



# 2018 WTA OFFICIAL RULEBOOK



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*Women's Tennis Association*

## 2018 Official Rulebook

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# INTRODUCTION

## THE WTA

### I. INTRODUCTION

#### A. DESCRIPTION

The Women's Tennis Association or WTA is an international award competition open to all women tennis players.

The tournaments comprising the WTA ("WTA Tournaments") are connected by a points system in which players earn ranking points based on a tournament's category and the player's performance.

#### B. ADMINISTRATION

The WTA is administered and governed by the WTA Tour, Inc. (referred to herein as "WTA Tour" or "WTA"), a US registered corporation whose members are the players, its recognized Premier and International tournaments worldwide, and the International Tennis Federation ("ITF"). The Chief Executive Officer ("CEO") of the WTA Tour is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the WTA. The Board of Directors of the WTA Tour is comprised of three (3) Player Board Representatives, three (3) Tournament Board Representatives, one (1) ITF Board Representative and the CEO. The Board of Directors is responsible for establishing the long-term strategic plan for the WTA. Alternate Board Representatives for each member class may also attend Board of Directors meetings as determined by the CEO.

#### C. RULES

In accordance with the rules set forth in this WTA Official Rulebook ("Rulebook"), as amended from time to time ("Rules"), the WTA Tour selects and schedules WTA Tournaments and is responsible for the resolution of any matter of dispute pertaining to the WTA, including imposition of penalties on players, WTA Tournaments, tournament officials, player relatives and representatives, coaches and other credentialed persons.

The ITF Rules of Tennis shall apply to all WTA Tournaments except as amended by the Rules. An excerpt of the ITF Rules of Tennis are set forth in Appendix G. For the complete and current ITF Rules of Tennis, please visit <http://www.itftennis.com/officiating/rulebooks/rules-of-tennis.aspx>.

The Rules may be altered, amended or repealed by the WTA pursuant to the WTA By-Laws. Capitalized terms which are used but not defined in the Rulebook have the meanings set forth in the Code of Conduct - Section XVI and the Glossary appearing in Appendix F. The headings and titles to the Sections

## **SECTION I - INTRODUCTION**

contained herein are inserted solely for convenience purposes and shall not affect the meaning or construction of the Rules.

Any action of the WTA Tour pursuant to these Rules or otherwise with respect to the WTA shall be deemed effective only when the parties affected thereby shall have been sent notice of the action, or, in the case of any action of general applicability, notice thereof shall have been published in a manner that will ensure wide circulation. PlayerZone and TournamentZone postings and Player and Tournament Alerts shall be considered official forms of WTA communication with its members.

The WTA may impose appropriate sanctions, including monetary sanctions, upon any person or entity subject to these Rules who participates in or aids and abets any violation of these Rules. Any violations of these Rules which do not specify a process for imposition of a penalty shall be decided by the CEO and such decision of the CEO may be appealed to the Board of Directors.

All monetary terms are in United States dollars unless otherwise stated.

English is the official language of the WTA.

### **D. TOURNAMENT ACCEPTANCES**

Entries and acceptances for all Tournaments shall be the responsibility of the WTA. With the exception of the Grand Slams and unless otherwise provided for in these Rules, the WTA is obligated to provide players to WTA Tournaments in accordance with the formula set forth in Section VI ("Player Commitment").

### **E. TOUR YEARS**

For the purposes of these Rules, the WTA has been organized into Tour Years. The "Tour Year" commences the day immediately following the final day of the WTA Elite Trophy and extends through the final day of the WTA Elite Trophy the following calendar year.

### **F. WORLD CHAMPION**

The ITF World Champion will be determined by the ITF in consultation with the WTA. Selection will be based primarily on WTA Rankings and will take into account performances in the Fed Cup and, in a Summer Olympics year, the Olympic tennis event.

## **SECTION I - INTRODUCTION**

### **G. WTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

#### Directors

- Adam Barrett (Tournament Class Director)
- Peter-Michael Reichel (Tournament Class Director)
- Jorge Salkeld del Solar (Tournament Class Director)
- Gary Brody (Player Class Director)
- Lisa Grattan (Player Class Director)
- Vanessa Webb (Player Class Director)
- David Haggerty (Federation Class Director)
- Steve Simon (Chairman & Chief Executive Officer)

#### Alternate Directors & Observers

- Markus Guenthardt (Tournament Class Alternate)
- Dianne Hayes (Player Class Alternate)
- Kris Dent (Federation Class Alternate)



# PLAYERS

## II. TOP 10 PLAYER LIST

### A. COMPOSITION AND ORDER

#### 1. Top 10 List

The "Top 10 List" shall consist of the 10 highest-ranked singles players as of the WTA Rankings produced immediately following the previous year's WTA Elite Trophy ("Top 10 Players"). The order of the list shall follow the ranking order without consideration for Special Rankings.

The order of the Top 10 List shall be used for the purposes of (a) the Player Commitment Formula; (b) Incentive Monies; and (c) the Prize Money Policy.

#### 2. Minimum Age Requirement

Although qualified by ranking, a player may not be named a Top 10 Player until the year of her 17th birthday. (See Section XV.A.2.a.vii.)

#### 3. Elevation of Players

- a. If any of the following occurs with respect to a Top 10 Player:
  - i. Withdraws from two (2) consecutive Tournaments due to medical reasons;
  - ii. Informs the WTA she will be out of competition for a minimum of eight (8) consecutive weeks;
  - iii. Retires from the WTA; or
  - iv. Is suspended,

then solely for the purposes of the Player Commitment Formula and incentives, the next highest ranked player (as of the WTA Rankings immediately following the end of the Tour Year) who is not already on the Top 10 List shall be immediately temporarily elevated and each player on the Top 10 List in a position which is below the injured/ill/retired/suspended player shall also be immediately elevated one (1) position on the list, for so long as the injured/ill/suspended player remains unable to play singles, or in the case of a retired player, for the remainder of the Tour Year.

While a player is elevated, she shall be eligible for the Top 20 Wild Card and it will not count against her annual Wild Card limit.

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- b. While temporarily elevated, a player shall be entitled to incentive payments for playing Tournaments for which the Player Commitment Formula has not been met; but she shall not be subject to any of the additional or increased minimum commitment requirements or other restrictions.
- c. If, at anytime, it is determined that a Top 10 Player will be unable to compete for the remainder of a Tour Year, the Worldwide Tournament Directors may mutually agree with the WTA, in consultation with the Player Board Representatives, to add an additional player to the Top 10 List. Such player's minimum commitment requirements and the compensation available to such player shall be pro-rated based on the time of the elevation.

**B. MINIMUM TOURNAMENT REQUIREMENTS**

**1. Commitment Tournaments**

Top 10 Players must commit to specific WTA Tournaments, exclusive of the Grand Slams, WTA Finals, and WTA Elite Trophy ("Commitment Tournaments"), as outlined below.

<b>Tournament Category</b>	<b>Commitment</b>
Premier Mandatory	4
Premier 5*	4
<b>TOTAL</b>	8

\* A Top 10 Player must commit to each Premier 5 Tournament at least once every other Tour Year. For tournaments that alternate Premier 5 status, the commitment will stay with the Premier 5 status.

**2. Additional Tournaments**

A Top 10 Player must play two (2) Premier 700 Tournaments each Tour Year.

**3. Top 10 Player Entry Rules**

Subject to the Age Eligibility Rule and the International Prize Money Policy, a Top 10 Player will be accepted into the Main Draw of any WTA Tournament entered by the entry deadline, regardless of her ranking. (See Section VI.D. for additional rules regarding International Tournament entries.)

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**SECTION II - TOP 10 PLAYER LIST**

**C. COMPENSATION**

Top 10 Players shall be entitled to the following compensation payments, provided they play all of the Tournaments in each of the categories below:

<b>Top 10 List Position</b>	<b>Premier Mandatory</b>	<b>Premier 5*</b>	<b>9th Premier Mandatory/Premier 5 Super Bonus**</b>
1	\$450,000	\$450,000	\$100,000
2	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$100,000
3	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$50,000
4	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$50,000
5	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$50,000
6	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$50,000
7	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$25,000
8	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$25,000
9	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$25,000
10	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$25,000

\* To be eligible for the Premier 5 compensation payment, a player must play in four (4) Premier 5 Tournaments.

\*\* To be eligible for the 9th Premier Mandatory/Premier 5 Super Bonus, a player must play in all four (4) Premier Mandatory and all five (5) Premier 5 Tournaments.

**D. COMMITMENT DEADLINES AND RULES**

**1. Player Commitment Due Dates**

Top 10 Players are required to submit their minimum Commitment Tournaments, using a Player Commitment Form, to the WTA Operations Department ("WTA Operations") by the Monday before the Main Draw Entry Deadline for the first Tournament of the following Tour Year.

**2. Failure to Submit**

If a Top 10 Player does not submit all of her minimum Commitment Tournaments by the due date, she will remain on the Top 10 List and will continue to be bound by the obligations of a Top 10 Player. In addition,



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**SECTION II - TOP 10 PLAYER LIST**

she will be automatically subject to the following penalties and provisions:

- a. She will forfeit all rights to any Bonus Pool compensation;
- b. She will not be eligible to receive singles Wild Cards into any WTA Tournament;
- c. She will be subject to withdrawal fines based on her position on the Top 10 List;
- d. She will not be entitled to use medical withdrawals under Section III.B.4.;
- e. She will continue to count for Player Commitment; however, an additional player will also be added to the Top 10 List, based on year-end ranking;
- f. She will not be eligible to play in International Tournaments under sub-Section 5 below; and
- g. For the purposes of the International Prize Money Policy acceptance order, she will be co-listed as the second player in the 10th position.

**3. Entries After the Entry Deadline**

A Top 10 Player will not be permitted to enter a Tournament after the entry deadline, but will be eligible for unlimited Wild Cards.

**4. Withdrawals**

Once a Top 10 Player enters a Tournament, the player may not withdraw those entries to enter another WTA or ITF event scheduled in the same week. Notwithstanding any provision in this Section, all players will continue to be subject to applicable Late Withdrawal fines (See Section III.B). See also the Suspension Rule - Section II.F.

**5. Play Down Restrictions**

- a. Top 10 Players may play one (1) International Tournament in each half of the Tour Year (with July 1st designated as the beginning of the second half of the Tour Year), provided they play all of their Commitment Tournaments in the previous half of the Tour Year or are excused under the Suspension Rule (Section II.F) or the On-Site Exception Rule (Section III.B.4.c) for any Commitment Tournaments not played.

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In addition, Top 10 Players who were on the 2017 Top 10 List and played four (4) Premier Mandatory Tournaments, four (4) Premier 5 Tournaments, and two (2) Premier 700 Tournaments in 2017 and new Top 10 Players in 2018 may play a third International Tournament any time during the Tour Year provided that:

- i. At the time of entry (whether by direct acceptance or Wild Card) into the third International Tournament, the Top 10 Player has already entered two (2) International Tournaments (one in each half of the Tour Year) and two (2) Premier 700 Tournaments;
- ii. At the time of entry (whether by direct acceptance or Wild Card) into the third International Tournament, either (i) no other Top 10 Player has entered the International Tournament; or (ii) no more than one (1) Top 10 Player has entered the International Tournament if the Tournament has already announced increased prize money of at least \$500,000 in advance in accordance with the International Prize Money Policy (for 2018, by January 1, 2018);
- iii. The Top 10 Player plays no more than two (2) International Tournaments in either half of the Tour Year; and
- iv. If the Top 10 Player plays two (2) International Tournaments in one half of the Tour Year and zero (0) International Tournaments in the other half of the Tour Year, she is not permitted to play a third International Tournament in the following Tour Year (unless she had a Long Term Injury that prevented her from playing an International Tournament in one half of the year), but may play two (2) International Tournaments in accordance with this Section II.D.5.a if she is eligible.

If she meets the above requirements, a Top 10 Player may enter a third International Tournament any time beginning the day after the Top 10 Commitment Deadline (See Section II.D.1), and first to enter rules apply.

- b. Top 10 Players may not enter, accept a Wild Card or compete in singles or doubles in a WTA 125K.
- c. In any weeks in which a Premier Mandatory or Premier 5 Tournament is scheduled, Top 10 Players may not play in any other WTA Tournaments.
- d. These play down restrictions shall apply whether a player plays singles or doubles.

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**E. INCENTIVE PAYMENTS**

**1. Basis**

When Top 10 Players are notified by the WTA that a Premier 5 Tournament's Player Commitment Formula has not been met and the player's entry is needed for Player Commitment at that Tournament, the player shall have the right to earn extra compensation ("Incentive Payments") by playing in a Premier 5 Tournament that is not part of her Commitment Tournaments and does not qualify the player for a Bonus Pool payment ("Non-Commitment Tournament").

**2. Availability**

Once the WTA issues a notice of available Incentive Compensation, subject to Section 4 below, the Incentive Payment shall be made to the first eligible player who subsequently enters or accepts the Top 20 Wild Card and fulfills the Player Commitment Formula.

**3. Amount**

<b>Non-Commitment Tournament Added</b>	<b>Position on Top 10 List</b>	<b>Amount of Incentive</b>
Premier 5	1-10	\$50,000

**4. Multiple Players Vying for Incentive Payments**

If two (2) or more players respond to the notice of available Incentive Compensation by entering a Non-Commitment Tournament and both are eligible for an Incentive Payment, the Incentive Payment shall be distributed as follows:

- a. If notification from the WTA occurs more than seven (7) days prior to the first day of the Main Draw of the Non-Commitment Tournament, to the highest listed Top 10 Player who subsequently enters or accepts the Top 20 Wild Card into the Tournament within 48 hours of notification from the WTA. After 48 hours, to the first player who enters or accepts the Top 20 Wild Card who fulfills the Player Commitment Formula.
- b. If notification occurs seven (7) days or less prior to the first day of the Main Draw of the Non-Commitment Tournament, to the first player who subsequently enters or accepts the Top 20 Wild Card who fulfills the Player Commitment Formula.

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**F. SUSPENSION RULE**

A Top 10 Player who, for any reason, fails to compete at a Premier Mandatory or Premier 5 Tournament that is part of her Commitment (a "Missed Tournament") will be required to perform Option 1 or Option 2 below unless (i) her failure to play is the result of an absence from play in any form of women's professional tennis, including WTA Tournaments, Grand Slams, Fed Cup, ITF Women's Circuit events, and any Exhibition/Non-WTA Event ("Professional Tennis"), due to injury or illness for at least eight (8) consecutive weeks during the Tour Year ("Long Term Injury"), or (ii) the Missed Tournament is part of a continuous absence from play in Professional Tennis and the player previously completed her ACES activities at the first Missed Tournament to occur during that absence.

**1. Player Options**

- a. The player may choose either:
  - i. Option 1: Attend the Missed Tournament and perform ACES activities on a date designated by the WTA, in its sole discretion (maximum time commitment at the Missed Tournament will be 24 hours); or
  - ii. Option 2: Perform ACES activities on one (1) of three (3) alternate dates outside of the Missed Tournament ("Alternate Dates") designated by the WTA in consultation with the Missed Tournament.
- b. Under either Option 1 or 2, the ACES Time Commitment shall be as set forth on Section IV.A.2.; however, the specific activities shall be designated by the WTA in consultation with the Missed Tournament.
- c. Under Option 2, the ACES activities shall be performed at the location(s) upon which the Missed Tournament and WTA mutually agree in their sole, reasonable discretion in consultation with the player.

**2. Procedures**

- a. Ten (10) days before each Premier Mandatory and Premier 5 Tournament (or on an earlier date if requested by the WTA), the Tournament shall provide the WTA with three (3) Alternate Dates on which a Top 10 Player can complete her ACES activities if she is unable to compete in the Tournament. At least one (1) of the Alternate Dates shall be during the week before the

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Missed Tournament in the following year, unless there is a Premier Mandatory or Premier 5 Tournament scheduled in such week.

- b. When a Top 10 Player notifies the WTA of her withdrawal from a Premier Mandatory or Premier 5 Commitment Tournament, the WTA shall inform the player by email, with a copy to her agent, of (i) the date she can perform her ACES at the Missed Tournament (Option 1); or (ii) three (3) Alternate Dates from which she can select one (1) day to perform her ACES (Option 2).
- c. Within forty-eight (48) hours of receiving the email from the WTA, the player shall notify the WTA whether she will perform her ACES on the date during the Missed Tournament (Option 1); or on an Alternate Date (Option 2). If the player selects Option 2, she shall also notify the WTA which of the three (3) Alternate Dates she has selected to perform her ACES activities.
- d. Any player electing to perform her ACES activities on an Alternate Date (Option 2) shall be automatically entered in the Main Draw or Qualifying of the Missed Tournament the following year based on her current ranking, regardless of whether she is a Top 10 Player the following year and it shall be treated as a Top 10 Commitment Tournament with all accompanying penalties, including suspension.

**3. Suspension**

- a. Any Top 10 Player that does not notify the WTA of her decision within forty-eight (48) hours or elects to conduct her ACES at the Missed Tournament (Option 1) and fails to perform her ACES at the Missed Tournament as scheduled, will automatically:
  - i. Receive a Late Withdrawal Fine based on her position on the Top 10 List on the original date of the Missed Tournament; and
  - ii. Be suspended from competing in all WTA Tournaments through the next two (2) Premier Tournament weeks, inclusive of any International Tournaments scheduled in that time period, beginning with either: (a) the first day after the completion of the Missed Tournament; or (b) such other date as may be determined by the CEO so as to prevent the circumvention, or perceived circumvention, of these Rules in his/her sole discretion.
- b. Any Top 10 Player that selects an Alternate Date (Option 2) and fails to perform her ACES on such Alternate Date as scheduled, will automatically:

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- i. Receive a double Late Withdrawal Fine based on her position on the Top 10 List on the original date of the Missed Tournament; and
- ii. Be suspended from competing in all WTA Tournaments through the next two (2) Premier Tournament weeks, inclusive of any International Tournaments scheduled in that time period, beginning with either: (a) the first day after the completion of the next year's edition of the Missed Tournament; or (b) such other date as may be determined by the CEO so as to prevent the circumvention, or perceived circumvention, of these Rules in his/her sole discretion.
- c. In determining the length of the suspension, the WTA Finals (if the player qualifies) shall be considered as one (1) Premier Tournament week and each Premier Mandatory 12-day Tournament shall count as two (2) Premier Tournament weeks.
- d. All fines and suspensions shall be final with no right of appeal.

**4. International Tournament Eligibility**

If a player elects to perform her ACES either at the Missed Tournament (Option 1) or on an Alternate Date (Option 2), and fails to perform her ACES as scheduled, she shall not be eligible to play her allotment of International Tournaments pursuant to Section II.D.5 in the next full half-year period.

**5. Ranking Penalty**

In addition to the mandatory zero (0) ranking points for the Missed Tournament, a player will also receive mandatory zero (0) ranking points for any Commitment Tournaments missed as a result of the suspension and such mandatory zero (0) ranking points shall count on the player's ranking as one (1) of her best 16 Tournament results.

**6. Travel Expenses**

If a player elects to perform her ACES during the Missed Tournament or on an Alternate Date occurring during the week before the Missed Tournament in the following year, she will be responsible for all travel costs with the exception of local ground transportation and hotel, which will be paid for by the Missed Tournament.

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If a player elects to perform her ACES on an Alternate Date not occurring during the week before the Missed Tournament in the following year, the WTA will book her travel arrangements which shall include one (1) round-trip, business class airline ticket, hotel accommodations and ground transportation. Where feasible, a WTA staff member will accompany the player at the ACES activities. Reimbursements for player and WTA staff member airline, hotel and ground transportation expenses booked by the WTA will be made at the end of the Tour Year in accordance with the policy established by the Board of Directors.

**7. Exhibition/Non-WTA Event Rule**

The Exhibition/Non-WTA Event Rule - Section XVI.E, will continue to apply during any suspension period.

**8. Long Term Injury**

In order to qualify for a Long Term Injury, if requested a player must submit a WTA Medical Information Form to WTA Operations Department, which must be written in English, and completed by an accredited physician, indicating the nature of the injury or illness and verifying that the player is unable to play for at least eight (8) consecutive weeks during the Tour Year.

A Top 10 Player who is out of competition due to a Long Term Injury is not subject to the Suspension Rule or Late Withdrawal Fines for Missed Tournaments during the period of the Long Term Injury and may appeal to the WTA to play additional International Tournaments, without being excluded due to the Prize Money Policies. (See Section XIV.A.6 for ranking point penalties.)

**G. CALCULATION AND PAYMENT**

Any payments to Top 10 Players will be made in one (1) lump sum (including any Incentive Payments and fine deductions) at the end of the Tour Year.

**H. ADDITIONAL RULES FOR TOP 10 PLAYERS**

**1. Mandatory Tournaments**

- a. All players who by actual ranking qualify for acceptance into the Main Draw of a Premier Mandatory Tournament, will be entered automatically, subject to Age Eligibility Rule.

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- b. All players who by actual ranking qualify for acceptance into the Main Draw of any Grand Slam, will be entered automatically.

**2. WTA Finals and WTA Elite Trophy**

If a player earns entry into the singles or doubles competition of the WTA Finals or the singles competition of the WTA Elite Trophy, such event shall become an additional Tournament to be added to her Minimum Commitment Requirement.

**3. Changes to Tournaments**

- a. In the event a Tournament selected by a player on her Player Commitment Form is approved by the WTA to change its week, surface or venue to a location outside the original Related Geographical Area, the player shall have a period of seven (7) days after official announcement of the change to remove the Tournament from her Player Commitment Form and replace it with another Tournament without incurring a Late Withdrawal fine. Such withdrawal, however, shall not reduce a player's Minimum Commitment Requirement.
- b. See Section XIV.A.4 for the rules governing Top 10 Player Rankings.

**I. YEARS OF SERVICE**

Players who are 30 years of age as of January 1 of the current Tour Year, may elect not to be designated as a Top 10 Player, provided written notice of such election is delivered to WTA Operations by the deadline in early November of the prior Tour Year that WTA Operations designates. A player electing to decline eligibility will still be required to play the four (4) Premier Mandatory Tournaments, if she qualifies by ranking; however, she will not be subject to the Top 10 Player rules and will not be entitled to any Player Commitment compensation. If a player elects not to be designated, an additional player will be added to the Top 10 List.

**J. FUNDING OF BONUS POOL**

**1. Top 10 Players**

The collective amount of the Bonus Pool offered to Top 10 Players will be \$4,500,000. Of the \$4,500,000 offered to such players, the contributions by the Tournaments and players to the Bonus Pool shall be determined annually by the Board of Directors.



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**2. Excess Compensation**

With respect to that portion of the Bonus Pool offered to players in excess of the Bonus Pool, and payable to players at the end of the Tour Year, such amount shall be paid 50% by the Tournaments and 50% by the players. In the event that less than the Bonus Pool is earned at the conclusion of the Tour Year by players, 50% of the difference shall be returned to Tournaments, and 50% shall be provided to players.

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### **III. ENTRIES/WITHDRAWALS/DRAWS/SCHEDULING**

#### **A. ENTRIES AND ACCEPTANCES**

##### **1. WTA Responsibility**

The WTA is responsible for processing all player applications for any Tournament, including Grand Slam events and notifying Tournaments of their player field in a timely fashion. (Grand Slam events may also require players to sign their individual tournament entry forms prior to playing their first match.)

##### **2. Open Competition/No Discrimination**

Entry into Tournaments shall be open to all women tennis players based on merit and without discrimination, subject only to the conditions herein and to the Age Eligibility Rule and Gender Participation Policy.

##### **3. Player Entry and Commitment to Rules**

Any player who is included in the WTA Rankings (singles or doubles) and/or commits to enter or participates in any Tournament consents and agrees with the following:

###### **a. Compliance with Rules**

To comply with and be bound by all of the provisions of the Rulebook and the WTA By-Laws, including but not limited to, all amendments there to.

###### **b. Compliance with Tennis Anti-Doping Program**

The ITF may conduct anti-doping testing at WTA-sanctioned events under the ITF Tennis Anti-Doping Program (the "Anti-Doping Program"), the full text of which can be found at <http://www.itftennis.com/antidoping/rules/tadp-overview.aspx>. The WTA will honor and enforce any penalties or sanctions against players resulting from the Anti-Doping Program. The Anti-Doping Program shall apply to and be binding upon all players and shall govern participation in the events specified at Article 1 of the Anti-Doping Program, which includes all WTA-sanctioned events. Players shall submit to the jurisdiction and authority of the ITF to manage, administer and enforce the Anti-Doping Program and to the jurisdiction and authority of the Anti-Doping Tribunal and the Court of Arbitration for Sport to determine any charges brought under the Anti-Doping Program.

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c. **Written Consent**

Each calendar year, all players shall, as a condition of entering or participating in any event organized or sanctioned by the WTA, in conjunction with their execution of the Annual Player Form, consent to and agree to comply with the Rulebook, Anti-Doping Program and Tennis Anti-Corruption Program.

**4. Gender Participation Policy**

All players are subject to the WTA Gender Participation Policy ("Gender Participation Policy"), as amended from time to time, which addresses the gender eligibility requirements for entry into and participation in WTA Tournaments. For the complete and current Gender Participation Policy, please reference <http://www.wtatennis.com/wta-rules>.

**5. WTA Entry Form**

a. **Annual Player Form**

A player must complete the Annual Player Form prior to playing her first match in each Tour Year and provide the following information:

- i. Proof of identity and birth date by attaching to the Annual Player Form, a copy of the player's passport or if a player does not have a valid passport, a copy of her birth certificate and a photographic ID, if not already filed at the WTA office; and
- ii. Whether the player is playing as an amateur or professional.

Under no circumstances will a player be able to participate in a WTA event or receive prize money until she has completed and returned the Annual Player Form, including the required copy of her passport or birth certificate, to the WTA for that Tour Year.

It shall be the player's responsibility to assure the WTA office has a current copy of the player's passport at all times.

b. **Entries**

A player must complete and submit to WTA Operations, an entry form to gain entry into WTA Tournaments. Official entries may be submitted on one (1) of the following:

- i. Official WTA Entry Form (all players); or

## **PLAYERS**

### **SECTION III - ENTRIES/WITHDRAWALS/DRAWS/SCHEDULING**

- ii. Online via the PlayerZone (all ranked players excluding Top 10 Players).
- c. Both the Official WTA Entry Form and the Annual Player Form must be completed and signed prior to the start of play by all players including Wild Cards and those players who are competing only in the doubles events.
- d. The WTA will accept entries from players and/or designated coaches and agents. Regardless of whom a player designates to act upon her behalf, ultimately the player is responsible for all of her entries and withdrawals.
- e. Players may enter Tournaments on more than one (1) entry form. However, if more than one (1) entry form is used, any one (1) entry form does not supersede another. If a player has entered a Tournament, she is obligated to withdraw from any Tournament she does not plan to play and will be subject to Late Withdrawal fines as outlined in Section III.B.
- f. No entry will be valid unless and until the player's participation in the Tournament complies with the Gender Participation Policy and the Age Eligibility Rule and the player has satisfied her Player Development requirements.
- g. All outstanding fines from prior Tour Years must be paid in full before a player can enter or compete in a WTA Tournament in the current Tour Year.
- h. Players must have a WTA Singles Ranking of 375 or better at the entry deadline to be eligible to enter a Premier Tournament and have a WTA Singles Ranking of 750 or better at the entry deadline to be eligible to enter an International Tournament. Players must have a WTA Singles or Doubles Ranking of 500 or better at the entry deadline to be eligible to enter doubles at any Premier or International tournament. The foregoing cutoffs shall not apply to players entering via Wild Card or players entering WTA 125Ks.
- i. Top 10 Players and players ranked 1-10 at the Main Draw entry deadline cannot enter, accept a Wild Card or compete in singles or doubles in a WTA 125K; however, players ranked 11-50 at the Main Draw entry deadline also cannot enter, but may receive WTA-approved Wild Cards in singles and/or doubles (subject to Wild Card maximums). (See Wild Card - Section III.C.4.)

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- j. For WTA 125Ks scheduled the second week of a Grand Slam/Premier Mandatory event, players who based on ranking would have qualified for Main Draw Acceptance into the Premier Mandatory/Grand Slam at the entry deadline may compete in the WTA 125K as long as they play the Premier Mandatory/Grand Slam, lose and are out of all draws by the WTA 125K Qualifying Sign-In deadline or by 4 pm on the day before the Main Draw begins if there is no Qualifying. Players still competing after the deadline will be automatically withdrawn from the WTA 125K.
- k. Players who qualify for the WTA Elite Trophy (including the two confirmed Alternates) cannot enter, accept a Wild Card or compete in singles or doubles in a WTA 125K scheduled the same week as the WTA Elite Trophy even if they withdraw from the WTA Elite Trophy.
- l. All ranked singles players who are not WTA members shall be required to subscribe to the PlayerZone each year, prior to entry in their first WTA Tournament of the year. The fee shall be \$200 per calendar year, and payment shall be due ten (10) business days prior to the WTA Tournament entry deadline which triggers the subscription requirement. Such entries will not be accepted without payment in full of the subscription fee.

## 6. Nationality

For WTA purposes, a player's nationality is the issuing country of the valid passport she provides to the WTA with her Annual Player Form. If the player does not have a passport and she provides her birth certificate and photographic identification, then the country of birth on her birth certificate determines her nationality.

## 7. WTA Administrative Fee for Non-Members of the WTA/ Women's Tennis Benefit Association

Any player who is not a member of the WTA and the Women's Tennis Benefit Association ("WTBA") will be charged a \$250 administrative fee for each WTA Tournament she plays.

## 8. Entry Deadlines and Acceptances – Singles

- a. Main Draw Entry Deadlines for Premier and International Tournaments are six (6) weeks prior to the start of the Main Draw of each event. This deadline shall not apply to the WTA Finals or WTA Elite Trophy. (See Section IX.) Qualifying Entry Deadlines for Premier and International Tournaments are three (3) weeks prior to the start of the Main Draw of each event.

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### SECTION III - ENTRIES/WITHDRAWALS/DRAWS/SCHEDULING

- b. Main Draw and Qualifying Entry Deadlines for WTA 125Ks are three (3) weeks prior to the start of the Main Draw of each Tournament.
- c. Main Draw Entry Deadlines for Grand Slam events are six (6) weeks prior to the start of the Main Draw of each event. Qualifying Entry Deadlines for Grand Slams are four (4) weeks prior to the start of the Main Draw of each event.
- d. All references to entry deadlines refer to 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time (New York, USA Time) unless specified differently. (See Top 10 Player Entry Rules - Section II.B.3.)

#### **9. Composition of Acceptance Singles**

A player may enter an unlimited number of Tournaments (subject to Age Eligibility Rule, Top 10 List Player restrictions, and WTA 125K entry restrictions) provided she has paid all outstanding fines from prior years, and in the case of a non-member, has paid the PlayerZone fee. Tournament acceptances are based on the most current rankings as of the applicable entry deadline, except where the International Prize Money Policy applies.

Once a player has been accepted into a Tournament, she will not be removed from the Acceptance List unless she officially withdraws from the Tournament.

#### **10. Singles Tournament Acceptance and Seeding Procedure if Rankings Tied or if No Singles Ranking**

If players' rankings are tied at the time of Tournament acceptances (or Tournament seeding), the following tie-break procedures will be used in the following order: a) player with the highest ranking from the previous week; b) player with the fewest number of Tournaments played over the previous 52-week period (including any Premier Mandatory Tournaments, if the player qualified for acceptance); and c) flip a coin; and d) for entries of players with Special Rankings, in the event of a tie between two (2) players with Special Rankings, the 1st tie-break procedure is the player's actual current ranking, the 2nd tie-break procedure is the highest actual ranking from the previous week and the 3rd tie-break procedure shall be the highest ranking from the week prior to the start of each player's out of competition.

For players with no singles ranking at the time of Tournament acceptance, the following tie-break procedures will be used in the following order: i) player with most singles ranking points; ii) player with the most number of singles tournaments played over the previous 52-week period; iii) player with most doubles ranking points; and iv) flip of a coin.

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**11. Top 10 Player List Entries/Acceptances**

See Top 10 Player List rules - Section II.

**12. Special Rankings**

See WTA Special Ranking Rule – Section XIV.C.

**13. Mandatory Tournament Entries**

All players who by actual ranking qualify for acceptance into the Main Draw of a Premier Mandatory Tournament will be entered automatically into such Premier Mandatory Tournament.

The top 200 singles players in the WTA Rankings at the Entry Deadline of any Grand Slam will be entered automatically into the Main Draw entry list of such Grand Slam.

**14. Main Draw Only Alternate – Singles**

Any Main Draw Alternate who is not in the Qualifying Draw, must reconfirm her intention to play the Tournament by contacting (either in person, by a telephone conversation, or via e-mail) WTA Operations or the on-site Supervisor by 4:00 p.m. tournament local time on the day prior to the start of Qualifying. The player must leave her contact number with the WTA Operations staff member or Supervisor with whom she speaks. If a player fails to sign in on the requisite day by 4:00 p.m. tournament local time, her entry will be automatically withdrawn from the Next In Main Draw Alternate List.

**15. Distribution of Acceptance Lists**

Initial Tournament Acceptance Lists are distributed to individual Tournament Directors immediately upon their availability and will be posted on the PlayerZone and TournamentZone websites.

**16. Tournament Status**

Tournament status is available to players on the PlayerZone website, via a WTA Operations staff member in the Florida office or through an on-site Supervisor.

**17. Administrative Error on Acceptance Lists**

- a. Player Omitted

If an administrative error has been made in an Acceptance List resulting

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in a player being omitted from the list, the player will be placed at the top of the Next-In List(s) for Main Draw and/or Qualifying based on the appropriate ranking used for player movement.

b. Too Many Players Accepted

See On-Site Draw Procedure for Administrative Error – Preliminary Match – Section III.C.1.d.

### 18. More than One Tournament Per Week

If a player (excluding Top 10 Players, where related to their Commitment Tournaments) enters more than one (1) Tournament per week, the following rules apply:

a. Indicating Choices

The player must indicate which Tournament is her first, second or third choice. If she fails to do so, the highest Tournament category event will be indicated as her first choice; however, if two (2) Tournaments entered are in the same category, the Tournament that is listed first on the Official WTA Calendar will be entered as her first choice. All applicable withdrawal rules will apply.

If entering via the PlayerZone, a player may use the “within option” to indicate that if she is within one (1) to four (4) spots of being in the Main Draw or Qualifying of a Tournament, she will remain on the Tournament’s Alternate List and be removed from all other Tournaments entered that week, and the “within option” will become her first preference Tournament even if she has indicated other Tournaments entered that week were her first preference.

b. Main Draw Entries and Acceptances

If at the time of the Main Draw entry deadline, a player is accepted into the Main Draw of any of the Tournaments entered in the same week (based on her order of choice) she will be automatically withdrawn from all other Tournaments entered that week.

If at the time of the Main Draw entry deadline, a player is not accepted into the Main Draw of any Tournaments, she will remain on all alternate lists up until three (3) weeks prior to the Tournament and she can change her preferences at anytime up until the Qualifying entry deadline, provided she makes the change before she moves into the Main Draw. If she moves into a Main Draw of any Tournament between the Main Draw entry deadline and the Qualifying entry deadline, she will



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be removed from all other Main Draw Alternate Lists.

If a player is not accepted into the Main Draw of any Tournaments at three (3) weeks prior to the Tournament, she will either (i) remain only on the Main Draw Alternate List of the Tournament in which she was accepted into Qualifying and be removed from all other Main Draw Alternate Lists; (ii) remain only on the Main Draw Alternate List of her first choice Qualifying Tournament where she is a Qualifying Alternate and be removed from all other Alternate Lists; or (iii) if not entered into any Qualifying Tournaments, remain only on the Main Draw Alternate List of her first preference Main Draw Tournament.

#### **c. Qualifying Entries and Acceptance**

##### **i. Premier and International Tournaments**

If at the time of the entry deadline, a player is accepted into the Qualifying Draw of any of the Tournaments entered in the same week (based on her order of choice) she will be automatically withdrawn from all other Tournaments entered that week.

If a player is not accepted into the Qualifying Draw of any Tournaments entered in the same week, she will remain on the Qualifying Alternate List of her first choice Tournament and will be automatically withdrawn from all other Tournaments.

##### **ii. WTA 125K Tournaments**

If at the time of the entry deadline, a player is accepted into the Qualifying Draw of any Premier or International Tournaments entered in the same week, she will be automatically withdrawn from the WTA 125K entered that week. If at the time of the entry deadline, a player is accepted into the Qualifying Draw of a WTA 125K, she will be removed from the Alternate Lists of any other WTA Tournaments entered in the same week. If a player is on two (2) Alternate Lists at the deadline, she may only remain on the Alternate List of her first preference tournament.

#### **d. Second Week of a Grand Slam/Premier Mandatory Tournament**

A player is allowed to play in a WTA 125K event or an ITF Women's Circuit event only during the second week of a Grand Slam or a combined 12-day WTA Tournament if and only if the player has been eliminated from the Main Draw (singles and doubles) of such Tournament or was not a direct Main Draw acceptance into such

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Tournament. A player will not be permitted to withdraw from any WTA Tournament to play an ITF event.

A player who based on ranking would have qualified for Main Draw Acceptance into a Grand Slam or a combined 12-day WTA Tournament at the entry deadline is allowed to play (i) singles in a WTA 125K during the second week of such Tournament if and only if the player has been eliminated from the singles and doubles of such Tournament by the WTA 125K Qualifying Sign-In deadline or, if there is no Qualifying, by 4 pm on the day before the Main Draw begins; and (ii) doubles in a WTA 125K during the second week of such Tournament if and only if the player has been eliminated from the singles and doubles of such Tournament by the WTA 125K Doubles Sign-In deadline. The WTA 125K may wait until after such deadlines to hold its singles or doubles draws so that it can determine which players are eligible. Players still competing after such deadlines will be automatically withdrawn from the WTA 125K.

e. **Playing Two (2) Singles Tournaments in One (1) Week**

A player is not allowed to compete in singles in two (2) Tournaments held in the same week and will be withdrawn from the second Tournament by the appropriate entry authority (i.e., a player may not play the Qualifying of a WTA Tournament, lose, and then play the Main Draw of an ITF Women's Circuit event in the same week). If a player does play two (2) singles Tournaments in one (1) week, upon the first occurrence, the player will receive the lesser of the ranking points earned from the two (2) Tournaments. Upon the second and subsequent occurrences, the player will not be awarded any ranking points, and she will be subject to a fine.

f. **Playing Two (2) Doubles Tournaments in One (1) Week**

A player is not allowed to compete in doubles in two (2) Tournaments held in the same week, at which ranking points are awarded. If a player does play two (2) doubles Tournaments in one (1) week, upon the first occurrence, the player will receive the lesser of the ranking points earned from the two (2) Tournaments. Upon the second and subsequent occurrences, the player will not be awarded any ranking points, and she will be subject to a fine.

g. **Playing Singles/Doubles the Same Week in Different Tournaments**

A player is allowed to play singles in one (1) Tournament and doubles in another Tournament in the same week, provided the player has been eliminated from one (1) Tournament by the doubles sign-in

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deadline of the other Tournament. A player may not participate in both Tournaments at the same time.

For the purposes of the Age Eligibility Rule, each Tournament in which a player earns ranking points will count towards her allotment of Tournaments under the Age Eligibility Rule.

#### h. WTA Tournament and Grand Slam Qualifying in the Same Week

##### i. Entry, Player's Choice, and Automatic Withdrawal

Any player that enters both a WTA Tournament and the Qualifying of a Grand Slam in the same week may not remain on the entry list(s) (i.e., Main Draw, Main Draw Alternate, Qualifying, Qualifying Alternate, Advance Doubles, On-Site Doubles, or Wild Cards) of both the WTA Tournament and the Grand Slam Qualifying after the Qualifying Sign-In deadline (4:00 p.m. tournament local time on the day prior to the start of Qualifying) of the applicable WTA Tournament (or, if the player entered only doubles of the applicable WTA Tournament, after the Doubles On-Site Sign-In deadline (12:00 p.m. tournament local time on the day prior to the start of the singles Main Draw)). If a player is on the entry list(s) of both the WTA Tournament and the Grand Slam Qualifying at the Qualifying Sign-In deadline (or Doubles On-Site Sign-In deadline, if applicable), then the player will remain on the Grand Slam Qualifying list(s), WTA automatically will withdraw the player from all WTA Tournament entry lists for that week, and the player will not be permitted to enter doubles on-site at any WTA Tournament that week.

##### ii. Wild Cards

A player may not accept a Wild Card into the Qualifying or Main Draw (singles or doubles) of a WTA Tournament occurring during the same week as a Grand Slam Qualifying if she is on the Qualifying List for such Grand Slam or has accepted a Wild Card into such Grand Slam Qualifying. Regardless of Section III.A.18.e, after giving her best effort and losing in the Qualifying or Main Draw (singles, doubles, or both) of a WTA Tournament occurring during the same week as a Grand Slam Qualifying, a player who subsequently receives an offer for a Wild Card into such Grand Slam Qualifying may accept such Wild Card and participate in such Grand Slam Qualifying.

##### iii. Sanctions

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A player is not subject to a late withdrawal fine for her automatic withdrawal from a WTA Tournament under Section III.A.18.h.i above.

#### **19. Qualifying Alternate List Freeze Deadline**

The Qualifying Alternate Next-In List will be frozen at 2:00 p.m. Eastern Time (New York, USA Time) on the day prior to the Qualifying Sign-In (the "Qualifying Freeze Deadline"). If there is no Qualifying draw, the deadline will be 2:00 p.m. Eastern Time (New York, USA Time) on the Thursday before the Tournament week. After the Qualifying Freeze Deadline, no more Alternates will be moved into the Qualifying Draw and such alternate players are no longer committed to play the Tournament. Players on the Alternate List can preserve their eligibility for possible Qualifying Draw positions by signing in with a WTA Operations staff member or the Supervisor by 4:00 p.m. tournament local time on the day before the start of the Qualifying Draw.

#### **B. WITHDRAWING FROM A TOURNAMENT**

##### **1. Withdrawal Requirements**

- a. No withdrawal from a Tournament will be effective unless the player submits the withdrawal in writing or via the PlayerZone to WTA Operations, using a WTA Withdrawal Form and/or Medical Information Form, as applicable. Withdrawals from the next week's Tournament, which are made after work hours from Friday through to Sunday, must also be faxed or emailed to the on-site Supervisor.
- b. Players should contact WTA Operations if they do not receive a withdrawal confirmation.
- c. A player must provide the reason for her withdrawal at the time of her withdrawal, as well as a suitable quotation. The WTA may release this reason and quotation to the media and public.
- d. The WTA will accept withdrawals from players and/or designated coaches and agents. Regardless of whom a player designates to act upon her behalf, ultimately the player is responsible for all of her entries and withdrawals.
- e. A player will not be withdrawn from any WTA Acceptance List unless the WTA has received written notification from the player of her withdrawal, with the exception of the rules that apply when a player enters more than one (1) Tournament per week. (See More than One Tournament Per Week – Section III.A.18.) A player will not

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be automatically withdrawn from any WTA Tournament due to her participation in an ITF event that same or the following week.

- f. If a player is unable to arrive at the Qualifying of a WTA Tournament for her first scheduled match due to her (i) participation in the previous week's WTA Tournament or ITF Women's Circuit event, (ii) selection to her Fed Cup team after such WTA Tournament's entry deadline, or (iii) success in a Regional Fed Cup event which extends her Fed Cup participation into the weekend, provided that, in the case of (i) and (iii), the Supervisor at the previous week's Tournament (or the Referee in the case of Fed Cup) confirms that such player is unable to arrive in time, or, in the case of (ii), the Fed Cup Team captain confirms the date of her late selection, her withdrawal from the Tournament will not be considered a late withdrawal as long as the player fills out the proper Withdrawal Form indicating the reason for withdrawal and has such form approved in writing by such Supervisor (or Referee in the case of Fed Cup). In the case of (i) and (iii), such player will be allowed to play doubles at another WTA event or singles and/or doubles at another ITF event scheduled the same week.
- g. If a player is unable to arrive at her first scheduled Main Draw match of a WTA Tournament or withdraws from the Main Draw of a WTA Tournament due to her participation in a Fed Cup event, the player must follow the procedures set forth in this Section to withdraw from such Tournament and the player shall be subject to the Late Withdrawal fines set out in Section III.B.2.
- h. If a player is automatically entered into the Main Draw of a Premier Mandatory Tournament or Grand Slam, the player must follow the procedures set forth in this Section to withdraw from such Tournament and the player shall be subject to the Late Withdrawal fines set out in Section III.B.2.
- i. Any player who publicly announces a Tournament withdrawal prior to officially submitting her withdrawal in writing to the WTA with the required reason for the withdrawal and a quotation, will be subject to a fine for Unprofessional Conduct under the Code of Conduct.

## **2. Main Draw Late Withdrawals**

### **a. Definition**

A Main Draw withdrawal shall be considered a Late Withdrawal according to the following table:

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<b>Top 10 Players</b>	Withdrawing from a Tournament after entering the Tournament*
<b>All Other Players</b>	Withdrawing from a Tournament any time after acceptance into the Main Draw
<b>Doubles Players</b>	Withdrawing from a Tournament any time after the Doubles Sign-In deadline (12:00 noon tournament local time the day before the start of the singles Main Draw)

\* Top 10 Players who enter but are not accepted into an International Tournament due to the Prize Money Policy, may withdraw before acceptance, without penalty.

### b. No Show Offense

A player who is entered in a Tournament and fails to show up to the Tournament will have committed a No Show Offense. A No Show Offense shall be considered a Late Withdrawal after the Qualifying Sign-In deadline (4:00 p.m. tournament local time, the day prior to the start of Qualifying).

### c. Fines

#### i. Procedures

- (a) Except as otherwise provided below, all players (including Top 10 Players) will be subject to mandatory withdrawal fines for withdrawing late from the Main Draw of a Tournament.
- (b) The Late Withdrawal fines for doubles (except at WTA 125Ks) shall be based on 25% of the equivalent before Qualifying Sign-In deadline singles fine according to the player's doubles ranking. At WTA 125Ks, the Late Withdrawal fines for doubles shall be \$125 per player.
- (c) All Late Withdrawal and No Show Offense fines shall be retained by the WTA, with the exception of Late Withdrawal and No Show fines assessed against Top 10 Players for missed Commitment Tournaments, which shall be split 50/50 between the WTA and the Tournaments, with the Tournament share distributed in accordance with a distribution formula established by the WTA Tournament Council.

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- (d) A Bona Fide Injury will not relieve a player of a Late Withdrawal fine for a No Show Offense.

ii. Amounts

The amount of the automatic mandatory Late Withdrawal fine is based on the below chart and the following criteria:

- (a) A player's position on the Top 10 List, or for non Top-10 players, the player's ranking at the time of the withdrawal;
- (b) The Tournament category;
- (c) The number of Main Draw Late Withdrawals the player already has made in the Tour Year in the applicable Tournament category; and
- (d) The time of the withdrawal (in relation to the Qualifying Sign-In deadline).

<b>Top 10 List or, if not on the Top 10 List, Ranking at Time of Withdrawal</b>	<b>Premier Mandatory &amp; Premier 5</b>	<b>Premier 700</b>	<b>International</b>
1-3	\$75,000	\$50,000	\$10,000
4-6	\$50,000	\$25,000	\$10,000
7-10	\$25,000	\$15,000	\$10,000
11-20	\$15,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 5,000
21-50	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 2,500
51+	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 1,250

- iii. At WTA 125Ks, the late withdrawal fine shall be \$500.
- iv. Fines shall double with each subsequent offense within a Tournament category (i.e., \$10,000, \$20,000, \$40,000, \$80,000).
- v. Fines for withdrawals after the Qualifying Sign-In deadline (4:00 p.m. tournament local time, the day prior to the start of Qualifying) shall be 50% greater than the applicable withdrawal fine set out above, including any doubling.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, a player who is still competing in another WTA Tournament or a Grand Slam on the day of the Qualifying Sign-In deadline shall be permitted to withdraw from the following week's WTA Tournament without being subject

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to the 50% increase in fine or any doubling provided that the player's participation in the WTA Tournament or the Grand Slam ends on the day of the Qualifying Sign-In (e.g., loses, withdraws or retires) after the Qualifying Sign-In deadline and the player submits her withdrawal form within ninety (90) minutes of the end of her participation in the WTA Tournament or the Grand Slam (e.g., the end of her match).

- vi. Late Withdrawal Fines resulting from a player's selection to her Fed Cup team in the same week as a WTA tournament will always remain at the minimum fine as per the chart in Section III.B.2.c.ii and are not subject to doubling calculations in accordance with Section III.B.2.c.iv.
- d. Prohibition Against Withdrawing from One Tournament to Play Another

Once a Top 10 Player has entered a Tournament or any other player has been accepted into the Main Draw of a Tournament, such player may not withdraw to play another WTA or ITF event in the same week. If a player is discovered at any time to have violated this prohibition, the player shall forfeit any ranking points received (singles and doubles) from the other event in which she played and will be subject to Late Withdrawal fines.

### **3. Qualifying Late Withdrawals**

- a. Definition

A withdrawal shall be considered a Late Withdrawal if (i) the withdrawal occurs after acceptance into the Qualifying Draw; or (ii) a player accepted into the Qualifying Draw withdraws, and the player is not subsequently accepted into the Main Draw.

- b. No Show Offense

If a player entered in the Qualifying Draw of a Tournament does not withdraw and fails to show up at the Tournament by the Qualifying Sign-In deadline (4:00 p.m. tournament local time, the day prior to the start of Qualifying), she will have committed a No Show Offense and will receive an automatic fine of \$600 for a first offense (\$300 for a first offense at WTA 125Ks). The fine shall double for each additional offense thereafter (i.e., \$1,200, \$2,400). A medical reason will not be cause for a No Show fine dismissal.

- c. Fines and Withdrawal Restrictions



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#### **i. Procedures**

Alternates waiting to get into Qualifying who are accepted into Qualifying any time up until the Qualifying Freeze Deadline are obligated under these rules to play the Tournament and thus subject to the same sign-in procedure and No Show fines. See Qualifying Alternate List Freeze Deadline procedures – Section III.A.19.

#### **ii. Amounts**

The amount of the automatic mandatory Late Withdrawal fine shall be \$300 for a first offense (\$150 at WTA 125Ks) and shall double for each offense thereafter (i.e., \$600, \$1,200).

#### **iii. Prohibition Against Withdrawing from One Tournament to Play Another**

Once a player is accepted into the Qualifying of any WTA Tournament, she may not withdraw to play (or accept a Wild Card) in another WTA Tournament or ITF event in the same week, singles and/or doubles. If a player is discovered at any time to have violated this prohibition, the player will forfeit any ranking points received (singles and doubles) from the other event in which she played and may be subject to Late Withdrawal fines.

## **4. Medical Withdrawals**

#### **a. Annual Allowance**

Two (2) withdrawals per Tour Year from Premier/International Tournaments and one (1) withdrawal per Tour Year from WTA 125Ks occurring prior to the Qualifying Sign-In deadline or after the Qualifying Sign-In deadline as permitted under Section III.B.4.b.i. below. The withdrawals can be used for any combination of singles and/or doubles, but cannot exceed the maximums in the previous sentence. Top 10 Players may only use the Annual Allowance for withdrawals from Non-Commitment Tournaments before the Qualifying Sign-In deadline or after the Qualifying Sign-In deadline as permitted under Section III.B.4.b.i. below.

#### **b. Definition**

Subject to the preceding provision, any two (2) Late Withdrawals from Premier/International Tournaments or one (1) Late Withdrawal

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from a WTA 125K by a player during the Tour Year that are substantiated by the player as being medical withdrawals for a bona fide injury or illness ("Bona Fide Injury") shall not count as a Late Withdrawal offense and shall not subject the player to a Late Withdrawal fine provided the player:

- i. Withdraws prior to the Qualifying Sign-In deadline (4:00 p.m. tournament local time, the day prior to the start of Qualifying) or after the Qualifying Sign-In deadline provided that: (1) the player is still competing in another WTA Tournament on the day of the Qualifying Sign-In deadline; (2) the player's participation in the Tournament ends on the day of the Qualifying Sign-In (loses, withdraws or retires) after the Qualifying Sign-In deadline; and (3) the player submits her withdrawal form within ninety (90) minutes of the end of her participation in the Tournament (e.g., the end of her match);
  - ii. Within ten (10) days of the event, submits to WTA Operations, a WTA Medical Information Form, which must be written in English, and completed by an accredited physician, indicating the nature of the Bona Fide Injury and verifying that she is unable to play in the Tournament from which she was forced to withdraw;
  - iii. Attaches copies of the records of the clinical visit to the physician, including the physician's notes/documentation and all relevant laboratory tests in English;
  - iv. Personally signs the Medical Information Form, warranting that she is unable to play in the Tournament from which she was forced to withdraw; and
  - v. Provides a suitable quotation relating to her inability to play in the event and authorizes the WTA to publicly release the quotation along with the basis for her withdrawal.
- c. On-Site Exception
- i. Definition

A withdrawal will not count as a Main Draw or Qualifying Late Withdrawal, and the player may be relieved of the obligation to pay a Late Withdrawal fine provided she fulfills the conditions enumerated in sub-Section ii below and the player:

- (a) Is on site at the Tournament and is forced to withdraw due to an injury or illness,

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- (b) Is not on site at the Tournament and is forced to withdraw due to an injury or illness, but then subsequently goes on site within the first three (3) days of the Main Draw if a Main Draw Late Withdrawal or before the end of Qualifying if a Qualifying Late Withdrawal (unless otherwise determined by the WTA) and has not played in another Tournament since the date of her withdrawal, or
- (c) Is still competing at another WTA Tournament or Fed Cup event at the time of the Qualifying Sign-In deadline and subsequently must withdraw from the next week's Tournament due to injury or illness, but then goes on site within the first three (3) days of the Main Draw if a Main Draw Late Withdrawal or before the end of Qualifying if a Qualifying Late Withdrawal (unless otherwise determined by the WTA).

For each Singles Main Draw Late Withdrawal (after the Qualifying Sign-In deadline) in excess of two (2) per Tour Year, a player will be subject to a disciplinary review and/or penalties in accordance with the Unsportsmanlike Conduct section of the Code of Conduct.

#### **ii. Requirements**

In any of the cases set forth in sub-Section i above, the player must fulfill the following requirements within the first three (3) days of the Tournament's Main Draw if a Main Draw Late Withdrawal or before the end of Qualifying if a Qualifying Late Withdrawal (unless otherwise determined by the WTA).

- (a) Meet the on-site PHCP and Tournament Physician for an evaluation and assessment of the injury or illness;
- (b) Submit a copy of a signed WTA Medical Information Form and Withdrawal Form to the on-site Supervisor, stating the reason for withdrawal and authorizing the WTA to release such reason to the media and public; and
- (c) Complete the Mandatory Activities set forth in Section IV.A.4 as scheduled by the WTA over a 48 hour period.

- iii. The On-Site Exception rule shall not apply to Top 10 Players withdrawing from Premier Mandatory or Premier 5 Tournaments. For Top 10 Player withdrawals, see the Suspension Rule - Section II.F.

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d. **Consecutive Medical Withdrawals**

A player's withdrawal from consecutive Tournaments (including if player withdraws from a Grand Slam and a Tournament consecutively) due to a Bona Fide Injury or illness, will be considered as one (1) withdrawal, and the player will only be required to either (i) pay one (1) Late Withdrawal fine, (ii) use one (1) Annual Medical Withdrawal, or (iii) fulfill all the requirements set forth under the On-Site Exception Rule, for consecutive subsequent withdrawals, provided they occur prior to the Qualifying Sign-In deadline (4:00 p.m. tournament local time, the day prior to the start of Qualifying).

**5. Extraordinary Circumstances**

In an extreme personal emergency or under other extraordinary circumstances (e.g., a death in the family or a serious illness or life-threatening situation for the player or her family), a player has the right to appeal a fine to the WTA, provided such appeal is filed within 21 days from the date of notice. Such Extraordinary Circumstances must be substantiated by documentation.

**6. Retirement/Defaults**

a. **Matches Scheduled Same Day**

- i. A player who withdraws or retires from singles may be allowed to play doubles as long as the doubles has not been scheduled and the match called on the same day as the singles withdrawal or retirement.
- ii. A player will be allowed to withdraw from doubles prior to the singles being played when both matches are scheduled for the same day.

b. **Default due to Disciplinary Reasons**

- i. If the defaulting of a player from a singles event has been administered for disciplinary reasons, said player may be defaulted automatically from all other events in that Tournament.
- ii. If a doubles team is defaulted under the Code of Conduct for disciplinary reasons, one or both players may be subject to automatic default from all other events in that Tournament. (See Defaults – Section IV.I).

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#### c. The Following Week's Tournament

A player may only enter and compete in one (1) WTA Tournament or ITF Circuit event per Tournament week. Once a player enters and is accepted into the singles or doubles Main Draw, signs in or enters and is accepted into the Qualifying competition, she is committed to play that Tournament to completion or elimination for the week.

A player who has lost in a Tournament (Week 1) may play the Qualifying for a Tournament scheduled for the next week (Week 2).

