



SUMMARY OF ITF BEACH TENNIS RULE CHANGES 2019

RULES & REGULATIONS

B. THE COMPETITION

4. Players Eligible

The ITF may request from the player at any time a copy of their current, valid passport as proof of nationality.

5. Rules to be Observed

j. These 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. Each Player, Nation and each of its Team Members, directors, officials, officers, members of staff, employees, contractors, agents, and representatives agrees to submit any disputes or claims or other matters arising in relation to the Regulations (including any non-contractual disputes or claims) to arbitration pursuant to Regulation 6 of these Regulations, to the exclusion of any other forum

C. MANAGEMENT

1. Board of Directors

b) Duties

The duties of the Board of Directors shall be:

- iv. To refuse the entry of any National Association, or refuse the further participation of such National Association in a Beach Tennis team competition, if in its opinion the participation of such National Association may result in the team competition being endangered. No decision of the Board of Directors in this respect shall be valid unless the decision is supported by at least two-thirds of the directors present and voting.

2. Beach Tennis Committee

- e) To impose penalties laid down in these Regulations;
- g) To approve the venues and dates for the events on the Tour and the Team Competition;
- h) To decide the entry fee and allocation of any prizes for the Tour and Team Competition.

D. RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE TOUR

11. Categories of Tournament

World Championships
World Team Championship
Regional Championships
Category 1 (\$35,000+)
Category 2 (\$15,000)
Category 3 (\$10,000)
Category 4 (\$3,000)
Category 5 (No prize money)

14. Prize Money Distribution

a) Distribution per team (US\$)

Finishing position	<u>\$3,000</u>	<u>\$10,000</u>	<u>\$15,000</u>	<u>\$35,000</u>	<u>Proportion of total Prize Money</u>
Winner	<u>600</u>	2,000	3,000	7,000	<u>20%</u>
Runner-up	<u>360</u>	1,200	1,800	4,200	<u>12%</u>
Semi-finalist	<u>150</u>	500	750	1,750	<u>5%</u>
Q-finalist	<u>60</u>	200	300	700	<u>2%</u>

E. ENTRY AND WITHDRAWAL

1. Entry Definitions

c) Wild Card

A doubles team included in the draw (qualifying or main draw) at the sole discretion of the National Association. Wild Cards are eligible for seeding. Wild Cards must be named at the time the draw is made and Wild Cards who withdraw or default may not be replaced with new Wild Cards after the draw is made. Any such vacancy shall be filled by the next eligible doubles team on the acceptance list, or if the qualifying competition has commenced, it shall be filled by the eligible Lucky Loser. The Qualifying Competition commences when the first ball of the first qualifying match is struck.

No doubles team who has signed in for and been accepted into the qualifying of the tournament may be named as a Wild Card after the Qualifying Competition has commenced.

Wild Cards for the World Championships will be determined by the ITF. Full details of the Wild Card selection process will be published on the ITF website prior to the tournament.

2. Entry

All doubles teams applying for entry shall be deemed to apply for entry into the Main Draw or the Qualifying depending on their combined ranking under the applicable System of Merit.

All entries and withdrawals must be made on the official entry or withdrawal form in writing by facsimile, letter or email and submitted to the relevant entry authority as stated on the fact sheet to be received before the relevant deadline.

Notwithstanding any other provision of these Regulations, the ITF has the absolute right to refuse to accept or revoke any player's entry to any ITF Beach Tennis Tour tournament(s). The ITF may exercise that right as it sees fit, with or without providing reasons.

F. TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS

4. Round Robin

e) Calculating final position in Round Robin events

In Round Robin events the following rules apply:

- Doubles teams are awarded one (1) point for winning a match

The standings in the group are determined by:

- Highest number of points

If the number of points is equal for

- two (2) teams: The head-to-head result

If the number of points is equal for three (3) or more teams, for these teams only:

- the percentage of sets won from sets played against all teams in the group (a walkover win should be considered as equal to having won 6-0, 6-0)

16. Entry Fee

- a) The following maximum entry fee may be charged per team per event (unless otherwise authorised by ITF), covering teams in both Main Draw and Qualifying:

	Max. Entry Fee (per team)*
World Championships	US\$150
Regional Championships	US\$100
<u>Category 1</u> (\$35,000+)	US\$150
<u>Category 2</u> (\$15,000)	US\$100
<u>Category 3</u> (\$10,000)	US\$70
<u>Category 4</u> (\$3,000)	US\$50
<u>Category 5</u> (non- prize money)	US\$50

G. WORLD TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP REGULATIONS

1. The Competition

g). Rankings

ITF Beach Tennis World Ranking points will be awarded to players based on their team's final standing for that year.

To receive Ranking points, a player must have played a minimum of one (1) doubles match (decisive or non-decisive).

3. Conduct of the Competition

d) Match Format

Main draw matches and play-off matches shall be best of three sets with a match tie-break (10 points) replacing the third set.

Mixed doubles non-decisive (main draw and play-off): all non-decisive mixed doubles matches, if played, shall be best of three short sets.

