding staff costs) of \$10.4m, an increase of \$2.2m against the 2017 level. When factoring in a reclassification of \$0.5m of junior regional tournaments into development in 2017, the increase against 2016 actual expenditure is over \$4m as presented at the 2017 AGM.

After allowing for increased Davis Cup and Fed Cup payments of \$2.2m, Strategic Initiative expenditure on other projects totals \$2.6m. This includes \$1.3m to overhaul the IPIN system, ITF

website, start the process of migration to cloud based systems and provide digital archiving and social media improvements. Such an extensive investment in the improvement of the ITF's digital and technological systems will enable better service for players, drive new income streams, better service existing sponsors and enhance the ITF's image and reputation.

Other Strategic Initiative projects include a branding review, constitutional review, player relations and international relations expenditure, and televising junior and wheelchair events, as well as continuing to deliver the Transition Tour.

In non-Operating income, net investment income of \$1.5m is budgeted, based on a 3% portfolio return, and tax charges are estimated to amount to \$0.3m.

After factoring in the investment income and tax, the Total result is a planned deficit of \$3.5m which is accounted for by the approved expenditure on Strategic Initiatives and is a draw-down of reserves set aside for those purposes.

The financial summary includes details of Strategic Initiatives for both 2017 and 2018 in detail so as to highlight the work of the organisation to deliver these projects in direct support of ITF2024.

PROJECTIONS FOR 2019

No projections for 2019 have been provided in this report as this will be covered in the presentations on the future of Davis Cup and full details will be provided during the Conference and AGM.

BUDGET & ACTUAL 2017, BUDGET 2018

All figures in USD

SUMMARY	BUDGET 2017	ACTUAL ONGOING ACTIVITIES 2017	ACTUAL STRATEGIC INITIATIVES 2017	ACTUAL TOTAL 2017	VARIANCE TO BUDGET 2017	BUDGET ONGONG ACTIVITIES 2018	BUDGET STRATEGIC INITIATIVES 2018	BUDGET TOTAL 2018
INCOME	70,314	68,889	0	68,889	(1,425)	73,909	0	73,909
EXPENSE	(69,236)	(67,290)	(1,136)	(68,426)	810	(73,859)	(4,810)	(78,669)
OPERATING SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	1,078	1,599	(1,136)	463	(615)	50	(4,810)	(4,760)
Investment income (Including interest)	1,853	5,343	0	5,343	3,490	1,893	0	1,893
Investment management	(398)	(346)	0	(346)	52	(387)	0	(387)
SURPLUS / (DEFICIT) BEFORE TAXATION	2,533	6,596	(1,136)	5,460	2,927	1,556	(4,810)	(3,254)
Less: Taxation (including Hopman Cup)	(336)	(195)	0	(195)	141	(290)	0	(290)
NET SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	2,197	6,401	(1,136)	5,265	3,068	1,266	(4,810)	(3,544)

INCOME	BUDGET 2017	ACTUAL ONGOING ACTIVITIES 2017	ACTUAL STRATEGIC INITIATIVES 2017	ACTUAL TOTAL 2017	VARIANCE TO BUDGET 2017	BUDGET ONGONG ACTIVITIES 2018	BUDGET STRATEGIC INITIATIVES 2018	BUDGET TOTAL 2018
Sponsorship Income								
Davis Cup	15,083	14,276	0	14,276	(807)	15,756	0	15,756
Fed Cup	2,111	2,140	0	2,140	29	2,390	0	2,390
Olympic	5,734	5,773	0	5,773	39	5,941	0	5,941
Junior Davis Cup/Fed Cup	485	485	0	485	0	485	0	485
Wheelchair	920	912	0	912	(8)	932	0	932
Hopman Cup	350	353	0	353	3	460	0	460
Other Sponsorship	1,134	1,135	0	1,135	1	1,135	0	1,135
Sub-total	25,817	25,074	0	25,074	(743)	27,099	0	27,099
Receipts from Events	5,963	6,342	0	6,342	379	6,848	0	6,848
TV & Licensing	14,930	13,511	0	13,511	(1,419)	14,602	0	14,602
Fixed Venue Final	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Data sales	12,600	12,522	0	12,522	(78)	12,600	0	12,600
Merchandising	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Subscriptions	2,247	2,249	0	2,249	2	2,273	0	2,273
Authorisation Fees	911	905	0	905	(6)	978	0	978
Foundation	187	176	0	176	(11)	181	0	181
Technical	1,051	1,019	0	1,019	(32)	1,034	0	1,034
GSDF	2,320	2,154	0	2,154	(166)	2,623	0	2,623
Wheelchair Silver Fund	84	49	0	49	(35)	57	0	57
Development Generation Funding	1,200	746	0	746	(454)	761	0	761
Anti-Doping	2,343	3,574	0	3,574	1,231	4,250	0	4,250
iCoach	78	65	0	65	(13)	74	0	74
Olympic Solidarity	356	271	0	271	(85)	346	0	346
Sundry	227	232	0	232	5	183	0	183
TOTAL	70,314	68,889	0	68,889	(1,425)	73,909	0	73,909

BUDGET & ACTUAL 2017, BUDGET 2018

EXPENSE	BUDGET	ACTUAL ONGOING ACTIVITIES	ACTUAL STRATEGIC INITIATIVES	ACTUAL TOTAL	VARIANCE TO BUDGET	BUDGET ONGOING ACTIVITIES	BUDGET STRATEGIC INITIATIVES	BUDGET TOTAL
	2017	2017	2017	2017	2017	2018	2018	2018
PROFESSIONAL TENNIS								
DAVIS CUP								
Prize money	11,780	11,759	0	11,759	(21)	11,016	1,181	12,197
Event Expenses	3,463	3,262	62	3,324	(139)	4,595	137	4,732
FED CUP								
Prize money	3,297	3,613	0	3,613	316	3,396	1,000	4,396
Event Expenses	2,085	1,745	0	1,745	(340)	2,195	0	2,195
Hopman Cup Event Expenses	30	30	0	30	0	30	0	30
Olympics	72	60	0	60	(12)	242	0	242
Men's Tennis	97	58	22	80	(17)	68	28	96
Officiating	326	341	0	341	15	645	0	645
Women's Tennis	272	244	20	264	(8)	321	28	349
Beach Tennis	72	37	20	57	(15)	69	100	169
Juniors	571	490	19	509	(62)	545	28	573
Seniors	307	336	0	336	29	422	0	422
Wheelchair	661	434	0	434	(227)	736	0	736
Wheelchair Silver Fund	84	49	0	49	(35)	57	0	57
Data Sales	9,450	8,546	0	8,546	(904)	9,514	0	9,514
ITF Contribution to GS Board	188	172	0	172	(16)	180	0	180
ITF Contribution to Tennis Integrity Unit	929	1,949	0	1,949	1,020	838	0	838
Staff Costs	2,769	2,762	45	2,807	38	3,029	107	3,136
TOTAL	36,453	35,887	188	36,075	(378)	37,898	2,609	40,507
TENNIS DEVELOPMENT								
Development	5,436	5,039	0	5,039	(397)	6,696	0	6,696
GSDf	2,320	2,154	0	2,154	(166)	2,623	0	2,623
Development Assistance	190	192	0	192	2	190	0	190
iCoach	14	49	0	49	35	44	0	44
Regional Grants	723	725	0	725	2	838	0	838
Staff costs	995	860	0	860	(135)	905	0	905
TOTAL	9,678	9,019	0	9,019	(659)	11,295	0	11,295
COMMERCIAL DEPARTMENT								
TV Costs	1,850	664	21	685	(1,165)	835	380	1,215
Commercial	989	1,583	135	1,718	729	1,831	0	1,831
Contractual Commercial Income distribution	2,505	2,756	0	2,756	251	2,727	0	2,727
Incremental Commercial Income distribution	1,500	239	0	239	(1,261)	1,273	0	1,273
Marketing the Game	678	540	242	782	104	209	160	369
Merchandising	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Staff Costs	705	886	0	886	181	1,084	0	1,084
TOTAL	8,227	6,668	398	7,066	(1,161)	7,958	540	8,498
PRESIDENTIAL / COMMUNICATIONS								
Communications	1,227	981	132	1,113	(114)	986	355	1,341
Annual General Meeting	612	586	30	616	4	711	0	711
Board of Directors	393	390	82	472	79	474	51	525
Management	239	231	0	231	(8)	435	410	845
Staff Costs	2,457	2,302	0	2,302	(155)	2,209	41	2,250
TOTAL	4,928	4,490	244	4,734	(194)	4,814	857	5,671

*1

BUDGET & ACTUAL 2017, BUDGET 2018

EXPENSE (Continued)

	BUDGET 2017	ACTUAL ONGOING ACTIVITIES 2017	ACTUAL STRATEGIC INITIATIVES 2017	ACTUAL TOTAL 2017	VARIANCE TO BUDGET 2017	BUDGET ONGONG ACTIMITIES 2018	BUDGET STRATEGIC INITIATIVES 2018	BUDGET TOTAL 2018
SCIENCE, TECHNICAL AND INTEGRITY								
Anti-Doping	2,901	4,202	0	4,202	1,301	4,609	0	4,609
Technical	238	242	0	242	4	224	0	224
Sport Science & Medicine Commission	70	16	0	16	(54)	69	0	69
Foundation	127	28	0	28	(99)	142	0	142
Constitution	20	21	0	21	1	22	0	22
Regulation & Governance	71	542	0	542	471	507	123	630
Staff costs	881	888	0	888	7	923	20	943
TOTAL	4,308	5,939	0	5,939	1,631	6,496	143	6,639
FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION								
Administration	109	113	0	113	4	106	0	106
ICT	616	604	139	743	127	682	94	776
Legal & Professional	628	461	118	579	(49)	254	0	254
Security	128	304	0	304	176	255	0	255
Insurance	324	278	0	278	(46)	287	0	287
Finance	30	18	0	18	(12)	19	0	19
Premises	949	1,066	0	1,066	117	916	0	916
Staff Costs	1,797	1,958	0	1,958	161	1,863	0	1,863
Provision for Doubtful debts	0	(12)	0	(12)	(12)	0	0	0
TOTAL	4,581	4,790	257	5,047	466	4,382	94	4,476
DEPRECIATION	1,061	1,039	48	1,087	26	1,016	567	1,583
FOREIGN EXCHANGE GAIN	0	(541)	0	(541)	(541)	0	0	0
TOTAL EXPENSES	69,236	67,290	1,136	68,426	(810)	73,859	4,810	78,669

*1 - line items have been moved from Presidential to Commercial department after ITF reorganisation at the beginning of 2018

BALANCE SHEET

	BUDGET 2017	ACTUAL ONGOING ACTIVITIES 2017	ACTUAL STRATEGIC INITIATIVES 2017	ACTUAL TOTAL 2017	VARIANCE TO BUDGET 2017	BUDGET ONGONG ACTIMITIES 2018	BUDGET STRATEGIC INITIATIVES 2018	BUDGET TOTAL 2018
NET ASSETS								
TOTAL NET ASSETS	51,814			57,828	6,014			54,284
RESERVES								
Opening Reserves	49,617			49,617	0			57,828
Surplus for the year	2,197			5,265	3,068			(3,544)
Movements in reserves	0			2,946	2,946			0
TOTAL RESERVES	51,814			57,828	6,014			54,284

3. GOVERNANCE - PROPOSALS TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS – IMPLEMENTATION OF AN ITF CODE OF ETHICS

[This Resolution requires a **2/3 majority** to pass]

The Board of Directors **recommends** the approval of this resolution to make some necessary consequential changes to give effect to their decision.

Summary

Pursuant to its powers under Articles 22(a) and 32(d), the Board of Directors has approved the introduction of a Code of Ethics that applies to (a) the Officers of the ITF (Board of Directors and Committee/Commission members), (b) Regional Associations, and (c) National Associations (limited to their dealings with the ITF).

Rationale

The implementation of a Code of Ethics is a crucial component of the ITF2024 objective of upholding the highest standards of integrity and governance. Indeed, the Olympic Charter requires that all International Federations have one. This requires some consequential changes to the Constitution to recognise the Code of Ethics and give effect to any action taken under the Code against a member of the Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors will have the power to make amendments to the Code of Ethics.

Drafting

CONSTITUTION

19. COMPOSITION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

[...]

- (c) ~~No person shall~~ TO be eligible for nomination, election or appointment as a member of the Board of Directors, A PERSON MUST ~~unless he~~:
- (i) BE ~~Is~~ a national of a country (including a newly formed independent country resulting from the division of a former country) which has played in the Davis Cup Competition at least ten times; and
 - (ii) HAVE ~~Has~~ attained the age of twenty-one (21) and enjoys civil and political rights; AND
 - (iii) NOT BE SUFFERING FROM ONE OF THE DISQUALIFYING CONDITIONS FOR SUCH OFFICE SET OUT IN ARTICLE 21(K); AND
 - (iv) NOT BE SERVING A PERIOD OF INELIGIBILITY (WHETHER PROVISIONAL OR FINAL) FOR SUCH OFFICE IMPOSED UNDER ANY CODE OF ETHICS ISSUED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS;

21. NOMINATION, ELECTION AND TENURE OF DIRECTORS

[...]

- (k) The office of a member of the Board of Directors shall ipso facto be vacated in the event that a member:

[...]

- (VII) IS RULED INELIGIBLE TO HOLD SUCH OFFICE UNDER A CODE OF ETHICS ISSUED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS. IF THE INELIGIBILITY IS ONLY PROVISIONAL, THE VACATING OF OFFICE SHALL ALSO BE ONLY PROVISIONAL.

Resolution

The AGM resolves to approve the changes to the Constitution set out in this Resolution.

Under Article 32(b), the AGM delegates to the Board of Directors the responsibility to approve the final wording of the amendments (wherever applicable) to give effect to the substance of the amendment approved under this Resolution.

This amendment shall take effect on 1 January 2019, in accordance with Article 32(c).

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS – DAVIS CUP AND FED CUP REGULATIONS

[This Resolution requires a **2/3 majority** to pass]

Summary

The Board of Directors **recommends** that the AGM entrusts to the Board of Directors the power to amend the Davis Cup and Fed Cup Regulations, in order to make the process for amending the Regulations more efficient and effective.

Rationale

The AGM currently approves amendments to the Davis Cup and Fed Cup Regulations each year. The Board and some members raised concerns about the impracticalities of this requirement at the 2017 AGM. The annual approval process is cumbersome, inefficient, and results in slow decision-making. Furthermore, many areas of the Regulations are heavily operational and do not require a vote from the whole membership. Entrusting the Board to amend the Regulations without AGM approval will bring the Davis Cup and Fed Cup into line with other ITF competitions where the regulations for those competitions are currently amended by the Board in its discretion.

This amendment will also allow the membership to rely on the expertise of its elected Board to make decisions in the best interests of the ITF as a whole.

As a comparison, no country would ever have subsidiary matters such as regulations and bye-laws approved in a public vote open to all its citizens. This power is granted to the parliament or even to the elected Government.

The shift of responsibility to the Board under this Resolution is balanced out by:

- Improved communication and consultation pathways with the Nations and Regions generally (i.e. through the various Taskforce groups);
- The existing process and ongoing dialogue between nations and the Davis Cup and Fed Cup Committees, and the ITF Executive when changes are being considered.

Article 27(f) safeguards the AGM's ability to overturn a decision made by the Board.

Drafting

CONSTITUTION

27. COMPETITIONS

- (a) The title "World Championships" in connection with tennis, shall not be instituted or revived at any time without the unanimous consent of a General Meeting of the Council.
- (b) UNLESS OTHERWISE DECIDED BY RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL, (A) ~~t~~The Davis Cup Competition and the Fed Cup Competition shall be open only to Class B Members of the ITF; AND (B) ~~I~~In the case of all other ITF team competitions, entries may be accepted from Class B and Class C Members.
- (c) IN THE CASE OF ALL TEAM COMPETITIONS (INCLUDING THE DAVIS CUP COMPETITION AND THE FED CUP COMPETITION), ~~o~~only players who are eligible to represent a country in accordance with the regulations adopted FOR THE COMPETITION IN QUESTION may be nominated members of the team of that country.
- (~~e~~D) The duties of the Davis Cup and Fed Cup Committees shall be as set out in the Regulations for the Davis Cup COMPETITION and THE Fed Cup Competitions respectively, ~~which can only be amended by the Council.~~
- (~~d~~E) The Regulations of the Davis Cup Competition and the Fed Cup Competition may be

~~altered from time to time by the Board of Directors if due notice of the principles embodying such alteration shall have been given in accordance with Article 17 and such principles or ones having the like effect shall be carried by a two-thirds majority Resolution of the Council, unless otherwise stated in the Regulations in question, of the votes recorded in respect of the same (See also Appendix A). Any alterations so made shall take effect from the next following EDITION OF THE competition IN QUESTION, unless the BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPECIFIES OTHERWISE Meeting shall by the like majority decide otherwise.~~

~~(e) The Regulations of the Davis Cup Competition and the Fed Cup Competition may be altered by the Board of Directors if the matter is deemed to be urgent. In such event the Council shall vote to ratify or reject the Board's alteration. Such vote shall be conducted by email, fax or post, the ballots to be sent within 15 days of the Board's vote and returned within 30 days of the Board's vote. Any unreturned ballot shall be deemed a vote to ratify the Board's alteration.~~

(F) A CLASS B MEMBER MAY SUBMIT TO THE COUNCIL A RESOLUTION TO REVERSE A DECISION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MADE PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 27(E), PROVIDED THAT SUCH RESOLUTION IS SUPPORTED BY TWENTY CLASS B MEMBERS AND OF WHICH DUE NOTICE SHALL HAVE BEEN GIVEN IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 17.

RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED UNDER THIS ARTICLE 27(F) SHALL REQUIRE A TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL TO TAKE EFFECT.

Resolution

The AGM hereby resolves to amend the Constitution as set out in this Resolution.

Under Article 32(b), the AGM hereby delegates to the Board of Directors the responsibility to approve the final wording of the amendments (including consequential changes to the Constitution and By-laws) to give effect to this Resolution.

This amendment shall take effect on 1 January 2019, in accordance with Article 32(c).

RESOLUTION OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS – INTERNATIONAL TEAM COMPETITIONS

[This Resolution requires a **2/3 majority** to pass]

Summary

The Board of Directors **recommends** implementing a new regulation in the Constitution in relation to the sanctioning of international team competitions to help reinforce the primacy and importance of the ITF's team competitions and the status of national representation.

Rationale

The aim of regulating participation in international team competitions is to drive the ITF's wider objectives of developing tennis across the globe and inspiring young players to represent their country. Rules of this nature are common in international sport because they enable International Federations to protect and maintain integrity standards such as anti-doping and anti-corruption, and ensure that the competition calendar is balanced.

The new regulation will provide:

- (a) a process for approving international team events, taking into account matters such as player welfare, integrity standards and calendar conflicts; and
- (b) a disincentive to national associations from participating in any way in unsanctioned team competitions (and provide for penalties if a nation does so participate).

The new regulations will affect team eligibility requirements in current ITF regulations (Davis Cup, Fed Cup and Junior Team Cup etc) by providing for players who compete in unsanctioned events to be declared ineligible to compete in ITF sanctioned team competitions for a specified period.

Note: the above eligibility changes will not apply to Davis Cup and Fed Cup 2019, as this would require voting at this AGM. Therefore, there is at least a one year lead-in time for this new regulation to take effect, during which the implementation of the sanctioning process and nation and player compliance can be monitored.

The Board has also considered, and **supports**, recommendations of the French Tennis Federation to amend Article 27 to:

- (a) reinforce the autonomy of the nations in selecting teams to participate in official team competitions; and
- (b) provide that the term World must not be used in association with a tennis competition or title by any members, regional associations or recognised organisations without ITF approval.

Drafting

CONSTITUTION

22. POWERS AND DUTIES OF DIRECTORS

- (a) The management of the Company shall be vested in the Board of Directors who, in addition to the powers and authorities conferred upon them by this Constitution or the Act, may exercise all such powers and do all such acts as are expressly directed or required to be exercised or done by Resolution of the Council subject nevertheless to the provisions of the Act and of the Constitution.

[...]

- (c) Without derogating from the generality of sub-paragraph (a) of this Article, it is hereby expressly declared that the Board of Directors shall have the following powers:
(2) With respect to the international competitions of the Company:

[...]

- (V) TO ADOPT, MAINTAIN, AND AMEND AS NECESSARY FROM TIME TO TIME, BYE-LAWS AND/OR REGULATIONS RELATING TO (I) THE SANCTIONING OF INTERNATIONAL TEAM COMPETITIONS, (II) THE RESTRICTION OF MEMBERS FROM PARTICIPATION IN ANY WAY IN UNSANCTIONED INTERNATIONAL TEAM COMPETITIONS, AND/OR (III) RESTRICTING PERSONS FROM SO PARTICIPATING.

27. COMPETITIONS

- a) The title “World Championships” in connection with tennis, shall not be instituted or revived at any time without the unanimous consent of a General Meeting of the Council.
- B) THE TERM “*WORLD*” OR ANY OTHER TERM ATTRIBUTING A SIMILAR GLOBAL DIMENSION TO A TENNIS COMPETITION OR TO A TITLE, SHALL ONLY BE USED BY THE ITF, OR OTHERWISE WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE ITF.
- C) CLASS B AND C MEMBERS SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR SELECTING THE NATIONAL TEAMS TAKING PART IN ANY OFFICIAL TEAM COMPETITION. SUCH MEMBERS SHALL EXERCISE THIS RIGHT IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE CONSTITUTION, BYE-LAWS, AND ANY RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE ITF, AS WELL AS ANY APPLICABLE NATIONAL LAWS OR REQUIREMENTS.
- ↳D) The Davis Cup Competition and the Fed Cup Competition shall be open only to Class B Members of the ITF. In the case of all other team competitions, entries may be accepted from Class B and Class C Members. ~~Only players who are eligible to represent a country in accordance with the regulations adopted may be nominated members of the team of that country.~~

Resolution

The AGM hereby resolves to amend the Constitution as set out in this Resolution.

Under Article 32(b), the AGM hereby delegates to the Board of Directors the responsibility to approve the final wording of the amendments (including consequential changes to the Constitution and Bye-laws) to give effect to this Resolution.

This amendment shall take effect on 1 January 2019, in accordance with Article 32(c).

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS – INCREASE NUMBER OF DIRECTORS ELECTED TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

[This Resolution requires a **2/3 majority** to pass]

Summary

The Board of Directors **recommends** to increase the number of Board of Directors from thirteen (13) members to fourteen (14) members (exclusive of the President) to increase the opportunity for more inclusive representation of the membership.

Rationale

The Board of Directors is currently made up of thirteen directors and the President. Over recent years, calls for increases to the number of directors have been made, in order to broaden representation and improve participation within the ITF membership.

The Board recognises that the number of directors should be increased to reflect better the changes in membership and improvements of the national associations in tennis development. The Board is aware that membership continues to grow and national associations continue to increase their share allocation to engage better with the ITF and promote tennis in their nations (and regions).

Accordingly, the Board proposes to increase the number of elected Board members by one (1). The Board does not propose that that additional Board member comes from any specific region. It considers that the nations should retain the right to determine those best suited to be members of the Board. Therefore, the additional member may be elected from any Class B nation in accordance with the election requirements set out in Article 21 of the Constitution.

Drafting

CONSTITUTION

19. COMPOSITION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- (a) The Board of Directors shall consist of the President (who shall be elected in accordance with Article 20), ~~thirteen~~ FOURTEEN other persons (who shall be elected in accordance with Article 21) and two Athlete Representative Board members, one male and one female, (who shall be appointed by the elected members of the Board of Directors in accordance with article 21).
- (b) ...

21. NOMINATION, ELECTION AND TENURE OF DIRECTORS

....

- (h) The rules and procedures for the nomination of candidates for election to the Board of Directors shall be as follows:
 - ...
 - (iii) Voting delegates shall be instructed to delete the names of those candidates whom they do not wish to elect, leaving only the names of the ~~thirteen~~ FOURTEEN candidates they wish to elect. Any ballot paper submitted with fewer or more than ~~thirteen~~ FOURTEEN remaining (undeleted) names shall be declared null and void.

- (iv) The ~~thirteen~~ FOURTEEN candidates with the highest number of properly recorded votes shall be declared elected who (unless sub-paragraph (h)(i) has become applicable) taken collectively enable the following conditions to be fulfilled
- (v) In the event two or more candidates receive an equal number of votes for ~~thirteenth~~ FOURTEENTH place in the election, there shall be a further election between those candidates only, to determine the successful candidate for such ~~thirteenth~~ FOURTEENTH place.

Resolution

The AGM hereby resolves to amend the Constitution as set out in this Resolution.

Under Article 32(b), the AGM hereby delegates to the Board of Directors the responsibility to approve the final wording of the amendments (wherever applicable) to give effect to the amendment approved under this Resolution.

This amendment shall take effect on 1 January 2019, in accordance with Article 32(c).

RESOLUTION PROPOSED BY THE ALL INDIA TENNIS ASSOCIATION (AITA)

[This Resolution requires a **2/3 majority** to pass]

AITA Rationale

ITF's position as the Governing Body of Tennis is being challenged. ITF needs to have a better representation of Regions and Nations in the Board of Directors to address the issues relating to Finance and Governance.

Current setup of Board of Directors

As per the current Rules of the ITF Constitution, composition of the Board of Directors is as below:

- Currently there is a reservation of only two (2) directors from Europe (TE), one from Asia (ATF), One from Africa (CAT), one from South America (COSAT).
- There is a reservation for two (2) persons from amongst Class B Members in the group of countries comprising the USA, Canada, Mexico, the countries of Central America, Panama, the Isles of the Caribbean and Bermuda.
- It is also a requirement that at least three (3) directors should come from amongst the Class B Members having maximum number of shares.

The Board of Directors consists of the President, Thirteen (13) Directors representing the National Associations & two (2) nominated Athlete Directors.

Current scenario of our sport across the world & in different regions

The following chart shows the various features relating to our Sport in different Regions:-

Region	No. of Male Players in top 500	No. of Female Players in top 500	No. of Member Nations & Territories	Population In Millions	No. of Events (Juniors & Seniors) 2017
Tennis Europe	313	310	50	850.472	929
ATF	48	75	44	4396.216	369
CAT	8	3	52	1241.801	237
COSAT	51	16	10	422.766	112
COTTECC	5	6	32	221.697	71
USA & Canada	49	63	2	361.083	168
Oceania	26	27	20	40.402	55
TOTAL	500	500	210		1941

AITA recommendations for kind consideration of the members

There is a need to increase the Elected Board of Directors from 13 to 14 to meet the needs of all the regions and nations.

We would like to recommend a change in the composition of the Board of Directors of ITF to fourteen (14) Directors on the basis of the below rationale:

Europe – 6 (Six) Directors

Although Europe is the 3rd largest region in terms of population, it has more than 60% of the top players and conducts almost 48% of the International Tennis events.

As per the existing Constitution, Europe can achieve six (6) members in the Board of Directors but this may not necessarily be the case. In past, Europe has had less than 6 Directors in ITF.

We would like to propose that Europe should have a reservation of six (6) Directors on the ITF BOD for proper representation of European nations towards growth of Davis Cup, Fed Cup and Development of Tennis.

Asia – 2 (Two) Directors

Asia is the largest region in terms of population. TV revenue for Tennis is growing at a very rapid pace in Asia. Asia is second in number of top players and events and deserves 2 positions in the Board for Development of Tennis.

