

2013 ITF Seniors Circuit Regulations – Major Rule Changes

17. Allocation of Points

World Individual Ranking points for singles, doubles and mixed doubles will be awarded as set out in the points table in Rule 18 below.

- viii) Should an ITF Seniors Circuit tournament not offer a specific Singles age group and a player of that age group participate in a lower Singles age group event within the tournament, then this player shall be awarded points in his/her own age group. This does not apply to players who deliberately enter a lower age group Singles event in a tournament where their own Singles age group is offered.

21. Competitor Obligations

- b) At the Seniors/Super-Seniors World Individual Championships, should a player leave the site without completing his/her main draw singles and/or doubles matches and/or mixed doubles matches before his/her elimination and before the scheduled date for completion of the event without a reason of health, injury or bereavement, he/she shall not receive any player hospitality money (if provided), shall forfeit all world ranking points won in all events of the Competition and shall be subject to the penalties set forth in Y. Suspension Points. For the purpose of leaving the tournament site for a reason of injury, the tournament doctor must issue a medical certificate.
- c) At any other ITF Seniors Circuit tournament, should a player leave the site without completing his/her main draw singles matches before his/her elimination and before the scheduled date for completion of the event without a reason of health, injury or bereavement or retire from the tournament for medical reasons without a valid medical certificate, he/she shall not receive any player hospitality money (if provided), shall forfeit all world ranking points won in all events at the tournament and shall be subject to the penalties set forth in Y. Suspension Points. For the purpose of leaving the tournament site for a reason of injury, the tournament doctor or the physiotherapist/athletic trainer (if available) or any other medical technician must issue a medical certificate or written statement if requested by the tournament referee.

43. Singles Seeding criteria

Singles Seeding at Seniors/Super-Seniors World Individual Championships and Grade 1-5 singles events shall be based on the latest available ITF Seniors World Individuals Singles Ranking points on the Monday of the week of the Freeze Deadline and strictly in world ranking order.

The number of seeds in knock-out draws shall be as follows:

8-16 players - 4 seeds

17-47 players - 8 seeds

48-95 players - 16 seeds

96+ players - 32 seeds

For amalgamated draws the better of the recalculated ITF Seniors World Individual Singles Ranking points of the player's own age group (recalculated OAG points) versus the ITF Seniors World Individual Singles Ranking points of the age group he/she is competing in shall be used.

For the purpose of seed ranking, a player that is ranked in more than one age group on the ITF Seniors World Individual Singles Ranking will use the better of the recalculated ITF Seniors Singles World Individual Ranking points of his/her own age group versus the ITF Seniors World Individual Singles Ranking points of the age group he/she is competing in.

44. Doubles and Mixed Doubles Seeding criteria

Doubles and Mixed Doubles Seeding at Seniors/Super-Seniors World Individual Championships, Grade 1-5 and Grade B1-B3 Doubles and Mixed Doubles events shall be based on the latest available ITF Seniors World Individual Singles Ranking as well as the ITF Seniors World Individual Doubles/Mixed Doubles Ranking (depending on event as applicable) on the Monday of the week of the Freeze Deadline.

Teams are seeded according to the following seed order:

1. Doubles: The combined ranking points of the two players, using each players' best ITF Seniors World Individual Singles or World Individual Doubles ranking shall be added together and the total used to determine the seed order.
Mixed Doubles: The combined ranking points of the two players, using each players' best ITF Seniors World Individual Singles or World Individual Mixed Doubles ranking shall be added together and the total used to determine the seed order.
2. If one player of a team is unranked, that team shall be seeded below any other teams which have the same number of ranking points.

If two or more teams are tied otherwise, the order shall be drawn by lot.

The number of seeds in knock-out draws shall be as follows:

4-7 teams - 2 seeds

8-16 teams - 4 seeds

17-47 teams - 8 seeds

48-64 teams - 16 seeds

The number of seeds in round robin draws shall be as follows:

3 teams – 0 seeds

4-6 teams – 2 seeds

7 teams – 3 seeds

47. Match Formats Singles

Matches must be played over the best of three tiebreak sets on a knockout basis. The seven (7) point tiebreak shall operate at six games all in each set.

In the men's and women's 80 and 85 events, should the score reach one set all, one (1) ten (10) point tie-break game will be played to determine the winner. In this case, no 10 minute break shall be taken after the second set.

48. Match Formats Doubles and Mixed Doubles

The tournament organiser may choose between the following match format options for the conduct of doubles and mixed doubles:

- (i) Best of three tie-break sets
- (ii) Best of three tie-break sets with No-Ad scoring
- (iii) Two tie-break sets and a Match tie-break (10 points)
- (iv) Two tie-break sets and a Match tie-break (10 points) with No-Ad scoring
- (v) Best of three short sets
- (vi) Best of three short sets with No-Ad scoring
- (vii) Two short sets with a Match tie-break (10 points)
- (viii) Two short sets with a Match tie-break (10 points) with No-Ad scoring

The chosen format must be published on the official ITF Fact Sheet and once published, may only be changed subject to approval of the ITF.

In the men's and women's 80 and 85 events (should all other doubles and mixed doubles age groups be played according to option i or ii above), should the score reach one set all, one (1) ten (10) point tie-break game will be played to determine the winner. In this case, no 10 minute break shall be taken after the second set.

49. Round Robin and Play-off draws

Rules for Round Robin events

In the Round Robin groups the following rules apply:

- Players/doubles teams are awarded one (1) point for winning a match

The standings in the group is determined by:

- Highest number of points

If the number of points is equal for

- two (2) players/doubles teams: The head-to-head result

If the number of points is equal for three (3) or more players, for these players/doubles teams only:

- the percentage of sets won of sets played against all players/doubles teams in the group
- if, after this calculation, only two players/doubles teams remain tied, the result in the head-to-head match played between the two players/doubles teams will be used to break the tie
- the percentage of games won of games played against all players/doubles teams in the group
- if, after this calculation, only two players/doubles teams remain tied, the result in the head-to-head match played between the two players/doubles teams will be used to break the tie
- if, after this, there are still players/doubles teams that remain tied, then the World Individual ranking points of the players/doubles teams used for seeding in the event will be used to break the tie*
- if, after this, there are still players/doubles teams that remain tied, then drawn by lot.

Notes *:

The World Individual ranking points used for seeding in the event are determined as per rule 43 for singles and rule 44 for doubles and mixed doubles.