

CHANGES TO PROFESSIONAL TENNIS, AUGUST 2019

1. Why are further changes being made to professional tennis in August 2019?

The ATP, WTA and ITF recognise the need to create additional professional playing opportunities and improve the flow of players on a more clearly-defined pathway into the professional level of events for both men's and women's circuits.

2. What are the main changes?

Tournaments beginning 5 August

- ATP ranking points awarded in \$15,000 and \$25,000 Main Draws;
- WTA ranking points awarded in \$15,000 Main Draws; and
- ITF ranking points awarded in \$15,000 and \$25,000 Qualifying.

Tournaments beginning 26 August

- ITF Women's \$25,000 Singles Main Draw – no WTA ranking point in R32;
- 48 Qualifying Draws (48Q), subject to court availability, at \$15,000 and \$25,000 events;
- 8-day tournaments permitted (mandatory at events with 48Q);
- Three (3) Junior Reserved places at \$15,000 tournaments; no reserved places at any other level; and
- Doubles acceptance simplified and consistent for all ITF events (no requirement to have been accepted into the Singles competition at \$15,000 tournaments).

RANKING POINTS AND TOURNAMENT ACCEPTANCE

3. What is the new ATP/WTA Singles and Doubles ranking points table (from 5 August 2019)?

Singles

Tournament level	W	F	SF	QF	R16	R32
Women						
\$15,000 / \$15,000 +H	10	6	4	2	1	-
Men						
\$25,000 / \$25,000 +H	20	12	6	3	1	-
\$15,000 / \$15,000 +H	10	6	4	2	1	-

Doubles

Tournament level	W	F	SF	QF	R16
Women					
\$15,000 / \$15,000 +H	10	6	4	1	-
Men					
\$25,000 / \$25,000 +H	20	12	6	3	-
\$15,000 / \$15,000 +H	10	6	4	2	-

Notes:

- At men's ITF Tournaments and at women's \$15,000 tournaments, no additional ATP/WTA points will be awarded for providing complimentary hospitality.
- WTA points at \$25,000, \$60,000, \$80,000, \$100,000 tournaments, as well as ATP points at ATP Challengers, are unchanged, with the exception of Women's \$25,000 events where from 26 August there will no longer be a WTA point awarded in R32 Main Draw singles. However, if a player in the qualifying rounds of a Women's \$25,000 tournament qualifies into the Main Draw, she will still be awarded 1 WTA point (current rule).

- The ATP/WTA ranking points tables for all tournaments offering ATP/WTA ranking points can be found on the ATP and WTA websites.

4. How will the new rankings points be introduced?

Players' ATP/WTA Singles and Doubles rankings will be updated with the new points allocations on 5 August 2019. These points will be applied retroactively for 52 weeks to all tournaments played since August 2018. Specifically, on 5 August, players' rankings will reflect results from men's and women's \$15,000 and \$25,000 tournaments played since 30 July 2018 and ATP/Challenger/WTA/Women's \$60,000-\$100,000 tournaments played since 6 August 2018.

Tournaments from the week of 5 August will award the new ATP/WTA ranking points.

WTA points earned for losing in R32 at Women's \$25,000 events will be retained in the conversion but will not be awarded from 26 August onwards.

Until the end of 2019, the ITF will continue to award ITF ranking points at all rounds (see Appendix 1), including in the main draws of singles and doubles competition, to be fair to players who do not have an ATP or WTA ranking. See question 10.

5. When will the new rankings take effect for entries?

The rankings conversion will take place on 5 August 2019. The new rankings will be used for Singles entries for tournaments starting the week of 26 August (where the entry deadline is 5 August for ATP Challenger tournaments and 8 August for ITF tournaments). The new rankings will be used for Singles seedings and Doubles acceptance for tournaments starting the week of 12 August (which use the rankings from 7 days previously).

Tournament week	Points awarded	Date of Singles acceptance ranking	Date of Doubles acceptance / Singles seeding ranking
29 July	Old 2019	8 July (old)	22 July (old)
5 August	New 2019	15 July (old)	29 July (old)
12 August	New 2019	22 July (old)	5 Aug (new)
19 August	New 2019	29 July (old)	12 Aug (new)
26 August	New 2019	5 Aug (new)	19 Aug (new)

6. If I have both an ATP/WTA ranking and an ITF ranking, which ranking will be used for entry into ITF tournaments?

ATP/WTA ranking will have priority for entries at ITF tournaments, followed by ITF ranking, followed by National Rankings. If any tournament places remain, these will be filled by unranked players, drawn by lot.

7. When will I know what my new rankings are to sign up for tournaments?

The ATP and WTA have begun to post weekly "shadow" rankings for players on PlayerZone, showing players the changes in their rankings in the weeks leading up to the formal conversion on 5 August. The ITF will post the men's and women's shadow rankings on IPIN and will send to players by email.