Africa – 2 (Two) Directors

Africa is the 2nd largest region in terms of population and the largest in the number of member nations. Africa is conducting the 3rd highest number of International events. On the basis of the size of the region and the potential Africa holds for our Sport, Africa also needs to have 2 positions in the Board so that Africa develops at a faster pace.

COSAT & COTTECC – 2 (Two) Directors

COSAT and COTTECC have a combined membership of 42 nations with a population of 644.463 million. They conduct 183 International events and need to have a representation of 2 members on the Board (one from each region) for balanced growth of our Sport in both the regions.

Oceania, USA & Canada – 2 (Two) Directors

USA, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and Guam are the remaining Class B members that need to be covered. In Oceania Region there are 17 more members with a combined population of 11.080 million. The 5 named Class B members have a combined population of 390.414 million. Four of these nations are strong Tennis Nations with 75 men and 90 women in top 500 and are together conducting 223 International Events. Although there are only 5 Class B nations in this category, it is recommended, on account of their strength in tennis to have representation of at least 2 seats reserved in the Board of Directors.

AITA Constitutional Proposal

19. Composition Of The Board Of Directors

19(a) The Board of Directors shall consist of the President (who shall be elected in accordance with Article 20), ~~thirteen~~ FOURTEEN other persons (who shall be elected in accordance with Article 21) and two Athlete Representative Board members, one male and one female, (who shall be appointed by the elected members of the Board of Directors in accordance with article 21).

21. Nomination, Election And Tenure Of Directors

21(h) The rules and procedures for the nomination of candidates for election to the Board of Directors shall be as follows:

- (i) In the event of failure to find a qualified and acceptable candidate, OR NON-AVAILABILITY OF CANDIDATE from any of the geographical areas specified in Article 21(h)(iv), or from the Class B Members who have the maximum shares, SUCH PLACES ON THE BOARD WILL BE FILLED IN FROM PERSONS AMONGST CLASS B MEMBERS HAVING THE NEXT GREATEST NUMBER OF VOTES CAST, ~~the Council may proceed to elect members to the Board of Directors to fill any vacancy created,~~ irrespective of such geographical specifications, SUBJECT TO A LIMIT OF SIX PERSONS IN TOTAL FROM ANY ONE OF THE REGIONS SPECIFIED IN SUB-PARAGRAPHS (B) TO (G) BELOW.
- (ii) Nominations shall be listed on the ballot paper in alphabetical order and the names of retiring members nominated for re-election shall be marked thereon with an asterisk.
- (iii) Voting delegates shall be instructed to delete the names of those candidates whom they do not wish to elect, leaving only the names of the ~~thirteen~~ FOURTEEN candidates they wish to elect. Any ballot paper submitted with fewer or more than ~~thirteen~~ FOURTEEN remaining (undeleted) names shall be declared null and void.
- (iv) The ~~thirteen~~ FOURTEEN candidates with the highest number of properly recorded votes shall be declared elected who (unless sub-paragraph (h)(i) has become applicable) taken collectively enable the following conditions to be fulfilled:
 - (a) ~~Three persons, each from a different Class B Member, from those Class B Members having the maximum number of shares (two or more of these persons, taken together, are likely to satisfy two or more of the conditions set out in sub-paragraphs (b) to (f) below).~~
 - (b) ~~One person~~ TWO PERSONS from amongst Class B Members in Asia;
 - (c) One person from amongst Class B Members in South America;
 - (d) ~~One person~~ TWO PERSONS from amongst Class B Members in Africa;
 - (e) ~~Two~~ SIX persons from amongst Class B Members in Europe, SO HOWEVER THAT AT-LEAST TWO MEMBERS ARE FROM DIFFERENT CLASS B MEMBERS HAVING THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF SHARES;
 - (f) ~~Two persons~~ ONE PERSON from amongst Class B Members in the group of countries comprising ~~the United States of America, Canada, Mexico,~~ the countries of Central America, Panama, the Isles of the Caribbean and Bermuda; ~~and~~
 - (g) ~~Such additional number of persons as is necessary to fill the remaining places on the Board being persons from amongst Class B Members and having the next greatest~~

~~number of votes cast once persons filling the conditions of sub-paragraphs (a) to (f) above have been elected, subject to a limit of six persons in total from any one of the regions specified in sub-paragraphs (b) to (f) above and subject also to a limit in total of two persons from any one Member.~~

TWO PERSONS FROM AMONGST CLASS B MEMBERS COMPRISING THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, CANADA, AND THE GROUP OF COUNTRIES COMPRISING AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND AND THE COUNTRIES OF OCEANIA, SO HOWEVER THAT AT LEAST ONE MEMBER IS FROM A CLASS B MEMBER HAVING THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF SHARES.

(H) SUB – PARAGRAPHS (A) TO (G) ABOVE ARE SUBJECT ALSO TO A LIMIT OF TWO PERSONS FROM ANY ONE MEMBER.

(v) In the event two or more candidates receive an equal number of votes for ~~thirteenth~~ A place in the election, there shall be a further election between those candidates only, to determine the successful candidate for such ~~thirteenth~~ place.

Note: Post Amendment, the sub paragraphs numbering in 21 (h)(iv) will need to be revised from (a) - (h) to be modified to (a) – (g). Correspondingly in 21 (h) (i), “(B) – (G)” will also change.

Report of the ITF Board of Directors

The Board of Directors **does not support** the resolution proposed by the All India Tennis Association (AITA).

The primary reason is that the Board does not accept the stated rationale for the change – firstly, that there are issues relating to finance and governance; and secondly, that the changes proposed would solve those broad and unspecified issues.

The Board is of the opinion that it is not appropriate for it to be fully determined by regional representation. The Board recognises that, as a global organisation, there should be representation from across the world. However, pursuant to Article 19(b), all Board members are elected in a personal capacity rather than as regional representatives. This is an important principle of good governance. Aligning Board members to their respective regions more closely, as proposed by AITA, increases the risk of Board members acting only in the interests of those regions rather than in the best interests of the ITF as a whole. This could undermine Article 19(b) and thereby create governance issues rather than solve them.

The Board is also committed to ensuring as much as possible that the AGM retains the right to determine the people best suited to be members of the Board of Directors. Attempts to further define the regions from which those individuals are selected infringes on the free will of the AGM to select the best candidates.

The logic to the proposed restructured regional distribution in which the USA and Canada is separated from the Americas and instead grouped with the nations of Oceania (Australia, New Zealand and Guam) is inconsistent with the existing geographic regional organisation.

However, the Board does agree that membership of the Board of Directors should be increased to reflect the expanding composition of the membership and the state of global tennis development. The Board is proposing its own resolution to the 2018 AGM to increase the size of the Board effective 2019 [please refer to page 21].

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS – REDUCE ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION FOR CLASS C MEMBERS

[This Resolution requires a **bare majority of votes** to pass]

Summary

The Board of Directors recommends reducing the annual subscription for Class C members from US Dollars 767 to US Dollars 250. The Board also proposes to offer one-vote Class B nations a rebate on its subscription fees – the details will be presented to the AGM in a separate presentation.

Rationale

The Board has agreed to reduce the membership fee for Class C members to make membership more affordable for Class C nations. The Board further recommends introducing a rebate scheme for one-vote Class B nations. Such rebates may be used to fund projects agreed by the ITF, which are consistent with the objectives of the ITF2024.

Drafting

BYE-LAWS

Subscription rate ~~2018~~ 2019

Class B Members and Class C Members shall pay an annual subscription in accordance with Article 6. The amount payable for the current year is as follows:

- (i) Class C Members: US Dollars ~~767~~ 250
- (ii) ...

Resolution

The AGM hereby resolves to approve the change to the subscription rates as set out in this Resolution.

This amendment shall take effect on 1 January 2019.

RESOLUTION PROPOSED BY THE US VIRGIN ISLANDS – REDUCTION IN SUBSCRIPTION FEES

[This Resolution requires a **4/5 majority to be heard** and a **bare majority of votes** to pass]

The US Virgin Islands submits a Resolution for the reduction of Annual Subscription Rates of Class B Members.

Existing Clause - Subscription Rates 2018

Class B Members & Class C Members shall pay an annual subscription in accordance with Article 6. The amount payable in the current year is as follows:

- i. Class C Members: US \$767
- ii. Class B Members US \$767 and in addition a sum of US \$4,575 for each Class B share which it holds for a total of US \$5,342.

Proposed Amended Clause

Class B Members & Class C Members shall pay an annual subscription in accordance with Article 6. The annual fee amount starting in 2019 is proposed to be as follows:

- i. Class C Members: US \$767 plus annual increase.
- ii. Class B Members: Class C rates plus US \$4,575 (\$5,342) plus annual rate increase with a reduction for one vote of \$3,500 from the annual subscription rate for all nations.

Example

The \$3,500 reduction would mean that a one vote nation would pay \$1,842 and not \$5,342 plus annual increase. For nations that have more than one vote, they would pay what they do now, less \$3,500. For example, a three-vote nation now pays $\$5,342 \times 3 = \$16,026$ and under my proposal they would pay \$12,526.

Rationale & Comments

1. Presently, only Class B members may vote on activities and matters of the ITF. The cost for such right is, for 2018, \$5,342. This excessive full membership fee is an unreasonable burden on many of the member federations, such as evident that 63-member nations, 30% of total membership, do not have the right to vote. In addition, 30% of its members cannot participate in the Davis Cup and Fed Cup.
2. The ITF subscription is the highest amongst all other International Federations affiliated to the IOC. The ITF Board had indicated that it was researching other IF's annual fees, but such study has not been presented to the member nations for review.
3. The ITF member nations are contributing to the success of ITF by participating in ITF Futures, ITF Junior Events, Junior Team Competitions, Davis Cup & Fed Cup. The right to participate in some of these activities, should not be based on the financial situation of member nations.
4. The lowering of the ITF annual fee for one vote would allow and encourage more nations, assuming they meet the criteria for Class B membership, to:
 - a. Become Class B members and have a vote on matters of the ITF;
 - b. Participate, as a matter of right, in the various ITF events, both at the Junior and Adult levels;

- c. Attend the Regional Annual General Meeting;
 - d. Attend the ITF Annual General Meeting;
 - e. Develop national programs and activities for Juniors and Adults.
- 5 The savings for one vote would encourage more nations to participate in the Davis Cup and Fed Cup events.
- 6 It is expected that more Class C members would become Class B members and participate and vote in the ITF AGM and Davis and Fed Cups.

Explanation

It is understood that the Board and Governance Committee are discussing the issue of Class B Fees. Whatever this Board decides, unless it is a change to the constitution, any funding initiatives could be changed next year or by another Board. Changes to the constitution are more permanent.

A permanent reduction to Class B fees, would allow the individual nations to decide how best to spend the saved money and not having the ITF Board decide what is best for the nation.

Report from the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors **does not support** the Resolution submitted by United States Virgin Islands (USVI).

The Board notes that USVI submitted an identical proposal to last year's AGM which was rejected (41% in favour; 59% against). If implemented, USVI's changes to the subscription fee structure would have the effect of treating Class B member nations differently. This is not permitted under the Constitution and would require additional changes not contemplated by this resolution. USVI's proposal is therefore incomplete and could not take effect in 2019.

Further, the Board is proposing its own reduction in subscription fees for Class C members [please refer to page 27) in conjunction with a rebate program for one-vote Class B members which it believes is the best way to address requests from the member nations to make membership more affordable. This will be presented during the Conference.

RESOLUTION PROPOSED BY JORDAN TENNIS FEDERATION – REDUCTION IN SUBSCRIPTION FEES

[This Resolution requires a **bare majority of votes** to pass]

APPENDIX A

Subscription rates 2019:

Class B Members and Class C Members shall pay an annual subscription in accordance with Article 6. The amount payable for the current year is as follows:

1. Class C Members: US Dollars 767.
2. CLASS B MEMBERS WITH ONE SHARE: US DOLLARS 767.
3. Class B Members WITH MORE THAN 1 SHARE: US Dollars 767 and in addition a sum of US Dollars 4,575 for each Class B share which it holds or becomes entitled by Resolution of the Council in accordance with Article 11.

Note

The amounts of US Dollars 767 and US Dollars 4,575 are based on 2018, and will obviously change in accordance with Article 6, for 2019.

** New additions have been put in Capitals.

Explanatory Statement for Subscription Rates – 2019

In 2016, All India Tennis Association had proposed a resolution for reduction in the Subscription for One (1) vote nations. In 2017, US Virgin Islands (USVI) had proposed a resolution for reduction in subscription of One Vote nations.

While in the AGM 2016, resolution was withdrawn on the commitment that ITF Board would research the fees of other International Federations and would come with its own recommendation in 2017. In 2017 AGM, the resolution of USVI was not supported by the Board of Directors and could not get the required majority at the AGM.

Jordan Tennis Federation reiterates the rationale given by USVI in 2017:

1. Presently, only Class B members may vote on activities and matters of the ITF. The cost for such right is, for 2018, \$5342. This excessive membership fee is an unreasonable burden on many of the member federation, such as evident that 63-member nations, approximately 30% of the total membership, do not have the right to vote. In addition, whereas, the Davis Cup and Fed Cup are supposed to be showcase of the ITF, 30% of its members cannot participate. The excessive fee is like Poll taxes that have been outlawed in many Nations, i.e., only the rich have the right to vote.
2. The ITF subscription is the highest amongst all other International Federations affiliated to the IOC. The ITF Board had indicated that it was researching other IF's annual fees, but such study has not been presented to the member nations for review.
3. The ITF member nations are contributing to the success of ITF by participating in ITF Futures, ITF Junior Events, Junior Team Competitions, Davis Cup & Fed Cup. The right to participate in some activities, should not be based on the financial situation of member nations.
4. The lowering of the ITF annual fee for one vote would allow and encourage more nations to:

- a. Become Class B members and have a vote on matters of the ITF;
 - b. Participate, as a matter of right, in the various ITF events, both at the Junior and Adult levels;
 - c. Attend the Regional Annual General Meeting;
 - d. Attend the ITF Annual General Meeting;
 - e. Develop national programs and activities for Juniors and Adults.
5. The savings for one vote would encourage more nations to participate in the Davis Cup and Fed Cup events.
 6. It is expected that more Class C members would become Class B members and participate in the ITF AGM and Davis and Fed Cups.

The estimated cost to ITF will be $\$4575 \times 82 = \$ 375,150$.

Report from the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors **does not support** the Resolution submitted by the Jordan Tennis Federation (JTF).

JTF's proposal is similar to a proposal made by USVI in 2017; both seek to reduce the subscription fees for lower-vote nations in Class B and Class C. If implemented, JTF's changes to the subscription fee structure would have the effect of treating Class B member nations differently. This is not permitted under the Constitution and would require additional changes not contemplated by this resolution (that would require a two-thirds majority to pass). JTF's proposal is therefore incomplete and could not take effect in 2019.

Further, the Board is proposing its own reduction in subscription fees for Class C members [please refer to page 27] in conjunction with a rebate program for one-vote Class B members which it believes is the best way to address requests from the member nations to make membership more affordable. This will be presented during the Conference.

RESOLUTION PROPOSED BY SWISS TENNIS

[This Resolution requires a **2/3 majority** to pass]

To the attention of the ITF Board of Directors and the Annual General Meeting 2018 (AGM) in Orlando, USA of the International Tennis Federation (ITF) and in accordance with the constitutional Member rights as well as the respected ITF AGM resolution deadline Swiss Tennis, a Class B member nation respectfully submits a Resolution for a change in the voting process for the election of President and members of the Board of Directors.

Existing clause

Art 18 (t)

A secret ballot shall be held if the Chairman so directs or if any delegate so requests or if required under any of the Bye-laws in force from time to time. Such secret ballot shall be conducted either by the use of a computerised voting system or as follows:

- (i) There shall be four ballot forms, representing one, three, four or five votes;
- (ii) Class B Members with one, three or five Class B Shares shall be given one form representing the number of votes to which they are entitled;
- (iii) Class B Members with seven Class B Shares shall be given two forms, one representing three votes and the other representing four votes together representing the total number of votes to which they are entitled;
- (iv) Class B Members with nine Class B Shares shall be given two forms, one representing four votes, the other representing five votes together representing the total number of votes to which they are entitled;
- (v) Class B Members with twelve Class B Shares shall be given three forms, one representing three votes, one representing four votes and a third representing five votes together representing the total number of votes to which they are entitled.

Proposed change and rationale

The voting method for elections follows the procedure for a secret ballot stated in Article 18(t). Class B nations that hold seven (7), nine (9) and twelve (12) votes are given two or more ballot forms to make up their full number of votes. This appears to be a practical solution to ensure that the votes of those nations remain secret while being counted. For example, if there were only five 12-vote ballot forms submitted, it could be easier for a scrutineer to identify (or to subsequently trace) which candidate(s) a nation voted for.

However, this method also allows those nations to “split” their vote, which can be used by a nation as part of the voting in a way that was not contemplated or intended. Swiss Tennis believes that it is not appropriate for larger nations to be able exercise their voting rights in this way. Nations with fewer votes are not able to split their vote, and if there had been an intention for all nations to be able to split their votes, three- and five-vote nations would be permitted to use one- and two-vote ballot forms.

Furthermore splitting the votes f.e. in a factual decision or for election of the President is not known in democracy: one is in favour or against a motion or in favour of Candidate A or Candidate B.

Swiss Tennis therefore proposes that if an election is done using paper ballot forms, it is scrutineered by an independent professional services firm or notary that counts the votes and declares the successful candidates without any delegates or ITF professional staff seeing the ballot forms. The option of using a computerised voting system will be retained.

Resolution

The Council hereby resolves to amend the Constitution to give effect to the following:

- A secret ballot used for an election must be conducted either:
 - Using a computerised voting system (as provided for currently); or
 - Using 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 and 12-vote ballot forms distributed to Class B members according to the number of votes they have. The votes will be counted and scrutineered by an independent organisation that is subject to professional ethics obligations (e.g. lawyers or chartered accountants) or notary appointed by the Board of Directors.

For the avoidance of doubt, the Council does not resolve to remove the paper-based ballot system set out in Article 18(t). That process could still be used in a non-election year, if a secret ballot is required but the computerised system fails. This avoids the ITF incurring costs on an independent law firm or notary in case of a technical fault.

Report of the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors **supports** the resolution proposed by Swiss Tennis.

The Board agrees with STF that introducing a single ballot paper for all nations will remove the risk of split voting during elections, which is not the intention of the Constitution. The Board further agrees with STF's proposal to engage an independent professional services firm or notary to facilitate the voting process to maintain the secrecy of voting, while ensuring transparency and credibility in that process.

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS – TENURE OF DIRECTORS

[This Resolution requires a **2/3 majority** to pass.]

Summary

The Board of Directors **recommends** that the AGM approve a change to the situations in which an individual is disqualified from being a member of the Board of Directors following the commission of a criminal offence.

Rationale

Article 21(k)(iii) was revised at the 2015 AGM to provide that a member of the Board of Directors is disqualified from that position if he or she “has been convicted of a criminal offence or receives a custodial sentence”. In other words, a conviction for any criminal offence, whatever its nature, and whether or not it carries with it a custodial sentence, disqualifies the director from office.

It was specifically noted at the time that this meant many matters would *prima facie* be covered that should generally not trigger disqualification, such as convictions for very minor offences, or for ‘crimes’ that would not be recognised as such in most countries (e.g., for drinking alcohol, for breaching apartheid laws, for women driving cars). For example, as written, the provision would have covered Nelson Mandela, even though it would be irrational to suggest that his apartheid conviction made him unsuitable to serve. However, that was addressed at the time on the basis that the Board would have discretion to waive application of the provision in such cases.

By mistake, however, when the revision was made, language giving the Board that discretion was omitted. In the Board’s view, this mistake needs to be rectified asap to reflect what was always intended. A director should be disqualified if he or she has been convicted of a criminal offence that is a crime in most countries, and that (a) carries a prison sentence or (b) in the opinion of the Board (or its delegate, e.g., an Ethics Commission) means the director’s continuing presence on the Board would bring the ITF into disrepute. This would avoid irrational outcomes, which could otherwise be successfully challenged in court. In addition, it is consistent with CAS jurisprudence, which states that the constitutions of international federations should be applied in accordance with general legal principles common to most jurisdictions in which the sport is played, not in accordance with atypical provisions applicable only in one or a handful of national jurisdictions.

Drafting

CONSTITUTION ART 21. NOMINATION, ELECTION AND TENURE OF DIRECTORS

(k) The office of a member of the Board of Directors shall ipso facto be vacated in the event that THE a member:

[...]

(iii) Has been convicted of a criminal offence WHERE THE OFFENDING CONDUCT WOULD CONSTITUTE A CRIMINAL OFFENCE IN THE MAJORITY OF JURISDICTIONS IN WHICH THE SPORT IS PLAYED and ~~for~~ (A) THE MEMBER receives a custodial sentence (WHETHER SUSPENDED OR OTHERWISE) FOR THAT OFFENCE; OR (B) IN THE OPINION OF THE BOARD (OR ITS DELEGATE) THE CONVICTION MEANS THE CONTINUED PRESENCE OF THE MEMBER ON THE BOARD WOULD BRING THE ITF INTO DISREPUTE; or [...]

Resolution

The AGM hereby resolves to amend the Constitution as set out in this Resolution.

Under Article 32(b), the AGM hereby delegates to the Board of Directors the responsibility to approve the final wording of the amendments (including consequential changes to the Constitution and By-laws) to give effect to this Resolution.

The AGM hereby determines that this amendment shall take effect immediately, pursuant to its discretion under Article 32(c).

4. MEMBERSHIP

MEMBERSHIP

Note: Applications approved at the AGM for Class B or Class C Membership, an increase or decrease in shares take effect from 1 January 2019. Expulsions, suspensions and re-admittance take effect immediately.

APPLICATIONS FOR AN INCREASE IN SHARES

Croatia

To consider an application from the Croatia Tennis Association Ltd for an **increase** from seven (7) to nine (9) Class B Shares

Report of the Board of Directors

The Board **does not recommend acceptance** of this application.

Kazakhstan

To consider an application from the Kazakhstan Tennis Federation for an **increase** from five (5) to seven (7) Class B Shares

Report of the Board of Directors

The Board **recommends acceptance** of this application.

Portugal

To consider an application from the **Federacao Portuguesa de Tenis** for an **increase** from three (3) to five (5) Class B Shares

Report of the Board of Directors

The Board **recommends acceptance** of this application.

Ukraine

To consider an application from Ukraine Tennis Federation for an **increase** from three (3) to five (5) Class B Shares.

Report of the Board of Directors

The Board **recommends acceptance** of this application.

APPLICATION FOR A DECREASE IN SHARES

Venezuela

To consider an application from the Federación Venezolana de Tenis for a **decrease** from three (3) to one (1) Class B Share

Report of the Board of Directors

The Board regrettfully **recommends acceptance** of this application.

**LATE RESOLUTION –
APPLICATION TO TRANSFER FROM CLASS C TO CLASS B MEMBERSHIP**

Nepal

To consider an application from the Nepal Tennis Association for a transfer from Class C Membership to Class B Membership.

Resolutions for which due notice has not been given are subject to Article 17(b) of the Constitution. Article 17(b) is reproduced below:

- (b) A Resolution of which due notice has not been given as aforementioned may not be considered at an Annual General Meeting unless a Resolution of the Council to that effect is passed by a four-fifths majority of the votes recorded in respect of the same deeming the matter to be urgent. If a vote is taken and if such Resolution is carried by the required majority in accordance with the Constitution, the Resolution shall be deemed adopted.

To consider whether the application from Nepal Tennis Association shall be deemed urgent and should be considered.

The Board **supports acceptance** of this late resolution

In the event that the Resolution is passed in accordance with article 17(b):

Nepal

To consider an application from Nepal Tennis Association for a transfer from Class C Membership to Class B Membership.

The Board **recommends acceptance** of this application.

RESIGNATION, SUSPENSION OF MEMBERSHIP, TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP AND EXPULSION

In accordance with Articles 4(d), 4(g) and 4(h) of the 2018 ITF Constitution:

- (d) Any Class B Member or Class C Member who fails for two successive years to pay its subscriptions may either (i) be suspended (by a resolution of the Council passed with at least a two-thirds majority) or (ii) be expelled (by a resolution of the Council passed with at least a two-thirds majority) from the Company and its shares forfeited to the Company. The Board of Directors shall determine whether the sanction in the resolution to be put to the Council should be suspension or expulsion. Any proposed suspension or expulsion shall be upon notice as specified in Article 4(e) below.
- (g) Notice of any proposed suspension (including any resulting from a provisional suspension imposed under Article 4(e) or 4(f)) or termination of Membership, expulsion or re-admittance to Membership, with the exception of the lifting of a suspension under Article 5(f), shall appear on the agenda of the General Meeting at which it is to be moved.
- (h) Any Member who is suspended shall not be entitled to submit resolutions to, attend or vote at any General Meeting of the Company and shall not participate in the Official Team Competitions of the Company.

SUSPENSION OF MEMBERSHIP

CLASS B MEMBERS

Cameroon
Cote D'Ivoire
Sudan

CLASS C MEMBERS

Afghanistan
Comores
Kiribati
Korea, DPR
Malawi
Tonga

Report of the Board of Directors

It is with regret that the Board of Directors advises that the above Members should be **suspended** from the Company for having failed for two successive years to pay their annual subscriptions.

2019 SUBSCRIPTION

Details of the 2019 subscription will be announced at the Annual General Meeting.

5. DAVIS CUP & FED CUP

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS – DAVIS CUP REFORMS

[This Resolution requires a **2/3 majority** of votes to pass]

Summary

The Board of Directors **recommends** that the AGM approves this Resolution to reform the Davis Cup competition format.

Rationale

This resolution sets out the principles of the changes that will be required in the Davis Cup Regulations in 2019, to give effect to the new format of the Davis Cup by BNP Paribas.

Pursuant to Article 27(d) of the Constitution, the principles of the changes are being presented for approval. Following Council approval, the Board of Directors will approve the wording of the Davis Cup Regulations, making necessary consequential changes to give effect to these principles decided on by the Council.

The fundamental changes being proposed are:

- Introduction of an 18 team Davis Cup Finals Event played in a round-robin and then knockout format, to decide the Davis Cup champion;
- Introduction of a 24 team qualifier round played in a knockout home-and-away format, to decide 12 of the teams that will compete in the Davis Cup Finals Event; and
- Revised competition structure in the Zone Groups to produce the correct number of teams to feed into the qualifier round.

The details of these changes are set out below:

Section 1	new Davis Cup Finals Event
Section 2	Qualifiers
Section 3.A	Groups I and II
Section 3.B	Groups III and IV
Section 4	the Whole Competition
Section 5	the Commercial regulations.

As a result of the scale of the changes being proposed, the Regulations have been reviewed and re-organised to make them clearer. During this process, some additional changes have been identified. Where there are substantive changes to the current regulations or operations in practice, these have been set out in Section 6.

Any changes voted on separately at the 2018 AGM will be incorporated (to the extent that they are compatible with the new format), and are therefore not referred to here.

This resolution uses the most technically accurate and descriptive terminology, however the exact terms may change in the final Regulations.

Resolution

The AGM resolves to approve the changes to the Davis Cup Regulations set out in principle in this Resolution.

Pursuant to Article 27(d), the Board of Directors shall proceed to make such alterations as are necessary to give effect to the principles set out.

These alterations shall take effect for the 2019 competition, except where the resolution states that a change will take place from 2020, in which case the alteration shall take effect only for that year's competition onwards.

