

Reducing Walkovers and No-Shows: A Critical Priority for the World Tennis Masters Tour



Walkovers and No-Shows damage player experience, tournament integrity, and the credibility of the World Tennis Masters Tour, with a direct impact on:

- **Opponents:** Frustration and disappointment for those who have committed significant time and money.
- **Draw Outcomes & Seeding:** The balance of a draw can be significantly impacted by no-shows.
- **Player Retention:** Poor satisfaction of the competition experience reduces future commitment to play.
- **Tournament Finances:** No-show players often do not pay IPIN and/or entry fees.
- **Credibility and Reputation:** A high volume of walkovers impacts each tournament and the Tour.

The ITF and World Tennis Master Tour tournaments must work together to reduce the number of walkovers.

The ITF urge tournament organisers to apply the following methods to tackle this issue:

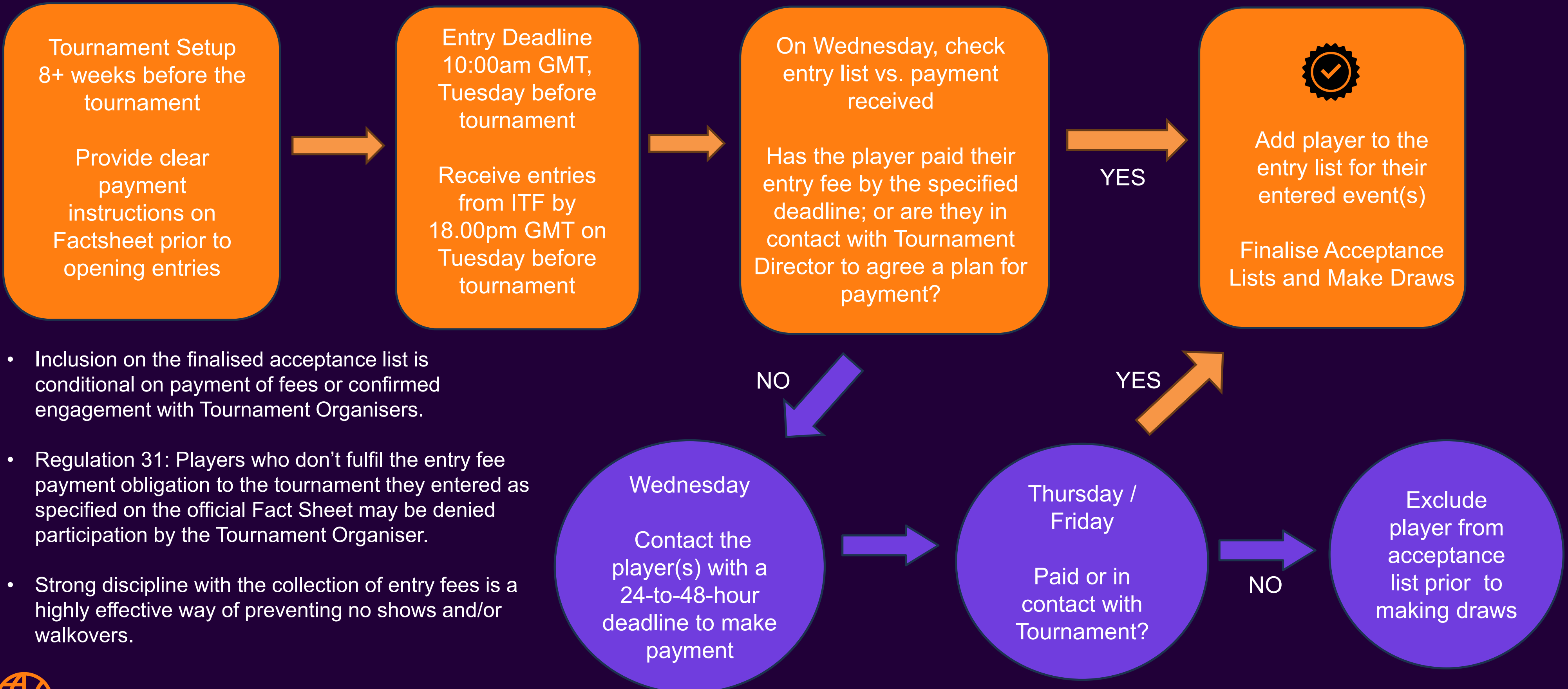
- 1. Improved entry processes to strengthen player commitment**
- 2. Educate players to prevent walkovers**
- 3. Apply and record penalties consistently**

Details of how each method can be applied to your tournament(s) can be found on the following pages.



Entry Procedures & Collection of Entry Fees

Recommended Timeline to strengthen player commitment



- Inclusion on the finalised acceptance list is conditional on payment of fees or confirmed engagement with Tournament Organisers.
- Regulation 31: Players who don't fulfil the entry fee payment obligation to the tournament they entered as specified on the official Fact Sheet may be denied participation by the Tournament Organiser.
- Strong discipline with the collection of entry fees is a highly effective way of preventing no shows and/or walkovers.



Ensuring Accountability for No-Shows: Recording Penalties



Mandatory Requirements

1. All walkovers and no-shows must be recorded in TP
2. All follow-ups must be completed before the end of the tournament



Why this Matters

- Enable the ITF Masters Department to implement appropriate and consistent penalties
- Ensure fairness and integrity across all tournaments globally
- Provide robust evidence for future policy decisions



Outcome

- Stronger reinforcement of penalties
- Reduced repeat offenders
- Improved player trust and confidence with tournaments and the Tour



Player Education & Summary

A shared responsibility across the Masters Tour



Walkovers are not an administrative issue — they directly impact:

- Player experience and satisfaction
- Tournament integrity and fairness
- The reputation of the Masters Tour

Reducing walkovers requires consistent action across all tournaments:

- Enforcing entry and payment requirements
- Recording and following up all no-shows
- Applying penalties consistently

Our Expectation:

All organisers to apply these standards **consistently**

Every tournament plays a critical role in protecting the integrity of the Tour.

If you have any questions, please contact the World Tennis Masters Team: masters@itftennis.com