A player may not withdraw or retire from any draw of Week 1 to play in any other Tournament in Week 2. However, if a player is forced to withdraw or retire from a draw in Week 1 due to medical reasons, and she is entered in a Tournament in Week 2, that player must receive a medical examination from the Tournament Physician/PHCP from Week 1 and submit her medical examination to the Tournament Physician/PHCP for Week 2. To be eligible to compete in the Week 2 Tournament, the player must receive a medical examination by Tournament Physician and PHCP in Week 2.

Any player will automatically be withdrawn from Week 2 if:

- i. She has withdrawn or retired from a draw in Week 1 without cause or for unprofessional reasons;
- ii. She fails to provide proof of medical examination, which can be shown by submitting a signed WTA Medical Information Form from the Tournament Physician/PHCP from Week 1 to the Tournament Physician/PHCP of Week 2; or
- iii. She fails to receive a medical examination for Week 2 from the Tournament Physician/PHCP.

Any player who is discovered to have contravened this rule shall not receive ranking points for Week 2. The player will also be subject to a fine as permitted under these Rules. This rule does not apply to a player whose partner in doubles has been forced to withdraw or retire from their match.

#### d. Requirements for all Withdrawals and Retirements

##### i. Withdrawals

Once a player has withdrawn on site, she is required to do the following:

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- (a) Meet with the on-site PHCP and the Tournament Physician for an evaluation and assessment of the injury or illness prior to leaving the Tournament city; and
  - (b) Submit to the on-site Supervisor a signed WTA Medical Information Form and a signed Withdrawal Form stating the reason for her withdrawal and giving authorization for public release.
- ii. Retirements
  - (a) Prior to retiring from a match, a player is required to call for the PHCP and the Supervisor to give the reason for the retirement.
  - (b) Once a player has retired from a match, she is required to do the following:
    - (i) Meet with the on-site PHCP and the Tournament Physician for an evaluation and assessment of the injury or illness prior to leaving the Tournament city; and
    - (ii) Submit to the on-site Supervisor a signed WTA Medical Information Form stating her reason for withdrawal or retirement and giving authorization for public release.

Failure to meet the above requirements may result in a fine to the player.

- e. Unsportsmanlike Conduct
  - i. In addition to the requirements set out above, for each Main Draw 1st round retirement (singles and/or doubles) in excess of two (2) per Tour Year, a player will be fined in accordance with the Unsportsmanlike Conduct section of the Code of Conduct.
  - ii. Any player that withdraws or retires from the Qualifying or Main Draw (singles or doubles) of a WTA Tournament after the Qualifying Sign-In deadline (or Doubles On-Site Sign-In deadline if she entered only in doubles) and plays in a Grand Slam Qualifying in the same week will automatically be fined \$10,000 for Unsportsmanlike Conduct; provided, however, that if a player withdraws after the Qualifying Sign-In deadline (or Doubles On-Site Sign-In deadline if she entered only in doubles) but before her first match at the WTA Tournament because she received an offer for and accepted a Wild Card into the

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Grand Slam Qualifying after the Qualifying Sign-In deadline (or Doubles On-Site Sign-In deadline if she entered only in doubles), then such player will not automatically be fined for Unsportsmanlike Conduct under this Section III.B.6.e.ii but will receive a fine in accordance with the remainder of Section III.B, which will not be subject to the doubling calculations under Sections III.B.2.c.iv and III.B.3.c.ii. In addition, any player that fails to give her best effort in the Qualifying or Main Draw (singles or doubles) of a WTA Tournament and plays in a Grand Slam Qualifying in the same week commits a Player Major Offense of Aggravated Behavior and is subject to the penalties in Section XVI.D.12.b, including a fine in an amount up to the greater of \$25,000 or the prize money she wins at the WTA Tournament and/or suspension from play in a Tournament or event for a minimum period of twenty-one (21) days and a maximum period of one (1) year.

#### **f. Unprofessional**

If the player's withdrawal is reported to the WTA as being for unprofessional reasons, or is damaging to the WTA's image, the player will be subject to a disciplinary review and/or penalties.

#### **g. Prize Money and Ranking Points**

See Defaults, Withdrawals and Byes - Section X.C.

### **7. Withdrawal of Seeds**

See procedures for Withdrawal of a Seed - Section III.C.6.d.

## **C. DRAWS**

### **1. Singles Main Draw**

#### **a. Composition**

The Main Draw will consist of some or all of the following:

#### **i. Direct Acceptance**

Those players accepted directly into the draw by virtue of their past performance as determined by the WTA Rankings (unless an exception is authorized by the WTA via a Special Ranking). (See Section III.A.5 for entry requirements.)

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#### ii. Qualifiers

Those players accepted into the draw due to their success in the Qualifying competition. Following are the number of Qualifiers based on the draw size:

<b>Main Draw Size</b>	<b>Qualifying Draw Size</b>	<b>Number of Qualifiers</b>
32	8	2
28/30/32	16	4
28/30/32	24	6
28/30/32	32	4
28/30/32	48	6
56	16	4
48	64	8
56/60/64	32	8
54/56/64	48	12
96	48	12
128	96	12
128	128	16

#### iii. Wild Card Nominations

Those players named Wild Cards by the Tournament Director to fill their designated spots in the draw. Tournaments are required to submit a tentative list of Wild Card nominations to WTA Operations one (1) week prior to the start of the Main Draw. The WTA or the Supervisor must receive final Wild Card nominations by 4:00 p.m. tournament local time, the day of Qualifying Sign-In.

If there is no Qualifying event, Wild Card nominations must be made in writing by Friday, 4:00 p.m. tournament local time the week preceding the Tournament, or by 4:00 p.m. tournament local time the day before the draw is made, whichever comes first.

The WTA must approve all Wild Card nominations in regard to the Age Eligibility Rule and other rule limitations. (See Wild Cards – Section III.C.4.)

#### iv. Byes

Those positions allocated in the draw to byes based on the draw size of the Tournament. Byes will be given to seeded players in



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descending order. (See Byes – Section III.C.5.e for the number of byes in a draw.)

Notwithstanding the foregoing, there will be four (4) byes awarded at the Beijing Premier Mandatory Tournament to the semi-finalists of the Wuhan Premier 5 Tournament. Any byes not used by a semi-finalist will not be awarded.

#### **v. Lucky Losers**

Lucky Losers are players who have lost in the final Qualifying round or, if more Lucky Losers are required, those players who have lost in the previous Qualifying round(s). Lucky Losers shall be selected based on the WTA singles computer Rankings from the week prior to the start of the Tournament (Special Rankings are not considered). If there are no Main Draw vacancies before the Qualifying has been completed, then the order of the Lucky Losers shall be determined by their rankings in descending order. If there is one vacancy in the Main Draw before Qualifying is completed, then the order of the two (2) highest ranked Lucky Losers shall be randomly drawn, and thereafter the order shall follow the Lucky Losers' rankings, unless there are two (2) or more withdrawals at the time Qualifying is completed in which case the size of the random draw will be the number of withdrawals plus one (1). If before Qualifying is completed the number of vacancies in the Main Draw equals or exceeds the number of players who will lose in the final round of Qualifying, the highest-ranked Lucky Loser(s) from the previous Qualifying round(s) will be placed into the random draw to determine the order of the Lucky Losers.

#### **(a) Eligibility**

A player who is not entered and has not competed in Qualifying cannot be considered for a Lucky Loser status.

If a player is forced to retire or withdraws from the Qualifying, she may retain her right to Lucky Loser status for the duration of the Tournament provided that:

- (i) She signs in with the Supervisor by the Lucky Loser dead line;
- (ii) She receives a medical examination from the Tournament Physician and PHCP;

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- (iii) The Main Draw match is not scheduled for the same day she retired/withdrew from her Qualifying match.

#### (b) Procedures

- (i) Lucky Loser positions in the Main Draw will not be released until the completion of the Qualifying event, unless Qualifying has not been completed by the time the Schedule of Play is released. In that event, the Supervisor may release a player's position where necessary and schedule players who have been accepted into the Main Draw.
- (ii) If there are withdrawals from the Main Draw after Qualifying has begun and before Qualifiers have been drawn to the Main Draw, Qualifiers and Lucky Losers will be drawn together by lot to determine their positions in the Main Draw.\*

\* If a Main Draw Wild Card withdraws before the draw is made, the Tournament Director may name an alternate Wild Card, even if the Wild Card nomination deadline has passed. (See Filling Vacant Wild Card Spots – Section III.C.4.a.iv.) The new Wild Card cannot be a player participating in the Qualifying. If the Tournament does not name another Wild Card, a Lucky Loser will fill the open spot.

- (iii) At Tournaments where the last round of Qualifying and the 1st round of Main Draw are played on the same day and there is a withdrawal in the Main Draw Matches scheduled for the cross-over day, the Qualifier and Lucky Loser positions should be determined as follows:
  - If there is one withdrawal, the spot having to play on the cross-over day will be filled by a Lucky Loser and all Qualifiers shall be drawn by lot to the Qualifier spots.
  - If there are two or more withdrawals, the spot(s) required to play on the cross-over day will be drawn among the Lucky Losers. All Qualifiers and remaining Lucky Losers will be drawn together by lot to fill the remaining spots in the Main Draw.
- (iv) When the last round of Qualifying and the 1st round Main Draw are played on the same day, Lucky Losers must sign in no later than 30 minutes after the conclusion of the last Qualifying match.

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- (v) If a Main Draw spot becomes available prior to the start of the last singles match of the day, the Lucky Loser/Alternate will be determined by the Sign-In for that day. However, where there are no Lucky Losers/Alternates signed in and the match affected by the withdrawal is not scheduled for that day, the following day's Sign-In will be used to fill the vacant spot.

If the spots become available after the start of the last singles match of the day/night, the spot will be filled by the highest ranked player or team who signs in the following day.

- (vi) If a Lucky Loser/Alternate is currently involved in or scheduled for another event/match pertaining to the Tournament, then the Lucky Loser/Alternate's match or other scheduled match may be rescheduled at the discretion of the Supervisor. Where Qualifying has not been completed or a Lucky Loser is unable to be determined, the match may be rescheduled.
- (vii) The first Lucky Loser or Alternate must be ready to play a match within 15 minutes of the original No Show or default. If the first on-site Lucky Loser/Alternate fails to be ready to play within 15 minutes, the next on-site Lucky Loser/Alternate must be ready to play within 5 minutes of the time her match is called. Any subsequent on-site Lucky Loser/Alternate must be ready to play within 5 minutes of the time her match is called. If a Lucky Loser or an Alternate chooses not to sign in one (1) day, she may still sign in the next day. However, if she signs in, her match is called and she fails to show for the match (for any reason), she forfeits her Lucky Loser or Alternate status for the duration of the Tournament.
- (viii) If a player retires/withdraws from her Qualifying match on the same day an open Lucky Loser position is on the schedule, thereby relinquishing her Lucky Loser status for that day, the open Lucky Loser position will go to the next eligible Lucky Loser for that day.

#### vi. Special Exempt Spots (International Tournaments Only)

One (1) Special Exempt Spot shall be held at each International Tournament. Special Exempt Spot is defined as a singles Main Draw spot reserved for a singles player who is unable to compete in the Qualifying of an International Tournament ("Special Exempt Tournament") in which she has been accepted

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because she is still competing in a Qualified Singles Event. A "Qualified Singles Event" is defined as the singles event of any International, Premier or Grand Slam Tournament in the week before the Special Exempt Tournament.

#### **(a) Application Process**

Eligible singles players must apply for a Special Exempt Spot prior to the Qualifying Sign-In deadline at the Special Exempt Tournament. A Special Exempt Request Form must be submitted to the WTA Supervisor at the Tournament where a player is still competing, to the WTA Supervisor at the Special Exempt Tournament, or through a WTA Operations staff member.

A player who is still competing at the Qualifying Sign-In deadline will only be eligible to receive a Special Exempt Spot if she wins her match at the Qualified Singles Event, or the match is re-scheduled to be on the first day of Qualifying at the Special Exempt Tournament due to weather or other unforeseen circumstances. Matches scheduled and played on the Qualifying Sign-In day which finish past midnight will not be considered as being played on the first day of Qualifying and will not make a player eligible for a Special Exempt Spot.

#### **(b) Selection Process**

If more than one (1) player is eligible for the Special Exempt Spot, selection will be based on a player's singles ranking, using the most recent WTA Rankings issued prior to the Special Exempt Tournament, or a player's Special Ranking if used to enter the Special Exempt Tournament, with the highest ranked applicant selected first.

Once a player is selected for a Special Exempt Spot, she is committed to the Special Exempt Tournament and subject to all late withdrawal rules and penalties.

If Qualifying has not started and the player selected for the Special Exempt Spot subsequently withdraws from the Tournament or moves into the Main Draw of the Tournament with her WTA Ranking as a direct acceptance, the next player eligible for the Special Exempt Spot moves into the draw. If there are no other players eligible for the Special Exempt Spot, the next player from the Main

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Draw Alternate List moves into the draw. After the start of Qualifying, a Lucky Loser will fill the open spot in the draw.

#### **(c) Draw Procedures**

If prior to the Main Draw Entry Deadline of an International Tournament, it is established that there will be no Special Exempt Spots due to a lack of Qualified Singles Events in the previous week, the reserved spot shall be filled with a Direct Acceptance from the original acceptance list.

If at any time up until the Qualifying Sign-in Deadline it is determined that no players will be eligible for the Special Exempt Spot, the reserved spot shall be immediately filled by the next in player from the main draw alternate list.

#### **b. Openings in the Main Draw\***

##### **i. Top 10 Player Replacement**

If a Top 10 Player who was a direct acceptance withdraws after the Qualifying Sign-In Deadline, a Tournament may replace that Top 10 Player with another Top 10 Player who is eligible (including subject to Section II.D - Commitment Deadlines and Rules) to play the Tournament up until the Main Draw is made. The replacement Top 10 Player does not have to have previously entered the Tournament, and once the replacement Top 10 Player is confirmed, she fills the Main Draw spot vacated by the withdrawing Top 10 Player. If the Tournament does not secure a replacement Top 10 Player, the vacated Main Draw spot is filled according to parts ii. and iii. of this Section III.C.1.b.

##### **ii. Before Qualifying Begins**

Next-In Main Draw Alternates, based on the WTA Rankings currently used for alternate status, will fill any such openings.

##### **iii. After the Qualifying Begins**

Lucky Losers will fill any such openings in the Main Draw, except in the following cases:

- (a) An Alternate Wild Card replacement; or
- (b) The correction of a WTA administrative error.

See Wild Cards – Section III.C.4.

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- \* See Withdrawal of a Seed – Section III.C.6.d for the procedures to be followed when a seeded player withdraws from a Tournament.

#### c. Openings in Qualifying or Main Draw Only Events

##### i. On-site Alternates

On-site Alternates are those players waiting to get into the Main Draw or Qualifying who have:

- (a) Signed an Official WTA Entry Form and entered the Tournament by the official deadline; and
- (b) Signed in with the Supervisor or a WTA Operations staff member by the 4:00 p.m. tournament local time Qualifying Sign-In deadline on the day prior to the start of Qualifying (or, if there is no Qualifying, by 4:00 p.m. tournament local time on the day prior to the start of the Main Draw).

##### ii. Additional Qualifying Wild Cards

At Tournaments where there are no on-site Alternates, openings in the draw may be filled by additional Tournament Wild Cards. Players/teams waiting to get into the draw as additional Tournament Wild Cards must:

- (a) Sign in with the Supervisor or a WTA Operations staff member by the 4:00 p.m. tournament local time Qualifying Sign-In deadline the day prior to the start of Qualifying;
- (b) Submit a request to the Tournament Director and be approved as an additional Qualifying Wild Card; and
- (c) Sign in with the Supervisor/Referee 30 minutes prior to the scheduled start of play each day to be eligible for any openings in the draw that day.

See Wild Cards – Section III.C.4.

##### iii. Sign-In Procedures\*

- (a) The Sign-In deadline for Alternates is 30 minutes prior to the scheduled start of play for the day.
- (b) An Alternate or Lucky Loser is not required to sign in one day to be eligible as an Alternate/Lucky Loser another day. (This applies to singles and doubles Alternates and to Lucky Losers.)

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- (c) An on-site Alternate is eligible to substitute for all 1st round matches and for 2nd round matches when the player or team has had a 1st round bye.
- (d) The first Lucky Loser/on-site Alternate must be ready to play within 15 minutes of being called for a match. If the first on-site Alternate fails to be ready to play within 15 minutes, the next on-site Alternate must be ready to play within 5 minutes of the time her match is called. Any subsequent on-site Alternate must be ready to play within 5 minutes of the time her match is called. Matches will not be held for Alternates still competing in another ITF or WTA Tournament. If an on-site Alternate fails to show for a match, she will be considered a No Show.

\* The Acceptance Ranking determines the order of on-site Alternates.

#### d. On-Site Draw Procedure for Administrative Error – Preliminary Match

If an administrative error has been made in a Tournament acceptance list and too many players have been accepted into the Tournament, the following procedures will be followed:

- i. The last two (2) players accepted into the Tournament based upon the most current updated entry list, regardless of whether the draw has been made (excluding Wild Cards, Qualifiers and Top 10 Players), will play a preliminary match for one (1) spot in the draw.
- ii. The loser of the preliminary match will receive 1st round prize money and 1st round ranking points.

Prize money payment to the loser of the preliminary match will not constitute an additional expense to the Tournament; the WTA will pay it.

- iii. The winner of the preliminary match will receive prize money and ranking points for the round reached in the draw. In addition, the player will receive 25% of 2nd round prize money (paid by the WTA) and 35% of 2nd round ranking points.

The WTA will reimburse per diem expenses to the loser of the preliminary match per the Rules.

## 2. Singles – Qualifying Draw

- a. Minimum Draw Size

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Minimum number of places in the Qualifying competition will be sixteen (16) (except at WTA125Ks).

#### **b. Composition**

The Qualifying Draw will consist of some or all of the following:

##### **i. Direct Acceptance**

Those players accepted based on the WTA Rankings at the time of entry deadline or unless an exception is authorized via a Special Ranking.

##### **ii. On-site Alternates Acceptance**

On-site Alternates (defined in sub-Section C.1.c.) shall be prioritized for acceptance as follows:

- (a) Players who have entered the Tournament by the applicable deadline and appear on the Tournament entry list will be accepted based on the entry list order;
- (b) After the Qualifying Freeze Deadline (see Section III.A.19), players who are not entered but sign-in on site will be accepted based on their most recent WTA Ranking (subject to the ranking minimums detailed in Section III.A.5.h.);
- (c) WTA full members in order of their current singles ranking (not subject to the ranking minimums detailed in Section III.A.5.h.) who sign-in on site.

Players cannot use their Special Ranking for (b) or (c) above. Section III.A.10. will be used in the event of ties and no singles ranking. All other players will need a Wild Card to be accepted into the Qualifying Draw.

##### **iii. Wild Card Nominations**

Those players named Wild Cards by the Tournament Director to fill designated spots in the draw. (See Wild Cards – Section III.C.4.)

Tournament Directors must name and notify the WTA of their final Wild Card nominations, in writing, by the Qualifying Sign-In deadline.



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If there are open spots in the draw and no On-site Alternates, the open spots will revert to the Tournament Director as Additional Wild Card spots. These Wild Cards will count towards a player's yearly allotment of Wild Cards.

If a Qualifying Wild Card withdraws before the Qualifying Draw has started, the Tournament Director may name an alternate Wild Card, even if the Wild Card nomination deadline has passed. (See Filling Vacant Wild Card Spots – Section III.C.4.a.iv.)

#### **c. Sign-In Deadlines**

##### **i. Qualifiers**

Each Qualifier must sign in by 4:00 p.m. tournament local time on the day prior to the start of Qualifying or she will not be placed in the draw. A player must sign in by contacting (either in person or by a telephone conversation) the on-site Supervisor, a Supervisor at an event at which she is competing, or WTA Operations. Each player is ultimately responsible for confirming that the Supervisor or WTA Operations has received her sign-in before the 4:00 p.m. (tournament local time) deadline. (See also Postponement of First Round Qualifying of WTA Tournament – Section III.D.6.)

##### **ii. On-Site Alternates**

On-site Alternates must have signed in as set forth in sub-Section C.1.c. If an Alternate has not been accepted into the Qualifying Draw, she must sign in with or contact the Supervisor before 30 minutes prior to the scheduled start of play each day. An on-site Alternate is eligible to substitute for all 1st round matches and for 2nd round matches when there are 1st round byes. A player (Alternate or Lucky Loser) will not lose her Alternate/Lucky Loser status if she chooses not to sign in each day.

#### **d. Openings in the Qualifying Draw**

##### **i. Before the Qualifying Freeze Deadline (see Section III.A.19)**

Any such openings are filled by Next In Qualifying Alternates based on the WTA Rankings used for Alternate Status.

##### **ii. After the Qualifying Freeze Deadline but before Qualifying Sign-In (4:00 p.m. tournament local time).**

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Any such openings are filled by Alternates who have signed in with a WTA Operations staff member or the Supervisor based on the On-site Alternates Acceptance procedure set forth in sub-Section 2.b.ii. above.

e. After the Qualifying Sign-In

These openings are filled by On-site Alternates who were not accepted into the draw based on the order determined at the Qualifying Sign-in Deadline using the On-site Alternates Acceptance procedure set forth in sub-Section 2.b.ii. above. Players must have signed in as set forth in Section III.C.1.c. to maintain eligibility for any openings.

The first on-site Alternate must be ready to play within 15 minutes of being called for a match. Matches will not be held for Alternates still competing in another ITF or WTA Tournament.

If a Qualifying spot becomes available prior to the start of the last qualifying match of the day, the Alternate will be determined by the Sign-In for that day. However, where there are no Alternates signed in and the match affected by the withdrawal is not scheduled for that day, the following day's Sign-In will be used to fill the vacant spot. If a spot becomes available after the start of the last qualifying match of the day/night, the spot will be filled by the highest ranked player who signs in the following day.

### 3. Doubles Main Draw

a. Entries

All doubles-only players must sign an Official WTA Entry Form prior to the commencement of the doubles event or enter online via PlayerZone. This requirement shall not apply to the WTA Finals or WTA Elite Trophy, see Section IX for entry and acceptance rules at the WTA Finals and WTA Elite Trophy.

All doubles entries using a Special Ranking must be submitted to (i) the Supervisor in writing if entering on site; or (ii) [tourops@wtatennis.com](mailto:tourops@wtatennis.com) by the applicable entry deadline if using the advance entry system (see Section III.C.3.b.i below). Players may use their doubles Special Ranking for advance entry and singles or doubles Special Ranking for on-site entry. (See WTA Special Ranking Rule – Section XIV.C.)

b. Deadlines

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#### i. Advance Entry

The deadline for advance entry into the doubles Main Draw of any Premier or International Tournament is 5:00 p.m. Eastern time (New York, USA time) on the Monday two (2) weeks prior to the singles Main Draw start date of such Tournament ("Advanced Doubles Entry Deadline"). A player may only enter one (1) Tournament per week through the advance doubles entry system. A player that is entered or accepted into the singles Main Draw or singles Qualifying of a Tournament as of the Advance Doubles Entry Deadline may only enter doubles at that same Tournament in that week.

There is no advance doubles entry for WTA 125K Series events; players must enter on-site.

#### ii. On-Site Entry

The deadline for on-site entry into the doubles Main Draw of any WTA Tournament is 12:00 noon tournament local time on the day before the start of the singles Main Draw at such Tournament (unless the Official WTA Tournament Fact Sheet states otherwise). A team must sign in by contacting (in person or by a telephone conversation) the on-site Supervisor, Supervisor at an event at which one of the team's player is competing, or WTA Operations. A team may sign in beginning the day prior to the day sign-in closes. Each team is ultimately responsible for confirming that the Supervisor or WTA Operations has received its sign-in before the 12:00 noon (tournament local time) deadline.

#### iii. A player may not sign in on-site or using the advance doubles entry system with more than one (1) partner.

#### c. Acceptance

##### i. Advance Entry

(a) Acceptance at each Tournament is determined by the highest combined WTA Doubles Rankings of the players on each entering team as of the Advance Doubles Entry Deadline for that Tournament.

(b) Prior to the Qualifying Freeze Deadline (see Section III.A.19), the next team on the Advance Entry Alternate List replaces any withdrawing team.

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- (c) Teams on the Advance Entry Alternate List after the 2:00 p.m. Qualifying Freeze Deadline must re-enter on-site to be eligible for acceptance.
  - (d) If there are any openings in the Advance Entry List as of the Advance Doubles Entry Deadline, the next eligible team on the On-Site Entry Alternate List will fill the open spot after the on-site entry process.
- ii. On-Site Entry
  - (a) In accordance with the chart in Section III.C.3.g below, acceptance at each Tournament is determined by splitting the allotted on-site spots between teams:
    - (i) using the highest combined WTA Doubles Rankings of the players on each entering team as of the week prior to the start of that Tournament; and
    - (ii) using the highest of the combined WTA Singles or Doubles Rankings of the players on each entering team as of the week prior to the start of that Tournament.
  - (b) Teams that enter a Tournament but do not receive a direct acceptance become Alternates for the sign-in day of that Tournament, and the On-Site Entry Alternate List will be in order of the highest of the combined WTA Singles or Doubles Rankings of the players on each entering team as of the week prior to the start of that Tournament. To remain eligible for subsequent days, Alternates must have entered in accordance with Section III.C.3.a above and must follow the procedures for Openings in the Main Draw in Section III.C.3.h below.
  - (c) If two (2) times during any Tour Year a player accepted into a Tournament using her WTA Singles Ranking or singles Special Ranking subsequently withdraws or retires from the doubles Main Draw of that Tournament after playing or earning a result in a doubles match, she forfeits her eligibility to use her WTA Singles Ranking or singles Special Ranking to enter the doubles Main Draw at any WTA Tournament for the remainder of that Tour Year unless: (i) she also has withdrawn or retired from singles at the same Tournament; or (ii) she is declared unfit to play.

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#### iii. Entries Using Combined WTA Doubles Rankings

- (a) The WTA will assign an eligible unranked player a rank of one (1) plus the ranking of the lowest player on the WTA Doubles Rankings applicable to acceptance.
- (b) If two (2) or more teams are tied, the following team receives priority:
  - (i) the team with the greatest combined total WTA Doubles Ranking points; or if still tied
  - (ii) the team with the highest combined WTA Doubles Rankings from the week prior to the WTA Doubles Rankings applicable to acceptance; or if still tied
  - (iii) the team with the fewest Tournaments played as a team in the previous 52-week period.

#### iv. Entries Using Combined WTA Singles or Doubles Rankings

Teams that enter using the highest of its players' combined WTA Singles or Doubles Rankings receive priority in the following order: (a) the team using two (2) WTA Singles Rankings to enter; (b) the team using one (1) WTA Singles Ranking to enter; and (c) the team using two (2) WTA Doubles Rankings to enter. If after applying these priority procedures two (2) or more teams are tied for qualification under (a) or (b), the team with the highest-ranked (as of the WTA Rankings applicable to acceptance) singles player receives priority. If after applying these procedures two (2) or more teams are tied for qualification under (c), the tie break procedures under Section III.C.3.c.iii above apply.

#### d. Seeding

Seeding is in order of the accepted teams' combined WTA Doubles Rankings as of the week prior to the start of the Tournament.

#### e. Withdrawing from the Advance Entry List

- i. Prior to the on-site entry deadline in Section III.C.3.b.ii above, a team may withdraw from the advance entry list or Advance Entry Alternate List via PlayerZone without penalty. If a withdrawing team has been accepted into the doubles Main Draw of the Tournament at the time of withdrawal, it must indicate the withdrawing player upon withdrawal, and:

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- (a) the withdrawing player may not: (i) re-enter that Tournament (except by Wild Card); and (ii) enter or accept a Wild Card into the doubles draw of another WTA Tournament in the same week unless she has been accepted into the singles draw of that other WTA Tournament via Wild Card; and
    - (b) the non-withdrawing player may re-enter that Tournament or enter another Tournament on site with another partner or accept a Wild Card into the doubles draw of another WTA Tournament in the same week.
  - ii. The WTA automatically will withdraw a team from the advance entry list or Advance Entry Alternate List if one player on that team is accepted via Wild Card into either the singles Main Draw or Qualifying at another WTA Tournament in the same week. The team may enter the doubles draw on-site at the Tournament at which one or both of its players have been accepted via Wild Card into the singles Main Draw or Qualifying.
- f. Preliminary Matches

If it becomes necessary to play a doubles preliminary match in the Main Draw, the two (2) lowest-ranked teams using the ranking with which they were accepted (excluding Wild Cards) will play a preliminary match for one (1) spot in the draw. The team that wins the preliminary match will receive the prize money and ranking points for the round it reaches in the Main Draw, except that if it loses its first round match, it receives 25% of second round prize money (which the WTA shall pay) and 35% of second round ranking points.

The team that loses the preliminary match will receive first round prize money (which the WTA shall pay) and first round ranking points.

The WTA also shall reimburse the team that loses the preliminary match for its per diem expenses in accordance with the Rules.

g. Composition

The following chart outlines the composition of the doubles draw for each WTA Tournament level and draw size:

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<b>DRAW COMPOSITION</b>						
<b>Tournament Level</b>	<b>Draw Size</b>	<b>Regular Wild Cards</b>	<b>Top 20 Wild Cards</b>	<b>Advance Entry Spots</b>	<b>On Site Doubles Combined Ranking Spots</b>	<b>On Site Singles or Doubles Combined Ranking Spots</b>
Premier	32	2	1	23	3	3
Premier	28	2	1	19	3	3
Premier	16	1	1	10	2	2
International	16	1	1	10	2	2

The Main Draw will consist of some or all of the following:

i. Direct Acceptance Teams

Teams accepted in accordance with Section III.C.3.c above are direct acceptance teams.

ii. Wild Card Nominations

Teams named Wild Cards by the Tournament Director to fill designated spots in the draw are Wild Card nominations. (See Wild Cards – Section III.C.4.)

Final Wild Card nominations must be named in writing by 11:30 a.m. tournament local time the day of the on-site Doubles Sign-In Deadline. The WTA must approve all Wild Card nominations in regard to the Age Eligibility Rule and other rule limitations.

At Tournaments where not enough teams enter on site to fill all the spots in the draw, the openings in the draw may be filled by Additional Tournament Wild Cards. Teams waiting to get into the draw as Additional Wild Cards must have signed-in by the on-site Doubles Sign-In Deadline, submitted a request to the Tournament Director, and signed-in to Doubles Alternates list 30 minutes prior to the scheduled start of play each day to be eligible for any openings in the draw that day.

h. Openings in the Main Draw\*

i. Advance Entry List

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After the Qualifying Freeze Deadline, the next team on the On-Site Entry Alternate List replaces any withdrawing team.

#### **ii. On-Site Entry**

##### **(a) At Sign-In Deadline**

Openings in the Main Draw will be filled by the next team on the On-Site Entry Alternate List.

##### **(b) After Sign-In Deadline**

If openings occur after the day of Sign-In deadline, in order to be eligible, the team must sign in as an Alternate with or contact the on-site Supervisor thirty (30) minutes prior to the start of doubles play each day or by the Doubles Alternate Sign-In deadline determined by the on-site Supervisor/Referee and indicated on the order of play.

An on-site Alternate team is eligible to substitute for all 1st round matches and for second round matches when there are first round byes. If a team chooses not to sign in on one day, it will not lose its eligibility to sign in for subsequent days.

##### **(i) Prior to the Start of the Last Doubles Match of Day**

If a spot becomes available prior to the start of the last doubles match of the day/night, the Alternate will be determined by the Sign-In for that day. However, where there are no Alternates signed in, and the match affected by the withdrawal is not scheduled for that day, the following day's Sign-In will be used to fill the vacant spot.

##### **(ii) After the Start of the Last Doubles Match of Day**

If the spot becomes available after the start of the last doubles match of the day/night, the spot will be filled by the highest ranked team that signs in the following day using the highest of its players' combined WTA Singles or Doubles Rankings as of the week prior to the start of the Tournament.

\* See Withdrawal of a Seed – Section III.C.6.d for the procedures to be followed when a seeded team withdraws from a Tournament.



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**4. Wild Cards**

Wild Cards are those players chosen by the Tournament Director to fill designated spots in the draw. The only restrictions on Wild Cards are those for players who have already used the maximum number of Wild Cards allowed in a Tour Year, and those players who are ineligible to receive a Wild Card due to restrictions set forth in the Age Eligibility Rule, Top 20 Wild Card Rules, WTA 125K rules, Anti-Corruption Program, Anti-Doping Program and/or Prize Money Policy. By reason of the foregoing, Wild Cards are not considered official until approved by the WTA. A Wild Card may be seeded, based on WTA seeding procedures.

**a. Main Draw Singles**

A player may not be awarded more than one (1) singles Wild Card in any calendar week.

**i. Top 20 Wild Card - Premier and International Tournaments**

Each non-Mandatory Tournament receives two (2) "Top 20 Wild Card" spots, which can only be used by Top 10 Players, players with a singles ranking of 11-20 at the end of the preceding Tour Year ("Top 20 Players"), past Grand Slam singles champions, past WTA Finals singles champions, past Premier Mandatory tournament singles champions, and/or former WTA No. 1 ranked singles players as follows:

- (a) For Premier 5 Tournaments, if a Tournament's Player Commitment Formula has not been met prior to the start of the Tournament, the Top 20 Wild Card will be first used by the WTA to move a Top 10 Player into the Main Draw of the Tournament to satisfy the Player Commitment Formula, no matter what the player's ranking. If the WTA does not use the Top 20 Wild Card, the Tournament Director may award the Top 20 Wild Card to any Top 10 Player, Top 20 Player, past Grand Slam singles champion, past WTA Finals singles champion, past Premier Mandatory tournament singles champion, and/or former WTA No. 1 ranked singles player. If the WTA and the Tournament do not use the Top 20 Wild Card(s), the Wild Card spot(s) revert(s) to the next player(s) waiting to get into the draw.
- (b) For Premier 700 Tournaments, the Tournament Director may award the Top 20 Wild Card to any Top 10 Player, Top 20 Player, past Grand Slam singles champion, past WTA Finals singles champion, past Premier Mandatory tourna-

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ment singles champion, and/or former WTA No. 1 ranked singles player. If the Tournament does not use the Top 20 Wild Card(s), the Wild Card spot(s) revert(s) to the next player(s) waiting to get into the draw.

- (c) For International Tournaments, the WTA can use a Top 20 Wild Card to automatically fill any open Top 10 Player spots with players on the Top 10 Next-In List. If the WTA does not use the Top 20 Wild Card, the Tournament Director must award the Top 20 Wild Card to any Top 20 Player, past Grand Slam singles champion, past WTA Finals singles champion, past Premier Mandatory tournament singles champion, and/or former WTA No. 1 ranked singles player who requests it prior to the Qualifying Freeze Deadline.

In awarding Top 20 Wild Cards to Top 20 Players, past Grand Slam singles champions, past WTA Finals singles champions, past Premier Mandatory tournament singles champions, and/or former WTA No. 1 ranked singles players under this Section III.C.4.a.i.(c), Tournaments must adhere to the following procedures:

- (i) If more than two (2) eligible players request a Top 20 Wild Card, the Tournament shall decide which eligible player it awards the Top 20 Wild card;
- (ii) If only one eligible player requests a Top 20 Wild Card, the Tournament must award one Top 20 Wild Card to the eligible player making the request, and the second Top 20 Wild Card will revert to the next player waiting to get into the draw;
- (iii) If there are no eligible players requesting a Top 20 Wild Card, the Tournament can award one Top 20 Wild Card to any player as per the rules in this Section 4, and the second Top 20 Wild Card will revert to the next player waiting to get into the draw.

If neither of the Top 20 Wild Cards are awarded, both Top 20 Wild Card spots revert to the next players waiting to get into the draw.

- (d) The awarding of the Top 20 Wild Card shall be subject to the Wild Card Maximums, Age Eligibility, Anti-Doping Program, Premier Prize Money and Prize Money Policy restrictions.

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- (e) If a Top 10 Player withdraws from a Premier 5 Tournament after the Qualifying Freeze Deadline (2:00 p.m. Eastern Time on the day prior to the Qualifying Sign-In) and, as a result, the Tournament's Player Commitment Formula is no longer met, the Tournament has up until the start of Qualifying to name one (1) or both of the Top 20 Wild Cards with replacement Top 10 Players to satisfy its Player Commitment Formula.

#### ii. WTA 125K Wild Cards

- (a) Each WTA 125K will receive four (4) standard Wild Card spots plus two (2) Wild Card spots which can only be used by non-Top 10 Players with a singles ranking of 11-50 at the Main Draw Entry Deadline ("Top 11-50 Player"). Top 11-50 Players may not enter WTA 125K events and may only participate in WTA 125K events through a Wild Card nomination. The total number of Top 11-50 Players in singles and doubles combined allowed to accept a Wild Card spot varies based on the scheduling of the WTA 125K as follows:

<b>WTA 125K Date</b>	<b>Total # of Top 11-50 Players Allowed to Compete in Singles and Doubles Combined</b>
Same week as Premier or International Tournament (including the WTA Elite Trophy)	2
2nd Week of a Grand Slam/2-Week Premier Mandatory	4
Off Season	4

- (b) If not awarded, vacant Top 11-50 Wild Card spots revert to the next players waiting to get into the draw.
- (c) The awarding of Wild Cards shall be subject to the Wild Card Maximums, Age Eligibility Rule and Anti-Doping Program.

#### iii. Nomination Deadlines

- (a) The Tournament Director must provide a tentative list of all Wild Card nominations seven (7) days prior to the start of the Main Draw of the Tournament.
- (b) The Tournament Director must advise the WTA or the

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Supervisor in writing of the singles Wild Card nominations and Alternate Wild Card nominations by 4:00 p.m. tournament local time, the day of Qualifying Sign-In. If there is no Qualifying event, Wild Card nominations must be made in writing by Friday, 4:00 p.m. tournament local time the week preceding the Tournament, or by 4:00 p.m. tournament local time the day before the draw is made, whichever comes first. Off-season WTA 125Ks must submit their Top 11-50 Wild Card nominations no later than the Wednesday prior to the start of the Main Draw.

Wild Cards named by the Tournament Director prior to the deadline will be tentative until the Qualifying Sign-In deadline.

#### iv. Filling Vacant Wild Card Spots (Singles and Doubles)

##### (a) Qualifying:

Until the start of Qualifying, the Tournament Director will be allowed to fill a vacated Qualifying Wild Card spot with an alternate Wild Card nominated prior to the Qualifying Wild Card nominations deadline in the following instances:

- (i) If at any time prior to the scheduled start of Qualifying, a Wild Card or Wild Card team is accepted into the Qualifying or Main Draw based upon her or their computer ranking or as a Special Exempt; or
- (ii) If a Wild Card has withdrawn from the Tournament prior to the scheduled start of Qualifying.

##### (b) Main Draw Singles and Doubles:

If a Main Draw Wild Card withdraws from the Tournament after the Wild Card nomination deadline, the Tournament Director can replace her with either a previously named or a new Wild Card nomination up until the draw is made. The replacement singles Wild Card cannot be a player who has participated in the Qualifying. If a Main Draw Wild Card team withdraws from the Tournament after the Wild Card nomination deadline, the Tournament Director can replace them with either a previously named or new Wild Card team nomination up until the start of the first Main Draw doubles match of the Tournament.

In either of the cases above, if the current ranking (used to

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determine seeding) of the replacement Wild Card (previously-named alternate or newly-nominated) is high enough to be seeded, the seeds will be adjusted accordingly. (See Openings in the Main Draw – Section III.C.1.b.)

- (c) With a Lucky Loser

If the Tournament does not name another Wild Card, a Lucky Loser will fill the open spot.

#### **v. Additional Tournament Qualifying Wild Cards**

At Tournaments where there are no on-site Alternates, openings in the qualifying draw may be filled by additional Tournament Wild Cards. Players waiting to get into the draw, as additional Tournament Wild Cards must:

- (a) Sign in with the Supervisor or a WTA Operations staff member by the 4:00 p.m. tournament local time Qualifying Sign-In deadline the day prior to the start of Qualifying;
- (b) Submit a request to the Tournament Director and be approved as an additional Qualifying Wild Card;
- (c) Sign in with the Supervisor/Referee 30 minutes prior to the scheduled start of play each day to be eligible for any openings in the draw that day.

#### **vi. Confirmation of Wild Card Acceptance**

- (a) Tournament Responsibility

Before advising the WTA or Supervisor of the singles Wild Cards, the Tournament Director shall have confirmed with the player that she will accept the Wild Card.

- (b) Player Responsibility

In addition to confirming to the Tournament Director that she will accept a Wild Card, if offered, the player also must provide written notification of the Wild Card acceptance to the on-site Supervisor at the relevant Tournament or to WTA Operations by the Qualifying Sign-In deadline (4:00 p.m. tournament local time, the day prior to the start of Qualifying).

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If a player accepts a Wild Card and subsequently withdraws prior to her first match played, the Wild Card will not count towards her Wild Card allotment. A player will be subject to a Late Withdrawal fine only if the withdrawal occurs after the start of Qualifying.

#### **vii. Wild Card Maximum**

Except as otherwise set forth herein, the maximum number of Wild Cards a player may receive into singles Premier and International Tournaments during a Tour Year is six (6), with a maximum of three (3) allowed in the Main Draw. This maximum does not apply to Wild Cards accepted into Grand Slams. Wild Cards accepted into ITF Women's Circuit events and WTA 125Ks count separately.

The maximum number of Wild Cards a player may receive into singles WTA 125Ks during the calendar year is three (3). These Wild Cards are in addition to the maximum number of Wild Cards allowed in Premier/International Tournaments.

It is the player's responsibility to track the number of Wild Cards she has used.

#### **b. Doubles**

##### **i. Top 20 Doubles Wild Card – Premier and International Tournaments**

Each Premier Tournament will receive one (1) Wild Card spot which can only be granted to a doubles team on which one (1) player is a Top 20 Player, past singles Grand Slam champion, past singles winner of the WTA Finals and/or former WTA ranked No. 1 singles or doubles player ("Top 20 Doubles Wild Card"). If there is no request for a Top 20 Doubles Wild Card at a Premier Tournament or a Premier Tournament does not grant a Top 20 Doubles Wild Card to an eligible team, the unused Top 20 Doubles Wild Card(s) will go to the next-in team.

Each International Tournament will receive one (1) Top 20 Doubles Wild Card. If there is no request for a Top 20 Doubles Wild Card at an International Tournament, the unused Top 20 Doubles Wild Card will revert to the Tournament as an additional Doubles Wild Card. However, if one (1) or more eligible team(s) requests the Top 20 Doubles Wild Card but the Tournament does not grant it to them, the unused Top 20 Doubles Wild Card

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will go to the next-in team.

Notwithstanding any other Wild Card rule, any player accepting a Top 20 Doubles Wild Card who subsequently withdraws or retires from the doubles Draw shall forfeit any right she may have to unlimited Doubles Wild Cards (i.e., eligible only for the annual maximum of three (3) Doubles Wild Cards), unless: (a) the player also withdraws/retires from the singles Draw; (b) the player is declared unfit to play; or (c) the player also withdraws from playing singles in a Tournament she entered to be held the following week.

#### **ii. WTA 125K Wild Card**

Each WTA 125K will receive one (1) doubles Wild Card spot. The total number of Top 11-50 Players in singles and doubles combined allowed to accept a Wild Card spot varies based on the scheduling of the WTA 125K. (See chart in Section III.C.4.a.ii.) The awarding of Wild Cards shall be subject to the Wild Card Maximums, Age Eligibility Rule and Anti-Doping Program.

#### **iii. Confirmation of Wild Card Acceptance**

In order for a player to accept a Wild Card, she must provide written notification to the on-site Supervisor at the relevant Tournament by the on-site Doubles Sign-In deadline (12:00 noon tournament local time on the day prior to the start of the Main Draw).

If the player accepts the Wild Card and subsequently withdraws after the on-site Doubles Sign-In deadline, she will be subject to a Late Withdrawal fine.

#### **iv. Wild Card Maximum**

Except as otherwise set forth herein, the maximum number of Wild Cards a player may receive into doubles Premier and International Tournaments during a Tour Year is three (3). This maximum does not apply to Wild Cards accepted into Grand Slams. Wild Cards accepted into ITF Women's Circuit events and WTA 125Ks count separately.

The maximum number of Wild Cards a player may receive into doubles WTA 125Ks during the calendar year is three (3). These Wild Cards are in addition to the maximum number of Wild Cards allowed in Premier/International Tournaments.

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It is the player's responsibility to track the number of Wild Cards she has used.

#### **c. Exceptions**

The following exceptions apply to both singles and doubles Wild Cards where indicated:

- i. Top 10 Players may receive an unlimited number of Wild Card nominations in singles and/or doubles. This does not apply to players under the Age Eligibility Rule.
- ii. A Wild Card into the WTA Elite Trophy will not count toward the maximum number of Wild Cards a player can receive during the Tour Year.
- iii. Players will forfeit any ranking points earned at WTA Tournaments by the acceptance of Wild Cards above these limits.
- iv. Players who have competed in WTA Tournaments for 10 Tour Years or more (not necessarily consecutively) will be allowed three (3) additional Wild Cards, either in Main Draw or in Qualifying, in both singles and doubles at WTA Tournaments (including Premier, International, and 125K Series).
- v. Any player who is a past singles champion of a Grand Slam or WTA Finals will be allowed an unlimited number of Singles Main Draw Wild Card nominations, including Top 20 Singles Wild Card nominations if such player is a Top 20 Player, and 125K Top 11-50 Wild Card nominations if such player is a Top 11-50 Player.
- vi. Any player who is a past doubles champion of a Grand Slam or winner of the WTA Finals Women's Doubles title will be allowed an unlimited number of Doubles Wild Card nominations, including Top 20 Doubles Wild Card nomination if such player is a Top 20 Player, past Grand Slam singles champion, past WTA Finals singles champion, and/or former WTA No. 1 ranked singles or doubles player.
- vii. Pursuant to the Age Eligibility Rule, players under the age of 17 are restricted in the number and level of Wild Cards they may receive. (See Event Participation - Section XV.A.2.)
- viii. Pursuant to the Anti-Doping Program, players who have retired may not receive a Wild Card until they have satisfied the applicable anti-doping testing requirements.



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### SECTION III - ENTRIES/WITHDRAWALS/DRAWS/SCHEDULING

#### Wild Card Reference Charts

<b>Singles Main Draw – Premier/International</b>		
<b>Draw Size<sup>§</sup></b>	<b>Top 20 Wild Cards</b>	<b>Other Wild Cards</b>
Premier 28/30/32! International 32*	2	2
Premier 48/56!	2	3
Premier Mandatory 60/64	0	5
Premier Mandatory 96	0	8

<b>Doubles Main Draw – Premier/International</b>		
<b>Draw Size<sup>§</sup></b>	<b>Top 20 Wild Cards</b>	<b>Other Wild Cards</b>
Premier 16** International 16**	1	1
Premier 28/32**	1	2

<b>Qualifying Draw – Premier/International</b>	
<b>Draw Size<sup>§</sup></b>	<b>Wild Cards</b>
16	2
24/32	4
48	6
64/96/128	8

§ See Section IX - for Wild Cards for the WTA Finals and WTA Elite Trophy.

! See Section III.C.4.a.i.(a) & (b) - for unused Wild Cards at Premier events.

\* See Section III.C.4.a.i.(c) - for unused Wild Cards at International events.

\*\* See Section III.C.4.b for unused Doubles Wild Cards.

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<b>WTA 125Ks</b>					
<b>Week</b>	<b>Top 11-50 Wild Cards</b>	<b>Standard Singles Main Draw Wild Cards</b>	<b>Singles Qualifying Draw Wild Cards (Draw Size 8/16)</b>	<b>Singles Qualifying Draw Wild Cards (Draw Size 24)</b>	<b>Doubles Main Draw Wild Cards</b>
Same week as Premier/ International (including the WTA Elite Trophy)	2	4	2	4	1
2nd Week of Grand Slam/2-Week Premier Mandatory	2	4	2	4	1
Off Season	2	4	2	4	1

**5. Making a Draw**

a. Place

The draw, which the public will be allowed to attend, is to be made by the Supervisor or the Referee (a person so designated by the Tournament and approved by the WTA) at a site selected by the Tournament Director in consultation with the Supervisor. Whenever possible, all draws should have a player present to witness the making of the draw, however, if a player is not available, the Supervisor or Referee may perform the draw in the presence of a WTA Player Relations staff member who will serve as the player representative.

b. Time

The Singles Main Draw will be made no earlier than the Qualifying Sign-In deadline and no later than 3:00 p.m. tournament local time the day before the Main Draw starts. (Any exception must have the approval of the WTA.)

c. Singles Qualifying

The Singles Qualifying Draw will be made immediately after the Qualifying Sign-In closes, or if deemed necessary, may be delayed by the Supervisor. The Doubles Main Draw will be made after the Doubles Sign-In closes.

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d. Tournaments

All Tournaments will have a seeded draw. (See Section III.C.6.)

e. Byes

i. The number of byes shall be based on draw size as follows:

Main Draw Size	Number of Byes
16/32/64/128	0
24	8
28	4
30	2
48	16
56	8
60	4*
96	32

\* The semi-finalists at the Wuhan Premier 5 Tournament will receive byes at the Beijing Premier Mandatory Tournament.

ii. Awarding of Byes

(a) Prior to the draw being made

Byes will be given automatically to the seeded players in descending order, except in the Beijing Premier Mandatory Tournament, where the byes will be awarded as set out in Section III.C.1.a.iv.

Once byes have been given to the seeds in any size draw, any remaining byes will be drawn and evenly distributed into each quarter of the draw.

(b) Once the draw is made

(i) If there are withdrawals and no Alternates to fill the spots, further byes will be assigned to the line from which a player withdrew and not to the remaining seeds in descending order.

(ii) In Qualifying, if a player's opponent withdraws and there is no Alternate to fill her spot, the player will be assigned a 1st round bye for ranking purposes, not a default. (See Defaults, Withdrawals and Byes - Section X.C.)

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## SECTION III - ENTRIES/WITHDRAWALS/DRAWS/SCHEDULING

### 6. Seeds

#### a. General Principles

- i. All Main and Qualifying Draws will have a seeded draw.
- ii. Seeding will be based on the WTA Rankings the week prior to the start of the Tournament in question.
- iii. Wild Card nominations are eligible for seeding.
- iv. Seeding will not be official until the draw is made.
- v. If an error in seeding is discovered before the affected players or teams have played their first match, the error in seeding may be corrected by switching the positions of the affected players or teams.

#### b. Number of Seeds

The number of players to be seeded will be as follows:

Main Draw Size	Qualifying Size	Main Draw Seeds	Qualifying Seeds	Number of Qualifiers
32	8	8	4	2
32	24	8	12	6
28/30/32	16	8	8	4
28/30/32	32	8	8	4
28/30	48	8	12	6
48/56	16	16	8	4
48/54/56/60/64	32	16	16	8
54/56	48	16	24	12
48/56	64	16	16	8
96	48	32	24	12
128	96	32 <sup>^</sup>	24	12
128	128	32 <sup>^</sup>	32	16

<sup>^</sup>The Grand Slams have the option to seed 16 or 32 players.

#### c. Seeding Procedures

Seeds shall be placed or drawn as set out below.

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i. For All Main Draws

- (a) Place Seed 1 on line 1 and Seed 2 on line 32 (32 draw), 64 (64 draw) or line 128 (128 draw).
- (b) To determine the placement of the remaining seeds, draw in pairs of two (Seeds 3 and 4), groups of four (Seeds 5-8, 9-12, 13-16) or groups of eight (Seeds 17-24 and 25-32) from top to bottom and place seeds, in the order drawn, on the lines indicated in the following table:

	<b>16 Draw (4 seeds)</b>	<b>32 Draw (8 seeds)</b>	<b>64 Draw (16 seeds)</b>	<b>128 Draw (16 seeds)</b>	<b>128 Draw (32 seeds)</b>
<b>Seeds</b>	<b>Line Placement on Draw Sheet</b>				
3-4	5 12	9 24	17 48	33 96	33 96
5-8		8 16 17 25	16 32 33 49	32 64 65 97	32 64 65 97
9-12			9 25 40 56	17 49 80 112	17 49 80 112
13-16			8 24 41 57	16 48 81 113	16 48 81 113
17-24					9 24 41 56 73 88 105 120
25-32					8 25 40 57 72 89 104 121

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#### **ii. For Other Odd Numbered Draws**

The WTA will determine the number of seeds.

#### **iii. For All Qualifying Draws**

- (a) All Qualifying Draws will be drawn in sections.
- (b) The number of sections and seeds shall be determined by the number of Qualifiers. There shall be two (2) seeds per section and one (1) Qualifier per section.
- (c) The 1st seed shall be placed at the top of the 1st section; the 2nd seed shall be placed at the top of the 2nd section and so on until all sections have one (1) seed on the top line of each section.
- (d) The remaining seeds shall be drawn as one (1) group. The 1st drawn shall be placed on the bottom line of the 1st section; the 2nd drawn shall be placed on the bottom of the 2nd section and so on until all sections have one (1) seed on the bottom of each section.

#### **iv. For WTA Finals Seeding and WTA Elite Trophy Seeding**

See Sections IX.A.3 and IX.B.3, respectively.

#### **d. Main Draw – Withdrawal of a Seed**

##### **i. Prior to the Release of the Schedule of Play**

If a seeded player or team withdraws from the Main Draw of a Tournament after the draw has been made but prior to the release of the schedule of play for the first day, then the following procedure applies.

- (a) If the withdrawing seeded player or team does not have a bye, then:
  - (i) The next player or team eligible to be seeded takes the withdrawing seeded player's or team's position in the draw; and
  - (ii) The next player or team eligible to move into the draw (i.e., Qualifier, Lucky Loser, or Alternate as applicable) takes the remaining open position in the draw.

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(b) If the withdrawing seeded player or team has a bye, and:

(i) If every seed in the draw has a bye, then:

- The next player or team eligible to be seeded takes the withdrawing seeded player's or team's position in the draw; and
- The next player or team eligible to move into the draw (i.e., Qualifier, Lucky Loser, or Alternate as applicable) takes the remaining open position in the draw; **or**

(ii) If not every seed in the draw has a bye, then:

- The next seeded player or team eligible to receive a bye takes the withdrawing seeded player's or team's position in the draw; and
- The next player or team eligible to be seeded takes the open seeded position in the draw; and
- The next player or team eligible to move into the draw (i.e., Qualifier, Lucky Loser, or Alternate as applicable) takes the remaining open position in the draw.

ii. After the Release of the Schedule of Play

If a seeded player or team withdraws from the Main Draw of a Tournament after the draw has been made, after the release of the schedule of play for the first day, and before the first match of the applicable draw has commenced, then the following procedure applies.

(a) If the withdrawing seeded player or team does not have a bye, then:

- (i) The next player or team eligible to be seeded takes the withdrawing seeded player's or team's position in the draw; and
- (ii) The next player or team eligible to move into the draw (i.e., Qualifier, Lucky Loser, or Alternate as applicable) takes the remaining open position in the draw.

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- (b) If the withdrawing seeded player or team has a bye, then:
  - (i) The next seeded or unseeded (as applicable) player or team eligible to receive a bye takes the withdrawing seeded player's or team's position in the draw; and
  - (ii) The next player or team eligible to move into the draw (i.e., Qualifier, Lucky Loser, or Alternate as applicable) takes the remaining open position in the draw.

#### **iii. After Play Has Commenced**

If a seeded player or team withdraws from the Main Draw of a Tournament after the first match of the applicable draw has commenced, then the next player or team eligible to move into the draw (i.e., Qualifier, Lucky Loser, or Alternate as applicable) takes the open position in the draw.

#### **e. Qualifying – Withdrawal of a Seed**

If a seeded player or team withdraws from the Qualifying Draw of a Tournament after the draw has been made, then the next Alternate player or team eligible to move into the draw takes the open position in the draw.

## **D. SCHEDULING**

### **1. WTA Responsibility**

The Supervisor, in consultation with the Tournament Director, is responsible for match scheduling. All match time requests must go through the Supervisor.

Match scheduling will take into account relevant factors including television contracts, the possibility and timing of day matches the following day, the actual start time for the night matches and other relevant factors.

### **2. Player Obligations**

- a. Players will be expected to play when scheduled. Players may be required to play both singles and doubles any day of a Tournament.
- b. Players may also be required to play several night matches in both singles and doubles during a Tournament week.
- c. Top 10 Players are required to play a minimum of two (2) singles



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night matches during a Tournament if requested to do so.

- d. When weather or other unavoidable circumstances cause a disruption in the schedule, a player may not be expected to play more than three (3) matches in a day without her consent.
- e. A player must be available to play on the first day of a Tournament unless she played in the singles or doubles final or was competing on the final day of play of a Tournament ending the preceding day.
- f. All players must be prepared to play doubles on the first day of play, regardless of whether or not they have received a bye in singles.
- g. Players may be required to play doubles before singles if necessary due to scheduling difficulties in completing the Tournament in time.

However, there must be a minimum of two (2) matches scheduled in between the doubles and singles. In no case may there be less than one (1) hour in between matches unless all players agree.

### **3. Late Start Requests**

Previous Tournament commitments or illness are the primary considerations in granting late start requests. If a request is due to illness, the player must be evaluated by the PHCP and Tournament Physician. A request made due to illness or loss of luggage does not guarantee a player a late start.

