

**2021 MEN'S AND WOMEN'S
ITF WORLD TENNIS TOUR REGULATIONS**
INTERIM VERSION PENDING FINAL CHANGES IN DECEMBER 2020
Summary of Key Rule Changes

The following pages provide a summary of the key changes to the 2021 Men's and Women's Regulations. These are not the regulations. The full Regulations can be seen on the ITF website in the Tour Regulations section [here](#).

Changes made from the previous year (2020) are shown in underlined text.

(Men's and Women's)

Section I. PURPOSE AND APPLICABILITY

A. General

These Regulations are subject to change during the 2021 edition of the World Tennis Tour with the introduction of the ITF World Tennis Number as a global rating applicable to ITF tournaments. Upon incorporation into these Regulations, the ITF World Tennis Number may be relied on for the purposes of entry to and seeding at ITF World Tennis Tour tournaments. For the avoidance of doubt, the ITF World Tennis Number shall not replace, supersede or otherwise override ATP/WTA ranking and ITF World Tennis Ranking.

(Men's and Women's)

Section II. DEFINITIONS

Covered Persons

Any player, Player Support Team Members and Credentialed Persons.

Credentialed Person

Any player and any tournament personnel, such as an official, tournament director, staff, volunteer, sponsor, health care provider, ITF staff member and members of the media.

Related Person

Any coach, trainer, manager, agent, medical or para-medical personnel and/or family member, tournament guest, or other similar associate of any player.

(Men's)

Section III. MEN'S ITF WORLD TENNIS TOUR TOURNAMENTS

A. Player Eligibility

4. Tennis Anti-Corruption Program and Tennis Anti-Doping Programme

Any Player, Player Support Team Member or other Covered person who enters or participates in the ITF World Tennis Tour shall be deemed to have agreed to be bound by and to comply with all the

provisions of the Tennis Anti-Corruption Program, which may be downloaded at www.itia.tennis (see Code of Conduct) Article V.

Any Player, Player Support Team Member or other Covered Person who enters or participates in the ITF World Tennis Tour shall be bound by and shall comply with all of the provisions of the ITF Tennis Anti-Doping Programme 2021 (see Code of Conduct) Article VII.

[...]

7. Retiring from the Professional Tournaments

A player wishing to retire from Professional Tournaments must do so by completing and submitting an official “Player Retirement Form” to the ITF. Following successful submission, the player’s name shall be removed from the ATP and/or ITF World Tennis Ranking. In the event that a player returns to competition following retirement, the player must provide at least six months’ advanced notice of doing so to the ITF Anti-Doping Department. From the date the ITF Anti-Doping Department receives such notice, the player shall be bound by the Tennis Anti-Doping Programme and thereafter must comply with the Tennis Anti-Doping Programme, including making themselves available for Testing (including, if requested, by providing whereabouts information) for a six-month period prior to their participation.

(Women’s)

Section III. WOMEN’S ITF WORLD TENNIS TOUR TOURNAMENTS

B. Player Eligibility

5. Tennis Anti-Corruption Program and Tennis Anti-Doping Programme

Any Player, Player Support Team Member or other Covered person who enters or participates in the ITF World Tennis Tour shall be deemed to have agreed to be bound by and to comply with all the provisions of the Tennis Anti-Corruption Program, which may be downloaded at www.itia.tennis (see Code of Conduct) Article V.

Any Player, Player Support Team Member or other Covered Person who enters or participates in the ITF World Tennis Tour shall be bound by and shall comply with all of the provisions of the ITF Tennis Anti-Doping Programme 2021 (see Code of Conduct) Article VII.

[...]

8. Retiring from the Professional Tournaments

A player wishing to retire from Professional Tournaments must do so by completing and submitting an official “Player Retirement Form” to the ITF. Following successful submission, the player’s name shall be removed from the ATP and/or ITF World Tennis Ranking. In the event that a player returns to competition following retirement, the player must provide at least six months’ advanced notice of doing so to the ITF Anti-Doping Department. From the date the ITF Anti-Doping Department receives such notice, the player shall be bound by the Tennis Anti-Doping Programme and thereafter must comply with the Tennis Anti-Doping Programme, including making themselves available for Testing (including, if requested, by providing whereabouts information) for a six-month period prior to their participation.

(Men's and Women's)

Section III. [MEN's / WOMEN'S] ITF WORLD TENNIS TOUR TOURNAMENTS

I. Publicity and Promotion

1. Players acknowledge that their tennis biography and complete tournament history shall be published on the ITF's website for the purposes of transparency and promotion of the sport.