SECTION 1 DAVIS CUP FINALS EVENT

Summary

The Davis Cup Finals Event will be a week-long event that takes place over four rounds (a round-robin round, and three straight knock-out rounds: Quarter-Finals, Semi-Finals and Final), to determine the Davis Cup Champion.

Any regulation changes from the current World Group regulations are specified below. For the avoidance of doubt, current regulations that are not referred to will remain in place for the Davis Cup Finals Event. Where the regulation needs to be different for 2019 (as a transition year), the regulation for 2020 onwards will also be detailed below.

Further, specifications regarding operational matters which would normally be required of Home Nations will be set out in the contract with the event organiser, and will therefore not be specified in the Regulations.

Governance

- The Board can appoint an organiser of the Davis Cup Finals Event to take on some of its responsibilities in relation to the organisation of the Event. If that happens, a Steering Committee will be established to oversee the strategic direction of the Davis Cup Finals Event, and manage the partnership between the ITF and the third party organiser. [For information, the Steering Committee will be made up of two ITF representatives, one organiser representative, and one past player.] A Tournament Director will be appointed by the organiser.
- The Davis Cup Committee and ITF Executive Director will continue with their duties and responsibilities in relation to managing the competition, and in respect of the Davis Cup Finals Event, this will include liaising with and advising the Steering Committee and the Tournament Director.

Composition

- The 18 Nations contesting the Davis Cup Finals Round Robin will be made up of:
 - the four semi-finalists in the previous year (i.e. for 2019, the four semi-finalists in 2018);
 - the 12 nations that win the Qualifier Ties that year; and
 - two Wild Cards.
- Wild cards:
 - The Wild Cards will be selected by the Steering Committee from any of the Nations entered in that year's Competition subject to the following criteria:
 - Davis Cup Nation's Ranking of 50 or above; or
 - one or more top 10 ranked ATP singles players as per the ATP year end rankings published on the Monday following the ATP World Tour Finals;
 - The wild cards will be selected no later than the week of the Davis Cup Finals Event the previous year, prior to the draw for the Qualifiers taking place. The wild card teams will not also play in the Qualifiers, or in the Zone Groups, that year.

- Seeding:
 - Six Nations shall be seeded. Seeds 1 and 2 shall be the Finalists of the previous year and seeds 3-6 shall be in accordance with the most recent Davis Cup Nations Ranking;
 - The seeding will be determined by the Davis Cup Committee in accordance with the most recent Davis Cup Nations Ranking at the time of the Draw;

Davis Cup Finals Event Draw

- Round Robin Draw:
 - The Round Robin Draw will take place no later than 5 months before the Finals Event, in order to determine the Round Robin groups;
 - Seeds will be drawn and placed as follows:
 - Seeds 1-6 shall be placed in Groups A-F respectively;
 - The remaining Nations will be ranked from 7 – 18 in accordance with the most recent Davis Cup Nations Ranking;
 - Nations 7 – 12 will be drawn randomly in Groups A – F in position 2;
 - Nations 13 – 18 will be drawn randomly in Groups A – F in position 3;
- Quarter-Finals Draw:
 - The Quarter-Finals Draw will be done at the same time as the Round Robin Draw, as follows:
 - The Quarter-Finals draw will consist of the six winners of Groups A – F and the two best second placed teams of Groups A – F;
 - Nations that qualified for the Quarter-Final shall be placed or drawn, as follows:
 - Winner of Group A shall be placed on line 1
 - Winner of Group B shall be placed on line 8
 - The two best second-placed Nations shall be placed on line 2 and 7. If either best second-placed Nation have competed in Group A or Group B, they shall be placed in the opposite section of the draw;
 - Winners of Group C and D shall be drawn on line 3 and 6
 - Winners of Group E and F shall be drawn on line 4 and 5

Operational matters

- The Davis Cup Finals Event will be held at a fixed location.

Tie events and functions

- Captains' Meetings will take place as follows:
 - A single meeting for the Davis Cup Finals Round Robin event, with all Captains;
 - For the quarter-finals, semi-finals and final at the discretion of the Referee;

- Players and Captains must attend the following events and media obligations:
 - Opening Ceremony;
 - Closing Ceremony (two finalist nations only);
 - Trophy Presentation /Closing Ceremony (two finalist nations only);
 - Pre-event: Two separate promotional/media activities (max two hours total);
 - Day after the Final: Champions (all Players and Captain) to make themselves available for up to four hours for media and promotional activities;
 - TV and Press interviews after every match;

Playing Format

- The event will take place during one week;
- Will consist of the following rounds:
 - a Davis Cup Finals Round Robin of 18 Nations, split into six round robin groups with three Nations in each;
 - knock-out:
 - a Quarter-Final round with eight Nations (i.e. the six Nations that win their respective Round Robin groups, and the best second placed Nations, selected according to performance in the Round Robin stage and subject to the count-back rules set out below under 'How a Tie is decided');
 - a Semi-Final round; and
 - a Final;
- Each Tie will consist of two singles matches and one doubles match, all played on one day;
- Playing format:
 - Singles – best of three tie-break sets;
 - Doubles – best of three tie-break sets, regular-ad scoring;

Team nominations and selections

- Each participating Nation must provide its team nominations to the ITF no later than 10 days before the Monday of the week of the Event;
- The team nominations must include either a non-playing Captain and three to five Players, or a playing Captain and two to four Players. The Players must be nominated in order of merit without specifying which Players will play singles/doubles;
- Team nominations can be changed in the following circumstances:
 - Up to the 10 day deadline;
 - Two players may be changed up to noon (local time of the Round Robin event venue) the day before the Round Robin Event is scheduled to start;

- Non-playing Captain may be changed at any time before the first Tie that the Nation plays;
- Each Captain must give to the Referee the names of his two singles Players (in order of merit) and two doubles Players no later than one hour before the scheduled start of each Tie they are playing (both for Round Robin and knockout);
- The singles players selection cannot be changed, unless due to disciplinary reasons or due to illness, accident or other unavoidable hindrance (as per the current Regulation 35(c)(i));
- The doubles players selection can be changed up to 15 minutes after the completion of the second singles match. Changes due to disciplinary reasons or illness, accident or other unavoidable hindrance can be made as per the current Regulations 35(d)(i) and (iii));

Playing schedule

- The start and end of play will be arranged so that it is possible for play to be completed each day under reasonable conditions. Scheduling will take into account the best interests of the teams to the extent possible, providing it does not jeopardise the fairness of scheduling and the completion of the event (and this will override the specific times currently stated in Regulation 40(b)-(e));
- Unless decided otherwise by the Referee, there will be an interval of:
 - 20 minutes between the two singles matches;
 - 30 minutes between the second singles and the doubles match;
- The order of play for each Tie will be (over one day):
 - singles match (number one v number one)
 - singles match (number two v number two)
 - doubles match

How a tie is decided

Scoring - Davis Cup Finals Round Robin

- The Nation that wins the majority of the matches in a Tie will be declared the winner of the Tie and awarded one point;
- The final standings in each group shall be determined by the first of the following methods that apply (in this order):
 - Greatest number of wins;
 - If three (3) Nations are tied, then the following order applies:
 - any Nation that has not played the other two (2) nations is automatically eliminated;
 - highest percentage of matches won;
 - highest percentage of sets won;
 - highest percentage of games won; then finally
 - the Nations' positions on the Davis Cup Nations Ranking of the Monday of the week of the Davis Cup Finals Event.

- As soon as the process described immediately above produces one (1) superior Nation (first place), or one (1) inferior Nation (third place), and the two (2) remaining Nations are tied, the tie between those two (2) Nations shall be broken by head-to-head record;
- The two best second placed Nations, and two nations in 17th and 18th place, shall be selected using the same method described above for standings in the groups. However, head to head is never used, and the process shall continue until the two nations are determined;

Scoring – Davis Cup Final – knockout rounds

- In the Quarter-Final, Semi-Final and Final Ties, the Nation that wins the majority of matches in the Tie will be the winner;

Dead rubber policy

- Round Robin:
 - All matches in the Round Robin must be played, unless called off by the Referee due to unavoidable hindrance if the result of the Tie has already been obtained;
- Quarter-Finals and Semi-Finals:
 - If the second match is decisive, the doubles match must still be played to the best of three tie-break sets, unless called off by the Referee due to unavoidable hindrance if the result of the Tie has already been obtained;
- Final:
 - If the second singles match is decisive, the doubles match will not be played. The Closing Ceremony and Trophy presentation will take place immediately after the second singles match.

Results of the Davis Cup Finals Event

- The semi-finalists will be automatically eligible for the Davis Cup Finals Event the following year;
- The two nations in 17th and 18th place will be relegated to the Zone Groups the following year. Their placement in those groups will be determined according to the rules on Zone Groups, set out below. If a Nation was a wild card from a group lower than Group I, it will be relegated back to that group.
- The remaining Nations will be eligible for the Qualifiers the following year.

Withdrawal of a Davis Cup Finals Event team

- If a Nation withdraws after the Qualifier Round they will:
 - be subject to the current regulations regarding withdrawal, which includes ineligibility for the next year unless decided otherwise by the Internal Adjudication Panel (current Reg 14(a));
 - not compete in any other level of the competition in the same year;

- If a Nation withdraws after the Qualifier Round but prior to the event:
 - The Davis Cup Committee will replace that Nation with the highest ranked nation that lost its Qualifier Tie, unless the Davis Cup Committee determines that it is not practicable to fill that place;
 - If the Davis Cup Committee decides to replace the withdrawing Nation:
 - the place in a Group I Tie that the replacement Nation was scheduled to play may be filled by the Davis Cup Committee unless the Davis Cup Committee determines that it is not practicable to fill that place. This will include (but not be limited to) consideration of the timing of the withdrawal, the cost implications of replacing nations, and repercussions for the Nation that would have been playing the Nation that may be selected to play in the Davis Cup Finals Event. This is because there are many different scenarios that can arise, and it is not possible to create a provision in the Regulations for each case;
- If a Nation withdraws during the event:
 - They will be defaulted and each remaining tie will count as a straight loss;
 - If the Internal Adjudication Panel decides that the nation is eligible to participate under their *current* discretion in Regulation 14(a), they will have the *additional* power to relegate the nation as one of the two teams automatically relegated to the Zone Groups the next year (unless their withdrawal is as a result of a force majeure event or other unavoidable situation that the Internal Adjudication Panel considers acceptable).

SECTION 2 QUALIFIERS

Summary

The Qualifiers will be one knock-out round of Home & Away Ties played over two consecutive days between 24 Nations to determine which 12 Nations participate in the Davis Cup Finals Event and which 12 participate in the Zone Groups.

All regulations and standards in the Regulations that currently apply to the World Group will apply to the World Group Qualifiers except as set out below. Where the regulation needs to be different for 2019 (as a transition year), the regulation for 2020 onwards will also be detailed below.

Composition

- 2019:
 - the four losing quarter-finalists in 2018;
 - the eight winners of the World Group Playoff Ties in 2018; and
 - the 12 highest ranked Nations (using Davis Cup Nations Rankings) from Group I:
 - Europe/Africa: 6
 - Americas: 3
 - Asia/Oceania: 3;
- 2020 onwards:
 - The four losing Quarter-Finalists the previous year;
 - The eight nations placed 9-16 in the previous year's Davis Cup Finals Round Robin;
 - The 12 nations that won the previous year's Group I Ties;
- Seeding:
 - 2019: the four losing Quarter-Finalists and the eight World Group Play Off nations will be seeded according to the latest Davis Cup Nations Ranking;
 - 2020 onwards: the top 12 ranked nations will be seeded;
 - Seeds will be placed consecutively on each odd-numbered line, e.g. seed 1 on line 1, seed 2 on line 3, seed 3 on line 5, etc;
 - The remaining Nations will be randomly drawn to play a seeded Nation;

Draw:

- The Davis Cup Committee will complete the Qualifying Draw for the Qualifiers no later than three days after the completion of the Davis Cup Finals;
- In 2019, the Qualifying Draw will take place in the third week of September, unless the October Play-Offs are relevant to determine the 12 highest ranked Group I Nations;
- If two Nations have previously been drawn to meet each other in two successive years in any knock-out Home & Away draw (i.e. excluding Quarter-Finals, Semi-Finals and Final in the Davis Cup Finals Event), they will be drawn in different halves of the Qualifying Draw.

Home and Away Sequence

- The ground for Qualifier Ties is determined by the Nation that has Choice of Ground, according to current Choice of Ground provisions in Regulation 27. The meeting of two nations in the Davis Cup Finals Event does not count for the purposes of Choice of Ground;
- From 2020, the questionnaire is due two weeks after the Qualifying Draw;
- Ties must be played on Friday/Saturday (subject to exceptions granted by the Committee);

Tie events and functions

- The only change to the events and functions that take place before or during Ties is that a Team Presentation Ceremony should not take place unless both Nations agree (as has been the case with the 2018 Trials). If it does occur, it must take place on the second day;

Format of play

- 12 knock-out Home & Away Ties contested by 24 Nations (each Nation playing one Tie). The 12 winners qualify for the Davis Cup Finals Event in that year. The 12 losers will participate in the Zone Groups in that year (as detailed in the Zone Group I and II section below);
- Each Tie will consist of four singles matches and one doubles match played over two days;
- Playing format:
 - Singles - best of three tie-break sets;
 - Doubles – best of three tie-break sets, regular-ad scoring;

Team nominations and selections

- The team nominations must include a non-playing Captain and three to five Players, or a playing Captain and two to four Players;
- The regulations for player selections, and any changes to them, remain the same, except that because the doubles match will be played on the same day as the third singles, the deadline for changes for the third singles match is no later than 10 minutes after the completion of the doubles match.

Playing schedule

- These changes are as per the 2018 Trials for Groups I and II;
- Start and end of play:
 - There must be a minimum of 20 hours before the start time of play on the first day and the scheduled start time of play on the second day;
 - There must be six hours of daylight for play outdoors on the first day (irrespective of surface), and eight hours for the second day;

- If artificial light will be used, or the Tie is indoors, the first match must start no later than 6.00pm on either day;
- Unless decided otherwise by the Referee, there will be an interval between matches of:
 - 20 minutes between any two singles matches played on the same day (as currently);
 - 30 minutes between any singles and doubles matches played on the same day;
- The order of play for each Tie will be:

Day One:

1. singles match (number one v number two; order determined by the Tie Draw)
2. singles match (reverse singles)

Day Two:

3. doubles match
4. singles match (number one v number one)
5. singles match (number two v number two)

How a tie is decided

Dead rubber policy

- These changes are as per the 2018 Trials for Groups I and II;
- If the third match (doubles) is decisive:
 - only the fourth match must be played;
 - the fifth rubber will not be played unless both Nations and the Referee agree;
- If the fourth match (third singles) is decisive:
 - the fifth match will not be played unless both Nations and the Referee agree;
 - if the fourth match is not completed (due to injury, etc.), the Referee may require the Nations to play the fifth match;
- Any dead rubber that is played according to the above will be played to the best of three sets, with a 10-point match tie break in the third set and regular ad scoring.

Promotion/relegation

- Winners will play in the Davis Cup Finals Event that same year;
- Losers will play in the Zone Groups (according to the regulations on Zone Group composition set out below) that same year;

Withdrawal of a Qualifier team

- If a Nation withdraws after the Qualifier Draw they will:
 - be subject to the current regulations regarding withdrawal, which includes ineligibility for the next year unless decided otherwise by the Internal Adjudication Panel (current Reg 14(a));
 - not compete in any other level of the competition in the same year;
- If a Nation withdraws after the Qualifier Draw but prior to the event:

- The Davis Cup Committee will replace that Nation with the highest ranked Group I Nation, unless the Davis Cup Committee determines that it is not practicable to fill that place.

SECTION 3 ZONE GROUPS

Summary

This will remain as three Zones, each including Nations from each of the three different geographic zones (Europe-Africa, Americas, and Asia-Oceania), playing knock-out Home & Away Ties in Groups I and II, and round-robin Events in Groups III and IV (and lower, if applicable), over one week. If needed due to the number of teams, the Davis Cup Committee will be able to create an additional lower group in the relevant region.

The below details the changes that will be made to the regulations that apply to the Zone Groups. Anything that is not detailed below will remain as it is currently.

SECTION 3A Groups I and II

Composition

- Groups I and II will each consist of 24 nations pursuant to the following quotas:
 - Europe /Africa: 12
 - Americas: 6
 - Asia / Oceania: 6
- The composition in 2019 will be:
 - Group I
 - 24 Nations selected by the Davis Cup Committee to fill each of the Zone Quotas based on the most recent Davis Cup Nations Ranking from:
 - the Nations that lose their Qualifier Tie;
 - all remaining Nations, including those that did not finish the 2018 Competition in Group I
 - Group II
 - 24 Nations selected by the Davis Cup Committee to fill each of the Zone Quotas based on the most recent Davis Cup Nations Ranking;
- From 2020, the composition will be:
 - Group I
 - 24 Nations selected by the Davis Cup Committee to fill each of the Zone Group Quotas based on the most recent Davis Cup Nations Ranking, from:
 - the 12 Nations that lose their Qualifier Ties in that year;
 - the 12 Nations that win the Group II Ties in the previous year;
 - the two worst-placed teams in the Round Robin event from the year before.

If there are less than 6 (in Europe / Africa), or 3 (in Americas, and Asia / Oceania) Nations that come down from the Davis Cup Finals Round Robin and Qualifier Ties, the Davis Cup Committee will select additional nations from Group II in order to reach the Zone Group Quota. This selection will be based on the most recent Davis Cup Nations Ranking;

- If there are more than 6 (in Europe / Africa), or 3 (in Americas, and Asia / Oceania) Nations that come down from the Davis Cup Finals Round Robin and Qualifier Ties, the Davis Cup Committee will select which nation(s) will have to play in Group II, to not exceed the Zone Group Quota. This selection will be based on the most recent Davis Cup Nations Ranking;
 - Group II
 - 24 Nations selected by the Davis Cup Committee to fill each of the Zone Group Quotas based on the most recent Davis Cup Nations Ranking, from:
 - the 12 Nations that lose their Group I Ties in the previous year;
 - the 12 Nations that win the Group III Events in the previous year;
 - any Nations that have been put into Group II by the Davis Cup Committee upon finalisation of each Zone Group I for that year;
 If the Zone Group Quota is not met, the Davis Cup Committee will select additional nations from Zone Group III in order to reach the Zone Group Quota. This selection will be based on the most recent Davis Cup Nations Ranking;
- The composition of the Zone Groups I and below will be determined by the Davis Cup Committee no later than three working days following the Qualifiers.

Draw

- The Davis Cup Committee will conduct the Group I and II Draws no later than three days after the Qualifiers;
- If two Nations have previously been drawn to meet each other in two successive years in any knock out Home & Away draw (i.e. excluding Quarter-Finals, Semi-Finals and Final in the Davis Cup Finals Event), they will be drawn in different halves of the draw;
- Seeding:
 - Europe/Africa I & II:
 - 6 Nations shall be seeded and will be placed as follows:
 - Seed 1 on line 1; Seed 2 on line 3; Seed 3 on line 5; Seed 4 on line 7; Seed 5 on line 9 and Seed 6 on line 11
 - Nations 7 – 12 will be randomly drawn.
 - Americas and Asia/Oceania I & II
 - 3 Nations shall be seeded in each group and will be placed as follows:
 - Seed 1 on line 1; Seed 2 on line 3; Seed 3 on line 5
 - Nations 4 – 6 will be randomly drawn.
- The provision that splits two or more nations from Africa into separate halves of the Group II Europe / Africa draw will be removed;

Home and Away Sequence

- The ground for Group I and II Ties is determined by the Nation that has Choice of Ground, according to current Choice of Ground provisions in Regulation 27;
- The Questionnaire for Group I and II Ties is due:
 - For Group I, 80 days before the Tie;

- For Group II, the Home Nation must inform the ITF no later than five (5) days after the Group II Draw whether the Tie will take place in April or September;
 - If the Home Nation selects April, the Questionnaire is due 15 days after the Draw. If the Home Nation selects September (or no notification is received), the Questionnaire is due 80 days before the Tie;
 - If a Home Nation does not inform the ITF of its selection for its Tie by the specified date then the Tie will take place in September;
- Dates of Ties:
 - Ties held in April must be played on Friday/Saturday, (subject to exceptions granted by the Committee);
 - Ties held in September can be played on Friday/Saturday, or Saturday/Sunday, at the election of the Home Nation. The Home Nation must confirm the days of play three months before the Tie. If they do not confirm within this time, the default position is Friday/Saturday;

Tie events and functions

- The only change to the events and functions that take place before or during Ties is that a Team Presentation Ceremony will not take place unless both Nations agree (as has been the case with the 2018 Trials). If it does occur, it must take place on the second day.

Format of play

- As currently under the 2018 Trials for Groups I and II, Ties in Groups I and II will be played on a Home & Away format which will consist of four singles matches and one doubles match;
- Playing format:
 - Singles - best of three tie-break sets;
 - Doubles – best of three tie-break sets with regular ad-scoring;
- Matches will be played over two days;

Team nominations and selection

- The team nominations must include a non-playing Captain and three to five Players, or a playing Captain and two to four Players;
- The regulations for player selections, and any changes to them, remain the same as the 2018 Trials. That is, the same as the Regulations currently, except that, because the doubles match will be played on the same day as the third singles, the deadline for changes for the third singles match is no later than 10 minutes after the completion of the doubles match.

Playing schedule

- These changes are as per the 2018 Trials for Groups I and II;
- Start and end of play:

- There must be a minimum of 20 hours before the start of play on the first day and the scheduled start time of play on the second day;
- There must be six hours of daylight for play outdoors on the first day (irrespective of surface), and eight hours for the second day;
- If artificial light will be used, or the tie is indoors, the first match must start no later than 6.00pm on both days;
- Unless decided otherwise by the Referee, there will be an interval between matches of:
 - 20 minutes between any two singles matches played on the same day (as currently);
 - 30 minutes between any singles and doubles matches played on the same day;
- The order of play for each Tie will be:

Day One:

 1. singles match (number one v number two; order determined by the Tie Draw)
 2. singles match (reverse singles)

Day Two:

 3. doubles match
 4. singles match (number one v number one)
 5. singles match (number two v number two)

How a tie is decided

Dead rubber policy

- These changes are as per the 2018 Trials for Groups I and II;
- If the third match (doubles) is decisive:
 - only the fourth match must be played;
 - the fifth rubber will not be played unless both Nations and the Referee agree;
- If the fourth match (third singles) is decisive:
 - the fifth match will not be played unless both Nations and the Referee agree;
 - if the fourth match is not completed (due to injury, etc.), the Referee may require the Nations to play the fifth match;
- Any dead rubber that is played according to the above will be played to the best of three sets, with a 10-point match tie break in the third set;

Promotion and relegation

- The 12 Nations that win their Group I Ties will play in the Qualifiers the next year;
- The 12 Nations that lose their Zone Group I Ties may be relegated to Group II the next year, subject to any necessary adjustments made by the Davis Cup Committee to meet the Zone Quotas;

- The 12 Nations that win their Group II Ties may be promoted to Group I the next year, subject to any necessary adjustments made by the Davis Cup Committee to meet the Zone Quotas;
- The 12 Nations that lose their Group II Ties may be relegated to Group III the next year, subject to any necessary adjustments made by the Davis Cup Committee to comply with the Zone Quotas.

All such adjustments referenced above will be based on Davis Cup Nations Ranking.

SECTION 3B Groups III and IV

Composition

- The composition of the Zone Groups will be determined by the Davis Cup Committee immediately following the Qualifiers;
- The composition of each region's Group III will be determined by the Davis Cup Committee, first considering the number of teams that can practically compete in one Zone Group event. Once they have decided the size of the Group, they will take the Nations that have been relegated from Group II, the Nations promoted from Group IV, and the Nations that were not promoted or relegated from Group III the previous year. If there are too many nations, they will use Davis Cup Nations Rankings to determine which Nations will play in this Group.

How a tie / event is decided

Method of Determining places in the Round Robin

- The count-back is changing as follows (changes marked in underline):
 - The final standings of each group shall be determined by the first of the following methods that apply (in this order):
 - a) Greatest number of wins;
 - b) Head-to-head results if only two (2) Nations are tied;
 - c) If three (3) Nations are tied, then that tie will be broken in the following order:
 - i) any Nation that has not played all two (2) ties is automatically eliminated;
 - ii) highest percentage of matches won;
 - iii) highest percentage of sets won from all matches played;
 - iv) highest percentage of games won from all matches played; then finally
 - v) the Nations' positions on the Davis Cup Nations Ranking of the Monday of the week of the Event.
 - As soon as the process in (c) above produces one (1) superior Nation, or one (1) inferior Nation, and the two (2) remaining Nations are tied, the tie between those two (2) Nations shall be broken by head-to-head record.

Promotion/relegation

- Teams will be promoted from Zone Group III as follows:
 - Americas Zone Group III – 3 Nations;
 - Asia/Oceania Zone Group III – 3 Nations;
 - Europe Zone Group III – 4 Nations;
 - Africa Zone Group III – 2 Nations;

- The number of teams relegated from Zone Group III will be determined by the Davis Cup Committee, depending on the size of the Group;

Zone Group V

If there are too many Nations for each of Zone Groups I-IV, the ITF may create a Zone Group V. The provisions applicable to Zone Group IV will apply to the new Zone Group V, and the current Zone Groups III and IV will both be organised in accordance with the provisions applicable to Zone Group III.

SECTION 4 WHOLE COMPETITION

The Regulations will apply for one year's competition. Subsequent years will be based on the previous years, with any changes from one year to the next being made pursuant to the Constitution.

Timelines

- If a Nation withdraws before the following time, they will be replaced according to the criteria in current Regulation 4(c):
 - Nations that are eligible for the Davis Cup Finals Event or Qualifiers – the Qualifying Draw (2019: the third week of September, unless the October Play-Offs are relevant to determine the highest ranking Nations; 2020: November during the Finals week);
 - Nations that are not in the Qualifiers – one (1) day before the Qualifiers;
- If a nation that has entered ceases to exist, is divided into two, or is absorbed (as per current Regulation 4(d)), they will be replaced according to Regulation 4(d) only if they have withdrawn by the following deadlines:
 - Nations that are eligible for the Davis Cup Finals Event or Qualifiers – the Qualifying Draw (2019: approximately September; 2020: November during the Finals week);
 - Nations that are not in the Qualifiers – the Qualifying Draw.

Ranking

- Nations will start the 2019 Competition with their 2018 Davis Cup Nations Ranking. The Ranking points attributable to each year of the Competition will be determined by the Davis Cup Committee;
- For 2019: the process for Nations Rankings will be set out in a schedule and distributed to the Nations prior to the 2019 Qualifying Round;
- For 2020 onwards: the Nations Rankings Schedule will be recorded in each annual edition of the Regulations.