### **4. Television**

When a Tournament is televised, the television commitments will be taken into scheduling consideration.

### **5. Doubles Match Scheduling**

- a. When the singles and doubles finals are to be played on the same day, the doubles final shall be scheduled approximately two (2) hours prior to the published start time of the singles final. If the singles final is scheduled at 12:00 noon tournament local time or earlier, the doubles final may be played following the singles final.
- b. It is recommended that i) each session (day and night) open with a doubles match; and ii) a minimum of one (1) doubles match per day be scheduled on a televised court. If there is only one (1) televised court, then the match may be played on the next largest court from a seating capacity standpoint.

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- c. The following shall be considered valid exceptions to the doubles scheduling requirements set forth in sub-Sections a and b above:
  - i) contractual television obligations; ii) weather or other major scheduling interruptions; iii) combined event with the ATP; iv) security issues; and v) unforeseen circumstances as determined by the Supervisor. In addition, exceptions to sub-Section a above shall be permitted when at least one (1) of the doubles players is also a singles finalist.

#### **6. No Postponement of First Round Qualifying of WTA Tournament**

- a. The WTA will not postpone any WTA Tournament Qualifying match for a player who is still participating in a prior WTA, Grand Slam, or ITF Tournament.
- b. A player is eligible to play the Qualifying of a WTA Tournament only if she has lost in or, consistent with these Rules, she has withdrawn or retired from both the singles and doubles competitions of all prior WTA, Grand Slam, and ITF Tournaments no later than the day of the Qualifying Sign-In deadline for such WTA Tournament.
- c. A player may sign in for the Qualifying of a WTA Tournament while she is still participating in the WTA, Grand Slam, or ITF Tournament that occurs during the week prior to such WTA Tournament only if:
  - i. her next singles and doubles match in the prior week's Tournament will occur no later than the day of the Qualifying Sign-In deadline for such WTA Tournament; and
  - ii. she feasibly can travel to such WTA Tournament and play a match on the first day of Qualifying.
- d. If a player signs in for the Qualifying of a WTA Tournament while she is still participating in the prior week's WTA, Grand Slam, or ITF Tournament and subsequently does not participate in such Qualifying, then her failure to participate is subject to all applicable requirements and penalties under these Rules, including but not limited to the requirements and penalties in Section III.B.1 of these Rules (e.g., withdrawal requirements, Late Withdrawal and No-Show Offense fines, etc.).

#### **7. Rescheduling of Matches**

- a. Under extenuating circumstances, a match may be rescheduled at the discretion of the Supervisor, in consultation with the Tournament Director.

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- b. Matches may not be rescheduled due to illness, injury or loss of luggage.
- c. A player who personally and directly notifies the Supervisor or Referee of her impending tardiness sufficiently in advance in the opinion of the Supervisor or Referee, may at the latter's discretion, secure a release from reporting within 15 minutes of her match being called and not be subject to default and penalties.

## **8. Rescheduling of Finals**

If, due to Extreme Weather Conditions or extraordinary circumstances, a Tournament cannot be completed on the final day as scheduled, the Tournament shall be required to extend for one (1) day to complete the singles and/or doubles events unless the Tournament, players and WTA all agree to abandon the Tournament on the day the final was originally scheduled to be played. (The event must be extended even if only one [1] entity wants to play the final.) No further extension will be permitted without the approval of the WTA.

- a. Tournaments Scheduled the Week Prior to a Grand Slam

WTA events scheduled the week prior to a Grand Slam shall schedule their finals no later than Saturday. The Tournament may be extended by one (1) day, only if all players in the finals are not scheduled to compete the first day of the Grand Slam or if all players in the finals agree to extend the Tournament by one (1) day.

- b. Player Penalties for Failure to Play Postponed Final

An additional fine of \$5,000 shall be assessed to any player who fails to play a postponed final match in singles or doubles on the day following the originally scheduled final day of the Tournament concerned. All such fines shall be automatic and non-appealable, except in the case of Extraordinary Circumstances. Fine appeals must be filed within 21 days from the date of notice.

- c. Alternate Indoor Venue

Where a Tournament cannot be completed outdoors, and where a suitable indoor facility exists, the Tournament should be played to completion. If Tournament play is interrupted or postponed, players will be required to play on the day following the originally scheduled final day of the Tournament. Any final scheduling decisions will be made by the Supervisor who has the authority (in consultation with the Tournament Director) to move a match to another court, indoors

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or outdoors, regardless of surface.

**9. Changing Courts/Surface**

If it is deemed necessary to move a match, the Supervisor, in consultation with the Tournament Director, has the authority to delay the start of the match or to move a match to another court, indoors or outdoors, regardless of surface. The Referee, in consultation with the Supervisor, may decide if a match shall be moved to another court if circumstances so require.

During the course of a match, if conditions or circumstances merit, players may be required by the Supervisor or Referee to move to another court.

**10. Light and Weather**

The Referee, in consultation with the Supervisor, shall decide when play will be halted in view of weather conditions or bad light. (See Extreme Weather Conditions and Lightning Rule – Section XVII.C.6.)

**11. Stadiums with Retractable Roofs**

See Appendix D.

**12. Time Between Matches**

Players are entitled to a minimum of 30 minutes between matches when their singles and doubles matches are consecutive and one (1) hour when consecutive singles matches must be played.

**13. Interruptions and Breaks**

a. Interruptions

If Tournament play is interrupted or postponed, players must be prepared to play when play is resumed. If play is interrupted or postponed, the period of re-warm up shall be as follows:

<b>Delay</b>	<b>Re-Warm Up</b>
0-15 minutes	No re-warm up
15-30 minutes	Three (3) minutes re-warm up
30 or more minutes	Five (5) minutes re-warm up

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#### **b. Breaks**

##### **i. Change of Ends**

When changing ends, a maximum of 90 seconds shall elapse from the moment the ball goes out of play at the end of the game until the time the first serve is struck for the next game. If such first serve is a fault, the second serve must be struck by the server without delay.

However, after the first game of each set and during a tie-break, play shall be continuous, and the players shall change ends without a rest period.

##### **ii. Set Break**

At the conclusion of each set, regardless of the score, there shall be a set break of 120 seconds from the moment the ball goes out of play at the end of the game until the time the first serve is struck for the next game. If a set ends after an even number of games, there shall be no change of ends until after the first game of the next set.

##### **iii. Televised Matches**

During televised matches, the Chair Umpire may extend the change of ends and set breaks where necessary.

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### IV. PLAYER RESPONSIBILITIES/ON-COURT RULES AND PROCEDURES

#### A. DIAMOND ACES POLICY

##### 1. Overview

All Main Draw singles and doubles players must make themselves available for media/sponsor/WTa-related activities at each Tournament. All activities shall be arranged by the WTA's Communications and Marketing Departments.

##### 2. ACES Time Commitments

Specific Diamond ACES ("ACES") player time commitments per Tournament are as follows, it being understood that a player will have been deemed to have fulfilled her total ACES time commitment when she performs the first of either i) the total required time; or ii) the total number of activities required, as specified below:

<b>Tournament &amp; Player Groups</b>	<b>ACES Commitment</b>
<b>Premier and International Tournaments</b>	
Seeded players at Premier Mandatory Tournaments and Top 8 seeded players at all other Tournaments	Three (3) hours or Four (4) activities*
Unseeded players	90 minutes or Three (3) activities
<b>WTA 125K</b>	
Top 8 seeded players at all other Tournaments	90 minutes or Two (2) activities
Unseeded players	45 minutes or Two (2) activities
<b>Grand Slams</b>	
All Players	Three (3) hours or Four (4) activities
<b>WTA Finals and WTA Elite Trophy</b>	
All Players	Three (3) hours or Four (4) activities

- \* Third or fourth seeded players not receiving a bye in a Premier 700 Tournament may perform one (1) activity the week prior to the Tournament and the All Access Hour will be optional.

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#### **3. Division/Usage of ACES**

The division and usage of ACES activities shall be as follows:

- a. 50% for use by, and to be decided upon, by each individual Tournament, and
- b. 50% for use by, and to be decided upon, by the WTA; it being understood that at the WTA Finals and at Premier Tournaments, the All-Access Hour shall count towards the WTA's ACES allotment.

For any player that is required to perform an odd number of ACES activities (e.g., three [3] activities), the WTA and Tournament shall mutually agree upon the best use of the remaining ACE after utilizing all other ACES per the formula described above.

#### **4. Mandatory and Optional ACES Activities**

- a. Mandatory Attendance Activities

When a Communications Manager requests one (1) of the following activities, it shall be considered mandatory by the WTA for all WTA Tournaments, the WTA Finals, the WTA Elite Trophy and Grand Slams.

- i. All-Access Hour

- (a) WTA Finals and WTA Elite Trophy

All players will be required to conduct an "All-Access Hour" media roundtable.

- (b) Premier Tournaments

Except for third or fourth seeded players not receiving a bye in a Premier 700 Tournament, seeded players will be required to conduct an All-Access Hour media roundtable; provided, however, such players will not be required to conduct an All-Access Hour on a day in which they are scheduled to play a singles match.

- ii. Media Roundtables/Press Conferences/Teleconferences

All players shall be required, if requested, to participate in media roundtables and media teleconferences; however, with the

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### **SECTION IV - PLAYER RESPONSIBILITIES/ON-COURT RULES AND PROCEDURES**

player's approval, the WTA may substitute a press conference for the media roundtable. The media roundtable attendees will be selected by the Communications staff and limited to no more than eight (8) per session. Teleconferences may involve more participants.

iii. **Tournament/WTA Sponsor Autograph Sessions and Hospitality Visits**

All players shall be required, if requested, to participate in hospitality visits, autograph sessions or other similar sponsor-related activities.

iv. **Satellite TV/Radio Tours**

All players shall be required, if requested, to participate in satellite television and radio tours.

v. **One-on-One Interviews**

All players shall be required, if requested, to conduct a minimum of six (6) one-on-one interviews per year (in addition to the All Access Hour). One (1) of the one-on-one media interviews shall be designated by the WTA, and the remaining five (5) shall be jointly agreed upon by the WTA and the player.

vi. **Photo Opportunities**

All players shall be required, if requested, to participate in a minimum of two (2) photo opportunities per year. Each such photo opportunity shall be jointly agreed upon by the WTA and the player.

vii. **Sponsor/WTA Special Events and WTA Awards Ceremony**

All players shall be required, if requested, to participate in a minimum of two (2) sponsor/WTA special events or WTA Awards Ceremony. The WTA shall provide at least sixty (60) days' advance notice of the date and location of the WTA Awards Ceremony.

viii. **Tournament Withdrawal, Default and Retirement Press Conferences and Public Relations Appearances**

(a) **Prior to the Start of a Tournament**



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### SECTION IV - PLAYER RESPONSIBILITIES/ON-COURT RULES AND PROCEDURES

When a player withdraws from a Tournament prior to its start, she will be required to do a media teleconference or live press conference if the player is in the event market and physically capable. (See the Suspension Rule - Section II.F for additional requirements applicable to Top 10 Players that withdraw from Premier Mandatory or Premier 5 Commitment Tournaments.)

#### (b) After the Start of a Tournament

If a player is defaulted, withdraws, or retires after the start of a Tournament, she will be required to do a press conference, as well as complete any public address announcements, tournament public relations appearances or media appearances reasonably requested by the WTA and/or Tournament to announce her withdrawal, provided her medical condition does not prevent such appearances.

In either circumstance, a player shall be required to fulfill any scheduled ACES activities in the event market if the player is present, via telephone if the player did not travel to the event market or, where feasible, at the player's next scheduled Tournament, in which instance such activity shall be in addition to that Tournament's ACES. In no case will a player be required to remain in an event market for more than 48 hours after she withdraws in order to fulfill any ACES requirements.

#### ix. Grand Slam/WTA Finals/WTA Elite Trophy Champion Media/Sponsor Day

All Grand Slam singles champions and WTA Finals and WTA Elite Trophy winners will be required to do a media/sponsor day (three [3] hour minimum) the Sunday and/or Monday following the final (at the WTA's discretion). This post-Tournament activity is in addition to the time/activity commitment required during a Grand Slam, WTA Finals, or WTA Elite Trophy under ACES.

#### x. Grand Slam Defending Champions Media Activity

Defending Grand Slam winners are required, if requested, to conduct a media activity availability session (not to exceed 90 minutes), which may include roundtables, a press conference, teleconferences, host and national broadcaster interviews, ENG news interviews and/or one-on-ones within thirty (30) days of the start of the event.

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### SECTION IV - PLAYER RESPONSIBILITIES/ON-COURT RULES AND PROCEDURES

#### xi. Grand Slam Singles Finalists Media Activity

The singles finalists at each Grand Slam are required to conduct press conferences, television interviews and/or other media and sponsor activities (not to exceed 60 minutes in total) the day before the final, if requested by the WTA Communications department, and only in those instances where the finalists are not playing a singles match that day.

#### b. Additional Mandatory Activities

During the year, the WTA may also designate other activities as mandatory, including, but not limited to:

- i. Tournament special dedication ceremonies or events;
- ii. Sponsor and WTA-related off-court activities, such as award ceremonies, player parties and sponsor special events; and
- iii. Marketing and publicity activities for the WTA and/or WTA sponsors; however, each such marketing or publicity activity at a Tournament shall not exceed one (1) hour.

#### c. Grand Slam Main Draw Participants Media Activity

All players competing in the Main Draw of a Grand Slam are required, if requested, to conduct a press conference, as well as host and national broadcast TV interviews, on the Friday, Saturday or Sunday prior to the start of such Grand Slam (if the player is present in the Grand Slam event market).

#### d. Home Country Media/Sponsor Activity

All players are required, if requested, to conduct a minimum of two (2) media/sponsor activities for the WTAs title sponsor in or for such player's home country market media.

#### e. Optional Activities

All other WTA and Tournament ACES requests made of players shall be considered optional activities. Such activities include, but are not limited to:

- i. One-on-one print, television and radio media interviews and open photo shoots above the minimum required under mandatory activities; and

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- ii. Publicity events and charity activities (i.e., hospital visits, celebrity photo opportunities).

Players have the right to decline any of these requests as long as they fulfill their required ACES time commitment via other ACES opportunities. For those players who have not fulfilled their ACES time commitment, they must agree to at least one (1) out of every three (3) of the optional activities which are proposed by the WTA or a Tournament.

Once a player has committed to an optional event, it becomes an “arranged activity” and falls under the same requirements as mandatory attendance activities.

When possible, players will be notified by letter or email of all confirmed requests surrounding a given Tournament no later than two (2) weeks prior to the Tournament. Please note that due to unknown play schedules, requests may continue to arise during the Tournament.

## 5. Scheduling

### a. WTA Responsibility

- i. All ACES activities must be organized through the WTA Communications Department. If a Tournament arranges activities directly with a player, they are not enforceable under the Diamond ACES Policy.
- ii. To maximize the effectiveness of the ACES program and to make the best use of player time, the WTA shall:
  - (a) Develop a list of “high impact” and “low impact” activities, in consultation with the Tournaments and players, and
  - (b) Develop a list of player activity preferences, in consultation with players.

The WTA and the Tournaments then shall seek to customize activities to match up with such preferences where possible.

### b. Tournament Responsibility

Tournaments are required to begin the scheduling of ACES activities at least two (2) months in advance of the Tournament. Tournaments must also provide a list of which activities shall be considered man-

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datory ACES activities at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the proposed activity taking place.

#### **c. Player Responsibility**

Previously scheduled personal player sponsor commitments cannot override WTA-designated mandatory activities, as long as the player has been notified of the mandatory activity two (2) weeks in advance.

- i. Unless otherwise designated by the WTA, all players receiving byes must be available for ACES activities in the Tournament city by 12:00 noon tournament local time on the first day of the Main Draw for the All-Access Hour and/or any other ACES activities scheduled at the Tournament on the first day of the Main Draw.
- ii. Finalists from the immediately preceding Tournament will be expected to participate in the All-Access Hour at a rescheduled time, as determined by the WTA Communications Department. If a player cannot be in attendance on Monday, she must arrange with the WTA and the Tournament, prior to the Tournament, acceptable alternative measures to help the WTA and Tournament with promotion either before the Tournament or once she arrives. Expenses associated with such appearances or activities, such as player travel if necessary, are the responsibility of the Tournament.

## **6. ACES Fines**

#### **a. Issuing of Fines**

A player will be fined if she either: i) fails to appear for, or ii) is materially late to, a mandatory ACES activity or other previously agreed upon activity.

A player also will be fined for failure to fulfill the total required ACES time commitment if activities are requested.

Each ACES violation will result in a separate fine.

#### **b. Fine Procedure**

##### **i. Notification of WTA Legal Department**

In the event a fine is to be issued, the appropriate Communications

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Manager will notify the WTA Legal Department and supply the necessary documentation and details.

#### ii. Notification of Player

The player will then be issued a fine notice by the WTA Legal Department. The fine will be deducted from the player's prize money at the next appropriate Tournament.

#### c. Fine Schedule for Singles Players

ACES fines for Top 10 Players are based upon their Top 10 listing. ACES fines for non-Top 10 players are based on the player's ranking at the entry deadline. In each instance, fines shall be in accordance with the following:

<b>Top 10 List or Player Ranking at Entry Deadline</b>	<b>1st and 2nd Offenses</b>	<b>3rd and Subsequent</b>
1-4	\$5,000	\$10,000
5-6	\$3,750	\$ 7,500
7-10	\$2,500	\$ 5,000
11-13	\$2,000	\$ 4,000
14-20	\$1,875	\$ 3,750
21+	\$1,000	\$ 2,000

The ACES fine at WTA 125Ks shall be \$500 per violation.

#### d. Fines for Doubles Players

Fines for doubles players will be based on the higher of such player's Top 10 listing (if any) or such player's doubles ranking. The amount of the fine shall be 50% of the singles fine set out above.

The ACES fine at WTA 125Ks shall be \$500 per violation.

## 7. Exceptions

Players who do not appear for, or are materially late to, mandatory or pre-arranged activities will be exempt from "failure to appear" fines under the following circumstances with appropriate notice:

- Schedule of play change creates timing conflict; it being understood that practice time is not an excusable absence.

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- b. Player has been eliminated from the Tournament and has left the event market.
- c. Withdrawal from Tournament due to injury or illness; it being understood that if the WTA Communications Department determines that a commitment is still achievable in the event market or via telephone at the present Tournament, or where feasible, in person at the player's next scheduled Tournament (in addition to that Tournament's ACES), then the player is expected to fulfill the commitment during such Tournament, or in person at the player's next scheduled Tournament. In no event will a player be required to remain in an event market for more than 48 hours after she withdraws in order to fulfill any ACES requirements.
- d. Extenuating circumstances including delayed/cancelled flights; it being understood that every attempt must be made to reschedule commitments upon arrival.
- e. Failure of the Communications staff or a Tournament to provide reasonable notice of an activity that the WTA would designate as "mandatory".

## **8. Appeals**

Players may appeal ACES fines to the Code of Conduct Committee. All fine appeals must be filed within 21 days from the date of notice.

## **9. Player ACES Rewards Program**

In recognition of players' ACES commitment, the WTA shall award a year-end gift package to the player who has demonstrated the greatest commitment to the ACES program for the year. The WTA shall determine which player is selected.

## **10. Educational Activities**

In addition to the ACES obligations set forth above, each Top 50 player (as of the end of the previous Tour Year) shall complete one (1) day of educational activities up to a maximum of eight (8) hours during the Tour Year. The WTA shall schedule full-day educational classes on site at one (1) Tournament to be designated by the WTA. In addition, the WTA may, at its sole discretion, provide an alternative option and/or additional day on site or at the WTA offices at a time and place to be designated by the WTA. If a player fails to attend such activities, she will be subject to an ACES fine.

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Any Top 50 player who has obtained a year-end ranking of 250 or better for a minimum of 12 years on the WTA, shall not be subject to the foregoing Educational Activities forfeiture.

#### **11. Non-ACES Program Mandatory Activities**

It is understood and agreed that players are required to perform additional non-ACES program mandatory activities as set forth in this Rulebook, including but not limited to activities set forth in Media/Sponsor/Public Relations Responsibilities below and Media Responsibilities at the WTA Finals and WTA Elite Trophy - Section IX.

### **B. MEDIA/SPONSOR/PUBLIC RELATIONS RESPONSIBILITIES**

#### **1. Additional Player Responsibilities Beyond ACES**

In addition to ACES requirements, sub-Sections a-d below set forth the required player responsibilities for all categories of Tournaments and all players.

A player's violation of sub-Sections a-d below will subject a player to a fine in the amount equivalent to the ACES fines (see Section IV.A.6).

##### **a. Post-match Media Activities**

##### **i. Scope**

Players are required to be available for a minimum of 25 minutes to do post-match media activities, win or lose, which must include:

- (a) One (1) post-match press conference per postmatch;
- (b) One (1) host broadcaster television interview per post-match;
- (c) One (1) WTA TV Production interview for use on the WTA's website and video news releases;
- (d) One (1) interview with a broadcaster of the player's country of origin;
- (e) One (1) host broadcaster studio visit per week, if requested; and
- (f) One (1) radio interview.

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Provided the player has fulfilled the other media activities in (a)-(e) above, the radio interview shall be optional.

#### **ii. Timing**

A player is required to do her singles post-match media activities within 30 minutes following her match except if:

- (a) She is scheduled for another match within one (1) hour following her 1st match; or
- (b) She is scheduled to play two (2) singles matches on the same day, or unless given an extension by a member of the WTA Communications staff.

In this case, or under extenuating circumstances, as determined by the WTA staff, a player may choose to do the required media activities immediately following her second match. However, if a player elects to do the required media activities immediately following her second match, she must provide a statement and/or quotes for the media within 30 minutes following the completion of the first match. In addition, if the player's second match is held overnight (due to darkness, rain or other reasons), the player shall be obligated to conduct the required media activities that evening, if requested.

In any event, if a player is scheduled in the doubles and/or the singles semifinal or final, she will be required to do 15 minutes of post-match media activities following the singles semifinal or final (win or lose) and prior to the doubles (or vice versa depending on the match order).

#### **b. Pre-match Interview**

Players shall be required to conduct one (1) pre-match host broadcaster television interview, which shall be coordinated by the WTA. Such interview shall be no more than three (3) minutes in length and shall be conducted prior to the start of the match at one (1) of the following locations:

- i. The on-court entrance;
- ii. The practice courts; or
- iii. A mobile location convenient to the player.



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#### **c. Grand Slam Host Broadcaster Interview**

Players shall be required to conduct one (1) host broadcaster interview of no greater than 15 minutes in length at each Grand Slam. This interview shall be in addition to the post-match media activities requirements set forth above in sub-Section a.

#### **d. Sponsor Visits**

When requested by the WTA, players in the quarterfinals of each Grand Slam, Premier Mandatory and Premier 5 Tournament are required to participate in a 10-minute sponsor visit to be conducted on site and on the day of their quarterfinal, semifinal or final match.

#### **e. Marketing Activity**

##### **i. Requirement**

All players are required, if requested, to participate in one (1) activity per year (not to exceed five (5) hours, including travel time) for major marketing or publicity purposes for the WTA and/or a WTA sponsor that takes place in or around a Tournament in which a player is entered or at such other mutually-agreeable date and location, subject to the following restrictions:

- (a) The five (5) hours must be within a single eight (8) hour period, unless otherwise approved by the player;
- (b) The activity must be in conjunction with the promotion of the WTA and/or Tournaments;
- (c) The activity cannot involve a WTA sponsor that is in category conflict with an existing player sponsor;
- (d) The activity cannot constitute a direct individual endorsement by the player of a commercial product;
- (e) The player must be given the opportunity to select the activity photographs to be used; and
- (f) For activities involving player photography, where the WTA can clear the rights without expense, players shall be permitted to utilize photographs for non-commercial purposes on their personal websites and in player promotional

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materials, following a possible hold back period set by the WTA. In no event shall a player utilize the photographs in conjunction with a sponsor or third party activity or allow a sponsor or other third party to utilize the photographs.

#### **ii. Procedures**

- (a) The activity will not be scheduled at a WTA Tournament during the following weeks on the 2018 WTA Calendar, without the player's prior approval: Weeks 3-4, 20-28, 32-36 and 40-43.
- (b) For activities scheduled at a WTA Tournament, the player shall not be required to play her first match until the second day after the scheduled activity.
- (c) The player shall be provided with a minimum of 60 days advance notice, unless the player agrees to less notice.
- (d) Notice to the player shall include a description of the marketing activity including current creative plans, an approximation of the total time commitment (within the restrictions set out above) and a description of the purpose and proposed use of the resulting creative.
- (e) Where appropriate, the WTA shall utilize professional stylists to prepare players for the activity.

The activity shall count as two (2) ACES activities, unless the player is required to participate in the All Access Hour, in which case the activity shall count as one (1) ACES activity. If a player is required to travel solely to perform the activity, the WTA will book and pay for her travel arrangements, including airline, hotel and ground transportation, as applicable.

#### **iii. Fines**

A player failing or refusing to perform a marketing activity shall be subject to a fine in accordance with the following chart:

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<b>Top 10 List Ranking or Ranking at Time of Notification of the Activity, whichever is greater</b>	<b>Fine Amount</b>
1-3	\$100,000
4-6	\$75,000
7-10	\$50,000
11-20	\$20,000
21+	\$15,000

f. Practices

Players shall be required to allow filming of their on-site practices by photo and broadcast media, provided such media remain off court.

g. WTA Public Relations and Charity Programs

Players are asked for their best efforts to participate in such programs, unless designated as mandatory under the Diamond ACES Policy.

h. WTA Patch Rule

i. Patch Requirement, Placement, and Size

Except as provided in sub-Section ii below, each player must wear horizontally the WTA patch that the WTA designates for the entirety of every match she plays at WTA Tournaments in one (1) of the following visible locations:

- (a) on the sleeve, chest, or front collar of her shirt or dress, and the WTA patch must be four (4) square inches in size; or
- (b) on the front or side (over the ear) of her hat, headband, or other acceptable headwear ("headwear"), and the WTA patch must be three (3) square inches in size.

While a player may comply with this Rule by wearing the patch in either location, the WTA prefers that she wear the patch on her shirt. In either location, the player may wear the WTA patch in addition to the maximum allowable number of manufacturer or commercial patches, and the apparel or headwear manufacturer may incorporate the WTA patch into the design and color scheme of the headwear subject to WTA approval of the visibility of the patch. Each player is responsible for having the patch visible and properly adhered to her clothing or headwear for the

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entirety of her match. WTA staff members are not responsible for delivering patches to players on court, but may do so at their discretion.

#### ii. Exception - Player Apparel Contracts Prohibiting Non-Manufacturer Identification

If a player has an apparel manufacturer contract that prohibits her from wearing any identification other than manufacturer's identification in the locations in sub-Sections i(a) and (b) above (or in sub-Section i(a) and the player does not wear headwear consistently during the match), then the WTA may require her to provide benefits commensurate with the value of wearing the patch, including but not limited to:

- (a) one (1) or more full days of WTA appearances when the player is not at a Tournament;
- (b) participation in one (1) or more Pro-Ams or clinics when the player is not at a Tournament; or
- (c) appearances/endorsements in one (1) or more WTA advertisements.

In addition, subject to the player's apparel manufacturer contract, the WTA requests that any player claiming this exception uses reasonable efforts to wear the WTA patch in a less prominent place (e.g., on her shorts, skirt, strap, wristband, etc.). A player's performance of such benefits do not entitle her to any compensation from the WTA and is in addition to her ACES commitments.

A player claiming this exemption must submit to the WTA written proof of the apparel manufacturer contract to substantiate her claim, which the WTA may accept or reject in its reasonable discretion.

#### iii. Non-Compliance During Matches

If contractually permitted, any player who does not wear a WTA patch throughout a WTA Tournament match also must participate in the WTA identification program, which includes but is not limited to:

- (a) wearing the WTA patch on her shirt during post-match press appearances and commitments;

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- (b) carrying a WTA-branded water bottle or towel (subject to individual Tournament approval); or
- (c) wearing a headband or hat conforming to the requirements in sub-Section i.(b) above onto court before matches and during post-match press appearances and commitments.

#### iv. Patch Rule Violations

Violation of any provision of this Rule will subject a player to the following sanctions (which accrue on an annual Tour Year basis):

Violation	Penalty
1st Offense	Official Warning
2nd Offense	\$100
3rd Offense	\$500
4th+ Offense	Fine up to \$25,000 in the WTA's discretion
Not wearing the patch for the duration of the match	\$100 (after 5 warnings)
Violation in any televised match from quarterfinals on, regardless of whether there have been prior violations	Fine up to \$50,000 in the WTA's discretion

Failure to provide the benefits in sub-Section ii above will subject a player to the sanctions in the chart above for each match at which she does not wear the patch.

#### v. Appeals

Fine appeals must be filed within 21 days after the date of notice.

#### i. Court Etiquette

At the conclusion of each match, all players are requested to leave the court together.

## 2. Media Responsibilities of Grand Slam Winners

See Mandatory Attendance Activities - Section IV.A.4 for Media

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Responsibilities related to the Grand Slams.

#### 3. WTA Finals and WTA Elite Trophy Media Responsibilities

See Media Responsibilities at the WTA Finals and WTA Elite Trophy - Section IX.

#### 4. Media Obligation Upon Withdrawal

##### a. Player Media Responsibility

Any player who withdraws from an event after the initial acceptance date may be requested by the WTA or Tournament Director to give a minimum 15-minute to a maximum 30-minute, press conference or phone interview within 24 hours of her withdrawal.

##### b. Fines

Failure to comply will subject the player to the appropriate fines, as follows:

Player Category	Fine
Top 10	\$6,000
11-50	\$3,000
Seeded	\$2,000
All other	\$ 500

##### c. Appeals

Fine appeals must be filed within 21 days from the date of notice.

#### 5. Tournament Payment for Additional Services

Tournaments are responsible for player fees for media/sponsor/promotional services rendered in addition to the above detailed player responsibilities. The fee shall be determined based upon the value of a given player in a given market.

#### 6. WTA Commercial Benefits, Promotions and Endorsements

##### a. Player Group Licensing Rights - WTA Title/Presenting/Premier Sponsor

Each player who participates on the WTA agrees that the WTA Tour,

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WTA title/presenting/premier sponsor and WTA Tournaments may use or grant to others the right to use her name, photograph, likeness, signature, voice, picture and/or biographical information (collectively, "Player Likeness"), alone or in conjunction with the name, photograph, likeness, signature, voice, picture and/or biographical information of others, for the purpose of promoting the WTA in newspapers, magazines, motion pictures, programs, player and tournament yearbooks, broadcasts and telecasts, educational materials and all other publicity and promotional materials and media, including publicity and promotion in connection with a commercial product, as long as such publicity and promotion in connection with a commercial product is directly related to the publicity and promotion of the WTA or WTA Tournaments and does not constitute a direct individual endorsement of such commercial product.

WTA title/presenting/premier sponsor shall utilize a minimum of three (3) players or a series of three (3) players in each use.

#### b. Player Group Licensing Rights - Other WTA Sponsors

Except in the categories of tennis apparel, tennis shoes, and tennis equipment (i.e., racquets, racquet bags, grips, strings and balls), the WTA shall have the right to enter into sponsorship contracts in which a non-title/presenting/premier sponsor ("GLA Sponsor") is granted the right to use any Player Likeness for the purpose of promoting the WTA, including publicity and promotion in connection with a commercial product, so long as such publicity and promotion of a commercial product is directly related to the publicity and promotion of the WTA or a WTA Tournament and does not constitute a direct or implied individual endorsement of any commercial product ("Group Licensing Authorization" or "GLA") subject to the following:

- i. The GLA Sponsor must use a minimum of five (5) players in each use.
- ii. Absent approval from an individual player, her Player Likeness shall not be used in advertising materials by (a) more than three (3) GLA Sponsors in a single calendar year; and/or (b) more than 50% of the WTA sponsorships. For the purposes of this section, a WTA title/presenting/premier sponsor shall be counted in calculating the total number of sponsorships but shall not be counted in calculating the number of WTA sponsorships in which a player is being used. Any GLA Sponsors existing as of December 31, 2010, shall be grandfathered from the restriction in sub-Section (b); however, no new GLA Sponsors will be permitted to utilize an individual Player Likeness in violation of sub-Sections (a) or (b).

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- iii. No later than October 1 of each year, each player will advise the WTA in writing of the categories in which the player has a personal, exclusive sponsorship or endorsement contract for the following calendar year. The player shall make the contract available to the WTA upon request on a confidential basis. Provided the player has a binding contract or bona fide written and detailed letter of intent, term sheet or offer letter, as determined in good faith by the WTA, the Player Likeness for that player shall be unavailable to GLA Sponsors for the specified category or categories for the following calendar year (starting on January 1). For letters of intent, term sheets and offer letters, the player shall promptly notify the WTA when a binding contract has been finalized or negotiations have ceased.
- iv. Players shall be notified in writing by the WTA when included in a GLA ("GLA Notice").
- v. A player who has entered into an agreement after October 31 but before receiving a GLA Notice can enter into an exclusive deal with a conflicting sponsor. Once a player receives a GLA Notice, she can non-exclusively enter into an agreement with a conflicting sponsor for the balance of the current opt out year and may subsequently maintain the sponsorship on an exclusive basis after the end of the opt out year.
- vi. GLA Sponsors shall be required to make reasonable efforts to cease distribution of promotional materials featuring opt-out players within 30 days following the start of the opt-out year.
- vii. For each GLA Sponsor contract entered into after September 1, 2010, 25% of any financial consideration (specifically excluding barter) paid by or on behalf of the GLA Sponsor under the contract shall be paid to the WTBA, which shall distribute or otherwise use such proceeds for the benefit of the players. This percentage reflects an aggregate allocation for player GLA rights, and shall not vary depending upon the particular rights granted under any individual GLA Sponsor contract. Any payments made to individual players by a GLA Sponsor, under the sponsorship contract or any individual contract the GLA Sponsor may otherwise have with the player, are separate from and shall not be included as part of this calculation.
- viii. Any player preventing a GLA Sponsor from utilizing her Player Likeness for any reason other than a conflicting sponsorship under sub-Section v above, shall annually be issued a fine equal to the payment such player would have received under



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sub-Section vii above. Players that are subsequently utilized in advertising materials by such GLA Sponsor shall be entitled to compensation in accordance with sub-Section vii above.

- ix. Any action by WTBA members, not including the exercise of any opt-out rights hereunder, that results in an inability of the WTBA to timely provide all or a portion of the GLA Sponsor benefits described in this provision, shall result in a reduced WTBA payment, proportionate to such reduction of GLA Sponsor benefits. Before the WTBA payment is reduced, the WTA shall make efforts to allow the failure to be cured.
  - x. Approval of the Board of Directors shall be required for any WTA non-title/presenting/premier sponsorship contract which (a) includes player GLA rights; and/or (b) deviates from the requirements of this provision.
  - xi. GLA rights shall be limited to existing player photography. As such, player participation in photography or video shoots for GLA Sponsors shall be optional.
  - xii. A GLA Sponsor shall be limited to utilizing player images which have been approved by a player for WTA use. In addition, players shall have approval rights over the use of her images within the GLA Sponsor's advertising materials.
  - xiii. GLA rights covered by this provision do not include any player appearances or other personal services that may be rendered by players under the ACES program, other Rules or any personal contractual arrangements a player otherwise may have.
- c. Television Rights

Each player also conveys to the WTA Tour any television rights she may own in all WTA events in which she participates. This includes, but is not limited to, WTA Tournaments, Grand Slams (subject to their prior approval), the WTA Finals, and the WTA Elite Trophy.

## **7. Sponsorship Restrictions**

Products that are distasteful or embarrassing to WTA members, including but not limited to tobacco (including electronic cigarettes and similar products), firearms, pornographic material or similar items shall be prohibited as a player sponsor, without prior approval of the WTA.

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#### **C. CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT**

##### **1. General Appearance and Acceptable Attire**

###### **a. Matches**

For Tournament matches all players will be expected to dress and present themselves in a professional manner. A player shall wear appropriate and clean tennis attire and shall not wear sweatshirts, sweat pants, t-shirts, jeans or cut-offs during matches. A player may be asked to change if the Referee deems it necessary. Failure to do so may result in default from a Tournament and/or a fine.

###### **b. Warm-up Clothing**

Players may wear warm-up clothing during warm-up and during a match provided it complies with the appearance and identification provisions contained in this Section C and provided the players obtain the approval of the Referee or Supervisor prior to wearing the clothing during a match.

###### **c. Footwear Requirements for Certain Surfaces**

###### **i. Grass Court Shoes**

In Tournaments played on grass courts, no shoes other than those with rubber soles, without heels, ribs or coverings, shall be worn by players.

Special grass court shoes shall not be used without the express approval of the WTA; such shoes shall not be approved unless they comply with the following specifications:

###### **(a) Diameter**

The pimples or studs on the base of the sole should be vertical from the outsole and shall have a maximum top diameter of three (3) millimeters and a minimum top diameter of two (2) millimeters.

###### **(b) Height and Slope**

The maximum height of the pimples or studs shall be two (2) millimeters from the base of the shoe.

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#### **(c) Hardness and Maximum Number**

The hardness of any pimple or stud shall be between 55 and 60 based on a Shore "A" scale. The number of pimples per square inch shall be no less than 15 and no more than 28.

Shoes with pimples or studs around the outside of the toes shall not be permitted. Additionally, the foxing/side wall can be contoured only in the medial forefoot and media toe area but only within the following restrictions: the contoured area may begin in the transition area between the outsole and the sidewall but can only go to a maximum of 1.5 cm up the sidewall; and the countered area must be flat (not textured or undulating) but can be stepped with no more than 5 steps, each no more than 1mm in depth.

Forefoot and heel areas may be separated, but there should be no more than a 2mm step in the outsole of the shoe.

As an alternative to the above specifications, players may also use the special grass court shoes developed, tested and approved by Wimbledon. Players desiring approval of special grass court shoes for WTA Tournaments shall submit a sample shoe to the WTA at least 90 days in advance of the grass court WTA Tournament at which they seek to wear such shoes.

All shoes approved for play in 2010 shall continue to be approved.

#### **ii. Clay Court Shoes**

Players are required to wear tennis shoes generally accepted for play on clay courts or granular surfaces. The Supervisor has the authority to determine that a tennis shoe sole does not conform to such customs and standards and may prohibit its use at any WTA Tournament.

Grass court shoes may not be worn during a match on a clay court.

#### **iii. Hard Court Shoes**

Shoes shall not cause damage to the court other than what is expected during the normal course of a match or practice. Damage to a court may be considered as physical or visible,

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which may include a shoe that leaves a mark beyond what is considered acceptable. The Supervisor has the authority to determine that a shoe does not meet these criteria and may prohibit their use at any WTA Tournament.

#### d. Pro-Ams

In a Tournament Pro-Am all players will be expected to wear match clothes unless otherwise agreed.

#### e. Practice

At official Tournament practice courts a player shall dress and present herself in a professional manner. If a player is in doubt regarding permissible apparel, she should check with the Referee or the Supervisor, who may direct a change of attire.

## 2. Identification on Players' Clothing and Equipment

No identification is permitted on players, their clothing or equipment on court, during a match or a Tournament ceremony except as follows:

#### a. Shirts, Sweaters, Jackets

##### i. Sleeves

One (1) commercial (non-manufacturer's) identification for each sleeve, neither of which shall exceed four (4) square inches (or 26 sq. cm) in size, plus one (1) manufacturer's identification on each sleeve, neither of which shall exceed four (4) square inches (26 sq. cm) in size. A 3rd patch may be worn on the sleeve or front of the garment if and only if it is a WTA sponsor patch. The WTA/sponsor patch shall not exceed four (4) square inches (26 sq. cm) and must be worn on the upper part of the garment.

##### ii. Sleeveless

If a garment does not have sleeves, then the two (2) commercial (non-manufacturer's) identifications permitted on the sleeves above, neither of which shall exceed four (4) square inches (or 26 sq. cm) in size, may be placed on the front of the garment. A 3rd patch may be worn on the front of the garment if and only if it is a WTA/sponsor patch. The WTA/sponsor patch shall not exceed four (4) square inches (or 26 sq. cm).

##### iii. Front, Back and Collar

## **PLAYERS**

### **SECTION IV - PLAYER RESPONSIBILITIES/ON-COURT RULES AND PROCEDURES**

Two (2) standard logos of the manufacturer only, neither of which shall exceed two (2) square inches (13 sq. cm) may be placed in any of these three (3) locations (front, back and/or collar) or the option of a single manufacturer's logo of four (4) square inches (or 26 sq. cm) may be placed in any one (1) of the locations.

#### **iv. Other**

A logo of the apparel manufacturer, without the name of the manufacturer or any other writing, may be placed once or repeatedly within an area not to exceed 12 square inches (78 sq. cm) in one (1) of the following positions:

- (a) On each of the shirt sleeves (if a manufacturer's logo is not on the sleeves pursuant to sub-Section i above); or
- (b) Down the outer seams (side of torso) of the shirt.

Any player who chooses to have the logo of an apparel manufacturer appear in either area must wear the WTA or WTA/ sponsor patch on her shirt as required in Section IV.B.1.i, without exception.

#### **b. Skirts, Shorts or Track Suit Pants**

##### **i. Skirts, Shorts and Track Suit Pants**

Two (2) standard logos of the manufacturer only, neither of which shall exceed two (2) square inches (or 13 sq. cm) in size, or the option of a single manufacturer's logo of four (4) square inches (or 26 sq. cm) will be allowed.

##### **ii. Compression Shorts**

Compression shorts may be worn during a match under a skirt, dress or shorts. If the player wears compression shorts, a single, manufacturer's logo of two (2) square inches (or 13 sq. cm) on compression shorts will be allowed.

No commercial or manufacturers' logos are allowed on the front or back of regular tennis panties.

#### **c. Dress**

A dress, for the purposes of permissible identification, shall be treat-

## PLAYERS

### SECTION IV - PLAYER RESPONSIBILITIES/ON-COURT RULES AND PROCEDURES

ed as a combination of a skirt and shirt (dividing dress at waist).

d. Socks and Shoes

Standard manufacturer's logos on each sock and on each shoe. The logos on the socks on each foot shall be limited to a maximum of two (2) square inches (or 13 sq. cm) in size.

e. Racquet

Standard logos of the manufacturer of the racquet and/or strings will be allowed on the strings.

f. Hat, Headband or Wristband

For wristbands, one (1) manufacturer's identification, which may contain writing not to exceed three (3) square inches (or 19.5 sq. cm) in size.

For hats or headbands, one (1) manufacturer's identification on the front and one (1) commercial (non-manufacturer's) identification on the side, both of which may contain writing not to exceed three (3) square inches (or 19.5 sq. cm) in size.

WTA/sponsor patches worn on hats, headbands and wristbands at WTA Tournaments also shall not exceed three (3) square inches (19.5 sq. cm).

g. Clothing Sponsor

The following rules apply to clothing sponsors:

- i. A player may have only one (1) clothing sponsor.
- ii. The clothing sponsor shall assume any or all of the positions reserved for manufacturer's on Player's clothing as detailed in Section IV.C.2.a.-f. above, subject to the same size limitations.
- iii. A player shall not display any manufacturer logos on her clothing with the exception of her shoes, where she is permitted to display either her clothing sponsor logo or the logo of the shoe manufacturer in accordance with Section IV.C.2.d.
- iv. A player with a clothing sponsor is also permitted to display the commercial (non-manufacturer) identifications allowed under Section IV.C.2.a. above - Shirts, Sweaters, and Jackets.

## **PLAYERS**

### **SECTION IV - PLAYER RESPONSIBILITIES/ON-COURT RULES AND PROCEDURES**

- v. Any player who chooses to have a clothing sponsor must wear the WTA or WTA/sponsor patch on her shirt as required under Section IV.B.1.i without exception.

- h. Bags, Towels or Other Equipment or Paraphernalia

Standard logos of the tennis equipment manufacturers, or the WTA Logo, on each item. In addition, two (2) separate commercial identifications on one (1) bag, neither of which exceeds four (4) square inches (26 sq. cm).

- i. Drink Containers

Players may use drink containers on-court if they are of reasonable size and contain no manufacturer identification. The Supervisor may approve for use on-court a reasonably sized drink container that has manufacturer identification, not to exceed four (4) square inches (26 sq. cm.), if the manufacturer (i) is also the official drink sponsor of the Tournament, or (ii) is not in the same beverage category as the advertised drink sponsor(s) of the Tournament.

- j. Other Tennis Events

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary, the identification by use of the name, emblem, logo, trademark, symbol or other description of any tennis circuit, series or tennis exhibition, tennis special event or tournament other than the WTA, or any other sport or entertainment event may not appear on the player, her clothing or equipment at any WTA Tournament, the WTA Finals, or the WTA Elite Trophy unless approved in advance by the WTA.

- k. General

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

- l. Definition of Terms

- i. Manufacturer

For the purpose of this Section 2, the 'manufacturer' means the manufacturer of the clothing or equipment in question. For a trademarked tennis apparel collection that includes a player's name, initials or other trademarked identifier that is owned by the player and solely used for tennis clothing and accessories

## **PLAYERS**

### **SECTION IV - PLAYER RESPONSIBILITIES/ON-COURT RULES AND PROCEDURES**

("Player ID"), such Player ID may be used interchangeably with the clothing manufacturer logo wherever manufacturer logos are permitted under this rule.

#### **ii. Size Determination**

In addition, the size limitation of two (2) square inches (or 13 sq. cm), three (3) square inches (19.5 sq. cm) or four (4) square inches (26 sq. cm) where applicable shall be ascertained by determining the area of the actual patch or other addition to a player's clothing without regard to the color of the same. In determining the area, depending on the shape of the patch or other addition, a circle, triangle or rectangle shall be drawn around the same, and the size of the patch for the purpose of this rule shall be the area within the circumference of the circle or the perimeter of the triangle or rectangle as the case may be. When a solid color patch is the same color as the clothing, then in determining the area, the size of the actual patch will be based on the size of the logo identification.

#### **iii. Identification**

For the purposes of this Section 2, 'identification' shall mean any sort of identification associated with, or intended to be associated with, a commercial sponsor, an apparel manufacturer or any other person or entity, regardless of the trademark registration status of the identification, and shall include any and all forms of writing.

#### **iv. Clothing Sponsor**

For the purposes of Section IV.C.2.g., the 'clothing sponsor' means a company designated as the sponsor of the player's clothing (not a manufacturer).

#### **m. Penalty**

Any player who violates this Section 2 may be ordered by the Chair Umpire, Referee or Supervisor to change her attire or equipment immediately. Failure to comply with such an order may result in a fine and/or default from a Tournament. All fines must be appealed within 21 days from the date of notice.

#### **n. Taping Patches**

The taping over of patches on clothing or hats is not allowed.



## **PLAYERS**

### **SECTION IV - PLAYER RESPONSIBILITIES/ON-COURT RULES AND PROCEDURES**

#### **3. Electronic Devices**

A player is not allowed to use any electronic device on court unless it is approved by the WTA Supervisor/Referee. Use of any WTA-approved electronic device and/or ITF-approved Player Analysis Technology is subject to the WTA On-Court Coaching Rules (see Sections XVI.D.4.a.vii and XVII.H) and the ITF Rules of Tennis regarding Coaching (Rule 30) and Player Analysis Technology (Rule 31, Appendix III). If there is a conflict between the WTA Rules and the ITF Rules of Tennis regarding electronic devices and related on-court coaching, the WTA Rules and the decisions of the WTA Supervisor/Referee will control.

#### **4. Fines**

A player who violates this Section IV.C and is not defaulted, shall be subject to the following fines:

- a. Commercial Identification Violations - A fine of up to \$25,000 for each offense.
- b. Tennis Equipment Manufacturer's Logo Violations - A fine of up to \$25,000 for each offense.
- c. Other Tennis Event - Violations of the provisions with respect to the name of an event other than the WTA shall result in a fine up to \$5,000.
- d. Unacceptable Attire Violations - A fine of up to \$500.

Fine appeals must be filed within 21 days from the date of notice.

#### **D. TOILET/CHANGE OF ATTIRE BREAKS**

A player is allowed to request permission to leave the court for a reasonable time for a toilet break/change of attire break. These breaks may be taken for toilet visits, change of attire or both, but for no other reason.

##### **1. Number and Nature of Breaks Allowed**

- a. Singles

Each player is entitled to a maximum of two (2) breaks per match. A player may change her attire during a toilet break, if taken on a set break.

- b. Doubles

## **PLAYERS**

### **SECTION IV - PLAYER RESPONSIBILITIES/ON-COURT RULES AND PROCEDURES**

Each team is entitled to a maximum of two (2) breaks per match. If partners leave the court together, it counts as one (1) of the team's authorized breaks.

Any time a player leaves the court for a toilet or change of attire break, it is considered one (1) of the authorized breaks, regardless of whether or not the player's opponent has left the court.

#### **2. Timing of Breaks**

A player may not take a toilet break/change of attire break and a Medical Time Out consecutively, unless approved by the Referee/Supervisor.

##### **a. Change of Attire Breaks**

Change of attire breaks must be taken on a set break.

##### **b. Toilet Breaks**

Toilet breaks should be taken on a set break. However, if a toilet break is taken during a set, it must be taken before the player's own service game. If the player has been authorized to leave the court before her opponent's service game or during her own service game once started, then the player is leaving the court on her own time and will be penalized with back-to-back Time Violations in accordance with Section IV.G until the earlier of the time she returns to play, is due to serve, or the score reaches a set break.

Any toilet break taken after a warm up has started is considered one (1) of the authorized breaks. Additional breaks will be authorized but will be penalized in accordance with the Point Penalty Schedule if the player is not ready to play within the allowed time.

#### **3. Denial of a Player Request**

The Referee and/or Supervisor shall have the authority to deny a player permission to leave the court during a match for a toilet break if it is interpreted by the Referee and/or Supervisor as gamesmanship and/or flagrant abuse of the Rules.

#### **4. Abuse of Rule**

Players will be penalized in accordance with the Point Penalty Schedule for any abuse of this rule. (See Officials and Officiating – Section XVII.A.21; see also Supervisor – XVII.B.1.)

## PLAYERS

### SECTION IV - PLAYER RESPONSIBILITIES/ON-COURT RULES AND PROCEDURES

#### E. WTA MEDICAL RULE

See Medical Procedures – Section XVII.C.5.

#### F. CODE OF CONDUCT

An on-court code offense, under the Code of Conduct, may be declared by the Chair Umpire acting on his or her own or when instructed by either the Supervisor or Referee.

For full information, see Code of Conduct – Section XVI.

#### G. DELAY OF PLAY

A player shall be subject to a Time Violation for any delay of play resulting in the ball not being struck within the following time limits:

Breaks in Play	Time Limit
Between points	20 seconds
Change of ends	90 seconds
Set breaks	120 seconds
Heat rule break between 2nd and 3rd singles sets	10 minutes

A serving player will receive a Time Violation warning for the first offense and a Time Violation fault for all subsequent infractions thereafter. A receiving player will receive a Time Violation warning for the first offense and a Time Violation loss of point for all subsequent infractions thereafter.

However, when a violation occurs immediately after (i.e., before the next point is played) a medical treatment or Medical Time-Out or is a result of a refusal to play after being ordered to do so by the Chair Umpire, a Code Violation for Delay of Game shall be assessed in accordance with the Point Penalty Schedule.

A player may not receive back-to-back Time Violations and consecutive delays shall be penalized by a Delay of Game Code Violation; except, however, that if a player is late after the 10 minute heat rule break or leaves the court for a toilet break on her own time, then she may receive back-to-back Time Violations and, after she receives a Time Violation warning for the first offense of a match, she will receive a Time Violation loss of point for all subsequent offenses resulting from such break regardless of whether she is the server or receiver.

## **PLAYERS**

### **SECTION IV - PLAYER RESPONSIBILITIES/ON-COURT RULES AND PROCEDURES**

Any continual distraction of regular play, such as grunting, shall be dealt with in accordance with the Hindrance Rule. (See Section H below).

Monetary fines are not applicable.

## **H. HINDRANCE RULE**

If a player hinders her opponent, it can be ruled as either involuntary or deliberate.

### **1. Involuntary Hindrance**

A let should be called the first time a player has created an involuntary hindrance (e.g., ball falling out of pocket, hat falling off, etc.), and the player should be told that any such hindrance thereafter will be ruled deliberate.

### **2. Deliberate Hindrance**

Any hindrance caused by a player that is ruled deliberate will result in the loss of a point.

## **I. DEFAULTS**

### **1. Procedure**

- a. The Supervisor may declare a default for either a single violation of the Code of Conduct or pursuant to the Point Penalty Schedule set out in the Code of Conduct.
- b. If no later than the end of the next changeover the Chair Umpire receives a report of a serious violation that may warrant an immediate default, the Chair Umpire may call the Supervisor to discuss an immediate default. The Supervisor may declare an immediate default for a violation witnessed or not witnessed by the Chair Umpire.
- c. In all cases of default, the Supervisor's decision shall be final and non-appealable.
- d. Except as excluded below, a default assessed for violation of the Code of Conduct by a doubles player shall be assessed against both players on the team.

## **PLAYERS**

### **SECTION IV - PLAYER RESPONSIBILITIES/ON-COURT RULES AND PROCEDURES**

#### **2. Penalties**

- a. See Defaults under the Code of Conduct – Section XVI.D.8. (Also see Resumption of Play and Penalties for Rule Violations – Section XVII.C.5.d and Default due to Disciplinary Reasons – Section III.B.6.b.)
- b. Any player who is defaulted as per the Code of Conduct shall lose all prize money and ranking points earned for that event at that Tournament, in addition to any or all other fines levied with respect to the offending incident.
- c. In addition, at the Supervisor's discretion, any player who is defaulted (or partner of a doubles player who is defaulted) for a single violation of the Code of Conduct which causes or could have caused an immediate default as per the Code of Conduct may be defaulted from all other events, if any, in that Tournament, except when the offending incident:
  - i. Involves only a violation of the Punctuality or Clothing and Equipment provisions;
  - ii. Results from a medical condition; or
  - iii. Involves a member of a doubles team who did not cause any of the misconduct which resulted in the team being defaulted, in which case, such doubles player shall receive ranking points and prize money from the previous round.

#### **J. FINE APPEALS**

Fine appeals must be filed within 21 days from the date of notice.

## **TOURNAMENTS**

### **V. TOURNAMENT CATEGORIES**

The Tournament categories for ranking Tournaments on the WTA Calendar are comprised of Grand Slams, the WTA Finals and WTA Elite Trophy, and WTA Tournaments. The category for each Tournament will be stated on the Official WTA Entry Form and the Official WTA Calendar.

#### **A. GRAND SLAM EVENTS**

The official Championships of Australia, France, Great Britain and the United States of America:

- Australian Open – Melbourne, Australia
- Roland Garros – Paris, France
- The Championships – Wimbledon, England
- US Open – Flushing Meadows, New York, USA

#### **B. WTA FINALS AND WTA ELITE TROPHY**

BNP Paribas WTA Finals Singapore presented by SC Global ("WTA Finals") held at the end of the season in Singapore.

Hengqin Life WTA Elite Trophy Zhuhai ("WTA Elite Trophy") held the last week of the season in Zhuhai, China.

#### **C. WTA TOURNAMENTS**

The following list is current as of December 14, 2017. Visit [www.wtatennis.com/tournaments](http://www.wtatennis.com/tournaments) for the most up-to-date 2018 WTA Tournament list.

##### **1. Premier Mandatory**

- BNP Paribas Open – Indian Wells, CA, USA (12-day Tournament)
- Miami Open presented by Itaú – Miami, Florida, USA (12-day Tournament)
- Mutua Madrid Open – Madrid, Spain (9-day Tournament)
- China Open – Beijing, China (9-day Tournament)

**TOURNAMENTS**  
**SECTION V- TOURNAMENT CATEGORIES**

**2. Premier 5**

- Qatar Total Open – Doha, Qatar\*
- Internazionali BNL d'Italia – Rome, Italy
- Coupe Rogers présentée par Banque Nationale – Montreal, Canada
- Western & Southern Open – Cincinnati, Ohio, USA
- Wuhan Open – Wuhan, China

\*Rotates between Premier 5 and Premier 700.

**3. Premier 700**

- Brisbane International presented by Suncorp – Brisbane, Australia
- Sydney International – Sydney, Australia
- St. Petersburg Ladies Trophy – St. Petersburg, Russia
- Dubai Duty Free Tennis Championships – Dubai, United Arab Emirates\*
- Volvo Car Open – Charleston, South Carolina, USA
- Porsche Tennis Grand Prix – Stuttgart, Germany
- The Classic Birmingham – Birmingham, England
- The International Eastbourne – Eastbourne, England
- Bay Area Classic – Stanford, California, USA
- Connecticut Open – New Haven, Connecticut, USA
- Toray Pan Pacific Open – Tokyo, Japan
- Kremlin Cup – Moscow, Russia

\* Rotates between Premier 5 and Premier 700.

