

ITF SAND SERIES TOUR FINALS 2025 RULES & REGULATIONS

Updated: 24/10/2025

1. Qualification Deadline

Qualification for the 2025 ITF Sand Series Tour Finals will be determined by the top 8 men's teams and top 8 women's teams according to the Tour Final Team Race Rankings published on Monday 17 November 2025, following the completion of Aruba Sand Series.

If a player qualifies for the Tour Finals with two (2) different partners, the player concerned will have the option of selecting with which of the partners they have qualified they will compete with at the Tour Finals. This will be according to the Tour Final Team Race Rankings updated on 17 November which will be used to determine final acceptances.

2. Acceptance Method

A Team's best ten (10) results across all BT400's, Sand Series and World Championships will be used to formulate the Tour Final Team Race Rankings.

Teams will be informed of their Qualification on Monday 17 November and have until Wednesday 19 November 11:00 GMT to accept their qualification to compete in the 2025 Tour Finals.

If two (2) Teams are tied on the same number of points (Team Race Rankings), the highest combined ranking of the two (2) teams as per the individual ITF beach tennis world rankings of Monday 17 November 2025 will be used. If a tie remains, the team with the highest individual player according to the ITF beach tennis world rankings of Monday 17 November 2025 will determine the order to break the tie-break and to establish the final order of Teams to be accepted.

Alternate Teams will be listed as per the Tour Finals Team Race rankings on Monday 17 November and contacted to establish availability and location during the Tour Finals if an Alternate Team is required prior or during the Finals.

3. Withdrawals

Withdrawal of a Team following the confirmation deadline (Wednesday 19 November) must be in writing to the ITF Beach Tennis department (beach@itftennis.com). Players qualify as a Team and withdraw as a Team.

If an accepted Team is forced to withdraw due to one (1) of the team members being ill or injured, the Team will be replaced by one (1) of the Alternate Teams as per the Tour Finals Team Race in order of the teams positions on the Tour Final Team Race Rankings updated on Monday 17 November and as availabilities for consideration have been confirmed.

Individual substitutions and re-pairing of players are not permitted.

4. Draw Size and Format

The competition will comprise of two (2) phases. Phase 1 – Round Robin, Phase 2 – Knock Out competition (Semi Finals and Finals). There will be no positional play-off matches.

The Tour Final Team Race rankings of Monday 17 November will be used to determine qualification and seedings. The ITF individual beach tennis world rankings will not be used for seeding purposes.

The draw will be conducted on Friday 28 November as stated on the factsheet.

<u>Phase 1 – Round Robin Competition:</u>

- The 8 men's and women's teams will be drawn into two (2) Round Robin groups of four (4) teams.
- Groups will be scheduled to play on alternative days allowing a day off between round robin matches.
- Seed 1 will be placed in Group A, seed 2 in Group B
- The remaining six (6) teams will be drawn randomly in pairs of two (2) as per their final ranking order between Group A and B.
 - o 3 & 4 drawn by lot. 1st team drawn to Group A, 2nd team drawn to Group B
 - o 5 & 6 drawn by lot. 1st team drawn to Group A, 2nd team drawn to Group B
 - o 7 & 8 drawn by lot. 1st team drawn to Group A, 2nd team drawn to Group B

All matches within the Round Robin phase must be completed.

Round Robin schedule of play:

Round 1: 1 vs. 3 & 2 vs. 4

Round 2: Winning Team vs. Winning Team &

Losing Team vs. Losing Team

Round 3: Remaining matches to be played within the Group

Phase 2 – Semi Finals and Final:

- The top two (2) teams at the completion of the Round Robin phase in Group A and Group B will qualify for the knock-out semifinal phase of the competition.
- Winning team from Group A will play against 2nd positioned team in Group B.
- Winning Team from Group B will play against 2nd positioned team in Group A.
- The winning team from each semifinal will proceed to the Final and will compete for the 2025 ITF Sand Series Tour Final Title.

5. Playing Days

The tournament will be played over eight (8) competition days:

• Days 1 – 6: Round Robin competition

• Day 7: Semi Finals

• Day 8: Finals

• One (1) match per day, with Round Robin Groups alternating between the initial six (6) days of competition.

In the unlikely situation where players may be required to play more than one (1) match on a day due to unforeseen circumstances, suitable rest will be considered between matches.

6. Practice Days

Official practice will commence two (2) days prior to the start of the competition. Match and practice courts will be available for players to book courts/sessions.

7. Scoring Format

All matches (Round Robin & Knock-out) will consist of three (3) tie-break sets.

Each match won during the Round Robin phase will result in the winning Team being awarded one (1) point.

During the round robin phase of the competition if a team retires during a match the score will be recorded as per the following example:

Team A leads **Team B 6-4 3-6 1-2** when a member of Team B must retire. The final score for media releases will be recorded as 6-4 3-6 1-2 (Ret.), but for the purpose of the Round Robin competition the score will be recorded as **Team A 6-4 3-6 6-2** with the **remaining games of the set being awarded to Team A**. This is for possible three (3) way ties within the Group at the completion of the Round Robin phase.

8. Determining Final Positions in the Round Robin Groups

The standings calculation will only include the results of matches played amongst the players/teams who completed all matches in the round robin group. Retired matches count as completed for this purpose.

All matches for a team that concedes one (1) or more walkovers shall not be included for the purpose of the final standings' calculation. A walkover is not a retirement. A walkover is defined as where a team is either late due to punctuality or players have not taken to the court and the match commenced.