Personnel

- Appointment of officials will be as follows for the new Davis Cup Finals Event and Qualifiers. There are also minor changes with respect to the appointment of officials in Zone Groups I and II, also captured in the table below:

Position	Minimum number to be appointed	Appointing body	Qualifications required (if applicable)
Davis Cup Finals Event			
Referee	3-5	DCC	ITF Certified Official Gold badge
Chair Umpire	10-12	DCC	ITF Certified Official Silver Badge or higher
Chief Umpire	1	DCC	ITF Certified Official Silver badge or higher
Line Umpires	Reasonable number depending on number of courts and sessions	ITF	Experience at international-level events
Review Official (if electronic line calling is in use)	6-8	DCC	ITF Certified Official Review Official certification
Qualifiers [new requirements <u>underlined</u>]			
Referee	1	DCC	ITF Certified Official <u>Silver Badge or higher</u> [was not specified]
Neutral Chair Umpire	2	DCC	ITF Certified Official Silver Badge or higher
Chief Umpire	1	Home Nation (approved by ITF)	ITF Certified Official Silver for Badge or higher
Line Umpires	<u>20</u> [was not specified]	Home/Host Nation (approved by ITF)	Experience at international-level events
Review Official (if electronic line calling is in use)	<u>1</u> [was not specified]	<u>DCC</u>	<u>ITF Certified Official</u> <u>Review Official certification</u>
Zone Group I [new requirements <u>underlined</u>]			
Referee	1	DCC	ITF Certified Official <u>Silver Badge or higher</u>
Neutral Chair Umpire	<u>2</u> [subject to approval under separate AGM vote]	DCC	ITF Certified Official Bronze Badge or higher <u>[The ITF will pay half the costs for the second Neutral Chair Umpire]</u>
Chief Umpire	1	Home Nation (approved by ITF)	ITF Certified Official White Badge or higher
Line Umpires	<u>16</u> [was not specified]	Home/Host Nation (approved by ITF)	Experience at international-level events
Review Official (if electronic line calling is in use)	<u>1</u> [was not specified]	<u>DCC</u>	<u>ITF Certified Official</u> <u>Review Official certification</u>
Zone Group II [new requirements <u>underlined</u>]			
<u>Neutral Chair Umpire</u> [was not specified]	<u>2</u> [was not specified]	<u>ITF</u> [was Home Nation]	ITF Certified Official <u>Bronze</u> Badge or higher [was White]

Participation payment to Nations

- There will be one payment to nations (that may be made up of income from licence fees, sponsorship deals, and/or broadcast or other rights deals in relation to the Davis Cup) under Regulation 55, replacing the current two payments, (1) prize money and (2) distribution of income from advertising and television/licensing (PILA);

Prize money to players

- For the Davis Cup Finals Event, there will also be a Prize Money payment to players. This will be paid to Players in accordance with a scale agreed by the Players, but if no agreement can be made, a single scale for every nation will be set out in the Regulations and must be followed;
- For the Qualifiers and Zone Groups, it is up to the Nations to determine any distribution of the Prize Money to its Team Members.

Anti-doping

Due to the changes to the payment structure for Nations, principles below will be introduced into the anti-doping provision regarding the repayment of monies following an Anti-Doping Rule Violation. Also note that we are introducing a provision for what happens to the prize money of players in the same Nation as the player that violated the rules in the event that the results of the Davis Cup Final are re-assessed. The approach proposed is based on the principle that the Davis Cup is a team event, and therefore there is a collective responsibility in relation compliance with the rules.

- As per the current Regulation 7(e), at all levels of the competition, the player will forfeit the proportion of any prize money they actually receive. In the Davis Cup Finals Event, the player will return that directly to the ITF. In the other parts of the competition, the Nation will return it, as it is up to the Nation to recoup if from the player if they wish. In the event that a player or Nation cannot establish to the satisfaction of the ITF how much money the player received, the money forfeited will be based on the proportion of the matches played by the player in the Tie(s) in which the result(s) are disqualified. In Qualifiers and Zone Group I and II, that is 20% per singles match and 10% per doubles match (as currently). In the Davis Cup Finals Event and Groups III and IV, it will be the number of matches played divided by the number of matches their Nation played;
- A Nation will have to return from the payment they receive:
 - For Davis Cup Finals Event and Groups III and IV: the proportion of that payment calculated by the number of matches played by the player, divided by the number of matches the Nation played;
 - For Qualifiers and Groups I and II, the calculation remains as 20% per singles match and 10% per doubles match played by the player;
- As per the current Regulation 7(c), results are only re-assessed if the disqualified results are from the Final. This is specifically the Final tie at the conclusion of the Davis Cup Finals Event. If this occurs and the losing Nation becomes the winner:
 - As per the current regulation 7(c), the original winning Nation shall return the difference between the payment it received for winning and the payment to the original losing team. This will be repaid to the new champion Nation (only once received back);

- The other players from the original winning team are required to return the difference between prize money paid to players of the champion Nation and that of the runner-up Nation. This will be repaid to the players of the new champion Nation (only once received back);

Disputes and enforcement of Regulations

- The Board or the ITF Internal Adjudication Panel may (where it deems it appropriate) refer any disciplinary decision to the Independent Tribunal, in which case the decision of the Independent Tribunal (as applicable) will be final and binding on all of the parties to the matter. This allows for expedited hearings when a final outcome is required in a short timeframe;
- For the Davis Cup Finals Event, the following will apply when a Referee takes action under current Regulation 44(b) against a Team Member for misconduct, or a Player is defaulted from a Tie for an On-Site Offence:
 - the group of Referees appointed to the Event (or the ITF Executive Director) shall have the power to remove the Team Member, or default the Player, for the remainder of the Event;
 - this can only be exercised if required to protect the integrity and/or reputation of the competition, the ITF and/or the sport of tennis; and
 - the decision is appealable to the Independent Tribunal (which will be on-call during the Event).

SECTION 5 COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL RULES

A. Ownership of rights

ITF rights

- In relation to the entire Competition, the position remains as in Regulation 58 that the ITF owns all commercial and other exploitation rights, and may exploit them in its absolute discretion (including licensing to third parties, and granting back some rights to Nations);

Nation rights

- The Nations will have the rights as set out in the specific sections of the Regulations that relate to each level of the competition;

B. Davis Cup Finals Event

ITF rights

Media Rights

- The ITF has absolute discretion with respect to both domestic and international media rights;
- The ITF is not required to make any direct payment to the Nations from revenue generated from any exploitation of broadcast rights, whether international or domestic. There will be no 50:50 split between the ITF and individual Nations, in recognition of the new rights deal with the ITF's licensee in relation to the Davis Cup Finals Event (and other events).

Sponsorship Rights

- The ITF will have all rights listed in current Regulation 58(a) as "International Rights" and all other advertisements within the court area and stadium, save what is granted to the Nations below.

Nations rights

Media Rights

- Participating Nations will have no media rights;

Sponsorship rights

- Participating Nations shall retain the following Sponsorship Rights, following the same principles as the current rights of Visiting Nations in the World Group. As per current procedures, they will be further detailed in the Commercial Letter;
 - naming of the team;
 - appointment of three national team sponsors;
 - producing team-specific merchandise for the Davis Cup Finals event, subject to provisions set out in the Commercial Letter, which may include but are not limited to use of intellectual property and sale on-site;
 - use of video clips and images on websites, platforms and publications for non-commercial information purposes and to promote their team;

- Nations will continue to have the right to use Official Data (excluding PAT Data) for publications and websites, and to supply to sponsors, provided that any use or supply takes place after a match is complete and is for non-betting purposes. This will also be restricted to non-commercial purposes.

Expenses

Nominated teams – general travelling expenses

- Participating Nations will continue to receive their general travelling expenses as per the current Regulation 53 and the Financial Letter. This will be business class airfares for a maximum of five nominated Players, plus a non-playing Captain;

Nominated teams - accommodation/meals

- Participation Nations will receive the same ground transport and food on-site as the current World Group;

Ticketing and hospitality

- Nations will receive the same allocation that they currently receive for World Group Final, for sessions in which they are playing at the Davis Cup Finals Event;

C. Qualifiers and Zone Groups I and II

Rights

Media Rights

- Qualifiers:
 - As currently, the ITF controls television rights. The Home Nation will have no rights (or obligations) to broadcast a Tie;
 - There will be no 50:50 split between the ITF and individual Nations, of the net profit from the exploitation of domestic broadcast rights. This is in recognition of the new rights deal with the ITF's licensee in relation to the Qualifiers (and other events);
- Groups I and II:
 - Regulation 60(b) remains the same;

Sponsorship Rights

- Regulation 58 remains the same, in relation to both the Nations' rights, and the ITF's (or its licensee's);

Allocation of Gross Receipts

- Allocation of gross receipts shall be made by the Home Nation in accordance with Regulation 48 – 50 (as applicable). The minimum payment shall be:
 - Qualifier – \$7,500;
 - Group I – \$2,500;
 - Group II – \$1,500;

SECTION 6 ADDITIONAL SUBSTANTIVE CHANGES NOT RELATED TO THE REVISED FORMAT

Disputes and enforcement of Regulations

- The Rules and 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;
- Where the procedure for resolution of a matter is not provided for in the Regulations, each Nation and each of its Team Members, directors, officials, officers, members of staff, employees, contractors, agents, and representatives agrees to submit to arbitration before the Court of Arbitration for Sport, to the exclusion of any other court or forum;
- The Internal Adjudication Panel will only have jurisdiction over “disputes” where the Board refers the dispute to them. This is consistent with other circuit regulations, and ensures that insignificant matters are not referred to the Panel, using up time and resource.

Code of Conduct

- On-site Offences:
 - Failure to complete a match
 - The offence of failure to complete a match (unless incapacitated or otherwise hindered) will extend to failure to complete a Tie or Event, to cover if a player finishes their match but then leaves the venue. The maximum penalty remains \$10,000. This is consistent with other circuit and competition regulations;
- Major Offences and Welfare Policy
 - The potential penalties for a Major Offence or Welfare Offence will be extended from permanent suspension from (or denial of access to) the Davis Cup competition, to permanent suspension from (or denial of access to) any ITF event or tournament. This is consistent with all circuit regulations, and is important to ensure that someone who has committed a serious breach is not eligible to participate in other ITF competitions while under suspension in relation to misconduct in the Davis Cup;
 - ITF will have the power to provisionally suspend during an investigation into a major offence or welfare offence in order to protect the integrity and/or reputation of the Competition, the ITF and/or the sport of tennis. The person will have the opportunity to appeal the provisional suspension and/or to have the case expedited.

PROPOSALS TO AMEND THE DAVIS CUP REGULATIONS

At its November 2017 meeting in Minsk, the ITF Board of Directors voted in favour of revising the approach for presenting and approving Davis Cup and Fed Cup regulation changes at the AGM. The Constitutional requirement in Art 27(d) is that the Board can amend the Regulations as long as the principles of those amendments have been approved by the AGM, whereas in the past the exact wording of the proposed regulation changes was submitted.

Therefore going forward the AGM will receive a paper setting out the principles of the proposed rule change (including all necessary detail), but not the exact wording. This will reduce the amount of reading, allowing AGM delegates to focus their attention on the material points.

Following the AGM, the ITF Legal/Integrity team will draft the wording of every approved proposal in conjunction with the Event Operations team, according to the AGM-approved principles.

The full wording of each of the approved regulation changes will then be submitted to the Board of Directors for approval prior to its publication. This will ensure that the changes are an accurate reflection of the decisions of the AGM.

COMPOSITION OF DAVIS CUP COMMITTEE

(Please note the same rule change is proposed for the Fed Cup Regulations)

Regulation 10 currently states the exact number of members that compose the Committee. The proposal is to remove this specification, allowing the ITF Board of Directors to approve the required number of members needed in the committee, without the constraint of a specific number (similar to other ITF Committees and Commissions).

Report from the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors agrees with the Davis Cup Committee and recommends acceptance of the above proposal.

REGULATION ON HOST NATION RESPONSIBILITY FOR VISAS

(Please note the same rule change is proposed for the Fed Cup Regulations)

Regulation 29 places a duty on the home nation to provide support and guidance to the visiting nation to obtain the visas required to travel to a tie. However, the same is not prescribed for the Round Robin events. The proposal is to extend this requirement to the Zone Group Round Robin Host Nations.

Report from the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors agrees with the Davis Cup Committee and recommends acceptance of the above proposal.

ZONE GROUP III & IV DEAD RUBBER POLICY

Under Appendix A, Order of Play, the Referee can decide not to play a dead doubles match in the knock-out phase (Play-Offs), but only due to bad weather. However, this is not the *only* reason for which the Referee might decide not to play a dead doubles match, and therefore this specific condition should be removed allowing dead rubbers to be at the full discretion of the Referee.

Report from the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors agrees with the Davis Cup Committee and recommends acceptance of the above proposal.

OFFICIATING APPOINTMENT

To further support National Associations financially, the Davis Cup Committee now appoints two chair umpires in Group I and the ITF Officiating team approves all the chair umpires for Groups III and IV. This needs to be reflected in regulations 42. (a) (ii) and (iv) which show only one chair umpire being appointed in Group I ties and only a Referee and one Chair Umpire for the Group III & IV events.

Report from the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors agrees with the Davis Cup Committee and recommends acceptance of the above proposal.

DETERRENT FOR LATE CHANGE OF BALL AND/OR PLAYING CONDITIONS

(Please note the same rule change is proposed for the Fed Cup Regulations)

In recent years, issues have been experienced with Home and Host Nations requesting to change the approved official ball at a very late stage. Regulation 29 states: "Any proposed change in venue, surface, times of play, balls and other matters in the approved Questionnaire can only be made with the agreement of the ITF." While the ITF could always refuse such requests, the Davis Cup Committee feels that the current wording of the regulation appears to be an invitation to amend fundamental elements of a tie/event, which can be detrimental to the visiting nation as well as other stakeholders. Therefore, the Davis Cup Committee proposes that the rule be amended to state that changes can only be requested under justified and specific circumstances.

In addition, the Davis Cup Committee proposes that the IAP should have the power to penalise a nation that amends the playing conditions at a late stage, even if the ITF has approved them. Note that the ITF Executive would have the discretion to put a matter to the IAP or not, as there may be some cases that would not warrant a penalty (e.g. the change was due to force majeure).

Report from the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors agrees with the Davis Cup Committee and recommends acceptance of the above proposal.

COMMITTEE'S POWER TO REBALANCE ZONE GROUP EVENTS

Unlike the Fed Cup Regulations, the Davis Cup Regulations do not confer the power on the Davis Cup Committee to rebalance the number of participating nations in a group nor to amend the number of promoted or relegated nations. Therefore it is suggested to confer this power to the Committee.

Report from the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors agrees with the Davis Cup Committee and recommends acceptance of the above proposal.

PUNCTUALITY FOR CEREMONIES AND OFFICIAL FUNCTIONS

(Please note the same rule change is proposed for the Fed Cup Regulations)

Where individuals and/or teams are late for ceremonies and official functions, the commercial consequences can be extremely negative, especially when the event is being broadcast live. The proposal is to amend the Code of Conduct to give the Referee the discretion to fine individuals and/or teams that are late for any official function or ceremony, where he/she deems it appropriate. If a fine is given, the maximum it can be is \$10,000 (this is in line with the current maximum fine for when a team fails to turn up at a function see Code of Conduct Article II. H)

Report from the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors agrees with the Davis Cup Committee and recommends acceptance of the above proposal.

REFEREE'S POWER

(Please note the same rule change is proposed for the Fed Cup Regulations)

The proposal is to amend the Code of Conduct to give the Referee the discretion to fine a team/captain for the late submission of his/her player selection. The maximum fine will be \$5,000 (note that \$5,000 is the lowest fine a Referee can impose under the match punctuality rule). The rationale for this rule being a **maximum** of \$5,000 is that such delay does not impact TV, start of the matches etc.

Report from the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors agrees with the Davis Cup Committee and recommends acceptance of the above proposal.

PRE-DRAW FOR ZONE GROUP EVENTS HELD IN TWO LOCATIONS

(Please note the same rule change is proposed for the Fed Cup Regulations)

In 2018 the Davis Cup Committee approved splitting some Zone Group III & IV events into two locations. This has proved successful in attracting new host nations who are only able to host events for a smaller number of teams. This year, Pre-draws were conducted successfully to split the teams between two venues. Participating nations were informed of the exact proceedings ahead of each draw which consisted of placing the host countries and drawing the participating nations according to Nations Ranking. The proposal is to now include such provision of a pre-draw in the Regulations. It is suggested that the deadline for such draw be 10 weeks before the week of the event. This timeline should hopefully be late enough to minimise the impact of late withdrawals on the balanced number of nations in each event. It is also early enough for nations to commence their visa application process.

Report from the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors agrees with the Davis Cup Committee and recommends acceptance of the above proposal.

IDENTIFICATION ON PLAYERS' CLOTHING

(Please note the same rule change is proposed for the Fed Cup Regulations)

Currently in the Regulations there is no provision that players are not allowed to display personal sponsor logos on their attire if such sponsors operate in certain industries (tobacco, betting and hard liquor). Nor is there a provision to prohibit the display of any political identification. The proposal is therefore for wording to be added to the Code of Conduct (under "Identification") to prevent such companies from having visibility on the players' attire, as well as a general provision in relation to other categories deemed to be detrimental to the sport of tennis, the ITF or the competition.

Report from the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors agrees with the Davis Cup Committee and recommends acceptance of the above proposal.

FINAL MATCH COURT READY BY DATE

For the 2018 Competition, the AGM approved the reduction by one day of the availability of the match court for all Home and Away ties.

However due to a drafting omission, there was no indication that the above reduction did not apply to the Final, where the court still needs to be ready by 9 am on the Monday of the week of the Final. This proposal is therefore to rectify such omission.

Report from the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors agrees with the Davis Cup Committee and recommends acceptance of the above proposal.

PROPOSALS TO AMEND THE FED CUP REGULATIONS

Please refer to the introduction for the Davis Cup proposed rule changes.

BEST OF THREE TIE-BREAK SETS

Following the completion of the 2018 trial in Fed Cup that each match be played to the best of three tie-break sets (instead of three sets with a tie-break in the first two) it is suggested that such change is now formally submitted for adoption in the 2019 Regulations.

Report from the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors agrees with the Fed Cup Committee and recommends acceptance of the above proposal.

COMPOSITION OF FED CUP COMMITTEE

(Please note the same rule change is proposed for the Davis Cup Regulations)

Regulation 10 currently states the exact number of members that compose the Committee. The proposal is to remove this specification, allowing the ITF Board of Directors to approve the required number of members needed in the committee, without the constraint of a specific number (similar to other ITF Committees and Commissions).

Report from the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors agrees with the Fed Cup Committee and recommends acceptance of the above proposal.

REGULATION ON HOST NATION RESPONSIBILITY FOR VISAS

(Please note the same rule change is proposed for the Davis Cup Regulations)

Regulation 25 places a duty on the home nation to provide support and guidance to the visiting nation to obtain the visas required to travel to a tie. However, the same is not prescribed for the Round Robin events. The proposal is to extend this requirement to the Zone Group Round Robin Host Nations.

Report from the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors agrees with the Fed Cup Committee and recommends acceptance of the above proposal.

ZONE GROUP DEAD RUBBER POLICY

Last year in Appendix A.4. (Order of Play) the dead rubber policy in Fed Cup was extended in error to the round robin events. In these events, every game, set and match won counts towards defining the final positions in each pool and for this reason it is important to play every rubber. The proposal is to remove the addition in the 2019 Regulations.

Please note however that the Referee will retain the discretion to decide *not* to play the dead doubles in the knock out stages, which are played on the last day to determine promotions, relegations and final positioning within the group. In these ties only the result counts and not the number of set/games won which is necessary in the round robin phase.

Report from the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors agrees with the Fed Cup Committee and recommends acceptance of the above proposal.

OFFICIATING APPOINTMENT

To further support National Associations financially, the ITF Officiating team now appoints all the Chair Umpires for Groups I, II and III. This needs to be reflected in Appendix A.14 of the Regulations, which shows only one Neutral Referee being appointed for the Zone Group events.

Report from the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors agrees with the Fed Cup Committee and recommends acceptance of the above proposal.

FINAL MATCH COURT AVAILABILITY

For the 2018 Competition, the AGM approved the reduction by one day of the availability of the match court for all Home and Away ties. However due to a drafting omission, there was no indication that the above reduction did not apply to the Final, where the court still needs to be ready by 9 am on the Tuesday of the week of the Final. This proposal is therefore to rectify such omission.

Report from the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors agrees with the Fed Cup Committee and recommends acceptance of the above proposal.

DETERRENT FOR LATE CHANGE OF BALL AND/OR PLAYING CONDITIONS

(Please note the same rule change is proposed for the Davis Cup Regulations)

In recent years, issues have been experienced with Home and Host Nations requesting to change the approved official ball at a very late stage. Regulation 24 states: "Any proposed change in venue, surface, times of play, balls and other matters in the approved Questionnaire can only be made with the agreement of the ITF." While the ITF could always refuse such requests, the Fed Cup Committee feels that the current wording of the regulation appears to be an invitation to amend fundamental elements of a tie/event, which can be detrimental to the visiting nation as well as other stakeholders. Therefore, the Fed Cup Committee proposes that the rule be amended to state that changes can only be requested under justified and specific circumstances.

In addition, the Fed Cup Committee proposes that the IAP should have the power to penalise a nation that amends the playing conditions at a late stage, even if the ITF has approved them. Note that the ITF Executive would have the discretion to put a matter to the IAP or not, as there may be some cases that would not warrant a penalty (e.g. the change was due to force majeure).

Report from the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors agrees with the Fed Cup Committee and recommends acceptance of the above proposal.

PUNCTUALITY FOR CEREMONIES AND OFFICIAL FUNCTIONS

(Please note the same rule change is proposed for the Davis Cup Regulations)

Where individuals and/or teams are late for ceremonies and official functions, the commercial consequences can be extremely negative, especially when the event is being broadcast live. The proposal is to amend the Code of Conduct to give the Referee the discretion to fine individuals and/or teams that are late for any official function or ceremony, where he/she deems it appropriate. If a fine is given, the maximum it can be is \$10,000 (this is in line with the current maximum fine for when a team fails to turn up at a function see Code of Conduct Article II. 8).

Report from the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors agrees with the Fed Cup Committee and recommends acceptance of the above proposal.

REFEREE'S POWER

(Please note the same rule change is proposed for the Davis Cup Regulations)

The proposal is to amend the Code of Conduct to give the Referee the discretion to fine a team/captain for the late submission of his/her player selection. The maximum fine will be \$ 5,000 (note that \$5,000 is the lowest fine a Referee can impose under the match punctuality rule). The rationale for this rule being a **maximum** of \$5,000 is that such delay does not impact TV, start of the matches etc.

Report from the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors agrees with the Fed Cup Committee and recommends acceptance of the above proposal.

PRE-DRAW FOR ZONE GROUP EVENTS HELD IN TWO LOCATIONS

(Please note the same rule change is proposed for the Davis Cup Regulations)

In 2018 the Fed Cup Committee approved splitting some Zone Group I, II & III events into two locations. This has proved successful in attracting new host nations who are only able to host events for a smaller number of teams. This year, Pre-draws were conducted successfully to split the teams between two venues. Participating nations were informed of the exact proceedings ahead of each draw which consisted of placing the host countries and drawing the participating nations according to Nations Ranking. The proposal is to now include such provision of a pre-draw in the Regulations. It is suggested that the deadline for such draw be 10 weeks before the week of the event. This timeline should hopefully be late enough to minimise the impact of late withdrawals on the balanced number of nations in each event. It is also early enough for nations to commence their visa application process.

Report from the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors agrees with the Fed Cup Committee and recommends acceptance of the above proposal.

IDENTIFICATION ON PLAYERS' CLOTHING

(Please note the same rule change is proposed for the Davis Cup Regulations)

Currently in the Regulations there is no provision that players are not allowed to display personal sponsor logos on their attire if such sponsors operate in certain industries (tobacco, betting and hard liquor). Nor is there a provision to prohibit the display of any political identification. The proposal is therefore for wording to be added to the Code of Conduct (under "Identification") to prevent such companies from having visibility on the players' attire, as well as a general provision in relation to other categories deemed to be detrimental to the sport of tennis, the ITF or the competition.

Report from the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors agrees with the Fed Cup Committee and recommends acceptance of the above proposal.

FLIGHT REIMBURSEMENT

Regulation 43 "General Travelling Expenses" currently states incorrectly that the ITF will reimburse the flights "for a maximum of five players and the captain". It should read "four players and the captain". Whilst a trial of allowing up to five nominated players has been approved by the Board of Directors for 2019, this wording still needs correction as the trial will not apply to nations in Groups I and below, that will still only be able to nominate a maximum of four players and a non-playing captain. For clarity, under the 2019 trial, the ITF will pay a fifth player's flight as well.

Report from the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors agrees with the Fed Cup Committee and recommends acceptance of the above proposal.

6. NOMINATIONS

AWARDS FOR SERVICES TO THE GAME

National Association Nominations

Name	Category	
Ms Sandra Osborne (BAR)	Administrators	Board Member of the Barbados Tennis Association from 2000 to 2017 and Vice President from 2001 to 2017.
Mr Gevork Karamanoukian (ARM)	Administrators	CEO of the Armenian Tennis Federation since 2002 to present (16 years).
Dr Dimitrije Rasovic (MNE)	Administrators	14 years on the Executive Board of Directors of the Serbia & Montenegro.
Mr George Stevenson (IRL)	Administrators	Board Member of Tennis Ireland from 2002-2010 and 2014 to present (12 years)
Mr Abdulrahman Falaknaz (UAE)	Administrators	Board member of the UAE Tennis Association from 1983-1999 (16 years). Vice President from 2000-2016 (16 years).
Mr Viktor Yanchuk (RUS)	Coaches	55 Year coaching career. Fed Cup Captain from 1992 to 1996. Author of coaching publications and PhD in Education with specialisation on tennis coaching.
Mr Aleksandr Dolgoplov (UKR)	Coaches	Coach of Andrei Medvedev (ATP #14), Maksim Mirnyi (ATP #18 /#8 – singles / doubles), Oleksandr Dolgoplov Jr (ATP #13)
Ms Barbara Rittner (GER)	Non-Playing Captains	From 2005 – 2017 she has been Germany's non-playing captain in 27 Fed Cup Ties.
Mr Raul Viver (ECU)	Non-Playing Captains	Ecuador's non-playing Captain of 59 Davis Cup Ties.
Mr Pablo Cuevas (URU)	Players	Has played 46 Davis Cup Rubbers. Singles W/L – 24/6. Doubles W/L – 12/4. Total W/L – 36/10.
Mr Brian Earley (USA)	Others	Tournament Referee for the US Open since 1993. Has worked in tennis for 40 years. Grand Slam Supervisor since 1993. Referee for Davis Cup and Fed Cup ties.

Coaches Commission Nomination

Conchita Martinez (ESP)	Former world No 2. Won the singles title at Wimbledon, 5 times Fed Cup winner, Silver Medal doubles (1992 Barcelona, 2004 Athens), and Bronze (1996 Atlanta doubles). Currently captain of the Spanish Fed Cup and Davis Cup teams.
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Report of the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors **recommends acceptance** of all of the above nominations.

7. APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS

Article 14(b)(viii) To appoint annually the Auditors to the Company

The Board of Directors recommends the appointment of the below company as Auditors to the International Tennis Federation from 16 August 2018 up to and including the final day of the 2019 General Meeting:

United Kingdom PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Future Annual General Meetings

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

COMMUNICATIONS

Davis Cup and Fed Cup by BNP Paribas

The Communications department successfully promoted the first two rounds of both Davis Cup by BNP Paribas and Fed Cup by BNP Paribas in English and Spanish on the official websites and social media accounts, with further promotion on social media in Chinese and Japanese.

The department continues to play a central and pro-active role in promoting the proposal for the transformation of Davis Cup. This has included the facilitation of interviews with David Haggerty as well as monitoring media coverage and player comments on an ongoing basis and preparing messaging for on-site staff ahead of the first two rounds of the competition.