**TOURNAMENTS**  
**SECTION V- TOURNAMENT CATEGORIES**

**4. International**

- Shenzhen Open - Shenzhen, China
- ASB Classic – Auckland, New Zealand
- Hobart International – Hobart, Australia
- Taiwan Open – Taipei City, Taiwan
- Hungarian Ladies Open – Budapest, Hungary
- Abierto Mexicano TELCEL presentado por HSBC – Acapulco, Mexico
- Abierto GNP Seguros – Monterrey, Mexico
- Ladies Open Lugano – Lugano, Switzerland
- Claro Open Colsanitas – Bogota, Colombia
- TEB BNP Paribas Istanbul Cup – Istanbul, Turkey
- J&T Banka Prague Open – Prague, Czech Republic
- Grand Prix de SAR La Princesse Lalla Meryem – Rabat, Morocco
- NÜRNBERGER Versicherungscup – Nürnberg, Germany
- Internationaux de Strasbourg – Strasbourg, France
- The Open Nottingham – Nottingham, England
- Dutch Grasscourt Championships - s’-Hertogenbosch, Netherlands
- Mallorca Open - Mallorca, Spain
- Bucharest Open – Bucharest, Romania
- Ladies Championship Gstaad by iXion Services - Gstaad, Switzerland
- O1 Properties Moscow Open - Moscow, Russia
- Jiangxi Open - Nanchang, China
- Citi Open – Washington, D.C., USA



## **TOURNAMENTS**

### **SECTION V- TOURNAMENT CATEGORIES**

- Coupe Banque Nationale – Quebec City, Canada
- Japan Women's Open - Hiroshima, Japan
- Guangzhou Open – Guangzhou, China
- Korea Open – Seoul, South Korea
- Tashkent Open – Tashkent, Uzbekistan
- Prudential Hong Kong Tennis Open – Hong Kong
- Ladies Linz – Linz, Austria
- Tianjin Open – Tianjin, China
- BGL BNP Paribas Luxembourg Open – Luxembourg

#### **5. WTA 125K Series**

- Newport Beach, California, USA
- Indian Wells, California, USA
- Zhengzhou, China
- Anning, China
- Bol, Croatia
- Dalian, China
- Hua Hin, Thailand
- Limoges, France
- Taipei, Taiwan
- Honolulu, Hawaii, USA
- Mumbai, India

## TOURNAMENTS

### VI. PLAYER COMMITMENT AND PRIZE MONEY POLICY

#### A. PLAYER COMMITMENT FORMULAS

A Tournament's Player Commitment Formula is dependent on its tournament category.

##### 1. Fulfillment

Provided a Tournament has met its obligations to the WTA pursuant to these Rules, the WTA is obligated to fulfill the applicable singles Player Commitment Formula as set forth in the following table:

<b>Tournament Category*</b>	<b>Top 10 Player List</b>
Premier Mandatory	10 of 10 and all players who, by ranking, qualify for acceptance into the Main Draw
Premier 5	7 of the Top 10
International	1 of Top 20 or 4 of Top 21-50 ranked players (based on a prior year-end or Main Draw entry deadline rankings)

\*Premier 700 Tournaments are not entitled to any level of Player Commitment.

##### 2. WTA Release from Player Commitment Obligation

The WTA has no obligation to fulfill the Player Commitment Formula of a WTA Tournament for the current Tour Year, if such WTA Tournament:

- a. Has not met its obligations to the WTA pursuant to these Rules; or
- b. Makes changes allowed by the WTA to its week or surface for such Tour Year:
  - i. After the WTA Calendar is approved by the Board of Directors, and
  - ii. Other than at the request of the WTA; or
- c. Makes a change allowed by the WTA to its venue outside a Related Geographical Area, defined for purposes of this paragraph, as a radius of approximately 125 miles from the original venue for those countries having multiple WTA Tournaments.

**TOURNAMENTS**  
**SECTION VI - PLAYER COMMITMENT AND PRIZE MONEY POLICY**

**B. TOURNAMENT MISSED PLAYER COMMITMENT**

If a Tournament's Player Commitment Formula is not met, the affected Tournament shall be paid from the Bonus Pool the following amount(s):

<b>Tournament Category</b>	<b>Player Commitment Formula (Top 10 List)</b>	<b>Tournament Compensation for Missed Commitment</b>
Premier Mandatory	10 of Top 10 9 of Top 10 8 of Top 10 7 (or less) of Top 10	\$0 \$100,000 \$250,000 \$500,000
Premier 5	7 of Top 10 6 of Top 10 5 of Top 10 4 (or less) of Top 10	\$0 \$100,000 \$200,000 \$350,000
International	1 of Top 20 or 4 of Top 21-50 (based on prior year-end or Main Draw entry deadline rankings)	\$0

**C. TOURNAMENT NOTIFICATION OF PLAYER COMMITMENT**

**1. WTA Responsibility**

As applicable, the WTA will provide Premier 5 Tournaments with written notification of the Top 10 Players who have committed to enter their events on or before the entry deadline for the first Tournament of the following Tour Year.

**2. Tournament Responsibility**

A Tournament may not announce its player field until formally notified by the WTA.

**D. INTERNATIONAL PRIZE MONEY POLICY**

**1. Increased Prize Money**

International Tournaments shall have the option to increase their prize money as set out below to allow more than one (1) Top 10 Player to play singles and/or doubles in the Tournament. Prize money increases will be distributed in accordance with Section XII.D.

**TOURNAMENTS**  
**SECTION VI - PLAYER COMMITMENT AND PRIZE MONEY POLICY**

<b>Minimum Prize Money</b>	<b>Top 10 Players</b>
\$ 250,000	0 or 1 of Top 10
\$ 500,000	2 of Top 10
\$ 750,000	3 of Top 10
\$1,000,000	4 of Top 10
+\$250,000	Per each additional Top 10 Player Spot

The WTA will not accept additional Top 10 Player entries until the Tournament provides written notice to the WTA confirming the required prize money increase.

Once the WTA receives written notice confirming the required prize money increase, if the Tournament publicly announces neither the additional Top 10 Player(s) nor the prize money increase and any Top 10 Player(s) withdraw(s) prior to the Qualifying Sign-In deadline, the Tournament may reduce its prize money to match the required amount in the chart above. If the Tournament publicly announces either the additional Top 10 Player(s) or the prize money increase, the Tournament may not reduce its prize money, regardless of whether any Top 10 Player(s) withdraw(s). In addition, after the Qualifying Sign-In deadline, the Tournament may not reduce its prize money, regardless of whether any Top 10 Player(s) withdraw(s).

**2. Player Commitment Formula**

An increase in the International Tournament's minimum prize money will not alter the Player Commitment Formula set out in Section VI.A above.

**3. Election Deadlines**

If an International Tournament wants to announce a prize money increase before the 2019 Player Commitment Deadline, it must notify the WTA by November 15, 2018. After the Player Commitment Deadline, International Tournaments may notify the WTA anytime up until the Qualifying Sign-In deadline of its decision to increase its prize money above the minimum for the following Tour Year.

**4. Top 10 Player Acceptance**

At the Player Commitment Deadline, players will be accepted in the available Top 10 Main Draw slots based on the Top 10 List. A next-in list will be maintained for Top 10 Players who were not accepted into the

## **TOURNAMENTS**

### **SECTION VI - PLAYER COMMITMENT AND PRIZE MONEY POLICY**

International Tournament due to the International Prize Money Policy. If a Top 10 Player spot becomes available due to a withdrawal or an increase in prize money, Top 10 Players on the next-in list will automatically move into the open Top 10 Player spot either by direct acceptance or via a Top 20 Wild Card. The order of the next-in list at the Player Commitment Deadline shall be based on the Top 10 List. Entries after the Player Commitment Deadline will be added to the next-in list on a first to enter basis.

## **TOURNAMENTS**

### **VII. WTA TOURNAMENT MEMBERSHIPS**

#### **A. WTA CALENDAR**

Appendix B to these Rules contains the WTA Calendar for the current Tour Year which may be changed as necessary by the WTA.

#### **B. APPLICATION FOR A NEW TOURNAMENT ON THE WTA**

Before an application for a new Tournament Class Membership can be considered by the WTA, the prospective owner of a new WTA Tournament must meet all of the obligations enumerated below.

Applicants are advised that the WTA will grant a new membership only if, in the WTA's sole discretion, the new Tournament is geographically and temporally appropriate, within the requirements of the WTA By-Laws and otherwise serves the best interests of the WTA.

##### **1. WTA Application Form**

###### **a. Deadline**

A WTA Tournament Application must be submitted to the WTA by February 28 in the year prior to the Tour Year in which the Tournament is to be conducted.

###### **b. Process**

The application must be complete in order to ensure that the applicant is in good standing. No application will be acted upon until the WTA has received all information, along with the applicable deposit set forth in sub-Section 2 below.

Prior to consideration of the application by the Board of Directors, the CEO shall conduct such investigation as he/she deems appropriate and shall have the right to require the applicant to furnish any information the CEO deems appropriate.

###### **c. Late Applications**

Applications received after the due date may be entitled to consideration under the following circumstances:

- i. As replacements for any approved Tournaments which have been cancelled or disqualified as provided in these Rules;

## **TOURNAMENTS**

### **SECTION VII - WTA TOURNAMENT MEMBERSHIPS**

- ii. If deemed necessary to fulfill playing opportunities; or
- iii. If it fulfills a geographic market goal of the WTA.

#### **2. Application Fee and Letter of Credit**

An applicant must submit to the WTA:

- a. A non-refundable application fee in the amount of US\$5,000; and
- b. An irrevocable letter of credit (or other financial vehicle approved by the WTA), which must be valid for three (3) years with three (3) annual draws in the amount of the event's annual prize money pursuant to the Financial Security Requirements - Section XII.C. ("Letter of Credit").

The Letter of Credit will be cancelled should the Board of Directors not approve the Tournament application.

#### **3. Approval from National Tennis Association or Federation**

An applicant should make every effort to contact and seek approval from their National Tennis Association or Federation. However, this approval is not required for acceptance onto the WTA.

#### **4. Site Check**

An applicant must be immediately available, upon request of the WTA, to organize one (1) or more site checks of the proposed venue for hosting the new Tournament. The site check(s) shall be completed prior to the Board of Director's consideration of application. If one (1) or more site checks are deemed necessary by the WTA, the applicant shall pay the cost of such site check(s) (including travel, lodging, food and other reasonable expenses).

#### **5. Security Risk Assessment**

An applicant must pay the cost of any security risk assessment(s) prepared by the WTA's Security Director or a professional security consulting firm that the WTA designates if the WTA deems such security risk assessments necessary.

#### **6. Letter of Agreement**

The WTA will send to the applicant a Letter of Agreement indicating provisional approval of the Tournament and the terms and conditions.

## **TOURNAMENTS**

### **SECTION VII - WTA TOURNAMENT MEMBERSHIPS**

This Letter of Agreement must be signed by the applicant and returned before the application will be considered for final approval.

#### **7. Membership Fee**

Upon approval of the application, the applicant must pay the required membership fee to the WTA (information regarding the amount to be provided by the WTA) and must abide by the Financial Security Requirements - Section XII.C.

#### **C. CONDITIONS OF TOURNAMENT MEMBERSHIP**

A Tournament Class Membership is contingent upon the following conditions:

##### **1. Governing Agreements**

The Tournament agrees to abide by and be bound by all of the following: the Rules; Code of Conduct; WTA By-Laws; WTA contracts; and any other relevant agreements.

##### **2. Prize Money**

The Tournament agrees to the minimum prize money levels.

##### **3. Equal Opportunity**

The Tournament is open to all categories of women tennis players without discrimination.

##### **4. Minimum Draw Size**

The Tournament agrees to a minimum draw for singles and doubles as set forth in these Rules and as determined in the sole discretion of the WTA.

##### **5. WTA Application Terms & Provisions**

The Tournament signs and agrees to abide by the terms and provisions of the WTA Tournament Application.

##### **6. Product Exclusivities**

The Tournament abides by any Product Exclusivities as set forth in Section VIII.A.



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**7. Supervisor Visit**

If requested by the WTA, the Tournament must pay for the Supervisor's time and travel (lodging, food and other reasonable expenses) for the week prior to the first edition of the Tournament.

**D. ANNUAL PROCEDURES FOR AN EXISTING WTA TOURNAMENT**

**1. Tournament Information Form**

The Annual Tournament Information Form for existing Tournaments must be submitted no later than February 28 prior to the start of the applicable Tour Year. Any Annual Tournament Information Form submitted after the February 28 deadline must be accompanied by a late fee of US\$1,000. The Annual Tournament Information Form shall be distributed annually by the WTA at least 60 days before the deadline.

**2. Prize Money**

Each Tournament must comply with the following provisions (subject to change) regarding prize money. Revised provisions, if any, will be distributed by the WTA.

a. Payment Currency

i. US Dollars or Euros

Prize money listed in Tournament applications shall be expressed in US dollars. Prize money must be paid in US dollars in the amount stated on the applications and approved by the WTA, except for Tournaments held in Euro Monetary Countries, which must pay the on-site prize money in Euros, but all Tournament-related fees (e.g., tour fees, ELC, etc.) must be paid in US dollars.

The on-site prize money levels for Tournaments held in Euro Monetary Countries will be annually set at the rate of 1.24 US Dollars to 1 Euro. However, this conversion rate does not apply to the Mutua Madrid Open Premier Mandatory.

ii. Non-US Dollars or Non-Euros

A Tournament, however, may pay its prize money in non-US dollars (or a non-Euro currency for Euro Monetary Countries) if a written request is made to the WTA at least three (3) months in advance of the Tournament. The WTA reserves the right to deny

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the request based upon factors including: the stability of the currency against the US dollar (or Euro); the international popularity of the currency; the players' convenience in converting that currency to US dollars (or Euros) or other currency; and the efficiency of the banking system upon which the prize money checks are drawn.

#### b. Exchange Rates - Authorization

Upon approval of the Tournament's request to pay prize money in a non-US currency (or a non-Euro currency for Euro Monetary Countries), the WTA will confirm the authorized rate of exchange to that Tournament based on the six-month average exchange rate to the US dollar (or the Euro for Euro Monetary Countries) as listed at the Internet site [www.oanda.com/converter/cc\\_table](http://www.oanda.com/converter/cc_table) and corresponding to the dates in the following table:

<b>Tournament Beginning</b>	<b>Average 6-month exchange rate ending on:</b>
January 1 – March 31	October 1
April 1 – June 30	January 1
July 1 – September 30	April 1
October 1 – December 31	July 1

#### c. Fluctuation

If, seven (7) days prior to the 1st day of the Tournament, there is a fluctuation in the authorized rate of exchange of at least 5% up or down, then such exchange rate shall be adjusted up or down, as the case may be, according to the following table:

<b>Exchange Rate Fluctuation</b>	<b>Exchange Rate Adjustment</b>
Less than 5%	none
Between 5-10%	5%
10% or greater	One-half the exchange rate percentage fluctuation*

\*For example, if the currency fluctuates 11% down from the authorized exchange rate, the exchange rate will be adjusted by 5.5% (e.g., a 1.36 exchange rate will be adjusted as  $1.36 + (1.36 \times -5.5\%) = 1.2852$ ).

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#### **d. Communication of Adjusted Exchange Rate**

Each Tournament paying on-site prize money in a specific non-US currency (or a non-Euro currency for Euro Monetary Countries) shall obtain from the WTA the official rate for the Tournament as provided above prior to the start of the Qualifying of the Tournament, and shall use the same. Round-by-round prize money breakdowns shall be prominently posted on site and shall include a reference to the corresponding breakdown in US dollars.

### **3. Additional Tournament Requirements**

In addition to the above requirements, each Tournament must:

- a. Comply with WTA Sponsor Product Category Exclusivities (as set forth in Section VIII.A).
- b. Pay the cost of any security risk assessment(s) prepared by the WTA's Security Director or a professional security consulting firm that the WTA designates if the WTA deems such security risk assessments necessary.
- c. Comply with the Financial Security Requirements applicable to WTA Tournaments owned for three (3) years or less. (See Section XII.C.)

## **E. REASONS FOR REJECTION**

### **1. Tournament Membership Request**

Any one (1) of the following shall be a valid and adequate reason for not granting a Tournament Class Membership to an applicant: (a) failure to meet the Conditions of Tournament Membership as set forth in Section VII.C; (b) failure to accept or abide by the Rules and the Tournament Commitment herein set forth; (c) previous failure to meet its financial commitments or comply with the Rules; (d) lack of space on the WTA Calendar; (e) direct or indirect ownership by a person or entity which would exceed the Limitations on Ownership (see Section VII.I.7); or (f) other good causes clearly and demonstrably contrary to the integrity of tennis or the WTA.

### **2. Calendar Date or Tournament Class Request**

The reasons enumerated in sub-Section 1 above also shall be considered valid and adequate for not assigning the category or WTA Calendar date requested by a Tournament.

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**F. TOURNAMENT PRIORITY**

**1. Applicable Situations**

The WTA shall apply guidelines in determining which Tournaments merit priority in the following situations: (a) Tournament Class Membership grants; (b) WTA Calendar rescheduling; and (c) new Tournament approval.

**2. WTA Guidelines**

The priority guidelines applied by the WTA include:

- a. Whether an applicant has filed a timely application in full compliance with the requirements published by the WTA.
- b. Geographical practicality and balance in view of:
  - i. The travel convenience of players;
  - ii. The need for mobility between Tournament categories; and
  - iii. The desire to preserve the international concept and growth of the WTA.
- c. The history of the applicant including such factors as:
  - i. The number of years the applicant or its predecessor has operated a tournament at the location, or in the market, where it is currently located;
  - ii. Its promotion of the WTA's sponsor interest;
  - iii. Its status as a national title event;
  - iv. Its record as a women's tournament administered by the WTA;
  - v. Its record of financial responsibility;
  - vi. Its compliance with the Rules and Code of Conduct; and
  - vii. Its involvement with Exhibitions/Non-WTA Events (in the case of a new applicant).
- d. Television exposure and whether there exists a finalized television commitment or a substantial prospect for same.

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- e. The relative quality of playing and spectator facilities, including whether the type of playing surface helps to maintain the desirable balance between the variety of playing surfaces in the game.
- f. Marketing consideration consistent with the obligations to and objectives of the WTA.
- g. Exposure adequate to promote the objectives and goals of the WTA and women's tennis.
- h. Which application, in the judgment of the WTA, best serves the interest of the sport as a whole.
- i. The applicant's participation in, or aiding and abetting, violations of these Rules.

**G. NO RELEASE**

**1. No Release Deadline**

The "No Release Deadline" for each Tournament shall correspond to the following table:

<b>Tournament Beginning</b>	<b>No Release Deadline</b>
January 1 – June 30	October 1 of previous year
July 1 – December 31	March 15 of same year in which the tournament is to occur

**2. Tournament Release Request**

After receipt of a Tournament Class Membership and assignment of a place on the WTA Calendar, a member may only be released from its obligation to conduct its Tournament under the following circumstances:

- a. Prior to No Release Deadline

The WTA shall approve a member's request to be released from conducting its Tournament provided the request:

- i. Is made in writing;
- ii. Is made on or before the requesting Tournament's No Release Deadline as outlined in sub-Section 1 above;

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- iii. Includes the reason for the request;
- iv. Is accompanied by payment to the WTA in the amount of the Tournament's prize money (the "Announced Prize Money") as set forth on the Tournament Application or Annual Tournament Information Form, as applicable; and
- v. Is a first-time request from the Tournament.

If the member complies with the foregoing requirements, it shall retain its Tournament Class Membership and shall be entitled to conduct a Tournament in the following Tour Year without a change in its status or category.

b. After the No Release Deadline

i. Tournament Obligations

The WTA shall approve a member's request to be released from conducting its Tournament provided the request:

- (a) Is made in writing;
- (b) Is made after the requesting Tournament's No Release Deadline as outlined in sub-Section 1 above;
- (c) Includes the reason for the request; and
- (d) Is accompanied by payment to the WTA of the Tournament's Announced Prize Money.

ii. Additional Tournament Implications

- (a) The Tournament Class Membership shall automatically be suspended, and the member shall have no right to operate a Tournament on the WTA until its Tournament Class Membership is reinstated by the Board.
- (b) Within 30 days of the suspension of the Tournament Class Membership, the member may make a written application for reinstatement to the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors may accept or reject an application for reinstatement in its sole and absolute discretion.
- (c) If a member's request for reinstatement is denied by the

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Board of Directors, or if the member fails to apply for reinstatement in the designated time frame, the member shall have a limited opportunity to sell its Tournament Class Membership, provided the proposed transfer:

- (i) Is for the entire Tournament Class Membership (partial sales, leases and management agreements are not permitted);
- (ii) Is a bona fide arm's length transaction with an unrelated or unaffiliated third party;
- (iii) Complies in all respects with the Rules relating to transfer of ownership, including the WTA's approval rights and the WTA's right of first refusal, with the exception of the applicable Transfer Fee, which is addressed in sub-Section (v) below.

For the avoidance of doubt, nothing herein shall be construed:

- To alter or amend the member's obligation to seek and obtain the WTA's prior approval for any Tournament transfer according to the Rules;
  - To limit or restrain WTA's rights to approve, deny or match a proposed Tournament transfer according to the Rules; or
  - As requiring the WTA to approve any proposed transfer of the membership;
- (iv) Is complete and consummated, including approval by the Board of Directors (if any), prior to the following year's No Release Deadline;
  - (v) Shall be subject to a Transfer Fee calculated at the maximum scheduled Transfer Fee percentage, regardless of the member's tenure with the WTA; and
  - (vi) Stipulates the proposed transferee shall conduct the Tournament in the week on the WTA Calendar in the following Tour Year designated for the Tournament by the Board of Directors.

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In the event any of the preceding six (6) conditions is not met, the membership shall be forfeited. (See Tournament Implications – Section VII.G.6.b.)

**c. Extenuating Circumstances**

Under extenuating circumstances, a member may apply to the Board of Directors for an extension of the deadline in sub-Section b.ii.(c)(iv) above, which application the Board of Directors may accept or reject in its sole and absolute discretion. The Board of Directors may attach conditions to the acceptance of such an application including, without limitation, a requirement that the member pay the Announced Prize Money for the following Tour Year.

**d. Second or Subsequent Request from Tournament Class Member**

The same provisions set out in Section VII.G.2.b. – After the No Release Deadline – also apply to a Member making a second or subsequent request to be released from its obligation to conduct its Tournament.

Nothing herein shall either exempt or absolve the member from i) its obligation to pay the Announced Prize Money to the WTA, or ii) its other financial obligations set forth in the Rules.

**e. Tournament Cancellation Due to Health, Safety or other Matters**

The WTA may cancel or adjust a Tournament's schedule or procedures due to health, safety or other matters involving risk to players, staff and/or spectators. Before cancellation of a Tournament pursuant to this sub-Section e, the WTA will consult with the Tournament as well as the local health, law enforcement or other government authorities, where applicable. Cancellation should be undertaken as a last resort, and the WTA should use great discretion before taking such action. In the event of cancellation by the WTA pursuant to this sub-Section e, the No Release Rule will not apply; provided the reason for the cancellation was outside of the control or prevention of the Tournament.

### **3. Appeal to Board of Directors**

A member may appeal to the Board of Directors for a waiver or reduction of the requirements and penalties set forth above in the event of a fire, flood, act of war, terrorist act, or similar event which is outside the control or prevention of the Tournament.



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However, the decision to grant such waiver or reduction shall be in the sole discretion of the Board of Directors.

#### **4. WTA Payments to Tournament Class Members**

Should a member not conduct its Tournament in a Tour Year, the WTA shall not make any payments to that member for such Tour Year, including payments for Commercial Benefits, media rights or any other financial payment otherwise due from the WTA.

#### **5. Distribution of Collected Prize Money**

All prize money collected in connection with the No Release Rule will be divided evenly between the WTA and the WTBA.

#### **6. Forfeiture of Membership**

##### **a. Causes**

A Tournament Class Membership shall be forfeited immediately in the event a member:

- i. Fails to conduct its Tournament for any reason, and
- ii. Fails to comply with the release requirements set out above.

##### **b. Tournament Implications**

Upon forfeiture, a member shall have no future rights or privileges with the WTA and shall lose the right to conduct a Tournament on the WTA.

## **H. TERMINATION OF TOURNAMENTS**

### **1. Tournament Disqualification**

The WTA may disqualify any Tournament from participation in the WTA if the Tournament commits any of the below acts.

#### **a. Grounds for Disqualification**

- i. The Tournament fails to meet the prize money commitments.
- ii. The Tournament fails to provide the commercial identification required pursuant to all relevant agreements.

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- iii. The Tournament fails to demonstrate financial responsibility to conduct a Tournament.
- iv. The Tournament fails to pay all expenses or prize money of a Tournament it has conducted.
- v. The Tournament fails to fulfill in a timely manner its financial obligations or breaches any other term or condition of the Rules, including Standards of Performance Requirements, or any relevant agreement.

#### **b. Disqualification Process**

The WTA must provide the Tournament 30 days' written notice (via email, certified mail or fax) prior to disqualification, unless a Tournament already has been advised that it will not be able to hold its Tournament at the time it has been appointed.

## **2. Letter of Credit in Lieu of Disqualification**

In lieu of disqualification for any of the financial failures detailed in sub-Section H.1.a above, the WTA, in its sole discretion, may require a Tournament to post a letter of credit in the full amount of the Tournament's prize money upon 30 days' written notice.

Failure to post a satisfactory letter of credit will result in disqualification from participation in the WTA.

## **I. TOURNAMENT OWNERSHIP**

### **1. Definition of Ownership**

Ownership of a full Tournament Class Membership is a continuing right, provided the Tournament is in good standing. In addition to the rights provided in the WTA By-Laws, each Tournament has the following Tournament ownership rights:

- a. The right to a week on the WTA Calendar; it being understood that the WTA establishes each Tournament's week subject to consideration of the Tournament's longevity on the WTA, longevity in the same city, Tournament category, traditional calendar week(s), venue (indoors and outdoors), court surface, geographic location and the orderly flow of Tournaments.
- b. The right to a level of player participation determined by the WTA (i.e., Player Commitment).

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- c. It shall be understood that there shall be no downgrade of a Tournament's category without a mutually agreed upon compensation plan (financial or otherwise) between the Tournament owner and the WTA. If such agreement does not emerge through mutual discussions, the parties shall submit the issue of adequate compensation to binding arbitration by a single arbitrator subject to the Commercial Arbitration rules of the American Arbitration Association ("AAA") or other rules as may be agreed.
- d. The WTA must approve all proposed transfers of Tournament ownership and location, all proposed changes to player commitment, as well as all proposed new Tournaments. No such transfers will be approved to, and no new Tournaments will be established in, locations within 125 miles of existing Tournaments unless the Board of Directors determines that factors such as the size and separation of the marketplace, area population, location on the calendar, and the quality of facilities can support an additional Tournament within such 125-mile area. The foregoing protection shall not prevent the placement of a WTA Finals or WTA Elite Trophy event in any location. If the Board of Directors elects to exercise the right to purchase a membership under Section 4 below, the decision shall require the affirmative vote of five (5) Directors present at a meeting, including one (1) Player Board Representative and one (1) Tournament Board Representative.
- e. The exclusive right to organize, promote and exploit the Tournament and to retain any and all proceeds derived therefrom, subject to the Tournament's obligations to make such payments (e.g., prize money and fees) as may be provided in the Rules, the governing agreements among the WTA's constituents and resolutions of the Board of Directors regarding the Media Pool. This grant of rights shall include, but not be limited to, revenue derived from tickets, sponsorships, television (international and domestic), radio, licensing, merchandising, film, video, publications, or any other form(s) of media hereafter discovered, subject to the Tournament's required participation in the International Media Rights Pool (see Section XVII.I) consistent with the rights and obligations established by the Board of Directors.
- f. It shall be understood that the WTA sponsor(s) shall be entitled to a negotiated benefits package, which may preclude title sponsorship of any Tournament in one (1) product category for the WTA sponsor. With regard to any exclusive WTA sponsor product category, it is agreed that conflicting, pre-existing, title and presenting sponsors will be grandfathered. In addition, WTA sponsorship agreements may not vitiate any Tournament's conflicting, pre-existing sponsorship or exposure agreements, but may preclude the renewal of any

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such agreements except title and presenting sponsorship agreements.

- g. The right to advertise and promote the Tournament's association with the WTA and the right to advertise and promote the participants entered in the Tournament, subject to the WTA Commercial Benefits and Tournament Branding Guidelines.
- h. The right to transfer or lease ownership subject to the guidelines in the Rules.
- i. The above rights shall be subject to the Tournament's satisfactory compliance with the WTA's By-Laws, Certificate of Incorporation and Rules, including the Tournament Standards of Performance, which are a part of the Rules. Those Standards include, without limitation, the obligation to pay prize money and fees to the WTA; a preclusion of unauthorized use of the names and likenesses of the players; the obligation to participate in the International Media Rights Pool; and the obligation to promote the WTA.

## **2. Transfer of Ownership**

No individual's or entity's holding, in whole or in part, in a Tournament Class Membership whether full or conditional (collectively referred to as "member") shall, directly or indirectly, be sold, transferred, assigned, conveyed or otherwise disposed of, in whole or in part, whether by operation of law or otherwise (each a "Transfer"), except in accordance with and subject to the following provisions:

- a. No later than 30 calendar days prior to the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors, the member wishing to apply for a Transfer shall submit a written request for approval of the Transfer to the CEO. The CEO shall have the right to require the member making the request to furnish (and that member shall furnish) any information the CEO deems appropriate, including, but not limited to, the following:
  - i. The name and address of each party to the Transfer and each officer, director and beneficial owner of each of those parties;
  - ii. A written statement certifying the material terms of the proposed Transfer;
  - iii. If the Transfer is a sale, transfer, assignment, conveyance or other disposition:

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- (a) An executed copy of the bona fide written offer that the member proposes to accept;
- (b) A statement of the amount and the terms and conditions of the purchase price or other consideration offered for the membership interest;
- (c) Evidence of the proposed purchaser's ability (financial or otherwise) and experience to own and operate the member's Tournament or to acquire the membership interest subject to the Transfer; and
- (d) A binding offer (the "Right of First Refusal Offer") to sell the membership to the WTA for a purchase price equal to the amount to be paid in cash by the proposed purchaser solely for the membership interest (without regard to any employment, consulting or other arrangements and subject to the WTA's right to pay the purchase price as and when it would have been due from the proposed purchaser); and

iv. Copies of any other agreements relating to the Transfer.

In addition, if the transfer includes a new venue, the CEO may request that the member organize one (1) or more site checks of the Tournament's new venue. The site check(s) shall be completed prior to the Board of Director's consideration of the Transfer. If one (1) or more site checks are deemed necessary by the CEO, the member shall pay the cost of such site check(s) (including travel, lodging, food and other reasonable expenses).

- b. Upon receipt of the information required under sub-Section 2.a above, the CEO shall conduct such investigation as he/she deems appropriate and shall submit the proposed Transfer and the Right of First Refusal Offer to the Board of Directors for its approval, acceptance or other action, except that if the proposed Transfer will not result in the transferee possessing, directly or indirectly, a membership interest of 25% or more, the CEO shall have the power to approve or disapprove the proposed Transfer or accept the Right of First Refusal Offer without submitting it to the Board of Directors for approval or acceptance. The Board of Directors or CEO, as the case may be, shall have the right to disapprove a Transfer in its or his/her sole discretion; however, such approval or acceptance shall not be unreasonably withheld.

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- c. If the WTA elects to accept the Right of First Refusal Offer upon the terms set forth in sub-Section 2.a.iii(d), the WTA shall notify that member in writing of its acceptance within 30 days after the next regularly scheduled Board of Directors meeting following the furnishing to the CEO of all information required under sub-Section 2.a, provided that all such information was provided to the WTA corporate headquarters at least thirty (30) calendar days prior to such Board of Directors meeting (the "Right of First Refusal Period"). If the WTA exercises its Right of First Refusal, the WTA and the member shall thereafter fix a mutually acceptable date for the consummation of the transaction. If the WTA does not notify the member of its intention to exercise the Right of First Refusal during the Right of First Refusal Period, during the 60 days following the expiration of the Right of First Refusal Period the member may sell its Tournament Class Membership interest to the proposed purchaser upon the terms of the offer, but if the sale is not consummated with the proposed purchaser within that 60-day period, then the provisions of this sub-Section 2 shall apply again.
- d. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the preceding sub-Sections 2.a-c, in the event a member wishes to transfer its membership interest in such Tournament, but has no satisfactory bona fide prospective purchaser, the member may at any time request that the WTA solicit prospective purchasers on its behalf. A request under this sub-Section 2.d shall be made in writing to the CEO.

The member shall have no obligation to accept any offer that may be obtained by the WTA on its behalf, and the member may withdraw its request under this paragraph at any time.

- e. At any time that a member consummates a Transfer with respect to a Tournament Class Membership interest, the applicable Transfer Fee percentage (set forth in the following table) – assessed to the value of the consideration provided by the Tournament buyer to the member – shall be imposed by the Board of Directors.

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Number of Full Tournaments Conducted to Conclusion	Transfer Fee Percentage <sup>^</sup>
1	20%
2	15%
3	15%
4	10%
5	5%
6	5%
7	5%
8 (or More)	3%

<sup>^</sup> The Board of Directors retains the discretion to assess a lesser fee where appropriate, as determined in its sole discretion. The relevant Transfer Fee will be waived for transfers that take place among members of the same immediate family, should the Transfer be approved pursuant to the Rules.

- f. If the purchaser of a Tournament Class Membership interest is not currently promoting or operating any Tournament(s) or is not a member, as a precondition to approval of any Transfer under this sub-Section 2, the purchaser must agree in writing that it will deposit or provide a letter of credit guaranteeing payment of 100% of the first year's prize money. Payment will be made under this letter of credit in the event the Tournament is not held; if the Tournament is held, payment will be made under the letter of credit only to the extent of a shortfall in prize money payments. Any payment under the letter of credit will be non-refundable.
- g. The purchaser of a Tournament Class Membership, as a precondition to approval of any Transfer under this sub-Section 2, must also agree in writing that it will pay for the Supervisor's time and travel (lodging, food and other reasonable expenses) for the week prior to the first edition of the Tournament under the new ownership.
- h. Any attempted Transfer in violation of this sub-Section 2 shall be void.

### 3. Membership Lease

No member shall be permitted, directly or indirectly, to enter into or become subject to a Lease, except in accordance with and subject to the provisions set forth in this Section 3. For purposes of this Section, "Lease" shall mean an agreement or other transaction whereby the right to operate or manage a Tournament are transferred, in whole or in part, directly

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or indirectly, by operation of law or otherwise, to an individual or entity that is not the owner of the applicable Tournament Class Membership.

- a. Within 30 days of executing a Lease (the effectiveness of which shall be expressly subject to approval under this sub-Section 3), the member/lessor wishing to apply for approval of the Lease shall submit a written request for approval of the Lease to the CEO. The CEO shall have the right to require the member/lessor making the request to furnish (and that member/lessor shall furnish) any information the CEO deems appropriate, including but not limited to, the following:
  - i. The name and address of each party to the Lease and each officer, director, and beneficial owner of each of those parties;
  - ii. A written statement certifying the material terms of the proposed Lease;
  - iii. Evidence of the proposed lessee's ability (financial or otherwise) and experience to fulfill the obligations associated with the rights granted in the Lease; and
  - iv. Copies of any agreements relating to the Lease.
- b. Upon receipt of the information required under sub-Section 3.a above, the CEO shall conduct such inquiry as deemed appropriate and shall submit the proposed Lease to the Board of Directors for approval, acceptance or other action. The Board of Directors shall have the right to disapprove a Lease in its sole discretion; however, such approval or acceptance shall not be unreasonably withheld.
- c. The WTA may in its discretion waive any or all of the requirements of this Section 3.
- d. Any Lease entered into in violation of this Section 3 shall be void and any member/prospective lessor not complying with its obligations under this Section 3 shall be deemed to be in breach of the Rules and not in good standing.
- e. Each member shall be responsible for ensuring compliance with the provisions of this Section 3 in connection with any Lease directly or indirectly relating to it.
- f. In the event a lessee defaults with respect to any of the financial or other obligations in the Rulebook applicable to Tournaments, including the prize money requirements and Tournament Standards of Performance, the lessor shall, at all times, remain liable for such



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defaults and any penalties for such defaults shall be imposed against the lessor's Tournament Class Membership.

- g. The requirements set out above shall be waived for any Lease entered into before November 3, 2008.

#### **4. Request for Change**

All proposed changes to location, date or other Tournament information as set forth on the Tournament Application or Annual Tournament Information Form must be approved by the WTA. All requests that would impact the WTA Calendar for the next Tour Year must be submitted to the WTA for approval no later than 30 days prior to the Board of Directors meeting at which such WTA Calendar is to be reviewed and approved. If any Tournament or prospective new owner seeks a change it must:

- a. Register a notice requesting the change with the WTA no later than four (4) months (unless otherwise agreed by the WTA in its discretion) after the conclusion of the previous year's Tournament. (Request for Change Forms are available from the WTA);
- b. Furnish the WTA with full details of the proposed change, as determined by the WTA;
- c. Pay the cost of one (1) or more site checks (travel, lodging, food and other reasonable expenses) if deemed necessary by the WTA;
- d. Pay the cost of any security risk assessment prepared by the WTA's Security Director or a professional security consulting firm that the WTA designates if the WTA deems such security risk assessments necessary;
- e. Pay for the Supervisor's time and travel (lodging, food and other reasonable expenses) for the week prior to the first edition of the Tournament at the new location; and
- f. Be subject to Financial Security Requirements and a loss of Player Commitment, as set forth herein.

For any proposed change of location for a membership which has been in the same location for less than five (5) years, if approved by the Board of Directors, such approval shall be subject to payment of a fee in accordance with the below schedule (a "First Change of Location"). The Board of Directors retains the discretion to waive or reduce such fee or collect all or part of the fee in installments.

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<b>Premier Mandatory</b>	<b>Premier 5</b>	<b>Premier 700</b>	<b>International</b>
\$675,000	\$300,000	\$105,000	\$50,000

If a member makes a request for a change of location for a membership within five (5) years after the start of the calendar year in which an approved First Change of Location takes effect (i.e. the requested change of location would be effective prior to the fifth edition of the Tournament in its current location) and the Board of Directors approves the request (a "Second Change of Location"), such approval shall be subject to payment of a fee in accordance with the below schedule. The Board of Directors retains the discretion to waive or reduce such fee and/or collect all or part of the fee in installments.

<b>Premier Mandatory</b>	<b>Premier 5</b>	<b>Premier 700</b>	<b>International</b>
\$1,350,000	\$600,000	\$210,000	\$100,000

If a member makes a request for a change of location for a membership within five (5) years after the start of the calendar year in which an approved Second Change of Location takes effect (i.e. the requested change of location would be effective prior to the fifth edition of the Tournament in its current location), the WTA will have the right to purchase such membership at a price equal to the average purchase price paid solely for memberships of the same Tier level and within the same geographic region (i.e., Americas, Europe, or Asia-Pacific) over the same 5-year period. If the Board of Directors elects not to exercise the right to purchase such membership and approves the request (a "Third Change of Location"), such approval shall be subject to payment of a fee in accordance with the below schedule. The Board of Directors retains the discretion to waive or reduce such fee and/or collect all or part of the fee in installments.

<b>Premier Mandatory</b>	<b>Premier 5</b>	<b>Premier 700</b>	<b>International</b>
\$2,700,000	\$1,200,000	\$420,000	\$200,000

If a member makes a request for a change of location for a membership within five (5) years after the start of the calendar year in which an approved Third Change of Location or any subsequent change of location takes effect (i.e. the requested change of location would be effective prior to the fifth edition of the Tournament in its current location), the WTA will have the right to purchase such membership as set out above for a Third

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### **SECTION VII - WTA TOURNAMENT MEMBERSHIPS**

Change of Location or, in the alternative, if the Board of Directors elects not to exercise the right to purchase such membership and approves the request, such approval shall be subject to payment of double the full amount of the fee applicable to the immediately prior change of location. The Board of Directors retains the discretion to waive or reduce such fee and/or collect all or part of the fee in installments.

The following shall not be deemed a change of location for the purpose of this Section 4: (a) a change of venue within 125 miles of the original venue unless otherwise determined by the Board of Directors; (b) Tournaments which have been pre-approved to annually alternate or rotate locations; and (c) location changes made at the request of the WTA. In determining whether a change of venue is a change of location, the Board of Directors may consider the following factors: (i) distance between venues; (ii) defined media markets; (iii) time zones; (iv) climates; (v) topographies; (vi) governments; (vii) predominant languages; (viii) economic specializations; and (ix) international political areas.

A change of location made in conjunction with an approved Transfer shall be deemed a change of location for the purposes of this Section 4.

In connection with any approval of a change of location for a membership and in addition to any rights set forth above, the Board of Directors shall have the right to impose any condition on any change of location that it deems in the best interests of the WTA.

#### **5. Simultaneous Transfer of Ownership and Location**

A proposed change of location made in conjunction with a request for a transfer of ownership must be made simultaneously, and those requests will be considered jointly. In addition, the change of location fee will not apply to a proposed location change in conjunction with a request for Transfer of ownership; however, the Transfer set out in Section VII.I.2 shall apply.

#### **6. WTA Action**

- a. If ownership is transferred, the new owner will succeed to the rights and obligations of the former owner. However, if change of location is involved, the new owner's rights and obligations will be the same as the owner of a new Tournament.
- b. Regarding proposed changes of location, if the WTA approves such a change in connection with a Transfer of ownership, it will make best efforts to assign an appropriate date, and the Tournament will then become part of the WTA.

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**SECTION VII - WTA TOURNAMENT MEMBERSHIPS**

**7. Limitations on Ownership**

- a. No person or entity (or group of persons or entities acting in concert) shall, directly or indirectly, own or control (by contract or otherwise) an “ownership interest” in more than five (5) WTA Tournaments, of which no more than two (2) may be multi-week combined men’s and women’s events of the same or similar category (e.g., Premier Mandatory Tournament).

Additionally, no person or entity (or group of persons or entities acting in concert) shall, directly or indirectly, own or control (by contract or otherwise) an ownership interest in more than 45% of WTA Tournaments in the European Geographic Region or the Americas Geographic Region or the Asia-Pacific Geographic Region (as these Regions are defined by the WTA for the purposes of Player Commitment); and/or:

- (i) 25% of all Premier Mandatory and Premier 5 Tournaments; or
  - (ii) 25% of all Premier 700 Tournaments; or
  - (iii) 40% of all International Tournaments.
- b. Any entity having ownership interests in WTA Tournaments that exceed any of the limitations set forth in sub-Section a above as of June 23, 1999, will be grandfathered as to any such Tournaments above such limitations. However, if such entity sells its ownership interest in a Tournament, it thereafter will not have the right to purchase or obtain an ownership interest in any additional WTA Tournament without WTA approval, if such entity has ownership interests at or above any of the limitations set forth in sub-Section a above.
- c. For purposes of this Rule, the words “ownership interest” shall mean:
  - i. Any direct or indirect proprietary interest in a Tournament other than an interest of 5% or less in any call of the equity or debt securities of a member whose shares are traded on an internationally recognized securities exchange (a “proprietary interest”); or
  - ii. With respect to any Tournament in which the relevant person, entity or group does not have a proprietary interest, the right to:
    - (a) Exercise the Tournament’s voting rights;

## **TOURNAMENTS**

### **SECTION VII - WTA TOURNAMENT MEMBERSHIPS**

- (b) Apply to the WTA for a change in the venue or geographic location of the Tournament;
  - (c) Serve as or appoint the Tournament's designated representative; or
  - (d) Transfer any of the rights described in sub-Sections (a)-(c) above, or apply to the WTA for approval to Transfer any direct or indirect proprietary interest in the Tournament.
- d. Without limiting the generality of sub-Section c.i, a person or entity shall be deemed to have an ownership interest in a Tournament if it has a direct or indirect interest in the proceeds resulting from the sale of that Tournament or in the operating income or losses of that Tournament. But a person or entity providing services or guaranteed payments to a Tournament in consideration of an interest in the operating income or losses of that Tournament during the period it is providing those services or payments shall not be deemed to have an ownership interest in the Tournament, provided the CEO has approved the terms of such agreement between any such person or entity and any Tournament. Such agreement shall not be approved if it is found to be an attempt to circumvent Section VII.I.1 – Definition of Ownership.
- e. Discovery and Sanctions for Non-compliance

If the WTA has reason to believe that a person or entity may own or control multiple Tournaments in addition to those already disclosed to the WTA, it may request such person or entity to provide information that will confirm or negate the existence of such ownership or control. If the person or entity fails to provide such information in a timely fashion or provides inaccurate or incomplete information, the WTA may, in the reasonable exercise of its discretion i) consider such non-compliance in determining whether to impose sanctions; and/or ii) conclude – based on such non-compliance – that the person or entity does in fact have an ownership interest in the Tournament or Tournaments in question.

## **J. TOURNAMENT MINIMUM INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS**

Tournaments are required to participate in the mandated Tournament insurance program. This program will provide for full compliance of all mandated insurance requirements. For 2018, coverage will cost \$4,600 for Tournaments located in the United States and \$2,750 for all other Tournaments. Tournament insurance payments are due to the WTA (or its assigned designee) no later than thirty (30) days prior to the start of the Tournament's Main Draw.

## **TOURNAMENTS**

### **VIII. WTA TOURNAMENT RESPONSIBILITIES/BENEFITS TO WTA**

#### **A. WTA SPONSOR PRODUCT CATEGORY EXCLUSIVITIES**

All Tournaments will have certain responsibilities relating to their sponsorship activities and must act in compliance with the Rules.

WTA sponsorship agreements may not vitiate any Tournament's conflicting, pre-existing sponsorship or exposure agreements, but may preclude the renewal of any such agreements except title and presenting sponsorship agreements.

Conflicting, pre-existing, title and presenting sponsors will be grandfathered in connection with this rule.

A Tournament shall be required, upon request by the WTA, to immediately supply any pre-existing contract with a Tournament sponsor that conflicts with a WTA sponsorship. The Tournament shall be entitled to conceal any competitively sensitive financial information in such a pre-existing contract prior to disclosure to the WTA.

The WTA will pay eligible Tournaments a Commercial Benefit payment in exchange for certain commercial benefits.

#### **B. COMMERCIAL BENEFITS GRANTED TO WTA**

The following sub-Section B provides an overview of Commercial Benefits granted to WTA. Any Tournament requested by WTA to provide Commercial Benefits must do so consistent with this sub-Section B, as may be established by the Board of Directors, and in accordance with the Commercial Benefits and Brand Guidelines for WTA Tournaments that is provided annually to Tournaments and published on the TournamentZone. Please refer to the Commercial Benefits and Brand Guidelines for a complete list of Commercial Benefits applicable to each Tournament.

##### **1. WTA Identification**

Each Tournament shall clearly and prominently identify itself to the public as being part of the WTA and give its full cooperation to the WTA in furthering general public awareness of the competition. Any Tournaments which are combined or back-to-back with an ATP World Tour ("ATP") event, shall provide a level of WTA branding which is equal to or greater than the branding provided for the ATP as determined by the WTA; however, in no instance shall such branding fall below the minimums required herein. Each Tournament shall assume all costs associated with

## TOURNAMENTS

### SECTION VIII - WTA TOURNAMENT RESPONSIBILITIES/BENEFITS TO WTA

compliance hereunder.

#### 2. WTA Name and Logo

##### a. Identification on Printed Promotional Materials and Signage

The WTA shall receive identification via the WTA name and/or logo (including the name of any Title/Premier/Presenting sponsor, if applicable) ("WTA Logo" or "Tour Logo") on all Tournament promotional materials and informational signage where a Tournament's title and/or presenting sponsor is identified, including, but not limited to: (i) official notices; (ii) all advertising (including digital advertising, e.g., banner ads); (iii) press releases; (iv) posters; (v) program covers; (vi) tickets; (vii) counter cards; (viii) direct mail pieces; (ix) display materials; (x) brochures; (xi) announcements; (xii) invitations; (xiii) credentials/accreditation badges; (xiv) ticket brochures/offers; (xv) stationery (letterhead, envelopes, etc.); (xvi) interview backdrops; (xvii) draw boards; (xviii) sponsor boards; (xix) welcome entry signs; (xx) vehicles; (xxi) website and social media pages; (xxii) television graphics; (xxiii) video board ads, etc.; and (xxiv) Tournament videos where graphics, animation and/or open or end slates are inserted. (See Pre-Tournament Responsibilities - Section VIII.E.)

##### b. Tournament Website and Other Digital Platforms

Each Tournament must identify the WTA on its website and other digital platforms by prominently placing the WTA logo and a link to the WTA's official website on the Tournament's website and other digital platforms.

##### c. Conformity to WTA and Sponsor Trademark Guidelines

All Tournament use of the WTA Logo (including the name and logos of any WTA sponsors, whether composite or stand alone) must conform to the WTA and sponsor branding and trademark guidelines.

##### d. Size and Shape

The Tournament logo is the official identity of the Tournament that includes the Tournament name ("Tournament Logo"). When a text alternative of the Tournament Logo is used, it will be regarded as the Tournament Logo and the rules below will continue to apply. When a Tournament Logo is used repeatedly, or if both Tournament Logo and Tournament title are used, application rules will apply to the largest Tournament Logo or title. For multiple page documents, wherever the Tournament Logo or name appears, that page must

## **TOURNAMENTS**

### **SECTION VIII - WTA TOURNAMENT RESPONSIBILITIES/BENEFITS TO WTA**

also include the WTA Logo.

The WTA Logo must be a minimum of 40% of the surface area of the Tournament Logo. For combined events, the WTA Logo must be the same size as the ATP name/logo and together these two (2) logos must be a minimum of 60% of the surface area of the Tournament Logo.

e. Positioning

The WTA Logo must appear as a stand alone and must not be included in an associate sponsor or government logo strip. It is recommended that the WTA Logo be placed closest to the Tournament Logo and that no sponsor, federation or series logo be placed closer to the Tournament Logo than the WTA Logo.

f. Public Address Announcements

In all public address announcements in which the Tournament is identified, it will be identified as a part of the WTA/sponsor. In addition, Tournaments shall broadcast a WTA thirty-second (:30) spot once per hour on each match court video board.

g. Message Board Announcements and Player Introductions

The WTA/sponsor shall also receive references in message board announcements and exposure in player introductions (i.e., "currently ranked 'x' on the WTA").

h. Identification on Chair Umpire Uniforms

The officiating uniform provided by WTA must be worn by Chair Umpires. No other commercial branding may be applied to the uniform without the WTA and the applicable Tournament's prior approval.

### **3. Banners On Court**

a. Number, Size and Location

At each Tournament the WTA shall be entitled to two (2) on-court banners measuring three (3) feet by seven (7) feet (.91 meters by 2.12 m) on all courts used for television broadcasts. In addition to the foregoing, WTA shall be entitled to two (2) on-court banners on all courts used for live streaming broadcasts, with the banners to be scaled relative to the size of the court.



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### **SECTION VIII - WTA TOURNAMENT RESPONSIBILITIES/BENEFITS TO WTA**

#### **b. Placement on Court**

One (1) banner must be in direct television view, to be located either:

- i. On the backdrop; or
- ii. Between the service line and the backdrop (on the side with maximum television exposure).

In addition, each Tournament is required to provide the WTA with a schematic of the on-court banner placement no later than 30 days prior to the start of the Qualifying.

#### **c. Designated Promotional Usage**

As notified by the WTA, the banners may be used to promote the WTA and/or a WTA sponsor (provided there is no conflict as addressed in Section VIII.A – WTA Sponsor Product Category Exclusivities).

#### **d. Production**

The Tournament shall be responsible for the cost of producing such signage consistent with the design, coloring and quality of the other court signage produced by the Tournament.

### **4. Net Post Signs**

WTA/sponsor shall receive exclusive net post signage at both ends of the net on all competition courts. The WTA will provide specifications to each Tournament prior to production deadlines. (See Net – Section XVII.A.20.) If WTA/sponsor elects to provide the signage, the Tournament shall be responsible for storing the signage so that it may be used again the following year. Any lost or misplaced signs will be reproduced by WTA/sponsor at the expense of the Tournament.

### **5. Other On-Court Signage**

#### **a. Court Surface**

Where possible, and with individual Tournament approval, a WTA Logo may be painted or fixed to the court surface. Costs associated with application and removal of such logo will be borne by the WTA.

#### **b. Back Walls, Sidewalls and/or Scoreboards**

## **TOURNAMENTS**

### **SECTION VIII - WTA TOURNAMENT RESPONSIBILITIES/BENEFITS TO WTA**

#### **i. Website Logo**

Where possible, and with individual Tournament approval, each Tournament may place the WTA website logo on its back walls, sidewalls and/or scoreboards.

#### **ii. WTA Logo**

Where possible, and with individual Tournament approval, each Tournament may place the WTA Logo on its back walls, sidewalls, video boards and/or scoreboards in order to expose its affiliation with the WTA.

### **6. Signage Within Precincts of Center Court**

Each Tournament will prominently display one (1) WTA/sponsor sign or banner measuring a maximum of three (3) feet by seven (7) feet (.91 meters by 2.12 m) bearing the WTA Logo as close to the precincts of center court so as to maximize its visibility to tennis patrons without dislocating any commercial or sponsor banners that have been sold by or are obligations of the Tournament Director.

### **7. Press Area/Interview Room**

WTA/sponsor shall receive exposure on satellite interview backdrops and on the press area/interview room backdrops and microphone flags at each Tournament.

### **8. On-Site Display**

#### **a. Tournament Obligations**

At each Tournament, WTA/sponsor shall have the right to a complimentary on-site display space for sampling, couponing, demonstration, promotion, sale of product or merchandise, etc.

This right to on-site display space will be available at all Tournament sessions for such activities and shall be at no charge to WTA/sponsor so long as the display space consists of at least a basic structure with lighting and a lockable storage area and is consistent with the equipment and services provided to other Tournament display sponsors.

#### **b. WTA/Sponsor Obligation**

WTA/sponsor will be liable for the cost of staffing and decoration of the on-site display.

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### **SECTION VIII - WTA TOURNAMENT RESPONSIBILITIES/BENEFITS TO WTA**

#### **c. Substitution**

In the event that WTA/sponsor informs the WTA that it will not use its on-site display space, the WTA may be substituted in its place.

#### **d. Additional or Specific Requests**

##### **i. From WTA/Sponsor**

Should WTA/sponsor require additional space or a specific structure, this will be negotiated with the Tournament on a case-by-case basis.

##### **ii. From WTA**

At each Tournament, the WTA may request additional on-site display space for Tour use. Costs shall be borne by the WTA at no greater than the Tournament's cost plus 15%.

### **9. Tournament Program Pages**

#### **a. Number and Placement**

WTA/sponsor shall receive, free of charge, four (4) full color pages in total in each Tournament program, one (1) of which must be placed in the first third of the program. Whenever possible, two (2) additional pages should also be placed in the first third of the Tournament program.

#### **b. Additional Pages**

At the Tournament's discretion, it shall provide one (1) additional full color page for use by the WTA to identify its sponsors, licensees and international television broadcasters. Each Tournament may also offer the WTA additional pages if available, the cost of which will be borne by the WTA at no greater than the Tournament's cost plus 15%.

#### **c. Production**

In the event production of a Tournament event program is not done, the Tournament must provide WTA with notice at least six (6) weeks prior to the start of the Tournament and provide WTA with an alternative means for fulfilling its obligations in a and b above.

## **TOURNAMENTS**

### **SECTION VIII - WTA TOURNAMENT RESPONSIBILITIES/BENEFITS TO WTA**

#### **10. Seats/Tickets**

a. Prime Location and Box Seats

For every session of the Tournament, WTA/sponsor shall receive, at no charge: (i) at least six (6) box seats; and (ii) six (6) reserved seats in a prime location.

WTA/sponsor also will be given priority in purchasing, at a discount, additional seats in prime location.

b. Upper Level Stadium Tickets

WTA/sponsor shall also receive 200 upper level stadium tickets to one (1) evening session early in the week of each Tournament provided that the stadium seating capacity is at least 3,000. One hundred (100) of those seats may be allocated over two (2) or three (3) early week evening sessions. If the stadium seating capacity is less than 3,000, the WTA/sponsor shall receive 100 upper level stadium tickets to an evening session early in the week.

c. Player and WTA Credentials and Tickets

In addition to the foregoing, each Tournament shall provide the required tickets and credentials to players, player guests, the WTA and official guests of the WTA as set out under the Tournament Responsibilities. (See Credentials/Tickets/Seating – Section XVII.A.8.)

#### **11. Hospitality**

WTA/sponsor shall have access to hospitality at all sessions for the six (6) box seat holders. If the Tournament does not have VIP hospitality, it shall offer the six (6) box seat holders the same hospitality, free of charge, as it offers other box seat holders.

In addition, WTA/sponsor shall receive a complimentary hospitality area for a minimum of two (2) sessions.

In North America, food and beverage cost and special tentage and décor costs shall be borne by WTA or sponsor.

#### **12. Credentials and Parking**

a. Credentials

WTA/sponsor representatives shall receive six (6) credentials for

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### **SECTION VIII - WTA TOURNAMENT RESPONSIBILITIES/BENEFITS TO WTA**

access to the following areas: i) Press Room; ii) WTA Operations; iii) Hospitality; and iv) Players' Lounge, etc.

b. **Parking**

WTA/sponsor also shall receive eight (8) VIP parking passes.