APPENDIX B

TOURNAMENT CATEGORIES AND RANKING POINTS

Tournaments shall be classified into prize money categories, with ranking points as set out below.

	Tournament category	Winner	Final	Semi Final	Quarter Final	R16	R32
	Category 1 (\$35,000+)	400	240	144	72	36	18
	Category 2 (\$15,000)	150	90	54	27	14	7
	Category 3 (\$10,000)	100	60	36	18	9	5
	Category 4 (\$3,000)	30	18	11	5	3	-
	Category 5 (no prize money)	10	6	4	2	-	-
Optional Bundles	TV (+T) Category 1-3	60	36	22	11	5	3
	Hospitality (+H)						
	Category 1-4	40	24	14	7	4	2
	Officiating (+O)						
	Category 1-4	20	12	7	4	2	1

Consolation Events

Consolation events may be held at the discretion of the tournament. If held, consolation events shall be available to those teams who lose in the first (1st) round of the main draw.

Consolation events must comprise of a minimum of four (4) teams to go ahead.

Category	Winners	Final	Semi Final
1	36	18	9
2	14	7	4

3	9	5	3
4	5	3	-
5	4	-	-

Teams who play in the consolation event will forfeit any points earned from the first (1st) round of the main draw and will only earn points subsequently gained in the consolation event.

World and Regional Championships

	Winner	Final	Semi Final	Quarter Final	R16	R32
World Championships	To be determined, points will be published on ITF Website					
Regional Championships	To be determined, points will be published on ITF Website					

ITF World Team Championship Ranking Points

Nation's Position	Ranking points
1st	<u>150</u>
2nd	<u>130</u>
3rd	<u>110</u>
4th	<u>90</u>
5th	<u>70</u>
6th	<u>68</u>
7th	<u>66</u>
8th	<u>64</u>
9th	<u>56</u>
10th	<u>54</u>
11th	<u>52</u>
12th	<u>50</u>
13th	<u>42</u>
14th	<u>40</u>
15th	<u>38</u>
16th	<u>36</u>

Nation's Position	Ranking points
17th	<u>30</u>
18th	<u>29</u>
19th	<u>28</u>
20th	<u>27</u>
21st	<u>24</u>
22nd	<u>23</u>
23rd	<u>22</u>
24th	<u>21</u>
25th	<u>18</u>
26th	<u>17</u>
27th	<u>16</u>
28th	<u>15</u>
29th	<u>12</u>
30th	<u>11</u>
31st	<u>10</u>
32nd	<u>9</u>

APPENDIX D

EXTREME WEATHER CONDITIONS

d. Modification of Play Procedures (Singles and Doubles)

A 10-minute break will be allowed between the second and third sets (in a best of 3 tie-break sets match only) if one or more of the players requests such a break. If neither/none of the players requests such a break, then play will continue.

APPENDIX F

JUNIOR AGE ELIGIBILITY

The age category table defines the age eligibility for players competing at junior events at the World Championships, World Team Championship and Regional Championships.

For all other junior competitions taking place alongside ITF sanctioned events, it is recommended that the same age eligibility process is implemented.

<u>Category</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Date of Birth (D.O.B)</u>
<u>U-14</u>	<u>11 to 14</u>	<u>1st January 2005 - 31st December 2007</u>
<u>U-16</u>	<u>13 to 16</u>	<u>1st January 2003 - 31st December 2005</u>
<u>U-18</u>	<u>13 to 18</u>	<u>1st January 2001 - 31st December 2005</u>

Players born outside of the dates specified in the table above are not eligible to play in any given category.

CODE OF CONDUCT

ARTICLE III: ON-SITE OFFENCES

C. DRESS AND EQUIPMENT

3. Identification /Advertising/Slogans

Manufacturer's and non-manufacturer's identification are allowed on clothing, accessory (such as hat, wristband and headband) and equipment. No identification shall be permitted on player's clothing or equipment that promotes/displays betting companies, tobacco products, hard liquor products, political activity or other category deemed to be detrimental to the sport of tennis, the ITF or the Beach Tennis Tour.

O. FAILURE TO COMPLETE MATCH OR TOURNAMENT (FCM)

If a doubles team fails to complete a match or the tournament, the ITF Supervisor shall have discretion over whether one or both of the team members will be sanctioned under this Section.

W. APPEALS

Any player found to have committed an On-Site Offence may appeal the determination of a violation and/or the punishment imposed under Section U above to the ITF Internal

Adjudication Panel, which shall determine the matter in accordance with its Procedural Rules (save that there shall be no right of appeal against the ITF Internal Adjudication Panel's decision.

The appeal shall be made in writing using the form prescribed by the ITF and must be filed with the ITF by 5.00pm GMT within fourteen (14) days of the last day of the event (the "Notice of Appeal"). The Notice of Appeal must include a statement by the player as to the facts and circumstances of the incident along with any other evidence the player wishes to submit.

