

# ITF SENIORS REGULATIONS 2020

## Summary of Key Rule Changes

The following pages provide a summary of the key changes to the 2020 ITF Seniors Regulations. These are not the regulations. The full Tour Regulations can be seen in the 'About Us' section at [www.ITFTennis.com](http://www.ITFTennis.com)

Changes made from the previous year (2019) are shown in underlined text.

### SECTION I

#### REGULATIONS FOR THE ORGANISATION OF SENIORS CIRCUIT TOURNAMENTS AND THE YOUNG SENIORS/SENIORS/SUPER-SENIORS WORLD INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

#### III. RULES OF THE CIRCUIT

##### 12. Tournament Application and Approval

c) All tournaments awarded ITF status will start at Grade 4 level in their first year on the Circuit. In exceptional cases, a new tournament may begin at Grade 2 or Grade 3 subject to approval of the ITF Seniors Committee. When considering whether an exception should be made, the Seniors Committee shall have regard to previous experience of the Tournament Organisers and/or Venue in hosting any ITF tournaments or events.

##### 14. Sanction Fees

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

Grade RC1	\$ <u>950</u>
Grade A	\$ <u>850</u>
Grade 1	\$ <u>750</u>
Grade RC2	\$ 680
Grade 2	\$ <u>500</u>
Grade C2	\$ 410
Grade 3	\$ <u>375</u>
Grade C3	\$ 330
Grade 4	\$ <u>250*</u>

\*The amount of \$250 shall only be charged if a Grade 4 Tournament has 100 or more players in the Tournament and/or 5+ age and gender events. Tournaments with less than 100 total players and who stage 4 or less age and gender events shall pay a

sanction fee of \$50 per age and gender that is staged. Approval to sanction a tournament on the ITF Seniors Circuit may be subject to conditions imposed by the ITF in its discretion.

### **18. Tournament Grading**

Tournaments shall be graded according to four factors:

1. A tournament's ITF Tournament Evaluation Score. This score is based on the combined ranking points of players playing in each event draw at the tournament in the previous 2 years;
2. Tournament Director Reports and Referee Reports submitted for the tournament in the previous year;
3. ITF Player Feedback Surveys from the previous year / previous year(s);
4. The need for global, regional and national spread of tournaments, in line with the ITF Seniors pyramid structure.

The ITF Seniors Department will review grading twice per year, either on application by the Tournament or of its own volition. The ITF will communicate the process and deadlines for submission of grading applications to National Associations in advance.

### **19. Method of Ranking**

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

Rankings are published each Monday and will include results from tournaments that have completed up to and including the previous Sunday. Tournaments that complete on Monday, based on local time zone, shall be processed for Rankings published the following week.

### **20. Allocation of Points**

World Individual Ranking points for singles, doubles and mixed doubles will be awarded as set out in the points table in Section I, Regulation 21 below.

- i) Points shall be awarded for main draw singles, doubles events, mixed doubles events and singles consolation events. Only at World Individual Championships, Grade RC1 and Grade A tournaments, will points be awarded in singles qualifying events.
- ii) A player will earn 1 ranking point if he/she plays and loses their first match in the main draw. A greater value of points will only be awarded to a player who has won at least one round in either the main draw or consolation draw. A

walkover will be counted as a match won. The player receiving the walkover will not receive points for the following round if they withdraw before playing the next match.

## 21. ITF Points Tables for Singles, Doubles and Mixed Doubles Rankings

The following points tables apply to all ITF Seniors' events from January 2020.

### a) Knock-out Events

Grade	World Championships	Grade RC1	Grade A	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4
Main Draw Winner	<u>1600</u>	<u>800</u>	<u>700</u>	<u>575</u>	<u>400</u>	<u>200</u>	<u>75</u>
Main Draw Runner-Up	<u>1100</u>	<u>575</u>	<u>500</u>	<u>400</u>	<u>280</u>	<u>140</u>	<u>50</u>
Main Draw Semi-finalist	<u>800</u>	<u>400</u>	<u>330</u>	<u>275</u>	<u>190</u>	<u>90</u>	<u>35</u>
Main Draw Quarter Finalist	<u>550</u>	<u>250</u>	<u>210</u>	<u>175</u>	<u>120</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>25</u>
Main Draw Loser in R16	<u>375</u>	<u>160</u>	<u>140</u>	<u>110</u>	<u>80</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>15</u>
Main Draw Loser in R32	<u>220</u>	<u>85</u>	<u>75</u>	<u>65</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>20</u>	-
Main Draw Loser in R64	<u>130</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>30</u>	-	-	-
Consolation Winner	<u>125</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>15</u>
Consolation Runner Up	<u>80</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>10</u>
Consolation Semi Finalist	<u>50</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>10</u>	-
Consolation Quarter Finalist	<u>30</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>10</u>	-	-	-	-