#### **13. Pro-Ams**

WTA/sponsor shall receive six (6) spots in the Tournament Pro-Am, where available, or a clinic for 12 hosted by players during the Tournament week.

#### **14. Awards Ceremony**

A WTA executive and a sponsor representative shall be entitled to inclusion and recognition in on-court Tournament award presentations.

#### **15. Press Releases**

The WTA (in connection with its sponsors) has the right to produce and distribute press releases about or relating to the WTA at each and all of the Tournaments provided that press releases relating to a particular Tournament will be approved by that Tournament prior to distribution.

#### **16. Video/Film Rights**

Each Tournament shall make available to the WTA five (5) minutes of film footage as long as it is used for non-commercial purposes, with the exception that film footage may be used for commercial purposes if it is to promote the WTA (e.g., television highlight shows, vignettes, video news releases, etc.).

The WTA will be responsible for duplication and shipping costs.

#### **17. Road to the WTA Finals Billboard**

Each Tournament shall post a "Road to the WTA Finals - Singapore" singles and doubles billboard in a prominent location on-site. The WTA will provide specifications to each Tournament prior to production deadlines.

#### **18. Doubles Promotion**

Each Tournament shall provide the following benefits:

a. **Prominent on-site display of the doubles draw;**

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### **SECTION VIII - WTA TOURNAMENT RESPONSIBILITIES/BENEFITS TO WTA**

- b. Inclusion of the doubles draw and a featured doubles match in daily draw sheets (if any); and
- c. Doubles section on the Tournament's website.

In addition, it is recommended that Tournaments schedule ACES activities which are specifically targeted for the utilization of Doubles players.

### **C. FAILURE TO PROVIDE COMMERCIAL BENEFITS**

All on-court and in-venue Commercial Benefits signage must be completed prior to the start of Qualifying. Failure to provide or timely provide all or a portion of the above Commercial Benefits granted to the WTA will be considered a breach of the Tournament Standards of Performance and will subject the Tournament to, among other things, a reduced Sponsor Benefit Payment. Additional penalties may be imposed in accordance with Section XVII.A.45 – Breach of Tournament Standards of Performance. Before the reduction of any Commercial Benefits payment, every effort will be made by the WTA and the Tournament to cure the breach.

### **D. SPONSORSHIP RESTRICTIONS**

In addition to the sponsorship restrictions set forth above, products that are distasteful or embarrassing to WTA members, including but not limited to tobacco (including electronic cigarettes and similar products), firearms, pornographic material or similar items shall be prohibited as sponsors or on-site promotions of or related to any WTA Tournament without prior approval of the WTA.

### **E. PRE-TOURNAMENT RESPONSIBILITIES**

#### **1. Operations**

Each Tournament must complete a Tournament Fact Sheet and return it to WTA Operations no later than seven (7) weeks prior to the start of the Tournament Main Draw.

#### **2. Sport Sciences & Medicine**

Each Tournament must complete the Tournament Physician Information Sheet and return it to a WTA Sport Sciences & Medicine ("SS&M") staff member no later than ninety (90) days prior to the start of the Tournament Main Draw.

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### **SECTION VIII - WTA TOURNAMENT RESPONSIBILITIES/BENEFITS TO WTA**

#### **3. Promotional Materials and Signage**

Each Tournament must provide the WTA with proofs of the promotional materials no later than seven (7) weeks prior to the start of the Tournament Main Draw for WTA review and approval.

#### **4. Tournament Match Scheduling**

Each Tournament must provide the WTA with the match schedule plan and TV schedule, including daily start times and night sessions (if applicable), no later than sixty (60) days prior to the start of the Tournament Main Draw for WTA review and approval.

#### **5. Non-WTA Events**

Each Tournament must provide the WTA with the schedule of any and all proposed exhibitions or non-WTA/ATP matches to be held immediately before, during, or immediately after the Tournament no later than thirty (30) days prior to the start of the Tournament Main Draw for WTA review and approval.

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### **IX. WTA FINALS AND WTA ELITE TROPHY**

The Tour Year culminates with two (2) events, the WTA Finals and the WTA Elite Trophy.

All players who qualify for the WTA Finals or WTA Elite Trophy event must comply with the player responsibilities as detailed in this Section.

For the complete WTA Finals and WTA Elite Trophy rules, prize money, and ranking points, please reference <http://www.wtatennis.com/wta-rules>.





## **FINANCIAL**

### **X. PRIZE MONEY**

#### **A. DISTRIBUTION**

##### **1. Equal Opportunity**

Payment of the same prize money must be available to all competitors without discrimination.

##### **2. Timing and Process**

###### **a. Tournament Obligations**

###### **i. Prize Money Spreadsheet**

The WTA must receive a completed prize money spreadsheet, electronically, no later than 9:00 a.m. Eastern Time (New York, USA Time) on the Monday following the conclusion of the Tournament.

###### **ii. Wire Transfer of Payment**

Tournaments are required to wire net prize money to the bank trust account designated by the WTA to ensure receipt by the Wednesday (Thursday for tournaments with Main Draws of 96 or greater) following their respective Tournaments, and to provide a prize money breakdown from the Tournament to the WTA.

Prize money payments not made by the due dates specified herein are subject to a late charge due to the WTA of 2% per month, pro-rated for partial months. Tournaments that pay five (5) or more business days late will be required to pre-pay the following year's prize money (minus estimated taxes to be withheld) at least twenty-one (21) days prior to the start of the Tournament.

###### **iii. Taxes**

The Tournament shall be responsible for withholding and payment of any taxes consistent with all laws concerning withholding taxes.

###### **(a) Income Tax on Players**

Each Tournament is required to give at least 90 days' notice to the WTA of the percentage of the applicable player

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income tax deduction. No other tax deduction(s) by the Tournaments will be permitted from the prize money paid to a player.

(b) Additional Taxes

The Tournament shall be responsible for any additional taxes imposed.

(c) Tax Receipts and Forms

Tournaments must make best efforts to supply tax receipts or forms to the players before they collect their prize money. If tax forms are not available, players should be told when they will receive them and whom they can contact from the Tournament if they have a problem. Players must receive the Tournament tax forms required by local law by the last day of the Tour Year or such other date as required by local law.

Players are solely responsible for their taxes and for providing current tax information on Tournament tax forms or for providing other official documentation to the Tournament directly if requested. The WTA does not maintain current tax information pertaining to players nor does the WTA assume liability for conveying players' tax status or tax information to Tournaments. Tournaments may provide blank electronic tax forms along with instructions for completing the forms to the WTA for posting on the PlayerZone. Players may complete and return these forms to the Tournament's designated contact, and should do so prior to the Tournament. The WTA is not responsible for providing tax forms to players or collecting them from players, and cannot make adjustments or modifications to the tax forms supplied by Tournaments or give advice on completing them.

b. Qualifying Prize Money at International and WTA 125K Tournaments

i. Payment Currency and Method

Qualifying prize money at International and WTA 125K Tournaments shall be paid on-site, unless otherwise approved by the WTA.

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ii. Withholding

In addition to the player's applicable income tax deduction, each International and WTA 125K Tournament shall also withhold from Qualifying prize money any non-member service fees, fines or other WTA expenses designated by the WTA.

c. Summary of Distribution

See Accounting – Section XVII.A.1.

**B. AMATEUR EXPENSES**

**1. Amateur Status and Reimbursement**

Subject to any non-WTA guidelines regarding amateur status that may apply to a particular player, if a player chooses to retain her amateur status and eligibility to compete at the collegiate level, she may not receive payment for play except as permitted in this Section.

a. Actual and Necessary Expenses

An amateur may receive reimbursement for reasonable travel, housing and board expenses, provided such expenses are actual and necessary under the circumstances, substantiated by receipts, and documented on a signed WTA Amateur Reimbursement Form. A player may not accept money for unspecified or unitemized expenses. In no case may an amateur be reimbursed an amount greater than the prize money she would have received at the Tournament if she were playing as a professional.

The calculation of actual and necessary expenses shall not include the expenses or fees of anyone other than the player. The expenses of coaches, parents, chaperones, spouses, or any other individual accompanying the player may not be reimbursed.

b. Prize Money

Prior to full-time collegiate enrollment, an amateur may accept up to US\$10,000 of prize money per calendar year. Once the US\$10,000 limit is reached, an amateur may only receive reimbursement for actual and necessary expenses for the remainder of that year. Full-time collegiate enrollment includes practice, conditioning, team meetings, any required activities other than academic/compliance meetings, or enrollment in at least 12 credits.

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Any unpaid prize money earned by an amateur at a Tournament will be divided evenly between the WTA and that Tournament, which must make payment to the WTA within thirty (30) days of the conclusion of the Tournament.

**2. Turning Professional**

a. Definition

Any player who receives prize money from a Tournament in excess of the above permitted amounts or from the Bonus Pool will be considered a professional.

b. Timing and Process

If an amateur chooses to turn professional, she must declare herself a professional before the start of the Tournament, whether that means before Qualifying if she is in Qualifying, or before the Main Draw if she is in the Main Draw. She also must complete and return a form to WTA Operations, providing written confirmation of her change in status.

**C. DEFAULTS, WITHDRAWALS AND BYES**

**1. Withdrawals**

a. Singles

If a singles player withdraws from a Tournament, she shall receive the loser's prize money and ranking points for reaching the round in which she withdrew, except that:

- i. A Qualifier withdrawing in the 1st round of Qualifying receives no prize money, and the Tournament shall not count on her record.
- ii. A Qualifier who has not played a match in the Qualifying Draw and advances to the Main Draw will not receive Qualifier points.
- iii. A Qualifier withdrawing in the 1st round of the Main Draw receives prize money equal to last round Qualifying prize money.
- iv. A player accepted directly into the Main Draw who withdraws in the 1st round will receive no prize money, and the Tournament shall not count on her record.

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- v. A player who receives a walkover in any round except the 1st round after having played and won a match shall be awarded ranking points for a walkover from an opponent. For any disciplinary default occurring in a Tournament after the match begins, the advancing player will be awarded ranking points over her opponent.
- vi. If a player receives one (1) or more consecutive byes and loses her 1st match played, 1st round losers' points will be awarded, and the player shall receive prize money for the round reached.
- vii. If a player receives one (1) or more consecutive byes and defaults her next round, no ranking points shall be awarded, the Tournament will not count on her record, and no prize money shall be paid out.

b. Doubles

If a doubles team withdraws from a Tournament, their prize money and ranking points are calculated as follows: (i) the non-withdrawing partner shall receive prize money and ranking points per the round she withdrew; and (ii) the partner causing the withdrawal shall receive the prize money and ranking points from the previous round, unless one (1) of the following apply, in which case the withdrawing partner shall receive prize money and ranking points per the round she withdrew: (a) the player also withdraws from playing singles in a Tournament to be held the following week at the time she withdraws from doubles; (b) the player withdraws/retires from a singles match which was scheduled during the same Tournament; or (c) the player does not play singles in a tennis event the following week. The Tournament shall retain the difference in prize money.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the following exceptions apply:

- i. In the event the partner causing the withdrawal is declared unfit to play singles or doubles at the same tournament, both players shall receive prize money per the round they withdrew.
- ii. A team accepted directly into the Main Draw who withdraws in the 1st round will receive no prize money, and the Tournament shall not count on their record.
- iii. A team who receives a walkover in any round except the 1st round after having played and won a match shall be awarded ranking points for a walkover from an opponent. For any disciplinary default occurring in a Tournament after the match

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begins, the advancing team will be awarded ranking points over their opponent.

- iv. If a team receives one (1) or more consecutive byes and loses their 1st match played, 1st round losers' points will be awarded, and the team shall receive prize money for the round reached.
- v. If a team receives one (1) or more consecutive byes and defaults their next round, no ranking points shall be awarded, the Tournament will not count on their record, and no prize money shall be paid out.

#### **2. WTA Finals and WTA Elite Trophy**

For withdrawals during the WTA Finals and WTA Elite Trophy, see Section IX.

#### **3. Prize Money and Ranking Points for Wild Cards**

Players or teams who receive Wild Cards are awarded the same ranking points and prize money as any other players.

### **D. SINGLES AND DOUBLES CANCELLATIONS**

#### **1. Tournament Cancellation Without Play Occurring**

If the singles or doubles event of a Tournament is cancelled due to poor weather and there has been no play, 1st round prize money will be paid out to the players.

#### **2. Tournament Cancellation After Play Has Begun**

If play has commenced and been terminated before the Tournament is concluded, players will be paid loser's prize money for the individual round reached. Additionally, if the 1st round has been completed, all players/teams will receive ranking points earned through the last completed round only, and the Tournament will count as a Tournament played.

#### **3. Tournament Cancellation Without Completion of Finals**

If a Tournament is officially terminated, and the finals have not been completed, the finalists will each receive finalist's prize money and ranking points. The difference between the winner and finalist prize money will revert back to the Tournament. (See Rescheduling of Finals – Section III.D.8.)

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**E. PRIZE MONEY BREAKDOWNS**

The Prize Money Breakdowns are available on the official WTA website as well as on the PlayerZone and TournamentZone websites.

Any Tournament whose prize money or draw does not fall into one of the breakdowns should contact the WTA for an approved breakdown.





### **XI. PRIZE MONEY FORMULA**

#### **A. PRIZE MONEY FORMULA**

Each Premier Mandatory, Premier 5 and Premier 700 Tournament held during the period from the 2014 Tour Year through the 2018 Tour Year shall be required to pay players a minimum amount of compensation pursuant to the prize money formula provided for in this Section XI ("PMF").

For the purpose of this Section XI, the term "Minimum Player Compensation" or "MPC" shall mean, with respect to any Tournament, the Tournament's minimum gross publicized compensation paid to players (i.e., announced prize money). For the avoidance of doubt, Barter (as defined below) shall not constitute compensation for purposes of this paragraph.

Any new Premier 5 or Premier 700 Tournament shall be excluded from the MPC calculations set forth in sub-Sections C.2 and C.3 below until the Tournament has submitted at least two (2) years of PSI data (i.e., a Final Report pursuant to sub-Section E.1 which shall include actual PSI for the initial year of such event and actual PSI for such event for the following Tour Year).

If a Premier 5 or Premier 700 Tournament changes locations during the term of this PMF and the new location is in the same country as the prior location, the MPC calculations shall include the actual results of the Tournament for each applicable year, subject to the PMF Committee's discretion.

If a Premier 5 or Premier 700 Tournament changes locations during the term of this PMF and the new location is in a different country than the prior location, such Tournament's MPC will be determined as follows:

- Year 1 of new Tournament: MPC will be equal to the MPC of the prior location.
- Year 2 of new Tournament: Year 1 MPC increased by 3%.
- Year 3 of new Tournament: Year 2 MPC multiplied by the respective Tournament's PSI Growth from (x) Year 1 to (y) Year 2.
- Year 4 of new Tournament: Year 3 MPC multiplied by the respective Tournament's PSI Growth from (x) average PSI for Year 1 and Year 2, to (y) average PSI for Year 2 and Year 3.

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- Year 5 of new Tournament: MPC to be calculated in accordance with Article XI.A.2 (Premier 5) or Article XI.A.3 (Premier 700) (applying the three-year averages).

### 1. Premier Mandatory Tournaments

The MPC for each Premier Mandatory Tournament shall be equal to the total on-site prize money paid to men tennis players participating in such event (for Beijing, equal to the ATP Shanghai 1000 event).

### 2. Premier 5 Tournaments

The Minimum Player Compensation for Premier 5 Tournaments shall be equal to the amount set forth below next to the applicable Tour Year:

2013	\$2,369,000
2014	<p>MPC will be calculated on an individual Tournament basis as follows:</p> <p>For each individual Tournament, the product of the Tournament's MPC for 2013 (\$2,369,000 as noted above) multiplied by the respective Tournament's PSI Growth from (x) the average Individual Tournament PSI for 2010, 2011 and 2012 to (y) the average Individual Tournament PSI for 2011, 2012 and 2013, as determined pursuant to Section XI.E below and subject to adjustment pursuant to Section XI.A.5 below, but not less than \$2,440,000.</p>
2015	<p>MPC will be calculated on an individual Tournament basis as follows:</p> <p>For each individual Tournament, the product of the Tournament's MPC for 2014 multiplied by the respective Tournament's PSI Growth from (x) the average Individual Tournament PSI for 2011, 2012 and 2013 to (y) the average Individual Tournament PSI for 2012, 2013 and 2014, as determined pursuant to Section XI.E below and subject to adjustment pursuant to Section XI.A.5 below, but not less than \$2,513,000.</p>

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2016	<p>MPC will be calculated on an individual Tournament basis as follows:</p> <p>For each individual Tournament, the product of the Tournament's MPC for 2015 multiplied by the respective Tournament's PSI Growth from (x) the average Individual Tournament PSI for 2012, 2013 and 2014 to (y) the average Individual Tournament PSI for 2013, 2014 and 2015, as determined pursuant to Section XI.E below and subject to adjustment pursuant to Section XI.A.5 below, but not less than \$2,589,000.</p>
2017	<p>MPC will be calculated on an individual Tournament basis as follows:</p> <p>For each individual Tournament, the product of the Tournament's MPC for 2016 multiplied by the respective Tournament's PSI Growth from (x) the average Individual Tournament PSI for 2013, 2014 and 2015 to (y) the average Individual Tournament PSI for 2014, 2015 and 2016, as determined pursuant to Section XI.E below and subject to adjustment pursuant to Section XI.A.5 below, but not less than \$2,666,000.</p>
2018	<p>MPC will be calculated on an individual Tournament basis as follows:</p> <p>For each individual Tournament, the product of the Tournament's MPC for 2017 multiplied by the respective Tournament's PSI Growth from (x) the average Individual Tournament PSI for 2014, 2015 and 2016 to (y) the average Individual Tournament PSI for 2015, 2016 and 2017, as determined pursuant to Section XI.E below and subject to adjustment pursuant to Section XI.A.5 below, but not less than \$2,746,000.</p>

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**3. Premier 700 Tournaments**

The Minimum Player Compensation for Premier 700 Tournaments shall be equal to the amount set forth below next to the applicable Tour Year:

2014	For each individual Tournament, MPC will be \$710,000.
2015	<p>MPC will be calculated on an individual Tournament basis as follows:</p> <p>For each individual Tournament, the product of the Tournament's MPC for 2014 (\$710,000 as noted above) multiplied by the respective Tournament's PSI Growth from (x) the average Individual Tournament PSI for 2011, 2012 and 2013 to (y) the average Individual Tournament PSI for 2012, 2013 and 2014, as determined pursuant to Section XI.E below, but not less than \$731,000.</p>
2016	<p>MPC will be calculated on an individual Tournament basis as follows:</p> <p>For each individual Tournament, the product of the Tournament's MPC for 2015 multiplied by the respective Tournament's PSI Growth from (x) the average Individual Tournament PSI for 2012, 2013 and 2014 to (y) the average Individual Tournament PSI for 2013, 2014 and 2015, as determined pursuant to Section XI.E below, but not less than \$753,000.</p>
2017	<p>MPC will be calculated on an individual Tournament basis as follows:</p> <p>For each individual Tournament, the product of the Tournament's MPC for 2016 multiplied by the respective Tournament's PSI Growth from (x) the average Individual Tournament PSI for 2013, 2014 and 2015 to (y) the average Individual Tournament PSI for 2014, 2015 and 2016, as determined pursuant to Section XI.E below, but not less than \$776,000.</p>

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2018	<p>MPC will be calculated on an individual Tournament basis as follows:</p> <p>For each individual Tournament, the product of the Tournament's MPC for 2017 multiplied by the respective Tournament's PSI Growth from (x) the average Individual Tournament PSI for 2014, 2015 and 2016 to (y) the average Individual Tournament PSI for 2015, 2016 and 2017, as determined pursuant to Section XI.E below, but not less than \$799,000.</p>
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**4. International Tournaments**

For the 2018 Tour Year, each International Tournament shall be required to pay MPC of at least \$250,000. The Board of Directors may, in its sole discretion, mandate MPC increases for International Tournaments for the 2018 Tour Year.

**5. Player Commitment**

Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions, any increase in the Minimum Player Compensation for the Premier 5 Tournaments will be subject to the following adjustments in the event any Tournament in such category does not receive the Player Commitment provided for in Section VI.A. In the event any Tournament does not receive Player Commitment in a particular Tour Year ("Prior Year"), such Tournament will be considered an "Exempt Tournament" for purposes of the PMF and, in the Tour Year immediately following the Prior Year ("Next Year"), such Tournament will be required to pay player compensation equal to the Tournament's Minimum Player Compensation calculated for the Prior Year.

For purposes of calculating the Exempt Tournament's MPC for a subsequent Tour Year (in which the Tournament received Player Commitment and is thus not an Exempt Tournament for such subsequent Tour Year), the Tournament's PSI Growth will be multiplied by the Prior Year's MPC as if the Tournament received player commitment in all prior years. The below examples in sub-Sections a and b include the following assumptions:

Assumptions for Tournament X:  
2016 MPC = \$2,500,000  
PSI Growth for 2016 MPC = 5%  
PSI Growth for 2017 MPC = 4%

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- a. Example #1 – Calculation of 2017 MPC with Missed Player Commitment in 2015, and Player Commitment received in 2016

2017 MPC: If Tournament X receives Player Commitment in 2016, when determining 2017 MPC, PSI Growth will be multiplied by 2016 MPC calculated as if the Tournament received Player Commitment in prior years. In this case 2017, MPC would be \$2,730,000, calculated as follows:

- i. Calculate 2016 MPC as if the Tournament received Player Commitment in prior years - 2015 MPC of \$2,500,000 increased by 5%, which is the PSI Growth for 2016 MPC prior to reflecting the adjustment for Missed Player Commitment in 2015.

$$\$2,500,000 * 1.05 = \$2,625,0000$$

- ii. 2016 MPC calculated in (i) above increased by 4% which is the PSI Growth for 2017 MPC.

$$\$2,625,000 * 1.04 = \$2,730,000$$

- b. Example #2 – Calculation of 2017 MPC with Missed Player Commitment in both 2015 and 2016

2017 MPC: If Tournament X does not receive Player Commitment in 2015 and 2016, that Tournament's MPC for 2017 will be \$2,500,000, which is equal to their MPC for 2015 and 2016 (no increase in 2017 MPC due to missed Player Commitment in 2015 and 2016).

A Tournament will only be an Exempt Tournament for the Tour Year immediately following the Tour Year in which such Tournament did not receive its Player Commitment.

The terms of this sub-Section 5 shall not apply to Premier Mandatory Tournaments, as to which any absence of Player Commitment shall result in the consequences specified in Section VI.B.

**6. Not a Maximum**

Nothing in this Section XI shall prevent a Tournament from paying play- er compensation in excess of the Minimum Player Compensation. For the avoidance of doubt, in the event any Tournament has been approved to pay player compensation in excess of the Minimum Player Compensation, and the Minimum Player Compensation increases from the prior Tour Year, such Tournament will not be required to increase its player compensation further. (For example, if a Tournament is paying

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110% of the Minimum Player Compensation and the Minimum Player Compensation increases by 5%, such Tournament will not be required to increase its player compensation for that Tour Year.)

**B. ALLOCATION OF ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION**

Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions, the Board of Directors may, in its sole discretion, allocate any increase in Minimum Player Compensation resulting from PSI Growth in excess of the guaranteed minimum (i.e., the amounts set forth in Sections XI.A.2 and XI.A.3 following the words “but in no event less than”) to payments made to or for the benefit of players that are not traditional prize money. Such payments to or for the benefit of players may include, but are not limited to, additional compensation for particular players (such as top players), contributions to the WTBA and compensation to players for promotional activities and other services. However, increases in Minimum Player Compensation cannot be used to fund benefits that players already receive prior to such allocation.

For example, if PSI Growth for a Premier 5 Tournament from 2012 to 2013 equals 5%, then Minimum Player Compensation for the 2014 Premier 5 Tournament will be \$2,487,450 (i.e., \$2,369,000 x 1.05). Therefore, the Board of Directors may allocate \$47,450 for the Premier 5 Tournament (i.e., the difference between \$2,487,450 and \$2,440,000) to payments other than traditional prize money.

**C. DEFINITIONS**

**1. Primary Sources of Income**

“Individual Tournament Primary Sources of Income” or “Individual Tournament PSI” for any individual Tournament, as applicable, in any Tour Year shall be equal to, without duplication:

- a. the aggregate revenues in respect of any advertising, sponsorship and promotion relating to such Tournament (including the value of any property or services from any Barter), net of all Taxes (as defined below), receivable by such Tournament or their Tournament Affiliates (as defined below) in respect of such Tour Year (as determined by the PMF Committee (as defined below)), including all revenues from any Tournament sponsor or advertiser in any form, irrespective of how such revenues are characterized by the Tournament or Tournament Affiliate (e.g., including any payments in respect of tickets, premium seating, hospitality, naming rights, etc. by any sponsor that are made in connection with such sponsor’s arrangement with the Tournament or Tournament Affiliate, in each case, subject to Section XI.F.6); plus



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- b. the aggregate revenues (including the value of any property or services from any Barter) in respect of any sale, licensing or other exploitation of Television Rights, net of all Taxes, receivable by such Tournament or their Tournament Affiliates in respect of such Tour Year (as determined by the PMF Committee); plus
- c. the aggregate revenues (including the value of any property or services from any Barter) in respect of any sale, lease or license of, without duplication, (i) tickets and other gate receipts, (ii) luxury suites, premium or club seating and seat licenses, (iii) hospitality packages, and (iv) any other form of admission (including any payments or rebates from any ticketing agent), in each case, net of Taxes and any Ticketing Fees (as defined below) retained by any ticketing agent, receivable by such Tournament or their Tournament Affiliates in respect of such Tour Year (as determined by the PMF Committee) (collectively, "Admission Rights"); plus
- d. the aggregate payments receivable by such Tournament or their Tournament Affiliates from the WTA (except for any payments for which the WTBA is due a like-kind amount, which shall be accounted for as Non-WTA revenues, and except for payments from the WTA related to Missed Player Commitment, which shall be accounted for as Non-PSI revenues), including, without limitation, payments from the WTA for commercial benefits or television; minus
- e. for each Tournament that received a Capital Credit (as defined below) for such Tour Year, the product of (x) such Capital Credit, multiplied by (y) a fraction, the numerator of which shall be the total player compensation paid by such Tournament for such Tour Year, and the denominator shall be the total actual, estimated or projected (as applicable) PSI of such Tournament and its Tournament Affiliates for such Tour Year. The Capital Credits may not reduce the increase in any Tournament's PSI below \$0.
- f. Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this Section XI.C.1, PSI for any individual Tournament shall always equal or exceed 85% of such Tournament's Aggregate WTA Revenues (defined below) (as determined by the PMF Committee, subject to Section XI.D.6). In the event PSI would otherwise be less than 85% of the Tournament's Aggregate WTA Revenues, the PMF Committee shall adjust the calculation of PSI by including the Tournament's next largest revenue category (from among those identified in the following sentence) in the calculation of PSI until the PSI for the Tournament equals or exceeds 85% of the Tournament's Aggregate Revenues, and any revenue categories so included shall continue to be included in the calculation of the PSI for the Tournament going forward. The eligible

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revenue categories include, but are not limited to (i.e., new or currently unknown categories may be included), merchandise, parking and food and beverage. For purposes of this calculation, any Barter which is excluded from the calculation of PSI pursuant to sub-Sections C.5a(i), (ii) and (iii) shall not be included in the Tournament's Aggregate Revenues.

"Tournament Aggregate WTA Revenues" shall be the sum of PSI and Non-PSI. "Non-PSI" shall be defined as any and all revenues related to the Tournament other than those revenues included in PSI, including, but not limited to, merchandise, parking and food and beverage.

Any and all revenues unrelated to the Tournament shall be considered "Non-WTA" and are not to be included in the determination of "Tournament Aggregate WTA Revenues". Examples of Non-WTA revenues may include, but not be limited to, developmental tennis academies or activities, rentals or other revenues related to non-WTA events held at the stadium throughout the year but outside of the Tournament period, and any Barter which is excluded from the calculation of PSI pursuant to sub-Sections C.5.a(i), (ii) and (iii).

- g. If any Tournament or Tournament Affiliate receives payment from the WTA related to a tier downgrade or other sanction, such payment(s) shall be classified as Non-WTA revenues and excluded from the calculation of PSI, Non-PSI and Tournament Aggregate WTA Revenues.

**2. PSI Growth**

"PSI Growth" from Period A to Period B shall be equal to the sum of (i) one, plus (ii) the percentage difference, expressed as a decimal and rounded to the nearest hundredth of 1%, between PSI for Period A and PSI for Period B (the "PSI Percentage Increase"), minus (iii) an "Expense Credit", expressed as a decimal, determined as follows:

<b>PSI Percentage Increase</b>	<b>Expense Credit</b>
Less than 7.00%	3.00%
Equal to or greater than 7.00% but less than 7.50%	2.00%
Equal to or greater than 7.50% but less than 8.00%	1.50%
Equal to or greater than 8.00%	1.00%

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provided, however, that in no event may the Expense Credit for any period exceed the PSI Percentage Increase for such period (i.e., the result of the calculation for any period may never be less than zero).

**3. Capital Credits**

The purpose of “Capital Credits” is to provide an incentive for Tournaments to make capital investments in their stadia and other facilities. For 2014 through 2018, the Capital Credit for any Tournament shall be equal to the actual amount of depreciation for all capital items (determined in accordance with IFRS or US GAAP (as such terms are defined below), as applicable) for Pre-Approved Capital Projects (as defined below) to the extent recorded by a Tournament or its Tournament Affiliate in accordance with IFRS or US GAAP (as applicable), applied on a straight-line method over the depreciable life of the applicable capital item (not to exceed 20 years) commencing with the first Tour Year in which such capital item is placed in service by the applicable Tournament or Tournament Affiliate.

For any Tournament that has multiple Capital Credits, the Capital Credits each year are limited to the amount of the Tournament’s annual PSI increase. Any unused or unrealized Capital Credits will not be carried forward to subsequent years.

For example, if a Tournament has Capital Credits of \$45,000 in 2013 and \$25,000 in 2014, the Tournament’s PSI increase before the Capital Credit would have to be at least \$45,000 in 2013 and \$70,000 (\$45,000 plus \$25,000) in 2014 in order to receive the full Capital Credit. If the Tournament’s PSI increase from 2013 to 2014 before the Capital Credit was \$55,000, their Capital Credit would be limited to \$55,000.

“IFRS” means International Financial Reporting Standards, consistently applied.

“Pre-Approved Capital Projects” are those capital projects that (a) are placed in service by a Tournament or Tournament Affiliate on or after January 1, 2009, (b) constitute improvements to a Tournament’s tennis stadium, arena or other facility that the Tournament demonstrates to the satisfaction of the PMF Committee is likely to result in growth in PSI, and (c) are approved in advance by the Board of Directors upon the recommendation of the PMF Committee.

“US GAAP” means United States generally accepted accounting principles, consistently applied.

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**4. Tournament Affiliates**

For purposes of this Section XI, the term "Tournament Affiliate" means, with respect to any Tournament, any entity that is (a) involved in the operation, marketing or broadcast of such Tournament's event and (b) either (i) an operator of such Tournament, or an owner of, or an entity that controls, in either case whether directly or indirectly, a 30% or greater equity interest in such Tournament (an "Owner/Operator"), (ii) an entity in which an Owner/Operator owns, directly or indirectly, a 30% or greater equity interest, or (iii) otherwise in control of, controlled by or under common control with any Owner/Operator.

Any and all revenues received by a Tournament Affiliate of any Tournament shall be included in the calculation of PSI, as if such revenues had been received by such Tournament itself, subject to exclusions for Non-WTA activity as described below.

**5. Other Definitions**

For purposes of this Section XI:

- a. The term "Barter" shall mean the value of any trade for goods or services receivable by a Tournament or Tournament Affiliate in exchange for any of the revenues that are included in the calculation of PSI under Section XI.C.1. All Barter, regardless of whether the Barter is utilized by the Tournament or by the Tournament Affiliate, shall be included in the calculation of PSI, except for the following
  - i. any Barter consisting of media commitments for promotional time or space that are not for resale and are used solely (a) to promote the Tournament, (b) to promote the WTA or any related event or activity of the Tournament that generates PSI, (c) to promote charitable or not-for-profit organizations or agencies that are unrelated to the Tournament or Tournament Affiliate, or (d) for public service announcements;
  - ii. any Barter that is both used to satisfy the Tournament Standards of Performance and is for the direct benefit of the players. Such direct player benefits include, but are not limited to, hotel accommodations; player transportation; player food, meals and beverages; lounge for players; Internet access for players; and gifting and on-court supplies for players; and
  - iii. any Barter that is transferred to a third party as part of an agreement that produces revenues that are included in the calculation of PSI under Section XI.C.1.

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- b. The term "Television Rights" means any and all rights to transmit the audio-visual depictions of matches, whether whole or partial, for reception by the public by any means and in any form now known or hereafter devised. "Television Rights" shall include the right to transmit such depictions to "in-flight" devices, computers, cellular telephones, handhelds, PDAs and other mobile devices capable of receiving the transmission of such depictions.
- c. The term "Taxes" means any and all taxes, surcharges, levies, impositions and other charges imposed or assessed on any Tournament or Tournament Affiliate by any governmental or quasi- governmental authority that are not refunded to, or otherwise received as a benefit by, such Tournament or Tournament Affiliate in any form, except for any taxes, surcharges, levies, impositions and other charges that (x) are imposed or assessed on the total income or revenues of any person or entity, or (y) are imposed or assessed specifically on or against the activities conducted by such Tournament or Tournament Affiliate at the site of the event, or any income, revenues, profits or other consideration generated there from (unless the tax, surcharge, levy, imposition or charge applies to the same or similar activities conducted by a reasonably broad range of other businesses or persons in the applicable jurisdiction or income, revenues, profits or other consideration there- from, and otherwise qualifies under this definition of "Taxes").
- d. The term "Ticketing Fees" means any and all fees, convenience charges, surcharges or other charges imposed on any Tournament or Tournament Affiliate by any ticketing agent on the purchase of tickets or other Admission Rights that are not refunded to such Tournament or Tournament Affiliate.

**D. PMF COMMITTEE**

- 1. A committee ("PMF Committee") shall be appointed as provided below to assist in all matters relating to the establishment, implementation, interpretation, administration and calculation of the PMF.
- 2. The PMF Committee will consist of (a) one (1) Player Board Representative selected by a majority vote of the Player Board Representatives (the "Player Representative Member"), (b) one (1) designee of the Player Board Representatives, who shall be selected by a majority vote of the Player Board Representatives and shall have experience in accounting matters (together with the Player Representative Member, the "Player Committee Members"), (c) one (1) Tournament Board Representative selected by a majority of the Tournament Board Representatives (the "Tournament Representative Member"), (d) one (1) designee of the

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Tournament Board Representatives, who shall be selected by a majority vote of the Tournament Board Representatives and shall have experience in accounting matters (together with the Tournament Representative Member, the "Tournament Committee Members"), and (e) the CEO. Members of the PMF Committee (other than the CEO) may be removed and replaced at any time by (x) in the case of any Player Committee Member, a majority vote of the Player Board Representatives, and (y) in the case of any Tournament Committee Member, a majority vote of the Tournament Board Representatives. Only the Player Representative Member and the Tournament Representative Member shall be entitled to vote in any proceedings or deliberations of the PMF Committee. The other members of the PMF Committee will be entitled to participate in all such proceedings and deliberations (unless otherwise mutually determined by the Player Representative Member and the Tournament Representative Member) but shall not be entitled to vote.

3. Subject to Section XI.D.6 below, the PMF Committee will be responsible, in the first instance, for determining any and all issues that may arise from time to time with respect to the establishment, interpretation, implementation, administration or calculation of the PMF. All decisions and actions of the PMF Committee shall be determined by the unanimous vote of the Player Representative Member and the Tournament Representative Member. In the absence of such a unanimous vote, the PMF Committee shall not be deemed to have made any decision or taken any action. A quorum shall exist only when both the Player Representative Member and the Tournament Representative Member are present; in the absence of such a quorum, the PMF Committee shall not conduct any business whatsoever. The PMF Committee shall, if requested by any member of the PMF Committee or any member of the Board of Directors, set forth its decision in a written memorandum.
4. The PMF Committee shall also be responsible for (a) appointing an independent accounting firm (the "Independent Auditor") to assist the PMF Committee in developing and overseeing the system of Tournament reporting, to perform certain procedures on Tournament reports, to report on the results of such procedures and to assist the PMF Committee in its calculation of the Minimum Player Compensation utilizing information reported by the Local Accountants (as defined below) and by the Independent Auditor through such procedures (together with any other information otherwise received by the Independent Auditor and as the PMF Committee may determine from time to time), (b) recommending in advance any Capital Credits for eligible capital projects, and (c) reviewing and ratifying the Independent Auditor's calculation of the Minimum Player Compensation for each Tour Year in accordance with this Section XI.

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5. The PMF Committee shall meet or consult with representatives of the Independent Auditor at least four (4) times (quarterly) during each Tour Year, including (a) at least once prior to March 31 of the Tour Year to review the scope of the Procedures (as defined below) and (b) again to review the results of the Procedures prior to finalizing the calculation of Minimum Player Compensation for Individual Tournaments the following Tour Year.
  
6. If the PMF Committee does not resolve an issue by the unanimous vote of the Player Representative Member and the Tournament Representative Member required under Section XI.D.3 within 90 days after the issue has been disclosed to the PMF Committee (unless such period is extended for a further defined period by the PMF Committee in accordance with Section XI.D.3 above), the matter shall be referred to an independent mediator (the "Mediator"). The Mediator shall not have any relationship to the WTA (including, without limitation, any relationship to or with any member of the WTA, any member of the PMF Committee, the Independent Auditor or WTA management) that could reasonably be expected to interfere with the exercise of such person's independent judgment. The Mediator shall be appointed by the unanimous consent of the Board of Directors, after consultation with the CEO. If the Board of Directors is unable to agree on the appointment of the Mediator within a reasonable period of time, either the Player Representative Member or the Tournament Representative Member may request that the Mediator be appointed by the AAA. The Mediator shall serve for a defined term of no less than one (1) year (or a term of one (1) year, if appointed by the AAA), but may be discharged at any time by the unanimous consent of the Player Board Representatives and the Tournament Board Representatives. All proceedings conducted by or otherwise involving the Mediator shall be conducted in a cost-effective manner, with presentations by videoconference whenever such means are less costly than a live hearing. The Mediator shall set forth his or her recommended resolution in a written memorandum within 60 days of the date the mediation commenced (unless such period is extended for a further defined period with the unanimous consent of the Board of Directors). If the issue is not fully resolved by the unanimous vote of the Player Representative Member and the Tournament Representative Member required under Section XI.D.3 within 10 days after the Mediator's issuance of his or her recommended resolution, any Player Board Representative, any Tournament Board Representative, the WTBA or any Tournament may refer the issue to arbitration for final and binding resolution in accordance with Section XVIII.A. below. The recommendation of the Mediator shall be kept strictly confidential, and shall not be disclosed to or considered by any arbitrator appointed pursuant to Section XVIII.A.

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**E. REPORTING SYSTEM**

1. On an annual basis, each Tournament shall prepare and submit to the PMF Committee, a complete report of its actual PSI and other financial results for such event (including all business and operations related to the event conducted by any Tournament Affiliate), in the form prescribed from time-to-time by the PMF Committee (a "Final Report"). In accordance with Article XI.H each Tournament's Final Report must be received by the PMF Committee within 90 days after the conclusion of its event.
2. The PMF Committee shall determine each Tournament's Minimum Player Compensation for the following Tour Year in accordance with the PMF, based on the actual PSI and other financial results set forth in the Tournament Final Reports submitted pursuant to Section XI.E.1. Such determinations shall be calculated individually for each Tournament and communicated to each Tournament as follows:
  - a. Projected calculation of the following Tour Year's MPC will be provided to the Tournament within 30 days after the Tournament's submission of their Final Report for the prior year; and
  - b. The final level of MPC for the following Tour Year will be provided to the Tournament at the next quarterly meeting of the PMF Committee.
3. The Independent Auditor shall review each Tournament's financial results and the reasonableness of any estimates or projections of revenues, expenses or Capital Credits included in the Final Reports and may propose adjustments to such estimates or projections as the Independent Auditor deems appropriate, provided, that, subject to Section XI.D.6, the determination of all calculations shall be made by the PMF Committee.
4. Unless otherwise determined by the PMF Committee, all Reports shall be prepared in accordance with IFRS (or, with respect to any Tournament held in the United States, US GAAP), this Section XI and the instructions to the various Reports (collectively, including IFRS or US GAAP (as applicable) and this Section XI, the "Reporting Requirements"). To the extent of any conflict or inconsistency between IFRS or US GAAP and the terms of this Section XI or any instructions to the various Reports, the terms of this Section XI or such instructions shall control.
5. All Final Reports shall be certified by the principal owner of the Tournament and the Tournament's tournament director as fairly presenting, in all material respects, the results of operations of the Tournament (including all business and operations conducted by any Tournament Affiliate), in accordance with the Reporting Requirements.



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6. Each Tournament shall have its Final Report reviewed by such Tournament's independent accountants (the "Local Accountants"), who shall issue a report thereon to the PMF Committee. Furthermore, the PMF Committee may require any Tournament to submit such supplemental financial or other information as the PMF Committee may request from time-to-time.
7. The PMF Committee may from time-to-time, subject to Section XI.D.6, promulgate, amend and modify rules and interpretations under this Section XI, including, without limitations, financial reporting procedures and requirements and the forms for the various Reports.

**F. ACCOUNTING RULES**

1. PSI shall be calculated exclusively pursuant to the accrual method of financial accounting and not, for any purpose, the cash method of financial accounting.
2. For the purpose of calculating PSI, any Barter shall be valued at the fair market value of the goods or services received by the Tournament or Tournament Affiliate.
3. If any Tournament or Tournament Affiliate receives guaranteed cash payments (including any up-front or lump-sum payment) in the first year of any agreement that produces PSI that exceeds the average annual guaranteed cash payments due under such agreement (which average shall be calculated by dividing the aggregate guaranteed cash payments payable under such agreement, including the guaranteed cash payments payable in the first year, by the total number of years of the scheduled term of the agreement, excluding options to extend and customary early termination rights), the amount of such excess shall be deemed to have been received ratably by such Tournament or Tournament Affiliate over the scheduled term of such agreement, unless such scheduled term exceeds seven (7) years, in which case, such amount shall be deemed to have been received ratably over the first seven (7) years of such scheduled term, with interest at an appropriate rate determined by the PMF Committee.
4. If any Tournament or Tournament Affiliate receives guaranteed cash payments in any other year of any such agreement that exceed the average annual guaranteed cash payments due under such agreement (calculated as described in Section XI.F.3 above), the PMF Committee may, subject to Section XI.D.6, allocate such excess over any period during the scheduled term of the agreement as the PMF Committee deems appropriate. Furthermore, if the PMF Committee determines that the payment schedule in any multi-year agreement is disproportionate to the alloca-

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tion of rights or benefits receivable or conveyed thereunder (allowing for reasonable annual payment increases), the Committee may, subject to Section XI.D.6, reallocate such payments over such period as the PMF Committee deems appropriate.

5. Any and all revenues receivable by a Tournament Affiliate of any Tournament shall be included in the calculation of PSI, as if such revenues had been receivable by such Tournament itself, subject to Section XI.F.6 below.
6. PSI shall only include those revenues that are attributable to a WTA Tournament and shall exclude revenues to the extent they are attributable to any other events (other than events that are held as a part of, or in connection with, a WTA Tournament, such as, without limitation, a concert held at the Tournament site during and as part of the Tournament). The PMF Committee shall, subject to Section XI.D.6, determine the allocation of any payments receivable by any Tournament or Tournament Affiliate between (x) those amounts that are attributable to a WTA Tournament and (y) those amounts that are attributable any ATP or other men's tournament held by such Tournament or any of its Tournament Affiliates or any other events for which the payor has acquired rights.
7. For Tournaments that are played simultaneously with an ATP tournament (combined) or before/after an ATP tournament (back-to-back), any domestic broadcasting and/or sponsorship contracts sold by the parent company that include broadcasting/sponsorship elements combined for both the WTA and ATP events shall be recorded in PSI at 50% of the total value of the shared contracts.

If a Tournament has domestic broadcasting contracts which separately cover the WTA and ATP events, PSI shall include 100% of the revenues related to the WTA contract and all revenues related to the ATP contract shall be excluded from PSI.

Any other revenues which are generated during the ATP and WTA tournaments (e.g., admission rights) shall be recorded in PSI at 50%, unless the Tournament is able to specifically identify the revenues related to only the WTA Tournament, in which case these WTA specific revenues shall be included in PSI at 100%.

This methodology shall be applied consistently for each reporting Tour Year.

8. If the PMF Committee determines that any Tournament or any of its Tournament Affiliates has entered into one or more transactions for the purpose of circumventing the PMF, the Tournament shall be subject to

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an appropriate remedy as determined by the Board of Directors upon the recommendation of the PMF Committee (including, without limitation, the imposition of an appropriate Fine and/or the reallocation or imputation of PSI in one or more Tour Years).

9. Complimentary tickets and other Admission Rights shall be excluded from PSI, up to a maximum per Tour Year determined on an annual basis by the PMF Committee based on historical averages.
10. Any recovery by any Tournament or Tournament Affiliate under any business interruption insurance policy or any other insurance policy shall be included in PSI, but solely to the extent that such recovery compensates such Tournament or Tournament Affiliate for lost revenues that would otherwise have been included in PSI. The amount of such recovery shall be included in PSI net of any premiums paid for the policies under which such party recovers, any deductible and any unreimbursed out-of-pocket expenses arising out of or related to the events giving rise to such recovery.
11. All revenues described in this Section XI shall be based on U.S. dollars or, with respect to any revenues received in any non-U.S. currency, the U.S. dollar equivalent converted at the average daily exchange rate for the year in which such revenues are received (or, with respect to any revenues accrued but not actually received, the year of such accrual).
12. The PMF Committee may, subject to Section XI.D.6, develop such additional accounting rules and procedures as it may deem appropriate from time-to-time.

## **G. AUDITS**

The PMF Committee (through the Independent Auditor) and the WTBA (through an independent public accounting firm selected and engaged by the WTBA for such purpose) shall each have the right to audit the books and records of each Tournament and its Tournament Affiliates to confirm that such Tournament's Final Reports are complete and accurate, subject to the provisions of this Section XI.G.

Each Tournament shall be audited by the PMF Committee at least once every three (3) years. The PMF Committee may audit any Tournament more frequently if it so determines in its discretion. With respect to each such audit, the PMF Committee shall instruct the Independent Auditor to perform certain procedures on the Final Reports and other financial information submitted by the Tournaments, which procedures may be modified or supplemented by the PMF Committee from time-to-time

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(the “Procedures”). The Independent Auditor may rely on the procedures performed by each Tournament’s Local Accountants or may test such procedures as directed by the PMF Committee.

The WTBA shall have the independent right each Tour Year to audit up to three (3) Tournaments at its own expense, provided that no Tournament shall be audited by the WTBA more than once in any three (3) year period, unless the previous audit by the PMF Committee or the WTBA revealed that such Tournament’s Final Report contained any material misstatement or material omission (as determined by the PMF Committee, subject to Section XI.D.6).

Each Tournament and its Tournament Affiliates shall make available to the PMF Committee, the Independent Auditor, the independent accounting firm of the WTBA and their respective agents copies of all documents, agreements, financial statements, books and records relating to its event, PSI, Capital Credits and other financial results, including any and all work papers of its Local Accountants. No Tournament or Tournament Affiliate shall enter into any agreement that would prohibit or restrict such Tournament or Tournament Affiliate from providing such materials to such parties, limit such parties’ access to such materials or otherwise preclude or impair the ability of the PMF Committee to calculate or review the Minimum Player Compensation.

Any audit of a Tournament undertaken by the PMF Committee or the WTBA under this Section XI.G may encompass such Tournament’s three (3) most recently completed Tour Years and will include all transactions and other information directly or indirectly related to such Tournament’s event with respect to those Tour Years, but may not include any transactions or other information that relates exclusively to any period prior to the start of the 2018 Tour Year. In the event that the Independent Auditor or the WTBA’s independent accounting firm requests any document or other information from any Tournament or Tournament Affiliate with respect to any transaction that the Tournament asserts relates exclusively to a period prior to the start of the 2018 Tour Year, the PMF Committee may require the Tournament to make a sufficient showing of the pertinent time period of such transaction, without having to disclose to such auditor or accountant the substance of the underlying transaction (e.g., by disclosing the time period or “term” provision of a requested contract).

## **H. COMPLIANCE**

Any Tournament that fails to comply with the PMF, or that submits a Report or any other document that contains any material misstatement or material omission, will be considered to be in breach of the Tournament

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### **SECTION XI - PRIZE MONEY FORMULA**

Standards of Performance and will be subject to a Fine and/or other appropriate disciplinary action, including a \$5,000 fine when the 90 day deadline is not met and a \$10,000 to \$25,000 fine for any material misstatement or material omission (except that, notwithstanding anything to the contrary in Section XVII or any other provision of the Rules, the amount of such Fine shall not be subject to any maximum, cap or other limit, other than as provided in such fine schedule). The fines pursuant to this Section are subject to the PMF Committee's discretion. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing sentence, any willful noncompliance with the terms of the PMF shall be deemed grounds for disqualification under and in accordance with Section VII.H.1. In the event any material misstatement or material omission results in any amount of PSI not being included in the PMF calculation for the appropriate Tour Year, such amount shall be included in full in the PMF Committee's next calculation of PSI, with interest based on the Internal Revenue Service standard rate for businesses/corporations, subject to the PMF Committee's discussion based on the circumstances.

#### **I. EXPIRATION**

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Section XI or any other provision of this Rulebook, all of the provisions of this Section XI shall be applicable with respect to the period from the 2014 Tour Year through the 2018 Tour Year and may be extended for additional Tour Years pursuant to this Section XI.I.

Each Tour Year, beginning in 2018, (a) the Player Board Representatives and the Tournament Board Representatives shall meet, not later than March 31 of such Tour Year, to discuss whether to extend the provisions of this Section XI for an additional Tour Year or to terminate the provisions of this Section XI following the end of such Tour Year, and (b) following such discussions, either (i) a majority of the Player Board Representatives or (ii) a majority of the Tournament Board Representatives, may each elect to terminate the provisions of this Section XI by giving written notice to the other members of the Board of Directors not later than July 31 of such Tour Year. In the event such a termination notice is given, the provisions of this Section XI shall remain effective notwithstanding such notice through the end of the Tour Year in which such notice is given and such termination shall become effective on the start of the immediately following Tour Year, provided that in no event shall any such termination be effective prior to the start of the 2019 Tour Year. However, unless a termination notice is delivered by July 31 of any Tour Year, this Section XI shall automatically be extended and shall remain in effect for the entirety of the following Tour Year (in which case, the guaranteed minimum amounts in Sections XI.A.2 and XI.A.3 will be increased for each successive Tour Year in the same proportion as the prior increases in such amounts).

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**SECTION XI - PRIZE MONEY FORMULA**

If the provisions of this Section XI expire, the Board of Directors, in making determinations regarding Minimum Player Compensation requirements (if any) for the first Tour Year after expiration of this Section XI (the "Post-Expiration Year"), will take into account any overage or shortfall with respect to the last Tour Year that this Section XI is in effect that, but for the expiration of this Section XI, would have otherwise resulted in an adjustment to the Minimum Player Compensation for the Post-Expiration Year under Section XI.E.4.

**J. AMENDMENT**

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Section XI or any other provision of this Rulebook, the terms of this Section XI may only be amended by the Board of Directors in its sole discretion, provided, that any amendment to this Section XI shall be deemed to be a "Supermajority Matter" for purposes of the By-laws and this Rulebook.



## **FINANCIAL**

### **XII. TOURNAMENT FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS**

#### **A. TOURNAMENT FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS**

##### **1. All WTA Tournaments (excluding WTA 125K Tournaments)**

Each Premier and International Tournament is obligated to pay:

- a. Prize money (must be paid in US dollars unless authorized by the WTA);
- b. WTA Fees, without deduction for any taxes; and
- c. Bonus Pool amounts, as applicable, without deduction for any taxes.

##### **2. Premier Tournaments**

Each Premier Tournament must participate in Tournament Financial Disclosure. Tournaments that fail to comply will be subject to a fine and/or other disciplinary action

##### **3. Payment Information**

All payments must be directed to:  
Chief Operating Officer | Treasurer  
WTA Tour, Inc.  
100 Second Avenue South, Suite 1100-S  
St. Petersburg, Florida 33701 USA  
Tel.: +1 727 895 5000  
Fax: +1 727 822 3455

Wire transfer information will be provided by the WTA upon request.

#### **B. TOURNAMENT FINANCIAL COMMITMENT**

##### **1. Fee Purpose and Collection Process**

WTA Fees help to fund WTA Operations and Player Services. WTA Fees and the Tournament portion of the Bonus Pool are deducted from each Tournament's minimum prize money.



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**SECTION XII - TOURNAMENT FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS**

**2. Payment Schedule and Amount**

Due Date	Financial Requirement	Amount in Cash, USD		
		International	Premier 700	Premier 5
October 15 year prior or 6 months prior to start of Main Draw	WTA Fee 1st Installment	\$4,500	\$12,000	\$22,500
No later than 30 days prior to start of Main Draw	WTA Fee 2nd Installment	\$18,750	\$53,100	\$98,250
	Bonus Pool Fund	n/a	n/a	\$180,000
	Marketing Fund	n/a	n/a	n/a

Due Date	Financial Requirement	Amount in Cash, USD		
		Premier Mandatory		
		USD\$	USD\$	Euro€
		Indian Wells/Miami	Beijing*	Madrid
October 15 year prior or 6 months prior to start of Main Draw	WTA Fee 1st Installment	\$22,500	\$22,500	€15,371
No later than 30 days prior to start of Main Draw	WTA Fee 2nd Installment	\$303,800	\$303,800	€197,629
	Bonus Pool Fund	\$383,234	\$365,257	€316,591

\*Tentative; subject to change pending final calculation after March 31, 2018.

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**C. FINANCIAL SECURITY REQUIREMENTS**

**1. Timing and Specifications**

Unless otherwise determined by the WTA, each existing Tournament that has owned its membership for three (3) years or less, and all new or transferred memberships for the first three (3) years must submit to the WTA within 30 days after approval on the WTA Calendar, an approved Irrevocable Letter of Credit, or other financing vehicle approved by the WTA, in form and substance satisfactory to the WTA, for 100% of the announced prize money.

All Letters of Credit must conform to the following format and shall not be amended unless approved by the WTA:

**LETTER OF CREDIT**

Issue Date:

Letter of Credit Number:

Applicant Reference Number:

Please utilize the following information to instruct your bank to issue an IRREVOCABLE Letter of Credit in our favor. If there are any questions regarding these instructions, please contact us immediately.

A. Advising Bank: JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A.  
131 South Dearborn Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60515  
ATTN: Standby LC Unit

Required to request JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. to add its confirmation

B. Applicant: <insert legal name and full address>

C. Beneficiary: WTA Tour, Inc.  
100 Second Avenue South  
Suite 1100-S  
St. Petersburg, Florida 33701 USA

Wire To: JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A.  
SWIFT: CHASUS33

D. CURRENCY: UNITED STATES DOLLARS: <INSERT AMOUNT IN NUMBERS AND WORDS>

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**SECTION XII - TOURNAMENT FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS**

E. TRANSFER: THE CREDIT IS NOT TRANSFERABLE.

F. BANK CHARGES: ALL BANK CHARGES INSIDE/OUTSIDE OF BENEFICIARIES COUNTRY  
ARE FOR APPLICANT'S ACCOUNT.

G. REQUIRED DOCUMENTS: SEE BELOW.

H. EXPIRATION DATE: <INSERT DATE – NOT LESS THAN 0 DAYS AFTER FINAL MATCH OF  
RD YEAR>

WE HEREBY ESTABLISH THIS IRREVOCABLE LETTER of Credit No. \_\_\_\_\_ in favor of WTA Tour, Inc. for an aggregate amount not to exceed the amount indicated above, expiring at <our/ our Advising Bank> counters with our close of business on <insert expiry date>.

This Irrevocable Letter of Credit is available with JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A., against presentation of beneficiary draft at sight drawn on Advising Bank, when accompanied by the documents indicated herein.

Beneficiary's dated statement signed by its Chief Executive Officer (signed as such) indicating this Irrevocable Letter of Credit number and reading as follows: We certify that <insert Applicant name> has failed to pay, in whole or in part, prize money to players or any required WTA membership or WTA fees.

Multiple drawings permitted. Drawings not to exceed total under Section D. Currency above in aggregate.

We hereby agree with the Beneficiary that any draft under and in compliance with the terms and conditions of this letter of credit will be duly honored.

This Irrevocable Letter of Credit is issued subject to the international standby practices 1998, International Chamber Publication 590 (ISP 9).

The number and date of our credit and the name of our bank must be quoted on all drafts required.

Irrevocable Letter of Credit is to be issued in English.

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**SECTION XII - TOURNAMENT FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS**

**2. Penalties for Missed Deadline**

Unless otherwise determined by the WTA, failure to provide financial security within the deadline specified will result in: a) cancellation of the Tournament; b) forfeiture of all fees paid to date; and c) possible revocation of the Tournament membership.