J. Insurance

1. The Applicant is encouraged to take out those insurance policies that safeguard against employer's liability, business interruption and personal injury as well as any other appropriate insurance policies recognised under local law. In addition, it is strongly recommended that the Applicant obtain and maintain event cancellation and abandonment insurance which insures against all reasonably known financial risks arising from the rescheduling, cancellation and/or abandonment in whole or in part of a Tournament due to force majeure

(Men's)

Section V. SINGLES ENTRIES AND WITHDRAWALS

K. Sign-In

2. Qualifying Sign-In

\$15,000 and \$25,000 Tournaments

All Qualifiers and entered Alternate players (who wish to compete) must Sign-In by contacting the on-site ITF Supervisor either in person or by a telephone conversation. Entered Qualifiers and Alternates that do not Sign-In either in person or by telephone will not be included in the draw.

*** Please note that during the Covid-19 pandemic, when the ITF's Return to Tennis protocols are in force, all players must sign in by telephone and not in person. ***

On-Site Alternates may also Sign-In by a telephone conversation with the ITF Supervisor. On-Site Alternates that want to Sign-In either in person or by telephone must send an email to the Supervisor and then call the Supervisor and confirm they have been signed in before the Sign-In Deadline. Players who only email the Supervisor and do not communicate with the Supervisor by phone will not be accepted as an official Sign-In.

(Women's)

Section V. SINGLES ENTRIES AND WITHDRAWALS

K. Sign-In

2. Qualifying Sign-In

\$15,000, \$25,000, \$60,000, \$80,000 and \$100,000 Tournaments

All Qualifiers and entered Alternate players (who wish to compete) must Sign-In by contacting the on-site ITF Supervisor either in person or by a telephone conversation. Entered Qualifiers and Alternates that do not Sign-In either in person or by telephone will not be included in the draw.

*** Please note that during the Covid-19 pandemic, when the ITF's Return to Tennis protocols are in force, all players must sign in by telephone and not in person. ***

On-Site Alternates may also Sign-In by a telephone conversation with the ITF Supervisor. On-Site Alternates that want to Sign-In either in person or by telephone must send an email to the Supervisor and then call the Supervisor and confirm they have been signed in before the Sign-In Deadline. Players who only email the Supervisor and do not communicate with the Supervisor by phone will not be accepted as an official Sign-In.

(Men's and Women's)

Section V. SINGLES ENTRIES AND WITHDRAWALS

M. Sign-In Requirements for Substitutes

1. Alternates and Lucky Losers (singles and doubles) have the option of signing in each day before the start of play for an opportunity to compete in any eligible open position in the draw. Players wishing to Sign-In for an opportunity must be present and Sign-In 30 minutes prior to the scheduled start of play with the ITF Supervisor. Players may also Sign-In by a telephone conversation with the ITF Supervisor. Alternates and Lucky Losers that want to Sign-In by telephone must send an email to the Supervisor and then call the Supervisor and confirm he/she has been signed in before the Sign-In Deadline. Players who only email the Supervisor and do not communicate with the Supervisor by phone will not be accepted as an official Sign-In. Eligible players must sign and re-sign the appropriate list each day before the start of play.

(Men's and Women's)

Section VI. DOUBLES ENTRIES AND WITHDRAWALS

The ITF Board has approved a new acceptance method which would create an advanced Doubles entry process at the \$25,000 level. This new method is subject to development by the ITF and will be implemented during the year in 2021, which will cause the rules below for Doubles Entries and Withdrawals to be modified.

(Men's and Women's)

Section VII. SYSTEMS OF MERIT

A. Singles System of Merit at \$15,000 Tournaments

4. Method D – Junior Reserved

Entered players with an approved ITF Combined Junior Ranking of 1-100 shall be selected for a maximum of three (3) Main Draw places. A Top 100 ITF Combined Junior Ranking can be achieved in 2 ways:

ii. "Carry-over" ITF Junior ranking

In addition, players born in 2002 may carry over their 21 December 2020 ITF Combined Junior ranking for the purposes of entering \$15,000 Tournaments until and including for tournaments taking place in the week of 27 December 2021.

(Women's)
Section VIII. DRAWS

1. Singles

a) Qualifying (\$15,000-\$100,000)

Subject to the paragraph directly below, the singles Qualifying draw size at all Women's ITF World Tennis Tour Tournaments must be either 32, 48 or 64 players.