ARTICLE VIII: RECIPROCITY

The ITF reserves the right to ask the ITF Internal Adjudication Panel to affirm, modify, extend or reject with respect to any or all tournaments, events or Circuits owned or sanctioned by the ITF a suspension or other sanction issued against a Covered Person (as defined in Appendix A - ITF Welfare Policy) either by or on behalf of the ITF pursuant to a conduct or disciplinary process under any ITF code or policy or by any other tennis organisation (including but not limited to the Women's Tennis Association, Association of Tennis Professionals, the Grand Slam Board, and each member national association) or other relevant authority.

APPENDIX A

A. Elements of the Welfare Policy.

- iii. Abuse of Authority; Abusive Conduct
 - a) Covered Persons shall not abuse his or her position of authority or control, and shall not attempt to or compromise the psychological, physical or emotional wellbeing of any player, Covered Person, parent, spectator or member of the press/media.

B. Violations/Procedures

- i. Any individual who believes that any Covered Person has failed to meet his or her obligations under this Welfare Policy may file a written complaint with the ITF. That complaint shall identify the complainant and state specifically the nature of the alleged misconduct. Upon receipt of such a complaint, or if the ITF itself considers that there has been an apparent violation of this Welfare Policy, the ITF shall promptly investigate the matter. Upon request by the ITF, the ITF Internal Adjudication Panel shall have authority to issue a provisional suspension of the accused individual, pending the completion of the investigation and issuance of a final decision on the matter.
- ii. Upon review of the matter and, where appropriate, additional investigation, the ITF may determine that the matter does not merit further action. If the ITF determines that the matter does merit further action, after notifying the accused individual of the charge(s) it shall refer the matter to the ITF Internal Adjudication Panel. After giving the accused individual the opportunity to present his or her views, the ITF Internal Adjudication Panel may impose appropriate sanctions including (a) denial of privileges or exclusion of the person in question from any or all ITF Tournaments,

or (b) such other sanctions including monetary sanctions as the ITF Internal Adjudication Panel may deem appropriate.

- iii. The ITF Internal Adjudication Panel reserves the right to extend to any or all ITF Tournaments a suspension or other disciplinary action taken against a Covered Person by a National or Regional Association or other tennis organisation such as the Women's Tennis Association and Association of Tennis Professionals or a conviction or plea of guilty or no contest to a criminal charge or indictment as set out in Section a) v. above. The ITF Internal Adjudication Panel reserves the right to share information concerning a complaint with and/or conduct an investigation in conjunction with any tennis organisation as specified above. The ITF Executive Director may also refer the complaint and/or any information received during the course of investigating an allegation or prosecuting a charge to any authorities it considers appropriate. The ITF shall have the absolute discretion, where it deems appropriate, to stay its own investigation pending the outcome of investigations being conducted by other tennis organisations as specified above and/or relevant authorities.
- iv. Decisions of the ITF Internal Adjudication Panel may be appealed to the Independent Tribunal in accordance with Regulation 6 of the Beach Tennis Rules and Regulations.

Any decision of the ITF Internal Adjudication Panel pursuant to this Welfare Policy may be communicated to those Member National Associations, other tennis organisations and ITF Tournament organisers deemed necessary by the ITF Executive Director and/or the ITF Internal Adjudication Panel.

RULES OF BEACH TENNIS

9. SERVER & RECEIVER

The player/team shall stand on opposite sides of the net. The server is the player who puts the ball into play for the first point. The player/team that are ready to return the ball served by the server shall be the receiver(s).

Before the start of each point the receivers(s) shall first take their positions, followed thereafter by the server who will then serve. The receiver(s) may not significantly alter their positions relative to each other and the server once the server has chosen his Rules of Beach Tennis 2019 7

position until the ball is in play. The Prohibited Service Return Zone rule must be applied in all matches (see Appendix I), whereby the receiver(s) shall not touch any part of the court within the prohibited zone until the ball is in play.

Case 6: Can a receiver run forward to block a serve?

a. Decision: Yes. Provided that a) the player's movement is not considered to be distracting to the opposition (Hindrance), b) the ball has crossed the net before the receiver hits it, and c) the receiver does not touch any part of the court within the Prohibited Service Return Zone until the ball is in play (see Appendix I)

24. PLAYER/TEAM LOSES POINT

The point is lost if:

I. A player of the receiving or serving team touches any part of the court within the Prohibited Service Return Zone before the ball is in play (see Appendix I)

26. HINDRANCE

Case 5: Where are the server's partner and members of the receiving doubles team allowed to stand?

Decision: The server's partner and the members of the receiving doubles team may take any position on their own side of the net, inside or outside the court, provided they do not touch any part of the court within the Prohibited Service Return Zone (see Appendix I). However, if a player is creating a hindrance to the opponent(s), the hindrance rule should be used.

APPENDIX I MANDATORY COURT MEASUREMENTS

Prohibited Service Return Zone

The prohibited service return zone ("prohibited zone") is the area between the net and an imaginary line parallel to, and three (3.0) metres from, the net and extending indefinitely beyond the sidelines. The intersection of the imaginary line and each sideline shall be clearly indicated by a marker placed on or immediately outside the sideline. No additional lines or markers shall be placed within the court area. No player(s) shall touch any part of the court within the prohibited zone until the ball is in play.

Diagram of Prohibited Zone (not to scale)