**D. TOURNAMENTS PAYING PRIZE MONEY IN EXCESS OF THE MINIMUM PRIZE MONEY LEVEL**

Each Premier and International Tournament may submit a request to the WTA to pay prize money in excess of the minimum prize money level for such Tournament, but this requirement must be no later than six (6) months in advance of the Tournament (unless otherwise agreed by the WTA). The WTA will respond to requests as soon as possible after they are received, but it is preferred that requests are made at the time the Tournament Information Form is submitted for the following year.

Any excess prize money shall be distributed as follows:

**1. Premier 700 and International Tournaments**

- a. 40% to singles semi-finals and finals prize money;
- b. 40% into on-site prize money according to prize money breakdowns; and
- c. 20% to the WTBA, not to exceed \$200,000, with any excess amount to be distributed in on-site prize money according to prize money breakdowns.

**2. Premier Mandatory and Premier 5 Tournaments**

- a. 80% into on-site prize money according to prize money breakdowns; and
- b. 20% to the WTBA, not to exceed \$200,000, with any excess amount to be distributed in on-site prize money according to prize money breakdowns.

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**SECTION XII - TOURNAMENT FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS**

**E. CONDITIONS**

Payment of all fees and deposits is a continuing condition for inclusion in the WTA. Each Tournament must comply with all government, federal, state and local laws, regulations and ordinances affecting the facility and the conduct of that Tournament.

**F. LATE PAYMENTS**

In the event any payment is not timely, the WTA is under no obligation to: (i) provide Player Commitment to the offending Tournament or (ii) further hold the dates of the Tournament.

If any payment other than prize money (by a Tournament or the WTA) is not made on or before the respective due date, the aggrieved party shall be entitled to a late penalty of \$200 per week. Said fines begin to accrue within (7) days after notice (via e-mail, fax or registered mail) by the aggrieved party. This penalty shall apply when the required WTA Fees are not paid by a Tournament.

The fines apply singularly to each category of payment that is in arrears. In cases of disputes, it is desirable (but not obligatory) that before any arbitration is instituted, the dispute be brought to the WTA for consideration and discussion.

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**XIII.WTA FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES TO TOURNAMENTS**

**A. COMMERCIAL BENEFITS PAYMENTS**

In consideration of the commercial benefits granted to the WTA by WTA Tournaments, the WTA may make payments to eligible Tournaments as determined by the Tournament Council.

Unless otherwise agreed, eligible Tournaments must have been on the published WTA Calendar at the end of the previous Tour Year and be in good standing with the WTA.

**B. PAYMENT DATES**

If payments are to be made, the WTA will make payments directly to each eligible Tournament according to the following schedule:

<b>Tournament Completion Date</b>	<b>Subsequent July 15</b>	<b>Subsequent December 15</b>
June 30	50%	50%
November 30	n/a	100%



# WTA RANKING SYSTEM

## XIV.WTA RANKING SYSTEM

### A. GENERAL

#### 1. Description

The worldwide computer ranking for women's Professional Tennis ("WTA Rankings") reflect a player's performance in tournament play and determine player acceptances and seeding for all Tournaments. The WTA Rankings are computed and published weekly by the WTA from its Florida Office.

All Rules in this Section XIV are subject to the Rules in Section IX regarding the WTA Finals and WTA Elite Trophy.

#### 2. Eligibility

##### a. Number of Tournaments

Players must earn (i) ranking points in at least three (3) valid Tournaments, or (ii) a minimum of 10 singles ranking points or 10 doubles ranking points in one (1) or more valid Tournaments, in order to appear on the WTA Rankings.

##### b. Age Requirements

##### i. Players under the age of 14

Players under the age of 14 cannot obtain a WTA Ranking. If a player under the age of 14 plays singles or doubles in a Tournament, that Tournament and the points acquired during play will not be counted for ranking purposes for that player.

##### ii. Players aged 14 through 17

If a player plays singles or doubles in a Tournament that exceeds the number permitted to be played under the Age Eligibility Rule (see Section XV), that Tournament and the points acquired during play will not be counted for ranking purposes for that player.

#### 3. Processing of Rankings

WTA Tournaments plus ITF \$100,000, \$75,000 and \$50,000 events (as long as the ITF events are completed by 11:59 p.m. US Eastern time on



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the Sunday of that week or 11:59 pm U.S. Eastern time on the Saturday preceding a Grand Slam event) are processed on a weekly basis.

ITF \$10,000 through \$25,000 events are processed a minimum of one (1) week following the completion of the tournament.

Points stay valid for 52 weeks from the week in which a Tournament is included in the WTA Rankings totals, except that ranking points a player earns from a WTA Finals or WTA Elite Trophy drop off upon the start of the following year's WTA Finals.

**4. Tournament Results Comprised in Rankings**

a. All Players

The ranking system is a 52-week, cumulative system in which the number of Tournament results comprising a player's WTA Ranking is capped at 16 Tournaments plus the WTA Finals for singles and 11 Tournaments for doubles.

Subject to the Rules in Section IX regarding the WTA Finals and WTA Elite Trophy, the results used to determine a player's singles WTA Ranking shall be those yielding the highest ranking points during a rolling, 52-week period, and must include:

- i. the ranking points she earns from the Grand Slams, Premier Mandatory Tournaments, and the WTA Finals;
- ii. if she is a Top 10 Player, the ranking points she earns from her two (2) best Premier 5 Tournament results;
- iii. if she is a Top 20 Player, the ranking points she earns from her two (2) best Premier 5 Tournament results, if any; and
- iv. any applicable zero (0) point penalties.

b. Top 20 Players

For players transitioning in and out of being a Top 20 Player, the following rules shall apply:

i. New Top 20 Player

As a new Top 20 Player participates in Premier 5 Tournaments,

## **WTA RANKING SYSTEM**

### **SECTION XIV - WTA RANKING SYSTEM**

after she participates in her first Premier 5 Tournament, her best Premier 5 Tournament within the 52 week cycle must count on her rankings. After she participates in a second Premier 5 Tournament, her (2) best Premier 5 Tournaments within the 52 week cycle must count on her ranking.

#### **ii. Existing Top 20 Player**

An existing Top 20 Player's Premier 5 Tournament results from the previous season will anniversary out and such results can be replaced with better Premier 5 Tournament results from the current season.

#### **iii. Former Top 20 Player**

A former Top 20 Player's ranking formula will be gradually adjusted and additional best results from other Tournaments can be used to count towards the players' ranking once the player's Premier 5 Tournaments (whether counted toward her ranking or not) begin to drop off. The player's ranking formula will be completely adjusted after her 2nd Premier 5 Tournament from the previous year drops off.

## **5. Number of Tournament Ranking Points Awarded**

The following table details the number of ranking points awarded to players by round, including Qualifying, and by Tournament for both singles and doubles play. Refer to Section IX for the ranking points awarded at the WTA Finals and WTA Elite Trophy.

# WTA RANKING SYSTEM

## SECTION XIV - WTA RANKING SYSTEM

### SINGLES AND DOUBLES RANKING POINTS BY ROUND

---- Description ----	W	F	SF	QF	R16	R32	R64	R128	QLFR	Q3	Q2	Q1
Grand Slam (Singles)	2000	1300	780	430	240	130	70	10	40	30	20	2
Grand Slam (Doubles)	2000	1300	780	430	240	130	10	-	40	-	-	-
PM (96 S)	1000	650	390	215	120	65	35	10	30	-	20	2
PM (64 S)	1000	650	390	215	120	65	10	-	30	-	20	2
PM (28/32 D)	1000	650	390	215	120	10	-	-	-	-	-	-
Premier 5 (56 S, 64 Q)	900	585	350	190	105	60	1	-	30	22	15	1
Premier 5 (56 S, 48/32 Q)	900	585	350	190	105	60	1	-	30	-	20	1
Premier 5 (28 D)	900	585	350	190	105	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Premier 5 (16 D)	900	585	350	190	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Premier (56 S)	470	305	185	100	55	30	1	-	25	-	13	1
Premier (32 S)	470	305	185	100	55	1	-	-	25	18	13	1
Premier (16 D)	470	305	185	100	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
International (32S, 32Q)	280	180	110	60	30	1	-	-	18	14	10	1
International (32S, 24/16Q)	280	180	110	60	30	1	-	-	18	-	12	1
International (16 D)	280	180	110	60	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WTA \$125,000 + H (32S/16Q)	160	95	57	29	15	1	-	-	6	-	4	1
WTA \$125,000 + H (32S/8Q)	160	95	57	29	15	1	-	-	6	-	4	1
WTA \$125,000 + H (16 D)	160	95	57	29	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WTA \$125,000 + H (8 D)	160	95	57	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ITF \$100,000 + H (32)	150	90	55	28	14	1	-	-	6	4	1	-
ITF \$100,000 + H (16)	150	90	55	28	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ITF \$100,000 (32)	140	85	50	25	13	1	-	-	6	4	1	-
ITF \$100,000 (16)	140	85	50	25	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ITF \$80,000 + H (32)	130	80	48	24	12	1	-	-	5	3	1	-
ITF \$80,000 + H (16)	130	80	48	24	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ITF \$80,000 (32)	115	70	42	21	10	1	-	-	5	3	1	-
ITF \$80,000 (16)	115	70	42	21	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ITF \$60,000 + H (32)	100	60	36	18	9	1	-	-	5	3	1	-
ITF \$60,000 + H (16)	100	60	36	18	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ITF \$60,000 (32)	80	48	29	15	8	1	-	-	5	3	1	-
ITF \$60,000 (16)	80	48	29	15	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ITF \$25,000 + H (32)	60	36	22	11	6	1	-	-	2	-	-	-
ITF \$25,000 + H (16)	60	36	22	11	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ITF \$25,000 (32)	50	30	18	9	5	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
ITF \$25,000 (16)	50	30	18	9	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ITF \$15,000 + H (32)	25	15	9	5	1	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
ITF \$15,000 + H (16)	25	15	9	1	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ITF \$15,000 (32)	12	7	4	2	1	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
ITF \$15,000 (16)	12	7	4	1	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

+H indicates that Hospitality is provided.

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**6. Explanatory Notes**

a. WTA Finals and WTA Elite Trophy

Refer to Section IX for the Rules regarding automatic entry and ranking point treatment and penalties at the WTA Finals and WTA Elite Trophy.

b. Automatic Main Draw Entry Tournaments

i. Definition

All players who qualify by actual ranking for acceptance into the singles Main Draw of the following Tournaments will be entered automatically:

- (a) Premier Mandatory Tournaments; and
- (b) Grand Slams.

ii. Ranking Point Treatment

- (a) Once a player is accepted into the Main Draw of one of the above Tournaments as a direct acceptance, as a Qualifier, as a Lucky Loser, or by Special Ranking, her ranking point result (including zero (0) ranking points) for that Tournament must count as one (1) of her best 16 Tournament results in calculating her WTA Ranking, regardless of whether she participates in that Tournament. If a player is accepted into the Main Draw of one of the above Tournaments by Wild Card, her ranking point result for that Tournament must count as one (1) of her best 16 Tournament results in calculating her WTA Ranking only if she participates in that Tournament.

Except as specified below, any player who is originally accepted into the Main Draw of the automatic entry Tournaments listed in sub-Section i above, or becomes a direct acceptance and subsequently withdraws and therefore fails to play the Tournament, will automatically receive zero (0) points for the Tournament, and it will count on that player's ranking as one (1) of her best 16 Tournament results. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a player who enters a Tournament listed in sub-Section i above by using her Special Ranking but does not qualify for Main Draw acceptance either under the Top 10 Player Rules or based

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on her ranking will not receive zero (0) points if she withdraws before the Qualifying Sign-In deadline.

- (b) Any Top 10 Player who fails to play in a Premier 5 Commitment Tournament will automatically receive zero (0) points for the Tournament and it will count on that player's ranking as one (1) of her best 16 Tournament results.
  - (c) Any Top 10 Player who fails to play two (2) Premier 700 Tournaments during the Tour Year will automatically receive zero (0) points for each Premier 700 Tournament not played, and it will count on that player's ranking as one (1) of her best 16 Tournament results.
  - (d) Top 10 Players may only incur a maximum of three (3) zero (0) points for Missed Tournaments due to a Long Term Injury; however, all zero (0) points for missed Mandatory Tournaments (i.e., Premier Mandatory Tournaments, Grand Slams, the WTA Finals, and the WTA Elite Trophy) must count on the player's ranking. If there are less than three (3) Mandatory Tournament zero (0) point penalties during such absence, the priority order in counting the zero (0) point penalties shall be based on the highest Tournament Category Level of Missed Tournament first, and then to the first event missed during the Long Term Injury.
  - (e) A Top 10 Player's ranking must include her two (2) best results from Premier 5 Tournaments played during the year (which may be zero (0) points, if applicable), plus any other zero (0) points under sub-Sections (b) and (d) above.
  - (f) A new Top 20 Player must include her two (2) best results from Premier 5 Tournaments if played during the current Tour Year. A returning Top 20 Player must include her two (2) best results from Premier 5 Tournaments if played during the previous 52 weeks.
- c. Ranking Points for 1st Round Losses at Grand Slams

Players receive ten (10) ranking points for a 1st round loss in Grand Slam singles and doubles Main Draws and two (2) points for a 1st round loss in Grand Slam singles Qualifying.

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d. **ITF Events**

For the purpose of awarding ranking points, in all ITF tournaments with prize money of \$50,000 or greater, the round of 32 will be considered to be the 1st round of Qualifying, and all rules will apply as if that were the 1st round of play. In these ITF tournaments, the WTA will award ranking points in Qualifying starting in the round of 32, and play in any prior round will not be considered as having taken place for ranking purposes.

**B. GENERAL RULES**

**1. Ranking Order**

Players are ranked on the basis of their total points.

**2. Byes/Defaults/Walkovers**

a. **Byes**

The following rules will apply to the cases outlined below:

- i. If a player or team receives one (1) or more consecutive byes and loses her/their 1st match played, 1st round losers' points will be awarded, and the player or team shall receive prize money for the round reached.
- ii. If a player or team receives one (1) or more consecutive byes and withdraws from her/their 1st match, no ranking points shall be awarded, the Tournament will not count on her/their record and no prize money shall be paid out.

b. **Walkovers**

The following rules will apply to the cases outlined below:

- i. If a player or team receives a walkover in the 1st round, and there is no Alternate or Lucky Loser to take the spot, or if a player or team receives a walkover in a subsequent round without having yet played a match, the player or team will receive ranking points from the round preceding her/their elimination.
- ii. A player or team who receives a walkover in any round except the 1st round after having played and won a match shall be awarded ranking points for the walkover from their opponent.

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For any disciplinary default occurring in a Tournament after the match begins, the advancing player or team will be awarded ranking points over her/their opponent or team.

#### **c. Withdrawals**

The following rules will apply to the cases outlined below:

- i. Players or teams who withdraw from a Tournament before playing their 1st match will not have the Tournament count on their record, with the exception of Automatic Main Draw Entry Tournaments and Commitment Tournaments for Top 10 Players.
- ii. If a player qualifies but is unable to play the Main Draw for any reason, she will receive last round Qualifying prize money and Qualifier points.
- iii. If a doubles team withdraws in any round, their ranking points will be calculated as follows:
  - (a) the non-withdrawing partner shall receive the ranking points per the round they withdrew; and
  - (b) the partner causing the withdrawal shall receive the ranking points from the previous round, unless one of the following apply, in which case the withdrawing partner shall receive ranking points per the round she withdrew: (i) the player also withdraws from playing singles in a Tournament to be held the following week at the time she withdraws from doubles; (ii) the player withdraws/retires from a singles match which was scheduled during the same Tournament; or (iii) the player does not play singles in a tennis event the following week.
  - (c) The team will receive Road to Singapore Points per the round they withdrew.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event the partner causing the withdrawal is declared unfit to play singles or doubles at the same Tournament, she shall receive the ranking points per the round she withdrew.

#### **d. ITF Tournament Singles Finals Delayed**

If the Singles Final only of an ITF \$50K and higher event is not com-

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pleted by Sunday 11:59 p.m. U.S. Eastern time or Saturday 11:59 pm U.S. Eastern time preceding a Grand Slam event, the current week's rankings run will include the tournament results through the semifinals, plus each of the singles finalists will receive finalist points in the current week's rankings run. The winner's points will be adjusted in the following week's rankings run.

### **3. Wild Cards**

Player or teams who receive Wild Cards are awarded the same ranking points as any other player.

### **4. Tournament Cancellation or Early Termination**

#### **a. Tournament Cancellation Without Play Occurring**

If the singles or doubles event of a Tournament is cancelled due to poor weather, and there has been no play, 1st round prize money will be paid out to the players.

#### **b. Tournament Cancellation After Play Has Begun**

If play has commenced and has been terminated before the Tournament is concluded, players will be paid loser's prize money for the individual round reached. Additionally, if the 1st round has been completed, all players/teams will receive their ranking points earned through the last completed round only, and the Tournament will count as a Tournament played.

#### **c. Tournament Cancellation Without Completion of Finals**

If a Tournament is officially terminated and the finals have not been completed, the finalists each will receive finalist's prize money and ranking points. The difference between the winner and finalist prize money will revert back to the Tournament.

### **5. Tie-breaking Procedures**

#### **a. Singles**

When two (2) or more players have the same number of ranking points, the tie for the ranking position will be decided according to the following priorities:

- i. The player with the most combined total points from Grand Slams, Premier Mandatory Tournaments, Premier 5 Tournaments



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and the WTA Finals;

- ii. The player with the most total points from all WTA and Grand Slam Tournaments, including the WTA Finals;
- iii. The player with the fewest number of Tournaments in a 52-week period (including any Mandatory Tournaments, if the player qualified for acceptance); and
- iv. The highest number of points from one (1) single Tournament, then if needed, the second highest and so on.

**b. Doubles**

When two (2) or more players have the same number of ranking points, the tie for the ranking position will be decided according to the following priorities:

- i. If two (2) of the players have the same ranking points and they earned their 11 best doubles results in the previous 52-week period as a team, then the players will be tied for the same ranking position based on those 11 best doubles results in that 52-week period;
- ii. The player with the most total points from all WTA and Grand Slam Tournaments, including the WTA Finals;
- iii. The player with the fewest number of Tournaments in a 52-week period (including any Mandatory Tournaments, if the player qualified for acceptance); and
- iv. The highest number of points from one (1) single Tournament, then if needed, the second highest and so on.

If the results of all of the tie-breaks under a or b are the same, the rank for such players will be considered to be the same or tied for that ranking position. Last Name followed by First Name will list the players who are tied in the WTA Rankings alphabetically. If both the First and Last Names are the same, the players will be listed according to whichever one is encountered first during the ranking process.

**6. Singles**

- a. Players are awarded ranking points for the highest round they reach.
- b. In Tournaments where prize money is \$25,000 or greater:

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- i. Qualifiers earn Main Draw ranking points based on the highest round reached in the Main Draw plus the ranking points specified in the Qualifier (QLFR) column on the ranking points table in Section XIV.A.5.
  - ii. Qualifiers who lose in the 1st round of the Main Draw are awarded only the ranking points specified in the Qualifier (QLFR) column on the aforementioned table.
  - iii. Lucky Losers earn Main Draw ranking points based on the highest round reached in the Main Draw, unless they lose in the 1st round of the Main Draw in which case they receive only the ranking points earned in Qualifying.
- c. In Tournaments where prize money is less than \$25,000:
- i. No Qualifying ranking points are awarded to Qualifiers or Lucky Losers.
  - ii. Qualifiers who lose in the 1st round of the Main Draw are awarded only the points specified in the Qualifier (QLFR) column on the ranking points table in Section XIV.A.5. However, Qualifiers earn Main Draw ranking points based on the highest round reached in the Main Draw plus the ranking points specified in the Qualifier (QLFR) column on the aforementioned table.
  - iii. Lucky Losers earn only Main Draw ranking points based on the highest round reached in the Main Draw.
- d. Entries and seeding are determined by highest rank. In the event of a tie, the 1st tie-break procedure is the highest ranking from the previous week. The 2nd tie-break procedure is the player with the fewest number of Tournaments played over the previous 52-week period (including any Mandatory Tournaments, if the player qualified for acceptance).

**7. Doubles**

- a. Players are awarded ranking points for the highest round they reach.
- b. Entries and seeding are determined by highest combined rank. For entries, unranked players will be assigned a rank equal to one (1) plus the rank of the lowest player on the latest rankings. Teams who receive Wild Cards are awarded the same ranking points as any other team.

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- c. In the event of a rankings tie, the 1st tie-break procedure is the team with the highest combined total points. The 2nd tie-break procedure is the team with the highest combined ranking from the previous week. The 3rd tie-break procedure is the team with the fewest combined number of Tournaments played over the previous 52-week period.
- d. Lucky Losers who lose in the Main Draw are awarded Main Draw ranking points only.
- e. See the Grand Slam Rulebook for Grand Slam entry and doubles qualifying procedures.

#### **8. Clarification of Ranking Points Rules and Procedures**

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#### **C. WTA SPECIAL RANKING RULE**

##### **1. Eligibility**

In order to be eligible for a WTA Special Ranking in either singles or doubles, a player:

- a. Must have been out of competition a minimum of six (6) months and a maximum of two (2) years; and
- b. Must have the following ranking at the time she stopped playing:
  - i. In the Top 300 in singles; or
  - ii. In the Top 200 in doubles.

##### **2. Application Procedure and Timing**

- a. Request due to Injury/Illness

All injury/illness Special Ranking applicants must complete a Special Ranking Application Form and submit it to the WTA i) within six (6) months after their last professional tournament played before being out of competition; and ii) at least 30 calendar days before the entry

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deadline for the first Tournament that they want to enter using their Special Ranking.

The signed Special Ranking Application Form must be submitted to WTA Operations, for the approval of a Special Ranking status along with the following documents, all of which shall be written in English:

- i. Public release statement; and
- ii. Medical documentation including:
  - (a) The diagnosis of condition;
  - (b) A copy of clinical visit;
  - (c) Physician's notes/documentation; and
  - (d) All relevant laboratory tests and applicable surgical reports.

If a player is requesting a Special Ranking due to more than one (1) injury, each injury must be documented.

- b. Request due to Pregnancy

Maternity and injury/illness Special Ranking requests will be governed by the same rules.

### **3. Medical Documentation Handling and Requests for Subsequent Medical Status Reports**

Subsequent medical status reports, written in English, may be requested by the WTA, and if a player fails to comply promptly with such requests, the WTA may revoke her Special Ranking status. All medical documentation will be turned over to the WTA SS&M Department to be kept in the player's confidential medical file.

### **4. Usage Criteria and Guidelines**

- a. Definition

A player's Special Ranking will be the ranking she earned immediately after the points of the last Tournament she played has been added to the WTA Rankings. (See Processing of Rankings – Section XIV.A.3.)

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b. Number of Tournaments and Timing

i. Number of Tournaments

A player will be granted eight (8) Tournaments in which to use her Special Ranking.

ii. Timing

A player has one (1) year from the date she returns to competition to use the Special Ranking Tournaments granted by the WTA. The latest a player may use her singles and/or doubles Special Ranking is at a Tournament scheduled the same calendar week in which the Special Ranking expires.

“Return to Competition” is defined as (a) a player playing any event (singles or doubles) where ranking points are awarded and using her actual WTA Ranking, her Special Ranking or a Wild Card to gain entry into that Tournament; (b) a player having been accepted into a Tournament using her Special Ranking and withdrawing after the applicable Qualifying Sign-In deadline; or (c) the date that is two (2) years after the beginning of a player’s original out-of-competition period. Playing in any tennis event, even without ranking points being awarded, will count as a player’s Return to Competition if such event takes place during the player’s first six (6) months out of competition and will thus render the player ineligible for a Special Ranking.

Doubles and singles Return to Competition dates shall be treated as the same date using the event that is played first (either singles or doubles).

c. Procedures

i. Mandatory Out-of-Competition Period

The six-month mandatory out-of-competition period is calculated using:

- (a) The last Tournament a player played, whether in singles or in doubles.

The date for calculation will be either:

- (i) The last day of that Tournament; or

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- (ii) The Monday following the last match played, if it is during a multiple-week Tournament.
- (b) The first Tournament a player plays upon her return, whether she uses her Special Ranking or actual WTA Ranking, or receives a Wild Card. (See Player Responsibilities – XIV.C.4.j.)

The earliest a player may return to competition is in a match scheduled during the same calendar week in which the six-month period expires.

#### **ii. Re-injury Petition**

A player who Returns to Competition and is re-injured while playing under the Special Ranking Rule may request to “freeze” the one (1) year period for using her Special Ranking Tournaments.

A player may implement a “freeze” one (1) time per Special Ranking. In order to “freeze” her Special Ranking, a player must (a) again be out of competition for a minimum of three (3) months, and (b) complete another Special Ranking Application Form. Upon the player’s second Return to Competition, she will have the same number of Special Ranking Tournaments and time remaining as were available when the “freeze” went into effect; provided, however, that regardless of any “freeze,” a player’s Special Ranking expires no later than the date that is three (3) years after the beginning of her original out-of-competition period.

#### **iii. Tournament Entry and Acceptance**

All requests for use of a Special Ranking in WTA Tournaments, Grand Slams, or ITF Women’s Circuit events must be made through WTA Operations by the respective WTA entry deadline or at least one (1) week prior to the entry deadline of a Grand Slam or ITF Women’s Circuit event. No requests after the entry deadlines will be considered.

##### **(a) WTA Tournaments**

A player may use her Special Ranking and actual WTA Ranking interchangeably; however, once a player designates which ranking she is using to enter a Tournament, she may not change her designation after the entry deadline. It should be noted that in instances where multiple players with the same WTA Ranking enter the same

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Tournament, for acceptance purposes, a player using the actual WTA Ranking shall supersede a player using her Special Ranking.

A player may use her Special Ranking (Singles or Doubles) to enter the doubles competition of a Tournament a maximum of eight (8) times. If a player has both a Singles and Doubles Special Ranking and she uses her Singles Special Ranking for on-site entry into the doubles competition of a WTA Tournament, it will not count toward her eight (8) allowed singles entries at Tournaments using her Singles Special Ranking (but will count toward her eight (8) allowed doubles entries at Tournaments using a Special Ranking). If a player uses her Singles Special Ranking to enter singles (Main Draw or Qualifying) and doubles (Main Draw or Qualifying) at the same WTA Tournament, such entries count as one (1) of her eight (8) allowed singles entries and as one (1) of her eight (8) allowed doubles entries at Tournaments under the Special Ranking Rule. If a player only has a Singles Special Ranking and she uses it for on-site entry into the doubles competition of a WTA Tournament, it will count toward both her eight (8) allowed singles entries and her eight (8) allowed doubles entries at Tournaments using her Singles Special Ranking.

#### **(b) Grand Slams**

A player may enter a maximum of two (2) Grand Slams using her Special Ranking as part of her eight (8) Special Ranking Tournaments.

A player may use her Singles Special Ranking to enter doubles and/or mixed doubles at a Grand Slam, which will not count toward her two (2) allowed singles entries at Grand Slams using her Singles Special Ranking (but will count toward her two (2) allowed doubles entries at Grand Slams using a Special Ranking).

If a player uses her Singles or Doubles Special Ranking to enter only mixed doubles at a Grand Slam, such entry counts as one (1) of her two (2) allowed doubles entries at Grand Slams under the Special Ranking Rule. If a player uses her Singles or Doubles Special Ranking to enter doubles (Main Draw or Qualifying) and mixed doubles at the same Grand Slam, such entries count as one (1) of her

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two (2) allowed doubles entries at Grand Slams under the Special Ranking Rule.

(c) WTA Finals and WTA Elite Trophy

A Special Ranking may not be used to gain entry into either the WTA Finals or the WTA Elite Trophy.

(d) Olympics

A player may use her Special Ranking for acceptance into the Olympic Tennis Event, and if she uses her Special Ranking for this purpose, her participation in the Olympic Tennis Event will count as one (1) of her eight (8) Special Ranking Tournaments.

d. Automatic Entry into Premier Mandatory Tournament

A player will not be automatically entered into a Premier Mandatory Tournament with her Special Ranking. If a player wishes to enter a Premier Mandatory Tournament with her Special Ranking, she must notify WTA Operations in writing before the entry deadline. A player may use her Special Ranking to enter a maximum of two (2) Premier Mandatory Tournaments in singles and in doubles. If a player enters the Main Draw a Premier Mandatory Tournament with her Special Ranking and the player withdraws after the withdraw deadline in sub-Section 4.e. below, the player will receive zero (0) points.

e. Tournament Withdrawal

If a player has been accepted into a Tournament using her Special Ranking but withdraws from singles by the applicable Qualifying Sign-In deadline at WTA and ITF Women's Circuit events or by 4 p.m. tournament local time the day prior to the start of Qualifying at Grand Slam events, or from doubles by the applicable on-site Doubles Sign-in Deadline, it will not count as a Special Ranking Tournament. A player, however, will be responsible for any fines assessed for Late Withdrawals or No-Shows.

f. Wild Cards

If a player has been accepted into the Main Draw of a Tournament using her Special Ranking, she may not accept a Wild Card into the same event.



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However, a player accepted into the Qualifying of a Tournament using her Special Ranking may accept a Wild Card into the Main Draw up until 4:00 p.m. tournament local time the day of the Qualifying Sign-In.

g. Seeding

A player may not be seeded using her Special Ranking; however, a player may be seeded using her actual WTA Ranking even if she has been accepted into the Tournament using her Special Ranking.

h. Lucky Loser Status

A player's Special Ranking will not be used to determine her Lucky Loser position or status. Only a player's actual WTA Ranking will be used to determine the Lucky Loser order.

i. Placement on Top 10 List

A player's Special Ranking will not be used for the purpose of placement on the Top 10 List.

j. Player Responsibilities

i. Upon Return to Play

Upon her return, the player is obligated to report to the WTA the first Tournament she actually plays, whether she is accepted into an ITF or WTA Tournament using her Special Ranking, actual WTA Ranking or a Wild Card.

ii. Tracking Tournament Usage

It is the player's responsibility to track the number of tournaments in which she uses her Special Ranking. If she exceeds the limits set forth in this Section, a player will forfeit any ranking points earned at WTA Tournaments and Grand Slams in which a Special Ranking was used.

k. Abuse of Special Ranking Privilege

If Special Ranking privileges are abused, the player's Special Ranking will be revoked automatically.

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**D. RETIRING FROM THE WTA**

If a player has decided to retire, she must submit the Player Retirement Form to the WTA in order to officially retire. A retired player will be removed from the WTA Rankings at the end of the calendar year in which she officially retires or on the date listed by the Player on the Player Retirement Form, whichever is earlier. Players who have submitted a Player Retirement Form shall not be eligible to compete in a Tournament until they have satisfied all applicable requirements under the Anti-Doping Program.



## AGE ELIGIBILITY AND PLAYER DEVELOPMENT

### XV. AGE ELIGIBILITY AND PLAYER DEVELOPMENT

#### A. AGE ELIGIBILITY RULE

Player Development requirements and the Age Eligibility Rule (“AER”) are applicable to competition in Professional Tennis Tournaments worldwide, including all WTA Tournaments and ITF Women’s Circuit events that receive ranking points.

##### 1. Definitions

###### a. Competition in a Professional Tennis Tournament

For the purposes of this rule, competition in a Professional Tennis Tournament is defined as participation in the singles and/or doubles Main Draw, or the singles and/or doubles Qualifying Draw of a WTA Tournament or ITF Women’s Circuit event. Each Tournament in which a player earns ranking points (singles and/or doubles) or, but for the operation of the WTA Rules or the player’s violation of the WTA Rules, would have earned ranking points (singles and/or doubles) counts towards a player’s allotment of Tournaments under the AER. However, participation in the draws of the ITF Women’s Circuit events in which a player does not earn ranking points does not constitute competition in a Professional Tennis Tournament under the AER.

###### b. Age

For the purposes of this rule, a player’s age is determined by her age as of the date of start of a Tournament’s singles Main Draw.

A player 18 years old or older no longer is subject to Part A of this rule but is required to continue participating in Player Development (Part B) until she receives notification of graduation from a WTA representative.

##### 2. Event Participation

###### a. WTA, ITF Women’s Circuit and Fed Cup Event Participation

###### i. Players Under 14 Years of Age

A player who has not yet reached the date of her 14th birthday may not participate in any Professional Tennis Tournament on the WTA or ITF Women’s Circuit, or in any level of Fed Cup competition.

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ii. 14 Years Old

A player may earn a WTA Ranking; however, she may not participate in WTA Tournaments by direct ranking acceptance, or participate in the WTA Finals or WTA Elite Trophy by direct ranking acceptance or Wild Card.

(a) Number and Type of Tournaments

Between the date of a player's 14th birthday and the day before her 15th birthday, a player may participate in:

- (i) A maximum of eight (8) ITF Women's Circuit events, no more than three (3) of which may be at ITF Women's Circuit \$60,000 and above; plus
- (ii) Fed Cup (any level of competition).

The number of ITF Women's Circuit events in which a player may participate will be reduced, however, if the player receives a Wild Card into a WTA Tournament as provided in sub-Section b below.

(b) Wild Cards

These players are permitted to receive a maximum of three (3) Wild Cards as follows:

- (i) One (1) Wild Card for use into the Main Draw or Qualifying Draw of either an International Tournament, WTA 125K or ITF Women's Circuit event;
- (ii) One (1) Wild Card exclusively for use into the Main Draw or Qualifying Draw of either a WTA 125K or ITF Women's Circuit event; and
- (iii) One (1) Wild Card exclusively for use into the Main Draw or Qualifying Draw of any ITF Women's Circuit event.

iii. 15 Years Old

(a) Number and Type of Tournaments

Between the date of a player's 15th birthday and the day before her 16th birthday, a player may participate in:

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- (i) A maximum of ten (10) Professional Tennis Tournaments; plus
  - (ii) The WTA Finals or WTA Elite Trophy (if she qualifies); plus
  - (iii) Fed Cup (any level of competition).
- (b) Wild Cards

These players are permitted to receive a maximum of three (3) Wild Cards as follows:

- (i) One (1) Wild Card for use into the Main Draw or Qualifying Draw of any category level of WTA Tournament or ITF Women's Circuit event; and
- (ii) Two (2) Wild Cards exclusively for use into the Main Draw or Qualifying Draw of any WTA International Tournament, WTA 125K or ITF Women's Circuit event.

#### **iv. 16 Years Old**

- (a) Number and Type of Tournaments

Between the date of a player's 16th birthday and the day before her 17th birthday, a player may participate in:

- (i) A maximum of twelve (12) Professional Tennis Tournaments; plus
- (ii) The WTA Finals or WTA Elite Trophy (if she qualifies); plus
- (iii) Fed Cup (any level of competition).

- (b) Wild Cards

These players may receive a maximum of four (4) Wild Cards into any WTA Tournament and/or ITF Women's Circuit event, provided, however, that players do not exceed the WTA and/or ITF Women's Circuit maximum calendar year limits for singles or doubles, Main Draw or Qualifying Wild Cards.

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v. 17 Years Old

(a) Number and Type of Tournaments

Between the date of a player's 17th birthday and the day before her 18th birthday, a player may participate in:

- (i) A maximum of sixteen (16) Professional Tennis Tournaments; plus
- (ii) The WTA Finals or WTA Elite Trophy (if she qualifies); plus
- (iii) Fed Cup (any level of competition).

(b) Wild Cards

Once a player reaches the age of 17, she is permitted to receive the WTA and ITF Women's Circuit calendar year maximums. (See Section III.C.4.a.vii and III.C.4.b.iv for information on WTA Wild Card maximums.) The number of Wild Cards she is allowed to receive pursuant to the Wild Card Rule is calculated over the course of the Tour Year in which she turned 17 (i.e., any Wild Cards used under the AER by the player in that Tour Year prior to turning 17 will count towards the total number of Wild Cards permitted under the Rules).

vi. 18 Years Old and Older

(a) Number and Type of Tournaments

Players 18 years of age or older may participate in an unlimited number of Professional Tennis Tournaments on the WTA and ITF Women's Circuit.

(b) Wild Cards

Players 18 years of age or older are eligible to receive the at-large WTA and ITF Women's Circuit maximum number of Wild Cards.

vii. Top 10 Player List Eligibility

(a) Age Requirement

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Because Top 10 Players must commit to a minimum number of Tournaments, a player may not be included on the Top 10 Player List until the Tour Year during which she will reach her 17th birthday.

#### **(b) Ranking Requirement**

In order to be included on the Top 10 Player List, a player under the age of 18 years old must be ranked in the Top 50 (of singles) at the time of selection.

#### **(c) Player Obligations Before Receiving Top 10 Player List Benefits**

Prior to the beginning of the Tour Year during which she will be on the Top 10 Player List and prior to determining her Player Commitment schedule, a player is required to meet with representatives of the WTA Operations and Player Development Departments for the purpose of developing and agreeing upon the player's schedule for the upcoming Tour Year.

The player will be permitted to benefit from her Top 10 Player List status once she has:

- (i) Met with representatives from both staffs;
- (ii) Completed her Player Development requirements;
- (iii) Participated fully in Player Development programs; and
- (iv) Acknowledged in writing that she has a full understanding of the Top 10 Player List status and Player Development programs

If the player does not complete any of the above requirements, then she will not be permitted to benefit fully from her Top 10 Player List status.

viii. Merited Increases are detailed in sub-Section A.3 below.

#### **b. Wild Cards**

##### **i. Wild Card Qualification**



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In order to qualify for any Wild Card into any WTA Tournament, a player must have: i) completed the Annual Player Form and the Official WTA Entry Form; ii) submitted all requisite documentation (i.e., proof of identity [copy of player's passport or birth certificate], proof that her minimum educational requirements are being met, etc.); and iii) be current with all Player Development requirements.

Under no circumstances will a player be allowed to exceed the calendar year WTA and/or ITF Women's Circuit maximum number of Wild Cards for singles or doubles.

#### **ii. Wild Cards received at Separate Tournaments**

Wild Cards received at separate Tournaments count towards a player's total allotment, regardless of whether the Wild Card is for singles or doubles.

#### **iii. Wild Cards received at Same Tournament**

If a player aged 14-16 receives both a singles and doubles Wild Card at the same Tournament, it will count as only one (1) Wild Card. The singles Wild Card will be used to determine how it is counted (Main Draw or Qualifying).

#### **iv. Doubles Wild Card at Tournament where Singles Entry by Direct Acceptance**

In the event a player aged 14-16 is accepted into the singles draw (Main Draw or Qualifying) by direct acceptance and receives a Wild Card into the doubles draw, the following guidelines shall apply:

- (a) If the player earns points in the singles draw (Main Draw or Qualifying), the doubles Wild Card will not count towards her allotment permitted under the AER.
- (b) If the player does not earn points in the singles draw (Main Draw or Qualifying), the doubles Wild Card will count towards her allotment permitted under the AER.

#### **v. WTA Tournament Wild Card Awarded through Pre-Qualifying Event/Circuit**

In the event a player wins a pre-qualifying event/circuit that awards a Wild Card into a WTA Tournament, the player will be

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permitted to accept the Wild Card if:

- (a) The pre-qualifying event/circuit has been accredited by the WTA (please contact the WTA Legal or Player Development Departments for full details and guidelines regarding accredited events); and
- (b) Acceptance of the Wild Card does not result in the player exceeding her allotment of Wild Cards permitted under the AER.

#### **c. Mandatory Tournaments**

As set forth in Mandatory Tournament Entries – Section III.A.13 and Automatic Main Draw Entry Tournaments – Section XIV.A.6.b, all players, regardless of age, who by ranking qualify for acceptance into the Main Draw of a Premier Mandatory Tournament or the Main Draw of a Grand Slam will be entered automatically. Accordingly, players who are subject to the AER are responsible for planning their competition schedules to include these mandatory Tournaments within their allotment of Age Eligibility Tournaments. Players who have reached their maximum number of Professional Tennis Tournaments under the AER prior to a mandatory Tournament, unless they meet the provision for it to count in addition, will not be allowed to exceed their Tournament allotment to play.

The failure to play a Premier Mandatory Tournament or Grand Slam, even if due to ineligibility under the AER, will result in a fine and/or zero (0) ranking points for such player.

#### **d. Olympic Participation**

The Age Eligibility Restrictions with respect to the Women's Tennis Competition will be detailed in the 2020 WTA Age Eligibility Rule and the ITF Olympic Tennis Event 2020 Regulations.

#### **e. Exhibition/Non-WTA Events**

There are no age-based restrictions on a player's participation in Exhibitions/Non-WTA Events. However, all players are subject to the Exhibition/Non-WTA Event Rule.

### **3. Merited Increases**

A player aged 15-17 is allowed up to four (4) merited increases per birth year (i.e., birthday to birthday). Merited increases are in addition to a

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player's allotted number of Tournaments under the AER (as detailed in sub-Section A.2 above) and may be earned as follows:

- a. WTA Premier Mandatory/Grand Slam Merited Increase
  - i. A WTA Premier Mandatory/Grand Slam merited increase is earned when a player aged 15-17 has completed all of her Player Development requirements to-date and earned her way into the Main Draw or Qualifying of a Premier Mandatory Tournament or Grand Slam via a direct acceptance. Players may include up to two (2) Grand Slam events in their total number of four (4) WTA merited increases.
  - ii. However, if a player is: i) accepted via a Wild Card; ii) 14 years of age; or iii) aged 15-17 and was accepted by direct acceptance but has not completed her Player Development requirements prior to competing in the Premier Mandatory Tournament or Grand Slam event, then participation in such event is counted towards her total allotment of Tournaments under the AER.
- b. Pro Path Merited Increase
  - i. Year-End Top 5 Ranked ITF Juniors

Upon achieving a Top 5 Year-End ITF Junior Circuit Ranking, players aged 15-17 will be eligible for merited increases as follows:

- (a) Players aged 14 on or before the date ITF publishes its Top 5 Year-End Junior Singles ranking are allowed up to two (2) merited increases that may be used beginning in their 15th birth year.
- (b) Players aged 15 are allowed up to two (2) merited increases that may be used beginning in their 15th birth year.
- (c) Players aged 16 are allowed up to three (3) merited increases that may be used beginning in their 16th birth year.
- (d) Players aged 17 are allowed up to three (3) merited increases that may be used beginning in their 17th birth year.

Players must remain current with their Player Development requirements, specifically including the Pro Path Phase, to qualify for Pro Path merited increases, and such qualified players will

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remain eligible for Pro Path merited increases each subsequent year.

#### **ii. ITF Junior Grand Slam Singles Finalist**

When a player aged 14-17 has reached a final of an ITF Junior Grand Slam Singles event (i.e., Australian Open Junior Championships, Roland Garros Junior Championships, The Championships (Wimbledon) Junior Championships and US Open Junior Championships) and remains current with her Player Development requirements, she will be eligible for merited increases as follows:

- (a) Players aged 14 are allowed one (1) merited increase for each singles finalist appearance at a Junior Grand Slam up to a maximum of two (2) merited increases (regardless of the number of appearances), but a player may use such increase(s) only when she is aged 15 (i.e., the player cannot use such increase(s) at ages 16 or 17).
- (b) Players aged 15 are allowed one (1) merited increase for each singles finalist appearance at a Junior Grand Slam, but such increases shall not exceed two (2) merited increases regardless of the number of appearances or the merited increases earned at age 14.
- (c) Players aged 16 and 17 are allowed one (1) merited increase for each singles finalist appearance at a Junior Grand Slam, but such increases shall not exceed three (3) merited increases regardless of the number of appearances.
- (d) If a player has not completed her Player Development requirements prior to utilizing the additional Pro Path merited increases, then the player is not eligible for merited increases.

Eligible players may use merited increases earned through reaching a final at an ITF Junior Grand Slam Singles event, contingent upon the requirements being completed by the player and her Support Team prior to the utilization of such additional events.

Players who earn Pro Path merited increases under paragraphs i and/or ii above will not be allowed to exceed two (2) merited increases at age 15 and three (3) merited increases at ages 16 and 17 under the Pro Path. Players who earn both Pro Path and WTA Premier

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Mandatory/Grand Slam merited increases will be allowed to combine the increases but will not be allowed to exceed four (4) total merited increases per birth year. Subject to sub-Section ii(a) above, merited increases earned in one (1) birth year may be carried over to subsequent birth years provided that the player does not exceed four (4) total merited increases per birth year.

### Summary Chart

The following table provides a summary of the event participation rules detailed in sub-Sections 2 and 3 above. Note that Premier Mandatory Tournaments and Grand Slam events are mandatory play events, which may impose additional regulations and/or restrictions on players subject to the AER. (See sub-Section A.2.c above for further details.)

Age	WTA <sup>^</sup>	ITF Women's Circuit <sup>^</sup>	Wild Cards <sup>±</sup>	Fed Cup	Olympics	Exhibition/Non-WTA Events <sup>†</sup>
18	Unlimited	Unlimited	According to WTA & ITF Rules	Yes	Yes	Unlimited, subject to Exhibition/non-WTA Event Rule
17 <sup>‡</sup>	16 + WTA Finals or WTA Elite Trophy <sup>§</sup>		According to WTA & ITF Rules	Yes	Yes	Unlimited, subject to Exhibition/Non-WTA Event Rule
16 <sup>‡</sup>	12 + WTA Finals or WTA Elite Trophy <sup>§</sup>		4	Yes	Yes	Unlimited, subject to Exhibition/Non-WTA Event Rule
15	10 + WTA Finals or WTA Elite Trophy <sup>§</sup>		3 (maximum of 1 for Premier Tournaments and remaining for International Tournaments, WTA 125Ks, and/or ITF Women's Circuit)	Yes	Yes	Unlimited, subject to Exhibition/Non-WTA Event Rule
14	0, except by Wild Card	8 <sup>#</sup>	3 (maximum of 1 for International Tournaments, maximum of 2 for WTA 125Ks and remaining for ITF Women's Circuit)	Yes	No	Unlimited, subject to Exhibition/Non-WTA Event Rule
13	0	0	0	0	0	0

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- ^ For the purposes of the AER and this Tournament Eligibility Chart, a Tournament is defined as any singles and/or doubles Main Draw, or singles and/or doubles Qualifying Draw of any WTA Tournament or ITF Women's Circuit event in which a player earns ranking points. However, if a player participates in the Qualifying Draw and qualifies for the Main Draw, it will count as only one (1) Tournament. Similarly, if a player is competing in both the singles and doubles draws, it will count as only one (1) Tournament.
- § A player aged 15-17 is allowed up to four (4) merited increases per birth year (i.e., birthday to birthday). Merited increases are in addition to a player's allotted number of Tournaments under AER. (See the full rule in sub-Section 3 above for limitations and qualifications.)
- ± In order to qualify for any Wild Card into any WTA Tournament, a player must: i) complete and submit the Annual Player Form and an Official WTA Entry Form; ii) submit all requisite documentation (i.e., proof of identity [copy of player's passport or birth certificate], proof that her minimum educational requirements are being met, etc.); and iii) be current with all Player Development requirements. Under no circumstances will a player be allowed to exceed the WTA and/or ITF Women's Circuit calendar year maximum number of Wild Cards for singles or doubles.
- † There are no age-based restrictions on a player's participation in Exhibitions/Non-WTA Events; however, all players are subject to the Exhibition/Non-WTA Event Rule.
- # Players between the ages of 14 and 15 are permitted to compete in a maximum of eight (8) ITF Women's Circuit events, no more than three (3) of which may be at ITF Women's Circuit \$60,000 and above. The number of ITF Women's Circuit events in which a player may participate will be reduced if the player receives a Wild Card into a WTA Tournament.
- ‡ Players on the Top 10 List must refer to the current Rulebook and contact a Player Development representative in the Florida office for specific details.

#### 4. Player Activity On-site at Tournaments

##### a. Evening Play

The WTA and WTA Tournaments shall use best efforts not to schedule any player under the age of 16 years for a match after 9:00 p.m. tournament local time.

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b. Media Requirements

Players under the age of 18 years are not permitted to engage in an excess of four (4) total hours of media requests and engagements per Tournament. This time is to include: i) one-on-one media requests; ii) WTA requests; and iii) Tournament functions.

c. Personal Endorsement Commitments

A player's personal endorsement commitments are at the discretion of the player, but must not conflict with her: i) match schedule; ii) Player Development requirements; iii) professional appearance obligations of the aforementioned; and/or iv) physiological limitations.

**B. PLAYER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS**

**1. Program Overview and Process**

Player Development programs are divided into the following five (5) phases:

- a. Pro Path (elective phase);
- b. Introductory;
- c. Rookie;
- d. Elite; and
- e. Premier.

The specific player participation requirements of each phase are detailed below, but all players under the age of 18 and players still subject to Player Development requirements (regardless of age) are required to check in at each WTA Tournament with the Player Development representative, the WTA Supervisor or a Player Relations representative the first day of Qualifying or via email/telephone to the Player Development Manager in the Florida office, no later than the Qualifying Sign-In deadline (4:00 p.m. tournament local time, the day prior to the start of Qualifying) to confirm their required Player Development activities for that event.

**2. Pro Path Phase**

- a. Eligibility and Timing

The Pro Path Phase is only open to players who have achieved a Top

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5 Year-End ITF Junior Ranking and/or have reached a final at an ITF Junior Grand Slam Singles event, and such players may elect, but are not required, to participate in the Pro Path Phase. Players must participate in and complete the Pro Path Phase to be eligible to use the Pro Path merited increases detailed above. Players and their Support Team must still complete all Player Development requirements regardless of whether they elect to participate in the Pro Path Phase. Players participating in the Pro Path Phase are subject to Player Development and AER requirements at all Professional Tennis Tournaments (e.g., WTA Tournaments, ITF Women's Circuit, Juniors, Fed Cup, etc.).

#### **b. Pro Path Phase Requirements**

- i. Relevant online modules, including but not limited to, "Intro to the Pros," "Pro Path," "Safety & Security," "Sport Sciences & Medicine," "Anti-doping," "ScheduleZone," "Choosing Player Support Team Members," and others as required.

- ii. Minimum Educational Requirements

Each player under the age of 18 must have met (or continue to meet) the minimum educational requirements of her country of legal residence and, upon entry into her first WTA Tournament, must submit to the WTA a certificate verifying the fulfillment of this educational requirement. Players must continue to furnish proof of such fulfillment on an annual basis until the age of 18.

- iii. Annual Medical Examination

Each player under the age of 18 must undergo an annual medical examination as specified by the WTA. This medical examination must be submitted to the WTA for continued approval to participate in Professional Tennis Tournaments. This information will be kept confidential and on file with SS&M Department.

- iv. Approved Schedule

Submit a projected schedule via the online ScheduleZone module, including details on player's off-season, pre-competition weeks, active rest and recovery weeks and appropriate developmental blocks for review and approval. Once approved, player and her coach must also agree to the schedule. Changes must be submitted to the WTA no less than four (4) weeks prior to such requested change. The approved schedule is subject



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to review, and failure to comply with the schedule will subject player to penalties as outlined below.

- v. Player Support Team Member Requirements
  - (a) Pro Path Coaches must complete the Player Development health and safety modules, including but not limited to “ScheduleZone” and “Safety & Security”.
  - (b) Pro Path Coaches must agree in writing to abide by the WTA rules.
  - (c) Pro Path Coaches must be in good standing.
  - (d) Pro Path Coaches must work with the player and WTA representatives to review, agree to and execute the approved, submitted schedule.
  - (e) A coach who is nominated by a Player Development player to act as her Pro Path Coach must provide proof of Qualification/Certification from a recognized organization or governing body (e.g., a National Federation, the ITF, PTR). A copy of the current certification and/or confirmation from the governing body that the coach is current and in good standing will be required in order to receive a WTA player-coach credential.

It is the player’s responsibility to advise the WTA of her coach and if there is a change of coach.

### **3. Introductory Phase**

#### **a. Eligibility and Timing**

The Introductory Phase begins when a player 18 years of age or younger enters in her first WTA Tournament. Requirements for this phase must be completed as she completes the Annual Player Form process and by the end of her first WTA Tournament (Premier, International or WTA 125K).

#### **b. Introductory Player Requirements**

- i. Relevant online modules including, but not limited to, “Intro to the Pros,” “Safety and Security” and “ScheduleZone”.

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#### **ii. Minimum Educational Requirements**

Each player under the age of 18 must have met (or continue to meet) the minimum educational requirements of her country of legal residence and, upon entry into her first WTA Tournament, must submit to the WTA a certificate verifying the fulfillment of this educational requirement. Players must continue to furnish proof of such fulfillment on an annual basis until the age of 18.

#### **iii. Annual Medical Examination**

Each player under the age of 18 must undergo an annual medical examination as specified by the WTA. This medical examination must be submitted to the WTA for continued approval to participate in Professional Tennis Tournaments. This information will be kept confidential and on file with SS&M Department.

#### **iv. Participate in and pass the Sport Sciences & Medicine Onsite Activities portion of the 'Rookie Hours' Player Orientation.**

#### **v. A coach who is nominated by a Player Development player to receive and subsequently applies for a WTA player-coach credential must provide proof of Qualification/Certification from a recognized organization or governing body (e.g., a National Federation, the ITF, PTR). A copy of the current certification and/or confirmation from the governing body that the coach is current and in good standing will be required in order to receive a WTA player-coach credential.**

It is the player's responsibility to advise the WTA of her coach and if there is a change of coach.

## **4. Rookie Phase**

#### **a. Eligibility and Timing**

The Rookie Phase begins when a player 18 years of age or younger participates in:

- i. Two (2) or more WTA singles events in a 52-week period; or
- ii. A Premier Mandatory singles event (Main Draw or Qualifying); or
- iii. A Grand Slam singles event (Main Draw or Qualifying).

Players must complete their Rookie Phase requirements within three

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(3) additional WTA Tournaments or six (6) months of the Tournament which has triggered their enrollment in the Rookie Phase, whichever comes first.

#### **b. Rookie Phase Player Requirements**

- i. Participate in WTA professional orientation, including:
  - (a) Complete the relevant online Player Development coursework and passing a written examination covering such material; and
  - (b) Participate in and pass the Onsite Activities portion of the 'Rookie Hours' Player Orientation.
- ii. Participate in Educational Programs offered through Player Development.
- iii. Continue to provide proof that the minimum educational requirements of country of residence are being met (or have been completed).
- iv. Continue to undergo the Annual Medical Examination.
- v. Notify the WTA of any changes in Player Support Team Members. It is the player's responsibility to advise the WTA if there is a change in a coach or agent.

#### **c. Player Support Team Member Requirements**

##### **i. Parent(s)**

At least one (1) parent or guardian/chaperone of each player under the age of 18 who has qualified to meet all the requirements of participation on the WTA is required to do the following:

- (a) Complete the online courses and pass the written examinations covering such material;
- (b) Complete the Player Development orientation coursework within a maximum of three (3) months time;
- (c) Agree in writing to abide by the Rules; and
- (d) Comply with all requirements of any Player Support Team

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program established by the WTA.

#### **ii. Coaches, Agents and Credentialed Individuals**

Coaches and agents of and individuals being credentialed through Player Development players under the age of 18 must:

- (a) Complete the Player Development orientation coursework within a maximum of three (3) months' time.
- (b) Agree in writing to abide by the Rules.
- (c) Comply with all requirements of any Player Support Team program established by the WTA.
- (d) Sign in at the WTA office on site prior to the beginning of a WTA Tournament.
- (e) A coach who is nominated by a Player Development player to receive and subsequently applies for a WTA player-coach credential must provide proof of Qualification/Certification from a recognized organization or governing body (e.g., a National Federation, the ITF, PTR). A copy of the current certification and/or confirmation from the governing body that the coach is current and in good standing will be required in order to receive a WTA player-coach credential.

## **5. Elite Phase**

#### **a. Eligibility and Timing**

The Elite Phase begins when a player 18 years of age or younger moves into the Top 150 of singles on the WTA Rankings.

Players must continue to participate and fulfill the requirements of Player Development until notification of graduation.

#### **b. Elite Phase Player Requirements**

- i. Continue completion of the relevant online coursework, including, but not limited to, the History Modules and Planning Zone, and pass related written examinations.
- ii. Participate in the "Partners for Success" Mentor Program (e.g., attend Billie Jean King Power Hour, etc.).

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- iii. Continue to undergo the Annual Medical Examination.
  - iv. Continue providing proof that minimum educational requirements of country of residence are being met (or have been completed).
  - v. Participate in educational programs offered through Player Development, including but not limited to a Fundamental Financial Planning course and introduction to Tennis Integrity program.
  - vi. Participate in the Career Development Program.
  - vii. Complete Advanced Media Training, to be conducted at designated Tournament sites throughout the Tour Year.
  - viii. Within one (1) month of eligibility, meet with a Player Development representative and a WTA Operations representative to review the annual Tournament schedule via the online ScheduleZone module and agree to such schedule.
- c. Player Support Team Member Requirements
- i. Coaches
    - (a) Continue to comply with all requirements of any Player Support Team program established by the WTA.
    - (b) Continue to sign in at WTA Tournaments.
    - (c) Participate in Player Development on-line education, as required.
    - (d) Pass the WTA Rules test.
    - (e) A coach who is nominated by a Player Development player to receive and subsequently applies for a WTA player coach credential must provide proof of Qualification/Certification from a recognized organization or governing body (e.g., a National Federation, the ITF, PTR). A copy of the current certification and/or confirmation from the governing body that the coach is current and in good standing will be required in order to receive a WTA player-coach credential.
- It is the player's responsibility to advise the WTA of her coach and if there is a change of coach.