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

	World Championships	Grade RC1	Grade A
Qualifier	<u>80</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>25</u>
Loser in final round	<u>50</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>15</u>

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

b) Round Robin Events

Final Position	Grade						
	WC	RC1	A	1	2	3	4
1st	<u>1600</u>	<u>800</u>	<u>700</u>	<u>575</u>	<u>400</u>	<u>200</u>	<u>75</u>
2nd	<u>1100</u>	<u>575</u>	<u>500</u>	<u>400</u>	<u>280</u>	<u>140</u>	<u>50</u>
3rd & 4th	<u>800</u>	<u>400</u>	<u>330</u>	<u>275</u>	<u>190</u>	<u>90</u>	<u>35</u>
5 <sup>th</sup> & 6 <sup>th</sup> & 7 <sup>th</sup>	<u>550</u>	<u>250</u>	<u>210</u>	<u>175</u>	<u>120</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>25</u>

#### IV. TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS

##### 34. Draws

**- Normal Entry Deadline with Additional Entry on Site for Doubles (Tournament Type 1A):**

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

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

##### 39. Withdrawal of Seeds

If an unseeded player/pair withdraws, and there are no alternates, the highest seed remaining who has an opponent shall receive a bye. The previous opponent of the seeded player/pair will move to the line of the player/pair who has withdrawn.

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

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

<b><u>SINGLES</u></b>	<b><u>Best of 3 Tie Break Sets</u></b>	<b><u>2 Tie Break Sets &amp; 10-point Match-Tie Break</u></b>	<b><u>2 Short Sets &amp; 10-point Match-Tie Break</u></b>
<b><u>World Championships</u></b>	Permitted in all age groups except for 80-85 age groups.  <u>1 singles per day</u>	Permitted for 80-85 age groups only. <u>1 singles per day</u>	<u>Not Permitted</u>
<b><u>Grade RC, Grade A and Grade 1</u></b>	Permitted in all age groups except for 80-85 age groups.  <u>1 singles per day</u>	Permitted for 80-85 age groups only. <u>1 singles per day</u>  Not Permitted for 35-75 age groups with the exception of 35-45 age group events scheduled in 3 or less days. When used for 35-45 age groups, players may play up to 2 singles a day	<u>Not Permitted</u>
<b><u>Grade 2 and Grade 3</u></b>	Permitted in all age groups except for 80-85 age groups  <u>1 singles per day</u>	Permitted in all age groups <u>1 singles per day</u>  A maximum of 2 singles per day may be played in 35-60 age group events only	<u>Not Permitted</u>
<b><u>Grade 4</u></b>	Permitted in all age groups except for 80-85 age groups  <u>1 singles per day</u>	Permitted in all age groups <u>1 singles per day</u>  A maximum of 2 singles per day may be played in 35-60 age group events only	Permitted in 35-60 age groups only, where event is scheduled in 3 or less days  <u>Up to 2 singles per day</u>  A total of 3 singles per day may be scheduled in the 35-45 age groups if player has no doubles on same day

<b><u>DOUBLES</u></b>	<b><u>Best of 3 Tie Break Sets</u></b>	<b><u>2 Tie Break Sets &amp; 10-point Match-Tie Break</u></b>	<b><u>2 Short Sets &amp; 10-point Match-Tie Break</u></b>
<b><u>Grade RC, Grade A &amp; Grade 1</u></b>	<u>Permitted in all age groups except 80-85</u> <u>Up to 2 doubles per day</u>	<u>Permitted in all age groups</u> <u>Up to 2 doubles per day</u> <u>Players may only play 1 doubles if they have played 2 singles on the same day</u>	<u>Not Permitted</u> <u>However, tournaments may apply for exception with ITF if there is limited court space</u>
<b><u>Grade 2 to Grade 4</u></b>	<u>Permitted in all age groups except 80-85</u> <u>Up to 2 doubles per day</u>	<u>Permitted in all age groups</u> <u>Up to 2 doubles per day</u> <u>Players may only play 1 doubles if they have played 2 singles on the same day</u>	<u>Permitted in all age groups</u> <u>Up to 2 doubles per day</u> <u>3 doubles matches may be played on the same day in the 35-60 age groups if no singles on the same day</u>

A shorter scoring format option amongst the scoring format options outlined above may be used in qualifying events, singles consolation events or where there is inclement weather that heavily affects Main Draw scheduling. For example, a Grade 1 tournament may use the Short Sets format in Main Draw singles if heavily affected by weather.

Except for unavoidable disruption to a tournament, a player must not be scheduled to play in more than three (3) matches on the same day.

