

## **2009 ITF Junior Circuit Major Rule Changes**

Rule changes indicated by underline.

4. Only boys and girls born between 1st January 1991 and 31st December 1996 may compete in any of the tournaments that comprise the 2009 ITF Junior Circuit.

11. If two or more players receive the same number of points, their ranking will follow the number of points, within their six best singles results, scored in Grade A (Super Series) tournaments including bonus points. If two or more are still equal, players will be ranked based on the grade of tournament where points have been won in singles, in the following order: Grade A, Grade B1, Grade 1, Grade B2, Grade 2, Grade B3, Grade 3, Grade 4, Grade 5 excluding Grade C (International Team Competition).

If two or more players are still equal their ranking will follow the number of points, within their six best doubles results, scored in Grade A (Super Series) tournaments, including bonus points. If two or more are still equal, players will be ranked based on the grade of tournament where points have been won in doubles, in the following order: Grade A, Grade B1, Grade 1, Grade B2, Grade 2, Grade B3, Grade 3, Grade 4, Grade 5, excluding Grade C (International Team Competition).

24. The Tournament Director shall:

- a) Three (3) months prior to the tournament send to the ITF a copy of the letter of invitation, tournament entry form and tournament fact sheet for approval.
- b) Following the entry deadline send to the ITF a copy of the acceptance list for boys and girls main draw and qualifying for approval.
- c) Following the conclusion of the tournament send to the ITF:
  - i) tournament report form

The Referee is responsible for:

- a) Using Tournament Planner software before and during the tournament.
- b) On conclusion of the tournament sending to the ITF the Referee's Report form.

31. No points will be awarded to a player until he/she has played and won a round. Advancement through a bye or walkover in the first match will not be equivalent to winning a round. Advancement by virtue of retirement following the commencement of a match will be equivalent to winning a round. When a player has played and won a match, subsequent walkovers will not affect points won. An abandoned tournament counts as a tournament played if the player had not withdrawn before the decision to abandon was taken.

Any player who defaults from a tournament in either singles or doubles without providing a valid medical (from the tournament doctor) certificate will forfeit all points won in that tournament.

36\*. Number of Sets, Tie-Break

Each match shall be the best of three Tie-Break sets, unless otherwise approved by the ITF. No rest shall be allowed after the second set.

All Doubles matches shall be two Tie-Break sets and a Match Tie-Break (10 point) in place of a third set. No-Ad scoring shall be used.

40\*. Invitations to and Selection of Competitors

Only entries submitted with National Association sanction shall be accepted.

Tournaments shall have an entry deadline 21 days prior to the start of the main draw. Exceptions shall be granted for Grade A tournaments and their warm-up events. Under special circumstances other tournaments may also apply to the ITF for an exemption from the 21-day rule.

The criteria for acceptances shall be:

### Singles

In determining acceptances of players for the main draw and qualifying draws, tournaments must use the following acceptance method:

a) ITF Junior World Ranking. In a situation where two or more players are ranked equally, the acceptance order should be drawn.

b) ATP/WTA rankings – Players ranked in the professional game ATP 550 or better or WTA 350 or better should always be accepted in the main-draw. Players ranked in the professional game ATP 750 or better or WTA 500 or better should always be accepted in the qualifying draw.

c) Objective Order of Merit approved by the ITF (i.e regional rankings when all entered players are from the same region.)

d) When an objective Order of Merit is not available for all unranked entered players (ie. c above) -the following acceptance method should be followed:

i) – 50% of remaining places within the draw should go to players from the country where the tournament is organised according to the national ranking. The remaining spots should be filled as follows:

ii) - Players from, or resident in, countries within the Region where the tournament is organized. Draw by lot.

iii) - Players from, or resident in, countries within the Zone where the tournament is organized. Draw by lot. (Include players from, or resident in, bordering countries, which are not in the same region/zone i.e. Azerbaijan/Turkmenistan). Draw by lot.

iv) - Do not accept players from outside of the Zone where the tournament is organized. These players should receive a “Not Accepted” status.

v) – Guidelines 2, 3, and 4 should also be applied to the Alternate List.