GDPR

The department was instrumental in ensuring that all the ITF's relevant contacts were re-permissioned in accordance with the new GDPR regulations that came into force on 25 May. We have been working with an external agency to better understand our existing communications audience with the aim of delivering more targeted emails as well as developing a data capture strategy that is fit for purpose in 2018 and beyond.

IRP

The Communications Department worked with all stakeholders to prepare a joint statement in response to the IRP interim report. The department continues to liaise with all the tennis bodies to ensure a unified position on the report and the process going forward.

ITF Website redesign

An agency was commissioned to work on an initial 'discovery phase' to inform the design and delivery of the new ITF Website. The agency carried out workshops to define goals for the website, interviewed key stakeholders, and researched the ITF audience and tennis audience as a whole to help shape the build of the new website. The Communications department has been working closely with all departments to ensure that the redesign is a collaborative process with the ultimate aim of producing a best-in-class product that is in line with the ITF2024 agenda.

ITF social media strategy

Following the merger of the ITF's social media accounts at the start of this year the digital team has been working closely with all relevant departments to create a content strategy that will help to grow the ITF's audience, increase engagement and raise brand awareness.

Photo archive

The ITF's existing photo archive is being upgraded to meet the organisation's needs. Work has begun on migrating imagery into the system, and, alongside ICT, we have begun exploring how the online photo archive can be integrated with the new upgraded web content management system. Communications has also worked with our in-house legal team to produce new, more robust contracts for our freelance photographers.

As well as the specific projects detailed above, the department has delivered media services at the Grand Slam events, produced publications including the official ITFWorld magazine, issued press releases and statements, undertaken a series of promotional activities on tennis development and supported the Presidential department in delivering a successful World Champions Dinner.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Following its formation in January 2017, the International Relations department has now completed one calendar cycle. The primary purpose of the department is to introduce a direct channel of communication between our 210 member National Associations and the ITF executives and staff. The department has positioned itself as the first point of contact for all member nations' queries and aligned itself with each of the ITF departments, to ensure that National Associations receive the most appropriate expertise and knowledge that the ITF can offer.

A proactive outreach programme with member National Associations has focused upon supporting ITF2024 to deliver for the nations by listening to and better understanding each nation's unique requirements and challenges, enabling the ITF to provide the appropriate form of support and advice.

Through a three-step communication strategy focused on direct communication, closer ties with Regional Associations and the ITF's global network of Development Officers, the department has updated National Associations on key strategic changes. The Davis Cup by BNP Paribas reforms, Transition Tour and the ITF Development Strategy have all been subjects of direct communication with member National Associations, in addition to the benefits of ITF membership and attendance at the ITF AGM.

A new policy of National Association delegations visiting the ITF office to meet with ITF executive and staff members has been highly successful, with a total of eight National Associations visiting the ITF offices in 2018, following six nations visiting for the first time in 2017. This initiative delivers meetings with a number of ITF departments and personnel in order to discuss a range of subjects, leading to the identification of new areas of support for the National Association. The department has also opened an ITF membership 'workshop' at the ITF office located on-site at the French Open and Wimbledon Championships, providing an alternative opportunity for National Association representatives to discuss membership matters in person.

In coordination with the Development department, and under the guidance of the Constitutional Committee, a review of the ITF membership structure and evaluation criteria continues. The purpose of this review is to deliver recommendations for a more simple, transparent and measurable evaluation system. In turn, this will enable the ITF to develop a clear membership pathway for National Associations to progress their membership from Class C to Class B through tennis development efforts. The 2018 ITF Conference and AGM will include a Class C nations' workshop, wherein a number of speakers will discuss how Class C members can maximise their access to development programmes, build direct links/inter-personal relationships with ITF staff and departments and investigate membership maturation.

Further collaboration with the Development department has taken place on a new digitalisation programme that aims to support National Associations that do not yet benefit from fully digitalised services, for example, a digital national ranking system and method of publication. An application process is currently open and nations can contact the department for additional support/advice in this new field of ITF development support.

In late 2017, the inaugural Regional Association President & General Secretary meeting was held at the ITF office in London. This initiative provided a platform for Regional Association leaderships to meet and discuss regional perspectives on ITF strategy and activities. Following the success of this meeting, further conference calls and direct updates with ITF leadership have become regular elements of ITF communication with our membership. Furthermore, attendance at the Regional Association AGMs in order to present and discuss ITF strategic priorities has further improved the dialogue between nations and the ITF.

The ITF Solidarity Programme has welcomed several participants to the ITF office. Candidates participated in the programme in February, March and July, with a further two candidates scheduled for the final quarter of 2018. The programme involves a staff member from a National or Regional

Association traveling to the ITF offices in London in order to work with a variety of ITF departments for a period of several weeks. The aim of the programme is that the participant gains a worldwide perspective on the administration of the game, receives training in our best practices and future collaboration with the ITF can be established.

Following a Memorandum of Understanding with the Russian International Olympic University in Sochi, and a first candidate recently benefitting from a scholarship to the Masters of Sport Administration course, a second candidate has been selected for the academic year 2018/19. This agreement also provides the opportunity for internships at the ITF office to take place.

The department has also developed closer ties with external bodies including the IOC and ASOIF in order to provide up-to-date guidance in matters of governance and opened communication with potential external partners such as UNESCO.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Staff Head Count

Our overall headcount is a total of 121. Taking into account part time workers and those on fixed-term contract, the figure is approximately 107.

We have an almost even split of male and female employees overall. However, at a more junior level 58% are female and 42% are male. At a senior level we are currently 64% male and 36% female and at Head and Manager level approximately 25% are female and 75% are male. We plan to look at ways to address this imbalance by identifying how we can offer more opportunities for current and future female employees and look at focussed training in areas such as recruitment and selection. We are also reviewing our policies around 'agile working' and family-friendly initiatives.

As an international federation it is important for us to have a workforce that reflects our global reach and we are pleased to say that our levels of applicants from other areas of the world has improved over recent years due to an increase in recruitment budgets and the use of more varied hiring techniques. Currently 77% of our workforce are British and 23% are from outside of the UK.

Recruitment

Following a busy first quarter with recruitment, we have successfully filled all the vacant positions that were identified at the end of last year and are very pleased with the calibre of candidates we have attracted.

Our most recent hires are a new Project Manager to lead on the International Tennis Rating (ITN) project and a Data Scientist. Both successful candidates start with us in August.

We are planning to have a new Communications Director in place before the end of August.

General HR News

Following a trial last year and with employee engagement and wellbeing in mind, we offer our employees the option to work compressed or 'summer hours' (as we call it) from May to September. The initiative works very well and offers our staff the chance to work more flexibly over the summer months.

Our 'Developing Managers' programme aimed at our mid-level managers continues and the eight selected team members are now halfway through their course. Feedback and engagement remains very positive and we are planning further leadership initiatives in the coming months.

To support our workplace health agenda we have entered Britain's Healthiest Workplace founded by Vitality Health and is run in partnership with the Financial Times and Cambridge University. The results will offer us insights in to our physical, mental and financial health experiences of our employees and how this impacts on our culture and will help us to identify where we can make positive changes.

Our Summer Party this year will follow a theme around working together to get the best outcomes as we continue our work to embrace and embed ITF2024 and our Values to ensure our working styles and behaviours reflect the key pillars of Innovation, Pro-activeness, Inclusiveness and Accountability.

INFORMATION & COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

Transition Tour

The introduction of the new global transition tour for the start of the 2019 season has involved a significant amount of activity on the technology side to ensure that all the IT infrastructure and services necessary for its operation will be ready in time for the start of the first of the new tournaments next year. To support the changes, we have embarked on a major programme of new development cutting across the full range of IT services that currently support ITF Circuit operations.

Existing systems such as IPIN, Baseline, and Tournament Planner, which automate much of the management and processing of data for tournament entries have required extensive changes, and entirely new Transition Tour-specific components like the new ITF World Ranking system have also had to be built.

With changes also being introduced across all the existing international rankings, including ITF Junior, ATP and WTA rankings, our ranking calculation databases have all needed to be updated along with the websites and data feeds that use them.

IPIN

The redevelopment of IPIN is another major project focus for 2018 and we currently have a dedicated project team fully engaged in building a completely new version of the current IPIN online service for launch early next year.

One of the primary objectives for the new IPIN service is to provide a very high-quality experience on smartphones and other mobile devices – something that is severely lacking at the moment. In adopting a mobile-first approach, it is important that the new system is much clearer and simpler to use, and that completing primary tasks (such as registering and entering tournaments) is a quicker and more intuitive process – even on a small screen.

To help guide the redevelopment process we ran a comprehensive survey inviting players across all ITF circuits to give us their views on how they would like to see IPIN improved. This feedback is being used both to inform the re-design goals for the new mobile-optimised website, and also highlight priority areas for new features that could be incorporated into subsequent phases of development of the IPIN service.

Behind the scenes, the IPIN redevelopment also represents a fundamental modernisation of our technology base as we move to a new cloud-first hosting and delivery model. Going forward, all our other major new technology projects will adopt this same approach to benefit from greater flexibility, scalability, security and compliance controls, as well as greater agility to evolve our services more rapidly in the future.

One of the new features that we have managed to introduce ahead of the full launch next year has been a player engagement platform which offers a valuable new communication channel for the ITF to interact with players on a more frequent basis and provide them with a useful summary and regular updates via email on their tournament and playing activities.

Overall, the IPIN redevelopment plans incorporate proposals for improvements across many areas that will be introduced over time to benefit all IPIN stakeholders, be they players, ITF staff and management, tournament organisers, or Regional and National Associations. The new foundations being established for IPIN now will also provide the framework upon which we can build new services to help automate the management of other key areas such as online tournament applications and beach tennis.

ITF Website

The ICT Department is working closely with the Communications team to help build a new version of the ITF's main *itftennis.com* website.

As with the IPIN project, there is a clear imperative to provide a website that is mobile-optimised as we know that the majority of visitors now access our online services from phones or tablets. However, the redevelopment also presents a broader opportunity to radically overhaul the structure of the site, refocussing on content that engages our audience to highlight the activities and mission of the ITF, and better explains and promotes the global reach and benefits of our sport.

This initial design phase has been done in partnership with an external web design agency and involved discussions with a range of internal and external stakeholders to come up with the new structure and look of the new site.

With the new designs finalised, our internal ICT team can take over the actual build process and implementation of the site. This also includes the development of several additional supporting components such as a new content management system, new media library, and extensive data integration with our Baseline tennis database.

ATP & WTA TOURS

ATP

Under Chris Kermode's leadership, the ATP has continued to work in cooperation with the ITF on key strategic priorities including professional tennis structure, anti-doping, anti-corruption, rules of tennis and officiating.

The new understanding between the ATP and ITF through to the end of 2018 continues to ensure protected weeks for the Davis Cup by BNP Paribas and discussions remain ongoing regarding approaches to the calendar from 2019 onwards. These discussions also include the proposed Davis Cup reforms and the ATP's plans for the relaunch of their World Team Cup event which was last held in Dusseldorf in 2012.

The ATP continues to have one full member on the ITF Men's Circuit Committee, Rules of Tennis Committee and Anti-Doping Working Group. The ATP has been offered the opportunity to attend the Davis Cup Committee and has Ex-officio members on the Sport Science and Medicine Commission and Technical Commission.

WTA

The change of leadership to both the ITF and WTA in 2015 has continued to allow for a spirit of cooperation and a new approach to building trust and respect. Steve Simon and David Haggerty have regular meetings and phone calls on important matters to improve alignment. This has been seen most clearly in relation to the tennis calendar with the WTA currently discussing a restructuring for 2020 onwards.

As a founding member of the WTA the ITF is a voting member on the WTA Board. The WTA has one full member on the ITF Women's Circuit Committee, Rules of Tennis Committee and Anti-Doping Working Group. The WTA has an observer on the Fed Cup Committee and Ex-officio members on the Sport Science and Medicine Commission and Technical Commission.

As well as working closely on matters affecting professional tennis and the calendar, agreement has also been reached on scheduling for 2018 with the WTA Tour calendar respecting the usual Fed Cup by BNP Paribas dates. This agreement gives protection to Fed Cup with the exception of Fed Cup Week II when a \$250,000 WTA event is scheduled. Discussions have also begun on securing the WTA's support and involvement in the ITF's proposed Fed Cup reforms.

GRAND SLAM® BOARD

The Grand Slam Board was formed as a key strategic alliance and consists of the four Grand Slam Chairmen and the ITF President with the mandate for the Board, as it related to the ITF, as follows:

- Tournament matters (ITF as observer)
- Service Provider (ITF as counterpart)
- Strategic Matters of Professional Tennis (ITF as a full member)

The ITF hosts the office of the Grand Slam Board in Roehampton and the Grand Slams and ITF are full members of the Tennis Anti-Doping Programme (“TADP”) and Tennis Integrity Unit (“TIU”).

The Grand Slam tournaments continue to make contributions to the Grand Slam Development Fund (GSDF) to support international competitive tennis opportunities in emerging tennis nations. Since its inception, the Grand Slam Development Fund has contributed over \$50 million towards tennis development through the ITF member nations and their players. In 2018 their contribution to the fund was \$2.62 million. Additionally, as Official Tennis Championships of the ITF, each Grand Slam tournament pays the ITF 1% of their gross prize money.

In addition the Grand Slam tournaments, with the ITF and both Tours, commissioned an independent review into the sport’s approach to managing its integrity. The independent review is headed up by Adam Lewis QC and the IRP Interim Report was published in April 2018 with the final report due by the end of 2018.

COMMERCIAL

The ITF's central commercial objective is to generate maximum revenue on behalf of the organisation and members through media rights sales, sponsorship, data rights, and other new or existing sources.

This approach fully aligns with the 2024 vision and aims to deliver in four primary areas:

- i) Retain ITF partners through excellent client service and genuine business value
- ii) Evidence / prove business value and audience knowledge
- iii) Develop new business, diversify revenue mix
- iv) Stakeholder communication: National Association support and collaboration

Below is a summary chart of full year results versus key objectives along with an update of material activities since the 2017 AGM across the areas of media rights, sponsorship and additional revenue streams, both existing and to be developed.

Commercial Objective	Result / Update
Existing Sponsor Renewals	
NEC	<p>The ITF renewed its sponsorship agreement with NEC Corporation as title sponsor of the NEC Wheelchair Tennis Masters, the ITF's year-end wheelchair singles championship, for an additional three-year period from 2018 through 2020.</p> <p>The extension of the agreement also sees NEC Corporation continue as an International Partner of UNIQLO Wheelchair Tennis Tour events in key markets</p>
New Sponsorship Sales	
New Sponsors	<p>During late 2017 and early 2018 the ITF has progressed with improvements in sponsorship sales with deals being confirmed in new categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Logistics: DPD - Auto: Porsche - Fed Cup - Construction: Sika - Restaurant: Poivre Rouge - Web design: Wix.com - Rental Car: Avis - Airline: Volotea <p>The sponsorship sales team is committed to presenting to brands with revised ITF materials to improve conversion opportunities.</p>
Unsold Packages	25% of backwall – international Net box

Media Rights Revenues (2018 v 2017 budget)	
Davis Cup & Fed Cup by BNP Paribas	2018 \$13,250,000 (8% increase on 2017 income of \$12,250,000)
Media Exposure & Viewership (2018 v 2017 year to date)	
Davis Cup Quarter Final Viewership	Broadcast Markets (156 in 2018 v 154 in 2017) +1.3% TV Broadcast Hours (2083 in 2018 v 1620 in 2017)+ 28.6% Live Broadcast Hours (1104 in 2018 v 989 in 2017) +11.7%
Fed Cup Semi Final Viewership	Broadcast Markets (160 in 2018 v 144 in 2017) +10.1% TV Broadcast Hours (1386 in 2018 v 1122 in 2017) +23.5% Live Broadcast Hours (711 in 2018 v 645 in 2017) +10.1%
Data Rights	
Sale of Data Rights for period 2017-2021	Global tender process won by Sportradar for period 2017-2021 with rights fee representing a significant increase from existing deal.
Additional Revenue Streams	
Licensing & Merchandising ITF circuits, institutional assets, development	During 2018 an exciting licensing agreement has been contracted – more detail to follow in Q4 2018. Revised sales materials are being produced for all ITF assets to be marketed and sold. This will attract further revenue sources including host city, digital and licensing income.

Media Rights

In 2018 media rights sales income of \$13,250,000 will exceed 2017 media rights sales income of \$12,250,000 by 8% thanks to the landmark global media rights partnership between the ITF and beIN SPORTS, which is the largest television and digital rights deal in the history of Davis Cup and Fed Cup.

ITF and beIN SPORTS are tasked with jointly managing our media rights, increasing the global exposure, viewership and quality of the ITF's flagship events across both linear and digital channels.

Coverage of both Davis Cup and Fed Cup extended into more territories in 2018 than it had done in 2017 and the total hours of programming and live hours of programming grew as the ITF and beIN strategy of increasing coverage of the events was implemented. There was however a drop in total audience for both competitions, which cause concern to the ITF and to our partners. Efforts to open up new broadcast markets and ensure top player participation is crucial to realise audience growth.

Per our agreement with beIN SPORTS, Davis Cup Regulations were agreed and amended to provide the ITF (on behalf of beIN SPORTS) an option to host broadcast and exercise the media rights of Davis Cup zonal ties. This amendment includes all appropriate protections and benefits to our member nations. This option has been exercised in many territories including Austria, Brazil, Colombia, Chile, Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Thailand.

Media Innovation

During 2018 a concentrated effort has been applied to elevate ITF Wheelchair Tennis tournaments and create wider audience appeal.

Efforts to produce and distribute the BNP Paribas World Team Cup in Apeldoorn, Netherlands successfully realised 3x linear broadcast deals, 3x streaming deals and 1x news access deal in:

- Argentina, TYC and DeporTV
- Belgium, RTBF
- Italy, Supertennis
- Netherlands, KNLTB
- Great Britain, BT Sport
- Worldwide, Olympic Channel

This effort delivered technical income and an audience of more than 600,000 over the duration of the event. More efforts will be applied in this area to grow the appeal of the sport and develop commercial opportunities.

Media Archive

The ITF will invest in the digitisation of the media archive in 2018. This process will see decades of video footage stored in a digital library for 21st century application and preservation.

Sponsorship Sales

The commercial team has progressed many active leads and presented solutions to 75 brands within the first half of 2018, yielding 4 international sponsorship contracts and generating over \$1m of contract value in licensing and sponsorship income.

Efforts continue with a variety of companies on a tie-tie basis and progressing partners to become Global Partners across the ITF.

This approach has unlocked categories that the ITF has to date not progressed previously including: logistics, airline, web-design, construction and the first auto partnership with Fed Cup and Porsche.

Available international packages include: 25% back wall positions for Davis Cup, 25% back wall positions for Fed Cup and the net box for both Davis Cup and Fed Cup.

Sales Materials

The ITF has a duty to create and evidence commercial appeal within every area of ITF responsibility.

Refreshed sales materials and audience research has been produced to assist in the sale of commercial inventory across:

- Juniors
- Seniors
- Wheelchair
- Beach
- Fed Cup
- Davis Cup
- IPIN
- Media Platforms
- Transition tour

These materials will be hosted on an online portal for member nations to access during 2018.

Qualitative Research

In the first quarter of 2018, Nielsen and ITF worked together to produce the most comprehensive, qualitative research study in understanding and measuring the tennis consumer: participant – TV audience.

This research is crucial to developing commercial appeal and will be made available to member nations for their own revenue growth via the commercial portal.

NEW REVENUES

Digital

Development of existing and new revenue streams beyond media rights and sponsorship is a strategic priority within our commercial strategy.

As part of the Sportradar agreement, ITF and Sportradar successfully launched 3 media platforms on the ITF Pro Circuit, Davis Cup and Fed Cup websites generating advertising revenue opportunities.

To build on the digital commercial possibilities, the following areas are being packaged for 2018/19 sale:

- IPIN website and player communications
- ITF and ITF Circuit website and communications
- ITF live scoring & streaming
- Fed Cup website and app
- Tennis iCoach platform and communication

Event Hosting

Host city bid documents are being produced in 2018 for the potential tendering of ITF events from 2020 onward. These economic impact materials will provide ITF events and member nations the ability to generate private and public sector support.

Brand

The brand team work within the commercial department and produce materials and activations for Davis Cup and Fed Cup; including the successful 'Show Your Colours' campaign.

In 2018 the brand team has created ITF Brand Guidelines for all departments and nations to utilise to align efforts and brand consistency. These guidelines will be uploaded to the aforementioned online portal.

In addition a brand identity for the Transition Tour has been created, exploring a variety of options for consideration and final recommendation.

DAVIS CUP AND FED CUP BY BNP PARIBAS COMPETITIONS

In 2018 Davis Cup by BNP Paribas remains the largest annual international team competition in sport with 133 nations entered this year, whilst Fed Cup by BNP Paribas continues to be the largest annual female international team competition in sport - 109 nations entered in 2018.

2018 saw the introduction of the reforms and trials at all levels of the competitions approved in 2017.

In Davis Cup these included player-friendly initiatives such as the Zone Group I and II ties now taking place over two days with all matches played as best-of-3 sets. More than 80% of Zone Group I and II National Associations who responded to a survey on the changes gave positive feedback on this initiative, and 70% of players and captains.

Nations were also given the opportunity to nominate a 5th player for all ties in the World Group and Zone Groups I and II. Feedback on this was also very encouraging, with more than 85% of National Associations being in favour and more than 90% of players and captains. There were similar positive results from all stakeholders in Zone Groups I and II about the introduction of a revised dead rubber policy.

The new combined official function, named "Meet and Greet", is becoming more and more important for International and Local Sponsors. Introduced to reduce player commitments during the week of a tie and to reduce costs for National Associations, we continue to try innovative formats and activations to make this event a great opportunity for both ITF and home and away nations.

In Fed Cup the player-friendly changes included the introduction of a third set tie-break for all live matches in both World Group and World Group II. The new opportunity for a guaranteed 1st round home tie for the previous year's finalists in order to further the promotion of Fed Cup and women's tennis on home soil was taken up successfully by both USA and Belarus.

The other improvement in 2018 to help minimise costs for nations in both competitions was a reduction in the required number of practice courts and the number of days the match court needs to be available ahead of a tie, with the exception of the Finals, when the four-day requirement remains.

The Show Your Colours marketing campaign continues to grow across both competitions. In addition, a proposal to enhance the use of the trophies was launched, and its implementation at World Group ties is now a priority. Where possible, all future World Group ties played on hardcourt will incorporate the trophy motif on the court surface and we are working with ITF Officiating to incorporate it to all court types. The 2018 Finals branding will be trophies-focused.

2018 reaffirmed the importance of client activations for our International Sponsors and we were able to offer "Money Can't Buy Experiences" at all ties. The use of and access to the players for clients becomes more and more important for BNP Paribas, as well as gathering exclusive content for their social media platforms. These experiences alongside the new "Meet and Greet" gives them the perfect opportunity to achieve their goals.

For Adecco, 2018 meant changes. After the first round, a new bench assistant role was introduced, giving the opportunity to Adecco's clients to be an active part of our events. The 2018 Finals will see the launch of Adecco Work Experience, where our HR partner will have the opportunity to integrate a candidate within the ITF Team to help deliver the Finals. These initiatives are directly linked to their ROI goals and specifically their digital campaign which aims to attract and retain candidates and associates.

Rolex, in line with their strategic objectives, continues their premium hospitality for their local markets at key ties, and maintains their long term support to tennis, valuing the traditions and heritage of Davis Cup.

The ITF is working proactively alongside all National Associations to keep improving and evolving all aspects of Davis and Fed Cup events. In 2018 we continued to support National Associations in their efforts to secure new sponsorship, being consistently flexible wherever possible, and offering permanent operational advice and assistance.

We are grateful to all those National Associations who have hosted in 2018 so far and would particularly like to acknowledge and thank those who undertook to host the 2018 Davis and Fed Cup round robin events namely; Bahrain, Bulgaria, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Estonia, Greece, India, Kenya, Mexico, Montenegro, Paraguay, Oman, Tunisia and Vietnam.

OLYMPIC, PARALYMPIC, AND YOUTH OLYMPIC GAMES TENNIS EVENTS

TOKYO 2020 OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC GAMES

Tokyo 2020 Site Visits

The ITF conducted site visits to Tokyo in October 2017 and June 2018, with a further visit scheduled for November 2018.

Venue

Construction began in November 2017 and, although the ITF were not permitted full access during the June site visit, significant work was clearly underway.

The venue is 20% complete as of June 2018 and will be 100% complete by July 2019.

Player Facilities

Due to limitations to what can be achieved in terms of expansion inside the existing Ariake Coliseum (centre court), the ITF will split the player locker, lounge, and physiotherapy facilities between centre court and the newly built indoor facility (which is in close proximity to the outside match courts). This should provide a spacious and comfortable environment for the athletes and is part of the ITF's key focus to significantly improve the player experience following the situation in Rio.

Competition Schedule

The ITF has submitted the proposed Tennis and Wheelchair Tennis competition schedules to Tokyo 2020 and these will be presented for approval to the IOC Executive Board in July 2018 and the IPC in September 2018 respectively.

National Technical Officials (NTO) Training Programme

Alison Hughes is heading an officiating training programme designed to ensure a sufficient number of appropriately qualified Japanese line umpires are available for selection for the Olympic and Paralympic Games.

The first training camp was held at a Pro Circuit event in Tsukuba, 26-30 March 2018, attended by twenty-five line umpires and followed by a meeting with the Japanese Tennis Association (JTA) and the JTA Officiating Committee. A follow-up training session took place in Gifu, 30 April – 06 May 2018, with a further twenty-five students in attendance.

Test Event

The test event will be the Japan National Championships and will take place 23-25 October 2019 (Qualifying) and 26 October – 3 November 2019 (main draw). The main draw will provide identical draw sizes to the Olympics and should provide an ideal event for a comprehensive venue test.

Services Manager and Technical Manager

Ayano Egami (JPN) and Jemin You (KOR) have been appointed as Tennis Services Manager and Tennis Technical Manager respectively for the Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Paris 2024 and Los Angeles 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Host Cities

As widely anticipated, the September 2017 IOC Session in Lima saw the awarding of the 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games to Paris, with Los Angeles given hosting rights in 2028. Both cities

are set to follow London as three-time hosts. The current proposals for the tennis and wheelchair tennis venues received from both cities have Roland Garros nominated for 2024 and the StubHub Tennis Center in 2028.

BUENOS AIRES 2018 YOUTH OLYMPIC GAMES

The ITF conducted a fourth site visit to Buenos Aires in May 2018.

Venue

Preparations continue on track at the Buenos Aires Lawn Tennis Club and the venue has become the centre point for certain key operations for the entire Green Park (athlete dining, anti-doping, Olympic Family lounge).

Broadcast

In a very positive change, Olympic Broadcast Services (OBS), the host broadcaster for the Games, have elected to broadcast live from the centre court on all match days during the tennis event. This is a significant and welcome increase from the originally planned last four days only.

Technology

In another positive step the Buenos Aires 2018 Organising Committee has now agreed to provide live scoring on all courts, a first for the Youth Olympic Games tennis event.

Athlete Role Model Programme

We are pleased to announce that Gabriela Sabatini and David Nalbandian have agreed to represent the ITF as our Athlete Role Models for tennis at the Games. They will help us to maximise coverage for tennis and also provide invaluable advice to the competing players.

