

Towel Policy directive from the ITF

9-Mar-2020



Dear General Secretary / CEO / Tournament Organiser

Further to recent correspondence and advice issued in relation to the COVID-19 outbreak, in order to further minimise the potential spread of the virus, ITF has issued the following policy regarding the use and handling of player towels at all ITF Circuits events, which is effective for all events commencing from the week of 9 March 2020 and until further notice.

- Players must handle their own towels exclusively
i.e. players must not request towels from, or give their towels to ball kids at any point during the match
- Ball kids (and officials) are instructed not to handle players' towels at any other time during a match
- Players are solely responsible for their towels during changeovers (to be enforced by the Chair Umpire)
- Events should identify designated locations for towels (at each end of the court), making certain that each player is using a different location for their towel at each end of the court
- Hand sanitisers should be provided for ball kids to use at changeovers (as necessary) – to reduce the risk arising from handling balls used by players
- Events should provide a central location in which used towels provided by the event (as necessary) can be returned
- Following every match, the designated towel areas must be cleaned with an appropriate disinfectant
- The time between points remains unchanged (i.e. 25 seconds)

You are kindly requested to pass this policy on to and properly brief all necessary personnel, including officials working at ITF Circuits tournaments. Attached please find a notice to display at tournaments, e.g. referee's office, locker rooms.

The COVID-19 advisory notices (previously distributed) will be updated as soon as possible and made available to you.

If you have further information or any questions, please do not hesitate to contact any ITF Circuits team, copied above, or individual team members as appropriate.

Regards (on behalf of ITF Circuits)

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