Regions: (Asia) (Oceania) (Europe) (Africa) (South America) (Central America) (North America)

Zones: (Asia/Oceania) (Euro/Africa) (The Americas)

The Alternate list should be no larger than the size of the Qualifying Draw.

e) On-site Alternates should be accepted according to the latest available ITF Junior ranking.

f) Unranked Onsite Alternates should be drawn by lot.

### Doubles

Direct Acceptances for Doubles are selected according to the following acceptance method:

Teams consisting of:

1. Two players, both of them either Singles Main Draw Direct Acceptances, Special Exempts/16 & Under Exempts or Qualifiers/Lucky Loser (not Wild Cards, see Note 1.)

a) Both players ranked, in order of total ranking

b) One ranked and one unranked player, in order of ranking of the one ranked player

c) Two unranked players.

2. Two players, one a Singles Main Draw Direct Acceptance, Special Exempt/16 & Under Exempt or Qualifier/Lucky Loser (not Wild Cards, see Note 1.);

a) Both players ranked, in order of total ranking

b) One ranked and one unranked player, in order of ranking of the one ranked player

c) Two unranked players.

3. Two players, neither a Singles Main Draw Direct Acceptance or Qualifier/Lucky Loser;

a) Both players ranked, in order of total ranking

b) One ranked and one unranked player, in order of ranking of the one ranked player

c) Two unranked players.

If two or more teams are tied within any of these combinations, the order shall be drawn by lot.

Note 1: Direct Acceptances above do not include Wild Cards

Note 2: Doubles Wild Cards are in addition to this.

Note 3: Lucky Losers are those players who have been accepted into the Singles Main Draw by the time of the doubles sign-in.

Note 4: For the purposes of doubles acceptances players ranked in the top 500 on the WTA Tour or the top 750 ATP should be treated as ranked players.

#### 41. One tournament per week

Players may not compete in more than one tournament per week. Players may not participate in qualifying for an event at the same time they are participating in another tournament in either singles or doubles.

#### 43. Entry Definitions

##### e) Alternates

If there is no Singles Qualifying event, signed-in Alternates shall take any vacant places in the Singles Main Draw, in accordance with their position on the final Acceptance list. For vacancies that occur after the Order of Play has been released for the first day of play, the selection shall be made from the players who have signed-in for each day as applicable.

#### 44 b) Selection of Seeds

##### Singles

Seedings will be calculated automatically following the Seeding Comparison Chart – Appendix L.

Players without ITF or professional rankings cannot be seeded.

##### Doubles

Doubles seeding shall be based on the combined ranking groups (Appendix L). Within each ranking group, if two teams are considered equal, seeding shall be based on:

- i) Players' combined ITF Junior ranking (if both players have an ITF Junior ranking)
- ii) ITF Junior Ranking (if only one player has an ITF Junior ranking) followed by the Pro Singles ranking of the remaining player
- iii) Players' combined Pro Singles ranking (if neither player has an ITF Junior ranking)
- iv) Pro Singles ranking (if neither player has an ITF Junior ranking and only one player has a Pro Singles ranking)
- v) If teams are still tied, draw by lot.

Note: Pro Singles ranking refers to ATP or WTA Tour singles rankings as applicable. Pro Doubles rankings are not considered.

#### 45 b) Main Draw Sign-in/Registration

Under exceptional circumstances the Referee may accept a telephone sign-in, but only from the Referee of the tournament at which a player was participating or the ITF office.

#### 47 a) Qualifying

##### i) Sections and Seeds

The qualifying draw shall be made in sections, and the winner of each section shall be given a place in the main draw. If four (4) qualifiers are required, there shall be four (4) sections; six (6) qualifiers, six (6) sections; and so on. The draw shall be seeded and the selection of seeds shall be consistent with the criteria used for the main draw. Each section shall have two seeded players/teams. The first seed shall be placed at the top of the first section, the second seed shall be placed at the top of the second section and so on until all sections have one (1) seed on the top line of each section. The remaining seeds shall be drawn as one group. The first drawn shall be placed on the bottom line of the first section, the second drawn shall be placed on the bottom line of the second section and so on until all sections have one (1) seed on the bottom line of each section.

If there are not a sufficient number of seeded players to fill all the positions for seeds in the draw, the section(s) with the highest seeds shall not have a second seeded player.

The top four ranked players from each nation should be drawn in different sections. Wherever possible players from the same nation should not be drawn against each other in the first round.

b) Main Draw

If there are two ranked players from the same National Association competing, they shall be drawn in different halves of the draw.

