

ITF Seniors Tour





ITF Seniors Strategic Plan 2019-2021

ITF º

- Released in January 2021
- Available at <u>www.itftennis.com/seniors</u>

https://www.itftennis.com/en/news-and-media/articles/itf-seniors-strategic-plans-circuit-development/



Plan will be refined in 2021 for 2022-2024



Summary of Recent Developments & Changes

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The following outline recent changes to ITF Seniors Regulations or ITF Seniors procedures that are in place for 2021. This document is an overview summary only and does not replace the ITF Seniors Regulations.

- No upfront cost to register for an ITF Seniors Membership (IPIN). Instead, players will be charged an ITF IPIN Fee of \$6.00 (USD), EUR 5.00€ or equivalent local currency per tournament they play. IPIN payments are 'capped' where players will only be required to pay for their first 8 tournaments in a calendar year. The ITF will inform Tournaments of any entered player(s) who has played 8 tournaments in a year. Therefore, regular players will pay a maximum of EUR 40.00€ or USD \$48.00 in IPIN fees during a calendar year.
- New Tournament Structure in place from January 2021 with 6 tournament grades (see image). These include the World Championships, S1000, S700, S400, S200 and S100 (entry level). Each grade represents the value of ranking points that will be earned by the winning player/each player in a doubles pair in each event. For example, the winner of the Women's 45 Singles at an S400 tournament shall receive 400 ranking points.
- New Grading Criteria in place to review upgrades and downgrades of tournaments based on four (4) specific criteria. These include the ITF Evaluation Score (assessment of player field & ITF rankings), the player feedback survey satisfaction score, the post-event TD/Referee reports and an ITF review of the national, regional and global pyramid.



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- Player feedback survey introduced to help the ITF understand the standard of tournament delivery and player satisfaction at ITF Seniors tournaments. The result forms a part of the tournament grading criteria.
- Launch of the ITF Seniors Tournament Recognition Scheme to recognise tournaments with the very best delivery standards and player satisfaction as measured through the player feedback survey results.
- New IPIN website and ITF website launched in 2019 and 2020 respectively to provide enhanced digital services to players, particularly through mobile devices.
- Introduction of new 30+ age group and 90+ age group for Men's Singles, Women's Singles, Men's Doubles, Women's Doubles and Mixed Doubles from January 2021.
- Greater flexibility on scoring formats which include:
 - Two sets and a 10 point match tie-break scoring format can be used in main draw singles at \$100, \$200 and \$400 events. When used, up to 2 singles matches a day can be played in 30+ through 60+ age group events. Players in the 65+ through 90+ age groups are limited to only 1 singles match per day.
 - Two short sets and a 10 point match tie-break can be used in main draw singles for the 30+ through 60+ age group events where the event is scheduled to take place in 3 or less days. Where this is used, up to 3 singles matches a day may be played by the 30+ through 45+ age groups. The 50+ through 60+ age groups may play up to 2 singles matches a day using this scoring format.



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- Greater flexibility for tournaments and players at entry grade (S100) tournaments which include:
 - An ITF White Badge referee is preferred, although a National Level Referee may be assigned for the tournament if a white badge official is not feasible.
 - Flexibility with tournament sanction fees where tournaments staging a small number of events and age groups pay a reduced sanction fee. Tournaments with less than 100 total players and who stage 4 or less age and gender events shall pay a sanction fee of \$50 per age and gender that takes place.
 - Possible for players to play 2 singles matches a day if an alternative scoring used, e.g. 2 short sets and a match tie-break to reduce the need for players to return on multiple days.
 - Example 1: S100 Tournament: Men's 30 Singles event only. 16 player draw with consolation. Played Saturday, Sunday and Monday only. All matches played as 'short sets' with a final set 10 point match tie-break.
 - Example 2: S100 Tournament: Mixed Doubles 40 and 50 events only. 8 pairs in each draw played on 1 day. All matches play two tie-break sets and a 10-point tie-break in the final set.
- All tournaments are expected to provide singles consolation events to provide players with the opportunity to
 play a minimum of 2 matches. ITF Seniors Ranking Points are now awarded for successful players in consolation
 events in all grades. Abbreviated scoring and amalgamation of events is expected to be used by tournaments in
 consolation events to reduce court and time pressure, for example 2 short sets and a match tie-break, or 2 tiebreak sets and a match tie-break/amalgamation of age groups.
- More than one (1) national closed event may be approved within nations during 2021 at the discretion of the ITF.
- The ITF 85 Men's World Team Championships shall be named the 'Lorne Main Cup' from 2021
- The ITF 85 Women's World Team Championships shall be named the 'Angela Mortimer Cup' from 2021