

2026 Off-Court Coaching Procedures – Beach Tennis World Tour (BT100 and above)

Summary

- Off Court Coaching will only be permitted at tournaments as approved by the ITF Beach Tennis Committee in consultation with the Beach Tennis Player Council from rounds where matches are intended to have Chair Umpires.
- Any support team member (parent, friend, fellow competitor, etc.) authorized by the player to sit in the 'designated coach seats' must comply with the conditions below. In this circumstance they are deemed as a 'coach'.
- Any coach who sits in the designated coach seats must be accredited and wear the official tournament accreditation.

Off-Court Coaching

During play, Off-Court Coaching will be allowed in a nondisruptive manner under the following conditions:

- Coaching is only allowed from the designated coach seats/area.
- Best efforts will be made to locate the designated coach seats:
 - Option 1 (Primary Option) - Near the player benches (same side)
 - Option 2 - Near the baseline
 - Option 3 - Back area of court on the same end as the player's seat.

In all cases security, privacy for coaches and easy access need to be considered.

Not all venues will be the same but where possible, easy access for coaches and players being able to easily access the coaches needs to be a priority.

- Tournaments should have no more than 4 seats allocated per end, i.e. 8 per court.
- Brief and discreet verbal coaching is allowed only when the player is at the same end of the court as their designated coach seats.
- Subtle, non-verbal coaching, defined as hand signals or gestures that do not hinder the opponent, is allowed when the player is at the same or the opposite end of the court as their designated coach seats.
- Coaches may NOT speak to their player when the player leaves the court for any reason (except as permitted during a rain delay).
- Coaches may engage in conversation with players during change of ends or set breaks provided the discussions do not last longer than the permitted time. Depending on which Option is being used for the coaches' seats players are permitted to approach the coaches (remaining on court) for easier communication. This is only permitted in Beach Tennis due to the music and atmosphere that is different from tennis.

- Players may approach their coach (remaining on court) or engage in conversation with their coach during the opposing player's medical time out (including the time period when the Physiotherapist was called, and the player is waiting for the Physiotherapist and during the evaluation time) or a Bathroom break / change of attire break or during the last 90 seconds of a heat break or any approved break.
- If a Coach's verbal coaching, hand signals, or gestures begin to interrupt play or become a hindrance to the opponent(s), the Supervisor will notify the coach of the escalation prior to action being taken against the player. Should the distractions persist, the player may be subject to coaching penalties and fines.

NOTE:

- Coaches are expected to dress professionally, in appropriate and clean tennis attire, when seated in the designated coach seats.
- Teams may have more than one (1) coach due to personal coaches not necessarily being the team coach. This is not limited to one (1) coach per team.
- Off-court coaching is not a reason for players to require additional time between points and all coaching must be completed in the permitted time between points, change of ends, set breaks or procedures (toilet breaks, medical time outs, etc.).
- A coach can coach more than one player during a tournament, but coaching is only allowed from the designated coach seats of the relevant court.
- A player may be penalized under the Code of Conduct if the off-court coaching regulations / procedure are being abused.
- Off-court coaching is not permitted where an off-court official is required to go on court to umpire the remainder of a match.