The final positions within a Group will be determined by:

- Highest number of points. A Team is awarded one (1) point per match won.
- If the number of points is equal for two (2) Teams, the head-to-head result will be used i.e. Team A and Team B are tied for 2nd position. Team B defeated Team A. Team B will be positioned 2nd, with Team A finishing 3rd.
- 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 within the Group (including the 4th Team not part of the tie) will be calculated.
 - If, after the calculation, only two (2) Teams remain tied, the head-to-head result between the two (2) Teams will be used to break the tie.
 - If, after the calculation of percentage sets, a three-way tie still exists, the percentage of games won from games played against all Teams within the Group (including the 4th Team not part of the tie) will be calculated.
 - If, after the calculation, only two (2) Teams remain tied, the head-to-head result between the two (2) Teams will be used to break the tie.
 - If, after the above, a three-way tie remains, the final standing will be drawn by lot.

9. Retirement & Substitution

If a team is forced to retire due to injury or illness during a Round Robin match, the score will be recorded as per rule 7 above – Scoring Format. The team may continue to compete in any remaining matches within the Round Robin competition provided the necessary medical clearance is given by the Tournament Physiotherapist and/or Doctor to the ill or injured player.

All matches for a team that concedes one (1) or more walkovers shall not be included for the purpose of the standing's calculation.

If a Team is forced to withdraw from the Round Robin phase, Alternates may be considered as follows:

1. Next available Team as per the Alternate list based on the Tour Finals Team Race on Monday 17 November 2025.

In the event of an Alternate Team substitution results will be considered as follows:

- 1. All results recorded against the original team will count.
- 2. The new Team's results will only be considered for any remaining matches as the new paring / team.
- 3. Ranking points and prize money will be awarded to the new Team.

Alternate Teams may not substitute for a retirement during a match that is in progress.

No substitutions will be permitted in the knockout phase. If a player or team is forced to withdraw prior to their semi-final or final a walkover will be awarded to the opposing team.

In the case of a walkover during the semi-final or finals, the winning team may be required to play an exhibition match as determined by the organisers and ITF.

10. Tennis Balls

Practice Balls:

• Each Team will receive six (6) new balls daily, commencing two (2) days prior to the start of the tournament (official practice days) until completion of the tournament.

Match Balls:

• Four (4) new balls will be used in all matches, with balls being changed after the 1st 9 games and every 11 games thereafter (9/11).

11. Officials

The following Officials will be appointed:

- Referee minimum ITF Silver badge certification.
- Chair Umpires all matches will have a chair umpire that is Nationally certified.
- Line Umpires minimum of two (2) line umpire for all matches.
- Ball retrievers minimum of three (3) ball retrievers for all matches.

12. Prize Money

The total Prize Money will be \$125,000 divided equally between the men's and women's Competition (\$62,500 per gender).

Local taxes will not be deducted. It is the player's own responsibility to declare prize money on their own personal tax returns in the country where they are registered to pay tax.

Prize Money Distribution:

Winning Team: \$18,000 per team Finalists: \$12,500 per team \$12,500 per team \$8,000 per team \$8,000 per team \$5,000 per team \$5,000 per team \$4th position Teams (Round Robin Phase): \$3000 per team \$3000 per team

13. Hospitality

All Teams will receive full hospitality commencing two (2) days prior to the competition (start of official practice) until the **morning after the completion of the tournament** (10 nights).

Full hospitality is defined as:

- Accommodation (Twin room per Team) + breakfast at the official hotel.
- Lunch (as determined by organisers and approved by ITF).
- Dinner (as determined by organisers and approved by ITF).

Each player will receive a \$300 travel allowance, which will be added to their final prize money.

14. Code of Conduct

The general Code of Conduct as per the Beach Tennis Tour Regulations will be in effect.

Ceremonies, Press Conferences and Player Activities:

Players are obliged to attend all requested ceremonies and press conferences. In addition, participating in player activities as determined by the ITF to be reasonable. Failure to attend mandatory ceremonies, press conferences and player activities may result in all prize money, travel allowance, hospitality and points due to the Team being forfeited.

Mandatory Ceremonies, Press Conferences and Player Activities are but not limited to:

- Player welcome reception.
- Draw function.
- Draw press conference and media activation.
- Pre and Post match interviews.
- Post match press conferences (where required) in media center.
- Other media activities as requested.
- Prize giving ceremony (Finalists + Winners).
- All sponsor-related activities/clinics and events to promote the tournament and beach tennis as agreed between ITF and the organisers within reason.
- Activations/Clinics to be attended by the teams during the non-match days (days not scheduled to play) during the round robin phase.

All information will be circulated to players ahead of time.

15. Ranking Points

Ranking points will be awarded as per the Ranking tables in the ITF Beach Tennis Tour Regulations with the rankings being updated on Monday 8 December 2025

Teams qualifying for the Tour Finals will receive a minimum of 200 points. An additional 200 points will be allocated for each match won during the round robin and knock-out phase.

If a team is undefeated throughout the competition they will earn the maximum attainable ranking points of 1000.

Ranking points earned during the Sand Series Tour Finals will count towards the Team Race Rankings and the ITF Beach Tennis World Rankings.

The Team finishing the year as No1 on the Tour Final Team Race including the points from the Sand Series Tour Final will be recognized as the overall season ending No1 Team.