Dates

The IOC Executive Board have reversed the decision to switch the next Youth Olympic Games to 2023 and the Games will instead remain on the 2022 calendar. IOC President Thomas Bach has announced the intention to take the Games to Africa for the first time.

ITF PRO CIRCUIT

Prize money increases between 2016 and 2017 led to a small reduction in tournament numbers but an increase in overall prize money, and the situation has stabilised somewhat in 2018 with the calendar for the first half of the year broadly similar to that of 2017.

The Women's Circuit in January-June has seen a small increase in tournament numbers from 239 to 249, with a corresponding increase in prize money from \$6.1 to \$6.2 million. This increase has largely taken place in Europe and at the \$25,000 prize money category, perhaps reflecting the fact that this will be the lowest level offering WTA ranking points in 2019. All other regions and prize money categories have a similar number of tournaments as in 2017.

In contrast, the Men's Circuit has seen slightly reduced tournament numbers compared with January-June 2017, down from 283 to 269. Although there was a reduction in \$15,000 tournaments from 224 to 202, this has been somewhat offset by an increase in the number of tournaments at \$25,000 level. Overall prize money went down slightly from \$4.8 to \$4.7 million. Tournament numbers have reduced in Europe and, notably, in Asia after a period of sustained growth. However, both Africa and South America had significant increases in both tournament numbers and prize money. This is particularly pleasing in South America, which has more than doubled its tournaments and prize money when compared with the same period last year.

A number of rule changes were recently approved by the Board of Directors for 2019. Notable among these is the change to the Women's Circuit hospitality rules which will bring them into line with the Men's Circuit and make providing hospitality cheaper for tournament hosts. We have also reviewed and hope to improve the player conditions at extended series tournaments, recognising that these can represent a way for players to play a number of tournaments in succession with minimal travel costs.

Transition Tour

Professional tennis will undergo a major restructure at its entry level in 2019. The introduction of the transition tour forms a key pillar of the ITF2024 Strategy by aiming to provide more opportunities for players from more countries. Reforms are being made as a result of extensive research and stakeholder input since 2014 that showed that despite more than 1,400 professional tournaments being offered on the ITF Pro Circuit in 2017, the Circuit provides a poor return on investment for nations and players; it does not present a clearly defined player pathway across the junior, entry level and higher professional stages; and it does present a risk to the sport's integrity.

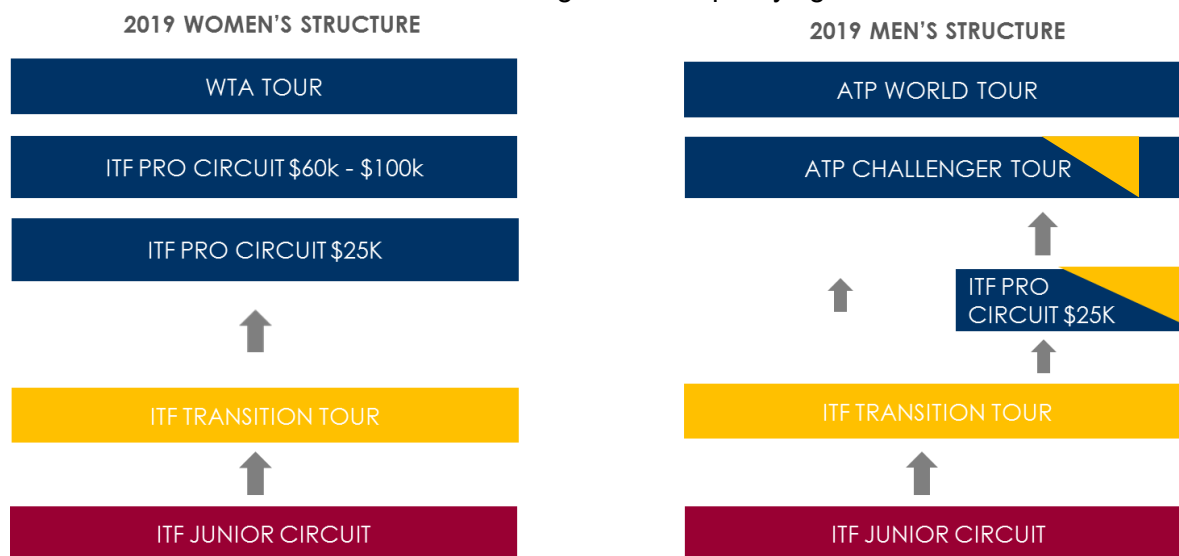
The changes centre on the launch of the transition tour, which will provide a clearer and more effective pathway for players, one which links the ITF Junior Circuit to the professional game, and which crucially ensures that prize money at professional-level tournaments is better targeted to enable more of the men and women taking part to make a living.

July 2018 saw the opening of the tournament application process for 2019 tournaments. More National Associations are expected to have the opportunity to stage tournaments as a result of the cheaper hosting requirements at transition tour level and assistance will be available to help ensure a better geographical spread of tournaments. Early estimates of the number of tournaments National Associations expect to host in 2019 show overall tournament numbers as stable and potentially increasing.

The official name of the transition tour will be announced later in 2018. The name and its associated branding is expected to link the Junior Circuit, transition tour and Pro Circuit, so that it is clear that the three stages are connected in the new, streamlined player pathway structure.

The new transition tour tournaments will continue to offer prize money and will be comprised of the existing \$15,000 men's and women's tournaments which will offer ITF World Ranking Points instead of ATP and WTA Ranking points (see below).

In women's tennis in 2019, tournaments offering a minimum of \$25,000 in prize money will continue to offer WTA Ranking points. In men's tennis in 2019, \$25,000 ITF Pro Circuit events will offer both ATP Ranking points (later rounds) and ITF World Ranking Points (all rounds) while ATP Challenger tournaments will also award ITF World Ranking Points in qualifying.



Although the new men's and women's structures are different, the principle behind them is the same – good performance at one level is linked to guaranteed opportunities at the next level, and is designed to allow successful players to progress more quickly, as follows:

- Men
 - Reserved places for top players in the ITF World Ranking in ATP Challenger tournaments. The number of reserved places will be determined by ATP later this year following further research and monitoring.
 - 5 Reserved places for top ITF World Ranked players in the main draws of \$25,000 ITF Pro Circuit tournaments.
- Women
 - 5 reserved places for top ITF World Ranked players in the main draws of \$25,000 ITF Pro Circuit tournaments.
- Juniors
 - 5 reserved places in the main draws of transition tour tournaments for players with a Top 100 ITF Junior Ranking.

In addition to the technical side, our work has focused on communicating the changes to players and nations and listening to feedback. In March and April this year, we held several conference calls for National Associations and additional meetings about the transition tour were offered over the summer. The women's player video we produced in June 2018 (and sent to all players and National Associations) focused on the new structure and ranking point system, how the rankings will be converted between 2018 and 2019, and how tournaments will be entered in 2019. The video was accompanied by the release of the weekly "shadow" rankings, showing women this year what their results will be converted into at the start of next year. At the time of writing, the men's player video and "shadow" rankings were expected to be released in early July.

Live scoring

During the first five months of 2018, all 411 ITF Pro Circuit tournaments benefitted from the live scoring service, combining to cover more than 21,800 matches. In addition to this, 1,172 (100%) Davis Cup and Fed Cup by BNP Paribas matches have been covered across all World Group and Zone Group events that have taken place so far this year.

Education and training of officials in the use of live scoring devices remains an important part of the project as accurate and timely match scoring is a fundamental part of the service. Scoring errors are undesirable for the ITF's Official Data partner and over the first five months of 2018, 99.66% of matches met the Service Level Agreement agreed with the ITF's Official Data Partner.

Since the launch of the previous version in November 2015 and the new, updated, version in January 2018, the ITF Pro Circuit Web Scoreboard has received over 55 million page views from more than 3.5 million unique users. At the same time dedicated ITF Pro Circuit, Davis Cup and Fed Cup mobile apps were launched for both iOS and Android devices and since the apps were made available they have been downloaded more than 66,000 times across all platforms. In the period January – May 2018 (five months) more than 850,000 unique users have used the web scoreboard and almost 11 million pages have been viewed.

Under the terms of the new agreement a new Media Platform was developed by Sportradar and launched in September 2017 (Davis Cup and Fed Cup) and January 2018 (Pro Circuit) where live scoring and additional digital (including some streaming and video) content is provided via dedicated pages on the respective ITF websites and redeveloped mobile applications.

JUNIORS

The calendar for the 2018 Junior Circuit, which is largely complete, comprises a total of 583 tournaments in 137 countries. The Circuit has increased in size by nearly a third since 2014, largely as a result of a strategic decision to expand opportunities, particularly at entry level. Nations' applications are considered with reference to the national/regional tournament structure and player base.

It is a goal of the juniors department to increase the number of nations hosting tournaments on the Circuit, and we are pleased to welcome the US Virgin Islands, Vanuatu and Iceland in 2018. In addition to these new nations, Senegal, Ghana, Rwanda and Pakistan re-join the Circuit after, in some cases, lengthy absences.

The Junior Circuit is a vital first step on the ITF's restructured Player Pathway, and from 2019 onward will provide new stepping stones on to the entry levels of professional tennis in the form of reserved places in transition tour tournaments for Top 100 ranked junior players. For this reason, it is extremely important that the Circuit enables the most talented junior players from around the world to reach the top levels of the junior game and continue their journey on to the next stage. Detailed calendar analysis is underway, designed to identify any gaps in the calendar both at entry level and at higher grades; encourage and promote regional swings to enable players to get maximum benefit from the tournaments available; and ensure that no player is disadvantaged in their progress through the levels of junior tennis due to an inability to access sufficient opportunities close to home.

The work being done on the Junior Circuit, in terms of both expanding opportunities at entry level and improving the calendar structure to make progression through the grades easier for talented players, fits with the Opportunities strategic priority of ITF2024. Collaboration with nations to ensure that the calendar structure corresponds to the needs of their players will also help with the Communication strategic priority.

The Junior Circuit is trialling the use of the "no let" rule in 2018 as part of a commitment to be innovative. Feedback has been obtained from tournaments throughout the year, and all players will be surveyed towards the end of the year in order to help the Committee to decide whether to make it a permanent rule of the Circuit. On-court coaching will also be trialled at two of our major events, the ITF Junior Masters and the Youth Olympic Games.

The fourth edition of the ITF Junior Masters, for the eight top ranked boys and girls according to the ITF Junior Ranking published following the US Open Junior Championships ("The Road to Chengdu"), will take place in China from 24-28 October. This year's tournament will be the first to potentially feature wild card entries: if no Chinese player qualifies on merit in each of the boys' and girls' draws, a wild card can be awarded to a Chinese player as long as he/she is inside the top 25 of the world rankings.

Preparations are continuing for the third edition of the Youth Olympic Games, to be held in Buenos Aires, Argentina from 7-14 October. NOCs have now submitted their long list of player nominations, and we are expecting a very high level of player participation this year, befitting the raised grading of this important event. By instilling an awareness and appreciation of the Olympics in junior players, the Juniors department aims to help elevate the sport in the Olympics, another of the ITF2024 strategic priorities.

The ITF World Junior Tennis Finals (14U) took place for the 20th and final year in Prostějov, Czech Republic from 6–11 August and ends a truly remarkable period of commitment to junior tennis on the part of the local organisers and the Czech Tennis Association. The Junior Davis Cup & Junior Fed Cup by BNP Paribas Finals (16U) will take place for the third and final year in Budapest, Hungary, from 25–30 September at the National Tennis Centre. Regional qualifying competitions for both competitions are now complete.

The boys' and girls' Junior Exempt Project ("JEP") continues to give opportunities to the year-end top ranked junior boys and girls to participate in Pro Circuit tournaments. The girls have been particularly successful in the first half of 2018, with several having won tournaments they gained entry to through the project. The standout performance came from 2017 Junior Masters winner Marta Kostyuk of Ukraine, who followed up her third round appearance at the Australian Open in January with victory as a Junior Exempt at the \$100,000 tournament in Burnie, Australia. There were also tournament wins at the \$25,000 level for Serbia's Olga Danilovic in Santa Margherita di Pula and Chinese Taipei's En Shuo Liang, the 2018 girls' Australian Open champion, in Incheon. Liang also finished as runner-up in another \$25,000 tournament, in Goyang, Korea. Mention must also be made of 2017 Junior World Champion Whitney Osuigwe of USA's quarterfinal finish at an \$80,000 tournament in Charleston. Many of the top junior boys are yet to use their Junior Exempt spots in 2018, but there have been several semifinal finishes at the \$15,000 level from players in the 11-20 ranking bracket, notably Argentina's Sebastian Baez and Chinese Taipei's Chun Hsing Tseng in Antalya and Tseng's compatriot Tsung Hua Tsu in Singapore. Baez and Tseng are still juniors in 2018 and contested the Roland Garros final.

SENIORS

In line with ITF2024, future developments for Seniors Tennis are currently being identified which focus on the new mission of the department, which is to make Seniors Tennis the leading sport in terms of player participation. It is anticipated that a 3 year development plan for 2019-2021 will be finalised and communicated to all key stakeholders at the end of 2018.

The 2018 Seniors Circuit has seen further increases in the numbers of tournaments taking place with over 430 events scheduled to take place in 2018. However, just over 300 of the 430 ITF sanctioned seniors tournaments take place within Europe. Whilst there is continued potential in Europe this balance needs to be addressed for the huge potential that exists in other regions. Currently only an average of 12 tournaments take place in other regions. Nations and regions with existing Seniors Tennis markets will be prioritised in this process such as USA, Asia and South America.

Several changes will be made to the IPIN Seniors system for 2019 which include improved system functions and tools to make the experience easier and more engaging for players. This offers numerous benefits to allow for better planning and prioritisation. The Seniors Committee have approved a new financial model for 2019. Players will not pay an annual IPIN fee and tournaments pay a percentage of their entry income to the ITF as a sanction fee instead of fixed amount based on their grade.

A new, simpler structure is being considered to allow for players to compete at a more appropriate level and to support the rankings system to allow for tournament acceptance, seeding and draws to improve. Supporting this, the Seniors Committee have approved that a new rankings point formula will be put in place for 2019 which better allows for the very best players to be represented at the top of the rankings list. This will involve a greater number of points being allocated to the most prestigious seniors' events such as the World Championships, Grade A and Grade 1 tournaments.

To align with our mission of making Seniors Tennis the leading sport in terms of player participation, a number of entry level tournaments have been offered to national associations to run. These short 1 or 2 day tournaments will be player-friendly and time efficient which are favourable to both players and host venues.

The 2018 World Championships are taking place as follows:

- Seniors – Ulm, Germany from 12 August to 25 August 2018
- Super Seniors - Umag, Croatia from 16 September to 29 September 2018
- Young Seniors – Miami Beach, USA from 21 October to 3 November 2018

A 3 year agreement has been signed with Umag, Croatia to host one of the Seniors World Championships events in each year from 2019 to 2021. The dates and venues for the 2019 Seniors World Championships will be confirmed by end of August 2018.

BEACH TENNIS

The first six months of 2018 sees 138 tournaments confirmed on the ITF Beach Tennis Tour totalling \$250,500 in prize money, an increase of \$41,500 (16.6%) for the same period in 2017.

To date, the Tour includes 217 events with 87 (40%) offering prize money. 19 tournaments at \$10,000 level and above are already confirmed with 12 offering \$15,000 and higher, exceeding the 2017 total of 10, with several additions also expected in the latter months of the year.

European nations continue to lead the way hosting 11 high-prize money events, with Russia's \$50,000 event and \$15,000 tournaments in Gran Canaria, France, Germany and Italy returning to the calendar.

Elite playing opportunities in South America continue to be offered with Brazil hosting two new \$15,000 tournaments and one new \$10,000 tournament and a \$15,000+H tournament and a \$35,000 event in Ecuador returning to the Tour for the second year.

The Beach Tennis World Championships will return to Cervia, Italy, on 2-4 August. Prize money will be paid for a second year, with \$25,000 on offer down to the quarterfinalists. Following on from a successful introduction in 2017, evening matches under lights will continue with the aim of increasing stadium capacity and to accommodate the ever-growing number of spectators. A mixed competition and junior events for 14&U, 16&U and 18&U players will also be offered.

The World Team Championship will return to Russia's National Tennis Centre in Moscow on 7-12 August. Entries have been received from 25 nations and the Main Draw will be comprised of 24 teams. A qualifying competition will be held, if necessary, immediately prior to the finals. The junior team competition for 14&U players, now in its fourth edition, has received 11 entries (compared to 12 in 2017).

The European Beach Tennis Championships will take place in Jurmala, Latvia for the first time from 12-15 July with the Championships including a junior competition for 18&U players for the third successive year.

The Pan American Championships return to Palm Beach in Aruba for the third consecutive year over 9-11 November. Junior events will be offered for 12&U, 14&U and 16&U.

47 tournaments applied to organise a junior competition alongside the ITF events to date, an increase of 13 events (38%) compared for the same period in 2017.

The Association of National Olympic Committees (ANOC) has recently announced the inaugural ANOC World Beach Games, which will take place in San Diego, USA, in 2019. Beach Tennis will feature as one of six principle beach sports, alongside handball, karate, soccer, volleyball and wrestling. Provisionally, the Beach Tennis event will be composed of a Men's Doubles (16 Draw Size), Women's Doubles (16) and Mixed Doubles (up to 24) with a total of 64 athletes invited to participate at the Games in a 4-day event played across 4 courts, including a centre court.

The dedicated ITF Beach Tennis team, in place since May 2018, is developing a new strategy (2018–2019) aligned with the ITF2024 Strategy.

Starting with the formulation of an ITF Beach Tennis Mission Statement, the internal review has identified and acted on Digitalization, Calendar, Rules and Regulations, Commercial and Branding as well as Research.

WHEELCHAIR TENNIS

UNIQLO Wheelchair Tennis Tour

There are 160 tournaments on the 2018 UNIQLO Wheelchair Tennis Tour calendar, staged in 42 different countries.

Regionally, the 2018 calendar has seen a 15% increase in tournaments in South America compared with 2017 and an 11.76% increase in tournaments held in Europe. Three fewer tournaments have been held in Asia/Oceania this year (28 instead of the 31 held in 2017) and three fewer tournaments in the Africa region (three instead of the six held in 2017). Despite this decrease in the number of tournaments in Africa, there are two new countries hosting events in 2018.

With the exception of Junior events and the World Team Cup, prize money is available at all tournaments with the total offered across the Tour in the region of \$2.1million.

In November, the season ending UNIQLO Doubles Masters will be held for the second consecutive year in Bommel, Netherlands, hosted by the KNLTB, while the NEC Singles Masters will be hosted by the USA at their National Campus in Orlando, Florida. Both events will be contested by the year's top ranked Men's, Women's and Quad players.

BNP Paribas World Team Cup

Between February and April the regional qualifying events for the 2018 competition, incorporating Men's and Women's events, were held in USA, Kenya, Sri Lanka and Portugal, each hosted by the respective National Association. A total of 25 nations participated with the winners of each event qualifying to participate in the World Group event, which was held between 28 May and 3 June in Apeldoorn, the Netherlands and, kindly hosted by the KNLTB.

135 players participated in the World Group event, representing 25 Nations. Australia defeated Israel in the final of the Quad event, the Netherlands defeated China for the Women's title and Japan defeated Great Britain to be crowned Men's Champions. Russia overcame Brazil to claim the Junior title. Local support for the event was excellent with Apeldoorn City Hall hosting the opening ceremony and a near-capacity crowd creating a Davis Cup-style atmosphere around Centre Court as the event reached its thrilling late-night conclusion under floodlights with host nation Netherlands defeating China 2-1 in the deciding doubles rubber to win its 30th Women's title.

Centre court matches played at both host tennis centres were streamed all week via YouTube, with 11 broadcasting outlets (online or terrestrial television) from nine countries taking the live feeds and the Olympic Channel and the International Paralympic Committee both hosting worldwide streams on their respective websites. The ITF's work to partner with these broadcasting outlets, as well as the increased investment to deliver a quality TV/streaming production, ultimately resulted in a total audience of over 800,000 viewers, which the ITF will look to build on in the future.

The 2019 World Group event will be held in Israel.

Strategy – 'Roadmap 50'

Following work by the Wheelchair Tennis Strategy Taskforce and Committee, in November 2017 the ITF Board approved a new strategy framework for wheelchair tennis that included a new vision, mission, goals and key priorities. Entitled 'Roadmap 50', the strategy, which aligns with and will deliver against the strategic pillars and objectives of ITF2024, aims to plot goals and priorities leading up to the game's 50th anniversary in 2026.

A stakeholder consultation of the new strategy was launched in March. Feedback received from the wheelchair tennis community is under review by the Taskforce and Committee, who will consider its

integration into the initial framework. Work is underway to map out the projects and requirements to deliver on the key priorities and identify the necessary resources and realistic implementation timescales.

As part of the new strategy and in line with its key priority of building strong partnerships, a Player Council is to be established to act as a forum and conduit between the playing community and the ITF. The Council, which will comprise players representing all geographical regions, divisions (i.e. men, women and quad) and several ranking bands, will discuss matters of importance for the playing community and provide feedback to the Wheelchair Tennis Committee for their review and consideration. Election of the Council in mid-2018 by the playing community will follow a formal nomination process, in which National Association endorsement of players' self-nominations will be required.

An urgent priority supported by the Committee is to enhance the structure and flow of the UNIQLO Tour calendar, in particular for elite players and tournaments. The calendar should seek to build structured regional series with playing surface consistency to better suit the demands of elite players and create an understandable and more professional product. For 2019, key existing tournaments in May and June have been re-scheduled to allow for clay and grass court tournaments to be introduced for the periods leading into Roland Garros and Wimbledon. The ITF will work with member Nations and Tournament Directors to introduce further enhancements across the calendar over the coming years.

Classification

In November 2017 the ITF Board of Directors approved recommendations from the Wheelchair Tennis Classification Taskforce and Committee to broadly align the ITF's Classification regulations with the International Paralympic Committee's 2015 Classification Code in order to enhance and formalise processes and methodologies and bring some standardisation of classification systems across IPC member international sports federations.

While timescales for implementation of changes are still to be determined, going forward all players, not only those wishing to compete in the quad division, will be assessed to determine their eligibility to compete in wheelchair tennis, which for many will also include a physical assessment by independent classifiers.

The ITF will develop and operate a Classifier Development Programme provide a pathway for suitably qualified healthcare practitioners to become a classifier in wheelchair tennis – selected individuals will be trained and certified in the assessment of players in accordance with the ITF classification regulations. An ITF Head of Classification will be appointed to oversee the ITF's Wheelchair Tennis Classification system, with responsibility for coordinating the administration and implementation of Classification-related matters. The individual will also help guide the direction and ongoing development of the Wheelchair Tennis Classification System and monitor its compliance with the IPC Classification Code.

Full details of all changes and associated implementation timescales will be communicated to Nations and the general wheelchair tennis community in due course and with appropriate notice.

The Classification Taskforce is continuing its work to review the structure of the ITF's classification system to ensure it meets the requirements of the modern game. Research in this regard is ongoing, with the Classification Taskforce due to be presented with further findings in mid-2018. Recommendations will be passed on for review by the Committee and Board. Moving forward, the ITF has an obligation under the IPC Classification Code to ensure its classification system is evidence-based, based on scientific research, so this will be an ongoing commitment within the game.

Development

Development activity for junior players is supported by the Johan Cruyff Foundation (“JCF”), an ITF partner since 2005. JCF funds are allocated to the Junior Masters event and in the form of grants to enable players to compete in junior Tour events, the junior World Team Cup event and national and international junior training camps.

The 2018 Cruyff Foundation Junior Masters event took place once again in Tarbes, France, in January. Both finals were won by first time winners, with Jef Vandorpe (BEL) taking the boys’ title and Antonella Pralong (ARG) crowned as the girls’ champion. Cruyff Foundation International junior camps are scheduled for the Americas (USA), Africa (South Africa) and Europe (Netherlands) between July and September.

JCF also continues to support the ITF Wheelchair Tennis Development Fund, which helps fund the introduction of two-year participation projects into nations with limited or no previous activity with the aim of establishing sustainable domestic wheelchair tennis programmes. Existing projects ending in 2018 are located in Kenya, Rwanda, Latvia and Malaysia, while new projects to run through 2019 will be introduced later this year in Peru, Bolivia, Uruguay and Ecuador. A workshop in Kenya that focused on coach education, supported by the AGITOS Foundation (IPC), saw 32 players and coaches take part in February.

HOPMAN CUP

The 30th edition of Hopman Cup ran from 30 December-6 January and featured teams from Switzerland, Germany, Belgium, USA, Japan, Russia, Canada and Australia. The winning team from Switzerland defeated Germany to win its third title. This was the sixth year the tournament was held at the Perth Arena.

The 2018 Hopman Cup enjoyed another strong field of players including 20-time Grand Slam champion Roger Federer, who returned to Perth to again partner Belinda Bencic. The thrilling final saw the Swiss pair defeat Germany's Alexander Zverev and Angelique Kerber to win Switzerland's first title in 17 years

The total attendance for the event was the highest ever at 106,424 with a further 5,688 attending Federer's open practice session with Australia's Thanasi Kokkinakis. The tie between Switzerland and USA saw the largest session attendance in the Hopman Cup's 30-year history with 14,029 attendees packing into Perth Arena to watch Belinda Bencic and Roger Federer defeat CoCo Vandeweghe and Jack Sock

The tournament was broadcast live and free across Australia by the Seven Network for the fifth consecutive year. Internationally, the tournament was broadcast to more than 200 territories by 15 different broadcast partners. International broadcasters included China's IQIYI and CCTV, Japan's WOWOW, along with Europe (Eurosport), Germany's ZDF, Switzerland's SSR SRG, USA's Tennis Channel, Africa (SuperSport), Latin America and the Caribbean (ESPN).

The tournament was once again part of the Australian Open Series, making it a key part of the road to the Australian Open. For the second year the Fast4 scoring concept was used for the third mixed doubles rubber.

The Hopman Cup continues to be an important strategic professional tennis asset in the ITF's portfolio and it is very pleasing that it continues to see success at the Perth Arena.

OFFICIATING

ITF Officiating Schools

The core strategic focus of the ITF officiating team in 2018 continues to be the development and training of officials in all regions. With this in mind and working closely with key stakeholders and the ITF Regional Officers, the team hosted a number of schools in key markets.

The total number and split of schools planned for 2018 by region are:

	LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 3	TOTAL
EUROPE		2	1	3
AFRICA	1	1		2
ASIA/OCEANIA		1	1	2
NORTH AMERICA		1		1
CENTRAL/SOUTH AMERICA	1	1		2
			TOTAL	10

The number of ITF certified officials as of June 2018 is 1438. The badge distribution per region can be found below, considering some officials hold multiple certifications:

REGION/BADGE	GREEN	WHITE	BRONZE	SILVER	GOLD	TOTAL
EUROPE	0	583	88	137	100	908
ASIA	0	258	26	23	12	319
OCEANIA	1	40	7	11	11	70
AFRICA	38	134	15	14	4	205
NORTH AMERICA (USA+CAN)	0	85	26	26	43	180
CENTRAL AMERICA	10	44	1	3	1	59
SOUTH AMERICA	28	88	23	18	11	168
TOTALS	77	1232	186	232	182	

Since the Certification Programme was created in 2012, the total number of Green Badge officials now stands at 77; just slightly over 50% of these officials are from Central and South American Spanish-speaking countries and the remainder are from French-speaking countries in Africa.