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

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

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

In the Round Robin groups, the following rules apply:

The standings calculation shall only include the results of matches played amongst the players/teams who have completed all matches in the round robin group. Retired matches count as completed for this purpose. A player/team that concedes 1 or more walkovers shall not be included for the purposes of the standings calculation.

#### **44. Consolation Events**

Time and court availability permitting, the Tournament Organiser is encouraged to make every effort to hold a Consolation Singles event for each age group for all players that lose their first match in either the first or second round of Main Draw. Consolation matches may be played on a different surface to the main draw provided this information is made clear at sign in for the consolation event.

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

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

#### **Consolation at World Individual Championships**

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

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

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

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

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

### **V. ORGANISATIONAL REQUIREMENTS**

#### **52. Entry Fees**

##### **a) Grade A, 1-4 and RC1-3 ITF Seniors Circuit tournaments**

The tournament committee shall determine a reasonable entry fee following recommendation by the ITF of what is considered reasonable. The entry fee, payment instructions and a deadline for payment shall be published in the official fact sheet. A tournament committee has the authority to officially withdraw any entered player that has not paid the entry fee according to the payment instructions and deadline published in the fact sheet. Entry fees and IPIN fees must be paid by each player before they play their first match.

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

Prize Money or Player Hospitality Money may be offered to successful players at Grade A, RC and 1-4 tournaments at the discretion of the Organising Committee.

#### **55. Officials**

##### **b) Grade RC, A & 1-4 Tournaments**

The Referee shall be, as a minimum, a White Badge certified Referee unless otherwise approved in writing by the ITF. ITF Seniors Grade 4 tournaments may appoint a National Referee where an ITF White Badge referee is unavailable or impractical, but always subject to approval of their National Association and the ITF.

For Grade RC, A and Grade 1-2 tournaments, it is recommended that, wherever possible, there shall be a Chair Umpire for each main draw singles final. For the earlier stages of the tournament there must be a Court Supervisor for each six (6) match courts.

For Grade 3-4 tournaments, it is recommended there is a minimum of one Court Supervisor/Off-court Umpire for each eight (8) match courts.

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

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

All ITF Seniors tournaments must have a doctor on-call.

It is required that all ITF Seniors World Championships, Grade RC1 and Grade A tournaments arrange for a Sports Physiotherapist (as defined in the ITF Guide to Recommended Health Care Standards) to be on-site for the duration of the event (see Appendix III). The appointment of a Sports Physiotherapist is strongly recommended at Grade 1-4 tournaments.

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

#### **64. Waiver of Claims**

In submitting an entry into an ITF Seniors event, all players agree, as a condition of entry, that, subject to the limits set out below for themselves, their executors, administrators, heirs and personal representatives, all claims of any kind, nature and description are waived, including past, present or future claims and injuries, if any, sustained in travelling to or from, or participating in an ITF Seniors event, against the ITF, the



National Association or the Regional Association sanctioning such events as well as officials, and (if applicable) sponsors, promoters, television or other broadcast licensees, vendors, venues, local organisers and others connected with such ITF Seniors Circuit tournaments, including its employees, officer, directors, volunteers, and representatives.

#### **65. Commercial Rights**

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

### **SECTION II – WORLD TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS**

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

For draw sizes consisting of 17-23 teams, and where reasonably practicable, ‘byes’ in the knockout stage shall be filled by teams that finish in 2<sup>nd</sup> position in the first Round Robin stage and shall be drawn by lot. As far as is practicable, teams from the same Round Robin group shall be placed in different halves of the draw in the first round of the Knock-out stage.

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

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

**SECTION III**  
**CODE OF CONDUCT**

**II. ENTRY OFFENCE**

**A. Entry Offences**

**1. Late Withdrawal/No Show**

Any late withdrawal from a player accepted into the Main Draw or Qualifying that occurs after the Withdrawal Deadline shall be considered a late withdrawal. A player's first two (2) late withdrawal offences within a calendar year are excused, provided the withdrawal is received by the ITF and by the Referee, if submitted after the Withdrawal Deadline, prior to the publication of the draw.

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

A player with two (2) consecutive no shows at ITF Seniors Circuit tournaments will be prevented from entering and/or playing any further ITF Seniors tournaments until all outstanding entry fees and IPIN fees are paid. The player will also be prevented access to the IPIN system until payment has been made.

**APPENDIX I**  
**NATIONAL CLOSED CHAMPIONSHIPS**

3. A National Closed Championships may not be graded higher than Grade 2 level but may be upgraded to that level or downgraded to Grade 3 or 4, according to the annual tournament evaluation, which takes into account the standard of participation at each tournament. Ranking points will be awarded according to the points tables in Section I, Regulation 21.