

ITF BEACH TENNIS TOUR



Beach Tennis Tour

KEY CHANGES 2016

Highlight = wording added for 2016

~~Strikethrough~~ = 2015 wording removed

RULES AND REGULATIONS

B. THE COMPETITION

2. Rankings

Rankings, issued by the ITF, shall be called the “ITF Beach Tennis **World** Rankings” (“Rankings”). Rankings shall be compiled on the basis of points earned for success in men’s and women’s doubles play in the Competition.

D. RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE TOUR

4. Sanction Fees

All tournaments sanctioned by the ITF for inclusion on the ITF Beach Tennis Tour must pay the relevant sanction fee.

Prize money category	Sanction Fee (USD)
\$35,000+H / \$50,000	1,500
\$15,000+H / \$25,000	750
\$10,000	500
\$6,500	350
\$2,500	250
No prize money	150

9. Rankings and Allocation of Points

A player’s Ranking will be based on his/her best ~~six (6)~~ **eight (8)** doubles results calculated on a 52-week rollover system except that ranking points earned at the World and Regional Championships will remain active until the end of the next respective editions of those events.

11. ~~Tour Structure~~ **Categories of Tournament**

All tournaments on the Tour are categorised into Grades which are allocated by the ITF. The tournament Grade determines the number of ranking points on offer. The following minimum prize money levels must be met to be eligible for the respective grades of tournament, however other factors will also be taken into account, as determined by the ITF:

Tournament Category	US Dollars (USD)	Euros (EUR)
Grade 1	\$10,000	€7,500
Grade 2	\$6,500	€5,000
Grade 3	\$2,500	€2,000
Grade 4	Not applicable	Not applicable

Tournaments that comply with the criteria laid down in these Regulations are eligible for inclusion of their results on the ITF Beach Tennis World Rankings. Such tournaments fall into the following categories:

World Championships (A1)
\$35,000+H / \$50,000
\$15,000+H / \$25,000
\$10,000
\$6,500
\$2,500
Non prize money

14. Prize Money Distribution

Prize money will be paid to teams in men's and women's Main Draw based on the round reached in accordance with the following percentage distribution. The percentage distribution is the percentage of the total prize money. Men's and women's teams will receive the same prize money for the equivalent round reached in their respective draw.

The prize money detailed below shall apply to THE Mens and Women's Main Draw at ITF Beach Tennis Tour tournaments.

- a) Distribution per team (US\$) Percentage distribution

Finishing Position		Percentage Distribution	
		Grade 2, 3, 4	Grade 1
Winner	1	17%	15%
Runner-up	2	11%	9%
Semi-finalist	3-4	5%	5%
Q-finalist	5-8	3%	2%
R16	9-16	-	1%
<i>Total</i>		<i>50%</i>	<i>50%</i>

Finishing position	\$50,000	\$35,000	\$25,000	\$15,000	\$10,000	\$6,500	\$2,500
Winner	10,000	7,000	5,000	3,000	2,000	1,430	550
Runner-up	6,000	4,200	3,000	1,800	1,200	910	350
Semi-finalist	2,500	1,750	1,250	750	500	455	175
Q-finalist	1,000	700	500	300	200	-	-

E. ENTRY AND WITHDRAWAL

4. Vacancies

A team shall constitute a doubles entry. Therefore, if either of the players of a team cannot play, that doubles entry is subject to default and substitution. However, if a player has to withdraw through injury or other unavoidable circumstances after the Entry Deadline, but before the draw is made, his partner may enter again with another player who has either:

- a) not already been accepted into any doubles event due to take place during the same time period following the entry deadline; or
- b) been accepted into the same event but who is eligible under this rule to enter again due to the injury or unavoidable circumstances of his/her partner.

The new team's entry shall be accepted and the team shall be placed in the appropriate position on the Acceptance List in accordance with the System of Merit provided that this position is not higher than the final position of the previously accepted player(s) at the time of his/her withdrawal in which case the team shall be placed in the final position of the withdrawn player. For avoidance of doubt, if both players in the new team had been previously accepted, the position of the player from the lowest ranking team shall be used. The new entry must be submitted at the same time as the withdrawal. With this exception, players may not change partners after the doubles entry deadline. In no case shall any player change partners after the draw has been made unless the draw is remade due to the withdrawal of seeded teams.

F. TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS

8. Hospitality

If official hospitality is offered, the conditions of such hospitality must be available to all entered players and the conditions must be equal for the Men's and Women's events. At \$35,000+H and \$15,000+H tournament hospitality must be offered to the top four teams (in the official hotel). At all other tournaments hospitality may be offered to ~~all players in a draw (qualifying and/or main draw) or it may be conditional upon the round reached~~ a defined number of teams based only on their position on the Acceptance List. Hospitality may not be conditional on a team's performance or on the entry of specific players or teams.