Refresher and National School Seminars

In line with the ITF2024, in order to aid in the development of officials worldwide, numerous National Level Schools & training seminars have been held in cooperation with National Associations and hosted by ITF Regional Officiating Officers. A total of 12 National Schools have taken place so far this year; hosting countries include, Israel, Cambodia, Nigeria and China.

A National Level School was held in Hanoi (VIE) following a Davis Cup by BNP Paribas Zone Group III event in April, the first conducted in the country since 2013 with a positive turnout of 33 attendees. To support the continued improvement of both upcoming and currently certified officials, more national schools and refresher courses are expected to be planned for the remainder of 2018.

A Mid-Year Officiating update will be held again this year during The Championships, Wimbledon.

ITF Officiating Portal / ITF Officiating Education

Continuing with the procedure from last year and following ITF2024, all certified and non-certified officials working at ITF Pro Circuit events, are obliged to watch and understand the Tennis Integrity Protection Programme and agree to the Code of Conduct for Officials, Anti-Doping and Anti-Corruption regulations. National Officiating Managers are also granted access to the ITF Officiating Portal and must agree to the same.

The ITF Officiating team implemented the new version of the Officiating portal, which was launched at the beginning of 2018. The new ITF Officiating Portal was developed to enable officials to access the website on their phones and tablets. In addition it is more user friendly and offers various new features.

The ITF Officiating Education portal continues to grow and includes a wealth of information to educate officials, including the latest rule changes and procedure updates as well as various tests and courses. The portal has become an integral communication tool for officials of all levels.

The 2018 Open Book Test was made available for officials to submit their answers via the ITF Officiating Education portal in March. The pass rate for the 2018 Open Book Test was set to 8 for all International officials by the members of the Joint Certification Programme; White and Green Badges were required to achieve a minimum of 7 correct answers.

An impressive 97.14% reached a pass rate of eight and higher (compared to 91.65% in 2017) and of those, 75.99% of all officials achieved a maximum pass rate of ten. 1.74% scored seven points (compared to 4.24% in 2017).

Line Umpire Programme – Tokyo 2020

During the Japan Open in October 2017, the Line Umpire Programme was launched for the Summer Olympics, Tokyo 2020.

Representatives from the ITF Officiating Department travelled to the ITF Men's Pro Circuit tournament in Tsukuba, Japan in March 2018. The aim of the trip was to conduct meetings and training sessions to increase the number of officials working in Japan. The representatives met with the members of the JTA Executive Board and the Technical Delegate for Tokyo 2020, to discuss the training programme and the way forward to Tokyo 2020. Additional meetings were held with the Tokyo 2020 Sport Manager for Tennis and the Project Team.

During the tournament week, the Line Umpires and Chair Umpires were given the opportunity to partake in a training session in cooperation with the JTA Officiating Committee.

The number of officials selected to work for the Olympics will be approximately 150, with 50% of these officials coming from Japan. The number of Japanese Officials selected for the Paralympics will be approximately 55. With these numbers in mind it was decided that there is a need to recruit more officials from Japan.

A Bronze Badge Chair Umpire from Brazil lead a Line Umpire training project in May 2018 in cooperation with the ITF and JTA, during an ITF Women's Pro Circuit event in Gifu, Japan. The primary objective was for the Brazilian official to share his skills and experience of the 2016 Olympic Games in Rio to the 54 Japanese Line Umpires, through presentations and practical demonstrations. Similar training sessions will be ongoing in Japan in preparation for the upcoming Games.

2018 Youth Olympic Games

The Youth Olympic Games officials' selections have been announced. 12 Chair Umpires have been selected; 7 from the South & Central American regions, 2 from Europe and 1 each from the Oceanic, African and Asian regions. The Referee is from Europe and both the Assistant Referee and Tournament Control are from South America. 50 Line Umpires selected from Argentina will work the event.

DEVELOPMENT

Events

Following the success of last year's regional 12 & under Team Competitions, qualifying events for this year's edition have been held during the first half of the year in Asia, Africa, Central America and the Caribbean, South America and the Pacific. The best teams qualify to play in their respective regional 12 & under Team Competition finals that are held later in the year. These events further support the transition of young players from Tennis10s to national competitions and from these to ITF Junior Team Competitions.

In January, the ITF Asian 14 & under Development Championships - Division 2 took place in Hanoi, Vietnam. The top eight boys and top six girls from the Division 2 Championships qualified to play in the ITF Asian 14 & under Development Championships - Division 1 which was held in Thailand in May.

The finals of the 41st edition of the African Junior Championships (AJC) were played across three countries during March and April. The 18 & under and 14 & under finals were hosted by Morocco and South Africa respectively in March; while Tunisia played host to the 16 & under final in April. Players from West & Central Africa, Southern Africa and East Africa competed in zonal championships in January to qualify for a place in the African Junior Championships finals.

The inaugural Pacific Nations Cup took place at the National Training Centre in Lautoka, Fiji from 31 May-5 June. The event, the first of its kind worldwide, gave players from 15 nations with Class C membership from the region the opportunity to compete in high-level competition in the same format as the Davis Cup and Fed Cup by BNP Paribas.

Facilities

The National Training Centre ITF Recognition Programme, which launched in April, has been well received by the nations. Belarus, Belgium and France have already submitted applications and a number of other National Associations (NAs) are intending to apply for the programme. The aim of the programme is to increase the standards of National Training Centres (NTCs) around the world, and give NTCs under the control of NAs the chance to receive ITF recognition which is set at three different levels: Gold, Silver and Bronze status. The NTC Network Programme aims to support 20 less mature tennis nations to improve their NTCs in 2018 so that in future they can apply for ITF bronze recognition.

In May, the ITF Facility Grant Committee awarded a total of \$352,000 in facility grants to nine National Associations to establish new National Training Centres, or to maintain/extend existing facilities as part of the ITF's Facility Grant Programme.

Coaching

The ITF (online) Academy is on track and planned to be rolled out in the following phases: Phase 1 Information/Education by December 2018; Phase 2 Certification in 2019; Phase 3 Managed Continuous Professional Development 2020 and Phase 4 Recognition of Prior Learning, Self-Assessment and further linked apps in 2021. The Information/Education phase will include the migration of Tennis iCoach to the new platform and the launch of two short courses by December 2018.

More than 30 new resources for English and Spanish language users have been published on Tennis iCoach so far in 2018. New content includes presentations from the 2017 ITF Worldwide Coaches Conference and new tennis specific research articles published in the ITF Coaching & Sport Science Review. The 74th issue of ITF Coaching and Sport Science Review was published in April 2018. ITF Regional Coaches Conferences by BNP Paribas are confirmed for 2018 and will take place in the following eight countries: Botswana, Brazil, Egypt, France, Hong Kong, Panama, Qatar and

Trinidad & Tobago. The headline themes for the conferences are linked to Female Tennis and Schools Tennis. Some headline speakers already confirmed include world renowned biomechanics expert, Bruce Elliot (AUS), Jo Ward (GBR) female player development expert and former professional player and Carl Maes (BEL), former coach of Kim Clijsters.

During the ITF Coaches Commission meeting held in June 2018, a new level of Recognition of Coach Education Systems (RCES) was approved. The new White level will be awarded to nations that are self-sufficient at delivering Play Tennis or equivalent at national level. At the time of writing, 17 nations had been recognised at Gold level, four at the Silver level and six at Bronze level. Applications are open for all levels of recognition.

New content was loaded onto the ITF ebooks app (available on iOS and Android) throughout 2018. There are currently over 82 publications available on the app in the following languages: English 34, Spanish 19, French 15, Russian eight and Chinese six.

At the time of writing the 2019 ITF Worldwide Coaches Conference by BNP Paribas is set to take place in Thailand, with the host city to be confirmed.

Programmes

Participation

ITF Rating System project

The ITF Rating system is one of the ITF key strategic projects for 2018. The purpose of the ITF Rating system is to 'deliver a user-friendly and inclusive rating system that will determine a player's ability level and can be applied to recreational and competitive tournament structures worldwide'. The ITF rating system will be a global social network that will connect people worldwide through tennis.

A formal tender process began in June with various digital solution providers for the different deliverables identified within the ITF Rating system. A Project Manager and Data Scientist have been appointed to work on the ITF Rating system. A workshop will be held during the ITF AGM and Conference in Orlando to highlight the strategy of the ITF Rating system and to inform all National Associations.

ITF Worldwide Participation Conference 2018

The inaugural ITF Worldwide Participation Conference was held at Chelsea Football Club's Stamford Bridge stadium in London on Sunday 8 and Monday 9 July 2018. Over 150 key strategic decision makers from over 60 National Associations attended the 'TED talk' style event and experienced a total of 28 presentations across a variety of different topics. Topics included utilising data and measuring insight; the health benefits of participating in physical activity and sport; how can we attract more women to sport; strategies for attracting more people to tennis and how technology can assist in driving participation.

Junior Tennis Initiative

In 2018, a total of 10,790 rackets / bats and 160,248 balls has been distributed to 107 National Associations, as part of the Junior Tennis Initiative (JTI). A total of 212,753 unique players (108,951 males & 103,802 females) participated in tennis sessions according to the 2017 JTI report form statistics, collated in January 2018, with 174,433 entries in organised Tennis10s competitions. 1,625 school teachers and 1,208 coaches delivered JTI activities. A total of 369 players from the JTI have held an ITF Junior Ranking since 2013.

Global Participation Study & Online National Association Development Plan (the Plan)

In July 2018, the Development department presented the updated findings from the 2016 Global Participation Report following updated data submission from National Associations through the online Plan, providing an overview of the aggregated statistics during the ITF Worldwide Participation Conference in London. An updated and customised participation snapshot was shared with each of

the contributing 190 National Associations. The purpose of this study was to better understand the landscape of tennis participation worldwide using data provided in a specific participation study, which was verified against the data supplied through the National Association Development Plan. This will assist the Development department to contribute to the delivery of the ITF2024 strategy and ensure that the member NAs are supported to increase their numbers and standard of tennis players in the best possible way.

Review of the ITF Tennis Play and Stay campaign

A thorough review of the ITF Tennis Play and Stay campaign was completed in January 2018 by Dr Tim Buszard, a researcher from the Institute of Sport, Exercise & Active Living at Victoria University in Australia. The research evaluated the impact of the ITF Tennis Play and Stay campaign on the tennis community across the world since its inception in 2017. The review will be published in two forms: 1) a printed publication produced by the ITF and by Victoria University for distribution to key stakeholders; 2) a peer review article titled 'Does the perceived success of the ITF Tennis Play and Stay campaign differ between key stakeholders?' within an academic journal.

Some of the key findings of the review include:

- The campaign increased participation, with more coaches and more venues delivering the ITF Tennis10s programme (10-and-under tennis);
- The availability of the slower / lower compression balls has increased with demand, positively linked to the 10-and-under rule change implemented in 2012;
- Coaching behaviour has changed significantly since the campaign was launched, notably with preparing players for 10-and-under competition;
- Invest more in coach education to improve a coach's understanding of how to incorporate game-play when teaching tennis with modified equipment;
- Coloured balls (red, orange, green) and smaller courts are not merely a pathway to full size conditions, but instead modified tennis can be used by any age and any skill level;
- A global rating system would be beneficial for tennis as well as providing software to National Associations so that they can (a) track participation data, and (b) disseminate information to consumers (players) and deliverers (coaches) efficiently.

The next step is for the ITF to consider the above recommendations in order to set priorities that will support the 2017-2020 Development strategy and can be sustained during 2018 and beyond.

Performance

In January, International Player Grand Slam grants were awarded to 15 female players and 14 male players from 20 nations. The International Player Grand Slam Grant Programme, which is administered by the ITF on behalf of the Grand Slam Board, aims to have more nations and players represented in mainstream international competition.

Fifteen players from 13 countries were selected to receive the first ever ITF International Junior Player Grants. The new programme will provide total funding in 2018 of \$325,000 to selected players from around the world as a contribution towards their competition-related costs with the aim of helping them make the transition from the junior game to the professional circuit.

An International 18 & under GSDF Team to Australia was announced at the start of the year, which involved a three-week tour including a Training Camp before the AGL Loy Yang Traralgon Junior International and Australian Open Junior Championships. The nine-strong team of players were part of the first trip to the opening major of the year for a Grand Slam Development Funded team since 2007.

The GSDF International US College teams will participate in a three-week tour on the women's side and a four-week tour on the men's side in July and August. This programme was launched in 2017 and aims to assist top college players who intend to play professionally after finishing college.

Three 14 & under GSDF Regional Teams representing Africa, South America and Asia will participate in a European tour during July and August. The teams will travel to Paris for a training camp followed by tournaments in France, the Netherlands, Germany and Belgium. The players that have qualified for the World Junior Tennis Finals in Czech Republic will go there in the final week. A European 14 & under team will join the three teams in Germany.

The International 18 & under A and B GSDF Teams played a series of European tournaments in Italy, Belgium and France during May and June. The A Team continued on to England for Roehampton and Junior Wimbledon while the B Team finished their tour at Roland Garros. Across the two teams, 17 players from 14 countries benefitted from being part of the touring team programme which is funded by the four Grand Slam tournaments.

In November the first International 14 & under GSDF Team to Eddie Herr and Orange Bowl will be launched. The team will consist of the top six boys and six girls from each of our six regions.

SCIENCE & TECHNICAL

Upholding the highest levels of integrity, governance and transparency is a strategic priority of the ITF2024 plan. To contribute to this aim, the Science and Technical department's objectives are to make the sport both safe and fair, by protecting the nature of the game, encouraging innovation and improvements, reducing the risk of injury and illness, and identifying and promoting the health benefits of tennis.

The department's annual State of the Game report (appended) helps to protect the nature of tennis by identifying and analysing the factors that define the essence of the sport, and, where necessary, using that information to propose policy/rule changes. Its certification programmes and regulatory testing (such as court pace measurement in ITF team competitions) also help to protect the nature of tennis while encouraging innovation and improvements in the sport, by enabling the development and use of new products. To make the sport safer, the department coordinates research to produce evidence-based regulations and guidelines concerning sport science and medical aspects of the game.

ITF Approval, Classification and Recognition Programmes

Ball approval testing for 2018 began on 1 June 2017. At the time of writing, a total of 287 brands have been approved for use in play under the Rules of Tennis, which includes 94 Stage 1, 2 and 3 brands. The ITF Court Pace Classification Programme (CPCP) includes 345 court surface products and ITF Recognition stands at 75 Two-Star and 37 One-Star courts worldwide. The historical trends in the three programmes are shown in figures 1, 2 and 3.

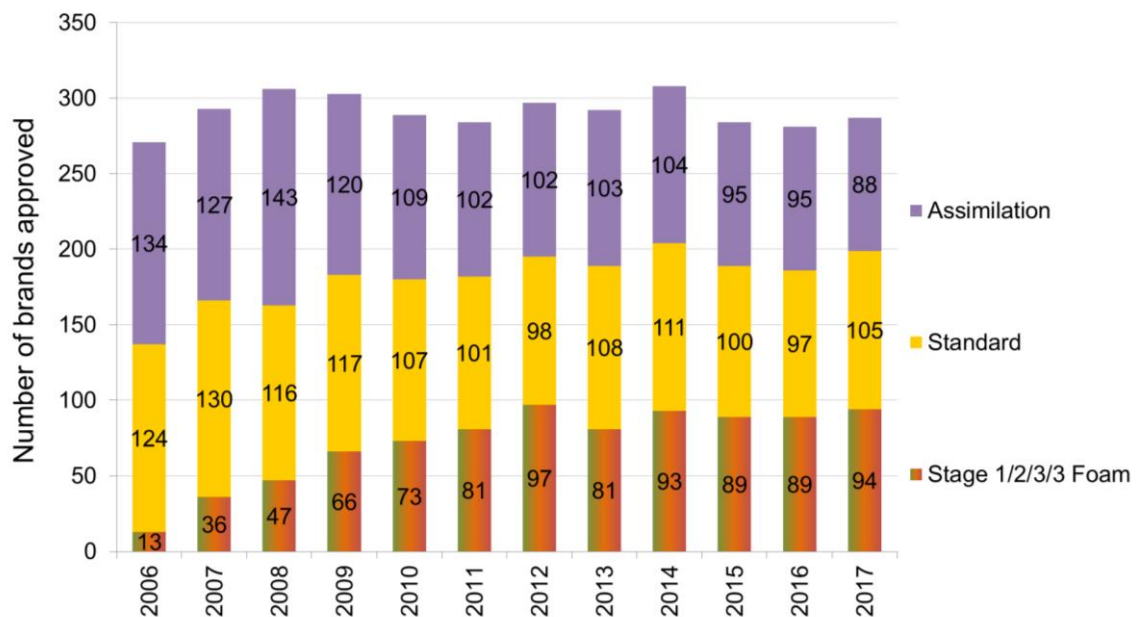


Figure 1. Number and type of ball brands that obtained ITF Approval since 2006. Year refers to the test year (i.e. 2017 = balls tested in 2017 for 2018 Approval).

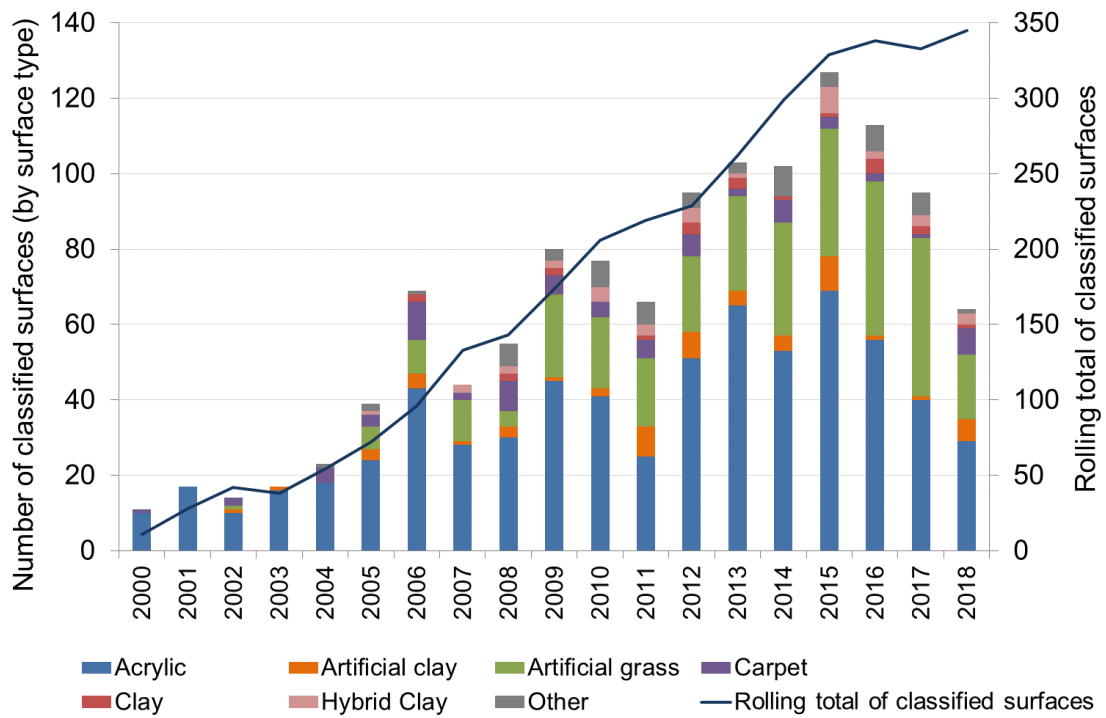


Figure 2. The number of classified surfaces by surface type (columns) and the rolling total of classified surfaces (line) since the beginning of the classification programme. Data for each year recorded at the year-end (except current year).

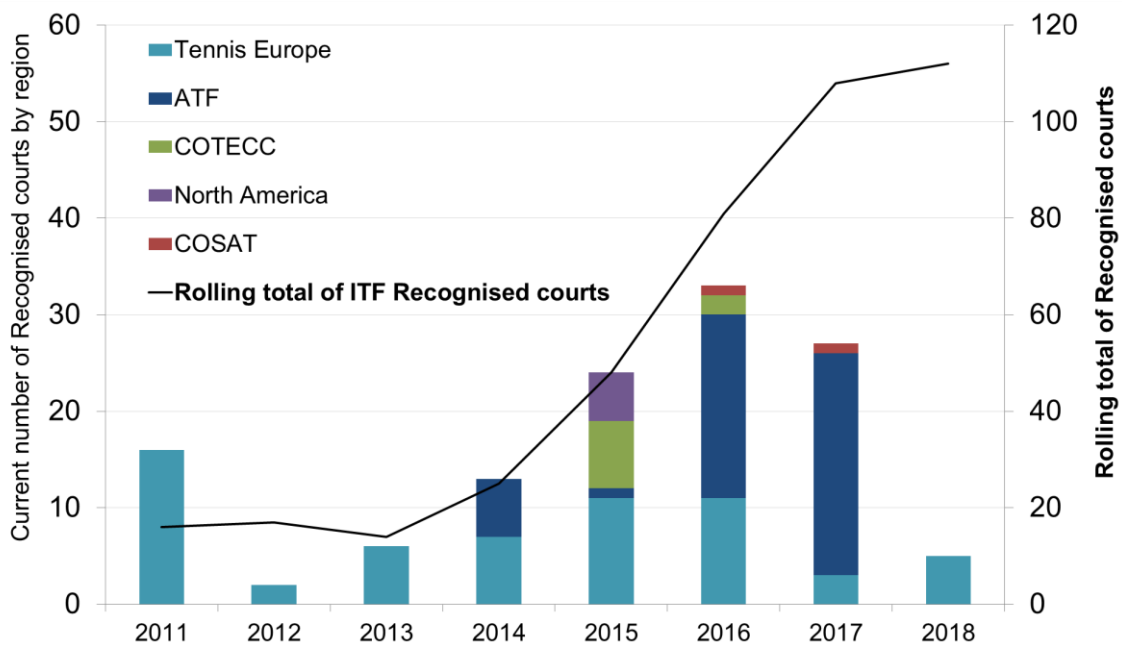


Figure 3. Number of ITF Recognised courts by location (Regional Association) each year since the start of the programme. Data for each year recorded at the year-end (except current year).

ITF Technical Centre

There are currently 20 ITF Approved Player Analysis Technology (PAT) products available for players and tournament organisers to use in matches played under the Rules of Tennis.

Court pace and Hawk-Eye testing in the first two rounds of the Fed Cup and Davis Cup by BNP Paribas has been carried out in Australia, Belarus, Belgium, Canada, France, Japan, Kazakhstan, Slovakia and USA (a total of 15 ties so far).

The Technical Centre successfully transitioned to the new ISO 9001:2015 quality management system following its audit by the British Standards Institute in February.

The first meeting of the Technical Commission took place in April. The strategic priorities of the Commission were discussed, namely: promoting the use of technology (through more widespread use of player analysis technology and line-calling systems); adding surface durability and shoe-surface friction tests to the ITF certification programme; and enhancing the State of the Game report.

The annual ITF Foundation meetings with the racket, ball and court surface manufacturers will be held in July.

Sport Science & Medicine

The first meeting of the Sport Science & Medicine Commission took place in May. The development of an injury surveillance system to capture the distribution and determinants of medical conditions in the game was a key discussion topic. This system will be an online resource to record athlete injuries and illnesses against their playing exposure (e.g. number of matches) and playing environment. A new version of the *ITF Guide to Recommended Health Care Standards* was also finalised. This document, available on the ITF website, provides tournament organisers with the necessary information to implement health care standards. The new version recommends that all tournaments should have an automatic external defibrillator (AED) on-site.

2017 State of the Games

In order to fulfil its mission of protecting the nature of tennis and encouraging innovation and improvements, the ITF Technical Centre quantifies the parameters that describe the essence of the sport at the elite level, and thus constitute 'the state of the game'. This annual report aims to establish how players, their equipment and the interaction between them are changing over time, to analyse the impact of these changes on the game and to contemplate the merits of any necessary counter-measures.

The following four metrics are believed to be key characteristics of the game that appeal to spectators and influence players' satisfaction and enjoyment:

- Point length is measured by the number of shots in a point. A match that consists mainly of very short points is undesirable as it reduces the game to a 'shoot out'. Conversely, a match that consists of too many very long points can become tedious. Point length is dependent on serve dominance, the players' (relative) ability and tactics, and ball speed.
- Point quality is defined by the 'style' of play, which includes the location of the players on the court (i.e. proximity to the net or baseline and sidelines), shot selection and frequency of winners and errors¹.
- Set length is measured by the number of points in a set, and is dependent on the number of points in a game and games in a set. If the serve is dominant, then points and games will be short but there will tend to be more games in the set since neither player can break serve. If one player is significantly superior, both the games and sets will be short.

¹ Analysis of point quality is under development, and will feature in future reports.

- Set quality is determined by the proportion of important points in the set (i.e. those points that strongly affect the outcome of the match). For example, break points are typically important points. Hence, set quality is also dependent on serve dominance and the relative ability of the players.

Serve Dominance

The returnability of a serve is in large part dependent on its speed. The faster the serve, the less time the receiver has to respond. Figures 1 and 2 show the distributions of serve speeds for first serves that were returned and those that were winners for women and men respectively. In both cases, winners were typically faster than returned serves. Figure 1 shows the average (mean) speed of an unreturned first serve for women was $166 \text{ km}\cdot\text{h}^{-1}$, compared to an average of $155 \text{ km}\cdot\text{h}^{-1}$ for returned serves. Figure 2 shows the average speed of an unreturned first serve for men was $191 \text{ km}\cdot\text{h}^{-1}$, compared to an average of $183 \text{ km}\cdot\text{h}^{-1}$ for returned serves.

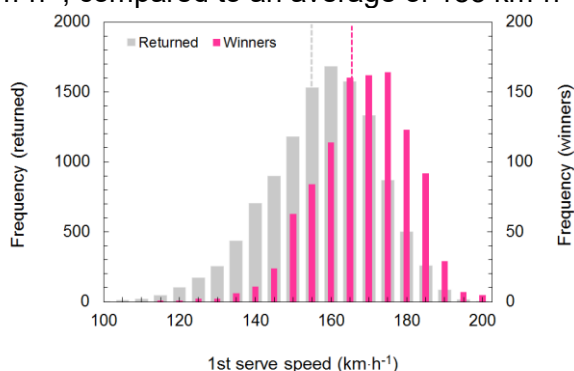


Figure 1. Distribution of first serve speeds for women's serves that were returned (grey) and winners (pink) for selected Fed Cup ties since 2012. Dashed lines indicate mean values.

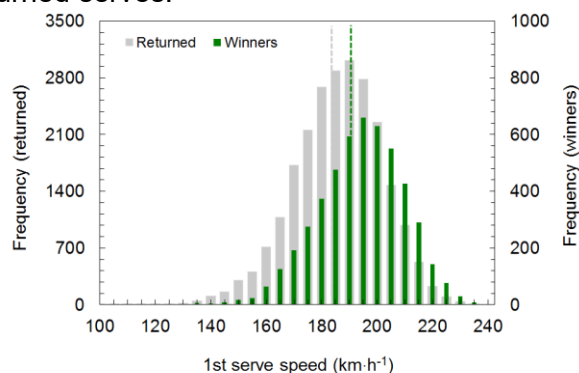


Figure 2. Distribution of first serve speeds for men's serves that were returned (grey) and winners (green) for selected Davis Cup ties since 2012. Dashed lines indicate mean values.