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- (f) Complete the Player Development requirements within a maximum of three (3) months.
- ii. Parents and Agents
  - (a) Continue to comply with all requirements of any Player Support Team program established by the WTA.
  - (b) Sign a Code of Ethics.
  - (c) Complete the Orientation.
  - (d) Sign in at WTA Tournaments.
  - (e) Participate in Player Development education, as required.
  - (f) Complete the Player Development requirements within a maximum of three (3) months.

## **6. Premier Phase**

### **a. Player Requirements**

Any player who is named to the Top 10 and/or Premier Player List or is ranked in the Top 100 of singles at age 18 and younger must participate in Premier Player education and any other relevant Player Development activities, including:

- i. Complete the Financial Planning Course;
- ii. Participate in a meeting with the WTA CEO or President; and
- iii. Participate in related educational programs offered through Player Development.

### **b. Player Support Team Requirements**

A coach who is nominated by a Player Development player to receive and subsequently applies for a WTA player-coach credential must provide proof of Qualification/Certification from a recognized organization or governing body (e.g., a National Federation, the ITF, PTR). A copy of the current certification and/or confirmation from the governing body that the coach is current and in good standing will be required in order to receive a WTA player-coach credential.

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It is the player's responsibility to advise the WTA of her coach and if there is a change of coach.

#### **C. PLAYER PENALTIES**

##### **1. Ranking Point Penalty**

In the event a player plays in a Tournament that exceeds the number and/or level permitted to be played under the AER, or enters a Tournament that in any way conflicts with the AER and/or Player Development, that Tournament will not be counted for ranking points for that player.

##### **2. Fine and/or Ban from Event Competition/Attendance**

Additionally, players and/or Player Support Team Members who do not comply with any of the provisions of the AER or the requirements of Player Development are subject to a fine of up to \$25,000 and may be barred from competing in and/or attending WTA Tournaments and ITF Women's Circuit events and Fed Cup for up to six (6) months.

Players benefiting from Pro Path merited increases detailed above who do not comply with any of the outlined provisions (including requirements of their PST members) will be subject to the aforementioned penalties in addition to the loss of future Pro Path merited increases.

##### **3. Appeals**

Fine appeals must be filed within 21 days from the date of notice.

##### **4. Clarification of Player Development and Age Eligibility Rule**

For any questions relating to Player Development, including the AER, please contact the WTA Player Development or Legal Department in the Florida office.

# **CODE OF CONDUCT**

## **XVI. CODE OF CONDUCT**

### **FOR WOMEN PROFESSIONAL TENNIS PLAYERS ADMINISTERED BY THE WTA**

It is the purpose of this Code of Conduct, as it may be amended from time to time (the "Code"), to serve as a guide for the acceptable professional behavior of players, Tournament Support Personnel, Player Support Team Members and other Credentialed Persons as it relates to the promotion of the positive image of women's Professional Tennis.

#### **A. GENERAL PRINCIPLES**

##### **1. Tournament Acceptance**

A player shall be accepted into a Tournament if she has applied in writing to play in that Tournament and the WTA has accepted her application in writing, whether or not the player has received written notice of that acceptance.

##### **2. Deadlines**

Unless otherwise noted, all times refer to local time at the Tournament site, and the official WTA Clock located in the on-site WTA office shall determine the time.

##### **3. Fines**

###### **a. Payment Currency**

All fines are established and payable in United States dollars.

###### **b. Collection Method**

The WTA may deduct player fines from player prize money at Tournaments to be determined by the WTA, in its sole discretion.

###### **c. Process for Appeals**

All permitted fine appeals must be filed within 21 days from the date of notice.



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**B. DEFINITIONS**

**1. Key Terms**

- a. "Anti-Corruption Program" refers to the Tennis Anti-Corruption Program set forth in Appendix I.
- b. "Anti-Doping Program" refers to the ITF Tennis Anti-Doping Program, the full text of which can be found at [www.itftennis.com/antidoping/rules/](http://www.itftennis.com/antidoping/rules/).
- c. The term "automatic" as it relates to fines, refers to fines (if determined to have occurred), for which the player shall receive notice from the WTA, and which shall be non-appealable, except in the case of Extraordinary Circumstances as defined in Section III.B.5.
- d. "ITF Rules of Tennis" shall refer to the rules of tennis promulgated by the ITF, the full text of which can be found at <http://www.itftennis.com/officialing/rulebooks/rules-of-tennis.aspx>
- e. "Player" or "player" means any professional or amateur woman tennis player, whether a member of the WTA/WTBA or not, who applies to enter a Tournament.
- f. "Player Support Team Member" shall mean any coach, trainer, manager, agent, medical, paramedical, family member, tournament guest or other similar associate of any Player.
- g. "Tournament" means any singles or doubles tennis competition administered by the WTA, or approved as a WTA Ranking event by the WTA.
- h. "Withdraw" means the written communication by a Player after her acceptance into a Tournament of the Player's inability or unwillingness to play given to any staff member of the WTA Operations Department or Rules and Competitions Department.

**2. Key Decision-making Bodies**

- a. The "Committee" shall refer to the WTA Code of Conduct and Standards of Performance Committee, the body comprised of WTA staff members, Player representatives, Tournament representatives and an ITF representative which shall hear appeals of Code and Standards of Performance violations and fines and consider changes to the Code.

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- b. The “Board of Directors” shall refer to the Board of Directors of the WTA.

**3. Key Tournament Personnel**

- a. “Chair Umpire” shall have the meaning used in the ITF Rules of Tennis.
- b. “Referee” shall mean any official so designated by the WTA and/or Tournament at which this Code is in effect.
- c. “Supervisor” shall mean any official so designated or approved by the WTA at any Tournament at which this Code is in effect.
- d. “Tournament Director” or “Tournament Owner” means the person or persons so designated by the Tournament.
- e. “Tournament Support Personnel” shall mean any Tournament Director, Tournament Owner, Tournament operator, Tournament employee or any designated agent of the Tournament.

**C. APPLICABILITY, AVAILABILITY, AND RECIPROCITY**

**1. Applicability**

- a. Tournaments

The Code shall apply in all Professional Tennis matches of any Tournament and where appropriate, the WTA may take action on any Code violation that occurs outside of a WTA event.

- b. Players

Players shall at all times be subject to the Code, the ITF Rules of Tennis, the Anti-Corruption Program and Anti-Doping Program, as may be adopted by the WTA. Each Player who is accepted to play in a Tournament (singles or doubles, including Wild Cards) must have signed an Official WTA Entry Form prior to commencement of play in the Tournament. The entry form provides that acceptance of the Rules, including the Rules that apply to Tournament entries, acceptance, withdrawals and scheduling, are binding on the player.

- c. Tournament Support Personnel

The Code, Anti-Corruption Program and Anti-Doping Program shall apply to all Tournament Support Personnel.

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d. **Player Support Team Members and other Credentialed Persons**

The Code, Anti-Corruption Program and Anti-Doping Program shall apply to all Player Support Team Members and other persons credentialed at Tournaments.

**2. Availability**

A copy of the Code, Anti-Corruption Program and Anti-Doping Program will be provided to any player, Player Support Team Member, Tournament Support Personnel or other credentialed persons upon request. A copy of the Code shall also be available on site at every Tournament.

**3. Reciprocity**

a. **Sanctions by Other Tennis Organizations**

Notwithstanding the WTA By-Laws or any other provision of the Code, the Committee reserves the right to affirm, modify, or reject with respect to any or all WTA Tournaments a suspension or other sanction issued against an individual or entity subject to the Code ("Covered Person") either by or on behalf of any other tennis organization, including but not limited to the Association of Tennis Professionals, the Grand Slam Board, and the International Tennis Federation. The Committee may suspend provisionally any Covered Person until the completion of the Committee's final determination under this paragraph and any subsequent appeal. A Covered Person may appeal to the Board of Directors for discretionary review of a determination by the Committee under this paragraph. Such appeal must be in writing, state in detail the basis for such appeal, and be filed with the WTA within twenty-one (21) days after the WTA mails notice of the violation to the Covered Person. Upon receipt, the WTA promptly shall forward such appeal to the Board of Directors. As soon as reasonably possible (but no later than thirty (30) days) after the Board of Directors receives such appeal, it shall designate a time and place for the hearing of such appeal and shall notify the Covered Person no less than ten (10) days before the hearing date (unless the Covered Person waives such 10-day requirement). The Covered Person's attendance at the hearing is not mandatory. At such hearing, the Covered Person may be represented by counsel, present relevant evidence to the Board of Directors, call witnesses to testify on his or her behalf, and examine witnesses testifying against him or her. The Board of Directors may determine that, in the interest of fairness, an interpreter is required at the hearing and may retain such interpreter at WTA's expense. The Board of Directors may affirm, reverse, or modify the Committee's determination on appeal, and

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the Board of Directors' decision shall be final, binding, and non-appealable.

b. **Sharing of Information**

The WTA reserves the right to share information concerning a complaint and/or conduct an investigation in conjunction with any other tennis organization or any other relevant authorities. The WTA may also refer any complaint and/or information received during the course of investigating an allegation or prosecuting a charge to any authorities it considers appropriate in its absolute discretion. The WTA shall have the absolute, where it deems appropriate, to stay in its own investigation pending the outcome of investigations being conducted by other tennis organizations and/or relevant authorities.

**D. RULES AND PENALTIES – PLAYERS**

**1. Entry**

All players shall abide by the rules for entries set forth in the Rules. For tournaments not subject to the Rules, all players shall abide by the rules for entries published for such tournaments.

**2. Withdrawals**

Any Late Withdrawal by a player from a Tournament for reasons other than her annual allowance of Medical Withdrawals or a withdrawal due to Extraordinary Circumstances shall constitute a violation of the Code automatically punished by the fines listed in this Code.

For full explanation of the following, refer to the corresponding sections enumerated below:

a. **Withdrawal Fines**

See Withdrawing from a Tournament – Section III.B for Late Withdrawal fines.

b. **No-Show Fines**

See Main Draw Late Withdrawals – Section III.B.2 and Qualifying Late Withdrawals – Section III.B.3 for No-Show Fines.

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- c. Prohibition Against Withdrawing from One Tournament to Play Another

Once a Top 10 Player has entered a Tournament or any other player has been accepted into the Main Draw of a Tournament, such player may not withdraw from the Main Draw of any Tournament to play another WTA or ITF event in the same week. If a player is discovered at any time to have violated this prohibition, the player shall forfeit any ranking points received from the other event in which she played and will be subject to Late Withdrawal fines.

- d. Medical Withdrawal

See Medical Withdrawals – Section III.B.4 for Medical Withdrawal Procedures.

- e. WTA Finals and WTA Elite Trophy Fines

See Section IX.A.8.d for WTA Finals Mandatory Activity Fines and Section IX.B.8.d for WTA Elite Trophy Mandatory Activity Fines.

### **3. Point Penalty Schedule**

The Point Penalty Schedule to be used for violations of the Code is as follows:

<b>1st Offense</b>	Warning
<b>2nd Offense</b>	Point Penalty
<b>3rd and Subsequent Offenses</b>	Game Penalty

However, after the third Code violation, the Supervisor/Referee shall determine whether each subsequent offense shall constitute a default.

Point penalties must be appealed on site to the Supervisor/Referee, whose decision shall be final. Any monetary penalties imposed in conjunction with a point penalty may be appealed in accordance with Procedures for Player and Tournament Support Personnel Violations – Section XVI.G.

### **4. Player On-Court and Off-Court Behavior**

(Except at Grand Slam events which apply Grand Slam rules and procedures.)

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a. Player On-Court Offenses

i. Visible Obscenity

- (a) Players shall not make obscene gestures of any kind within the precincts of the Tournament site. Visible obscenity is defined as the making of signs by a Player with hands and/or racquet or balls that commonly have an obscene meaning.
- (b) Violations of this Section shall subject a Player to a fine up to \$5,000 for each violation. In addition, if such violation occurs during a match, the Player shall be penalized in accordance with the Point Penalty Schedule.

In circumstances that are flagrant and particularly injurious to the success of the Tournament, or are singularly egregious, a single violation of this Section shall also constitute the Player Major Offense of Aggravated Behavior.

ii. Audible Obscenity

- (a) Players shall not use an audible obscenity within the precincts of the Tournament site. Audible obscenity is defined as the use of words commonly known and understood to be profane and uttered clearly and loudly enough to be heard.
- (b) Violations of this Section shall subject a Player to a fine up to \$5,000 for each violation. In addition, if such violation occurs during a match, the Player shall be penalized in accordance with the Point Penalty Schedule.

In circumstances that are flagrant and particularly injurious to the success of the Tournament, or are singularly egregious, a single violation of this Section shall also constitute the Player Major Offense of Aggravated Behavior.

iii. Abuse of Racquet or Equipment

- (a) Players shall not violently, dangerously or with anger hit, kick or throw a racquet or other equipment within the precincts of the Tournament site. For the purposes of this rule, abuse of racquets or equipment is defined as intentionally, dangerously and violently hitting the net, court, umpire's chair or other fixture during a match out of anger.

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- (b) Violations of this Section shall subject a Player to a fine up to \$2,500 for each violation. In addition, if such violation occurs during a match, the Player shall be penalized in accordance with the Point Penalty Schedule. The Player also will be liable for the repair or replacement of destroyed or damaged Tournament property.

iv. Abuse of Balls

- (a) Players shall not violently, dangerously or with anger hit, kick or throw a tennis ball while on the grounds of the Tournament site except in the reasonable pursuit of a point during a match (including warm up). For the purposes of this rule, abuse of balls is defined as intentionally or recklessly hitting a ball out of the enclosure of the court, hitting a ball dangerously or recklessly within the court or hitting a ball with disregard of the consequences.
- (b) Violations of this Section shall subject a Player to a fine up to \$2,500 for each violation. In addition, if such violation occurs during a match, the Player shall be penalized in accordance with the Point Penalty Schedule.

v. Physical Abuse

- (a) Players shall not at any time physically abuse any official, opponent, spectator or other person within the precincts of the Tournament site. For the purposes of this rule, physical abuse is the unauthorized touching of an official, opponent and spectator or other person.
- (b) Violations of this Section shall subject a Player to a fine up to \$10,000 for each violation. In addition, if such violation occurs during a match, the Player shall be penalized in accordance with the Point Penalty Schedule.

In circumstances that are flagrant and particularly injurious to the success of the Tournament, or are singularly egregious, a single violation of this Section shall also constitute the Player Major Offense of Aggravated Behavior.

vi. Verbal Abuse

- (a) Players shall not at any time directly or indirectly verbally abuse any official, opponent, sponsor, spectator or any other person within the precincts of the Tournament site.

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Verbal abuse is defined as any statement about an official, opponent, spectator or any other person that implies dishonesty or is derogatory, insulting or otherwise abusive.

- (b) Violations of this Section shall subject a Player to a fine up to \$10,000 for each violation. In addition, if such violation occurs during a match, the Player shall be penalized in accordance with the Point Penalty Schedule.

In circumstances that are flagrant and particularly injurious to the success of the Tournament, or are singularly egregious, a single violation of this Section shall also constitute the Player Major Offense of Aggravated Behavior.

vii. Coaching and Coaches

- (a) Players shall not receive coaching during a match (including warm up) with the exception of the allowed coaching breaks as defined in the On-Court Coaching Requests - Section XVII.H.3. Communication of any kind, audible or visible, between a Player and a coach may be construed as coaching.

Players also shall prohibit their coaches on site from: i) using an audible obscenity or making obscene gestures of any kind; ii) abusing any official, opponent, spectator or other person, verbally or physically; iii) engaging in conduct contrary to the integrity of the game of tennis. Conduct contrary to the integrity of the game of tennis shall include, but not be limited to, public comments, whether or not to the media, that unreasonably attack or disparage a Tournament, sponsor, player, official or the WTA.

Responsible expressions of legitimate disagreements with WTA policies are not prohibited. However, public comments that one of the stated persons above knows, or should reasonably know, will harm the reputation or financial best interest of a Tournament, players, sponsor, official or the WTA are expressly covered by this Section.

- (b) Violations of this Section shall subject a Player to a fine up to \$5,000 for each violation. In addition, if such violation occurs during a match, the Player shall be penalized in accordance with the Point Penalty Schedule.



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In circumstances that are flagrant and particularly injurious to the success of the Tournament, or are singularly egregious, the Supervisor/Referee shall have the authority to relocate the position of a coach if there is reasonable belief that coaching is occurring, or the Supervisor/Referee may order the coach to be removed from the match site or Tournament site and upon his/her failure to comply with such order, may declare an immediate default of such Player.

#### **viii. Unsportsmanlike Conduct**

- (a) Players shall at all times conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner and give due regard to the authority of officials and the rights of opponents, spectators and others. Unsportsmanlike conduct is defined as any misconduct by a Player that is clearly abusive or detrimental to the success of a Tournament, the WTA and/or the sport. In addition, unsportsmanlike conduct shall include, but not be limited to, the giving, making, issuing, authorizing or endorsing any public statement having, or designed to have, an effect prejudicial or detrimental to the best interest of the Tournament and/or the officiating thereof.
- (b) Violations of this Section shall subject a Player to a fine up to \$10,000 for each violation. In addition, if such violation occurs during a match, the Player shall be penalized in accordance with the Point Penalty Schedule.

In circumstances that are flagrant and particularly injurious to the success of the Tournament, or are singularly egregious, a single violation of this Section shall also constitute the Player Major Offense of Aggravated Behavior.

#### **ix. Best Efforts**

- (a) A Player shall use her best efforts during a match when competing in a Tournament.
- (b) Violation of this Section shall subject a Player to a fine up to \$10,000 for each violation. For the purposes of this rule, the Supervisor/Referee and/or Chair Umpire shall have the authority to penalize a Player in accordance with the Point Penalty Schedule.

In circumstances that are flagrant and particularly injurious

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to the success of a Tournament, or are singularly egregious, a single violation of this Section shall also constitute the Player Major Offense of Aggravated Behavior.

x. Leaving the Court

- (a) A Player shall not leave the court area during a match (including warm up) without the permission of the Chair Umpire or Supervisor/Referee.
- (b) Violation of this Section shall subject a Player to a fine up to \$3,000 for each violation. In addition, the Player may be defaulted and shall be subject to the additional penalties for Failure to Complete Match.

xi. Failure to Complete Match

- (a) A Player must complete a match in progress unless she is reasonably unable to do so.
- (b) Violation of this Section shall subject a Player to a fine up to \$5,000 for each violation. Violation of this Section also shall subject a Player to immediate default and shall constitute the Player Major Offense of Aggravated Behavior.

xii. Punctuality

Players shall be ready when their matches are called.

- (a) Any Player not ready to play within 10 minutes after her match is called shall be fined \$250 for each violation.
- (b) For televised matches with an announced "walk-on" time, players not ready to walk-on at the announced time may be issued a fine in the range of \$1,000-\$5,000, and in extreme cases up to a maximum of \$10,000, for each violation at the sole discretion of the WTA Supervisor.
- (c) Any Player not ready to play within 15 minutes after her match is called may be fined up to an additional \$750 and shall be defaulted unless the Supervisor, after consideration of all relevant circumstances, elects not to declare a default.

b. Other On-Court Offenses

A Player also can be reported to the WTA for inappropriate off-court

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behavior if a Player's behavior or obscene language during a match is not observed or heard by on-court officials, but causes a negative impact to the image of the game because it is seen on television.

c. Sexual Abuse

- i. Players shall not sexually abuse any player or other person. Sexual abuse is defined as the forcing of sexual activity by one person on another person (a) of diminished mental capacity or (b) by the use of physical force, threats, coercion, intimidation or undue influence.
- ii. A violation of this Section shall constitute the major player offense of Aggravated Behavior and may result in the termination of membership.

d. Sexual Harassment

- i. Players shall not engage in sexual harassment (for example, by making unwelcome advances, requests for sexual favors or other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature where such conduct may create an intimidating, hostile or offensive environment).
- ii. A violation of this Section shall constitute the major player offense of Aggravated Behavior.

e. Additional Fine and Appeal Procedures

- i. Monetary fines do not apply for Code violations received due to loss of physical conditioning or as a result of medical treatment not being complete within the allocated time, unless it is interpreted by the Referee/Supervisor as gamesmanship.
- ii. If a Player's on-court behavior is reported to the WTA by another Player, an umpire or a Tournament official, such Player will be subject to the applicable fine, even if a warning was not issued during play.
- iii. The WTA shall determine the fine, which may be appealed to the Committee, provided an appeal is filed within 21 days from the date of notice.
- iv. Player fines may be deducted from player prize money at the Tournament at which the fine is levied or any subsequent tournament.

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**5. Media Obligations**

See Section IV - Player Responsibilities for details on media/promotional/sponsor responsibilities with which each Player must comply.

**6. Hindrance Rule**

See Section IV.H for the Hindrance Rule.

**7. Toilet/Change of Attire Break**

See Section IV.D for Toilet/Change of Attire Rules.

**8. Defaults**

The Supervisor may declare a default for either a single violation of this Code (immediate default) or pursuant to the Point Penalty Schedule set out in Section XVI.D.3. In all cases of default, the decision of the Supervisor/Referee shall be final and non-appealable.

**9. WTA Medical Rule**

See Section XVII.C.5 for the WTA Medical Rule and penalties.

**10. WTA Clothing and Equipment**

See Section IV.C for the WTA clothing and equipment rules and penalties.

**11. Delay of Play**

See Section IV.G for Delay of Play Rule.

**12. Dishonorable or Unprofessional Conduct**

a. Player Responsibilities

i. Player Conduct

A Player shall at all times, but particularly during a Tournament or event into which her entry has been accepted, whether at the Tournament site or not, refrain from engaging in conduct contrary to the integrity of the game of tennis. Conduct contrary to the integrity of the game of tennis shall include, but not be limited to, public comments, whether or not to the media, which unreasonably attack or disparage any person, group of people,

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Tournament, sponsor, player, official or the WTA. Responsible expressions of legitimate disagreement with WTA policies are not prohibited. However, public comments that a player knows, or should reasonably know, will harm the reputation or financial best interests of a Tournament, player, sponsor, official or the WTA are expressly prohibited by this Section.

Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, Players also must comply with the following:

(a) Proper Attire

A Player shall dress and present herself in a professional manner at all times on the Tournament site or any official practice site.

(b) Payment of Personal Expenses

A Player shall pay all of her just debts incurred in connection with her travel to and from, housing at and participation in Tournaments, including telephone, food, medical and racquet stringing charges.

In addition to being responsible for paying all unauthorized phone charges made during a Tournament, at a Tournament site, a Tournament hotel or at a private home, a Player also will be assessed a fine of \$250 regardless of the dollar amount of the unauthorized calls. These charges and fine may be deducted from the offending player's prize money. A Player shall be assessed a fine of \$20 if she fails to pay her racquet stringing bill before leaving the Tournament city.

(c) Avoidance of Criticism in Public or Media

A Player shall not address criticism of a Tournament, sponsor, player, official or the WTA to the media or public. All such complaints should be forwarded to the Supervisor, Player Relations or Tour Operations.

ii. Penalties

Failure to comply with any one of the above shall constitute a violation of the Code and shall subject the offending player to (a) a fine not to exceed the amounts set forth in the following table, (b) default according to the procedures provided for in

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Player On-Court and Off-Court Behavior - Section XVI.D.4 and (c) suspension from participating in professional tennis for a specified period of time as determined by the Board of Directors:

<b>Per Tour Year</b>	<b>Fine</b>
Each Offense	Up to \$10,000

b. Aggravated Behavior

No Player shall engage in Aggravated Behavior, as defined below:

i. Definition

- (a) One (1) or more incidents of behavior designated in this Code as constituting Aggravated Behavior.
- (b) An incident of behavior that is flagrant and particularly injurious to the success of a Tournament or the WTA, or is singularly egregious, including the sale of a credential.
- (c) A series of two (2) or more violations of the Code within a 12-month period which singularly do not constitute Aggravated Behavior, but when viewed together establish a pattern of conduct that is collectively egregious and is detrimental or injurious to the Tournaments or the WTA.

ii. Penalties

Violation of this Section shall subject a Player to a fine up to \$25,000 or the amount of prize money won at the Tournament, whichever is greater, and/or suspension from play in a Tournament or event for a minimum period of 21 days and a maximum period of one (1) year. The suspension will commence on the Monday after the expiration of the time within which an appeal may be filed, or, in the case of appeal, commencing on the Monday after a final decision on appeal.

c. Decision-making Authority

The WTA shall have sole authority to declare a Player's violation under this Section acting upon a formal and substantiated complaint. The WTA decision may be appealed to the Committee, with the exception of appeals involving monetary penalties of \$50,000 or more or appeals of major offenses, such as suspension from the Tour, in which case the matter will be referred to the Board of Directors for a decision.

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**13. WTA Hotel Room Policy**

See Section XVII.A.11 for the WTA Hotel Room Policy and penalties.

**E. EXHIBITION/NON-WTA EVENT RULE**

**1. Definition**

An Exhibition/Non-WTA Event is regarded as any tennis competition between two (2) or more Players who compete in Professional Tennis tournaments whether or not the players receive remuneration for their participation in the event, which is not a part of the WTA or ITF Women's Circuit and is not recognized on the WTA or ITF Women's calendars. These events include single-day, multiple-day, week-long, seasonal team competitions and charity events.

**2. Applicability to Players under the Age Eligibility Rule**

Participation in Exhibition/Non-WTA Events by Players under the age of 18 is also subject to the Age Eligibility Rule - Section XV.

**3. Player Participation**

Unless granted a waiver pursuant to sub-Section 6 below, a Player is not permitted to play in an Exhibition/Non-WTA Event if it is scheduled as follows:

- a. Within 60 days before or 30 days after a Premier/International Tournament (including the WTA Finals and WTA Elite Trophy) and the Exhibition/Non-WTA Event is located either (i) within 125 miles/200 kilometers, measured linearly, of the site of the Tournament, or (ii) within the same generally recognized market area of the Tournament, as determined by the CEO;
- b. During the same week a Premier and/or International Tournament (including the WTA Finals and WTA Elite Trophy) is scheduled; or
- c. During the same week as a WTA 125K in which the player is entered, including the Sunday night after the final.

**4. Exception**

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, as long as a Player is not competing in a WTA Tournament in the week preceding a Grand Slam, she may participate in an Exhibition/Non-WTA Event on the Saturday or Sunday prior to the commencement of the Grand Slam Main Draw, if that Exhibition/Non-WTA Event is promoted by the Grand Slam.

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**5. Fine and Appeal Procedures**

A Player in violation of the Exhibition/Non-WTA Event Rule shall be automatically fined in accordance with the following schedule, based on her prior Tour Year-end singles ranking:

<b>Ranking</b>	<b>Fine</b>
1-3	\$100,000
4-6	\$ 75,000
7-10	\$ 50,000
11-20	\$ 20,000
21-50	\$ 15,000

- a. Exhibition/Non-WTA Event fines will be shared equally between the WTA and the Tournament Council, which the Tournament Council can use in its discretion, including distribution in whole or in part to an aggrieved Tournament. If the Tournament Council determines in its sole discretion that an aggrieved Tournament had any involvement with the Exhibition/Non-WTA Event, the Tournament Council may choose to forego a distribution of the collected fines to the aggrieved Tournament and direct the undistributed money into the Tournament Council Fund.
- b. A Player shall not be subject to the applicable Exhibition/Non-WTA Event fine if her entry in the applicable week would not have been accepted into the respective Tournament by virtue of her singles ranking being below the cutoff at the time the initial Main Draw Acceptance List was produced (6 weeks prior to the Tournament).

**6. Waiver Consideration**

Any Player subject to this Exhibition/Non-WTA Event rule may apply to the CEO for a waiver of the rule with respect to one (1) or more Exhibition/Non-WTA Events, which application the CEO may grant in his/her sole and absolute discretion. Waiver requests must be submitted at least six (6) weeks prior to the Exhibition/Non-WTA Event.

The CEO may consider such waiver requests, including requests related to Exhibition/Non-WTA Events scheduled on any day during Tournament weeks, according to the individual circumstances presented. In considering whether or not to grant a waiver, the WTA may take into account, among other factors, the extent to which a player's participation in the proposed event would (i) negatively impact the overall health of the WTA Tour, (ii) lead to confusion among tennis fans, media and others about the logic, flow and progression of the WTA circuit and the importance of



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participation in WTA Tour events, and (iii) impact on the Tournament(s) within the radius and temporal restrictions set forth herein. As a general rule, in addition to taking into consideration the number of days over which the Exhibition/Non-WTA Event will be scheduled, the television coverage, any marketplace conflicts (considering the size and separation of the marketplace, area population, and location on calendar), waivers may be granted more freely in cases of bona fide charity events, bona fide team competitions, events with Pro-Am formats, events with non-traditional tennis scoring, events not scheduled against Premier Tournaments, and where the event could be reasonably expected to promote fan and media interest, excitement, and attendance at those WTA Tournaments nearest to where the event is to take place.

**F. DISHONORABLE OR UNPROFESSIONAL CONDUCT OF TOURNAMENT SUPPORT PERSONNEL**

The favorable public reputation of the WTA, the Tournaments and the Players is a valuable asset and creates tangible benefits for all WTA members.

**1. Tournament Obligation**

Accordingly, it is an obligation for Tournament Support Personnel to refrain from engaging in conduct contrary to the integrity of the game of tennis and to ensure that Tournament partners adhere to the same standard in the activation of their partnership with the Tournament.

**a. Definition**

Conduct contrary to the integrity of the game of tennis shall include, but not be limited to, public comments, whether or not to the media, and marketing and promotional campaigns and messaging, which unreasonably attack or disparage a Tournament, sponsor, player, official or the WTA.

Responsible expressions of legitimate disagreement with WTA policies are not prohibited. However, public comments that one (1) of the stated persons above knows, or should reasonably know, will harm the reputation or financial best interests of a Tournament, Player, sponsor, official or the WTA are expressly prohibited by this Section.

**b. Penalties**

Violation of this Section shall subject a Tournament and/or Tournament Support Personnel to a fine of up to \$25,000, and/or

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loss or change in membership status, and/or forfeiture of all sums, if any, previously paid to the WTA.

**2. Appeals Process**

The WTA shall have sole authority to declare a violation under this Section acting upon a formal and substantiated complaint. The WTA decision may be appealed to the Committee, with the exception of appeals involving monetary penalties of \$50,000 or more or appeals of major offenses, such as a change in membership status, in which case the matter will be referred to the Board of Directors for a decision.

**G. PROCEDURES FOR PLAYER AND TOURNAMENT SUPPORT PERSONNEL VIOLATIONS**

**1. On-court Adjudication**

Any violation of this Code that must by its nature be adjudicated prior to continuation of Tournament play shall be decided immediately by the official or officials given that authority under this Code. Any appeal of such decisions shall be made to the official making the decision, and the official's judgment with respect to any penalties other than fines shall be final in all cases. The fine portion of any on-court violation may be appealed to the Committee as set out below.

**2. Complaints**

**a. Process and Timing for Reporting Alleged Player Violations**

Reporting a Player's violation of this Code by a Player may originate with the WTA, any Player or a Tournament official. Violations of the sexual abuse and sexual harassment rules may also be reported by the victim of the violation, in the case of a minor, by his or her parents or legal guardians, or by anyone who witnessed the violation. Complaints shall be directed to the WTA. Complaints must be received by the WTA within 21 days of the alleged conduct and, where feasible, must be acted upon prior to the time of the next scheduled Committee meeting. No complaint, except for violations of the Exhibition/Non-WTA Event Rule, Anti-Corruption Program, Anti-Doping Program or sexual abuse and sexual harassment rules, lodged more than 21 days following knowledge or reason to know of the incident or activity allegedly in violation of the Code may be considered by the WTA.

**b. Process and Timing for Reporting Alleged Tournament Support Personnel Violations**

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Reporting a violation of this Code by Tournament Support Personnel may originate with the WTA, any Player or a Tournament official. Complaints shall be directed to the WTA. Complaints must be received by the WTA within 21 days of the alleged conduct and, where feasible, must be acted upon prior to the time of the next scheduled Committee meeting.

### **3. Review, Appeal and Hearing**

For those offenses which require the WTA to conduct a thorough investigation, the WTA may do so either prior or subsequent to notification being given to the Player or Tournament involved.

The WTA and the Committee shall keep accurate records of all complaints and the disposition thereof and shall be responsible for recording all penalties imposed upon Players during any Tour Year.

#### **a. Review Process for Players**

##### **i. Player Notification of Charges**

If the WTA determines there are grounds for the complaint of misconduct under this Code, the Player so charged shall thereupon be notified orally, if possible, and in writing, specifying: a) the provisions which she is charged as having violated and b) the penalty such a violation carries if so specified in the Code.

If the penalty is not so specified, the Player shall be advised that the penalty will be determined by the WTA. This notification and any other in the course of a disciplinary proceeding shall be delivered to the player in person, sent to her by registered or certified mail, overnight delivery with confirmed delivery or sent by e-mail at her address as shown in the records of the WTA or on the most recent Tournament entry application submitted by the Player prior to the notification. All such notices shall be deemed given five (5) days after mailing.

##### **ii. Player Response to Charges**

After receipt of notification of the charges and the potential penalties, a Player charged with misconduct for which a fine is not automatic, shall have 21 days from the date of notice to respond in writing to the allegations. Failure to respond to the charges within the time limit cited above will subject the charged Player to the imposition of the fines as determined by the WTA, if the WTA determines that the Player committed the violation with which

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she is charged, and such Player fails to appeal to the Committee as outlined in this Code.

iii. Player Request for Hearing

Any Player sanctioned for an offense which is subject to appeal, may request a hearing before the Committee or, in the case of an appeal involving monetary penalties of \$50,000 or more, a Player Major Offense potentially resulting in suspension from play, or other sanction of similar magnitude, a Player may request a hearing before the Board of Directors. The WTA must receive a request for a hearing within 21 days following notification to the player of the fine or complaint against her.

b. Review Process for Tournament Support Personnel

i. Tournament Support Personnel Notification of Charges

If the WTA determines there are grounds for a complaint of misconduct under this Code, the Tournament Support Personnel so charged shall thereupon be notified orally, if possible, and in writing, specifying a) the provisions which he/she is charged as having violated and b) the penalty such a violation carries if so specified in the Code.

If the penalty is not so specified, the Tournament Support Personnel shall be advised that the penalty will be determined by the WTA. This notification and any other in the course of a disciplinary proceeding shall be delivered to the Tournament Support Personnel in person, sent to him/her by registered or certified mail, overnight delivery with confirmed delivery or sent by e-mail at his/her address as shown in the records of the WTA. All such notices shall be deemed given five (5) days after mailing.

ii. Tournament Support Personnel Response to Charges

After receipt of notification of the charges and the potential penalties, Tournament Support Personnel charged with misconduct shall have 21 days in which to respond in writing to the allegations. Failure to respond to the charges within the time limit cited above will subject the charged party to the imposition of the fines as determined by the WTA.

iii. Tournament Support Personnel Request for Hearing

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Any Tournament Support Personnel charged with an offense for which a sanction was levied may request a hearing before the Board of Directors. The WTA must receive a request for a hearing within 21 days following notification to the Tournament Support Personnel of the sanction.

c. Hearing Process and Timing

i. Notification of Hearing Time and Place

A Player or Tournament Support Personnel requesting a hearing (as outlined in sub-Sections a.iii and b.iii above) shall be given at least 10 days' notice of the time and place of the hearing. Attendance at the appeal hearing is not mandatory.

It is intended that the hearing requested take place as soon as possible. If he/she wishes to shorten the time required for notice, the Committee or Board of Directors will cooperate in good faith.

ii. Hearing Procedures

At the hearing, he/she may call witnesses testifying on his/her behalf and examine witnesses testifying against him/her. He/she may, if he/she chooses, be represented by counsel at the hearing. The Committee or Board of Directors may determine that an interpreter is required in the interest of fairness. If so, they may retain such person at the expense of the WTA. The Committee or Board of Directors, as appropriate, shall make a determination, which shall be supported by written findings.

d. Meetings of the Committee

The Committee shall be scheduled to meet in person or by teleconference at least two (2) times per year, at least one (1) meeting of which shall be scheduled to be held outside the United States, unless there are no matters scheduled to be heard at the time of any such meeting. All expenses of the Committee shall be borne by the WTA.

e. Notification of Decisions

Within 30 days of its decision, the Committee or Board of Directors shall give written notice to the Player or Tournament Support Personnel of its decision and the penalty to be imposed, if any, regardless of whether or not a hearing was requested. The decision

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of the Committee or Board of Directors shall be final and non-appealable.

f. **Payment of Fines**

Any fine imposed must be paid to the WTA within 30 days of the final imposition, unless written extension of time is granted by the WTA. All unpaid fines at the end of the year will be subject to a penalty of 15% interest on the outstanding balance. Filing of an appeal will not prevent the WTA from deducting fines from player prize money or any payments due from the WTA to Tournaments, nor shall it delay the due date of any fine invoice.

**H. PROCEDURES FOR PLAYER SUPPORT TEAM MEMBERS AND CREDENTIALLED PERSONS**

**1. Player Support Team**

Player Support Team members are expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner at all times. In this regard, a Code of Conduct has been established to set out the rules by which all Player Support Team members must abide at all times.

a. **Competence**

- i. Player Support Team members shall provide services only within the boundaries of their competence, based on their education, training, supervised experience or appropriate professional experience.
- ii. Player Support Team members who perform services for a Player shall strive to increase their level of proficiency and skill by remaining current and seeking continuing education and certification (e.g., by one [1] or more recognized tennis professional associations) on safety, health, training and other developments relevant to tennis.
- iii. Player Support Team members who perform services for a Player shall seek advice and counsel of colleagues and experts, whenever such consultation is in the best interests of the Player.
- iv. Player Support Team members shall strive to protect the health, safety, psychological and physical well-being of a Player under their direction by ensuring that all of the activities under their control are conducted for the Player's psychological and physical welfare.

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- b. Unfair and/or Discriminatory Conduct
  - i. Player Support Team members shall not engage in unfair or unethical conduct, including any attempt to injure, disable or intentionally interfere with the preparation or competition of any Player.
  - ii. Player Support Team members shall not discriminate in the provision of services on the basis of race, ethnicity, gender, national origin, religion, age or sexual orientation.
- c. Abuse of Authority; Abusive Conduct
  - i. Player Support Team members shall not abuse their position of authority or control and shall not compromise or attempt to compromise the psychological, physical or emotional well-being of any Player.
  - ii. Player Support Team members shall not engage in abusive conduct, either physical or verbal, or threatening conduct or language directed towards any Player, Tournament official, WTA staff member, on-court official, coach, parent, spectator or member of the press/media.
  - iii. Player Support Team members shall not exploit any Player relationship to further personal, political or business interests at the expense of the best interest of the Player.
- d. Sexual Conduct

In order to prevent sexual abuse and the negative consequences resulting from the imbalance of a dual relationship, sexual conduct of any kind between a player and her Player Support Team members expressly is discouraged. In addition, the following conduct specifically is prohibited:

- i. Player Support Team members shall not advance towards, or have any sexual contact with, any player who is a) under the age of 17 or b) under the age of legal majority in the jurisdiction where the conduct takes place or where the player resides.
- ii. Player Support Team members shall not sexually abuse a player of any age. Sexual abuse is defined as the forcing of sexual activity by one (1) person on another person a) of diminished mental capacity or b) by the use of physical force, threats, coercion, intimidation or undue influence.

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- iii. Player Support Team members shall not engage in sexual harassment (for example, by making unwelcome advances, requests for sexual favors or other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature where such conduct may create an intimidating, hostile or offensive environment).
- iv. Player Support Team members shall not share a hotel room with a player who is a) under the age of 17 or b) under the age of legal majority in the jurisdiction where the hotel is located or where the player resides, unless such Player Support Team member is the player's legal guardian or is related to the player. Hotel room per diems shall be withheld from any underage player who is found to have violated this Hotel Room Policy. Such penalty shall be in addition to any penalties that may be imposed on the Player Support Team member pursuant to sub-Section 3 below.

e. Criminal Conduct

Player Support Team members shall comply with all relevant criminal laws. For greater certainty and without limiting the foregoing, this obligation is violated if Player Support Team members have been convicted of or entered a plea of guilty or no contest to a criminal charge or indictment for an offense involving:

- i. Use, possession, distribution or intent to distribute illegal drugs or substances;
- ii. Sexual misconduct, harassment or abuse; or
- iii. Child abuse.

Further, this obligation may be violated if, depending upon the nature of the crime, a Player Support Team member has been convicted of or entered a plea of guilty or no contest to an offense that is a violation of any law specifically designed to protect minors.

f. Anti-Doping Activity

Player Support Team members shall comply with the Anti-Doping Program and shall not aid or abet in any way a player's violation of the Anti-Doping Program.

g. General Conduct and Requirements

- i. Player Support Team members shall be familiar with, and agree



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to abide by, the Rules and encourage players to abide by the same.

- ii. Player Support Team members must comply with all requirements of any Player Support Team member registration program established by the WTA.
- iii. Player Support Team members shall not conduct themselves in a manner that will reflect unfavorably on the WTA or any WTA Tournament, player, official or the game of tennis.

**2. Credentialed Persons**

No person who has been given a credential by a Tournament, including members of the media, may at any time during the Tournament engage in abusive conduct directed towards any player, official, spectator or Tournament or WTA staff.

**3. Violations/Procedures**

The following procedures shall apply to all complaints and violations under this Section H.

a. Process and Requirements for Reporting Alleged Violations

Any individual who believes that any Player Support Team member or Credentialed Person has failed to meet his or her obligations under this Code may file a written complaint with the CEO. That complaint shall be signed and shall state specifically the nature of the alleged misconduct.

b. Review or Investigation of Alleged Violations

Upon receipt of such a signed complaint, the CEO promptly shall initiate a review of the matter. The CEO also may initiate an investigation on the basis of a suspension or other disciplinary action taken against Player Support Team members or Credentialed Persons by a National Federation or other tennis organization or a conviction or plea of guilty or no contest to a criminal charge or indictment.

c. CEO Findings and Action

Upon review of the complaint and, where appropriate, additional investigation, the CEO may determine that the complaint does not merit further action.

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However, if the CEO determines the complaint does merit further action, after giving the accused individual the opportunity to present his or her views to the CEO or his/her designee, either in person or in writing, at the CEO's discretion, the CEO may impose appropriate sanctions including:

- i. Denial of privileges or exclusion of the person in question from any or all Tournaments; or
- ii. Such other sanctions including monetary sanctions as the CEO may deem appropriate.

In addition, the CEO shall have authority to issue a provisional suspension, pending the completion of the investigation and issuance of a final decision on the matter.

d. Appeal Process

Decisions of the CEO may be appealed to the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall decide whether to review the appeal based solely on the CEO's investigation or whether to hold a hearing in which the accused will be given the opportunity to present his/her views directly to the Board of Directors. The CEO shall not be entitled to a vote in any Board of Directors appeal decisions under this Section.

Any appeals to the Board of Directors under this Section must be filed in writing within 21 days from the date of notice of the CEO's decision, which is the subject of the appeal. The decision of the Board of Directors shall be final and non-appealable.



## **STANDARDS**

### **XVII. STANDARDS**

#### **A. TOURNAMENT STANDARDS OF PERFORMANCE**

All WTA Tournaments must be staged in a first-class professional manner. Standards are required unless otherwise noted or approved. Tournaments must apply to the WTA at least three (3) months in advance for an exemption from any Tournament Standard of Performance.

No experimental procedures or products can be used or offered to the players without prior written approval from the WTA. All procedures and products must be in compliance with the Rules.

Unless otherwise noted, all facilities and standards required hereunder must be ready by 9:00 a.m. on the day of Qualifying Sign-In.

Any Tournament which is combined or back-to-back with an ATP event shall provide a level of Tournament Standards which is equal to or greater than the level of Tournament Standards provided for at its ATP event; however, in no instance shall such Standards fall below the minimum required herein.

Except as otherwise agreed, WTA 125Ks shall comply with all Tournaments Standards applicable to International Tournaments.

#### **1. Accounting**

Within 14 days following the conclusion of the Tournament, the Tournament shall submit to the WTA a full report of all aspects of the Tournament including: a) a copy of the prospectus; b) a completed program; and c) a statement showing all monies disbursed on site for prize money and traveling expenses as allowed under Section X Prize Money.

#### **2. Animals**

No animals will be allowed in the Player Restaurant, Locker Room, Treatment/Training Room or WTA Office. Animals on site must be restrained (either by leash or carry case). Facility rules regarding animals on site shall be enforced.

#### **3. Anti-Doping Testing Facilities and On-Site Personnel Assistance**

##### **a. On-Site Doping Control Station**

Each Tournament, when selected to host testing of players, is obligated to provide, at its own cost, the facilities in Appendix H.

## **STANDARDS**

### **SECTION XVII - TOURNAMENT STANDARDS OF PERFORMANCE**

#### **b. Chaperones Provided by the Tournament**

Each Tournament, when selected to host testing of players, is obligated to provide, at its own cost, adult female staff members and/or volunteers who can assist the Official Anti-Doping Personnel and Supervisor with the notification and observation of players selected for testing. The Tournament shall be notified of the chaperone schedule at least seven (7) days prior to the start of the Tournament.

#### **4. Ball Persons**

It is recommended that a coordinator be appointed to recruit and assign Ball Persons. There shall be a minimum of six (6) ball persons per match in the Main Draw and Qualifying. Ball persons may not wear any predominantly white, yellow or other light color clothing that may interfere with the players' vision, unless otherwise approved by the WTA. Ball persons' uniforms should not be identical to the Line Umpires' uniforms.

#### **5. Balls**

##### **a. Ball Type and Specifications**

- i. ITF-approved Type 2 Regular Duty balls from the WTA approved ball list are to be used at all WTA Tournaments unless otherwise approved by the WTA. At least twelve (12) weeks prior to the start of its Main Draw, each Tournament must confirm with the WTA the ball it intends to use. Failure to comply may result in a Tournament Standards Violation and/or other sanctions.

High-altitude balls are not to be used unless conditions require, and such use must be approved by the WTA and must be stated on the Tournament Fact Sheet.

- ii. WTA Tournaments which are played the week before a Grand Slam are required to use the same ball (brand and commercial denomination) as that Grand Slam.
- iii. Pressurized balls only will be used on the WTA.

##### **b. Number and Procedure for Rotation during All Match Play**

At all Tournaments for all matches in both Qualifying Singles and Main Draw singles and doubles, six (6) balls shall be used and changed after the first seven (7) games and thereafter every nine (9) games.

## STANDARDS

### SECTION XVII - TOURNAMENT STANDARDS OF PERFORMANCE

#### c. Availability

Balls of the make to be used in the Tournament are to be available on site at least three (3) days prior to the commencement of the Qualifying for players in both the Main Draw and Qualifying until they are eliminated. Prior to the Qualifying Sign-In, players shall be required to purchase the balls. Beginning on the day of the Qualifying Sign-In, players are entitled to receive the complimentary daily allocation of practice balls in accordance with sub-Section d below.

#### d. Daily Allotted Number of Practice Balls

Main Draw and Qualifying players are entitled to new practice balls as set out in the following chart:

Tournament Category	Player Daily Allotment of New Practice Balls	
	While Competing in Tournament	After Elimination
Premier	6	3
International	6	3

If the practice courts are located off site, it is recommended that practice balls be provided at the practice site.

## 6. Chairs/Umbrellas

Chairs must be provided on court for player use during the change of ends. At outdoor Tournaments, umbrellas must be provided to shade the players' chairs.

## 7. Court

#### a. Court Specifications

##### i. Court Surface

- (a) Tournaments must be played on a surface that is approved by the WTA, including, but not limited to, the color of the court surface. Tournaments must submit a written request for approval to the WTA prior to making any changes to the existing surface and pay the cost of any testing deemed necessary by the WTA.

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- (b) If a new surface is being considered, approval must be given by the WTA. If the Tournament fails to utilize the surface recommended by the WTA, individual players may refuse to participate in the Tournament, in which case the WTA neither is responsible for such action by a player nor subject to any penalties.
  - (c) The surface must be maintained to the satisfaction of the Supervisor/Referee.
  - (d) Tournaments must ensure that the same surface is used for Main Draw and Qualifying. If there are circumstances beyond the control of the Tournament Director, Qualifying matches may be held on a different surface, only with approval of the WTA. All practice courts, with a minimum of one (1) on site, must be of the same surface and condition (i.e., indoor/outdoor) as the Main Draw match court(s). (See the chart in sub-Section b below for practice court requirements.)
  - (e) Unless otherwise approved by the WTA, outdoor courts shall be laid out with the long axis north and south; geographic considerations may modify this orientation in order to minimize the adverse effect of serving into the sun.
- ii. Court Measurements
- (a) There must be at least 12 feet (or 3.66 meters) at each side of the doubles sideline and 21 feet (or 6.40 meters) behind each baseline. (This does not include the publicity/advertising placed around the line umpires' chairs). It is recommended that show courts have 15 feet (4.57 meters) at each side of the doubles sideline and 27 feet (8.23 meters) behind each baseline. At indoor Tournaments, the ceiling must be a minimum of 40 feet (or 12.19 meters) in height.
  - (b) Court Dimensions must comply with those set out under the ITF Rules of Tennis. It is the responsibility of the Tournament Director to ensure, upon final preparation of the tennis courts before the Tournament commences, that all court specifications, including court measurements, comply with the standards set forth in Section XVII.E-Court Measurements. All court measurements shall be made to the outside of the lines and all lines of the court shall be white.

## STANDARDS

### SECTION XVII - TOURNAMENT STANDARDS OF PERFORMANCE

#### b. Minimum Numbers of Match and Practice Courts

##### i. Combined Tournaments with the ATP

For all combined Tournaments with the ATP other than Premier Mandatory Tournaments, minimum numbers of match and practice courts must be approved by the WTA at least six (6) months prior to the Tournament.

##### ii. Indoor Tournament

<b>Tournament Category</b>	<b>Show Courts</b>	<b>Additional Match Courts</b>	<b>Practice Courts (on-site and off-site)</b>	<b>On-Site Practice Courts</b>
Premier 5	1	1	4	1
Premier 700	1	1	4	1
International	1	1	3	1

##### iii. Outdoor Tournament

<b>Tournament Category</b>	<b>Show Courts</b>	<b>Additional Match Courts</b>	<b>Practice Courts (on-site and off-site)</b>	<b>On-Site Practice Courts</b>
Premier Mandatory -12 Joint	3	5	16	8
Premier Mandatory - 9 Joint	2	5	14	8
Premier (56)	1	4	4	3
Premier (32)	1	3	4	4
International (56)	1	3	3	1
International (32)	1	2	3	1

##### iv. Availability

For hard and clay court Tournaments, practice courts must be available for use for practice by 8:00 a.m. the day prior to Qualifying Sign-In, and match courts must be available for use for practice by 8:00 a.m. the day of Qualifying Sign-In. For grass court Tournaments, practice courts must be available for use for practice by 10:00 a.m. the day prior to Qualifying Sign-In, and match courts must be available for use for practice by 10:00 a.m. the day of Qualifying Sign-In.



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#### c. Court Signage

##### i. On the Court Surface

- (a) There can be no commercial identification on the surface of the court, except that the name of the court surface and the Tournament's host locality (as further described below) are permitted to be placed on the court surface with prior approval from the WTA. A Tournament must request WTA approval for the placement of the WTA Logo and host locality signage and/or court manufacturer identification, and provide full details of all signage (text and placement) to the WTA at least 90 days prior to the event.
- (b) Tournaments may place on court the name of their host locality, which may include one (1) of the following: city, region (i.e., state or county) or country subject to the placement and size restrictions set forth below. The preferred font is Din Condensed, but tournaments may use the official logo or font of the host country, city, or region with the prior approval of the WTA. Signage must be consistent with the texture and feel of the court surface so as not to affect play or pose a safety hazard.

The position, size and font of the host locality signage shall be in accordance with one (1) of the following two (2) options; and, in either case, the Tournament must include the WTA Logo as specified below:

#### HOST LOCALITY NAME OPTION 1: BASE LINE OPTION (not applicable to clay court tournaments)

- Upper case in white
- Displayed on one (1) line facing the main camera
- Written on one (1) or both ends of the court behind the baseline
- Centered between the singles sidelines
- Nearest distance from the baseline: 3m/9.85 feet
- Height of lettering: Not greater than 80cm/31.5 inches (50cm/19.7 inches at combined events)
- Width: No restriction

#### HOST LOCALITY NAME OPTION 2: SIDELINE OPTION

- Upper case in white
- Displayed on one (1) or two (2) lines, facing the main

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camera

- Written on the right and/or left side of the court centered between the net post and the service line, outside of the doubles sidelines. If the text is displayed on two (2) lines, they should together be centered on the service line (line spacing should be 20cm/7.9 inches).
- Height of lettering: Not greater than 50cm/19.7 inches (40cm/16 inches at combined events)
- Distance from the doubles sideline: minimum of 40cm/16 inches (maximum of 40cm/16 inches at combined events)
- Width: No restriction
- The text should be elongated by 27% for improved television visibility.
- If used on a clay surface, the text must not protrude above the surface of the court.

#### WTA LOGO (FOR OPTIONS 1 AND 2)

- Placement:
  - (i) One (1) WTA Logo painted on the court, at least 40 cm / 16 inches outside of the doubles sidelines half way between the net and the service line, on the side of and facing the main camera; or
  - (ii) WTA Logos in at least two (2) corners of the backdrops, with a minimum of one (1) on the backdrop facing the main camera and one (1) in side camera view;\* or
  - (iii) At least two (2) WTA Logos in a position immediately above and behind the backdrops with a minimum of one (1) on the end facing the main camera and one (1) in side camera view;\* or
  - (iv) Any other position proposed by the Tournament and agreed by the WTA.
- Logo Dimensions if Painted on the Court: At least 72.2 cm (28.4 inches) x 94 cm (37 inches)
- Logo Dimensions if on or Behind Backdrop: At least 29 cm (11.4 inches) x 37.7 cm (14.84 inches)
- Artwork: WTA Logo; same application as for backdrop/sidewall signage with a dark background
- Combined and Back-to-Back Events: WTA Logo must be at least the same visual size as the ATP logo (i.e., cover the same surface area)

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\*The WTA may substitute the WTA Logo positioned on the back fence with 3-D signage placed on-court as a mat where the Net Umpire chair surrounding is normally placed.

- (c) Two (2) identifications of the court manufacturer (maximum 20.13 square feet/1.87 square meters) may be permitted on the side of the court surface parallel to the sidelines. Such logo must be placed at least 1.5 meters (4.92 feet) from the doubles sideline. If used on a clay surface, the text must not protrude above the surface of the court.

(See examples in Section XVII.D – On-Court Signage.)

- ii. Behind the Court

The back fences, back walls, net, net posts, line umpire boxes and other fixtures on a court shall not be predominantly white, gray, yellow or any other light color that can interfere with the vision of the players as determined by the Supervisor.

- iii Banners

There can be no banners with predominantly white, gray, yellow or any other light color backgrounds behind the ends of the court. Background and lettering on rotating/LED banners should be consistent with the color of the back walls. If placed in front of back walls, rotating/LED banners can change only during a change of ends. If placed in front of side walls, rotating banners can change only after completion of any game.

When lighter lettering needs to be used on a darker background, PMS Color “Cool Gray” 4 to 6 (5 to 6 for outdoor tournaments) are the preferred colors. No colors can be used that interfere with the vision of the players as determined by the Supervisor.

- d. Court Preparation

Clay and loose surface courts must be swept, watered and lines cleared before the start of all matches, if the Supervisor or Referee deems it necessary. Clay courts also may need to be watered and/or swept between sets if requested by the Supervisor or Referee.

- e. Seating

- i. Color of Box Seats and Seats at Ends of the Court

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It is recommended that spectator seating not have any white, gray, yellow or other light colors that can interfere with the vision of the players and that any such light colored seating be covered.

#### **ii. Spectator Movement During Play**

Spectators above the lowest tier of seating will be allowed to move freely to and from their seats at any time during play. The Tournament Director and Supervisor at each Tournament will determine this lowest tier of seating. Where there is no clear break, the Tournament Director and Supervisor will determine the most logical designation for spectator movement during play. (See Supervisor – Section XVII.B.1.)

#### **f. Smoking**

Except where prohibited by law, smoking shall not be permitted within the lower level of seating around the courts and in all restricted player areas as well as the WTA and Officials' offices.

### **8. Credentials/Tickets/Seating**

In addition to the ticket allocation requirement as part of the Commercial Benefits granted to the WTA/sponsor (see Seats/Tickets – Section VIII.B.10) and the WTA Television Broadcast Standards requirements (see Tournament Facilities – Section XVII.J.4), each Tournament will provide the following:

#### **a. Players, Coaches, Guest and WTA Staff**

##### **i. Each Participating Player:**

- (a) One (1) credential;
- (b) Two (2) player guest/coaches credentials; and
- (c) Two (2) tickets for each day for which the player remains in the Tournament.