8. How many players will have an ATP ranking?

From 5 August, there will be approximately 2,000 players with ATP ranking points in singles and approximately 2,300 players with ATP ranking points in doubles. Players ranked inside the Top 500 in singles and Top 250 in doubles will be considered to have an ATP Ranking and eligible for ATP membership with benefits. Players outside the top 500 singles/250 doubles

will have an Entry Ranking which will be valid for entry purposes. For further information, please contact players@atptour.com.

9. How many players will have a WTA ranking?

From 5 August, it is expected that approximately 1,300 players will have a WTA singles ranking and approximately 1,400 players will have a WTA doubles ranking.

10. If my ITF main draw points have been converted into ATP/WTA points, why do I also have an ITF ranking with all my ITF points?

If you have an ATP or WTA ranking, you will not need to use your ITF ranking for acceptance or seeding purposes. However, until the end of 2019 the ITF will continue to award ITF points at all rounds (see Appendix 1), including in the main draws of singles and doubles competition, to be fair to players who may not have an ATP or WTA ranking.

On the women's side, a WTA ranking is awarded to players that have WTA ranking points from 3 tournaments or a total of 10 WTA ranking points. A player that reaches the finals of one \$15,000 event would have 6 WTA points but no WTA ranking. However, given that ITF points will continue to be awarded in main draws in 2019, the player would have an ITF ranking (60 points). The player would use their ITF ranking to enter tournaments and be accepted after WTA-ranked players. This gives the player a better chance of being accepted and avoids having to use a National Ranking to be accepted (third priority after WTA ranking and ITF ranking).

Similarly, on the men's side, ITF ranking points will continue to be awarded in ITF Main Draws and ATP Challenger qualifying until the end of 2019 (with the exception of ATP Challenger 125s), again to ensure that a player with no ATP ranking but with ITF points won in ATP Challenger qualifying is not disadvantaged.

In 2020, ITF ranking points will not be awarded in Challenger Qualifying or ITF \$25,000 and \$15,000 Main Draws.

11. How will the new rankings affect the Junior Reserved places (\$15,000 tournaments) and ITF-reserved places (\$25,000 and ATP Challenger tournaments)?

Following the ranking conversion, and beginning with tournaments on 26 August, there will be no ITF-reserved places into \$25,000 and ATP Challenger tournaments. Only players with an ATP ranking can be accepted for advanced or on-site entries in singles or doubles at ATP Challengers.

Top 100 Juniors will continue to be able to access Main Draw Junior Reserved places at \$15,000 tournaments but these will be limited to a maximum of three (3) places at each tournament.

12. How will acceptance into Doubles competition change?

All ITF tournament Doubles draws are for 16 teams (13 by Direct Acceptance, 3 by Wild Card). From 26 August at \$15,000 tournaments, the requirement to be accepted into the Singles Main Draw or Qualifying competition draws is removed. Any player can sign-in.

Doubles acceptance will be the same for all ITF tournament levels; players will be accepted using the best of Combined Singles/Doubles ranking (with teams of ATP/WTA ranked players prioritised over those with ITF rankings only).

13. How will these changes affect me if I am subject to the WTA Age Eligibility Rule?

If you are a player subject to the WTA Age Eligibility Rule (AER), be advised that the WTA will:

- not count any \$15,000 tournaments that you played prior to 5 August 2019 toward your tournament limit under the AER;
- not count the Wild Cards that you accepted at \$15,000 tournaments prior to 5 August 2019 toward your Wild Card limits under the AER; and
- beginning on 5 August 2019, count each \$15,000 tournament in which you earn WTA ranking points (singles or doubles) toward your tournament and wild card (as applicable) limits under the AER.

Players are encouraged to read all of the WTA Age Eligibility Rule (Section XV of the WTA Rulebook), which is available at this [link](#). Contact Sarka Vitkova svitkova@wtatennis.com or Tom Livengood tlivengood@wtatennis.com for questions regarding a player's individual status under the AER.

ITF TOURNAMENTS: DRAW SIZES AND NUMBER OF DAYS

14. What changes are being made to draw sizes at ITF tournaments?

From 26 August, ITF tournaments can take place over 8 days (Sunday to Sunday) and can have up to 48 places in Singles qualifying (48Q). Where possible, tournaments will run 48Q draws, but where tournaments only have sufficient match courts to run a 32Q, or have finalised plans for 2019 already, a 32Q will continue to be permitted to ensure continued playing opportunities.

Women's \$60,000, \$80,000 and \$100,000 tournaments will have a maximum of 32Q.

All ITF Singles Main Draws will have 32 places. All ITF Doubles Draws are for 16 teams.

15. Can tournaments be played over 8 days (Sunday to Sunday)?

Yes. Tournaments with a 48Q will have 3 rounds of qualifying and 5 main draw rounds and must take place over 8 days, Sunday to Sunday.

Tournaments with a 32Q may start on a Sunday or Monday and may take place over 7 or 8 days. No ITF points will be awarded in the first round of qualifying at tournaments with a 48Q draw. At Women's \$25,000 tournaments specifically, prize money will not be awarded for in the first qualifying round of tournaments with a 48Q.