Player analysis

Figure 3 shows a positive correlation between the height of men and their first serve speed, and a similar (though weaker) correlation for women. The gradients of the trendlines for men and women are similar, so the effect of increasing height is the same for both genders. The average speed of an unreturned first serve for men ($191 \text{ km}\cdot\text{h}^{-1}$) corresponds to a height of approximately 195 cm. The equivalent height for women is approximately 187 cm (for a serve at $166 \text{ km}\cdot\text{h}^{-1}$). For a given height, women served about $20 \text{ km}\cdot\text{h}^{-1}$ slower than men, suggesting that there are factors other than height that contribute to the difference in serve speed between the two genders. Figure 4 shows a non-linear (second-order) relationship between ace rates for men and women and their height. Taller players typically have a greater arm span, which produces a higher racket head speed (for a constant swing speed), and hence a faster serve. Furthermore, taller players are able to serve with a steeper trajectory and, therefore, with a greater margin for error in serve placement, which helps to keep faster serves 'in'. The additional speed and placement tolerance could explain why taller players served increasingly more aces. On average, players above 198 cm served at least one ace every 10 serves, compared to less than one ace every 20 serves for players under 182 cm.

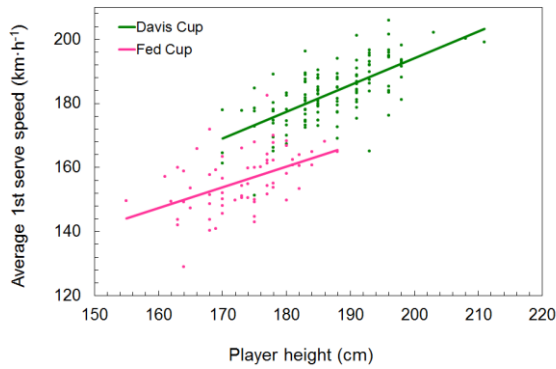


Figure 3. Average first serve speeds for women (pink) and men (green) in selected Fed Cup and Davis Cup ties (since 2012) against height.

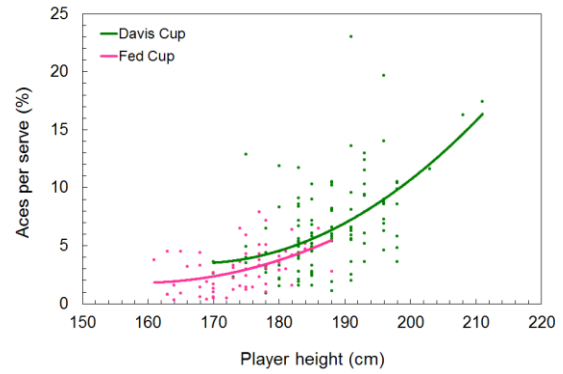


Figure 4. Percentage of aces per serve for women (pink) and men (green) in selected Fed Cup and Davis Cup ties (since 2012) against height.

Figure 5 shows a positive relationship between the percentage of first serve points won and the height for men. The relationship is mirrored (though weaker) for women (and 'offset', meaning servers do not win as many points in the women's game). Figure 6 shows the relationship between second serve points won by women and their height is weak. The relationship for men however is negative, meaning taller players tend to win fewer points on their second serve than their shorter counterparts.

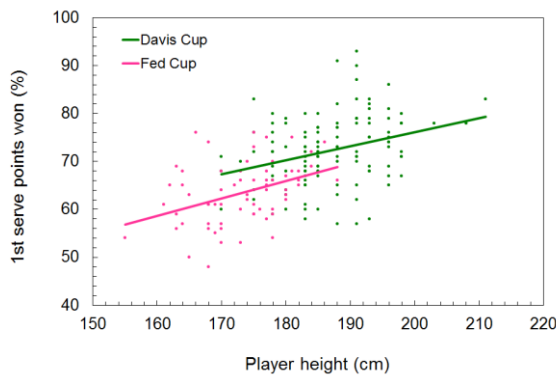


Figure 5. Percentage of first serve points won by women (pink) and men (green) in selected Fed Cup and Davis Cup ties (since 2012) against height.

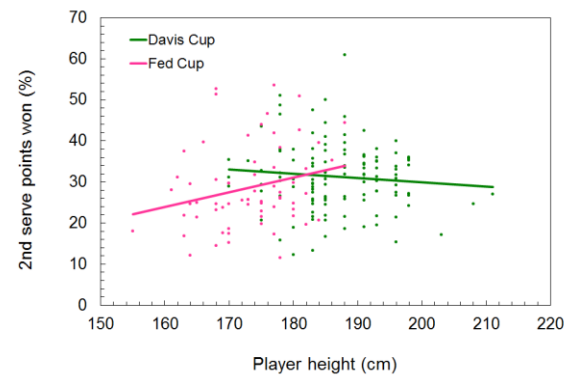


Figure 6. Percentage of second serve points won by women (pink) and men (green) in selected Fed Cup and Davis Cup ties (since 2012) against height.

Figure 7 shows that the average heights of the top 50 women and men have increased since 2002, by 2 cm and 3 cm respectively. This increase in the average height of the men was due to the number of players over 200 cm tall that are currently active (prior to 2007 there were none) and a general increase in height across all 50 players (see figure 8). In 2002, women in the top 50 were 12 cm shorter, on average, than their male counterparts. This difference has remained reasonably consistent and is now 13 cm. The tallest woman in the current top 50 is 3 cm shorter than the average height of the top 50 men (188 cm).

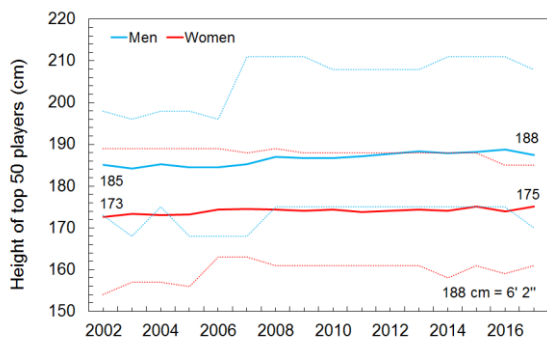


Figure 7. Average height of the top 50 women (red) and men (blue). Dotted lines indicate maximum and minimum values.

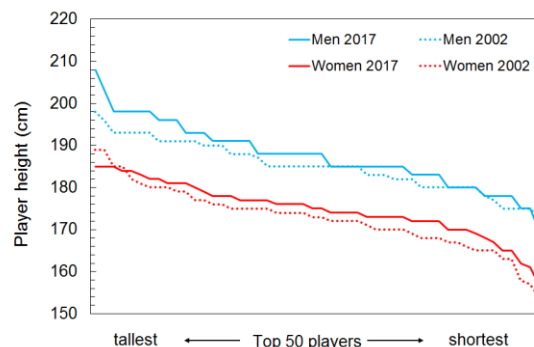


Figure 8. Individual heights of the top 50 women (red) and men (blue) in 2002 and 2017.

Being taller is clearly an advantage for the server. Based on the relationship between first serve speed and height, the average 3 cm increase in height over the past 15 years has arguably contributed to an increase in serve speed of around $3 \text{ km}\cdot\text{h}^{-1}$. Figures 1 and 2 indicate that an increase in first serve speed of around $10 \text{ km}\cdot\text{h}^{-1}$ is sufficient to make the serve substantially harder to return. At the current rate of growth, it could be several decades before height alone makes the speed of serves unreturnable. However, improvement in serving accuracy and technique, or deterioration in returning ability, could increase serve dominance at a faster rate.

Equipment analysis

Swingweight is a measure of the distribution of mass within the racket frame. A racket with a higher swingweight feels heavier to swing, but generates faster ball speed (provided that it can be swung as fast as a racket with a lower swingweight). Figure 9 does not reveal any clear relationship between first serve speed and racket swingweight. Nonetheless, for a given swingweight, women served about $30 \text{ km}\cdot\text{h}^{-1}$ slower than men.

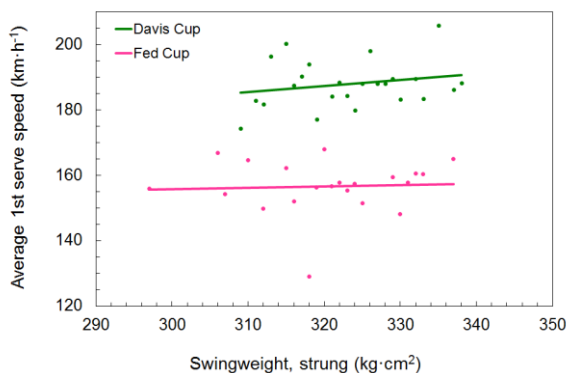


Figure 9. Average first serve speed for women (pink) and men (green) in selected Fed Cup and Davis Cup ties (since 2012) against swingweight.

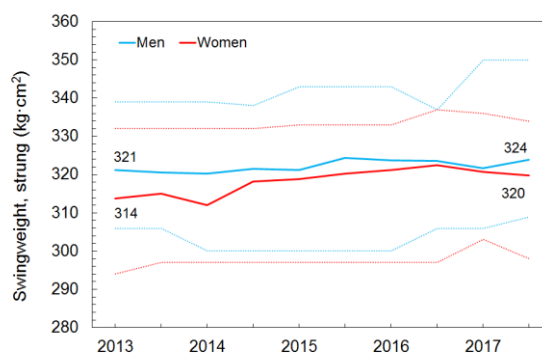


Figure 10. Average swingweight of rackets used by the top 50 women (red) and men (blue). Dotted lines indicate maximum and minimum values.

Figure 10 shows that the swingweight of rackets used by the top 50 men had been relatively stable up to last year, at which point the heaviest racket increased by more than $10 \text{ kg}\cdot\text{cm}^2$. The average swingweight of rackets used by the top 50 women tended to be lower than those used by men, but now there is very little difference between the averages for the two genders. Equipment appears to have had a minimal effect on serve dominance, based on the data presented.

Longitudinal analysis

Figure 11 shows that, with the exception of the US Open, the incidence of aces has gradually been increasing since 2002 at the Grand Slams. The ace rates at Wimbledon have been roughly double those at Roland Garros. This demonstrates the influence of the speed of the court, as grass has the

highest court pace rating (CPR) of the Grand Slam surfaces and clay the lowest. Throughout the period analysed, men served aces at twice the rate of women.

Analysis of serve speeds at the Grand Slam events shows that the fastest serves of the top 20 fastest-serving men and women have increased since 2002 (see figure 12). However, most of this increase was between 2002 and 2005. Over the past decade, the top 20 fastest serving men served, on average, at 220 km·h⁻¹ and the women at 185 km·h⁻¹. Figures 11 and 12 suggest that the increase in stature in the women's and men's game has not greatly impacted the speed of serve, but may have influenced the numbers of aces (as the additional height could have been used to improve the placement of the serve).

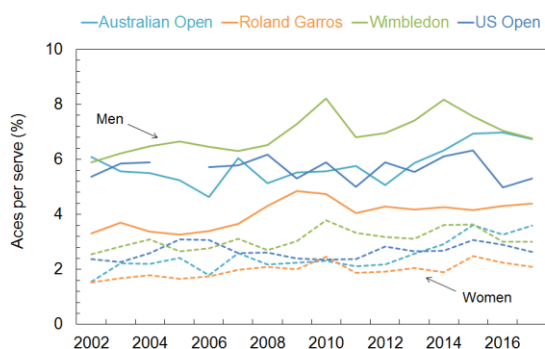


Figure 11. Percentage of aces per serve in Grand Slam singles.

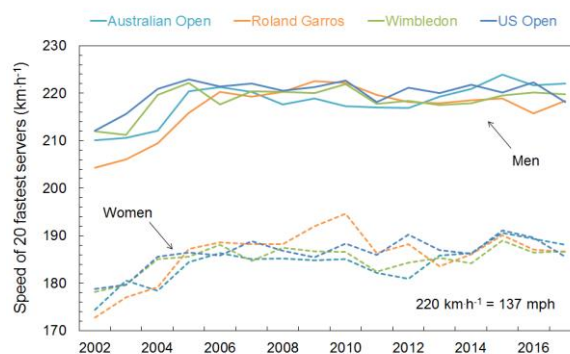


Figure 12. Average serve speed for the fastest 20 servers in Grand Slam singles.

Figure 13 shows that the serve has been most influential at Wimbledon. Remarkably, although the aces served at Roland Garros were less frequent (figure 11), the serve points won have been comparable to those at both the Australian Open and US Open since 2006. Figure 14 shows the percentage of games broken over time, the decreasing trend in which is largely the inverse of serve points won. The serve has been less dominant in the women's game than it has been in the men's game. In the past 10 years, the average percentage of games broken in men's matches has been less than 25% at all of the Grand Slams and below 20% at Wimbledon.

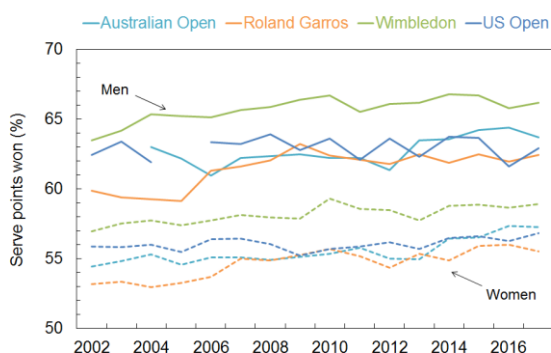


Figure 13. Percentage of points won on serve in Grand Slam singles.

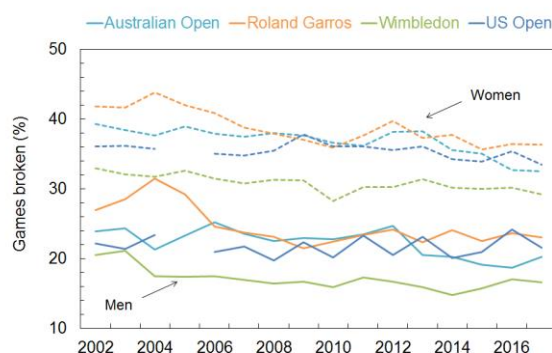


Figure 14. Percentage of games broken in Grand Slam singles.

In general, the server's advantage has been gradually increasing across all four Grand Slams and for both genders. Differences between the surfaces used at the Grand Slams show that court pace influences serve dominance, at least in some circumstances. Thus, the CPR of courts and its effect on serve dominance must be monitored. The most direct way in which this could be controlled (if necessary) would be to regulate CPR.

Match Length

Point length

Figures 15 and 16 show that, when serving, taller players (defined as the tallest 25% of players in each gender) tend to play more 'short' points (less than four shots) and fewer 'long' points (more than eight shots) than shorter players (the shortest 25% of players). Furthermore, men played comparatively more short points than women. In conjunction with figure 5, this suggests that point length is also influenced by serve dominance.

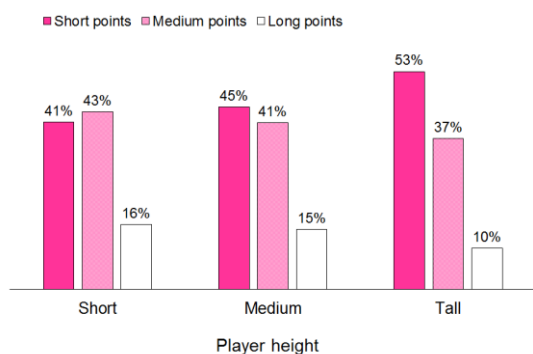


Figure 15. Percentage of short (less than 4 shots), medium (4-8 shots) and long (more than 8 shots) points played by women in selected ties in the Fed Cup (since 2012) by height quartiles.

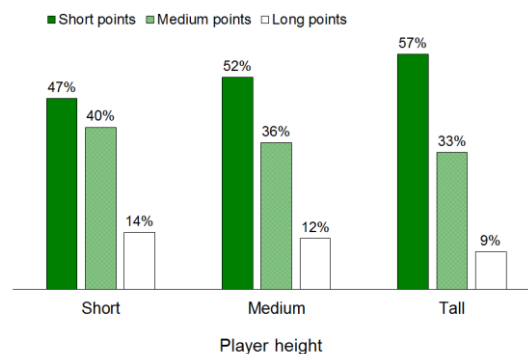


Figure 16. Percentage of short (less than 4 shots), medium (4-8 shots) and long (more than 8 shots) points played by men in selected ties in the Davis Cup (since 2012) by height quartiles.

Set length

Figure 17 shows a negative relationship between points per game and serve points won for both men and women. Meanwhile, figure 18 shows a positive relationship between games per set and serve points won. The product of points per game and games per set gives the set length. Since points per game decreased and games per set increased with serve points won, the set length for both women's and men's matches has been around 60 points at all of the Grand Slams for the past 15 years.

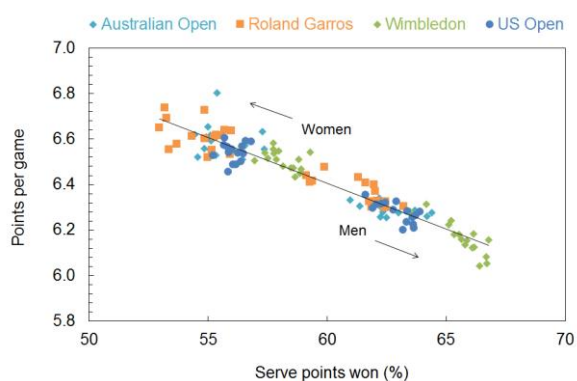


Figure 17. Points per game against percentage of points won on serve in Grand Slam singles.

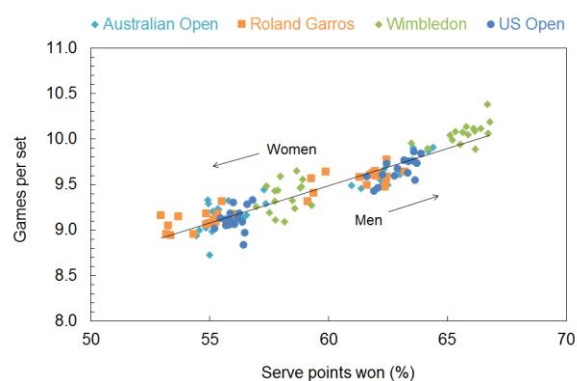


Figure 18. Games per set against percentage of points won on serve in Grand Slam singles.

The net effect of serve dominance on set length at the Grand Slam events over the past 15 years has been negligible as increased serve dominance has been associated with fewer points per game but more games per set.

Conclusion

Taller players are able to serve faster and typically win more points on their first serve than shorter players. They also tend to play a higher proportion of shorter points when serving. The dominance of the serve has been increasing over the past 15 years, as measured by ace rate, percentage of serve points won and frequency of games broken. This trend does not appreciably affect the length of matches, as measured by number of points, but does appear to shorten the length of the points themselves. Currently, the gradual rise of serve dominance does not demand counteraction, but equipment-based solutions such as slower courts are being prepared in the event that serve dominance becomes detrimental to the nature of the game.

TENNIS ANTI-DOPING PROGRAMME AND TENNIS ANTI-CORRUPTION PROGRAM

Tennis Anti-Doping Programme (the “Programme”)

The total number of samples collected under the Programme up to and including 2017 is shown in figure 1. The 2018 Programme came into effect on 1 January 2017. The Anti-Doping Working Group and Independent Review Board met in April to review the 2017 Programme and implementation of the 2018 Programme. At the time of writing, over 3,000 samples have been collected from around 80 events in 2018.

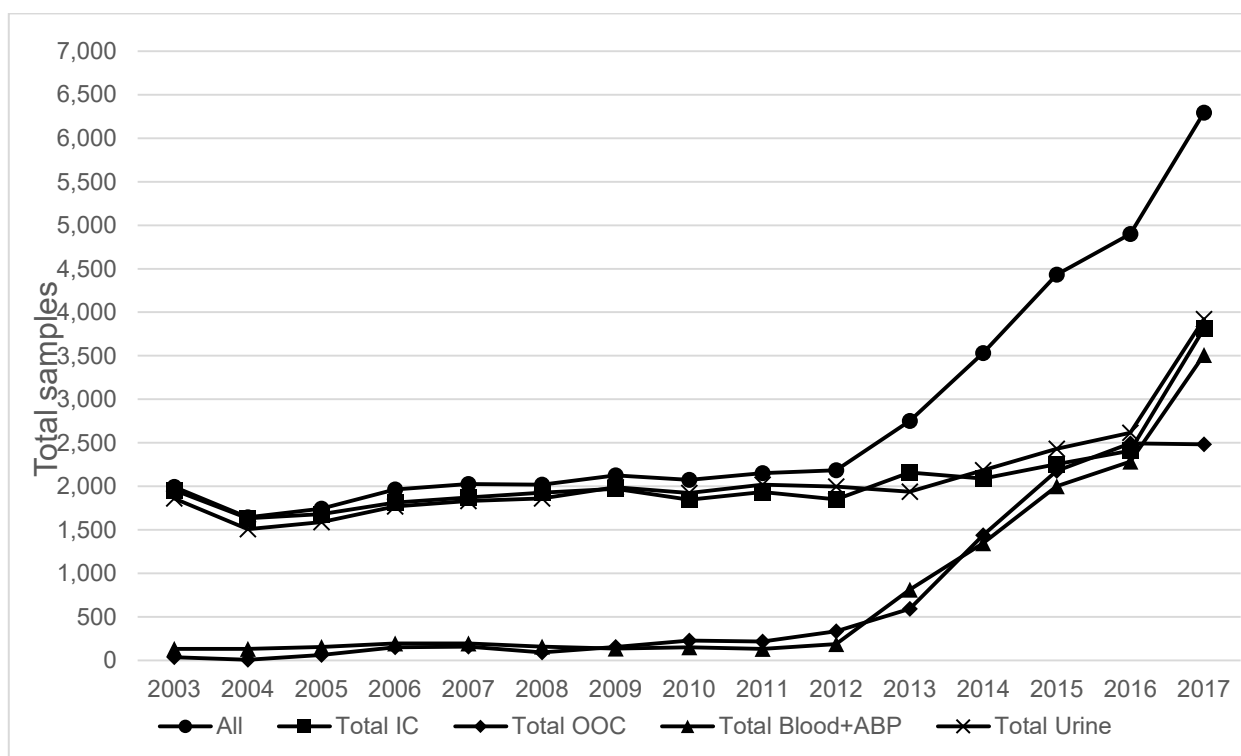


Figure 1. Samples collected under the Programme (1991-2017).

A total of 55 applications for Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE) have been made under the Programme to date in 2018, of which 47 have granted and 4 denied (4 decisions pending). On 1 January, the Programme introduced a new system for administering TUE applications that aims to (a) increase security of information processed in relation to TUE applications, (b) reduce the time taken to process TUE applications, and (c) provide players with feedback on the status of their applications, each of which has been achieved.

Anti-Doping Rule Violations

No decisions under the 2018 Programme have been announced at the time of writing.

Education

A total of 1,174 players have completed the ITF Knowledge integrity education module and 1,840 have downloaded the Programme app to date.

World Anti-Doping Agency (“WADA”)

The Programme has been assessed for compliance by WADA under the new International Standard for Code Compliance. The expanded compliance requirements include testing, governance and education, including broader obligations on International Federations in relation to the oversight of compliance by National Associations. The Programme has met those requirements.

Tennis Anti-Corruption Program (the “Program”)

The Tennis Integrity Board met in both January and June to review the Program.

By comparison to the same period in 2017, the first quarter of 2018 was characterized by:

- a. An increase in betting alerts (the total representing 0.3% of the approximately 34,000 ‘bettable’ professional matches played during that period);
- b. A reduction in reported social media abuse;
- c. An increase in issues with ‘courtsiders’.

Education

The Program app has been downloaded 568 times in 2018, which the Tennis Integrity Protection Program has been completed by 3,154 players in 2018 to date.

Corruption Offenses

The following sanctions have been announced in 2018:

- a. Nicolas Kicker (ARG) has been suspended for six years (50% being suspended) and fined \$25,000 for contriving the outcome of an event, and failing to co-operate with a TIU investigation.
- b. Federico Coria (ARG) has been suspended for eight months and fined \$10,000 (50% of each being suspended), for failing to report corrupt approaches and failing to co-operate with a TIU investigation.
- c. Dmytro Badanov (UKR) has been banned for life and fined \$100,000 for contriving the outcome of events.
- d. Barlaham Zuluaga Gaviria (COL) has been suspended for 3 years and fined \$5,000 for failing to cooperate with a TIU investigation.

Independent Review Panel (“IRP”)

The IRP Interim Report published its Interim Report in April, with the Final Report due for publication in October. It is anticipated that the Tennis Anti-Doping Programme will be merged with the Tennis Anti-Corruption Program into a single independent integrity organisation.

INTEGRITY

Rules of Tennis

The Rules of Tennis Committee met in March and granted a temporary variation to Rule 29 (Continuous Play) to the Grand Slam Board to extend the time between points from 20 seconds to 25 seconds.

The Rules of Tennis Committee has continued to address its strategic priorities of reviewing Rule 30 (Coaching), the use of technology in tennis, engaging National Associations in the process of reviewing the Rules of Tennis and developing materials that will help make the Rules of Tennis more accessible.

ITF Constitution

The Constitutional Committee met in February and May. It reviewed a range of governance-related matters in pursuit of the ITF2024 objective to uphold the highest standards of integrity and governance. This has resulted in a number of amendments to the Constitution being proposed to the AGM in 2018. Clarification of the development criteria set out in Appendix C, which are used when considering applications for changes in share allocation, remains an objective of the Constitutional Committee.

Dispute Resolution

The revised dispute resolution process, which was approved by the AGM in 2016 and which commenced in 2017, continues to deal with a range of matters. Statistics of cases heard in 2017 under the revised dispute resolution process are shown in the table below:

	Davis Cup/Fed Cup	ITF Circuits
Internal Adjudication Panel		
Eligibility applications	29 (25 granted; 4 denied)	20 (19 granted; 1 denied)
Appeals of Entry Offences	N/A	29
Appeals of On-Site Offences	N/A	14
Welfare Offences	1	N/A
Other	22*	1**
Officiating (White/Green badge)	N/A	1
Independent Tribunal		
Major Offences	0	6 (5 agreed; 1 Tribunal)
Welfare Offences	N/A	1 (agreed)
Tournament Offences	N/A	0
Appeals of On-Site Offences	0	N/A
Appeals of IAP decisions	6 (3 upheld; 2 partially upheld; 1 rejected)	0
Other	1	0

* Nation withdrawal/failure to send a team;

** Rule interpretation request.

Safeguarding

The ITF began a review of its safeguarding provisions, which is being undertaken by external experts and which aims to set the highest standards of such provisions in sport, as part of the ITF2024 integrity objective to protect tennis' participants.

Good Governance

As recognised in the ITF2024 objectives, the ITF is committed to the highest levels of integrity, governance and transparency. In early 2018, the ITF took part in the second edition of the Association of Summer Olympic International Federations (ASOIF) governance assessment. The ITF's score raised it into the top 5 of all 28 summer International Federations, which is positive recognition that the ITF is not only already meeting many of the accepted standards of good governance, but striving to improve its standing in this area. Areas in which the ITF can further improve its performance in the future are being considered.

Data Protection

As an organisation based in Europe, the ITF must comply with new European General Data Protection Regulation which came into effect on 25 May 2018. The ITF commenced work to audit its data protection procedures in 2017, and is currently updating policies and procedures in order to achieve compliance. Nations and players will be notified of relevant changes from time to time, and may be required to sign up to consent forms, notices, protocols or formal agreements in relation to the way the ITF handles individuals' personal data.