Where hospitality is offered it is defined as a complimentary room for the use of each pair. Rooms are to be available to each pair beginning no earlier than the day prior to the start of Main Draw and no later than the day Main Draw starts. Accommodation continues through to include the night that the pair plays their last match.

10. Tournament Administrator/Tournament Director

The National Association sanctioning or organising the Tournament shall designate a Tournament Administrator/Tournament Director to administer the event.

The Tournament Administrator/Director is not permitted to compete in the event.

If the Tournament Administrator/Director is found to be entered into a tournament prior to his/her team's first match, his/her team shall immediately be removed from the Acceptance List/Draw and may be subject to penalty under the Code of Conduct. If the Tournament Administrator/Director is found to have competed in the tournament his/her team shall be defaulted from the event and shall forfeit any prize money and/or Ranking points earned and may be subject to penalty under the Code of Conduct.

11. Referee

Each Tournament must provide at its sole expense an appropriate official, as defined in the Tournament Organisational Guidelines, to serve as the Referee for the tournament. The Referee is the final authority for on-site issues related to the ITF Beach Tennis Tour Rules, ITF Beach Tennis Tour Code of Conduct, ITF Rules of Beach Tennis and all on-court matters. The Referee is responsible for making the draw.

The Referee may not be the Tournament Director/Tournament Administrator and is not permitted to compete in the event.

If the Referee is found to be entered into a tournament prior to his/her team's first match, his/her team shall immediately be removed from the Acceptance List/Draw and may be subject to penalty under the Code of Conduct. If the Referee is found to have competed in the tournament his/her team shall be defaulted from the event and shall forfeit any prize money and/or Ranking points earned and may be subject to penalty under the Code of Conduct.

15. Conditions of Play

a) Between Tournaments

If the Referee receives notice from a player of the date and time of his last match played in a previous tournament, then the Referee shall whenever possible give the player one full day's rest between such match and the player's first match in the Tournament.

b) Between Matches

Except when weather or other unavoidable circumstances causes schedule disruption, members of a doubles team shall be scheduled for a maximum of two (2) main draw matches ~~per day~~ **on the final day of the tournament (semifinal and final)** which shall not be scheduled less than twelve (12) hours after the completion of the last match of such doubles team on the preceding day or round. This may be increased to a maximum of four (4) matches ~~per day~~ **Grade 3 and Grade 4 events on preceding days and on all days at \$2,500 and non prize money events.**

16. Entry Fee

- a. The following maximum entry fee may be charged per team per event (unless otherwise authorised by ITF), covering teams in both Main Draw and Qualifying:

	Max. Entry Fee (per team)*
World Championships	US\$150
\$50,000/\$35,000 +H	US\$150
\$25,000/\$15,000 +H	US\$150
\$10,000 Grade 1	US\$70
\$6,500 Grade 2	US\$70
\$2,500 Grade 3	US\$50
Non prize money Grade 4	US\$50

G. **WORLD TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP REGULATIONS**

New section added – see full Rules document for details.

APPENDICES

Appendix A

ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS AND CAPTAINS TO REPRESENT A NATION

A player or captain is entitled to represent one nation only at senior professional international level.

Any beach tennis player who is in good standing with his/her national association in accordance with Appendix A shall be qualified to represent that nation as a player or captain if he/she:

- (a) (i) is a citizen of that nation and has held a current valid passport of that nation for a minimum of two years (24 months) or;
(ii) is a citizen of that nation, but in circumstances where that nation does not issue its own passport has held a qualifying passport issued by or on behalf of that nation for a period of two years which confirms the player's place of birth as that nation or;

or;

- (iii) after a consecutive period of five years (60 months) residence in that nation can provide a genuine reason for being unable to hold or make application to hold a current valid passport where:
(a) he/she was born, or has a parent or grandparent born in that nation; or,
(b) he/she has obtained or procured the right to remain permanently or has been granted humanitarian protection in that nation.

if a player is qualified under this sub section to represent more than one nation and the national association of one of those nations wishes to nominate him/her to represent it, that association must submit an application to the ITF executive, who will forward a copy to any other national association concerned, which shall be entitled to comment within 15 days of receipt. The initial application must be received by the ITF executive, at least three months prior to the event for which the player wishes to be nominated.

The ITF executive will give a ruling having taken into account all relevant matters.