If players are required to play 2 matches in 1 day during Qualifying, qualifiers should be given a rest day in Singles between Qualifying and Main Draw (subject to weather)

16. What are the sign-in deadlines?

The Qualifying Sign-in Deadline is at 18:00 hours local time (6pm) at the site of the Singles Qualifying event on the day before the scheduled start of the Qualifying event, unless stated otherwise on the published Fact Sheet. For tournaments, starting on Sunday, this means Saturday 18:00; for tournaments starting Monday, this means Sunday 18:00.

Doubles sign-in closes at 14:00 (2pm) the day before start of the Singles Main Draw.

Players should always consult the Tournament Fact Sheet to confirm the Singles Qualifying and Doubles Sign-in deadlines.

The Special Exempt Rules will be modified to cater also for events with overlapping Sundays.

17. Will the ITF's match scoring format stay the same?

Yes. Singles Main Draw: the best of three (3) tie-break sets. Ad scoring must be used.

Singles Qualifying: the best of three sets, with two (2) tie-break sets, and if one set all, one match tie-break game (10 points) shall be played. Ad scoring must be used.

Doubles Draw: the best of three sets with two (2) tie-break sets, and if one set all, one match tie-break game (10 points) shall be played. No-ad scoring must be used.

18. How will the changes affect which tournaments I am removed from at the Withdrawal Deadline?

At the ITF's Withdrawal Deadline (13 days before the tournament week), players accepted into the Main Draw or Qualifying of more than one ITF tournament (professional or Junior) will remain on one ITF Acceptance List and be withdrawn from all other ITF Acceptance lists, according to criteria set out in the World Tennis Tour regulations.

In the first 7 months of 2019, with the exception of players accepted into the Main Draw of a Junior Grand Slam, the initial criteria for deciding between a player's tournament choices had been to prioritise tournaments offering ATP or WTA points over those offering ITF points only. Thus, on the men's side, \$25,000 tournaments had been prioritised over \$15,000 tournaments; on the women's side \$25,000-\$100,000 tournaments had been prioritised over \$15,000 tournaments.

From August 2019, with ATP and WTA points being awarded at \$15,000 events, this initial criterion will no longer apply. The first criteria will return to being Main Draw acceptance being prioritised over Qualifying acceptance.

19. How many ITF Alternates lists can I remain on after the Freeze Deadline?

Effective 17 June 2019, at the ITF Freeze Deadline players who are on multiple ITF Alternates lists are removed from all but their highest priority Alternate list and will remain on only one Acceptance list. Prior to the ITF Freeze Deadline (which will remain on Thursday 2pm), players can change their tournament priorities within IPIN. Players removed from an Alternate list may still sign-in as On-site Alternates, but they will be listed after all players that remained on the Alternate list after the Freeze Deadline.

20. If I'm accepted into the main draw or qualifying of an ITF tournament and I'm also on the alternate list of an ATP Challenger event on the same week, can I withdraw to play up into the Challenger?

Yes. As long as players withdraw from the ITF tournament by 14:00 London time (2pm) on Friday 3 days prior to the tournament start. There are no penalties or fines to play up.

21. Can I withdraw from an ITF tournament after 14:00 London time (2pm) on Friday to play up into an ATP Challenger?

No. At 14:00 London time on Friday, players accepted into ITF tournaments will be withdrawn from any Challenger alternate lists and will not be able to compete at any other ITF or Challenger events during that week.

22. Where can I find the ITF Rules and Regulations?

All players are encouraged to read the ITF Rules and Regulations, including the Code of Conduct, which is available on the ITF website and within IPIN.

For further information, please contact:

womens@itftennis.com
mens@itftennis.com

TourOps@wtatennis.com
players@atptour.com

Appendix 1 – ITF ranking point tables

All points will be awarded in 2019; only points in **bold underline** will be awarded in 2020.

Men's Singles

Tournament level	W	F	SF	QF	R16	R32	Q	FRQ
ATP Challengers (not 125s)	-	-	-	-	-	-	30	-
\$25,000 +H	225	135	67	27	9	0	<u>4</u>	<u>1</u>
\$25,000	150	90	45	18	6	0	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>
\$15,000 +H	150	90	45	18	6	0	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>
\$15,000	100	60	30	12	4	0	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>

Women's Singles

Tournament level	W	F	SF	QF	R16	R32	Q	FRQ
\$25,000 +H	-	-	-	-	-	-	<u>4</u>	<u>1</u>
\$25,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>
\$15,000 +H	150	90	45	18	6	0	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>
\$15,000	100	60	30	12	4	0	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>

Notes:

- Q = Qualifier; FRQ = Final Round of Qualifying
- In Doubles competitions at ITF tournaments, the same points are awarded between Quarter Final and Winner rounds as in Singles. No points are awarded for a loss in R16.