The singles Qualifying draws must be composed as follows:

	\$15,000				\$25,000 - \$100,000			
Draw Size- Qualifying	24	32	48	64	24	32	48	64
Direct Acceptances	19	26	41	56	20	27	41	56
Wild Cards [^]	5	6	7	8	4	5	7	8

[^] Wild Cards are awarded at the discretion of the sanctioning National Association. Unused Wild Card places shall become Direct Acceptances and filled as defined above.

(Men's)
Section XIII. ATP RANKINGS

D. HOSPITALITY (+H)

d) Main draw players (singles and doubles players, includes partner) who have withdrawn on-site for medical reasons and who are examined by the on-site Tournament Doctor/Sports Physiotherapist shall receive hospitality through the night of the examination.

(Women's)
Section XIII. WTA RANKINGS

D. Hospitality (+H) at \$15,000, \$25,000, \$60,000, \$80,000, and \$100,000 Events

1. Hospitality (+H) at \$15,000 and \$25,000 Tournaments
2. Hospitality (+H) at \$60,000, \$80,000, & \$100,000 Tournaments

d) Main draw players (singles and doubles players, includes partner) who have withdrawn on-site for medical reasons and who are examined by the on-site Tournament Doctor/Sports Physiotherapist shall receive hospitality through the night of the examination.

(Appendices)
APPENDIX D
2021 JUNIOR EXEMPT PROJECT

Due to the lack of opportunities in 2020 as a result of Covid-19, players with unused Junior Exempt positions in 2020, may carry over their remaining Junior Exempt positions into 2021.

(Appendices)

APPENDIX K

WTA / ITF WORLD TENNIS RANKING POINT TABLES

UPDATED WTA RANKING POINTS TABLE – to be published in due course.

(Code of Conduct)

ARTICLE IV: ON-SITE OFFENCES

C. DRESS AND EQUIPMENT

3. Identification

No identification shall be permitted on a player's clothing, products or equipment on court during a match or at any press conference or tournament ceremony, except as follows:

a. Men's ITF World Tennis Tour Tournament

5. Hat, Headband, Wristband and Face Covering

One (1) manufacturer's identification and/or one (1) commercial identification, neither of which exceeds four (4) square inches (26 sq.cm), shall be permitted on hats, headbands or face-coverings. The commercial identification must be located on the side of the garment and worn so that it is positioned on the side of the head, or face in the case of face coverings.

One (1) manufacturer's identification not to exceed four (4) square inches (26 sq.cm) will be permitted on wristbands.

[...]

b. Women's ITF World Tennis Tour Tournament

5. Hat, Headband, Wristband and Face Covering

One (1) manufacturer's identification and/or one (1) commercial identification, neither of which exceeds four (4) square inches (26 sq.cm), shall be permitted on hats, headbands or face-coverings. The commercial identification must be located on the side of the garment and worn so that it is positioned on the side of the head, or face in the case of face coverings.

One (1) manufacturer's identification not to exceed four (4) square inches (26 sq.cm) will be permitted on wristbands.

(Code of Conduct)

ARTICLE V-1: COVID-19 PROTOCOLS (COVERED PERSON)

A. MINIMUM STANDARDS OF BEHAVIOUR

A Covered Person shall comply with the *ITF Return to International Tennis Protocols* including without limitation the *Minimum Standards of Behaviour* (the '**Protocols**'). Any failure to comply with the Protocols shall amount to a violation of this Article V-1. Violation of this Article V-1 may result in the following sanctions:

- (i) For a player: a fine of up to \$500, and/ or an Immediate Default under Article IV.S (Defaults). If such violation occurs during a match (including the warm-up), the player shall be penalised in accordance with the Point Penalty Schedule at Article IV.R. One violation of this Article V-1.A that is flagrant and particularly injurious to the success of the tournament, or is singularly egregious, or a series of two (2) or more violations of this Article V-1.A within a twelve (12) month period which when viewed together establish a pattern of conduct that is collectively egregious and is detrimental or injurious to the tournament may also constitute the Major Offence of "Aggravated Behaviour".
- (ii) For a Related Person or any other Covered Person: immediate revocation of accreditation and denial of access to the tournament. One or more violations which are singularly or collectively flagrant or egregious or detrimental or injurious to the tournament may also result in permanent revocation of accreditation and denial of access to all ITF tournaments, competitions and events as determined by the ITF.

(Code of Conduct)

ARTICLE XIII: WELFARE POLICY

New ITF Safeguarding Policies and Procedures to take effect in January 2021 – to be published in due course.