- (b) (i) a player who has represented, or has been eligible to represent a nation and such a nation is divided into two or more nations, shall immediately be eligible to represent any one of those nations.
(ii) a player who has represented, or has been eligible to represent a nation and such nation is absorbed in whole or in part by another nation, shall immediately be eligible to represent such other nation.
- (c) a player shall be deemed to have represented a nation if he/she shall have been nominated at the time of the Draw, and shall have accepted, the nomination to play in the Olympic Games tennis event or in any international team competition recognised by the ITF and listed in by-law 2.1(a).
- (d) a national association may appeal to the Beach Tennis Commission to nominate a player who is not eligible under the above rules and the Beach Tennis Commission may agree the application if the full circumstances warrant an exception being made. Such application must be received by the ITF Executive at least six months prior to the event for which the player wishes to be nominated not later than one month after the decision of the Executive has been received by the National Association.
- (e) the Beach Tennis Commission has the right to ask a national association to produce evidence to show how a player is qualified to represent that nation.

Note: a player who represented a nation under the rules in force in 1994 or prior thereto, shall continue to be eligible to represent that nation even if he/she is no longer qualified to do so under the amended terms of this regulation.

APPENDIX B

TOURNAMENT CATEGORIES GRADES AND RANKING POINTS

Tournaments shall be classified into grades categories, with ranking points as set out below.

Grade	World Championships	Regional Championships		Grade Events			
	A1	B1	B2	1	2	3	4
Winner	250	180	80	150	100	60	40
Runner-up	180	120	50	100	75	45	30
Semi-finalist	120	80	30	80	50	30	20
Quarter-finalist	80	50	15	60	30	20	15
Losers in last 16	50	30	5	30	20	15	10
Losers in last 32	30	=	=	20			

BEACH TENNIS	W	F	SF	QF	R16	R32
World Championships (A1)	275	170	110	60	30	15
\$50,000 / \$35,000+H	250	150	90	45	20	10
\$25,000 / \$15,000+H	125	75	45	25	10	5
\$10,000	80	48	29	15	6	4
\$6,500	35	20	10	5	3	
\$2,500	27	15	8	4	2	
Non Prize Money	18	10	6	3	1	

Distribution of Ranking points in Round Robin events

Ranking points will be awarded to players based on their team's final position in accordance with the Ranking Points table. For the purposes of this rule: if one (1) round robin group is played, a team's final standing shall be used; if two (2) round robin groups are played, the second place teams in each group shall be awarded semi-finalist ranking points and the remaining teams shall be awarded quarter-finalist ranking points.

Full points will only be awarded to teams that have won a minimum of two (2) matches. A team that has won fewer than two (2) matches will receive 50% of the available points for the round reached.

ITF World Team Championship Ranking Points

Ranking points for the World Team Championship and Regional Championships are under review and will be confirmed prior to the 2016 editions.

~~Ranking points will be awarded to all players in a team based on their team's final standing for that year's event.~~

~~No ITF Beach Tennis Ranking points will be awarded to a player unless he/she has won a minimum of one (1) live doubles match.*~~

~~For final team positions 1-4:~~

~~Full points will only be awarded to players who have won a minimum of two (2) live doubles matches. If a player has won only one (1) live match, 50% of points will be awarded.~~

Final Team Position	Grade A2 Ranking Points
1st	200
2nd	155
3rd	125
4th	105
5th	95
6th	85
7th	75
8th	65
9th	60
10th	55
11th	55
12th	50
13th	50
14th	45
15th	45
16th	40
17th	40
18th	35
19th	35
20th	35
21st	35

22nd	30
23rd	30
24th	30
25th	30
26th	25
27th	25
28th	25
29th	25
30th	20
31st	20
32nd	20

~~A win through walkover will only be considered a match won for a nominated player who has played and won **wins** a live match in that year's event. A win through retirement will be considered a match won for the nominated players. A Bye will not be considered a match won. For the purpose of this rule a 'live match' is defined as any match, the result of which could affect the outcome of the tie. For avoidance of doubt, a decisive Mixed Doubles match is a 'live match'~~

**APPENDIX C
MEDIA, COMMERCIAL AND DATA RIGHTS**

3. COMMERCIAL RIGHTS

[...]

For the avoidance of doubt no sponsorship will be permitted either as part of the Commercial Rights or as Tour Sponsor Rights to any entity in respect of tobacco products, hard liquor products, ~~betting or gaming companies~~, political activity or other category deemed to be detrimental to the sport of tennis, as reasonably determined by ITF in consultation with the applicable National Associations. **Sponsorship by betting companies, as part of the above rights, must comply fully with the provisions of the Tennis Anti-Corruption Programme (see Article V of the Code of Conduct).**

**APPENDIX G
PLAYER ANALYSIS TECHNOLOGY ("PAT") DATA RIGHTS**

New section added – see full Rules document for details.