If three or four ranked players from the same National Association are competing, the first and second ranked shall be drawn as above and the third and fourth ranked players drawn into the quarters which do not already contain one of that National Association's players.

The selection of the top four players from any one country shall be determined by the rank group (see Appendix L) of those players. Any remaining competitors from the National Association shall be drawn by lot but, wherever possible, should not be drawn against each other in the first round.

iii) Vacancies And Substitutions

Vacancies shall be filled with substitutes in accordance with the following:

a) From the entry deadline until the qualifying sign-in deadline:

i) Vacancies shall be filled by entered players selected in accordance with their ranking on the acceptance list.

b) From the qualifying sign-in deadline until the commencement of the qualifying competition:

i) Vacancies in the main draw shall be filled by entered players who have signed in for the qualifying event selected in accordance with their ranking on the acceptance list and thereafter by ranked on-site alternates who have signed in for the qualifying event selected in accordance with the latest available computer rankings. Where players have no such ranking, the order of priority shall be decided by lot.

ii) Vacancies in the qualifying event shall be filled by entered players who have signed in for the qualifying event selected in accordance with their positions on the acceptance list and thereafter on-site alternates selected in accordance with the applicable system of merit.

c) After commencement of the qualifying competition:

Vacancies in the Main Draw may only be filled by Lucky Losers. A Lucky Loser shall be inserted as a substitute for any player who withdraws or is withdrawn before the first point is played in his/her match. Lucky Losers are those players who have lost in the final round of Qualifying. If additional Lucky Losers are needed they shall be selected from losers in the previous round(s) in the same manner. Lucky Losers shall be selected as follows: The order of players with an ITF junior ranking shall be randomly drawn, thereafter the order of the unranked players shall be randomly drawn.

55. Tournament Visitor Accreditation

Any player support team member, as defined in the ITF welfare policy (ITF Junior Circuit Regulations 2009 - Appendix F) or tournament visitor, as defined below, attending an ITF Junior event must report to the Tournament Committee upon arrival and request accreditation for the full duration of his / her stay. The accreditation must state the full name of the attendee and the organisation he/she represents.

Note: Tournament visitor includes, but is not limited to, the following groups:

Any prospective or current agent, suppliers, sports manufacturers, media, recruitment organisations, or academic institution of any description. It does not include anyone visiting an event solely as a tennis spectator

69. Entry Fees

One entry fee (covering singles and doubles) shall be reasonable and shall not exceed:

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <u>Grade A, 1,2,3 (4 and 5 with Full Hospitality):</u>       | <u>\$65 (or equivalent) per person</u> |
| <u>Grade 4 and 5 (without Full Hospitality):</u>             | <u>\$50 (or equivalent) per person</u> |
| <u>Indoor Grade A, 1,2,3 (4 and 5 with Full Hospitality)</u> | <u>\$75 (or equivalent) per person</u> |
| <u>Indoor Grade 4 and 5 (without Full Hospitality)</u>       | <u>\$60 (or equivalent) per person</u> |

## APPENDIX D – CODE OF CONDUCT

### ARTICLE III - PLAYER ON-SITE OFFENCES

#### 1. Unacceptable Attire

Sweatshirts, gym shorts, dress shirts, T-shirts or any other inappropriate attire shall not be worn during a match (including the warm-up).

##### a. Shoes

Players are required to wear tennis shoes generally accepted as proper tennis attire. Shoes shall not cause damage to the court other than what is expected during the normal course of a match or practice. Damage to a court may be considered as physical or visible, which may include a shoe that leaves mark beyond what is considered acceptable. The ITF Referee has the authority to determine that a shoe does not meet these criteria and may order the player to change.