APPENDIX H

ITF BEACH TENNIS COMMISSION

Chairman

~~Mr Roman Murashkovsky (RUS)~~

Mr Aleksei Selivanenko (RUS)

Members

~~Mr Alessandro Calbucci (ITA)~~

Ms Joana Cortez (BRA)

Mr George Donnelly (GBR)

Mr Michele Folegatti (ITA)

Mr Nao Kawatei (JPN)

Mr Mauricio Rosciano (ITA)

Mr Dmitry Vikharev (RUS)

CODE OF CONDUCT

ARTICLE III: PLAYER ON-SITE OFFENCES

C. DRESS AND EQUIPMENT

1. Unacceptable Attire

Players shall wear appropriate clothing at all times during play including warm-up (i.e. no bare chest).

a. Footwear

The use of shoes, including trainers and tennis shoes, is not permitted. The use of sand socks (as determined by the Referee) is permitted. The Tournament Referee has the authority to determine that the footwear being used does not constitute a sand sock and can prohibit its use at ITF Beach Tennis Tour events.

3. Identification/Advertising/Slogans

Manufacturer's and non-manufacturer's identification are allowed on clothing, accessory (such as hat, wristband and headband) and equipment. However, the display of political, religious, or personal messages or slogans in any language or form on player's clothing, accessory, equipment or body is prohibited. The similar display of commercial messages and slogans in any language or form is not allowed for the duration of the time at any official activity organised by the ITF. In addition, identification by use of the name, emblem, logo, trademark, symbol or other description of any beach

~~tennis circuit, series of beach tennis events, beach tennis exhibition, beach tennis tournament, any other sport or entertainment event is prohibited on all clothing or equipment, unless otherwise approved by the ITF.~~

No identification shall be permitted on player's clothing that promotes/displays tobacco products, hard liquor products, political activity or other category deemed to be detrimental to the sport of tennis.

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary hereinabove set forth the identification by use of the name, emblem, logo, trademark, symbol or other description of any tennis circuit, series of tennis events, tennis exhibition, tennis tournament, any other sport or entertainment event other than the ITF Pro Circuit is prohibited on all dress or equipment, unless otherwise approved by the ITF.

In the event the utilisation of any of the foregoing permitted commercial identifications would violate any governmental regulation with respect to television, then the same shall be prohibited.

ARTICLE V: PLAYER MAJOR OFFENCES

E. DISCRETIONARY REVIEW

Any player or Related Person found to have committed a Player Major Offence may, after paying all fines as above provided, petition the Commission for discretionary review of the determination and penalty of the ITF Executive Director. The petition shall be in writing and must be filed with the ITF Executive Director within thirty (30) days after notice of the violation is mailed to the player. The ITF Executive Director shall thereafter promptly forward said petition to the Commission. Said petition shall state in detail the basis for such appeal. Within thirty (30) days thereafter the Commission shall designate a time and place for the hearing of such appeal and shall so notify the player and the ITF Executive Director. At such hearing the player and the ITF Executive Director shall present to the Commission the relevant evidence on the matter. The Commission may affirm, reverse, or modify the decision of the ITF Executive Director on appeal. **The decision of the Commission will be provided in writing and shall be final and binding.**

ARTICLE VII: TOURNAMENT OFFENCES

I. DISCRETIONARY REVIEW

Any ITF Beach Tennis Tour Tournament found to have committed a Tournament Offence may, after paying all fines as above provided, petition the Commission for discretionary review of the determination and penalty of the ITF Executive Director. The petition shall be in writing and must be filed with the ITF Executive Director within thirty (30) days after notice of the violation is mailed to the tournament. The ITF Executive Director shall thereafter promptly forward said petition to the Commission. Said petition shall state in detail the basis for such appeal. Within thirty (30) days thereafter the Commission shall designate a time and place for the hearing of such

appeal and shall so notify the tournament and the ITF Executive Director. At such hearing the tournament and the ITF Executive Director shall present to the Commission the relevant evidence on the matter. The Commission may affirm, reverse, or modify the decision of the ITF Executive Director on appeal. **The decision of the Commission will be provided in writing and shall be final and binding.**

RULES OF BEACH TENNIS

Rule 24. Player/Team loses Point

A player/member of a doubles team returns the ball in play so that, before it hits the ground, it hits a permanent fixture **or the net post**

APPENDICES

APPENDIX VII – JUNIOR BEACH TENNIS

16 and under/14 and under Beach Tennis

Court:

The court for all 16 and under/14 and under beach tennis competition (boys and girls) shall be 16.0 metres in length and 8.0 metres in width. The net shall be 1.70 metres high across the full width of the court.

12 and under Beach Tennis

Courts:

In addition to the (full sized) court described in Rule 1, a court designated for 12 and under beach tennis competition may have reduced dimensions as follows:

The court shall be a rectangle measuring 14.0 metres in length and 7.0 metres in width. The net shall be 1.50 metres high across the full width of the court.

Note: ITF Approved Stage 2 balls shall be used for all junior beach tennis competition.