## **APPENDIX H**

### **AGE ELIGIBILITY RULES**

Competitions for players of 12 & under are permitted with the following restrictions:-

- a) In any calendar year players may only compete in a maximum of ten tournaments for 12 and under sanctioned by the ITF, or by a Regional Association or by the \*USTA and Tennis Canada.
- b) Players may not participate in any 12 & under international individual tournament sanctioned by a Regional Association and/or National Association unless they have reached their 10<sup>th</sup> (tenth) birthday on or before the start of the main draw.
- c) Players eligible to compete in 12 and under Competitions may also compete in tournaments for 14 and under sanctioned by the ITF, or by a Regional Association or by the \*USTA and Tennis Canada but participation in such tournaments will count towards the maximum of ten events permitted;
- d) Competition for players of 12 and under organised by a Regional Association must be a team competition;
- e) Players aged 12 and under shall not compete in 16 and under competitions outside their own country;
- f) There shall be no international or regional rankings for players aged 12 and under;
- g) The title 'World Champion' shall not be awarded to a player winning an event restricted to players of 12 and under;

\*Note: For the purpose of this Rule only National Championships in the USA and in Canada count as tournaments covered.

#### COMPETITIONS FOR PLAYERS OF 14 & UNDER

These Rules are applicable to all international competitions worldwide for players in 14 and under age group events.

Competitors for these competitions, including the World Junior Tennis Competition, must therefore have been born between the following years:

| <u>Competition</u> | <u>Eligible Birthdates</u> |
|--------------------|----------------------------|
| <u>2009</u>        | <u>1995 - 98</u>           |
| <u>2010</u>        | <u>1996 - 99</u>           |
| <u>2011</u>        | <u>1997 - 2000</u>         |

#### COMPETITIONS FOR PLAYERS OF 16 & UNDER

These Rules are applicable to all international competitions worldwide for players in 16 and under age group events. No competitor may participate who is still eligible for 12 and under age group events.

Competitors for these competitions, including the Junior Davis Cup and Junior Fed Cup by BNP Paribas, must therefore have been born between the following years:

| <u>Competition</u> | <u>Eligible Birthdates</u> |
|--------------------|----------------------------|
| <u>2009</u>        | <u>1993 - 96</u>           |
| <u>2010</u>        | <u>1994 - 97</u>           |
| <u>2011</u>        | <u>1995 - 98</u>           |



## APPENDIX N

### HOSPITALITY PROVISIONS AT ITF JUNIOR CIRCUIT TOURNAMENTS

The following tournaments must provide Full Hospitality:

Grade A, Grade 1, Grade B1, Grade 2, Grade B2, Grade 3, Grade B3

Please find following a definition of the minimum standards required to meet the Full Hospitality requirement. Any tournament found to be not meeting the minimum standards could be downgraded.

#### ACCOMMODATION

PLAYERS – Shared room – 2 / 4 players per room – all players should have an individual bed. Space in the room should be relevant to the number of occupants.

COACHES – Single room – Official National Association coach should be provided with a single room.

It is the responsibility of the player/coach/player support team member to ensure that they have a confirmed accommodation reservation before arrival at a tournament.

Official tournament hospitality for coaches and players shall be provided separately and bedrooms may not be shared. Requests to share accommodation by players and coaches from the same or opposite sex should at all times be refused. The only exception allowed to this rule is when a National Association nominates a parent as the official coach/representative.

#### MEALS

BREAKFAST – combination of

|                                   |                          |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <u>Low sugar breakfast cereal</u> | <u>Fresh Fruit</u>       |
| <u>Skimmed milk</u>               | <u>Yoghurt</u>           |
| <u>Toast</u>                      | <u>Cheese</u>            |
| <u>Pancakes</u>                   | <u>Cold meats / Eggs</u> |
| <u>Multigrain Breads/Bagel</u>    | <u>Fruit Juice</u>       |
| <u>Rice</u>                       | <u>Crackers</u>          |
| <u>Cold Cereals</u>               | <u>Nuts</u>              |

LUNCH / DINNER– choices from

|   |                    |
|---|--------------------|
| <u>Pasta (minimum oil / butter in accompanying sauce)</u> |                    |
| <u>Fresh Steamed Vegetables</u>                           | <u>Salad</u>       |
| <u>Low fat meat, chicken, turkey</u>                      | <u>Rice</u>        |
| <u>Fish</u>   | <u>Potatoes</u>    |
| <u>Tofu</u>   | <u>Bread</u>       |
| <u>Hard Boiled Eggs</u>                                   | <u>Fresh Fruit</u> |
| <u>Broth-based soups</u>                                  | <u>Yoghurt</u>     |

Deep-fried foods should be avoided.

All food and drink items provided must comply with the Tennis Anti-Doping Programme.

The quantity of food should be adequate to sustain the needs of a young athlete.