A designated seating area in the grandstand for players and players' coaches, relatives or guests to sit and watch matches also must be provided at all sessions. Best efforts should be made for a minimum of ten (10) seats. This reserved seating area shall be in addition to the match box seats.

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Player credentials shall be valid through the end of the Tournament. Player guest/coach credentials shall be valid as long as the player remains at the Tournament.

- ii. Each WTA staff member, massage therapist, WTA sponsor: One (1) credential.
  - iii. Any official guest of the WTA: One (1) credential, at WTA's request (provided such requests are reasonable and access limited as appropriate for security).
  - iv. WTA: Ten (10) tickets per session in a preferred location (need to be box seats or best available after box seats).
  - v. WTA player members not in the Tournament: On-site access is allowed, but such players are not permitted to use the site amenities and practice facilities without the Tournament Director's permission.
  - vi. Each WTA Tournament Director: On-site access to all WTA Tournaments.
- b. Match Court Seats
- i. A match box shall be provided to the guests of each player participating in the scheduled match. The boxes should offer identical views, have a minimum of six (6) seats and be of equal position and size to each other but located at opposite ends of the court.
  - ii. Two (2) seats with easy and quick access to the court shall be provided for each player who will receive On-Court Coaching unless the match box provided to the player allows easy access to the court.
  - iii. To the Supervisor, PHCP and WTA Communications Manager: One (1) seat each close to the entrance of each court during all matches with easy access to the court.

Each person granted a credential to access secure player areas, must complete a Credential Form as required by the WTA. Tournaments must implement and comply with credentialing requirements established by the WTA.

The following table summarizes the above requirements for credentials, tickets and seating:

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Group Designation	Credentials	Tickets/Seats
WTA Players	1 player badge and 2 guest/coach badges	2 each day while competing
WTA Staff <sup>^</sup>	1 per staff member and local massage therapist	3 seats by court entrance with easy access to the court
WTA	1 credential for any official guest	10 tickets per session in a preferred location
WTA Sponsor	1 per sponsor	n/a
WTA Members	On-site access	n/a
WTA Tournament Directors	On-site access	n/a

<sup>^</sup> The seats near the court entrance shall be designated for the Supervisor, PHCP and Communications Manager for all matches.

### 9. Fitness Center

Access to a complimentary fitness center is required at all Tournaments for all players and credentialed coaches, located within reasonable proximity to the site or the Tournament hotel. The fitness center should include a variety of cardiovascular equipment (bicycles, treadmills, stair-steppers) and strengthening equipment (free weights, nautilus, resistance bands, rubber medicine balls (weight range 1kg to 4kg) and anti-burst swiss balls), as well as an area for flexibility and relaxation (stretching mats and foam rollers) with a full length mirror. If there is no accessible fitness center on site, there must be a warm-up area that includes cardiovascular equipment (bicycles, treadmills, etc.) and an area for flexibility and relaxation.

### 10. Performance Food and Beverage Service

Each Tournament must provide complimentary food and drinks beginning one (1) hour before the start of the first scheduled match until one (1) hour after the start of the last match, for WTA staff and for all players (Main Draw and Qualifying) plus a minimum of one (1) guest per player from the first day of Qualifying until the player is eliminated. The Tournament shall assure that food and drinks are available on-site on the day before the start of Qualifying. If the Tournament hosts a night session, it is acceptable to provide complimentary food only to players scheduled for that night, as well as players involved in delayed day session matches, and to WTA staff.

Bottled, non-carbonated water and WTA-approved carbohydrate-electrolyte replacement drinks in sealed bottles (in connection with the Anti-

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Doping Program) must be provided at all times in the restaurant area, locker room, player lounge and on the practice and match courts.

- a. Food Storage, Service and Preparation
  - i. All food and beverages must be stored properly and maintained at an appropriate temperature which complies with local health regulations.
  - ii. Non-packaged catered food must be regularly rotated to assure freshness.
  - iii. Low-fat cooking methods should be used (baked, broiled, roasted, with no added butter or oil).
  - iv. Seasonings should be light; offer extra salt, pepper, garlic, etc. on the side.
- b. Daily Meal Planning
  - i. When providing meals, a variety of quality, international cuisine and seasonal food choices are preferred on a daily basis.
  - ii. In addition to daily meals, snacks should be provided throughout the day and evening (e.g., fruits, breads, pretzels, low-fat snack bars, cheeses, yogurts, crackers, nuts, and dried fruit). If not provided by the WTA, WTA-approved energy bars (in connection with the Anti-Doping Program) must be available in the restaurant area.
  - iii. Ideal recovery beverages such as smoothies, juice bars, chocolate milk (1%, low fat or skim), and chocolate soy milk should be available.
  - iv. If morning practices and matches are played, breakfast items also should be available (e.g., cold cereals, bagels, breads, yogurt and fruit).
  - v. Suggested lunch and dinner menus should include the following selections:
    - (a) Three (3) carbohydrate selections (one (1) rice option, one (1) potato option and one (1) pasta option); and
    - (b) Three (3) protein selections (one (1) red meat option, one (1) white meat option and one (1) meatless option). (See

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Recommended Food Groups – Carbohydrates and Proteins below)

- vi. Practice hours and match schedule will determine when meals and/or snacks are served. Allow for one (1) hour before the start of the first scheduled match and up to one (1) hour after the start of the last match. Limited meal times, outside of this schedule require the pre-approval of the Supervisor, and, in such instances, the Tournament must arrange for alternate on-site player and staff meals until the player restaurant reopens.
- c. Recommended Food Groups

The following is a list of recommended food groups:

i. Carbohydrates (60% of total calorie intake)

(a) Breads and Cereals

Assorted wheat breads, rolls, and gluten free bread; oatmeal or porridge; bagels; crackers; low-sugar cereals; muesli; pasta and gluten free pasta; baked (white and sweet) potatoes; barley, quinoa, couscous and rice.

(b) Fruits and Vegetables

Assorted fresh fruit salad; dried fruits; whole fresh fruits; and fresh-cut raw vegetables. Salad bar: tomatoes; potatoes; lettuce (variety); cucumbers; sprouts; mushrooms; carrots; peas; beans; etc. with a variety of dressings on the side.

(c) Performance Foods

Assortment of WTA-approved sport drinks and bars.

ii. Proteins (15% of total calorie intake)

(a) Meat and Alternatives

Chicken (white meat); turkey (white meat); beef and lamb (red meat); fish (assorted variety); eggs; legumes; nuts and tofu.

(b) Dairy Products and Alternatives



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Soft and hard cheeses; low-fat cottage cheese; low-fat plain and fruit flavored yogurt; low-fat milk and soy milk.

#### iii. Fats and Oils (25% of total calorie intake)

Limit intake of fats and oils high in saturated and/or trans fatty acids.

#### iv. Miscellaneous

- (a) A selection of international condiments (e.g., jam, honey, peanut butter, vegemite, salsa, ketchup, curry sauce, soy sauce and sweet chili sauce).
- (b) Low-fat soups (e.g., minestrone, chicken noodle, vegetable).
- (c) All sauces and dressings should be served on the side.
- (d) Low-fat dessert options, such as fruit breads, muffins and crumbles.

#### d. Beverages

Bottled, non-carbonated water; mineral water; variety of 100% fruit juices; WTA-approved sports drink (in connection with the Anti-Doping Program); chocolate milk (1%, low fat or skim) and chocolate soy milk; and a selection of coffees, teas, hot chocolate and soft drinks (decaffeinated, preferred).

## 11. Hotel Rooms/Per Diem – Player

#### a. Official Hotel Location and Transport Requirements

Tournaments will establish an official hotel that meets the standard requirements of the WTA. Hotels must be located in a secure and safe area. Motels or any accommodations that require entrance to rooms from the street or public outdoor walkways are not acceptable. Transport must be provided to and from the official hotel to the Tournament site.

#### b. Hotel Rates and Availability

Each Tournament should use its best effort to arrange for discounted or complimentary accommodations. If the official hotel daily

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rate for a double room (2 persons in room) excluding taxes and breakfast at Premier Tournaments is higher than US\$225 (€200 in Europe) per day or US\$175 (€150 in Europe) per day at International Tournaments, then an alternative player hotel must be provided with a rate of US\$225/€200 at Premier Tournaments (US\$175/€150 at International Tournaments) per day for a double room or less.

Rates should be available the day before Qualifying commences until the conclusion of the Tournament.

Tournaments may apply to the WTA for relief from these hotel rate standards, which may be granted by the WTA on a case-by-case basis, depending upon local considerations which make compliance with such standards impractical and unrealistic.

#### **c. Alternate Hotel Location and Transport Requirements**

The alternate hotel should be no more than 10-15 miles (or 10-15 minutes) from the Tournament site. Tournament transportation must be provided from the alternate hotel.

#### **d. WTA Notification of Hotel Accommodations and Room Lists**

The Supervisor should be notified by the Tournament of all housing arrangements. In addition, each Tournament shall provide the WTA with an official hotel room list.

#### **e. Player Hotel Room Entitlement**

Under the per diem rule, each player competing in the Main Draw (singles or doubles) and the Qualifying at all WTA Tournaments shall be entitled to a double room (or the cost of a double room), including room taxes, at one of the official hotels selected by the Tournament. Specific hotels for Qualifying and Main Draw may be designated by a Tournament. The player may designate the entirety of the nights in her per diem room to one (1) accompanying family member, coach, trainer, or agent. If multiple players elect to share a room, each player in such room is still entitled to receive full per diem.

The Tournament shall only pay the per diem allowances through the official hotel(s). Payment to the players is prohibited. Tournaments may apply to the WTA for relief from this requirement, which will only be granted by the WTA if the Tournament agrees to make secure arrangements for per diem payments to underage athletes.

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#### f. Reservation Process and Deadlines

If a player does not make her hotel reservation by the deadline stated on the Tournament Fact sheet, she is not guaranteed a room or any discounted rate.

The hotel booking process must be clearly described on the Tournament Fact Sheet. The Tournament must ensure that a contact person is available by phone and email starting at least six (6) weeks before the event and the contact details must appear on the Tournament Fact Sheet.

#### g. Required Length and Timing of Hotel Stay

##### i. Minimum Per Diem Nights

The minimum numbers of nights for which singles and doubles Main Draw players shall receive hotel room/per diem is listed in the table below.

<b>Tournament Category</b>	<b>Singles Main Draw</b>	<b>Singles Qualifying</b>	<b>Doubles Main Draw</b>
Premier Mandatory - 12	10	2	5
Premier Mandatory - 9	8	2	5
Premier 5	7	2	4
Premier 700	6	2	4
International	5	2	4
WTA 125K	4	0	2

##### ii. Exception for Combined Events with ATP

WTA player hotel room/per diem at combined events shall be consistent with the WTA per diem rules, except where per diem provided under the ATP rules is greater, in which case the ATP per diem rule shall apply.

#### h. Per Diem for Main Draw Players

A player's Main Draw per diem nights: (i) begin three (3) days\* before the start of a Tournament's Main Draw or the day that she registers, whichever is later; and (ii) continue through the night of her final exit from the Tournament (e.g. last match, withdrawal, etc.) or the

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night that she reaches the minimum per diem nights to which she is entitled under this Rule, whichever is later. In all cases, the last night for which any player will receive per diem is the night of the Tournament's final match, whether or not she has received her minimum per diem nights.

\*If the Main Draw starts Wednesday, then per diem begins Sunday; if the Main Draw starts Tuesday, then per diem begins Saturday; if the Main Draw starts Monday, then per diem begins Friday; if the Main Draw starts Sunday, then per diem begins Thursday; if the Main Draw starts Saturday, then per diem begins Wednesday; and so on.

#### i. Per Diem for Qualifying Players

Per diem nights for Qualifying will be counted from the day of the Qualifying Sign-In deadline.

Qualifiers shall be afforded hotel room/per diem through the later of the minimum number of nights or the night of the player's final exit from the Qualifying Draw, and successful Qualifiers shall be afforded the same hotel room/per diem as Main Draw players. However, nights used under the Qualifying per diem shall count towards the minimum number of nights to which a player is entitled under the Main Draw per diem. Regardless of the number of days played to qualify, successful Qualifiers shall receive per diem from the day of the Qualifying Sign-In through the night of a player's final exit (e.g., last match, withdraw, etc.) from the Main Draw, or until the minimum number of nights for a singles Main Draw player has been provided, whichever is later.

Players who play in the Qualifying but who do not qualify and then play in the Doubles Main Draw shall receive two (2) nights for Qualifying in addition to the standard Doubles Main Draw per diem allowance.

#### j. Per Diem for Lucky Losers and Doubles Alternates

Each day, the highest ranked among the Lucky Losers (see Section III.C.1.a.v.) and Doubles Alternates who have signed in to preserve their eligibility shall receive hotel/per diem the same as Main Draw players up through the night following the last day a Lucky Loser or Doubles Alternate, as applicable, is eligible to be awarded a spot in the Main Draw. The hotel/per diem will fall to the next highest-ranked Lucky Loser or Doubles Alternate in the event the highest-ranked Lucky Loser or Doubles Alternate moves off the list (e.g., moves into the Main Draw), with the hotel/per diem beginning on

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the day the highest-ranked Lucky Loser or Doubles Alternate moves off the list.

k. Per Diem for Players Who Withdraw On-site for Medical Reasons

Main Draw singles players who have withdrawn on-site for medical reasons before starting to compete and who are examined by the on-site tournament doctor shall receive two (2) nights of hotel/per diem.

l. Hotel Upgrade or Per Diem in Lieu of Accommodation Request

If the official hotel designated by the Tournament does not meet the standard requirements, the WTA may request an upgrade in accommodations to a hotel of that standard rating.

If the Tournament is unable or refuses to comply with this rule, then the WTA may choose the per day per diem (US\$200/€175 at Premier Tournaments and US\$150/€125 at International Tournaments) in lieu of hotel accommodations for a player who is entitled to a complimentary room.

m. Player Responsibility for Personal Expenses

A player is responsible for all hotel charges over and above those for the room rate and tax (double room or double room cost).

## 12. Hotel Rooms and Per Diem – WTA Staff

Tournaments are required to provide three (3) complimentary hotel rooms for the WTA staff, which may be divided among the Supervisor, PHCP staff and Massage Therapist. The allocation of WTA staff rooms, however, shall be determined by the WTA and communicated to the Tournament by the Supervisor. At ATP/WTA combined events where ATP Supervisors receive a complimentary hotel room, per diem, and laundry service, the equal number of WTA Supervisors shall also receive similar complimentary accommodations and benefits in addition to the complimentary hotel rooms provided to WTA staff. All aforementioned rooms shall be provided from the day before the Qualifying Sign-In through the final day of the Tournament. The Tournament shall be responsible for payment of hotel room taxes and the WTA staff and Supervisors shall be responsible for all incidental expenses. In addition, each Tournament should use best efforts to arrange for the player rate at the official hotel to be offered to WTA staff working at the Tournament.

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**13. Internet Communication**

In each instance in the Rules where a high-speed Internet connection is required, it shall consist of an always-on, high-speed Internet connection. A minimum total 1Mb/sec (mega bit per second) of available bandwidth must be available for the WTA offices and staff, including the Player Development and medical offices (e.g., Tournament Physician, PHCP, and Massage Therapist), unless otherwise approved by the WTA. User access via Ethernet or WiFi is recommended.

Unless reasonably unable to do so, Tournaments shall use web filtering activity to restrict access to internet gambling sites in all areas where internet access is provided by the Tournament.

**14. Laptop Computers**

The use of laptop computers within the confines of the Tournament match courts is strictly forbidden. The exception to this provision is properly credentialed media, Tournament vendors and Tournament staff when used in the performance of their duties.

**15. Laundry Service**

Each Tournament shall provide laundry service to participating players from the first day of Qualifying until the completion of the Tournament. Laundry service may be limited to 'next-day wash & fold' service and may be provided on site and handled by the locker room attendants, or directly at the official hotel. Laundry service costs should be reasonable (whether per item or per bag), and must be approved by the WTA at least one (1) month prior to the Tournament.

**16. Lighting**

a. Specifications and Measurements

Lighting must be distributed evenly on the court, with the minimum and recommended standards as stated in the chart below.

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	Required
Light Measurements	
Lux (averaged over 15 readings)	1,076
Lux Outside Court Lines (averaged over 8 readings)	500
Foot Candles	100
Ratio between Highest/Lowest reading	1 x 1.5
Light Pole Heights	
All Courts	40 feet*

\*Or no lower than other non-show court lights at the facility.

It is the responsibility of the Tournament Director to ensure, upon final preparation of the tennis courts before the Tournament commences, that all court specifications, including lighting measurements, comply with the standards set forth in Section XVII.F – Light Measurements.

Measurements should be taken from approximately three (3) feet (0.914 meters) above the court.

The Supervisor has the authority to suspend play on any court if the intensity of illumination, in his/her judgment, is insufficient for Professional Tennis.

#### b. Second Court for Outdoor Night Matches

If an outdoor Tournament holds night sessions, a 2nd match court with lighting that meets Tour standards will be required.

## 17. Live Scoring

Beginning with the Qualifying, each Tournament shall be responsible for providing live scoring services including the set up and maintenance of an encrypted scoring network with a signal throughout the venue, based on specifications provided by WTA, to support the live scoring services for each match of the event and will provide the WTA access to such signal and assist WTA in its efforts to produce and host the live score data generated from each match, including but not limited to by delivering the live scoring data directly to the WTA (or its designees) in the on-site TV com-

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pound. Each Tournament hereby consents to WTA's non-exclusive use of such live score data, subject to the restrictions below. Each Tournament must use a company approved by the WTA.

Tournaments shall not allow or authorize the dissemination, transmission, publication or release from the grounds of the Tournament of any live match scores or related statistical data, including without limitation the live score data from the scoring network, by a third party until :30 seconds after the actual occurrence of the incident of match play or action that leads to such live score update (e.g. a point being scored), such delay shall not be applicable to the live audio and/or visual broadcast or streaming by any method or means (i.e. moving pictures and/or sound/ audio reporting of actual on-court action) and purposes related to such broadcast of any match. Tournaments may only supply match related data or information to gambling entities through WTA's approved data reseller. In addition, each Tournament shall notify WTA in advance of any third party to whom the Tournament has granted access to the network used for live scoring for the purpose of accessing the live score data. Persons who are or work for data resellers shall not be issued credentials.

#### **18. Locker Room**

##### **a. Facility Requirements**

Each Tournament must provide a secure "Players Only" locker room facility adjacent to the Tournament site, suitable for women's use, to which only players and WTA staff will be admitted.

The locker room should have good ventilation and temperature control and must include changing and bathing rooms and afford privacy to the players. Lockers or other similar storage units must be provided in order for the players to lock up and secure their belongings.

Showers must have hot/cold water with appropriate reserves for players' use. It is recommended that locker rooms have individual showers with privacy stalls/curtains to allow for player privacy. Towels must be provided near the showers in the locker room.

The locker room must be kept clean, and sanitary and towel bins must be provided.

Additionally, it is requested that a submersion bath be located in the shower area for recovery purposes and critically for emergency cooling of players at Tournaments where Extreme Weather Conditions exist. (See Section XVII.C.6.a.)



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**b. Amenities to be Provided**

Toiletries should be provided, including dispensed soap and paper towels for sanitary purposes for players' use. Additionally, it is requested that shampoo, hair conditioner, shower gel, tampons and sanitary pads be provided for the players' use.

**c. Security and Oversight**

A female attendant must be in charge, and there must be sufficient security to i) prevent unauthorized entry and ii) protect the players' personal belongings from the start of play until the completion of play.

**d. Additional Facility for Coaches**

Tournaments should make best efforts to provide locker room facilities for both women and men coaches.

### **19. Media Facilities**

All Tournaments, including the WTA Finals and WTA Elite Trophy, must comply with the WTA Television Broadcast Standards requirement (see Tournament Facilities - Section XVII.J.4) and also must provide a full service media center, including:

- a. Media working area;
- b. Separate interview room (multiple rooms at Premier Mandatory Tournaments);
- c. Separate media lounge, where appropriate;
- d. Transcription service (Premier Mandatory, Premier 5 and Premier 700 Tournaments only);
- e. High-speed internet access (must be wireless at Premier Mandatory Tournaments); and
- f. Multiple shared television monitors, phones, fax machines and printers.

In addition, the media center at Premier Mandatory Tournaments must include the following: (i) dedicated photographer area, including transmission capabilities; (ii) individual media work stations with high-speed Internet, phone and television monitor; and (iii) shared statistical system computer with printer and fax.

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All media facilities must be ready by 9:00 a.m. tournament local time, on the day of Qualifying Sign-In.

In addition to the above, all Tournaments, including the WTA Finals and WTA Elite Trophy, must provide the following for the use of the WTA Communications staff: i) a telephone line; ii) a high-speed Internet access line for each Communications staff member; iii) a printer; and iv) access to a fax machine. The Tournament shall be responsible for the cost of installing the phone lines and Internet access lines.

All media areas shall be gambling-free zones and any persons credentialed for such areas, if found to be gambling on tennis or passing insider information to third parties for use in connection with gambling, shall have their credentials revoked. Media credentials must contain a provision whereby the media member acknowledges and agrees that he/she will not disseminate, transmit, publish or release from the grounds of the Tournament any live match score or related live statistical data until :30 seconds after the actual occurrence of the incident of match play or action that leads to such live score update (e.g., a point being scored), and that such use shall be solely for news reporting and editorial use.

Any media known to be working for gambling companies shall not be issued credentials. If found to be working for a gambling company after issuance of the credential, the credential shall be revoked.

## 20. Net

### a. Specifications

The net, posts, cord, cable, strap, singles sticks and band all must be to the requirements of the ITF Rules of Tennis. The net band shall be cloth or canvas (not plastic or vinyl), and the net shall extend to the ground.

### b. Advertising and Signage Restrictions

WTA/sponsor net post signage must be erected consistent with the specifications provided by the WTA. There shall be no advertisement on the strap, band, singles sticks or net posts.

Advertisement is permitted on the net as long as it is placed on the part of the net that is within three (3) feet (0.914 meters) from the center of the net posts and is produced in such a way that it does not interfere with the vision of the players or the playing conditions (per the ITF Rules of Tennis). This advertising may not contain white or yellow. (See also Net Post Signs – Section VIII.B.4.)

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#### 21. Officials and Officiating

All WTA Tournaments are required to appoint, in consultation with the WTA, an internationally certified Referee and Chief of Umpires to work in conjunction with the Supervisor.

All Chair Umpires appointed as designates for WTA Tournaments are internationally certified Chair Umpires. All appointed officials are required to be fully conversant with WTA Rules and procedures, the ITF Rules of Tennis and the Code for Officials, and together with the Supervisor, ensure they are observed. All appointed officials must also be fluent in English.

At WTA/ATP joint events: (a) the selection of additional certified Chair Umpires must be coordinated and approved by the Officiating Departments of both the WTA and ATP; and (b) the Supervisors of the WTA and ATP will be responsible for the daily assignments, using the designates from both the WTA and ATP and the additional officials recruited by the Chief of Umpires.

##### a. Referee

The Referee shall:

- i. Be readily available to resolve any on-court dispute without delay, supervise Medical Time Outs and enforce the Code of Conduct.
- ii. Decide, in consultation with the Supervisor, if a court is fit for play.
- iii. Assign and replace, when necessary, Chair Umpires, Line Umpires and Net Umpires. The assigning of these officials (but not their replacements) may be delegated to the Chief of Umpires, but the Supervisor has final say on all assignments.
- iv. Liaise with the Chief of Umpires and decide on the competence of officials.
- v. If necessary, conduct a clinic for local Chair Umpires and Line Umpires.
- vi. In the absence of the Supervisor, be responsible for all matters of tennis law. His/her decision is final. (See Supervisor – Section XVII.B.1.)

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- vii. Measure the courts, net posts/singles sticks and lights and check the quality of the nets and the availability of spare nets/straps prior to the start of Qualifying.
  - viii. Be responsible for conducting evaluations of Chair Umpires and Chief of Umpires.
  - ix. Arrive on-site at the Tournament either by 12:00 noon on the Qualifying Sign-In day or on-time for the Main Draw ceremony, whichever is earlier.
  - x. Arrive each day at least one (1) hour before the first scheduled match, remain on-site at all times during matches and leave no earlier than 30 minutes after the end of play.
  - xi. Confirm that all updated draws and the order of play have been distributed at the end of play each day.
  - xii. Be responsible for calling matches, including designating a visible timepiece at a fixed location as the "official clock", designating a specific area from which matches shall be called, determining a meeting point for players once the match is called, and coordinating security escorts to/from match courts.
  - xiii. When possible, assist the Supervisor in coordinating pre-match interviews with the players and host broadcasters.
  - xiv. When possible, assist the Supervisor and liaise with the host broadcaster's technicians for the equipment of coaches with microphones for On-Court Coaching.
  - xv. Not act as a Chair Umpire or Chief of Umpires for the Tournament.
  - xvi. Be familiar with all WTA electronic forms and Officiating Arena content.
- b. Chief of Umpires

The Chief of Umpires shall:

- i. Be conversant in the local language.
- ii. Have hired prior to the Tournament, in consultation with the Tournament Director and with the approval of the Officiating Department, sufficiently certified, additional Chair Umpires, and

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competent Line Umpires and Net Umpires (when no electronic net device is available) and provide the list of additional Chair Umpires to the WTA Supervisor and the Officiating Department at least 28 days prior to the Tournament.

- iii. Conduct meetings with the Line Umpires to specify assignments and specific procedures.
- iv. Schedule the on-court assignments for all Chair Umpires in consultation with the Referee and approval by the Supervisor, except at combined events where the WTA and ATP Supervisors are responsible for the daily assignments.
- v. Coordinate the evaluations of all officials (Chair Umpires and Line Umpires) with the Supervisor and Referee.
- vi. Not act as a Chair Umpire or a Line Umpire for the Tournament.
- vii. Be able to assist the Referee and the Supervisor wherever needed and be present on site at all times during play.
- viii. If necessary, conduct a clinic for the local Chair Umpires and Line Umpires.
- ix. Arrive on-site at the Tournament by 12:00 noon on the Qualifying Sign-In day.
- x. Arrive at least one (1) hour before the first scheduled match, remain on-site at all times during matches and leave after the end of play.
- xi. Coordinate the uniforms for Lines Umpires and Chair Umpires and collect sizes from all in advance. Inform the officials at least two (2) weeks prior to the event about the dress code and/or uniform provided by the Tournament, if any, using the specific "On-Site Conditions" Form.
- xii. Send all arrival / departure details of designated officials to the WTA at least fourteen (14) days prior to the Tournament.
- xiii. Send information about on-site conditions such as transportation, hotel and meals to the designated officials at least seven (7) days prior to the Tournament.
- xiv. Be familiar with all WTA electronic forms and Officiating Arena content.

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#### c. Chair Umpire

The Chair Umpire shall:

- i. Ensure that the on-court rules are observed by the players, Line Umpires and Ball Persons. He/She must control the match in all respects. He/She can be overruled by the Referee/Supervisor only in matters of interpretation of law, not in matters of fact.
- ii. Promptly and accurately score matches using the handheld or other method provided by the WTA. Be competent in using the scoring system. Track and record when balls are to be changed.
- iii. Take charge of all Line Umpires and Ball Persons when on court.
- iv. Be responsible for, in the absence of a Net Umpire or net device, the calling of net cord service lets.
- v. Ensure that play is continuous within the Rules by:
  - (a) Maintaining the 90- and/or 120-second changeover, while having the authority to delay the resumption of play until the completion of the 90- and/or 120-second changeover during televised matches;
  - (b) Maintaining a maximum of 20 seconds from when the ball goes out of play at the end of the point until the time the ball is struck for the first serve of the next point. If such a serve is a fault, then the second service must be struck by the server without delay; and
  - (c) Observing an approved warm-up period not to exceed five (5) minutes.
- vi. Determine if a court continues to be fit for play. If a change in condition occurs during a match that the Chair Umpire considers sufficient to make the court unfit for play or if weather conditions require stoppage of play, the Chair Umpire should stop play and immediately notify the Supervisor.
- vii. Give the result of the match to the Referee and Supervisor immediately upon completion of the match and any action taken under the Code of Conduct during the match.
- viii. If necessary, overrule a Line Umpire. He/She must do so when a clear mistake has been made and must give a decision when a

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Line Umpire is unsighted.

- ix. Provide a detailed report on any Code of Conduct penalty issued in connection with the relevant match(es).
- x. Wear the officiating uniform provided by the WTA. No other commercial branding may be applied to the uniform without the WTA and the applicable Tournament's prior approval.

#### d. Line Umpires

##### i. Responsibilities

The responsibilities for Line Umpires shall be as follows:

- (a) Base, Side, Center Service and Service Line Umpires call "Out" and "Fault" for their respective lines.
- (b) Base, Side and Center Service Line Umpires call "Foot Fault" on their respective lines.
- (c) The Net Umpire calls all net cord services and assists with measuring the net and with ball changes.
- (d) To give the recognized safe signal to acknowledge that a ball is good.
- (e) To give the recognized unsighted hand signal when their view of the ball landing is obstructed.
- (f) To correct their call immediately upon realizing they have made a mistake.
- (g) To report immediately to the Chair Umpire any breach of the Code of Conduct.
- (h) To defer questions from players to the Chair Umpire. A Line Umpire shall not enter into any discussions with players.

##### ii. Numbers of Line Umpires per Match

The Tournament is required to provide the minimum numbers of Line Umpires per match as listed in the table below. Where possible, it is recommended the minimum number of Line Umpires per match should be seven (7).

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Qualifying	Main Draw through QF	Main Draw SF and Finals
5	7	7

#### iii. Clothing of Line Umpires

Line Umpires may not wear any predominantly white, yellow or other light color clothing that may interfere with the players' vision, unless otherwise approved by the WTA. Line umpires' uniforms should not be identical to the ball persons' uniforms.

#### e. Standards of Officiating

All officials must be certified and approved by the WTA. The WTA will hire and designate the internationally certified Chair Umpires for all Tournaments. Each Tournament is required to provide additional Chair Umpires (approved by the WTA) for Qualifying and for some Main Draw matches not covered by the designated Chair Umpires hired by the WTA. The Tournament Directors, in agreement with the Officiating Department, will hire a Referee and Chief of Umpires. Following are the minimum required Standards of Officiating for each level of Tournament:

Tournament Category (Singles Draw Size)	Referee	Chief of Umpires	Designated Chair Umpires (1)(2)
WTA Finals (8 draw)	1 Gold	1 Gold	4
WTA Elite Trophy (8 draw)	1 Gold	Recommend 1 Gold / Minimum 1 Silver	3
Premier Mandatory (60/64 draw)	1 Gold	1 Gold	7
Premier Mandatory (96 draw)	1 Gold	1 Gold	8
Premier (32 draw)	1 Gold	1 Gold/Silver	4
Premier (56 draw)	1 Gold	1 Gold/Silver	6
International (32 draw)	1 Silver	1 Silver	4
International (56 draw)	1 Silver	1 Silver	6



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(1) One experienced Chair Umpire (minimum Bronze Badge) to serve as a Review Official will be designated by the WTA Officiating Department at Tournaments implementing an Electronic Line Calling system. The number of review officials needed for each event will be based on the number of courts (with a minimum of one (1) per court with ELC) and the match schedule plan, especially when night sessions are held.

(2) In addition to the designates, the Chief of Umpires will recruit a sufficient quantity of additional Chair Umpires based on the following guidelines: (i) minimum White badge for Qualifying at International Tournaments and minimum Bronze Badge for Qualifying at Premier Tournaments; (ii) minimum Bronze badge for Main Draw at all Premier events; (iii) a minimum of one (1) additional Silver badge or higher available for Qualifying and Main Draw at all Premier Tournaments; and (iv) a minimum of one (1) additional Bronze badge or higher available for Qualifying and Main Draw at all International Tournaments. Green Badge and uncertified Chair Umpires are not approved to work at WTA events.

#### f. Chairs – Chair Umpire

The Chair Umpire's Chair is recommended to be a minimum of six (6) feet (1.82 meters) and a maximum of eight (8) feet (2.44 meters) in height. The chair shall be centered along an extension of the net approximately three (3) feet (0.9 meters) from the net post. The chair must be stable and safe.

The Chair Umpire's microphone must have an on/off switch and must be easily adjustable and not hand held. The on-court announcer's microphone, if any, also must have an on/off switch.

For outdoor Tournaments, the Umpire's Chair on all courts shall be positioned on the west side of the court, unless otherwise agreed by the WTA, and there should be a sunshade available. Each Chair Umpire's chair must have an electrical outlet to power and recharge handheld PDAs and other similar electronics to be used by the Chair Umpire.

The Chair Umpire's chair must have a writing table attached on all match courts to provide a platform for the Chair Umpires to place their hardware, such as their PDA for live scoring, walkie-talkie and/or net device.

#### g. Conditions for Officials

Each WTA designated official should be provided with the following, from the day prior to the first day of matches (at the earliest) to the morning after their last match (at the latest), free of charge:

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- i. Airport pick-up (or taxi reimbursement);
  - ii. Single hotel room at the official hotel or another hotel approved by the Supervisor and Officiating Department;
  - iii. Breakfast, lunch and dinner (at the hotel, on-site, or by pre-agreed per diem procedure) from the night prior to the start of the assignment until the morning after the last day of the assignment;
  - iv. Complimentary laundry service for their tennis uniforms;
  - v. Transportation between the hotel and Tournament site;
  - vi. Airport drop-off (or taxi reimbursement); and
  - vii. Access to high speed internet on site.
- h. Protection of Match Data and Information

Officials agree not to, and shall not authorize or assist any third party to, disseminate, transmit, publish or release any match related data or information to or for any third party without the express written consent of WTA. Further, each official agrees that any and all work or data he/she collects or creates in connection with any match shall constitute a "work made for hire" and any and all rights attributable to such work shall be retained by, or if necessary automatically assigned to, WTA and its members.

## 22. On-Court Supplies

At all times throughout play, each court must have a cooler supplied with bottled, non-carbonated water, WTA-approved carbohydrate-electrolyte replacement drinks in sealed containers (in connection with the Anti-Doping Program) and plastic bags filled with ice for players' medical needs. Those items must be routinely checked after each match, and any unsealed bottles and drinks or other products not supplied by the Tournament must be removed from the court/coolers.

Each Tournament must provide spill kits, which are maintained by court services, for the proper clean up and disposal of biohazardous material on each court and hand sanitizer which is available for use by ball persons following handling of used towels. Court services personnel must be trained in the proper handling of biohazardous waste. In Extreme Heat Conditions, fans and ice towels are required to reduce players' body temperature and implement safety precautions.

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#### **23. On-Site Tennis Gambling and Gambling Company Credentials**

Allowing gambling companies, directly or through a third party, to accept any tennis wagers (electronically or otherwise) on the Tournament website or at the Tournament site or any Tournament related event is prohibited.

Persons working for gambling companies that accept any tennis wagers (electronically or otherwise) shall not be issued credentials. If found to be working for a gambling company after issuance of the credential, the credential shall be revoked.

#### **24. Parking**

Each Tournament should provide, conveniently located to the locker room, a reserved parking area for the players.

#### **25. Personnel**

The Tournament shall provide the personnel necessary for the proper conduct of a tennis tournament. In countries where English is not the local language, tournament personnel interacting with players, Player Support Team members, WTA staff, WTA broadcasters or WTA vendors are expected to be conversant in English at a level sufficient to comfortably perform their duties.

#### **26. Physician**

The Tournament Director must appoint a Chief Tournament Physician in accordance with Section XVII.C.4 – Physician.

#### **27. Player Entry**

Tournaments must provide reasonable assistance to players, player support personnel and the WTA in obtaining any necessary visas or work permits required for such individuals to attend and participate in the Tournament. Visa or work permit information should be communicated to players and the WTA at least two (2) months prior to the Tournament. If an official invitation letter must be provided by the Tournament, the Tournament shall be responsible for the cost of providing that letter. All other visa or work permit-related costs as well as completing the visa or work permit process shall be the responsibility of the player. It is recommended that Tournaments provide an English speaking person to assist with the visa or work permit process inquiries.

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#### 28. Players' Lounge

- a. Required and Recommended Furniture and Amenities

Each Tournament must provide a furnished Players' Lounge (i.e., sofas, tables). Snacks and beverages (e.g., fruits, breads, pretzels, low-fat snack bars, cheeses, yogurts, nuts, crackers, dried fruits and WTA-approved energy bars and carbohydrate-electrolyte replacement drinks in connection with the Anti-Doping Program) should be provided throughout the day and evening in a designated area for the players, such as the Player Restaurant, Players' Lounge or Locker Room. (See Daily Meal Planning – Section XVII.A.10.b.)

It is recommended that magazines, newspapers and a television be provided in the Players' Lounge and that there be a telephone somewhere on site (other than the WTA telephone lines) which players can use to charge calls. At least two (2) computers with print capabilities and highspeed access to the Internet for players' use must be provided at all Tournaments and must include WTA's online learning site as a trusted site. It is also strongly recommended to have a secured wireless Internet set up in the Players' Lounge for players to use their own laptops to access the Internet.

- b. Media Access

Recommended members of the International Tennis Writers' Association ("ITWA") will be permitted access to the players' lounges at all Tournaments. Exceptions to this rule may be made at Tournaments where limited space or security concerns (general or specific to an individual) exist, and those exceptions will be determined by the WTA staff and the Tournament Director. In some cases, access may be limited on a time basis or on a number basis (i.e., a limited number of ITWA members in the Players' Lounge at a given time).

#### 29. Player Services/Welcome Desk

A Player Services/Welcome Desk should be provided where players can seek assistance with practice court bookings and other general Tournament information (e.g., pick up meal tickets, tennis balls, match and guest tickets). All necessary Tournament telephone numbers and Tournament information should be provided for players prior to the start of Qualifying, it is recommended to have the key phone numbers, such as the WTA office, transportation services and practice booking services printed on the back of players' credentials. When not in an English-speaking country, the Tournament should provide an English-speaking representative to distribute the information and to host this area.

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#### **30. Player Treatment Area**

See Section XVII.C.2 for the requirements of the Player Treatment Area/ Training Room.

#### **31. Practice Facilities**

- a. Each Tournament must provide practice facilities for players during the stated hours to be arranged with the Supervisor. Practice courts must be the same surface and condition (i.e., indoor/outdoor) as used for matches and preferably should be on site. (See Court Specifications – Section XVII.A.7.a.)
- b. Tournaments are strongly recommended to provide Tournament personnel to allocate and supervise practice bookings, working in liaison with the Supervisor.
- c. Practice courts should have nets in good condition equipped with net straps and singles sticks, as well as adequate running room surrounding the court and ceiling height.
- d. All practice courts at indoor events should be heated and ventilated.
- e. Practice balls are to be provided to players in the numbers specified (see Balls – Section XVII.A.5) and preferably at the practice facility, if located off site.
- f. All new off-site practice courts must be located within a reasonable travelling distance from the Tournament site.

#### **32. Scoreboards/Video Screens**

Scoreboards must be provided on all match courts. The scoreboard will be placed at the corner or side of the court and must not obscure the playing visibility. The scoreboard must be a dark color. The scoreboard on all broadcast courts must be electronic. It is recommended that electronic scoreboards are controlled directly by the Chair Umpire's scoring device.

Scoreboards and video screens may be placed a minimum of 40 feet (12.19 meters) above the court surface, as long as they do not interfere with play and/or present a distraction to the players.

#### **33. Scoring System**

- a. All Singles (Main Draw and Qualifying) matches in all WTA

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Tournaments are to be the best of three (3) tie-break sets. All Main Draw Doubles matches in all WTA Tournaments (with the exception of the WTA Finals) shall be the best of three (3) sets with No-Ad scoring in the first two (2) sets and a 10-point match tie-break to be played as the third set. The WTA has the right to authorize the use of alternative scoring systems at WTA Tournaments and to award appropriate ranking points.

- b. The organizing committee of each Grand Slam Tournament will decide which scoring system will be used at each Grand Slam.
- c. There will be no rest period before the final set except when the Extreme Weather Condition Rule is in effect. (See Extreme Weather Conditions and Lightning – XVII.C.6.)
- d. The ITF Rules of Tennis will apply in their entirety except where noted in these Rules.

#### 34. Seating – Minimum

The minimum center court seating capacity shall be as follows:

Tournament Category	Venue Type	
	Outdoor	Indoor
Premier Mandatory	10,000	WTA Approved
Premier 5	7,500	4,500
Premier	5,000	4,000
International	2,500	2,500

#### 35. Security and Credentialing Systems

The WTA has considered Tournament security issues and has determined that the Tournaments and players are the appropriate parties to bear the responsibility for Tournament security. Each Tournament shall be responsible for providing on-site security for players, Tournament staff, officials and spectators and shall, if requested, promptly provide the WTA with detailed information about security plans.

As part of each Tournament's security plan, a photo credentialing system must be established. Tournaments must include and take reasonable steps to enforce the following policy on all non-media persons issued credentials: No credentialed person may continually collect, disseminate, transmit, publish or release from the grounds of the Tournament any match scores or related statistical data during match play (from the commencement of a match through its conclusion) for any commercial

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or gambling purposes. Such policy shall be printed on all Tournament credentials or otherwise notified to credentialed persons.

Players shall cooperate with Tournament security measures.

#### **36. Stringing**

Each Tournament must provide quality racquet stringing services on-site from the day before the start of Qualifying until the completion of the Tournament. The stringer must be available on site each day matches are scheduled until 30 minutes after the end of the last match. The stringing costs per racquet and the stringer's hours of availability must be approved by the WTA at least one (1) month prior to the Tournament.

#### **37. Television and Digital Media**

Tournaments must comply with the Television and Digital Media requirements set forth in Sections XVII.I and J.

#### **38. Ticketing**

Tournaments must include and take reasonable steps to enforce the following policy on all ticket holders: No ticket holder may continually collect, disseminate, transmit, publish or release from the grounds of the Tournament any match scores or related statistical data during match play (from the commencement of a match through its conclusion) for any commercial or gambling purposes. Such policy shall be printed on all Tournament tickets or otherwise notified to ticket holders prior to purchase. Tournaments should also have notices posted in the local language and in English at all tournament entrances, VIP hospitality areas, player areas, and throughout the Tournament grounds.

#### **39. Tournament Director**

The Tournament Director shall be approved in advance by the WTA and shall be responsible for the overall conduct and organization of the Tournament and other such personnel as necessary for the proper conduct of a tennis tournament including, but not limited to, the Tournament Physician, Referee, Chief of Umpires, Chair Umpires, Line Umpires and Ball Persons. New Tournament Directors that have not previously been approved by the WTA must attend a one (1) day orientation session at a WTA designated office or WTA Tournament.

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#### **40. Towels and Sheets**

Each Tournament must provide an adequate supply of already washed (with antimicrobial soap and hot water), absorbent, bath-sized towels that will accommodate i) all locker room (shower) needs, ii) SS&M staff (PHCP, Tournament Physician and Massage Therapist) and iii) on-court needs. Each Massage Therapist will require a minimum of 30 sheets and 30 towels per day.

#### **41. Transport**

##### **a. Airport Transportation**

Unless otherwise agreed upon by the WTA, airport transportation must be provided to Qualifying and Main Draw players, as well as PST members when traveling with a player, beginning the day before the Qualifying Sign-In deadline (as long as 24-hour notice is given to the Tournament) until the morning following the final day of the Tournament.

Airport transportation must be provided to WTA staff, associates and contractors working at the Tournament.

##### **b. Transportation between Hotels and Tournament Site**

Tournaments are required to provide transportation for players and WTA staff between the official hotel (and alternative hotel, if provided) and the Tournament site and practice facility on a regular basis, beginning the day before the Qualifying Sign-In deadline. Transportation must be available up to one (1) hour after the last match is completed.

If private housing is provided, the Tournament has the responsibility to advise players of the transportation available, if any. The Supervisor also should be advised of any other available local transportation. It is recommended that all Tournaments arrange for a player discount with a local car rental agency.

#### **42. Walkie Talkies**

Each Tournament must provide a walkie talkie for each Supervisor, PHCP, Communications Manager, WTA IT Staff, Live Scoring vendor, Referee, Chief of Umpires, Tournament Physician, and match court. In addition, each Tournament must provide walkie-talkies, in accordance with the



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WTA Television Broadcast Standards requirements (see Tournament Facilities - Section XVII.J.4). It is requested that a private medical channel is provided for use by the PHCPs and Tournament Physicians. Separate channels are required for:

- a. The collective use of the Supervisor(s), officiating staff and PHCPs to ensure direct and private communication for on-court matters among them; and
- b. The use of the Electronic Review Official and the Chair Umpire to ensure a direct and private communication for on-court matters between them (each court with Electronic Review must have a different channel).

#### **43. WTA Office**

- a. Location and Security Requirement

The Supervisor shall be provided with a private and secure office with a desk from which the Supervisor can base him/herself in order to carry out his/her duties. Players and associated people conveniently should be able to access the Supervisor and WTA information in the WTA office. It is also a place for Officials and Tournament staff to meet, when necessary.

- b. Office Equipment/Communication and Installation Timing

Each Tournament must provide the Supervisor with a printer and a minimum of one (1) international phone line in the WTA office and high speed Internet connections operational by 9:00 a.m. tournament local time the day of Qualifying Sign-In. One (1) fax machine should be available in the Tournament Office, Player Desk or other nearby location and accessible to players and WTA staff. The Supervisor shall notify the Tournament at least eight (8) weeks prior to the start of Qualifying of the exact number of phone lines and Internet connections needed. At a minimum, each Tournament must provide one (1) high speed Internet connection for each staff permanently located in the WTA Office during the Tournament (Supervisors and Player Relations staff), wireless access is acceptable. The Tournament shall be responsible for the cost of installing the phone lines and Internet connections.

It is recommended that telephone number(s) be available at the time the Tournament Fact Sheet is published seven (7) weeks prior to each Tournament (one [1] week prior to the official entry deadline). Telephone numbers, however, must be available one (1) week prior

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to the Qualifying Sign-In day. A photocopy machine also should be available in the WTA office or in a nearby convenient location.

#### **c. Office Furniture and Setup**

The appropriate number of working positions must be prepared for each Supervisor and/or Player Relations representative working on site. The office should have adequate wall/table space or bulletin boards available for Tour information and must have a Live Score Monitor/TV or a radio system for court updates during play. A locking drawer or a cabinet must also be provided for the Supervisor's use.

### **44. WTA Coach Program**

Each Tournament must comply with and provide all Tournament-related benefits under the WTA Coach Program Rules available on PlayerZone, TournamentZone, and [www.wtatennis.com/wta-rules](http://www.wtatennis.com/wta-rules). For questions about the WTA Coach Program, please contact the WTA Coach Program Manager at [coach@wtatennis.com](mailto:coach@wtatennis.com).

### **45. Breach of Tournament Standards of Performance**

#### **a. General**

The provisions of the Tournament Standards of Performance shall be strictly applied by the WTA. Each WTA Tournament must follow, abide by and conform to all requirements set forth in the Tournament Standards of Performance unless otherwise approved in writing by the WTA.

Tournaments seeking an exemption from any of the Tournament Standards of Performance must request the exemption from the WTA at least three (3) months in advance of the Tournament. Exemption requests must be sent in writing.

Breaches of the Tournament Standards of Performance and/or an apparent lack of ability to solve documented problems affecting the quality of the presentation of the Tournament shall result in a disciplinary penalty and/or loss or change in a Tournament's status as provided herein.

#### **b. Violations/Procedures**

##### **i. Investigation of Alleged Violations**

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The WTA shall investigate any alleged violation of the Tournament Standards of Performance requirements.

#### **ii. WTA Determination**

The imposition of a warning, fine or other penalty shall be determined by the WTA. Upon the completion of its investigation, the WTA shall determine the potential wrongfulness of the conduct of the Tournament involved and shall notify the Tournament of any violations and penalties. A copy of the WTA's decision shall be delivered to the Tournament.

Where a violation is capable of being cured in a timely manner, with timeliness being based on the circumstances, the WTA will provide the Tournament with the opportunity to cure a violation prior to issuing a determination.

#### **iii. Possible Penalties**

Violations of the Tournament Standards of Performance shall subject a Tournament to one (1) or more of the following: (a) a warning; (b) being placed on "Probationary" status; (c) loss or change in membership status; (d) forfeiture of all sums, if any, paid to the WTA; and/or (e) any other reasonable penalties. In addition to the foregoing, when a Tournament or Tournament partner uses a Player Likeness in violation of Section IV.B.6.a, then the affected Player may request that such Tournament shall be precluded from using her likeness in any and all advertising the following year of the Tournament provided that such request is made at least six (6) months prior to the start of such Tournament.

Violations of the Tournament Standards of Performance shall be classified by the WTA by Tournament category and by Violation Level (Level 1 Violations, Level 2 Violations and Level 3 Violations). The maximum fine for any Violation Level shall be \$100,000. Multiple fines at a specific level or repeat violations may increase the Violation Level. Please see Appendix E for a chart detailing Violation Levels and corresponding guidelines for fines.

#### **iv. Payment of Fines**

All fines for violations of the Tournament Standards of Performance shall be paid by the Tournament to the WTA, to

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the attention of the Chief Operating Officer, within 21 days after receipt of written notice thereof. Fines not paid within 21 days may be deducted from Commercial Benefits or other payments due from the WTA to the Tournament.

All Tournament Standards of Performance fines shall be retained by the WTA, with the exception of those fines assessed against a Tournament due to a violation which directly affects the players (i.e., violations due to insufficient courts, hotel facilities or medical staff), which shall be split 50/50 between the WTA and the WTBA. In addition to the foregoing, for fines assessed against a Tournament because the Tournament used a Player Likeness in violation of Section IV.B.6.a, then the entirety of such fine shall go to the WTBA.

v. Board of Directors Decision on Recommended Loss of Membership

In the event that the WTA recommends that the penalty imposed on the Tournament should be the loss of the Tournament's membership, such recommendation shall be reviewed by the Board of Directors, prior to the imposition of the penalty and the Board of Directors may affirm, modify or reverse the WTA's recommendation.

vi. Subsequent Violations

Subsequent violations of the Tournament Standards of Performance by a Tournament previously placed on probation may result in a revocation of its WTA membership in accordance with the procedures set forth in sub-Section v immediately above.

c. Review and Appeal Process

i. Tournament Request for Appeal

After paying all fines as provided above, any Tournament sanctioned for a breach of the Tournament Standards of Performance may request a hearing before the Code of Conduct and Standards of Performance Committee, with the exception of appeals involving monetary penalties of \$50,000 or more or a loss or change in membership status, in which case the matter will be referred to the Board of Directors for a decision.

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This petition shall be in writing and must be filed with the CEO within 21 days after notice of the penalty is received by the Tournament from the WTA. Such petition shall state in detail the basis for such appeal.

#### **ii. Hearing Procedures**

The Tournament shall be advised of the date, time and place for the hearing of such appeal; however, attendance is not mandatory. In addition to submitting a written submission of the basis for its appeal, a Tournament may also request in writing to send a representative to the hearing to orally present its appeal.

On appeal, the Code of Conduct and Standards of Performance Committee or the Board of Directors may affirm, reverse or modify the decisions of the WTA. The decision of the Code of Conduct and Standards of Performance Committee or the Board of Directors shall be final and non-appealable.

### **B. WTA REPRESENTATIVES**

The WTA may have representatives including, but not limited to, a Supervisor, PHCP, Massage Therapist, and Communications representative present at all times during a Tournament to ensure it is conducted pursuant to these Rules. The ITF Rules of Tennis will be enforced on site by the Supervisor with any modifications previously approved by the WTA.

#### **1. Supervisor**

- a. The Supervisor has final authority on site. The Supervisor shall:
  - i. Know, understand and be conversant with the ITF Rules of Tennis, the Rules and, in conjunction with or in the absence of the Referee, ensure they are observed, as well as enforce the Code of Conduct.
  - ii. Make the draws for all Tournaments in accordance with the Rules.
  - iii. Oversee the inspection of the facilities.
    - (a) All features of the facilities and the playing area, including lighting and the press facilities, shall be subject to inspection by the Supervisor and must be in operation by the morning of the commencement of Tournament play (which includes Qualifying).

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- (b) The approval of the Supervisor or the Referee shall be a condition precedent to commencement of play.
- iv. In consultation with the Tournament Director, liaise on television issues and scheduling and draw up a daily order of play by arranging the 1st matches on various courts at a specified time and subsequent matches on a “followed by” basis.
- v. In consultation with the Referee and the Tournament Director, determine the lowest tier of seats that surround the playing area at the courts in which spectators will be allowed to move freely during play.
- vi. Determine and notify competitors of the conditions of play (number of balls, type of balls, type of surface and other items of interest) prior to the commencement of the Tournament and/or Qualifying competition.
- vii. Act as Practice Liaison. (See Practice Facilities – Section XVII.A.31.)
- viii. Act as final arbiter in all on-site matters concerning the conduct of the Tournament, players and staff and be available to assist where an on-court dispute develops.
- ix. In conjunction with WTA Operations, notify the Tournament Director of changes to his or her player field for each Tournament.
- b. Whenever the Supervisor is not available for a particular WTA Tournament, the duties above will be assigned to the WTA Representative or the designated WTA Tournament Referee.

## **2. Primary Health Care Provider/Massage Therapist**

- a. Primary Health Care Provider

The WTA will provide a Primary Health Care Provider (“PHCP”) for the Qualifying (including the Qualifying Sign-In day), Main Draw singles and doubles of all Tournaments. The PHCP is a licensed Physical Therapist and Certified Athletic Trainer (or the international equivalent specializing in sports medicine).

The PHCP will provide on-site medical/health care services for the players beginning one (1) hour before match play each day until the completion of all matches, with the assistance of the local Tournament Physician.

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Players are treated on a first-come, first-served basis, with priority given to players getting ready for matches. The PHCP and the local Physician will be available after hours for emergency care, throughout the Tournament.

#### **b. Massage Therapist**

The WTA will provide one (1) or more licensed/certified (or international equivalent) and formally-trained Sports Massage Therapists for the Qualifying and Main Draws of all Premier and International Tournaments.

At International Tournaments not assigned a WTA Core Massage Therapist, the WTA will provide a licensed/certified (or international equivalent) and formally-trained local Sports Massage Therapist for the Qualifying and Main Draws.

All Massage Therapists must be available throughout match play each day to provide massage therapy services to the players on a daily sign-up basis. The Massage Therapist will be required to submit all treatment documentation to the Core Massage Therapist and PHCP or enter such evaluation and treatment documentation into a WTA on-line medical documentation system as directed by the Core Massage Therapist or PHCP. In either case, all such medical documentation must be in English and submitted or entered by the end of each Tournament.

### **3. Communications Manager**

The WTA will provide Communications staff for the Main Draw of all Premier Tournaments, as well as certain International Tournaments.

#### **a. Pre-Tournament Responsibilities**

No later than six (6) weeks prior to the Tournament, the Communications Manager, in cooperation with the Supervisor, will be responsible for approving the Mandatory Party, Pro-Am and Clinics, as well as the Draw Ceremony.

#### **b. On-Site Responsibilities**

On-site, the Communications staff shall:

- i. Escort players to post-match media activities;
- ii. Provide local media with information on the WTA and its play-

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ers, including player bios, current rankings and statistics;

- iii. Arrange one-on-one interviews;
- iv. Compile and distribute match notes;
- v. Send out results via email to the WTA's international distribution list; and
- vi. Coordinate player appearances at sponsor and Tournament functions as outlined under the Diamond ACES Policy.

#### **4. Player Relations**

The WTA will provide Player Relations staff at various Tournaments throughout the calendar year.

Player Relations staff serve as the on-site communications liaison with the players, educating them on the WTA, player and administrative issues. Player Relations staff assist the Supervisor with on-site operations functions at the Tournaments and may serve as the player representative at the making of the draw when a player is unavailable to attend. Player Relations provide feedback from the players to the WTA administration and staff.

#### **5. Player Development Representative**

The WTA will provide Player Development staff at various Tournaments throughout the calendar year.

##### **a. Player Development Program Activities**

Player Development representatives serve as on-site facilitators of Player Development programs. These programs enhance the development of professional skills and educate WTA players and their Player Support Teams about all aspects of WTA life. Player Development representatives on-site provide guidance and assistance to all levels of players to enable them to develop professional skills and coping mechanisms so that they can fully participate in all their professional responsibilities.

Player Development programs include:

- i. The Age Eligibility Rule;
- ii. Orientation Sessions for players and Player Support Team mem-



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bers (including, but not limited to, coaches, parents and agents);

- iii. Mentor/Protégé Functions;
- iv. Media Training; and
- v. Other On-site Educational Activities such as interactive seminars, WTBA Transitions Programs and instructional training for players and Player Support Team members.

#### **b. On-Site Office Requirements**

If requested by the WTA, it is required that a private space, with a desk, lockable cabinet, three (3) chairs, a phone line and a high-speed Internet connection be made available for Player Development staff members either near the WTA Office (e.g., a discreet corner area with positions in or near the Players' Lounge) or in or near the player treatment area. The Tournament shall be responsible for the cost of installing the phone lines and Internet connection.

Any such request will be made with a minimum of three (3) months' notice to the Tournament; specific locations will be recommended when possible.

## **C. MEDICAL SECTION**

### **1. Mandatory Annual Medical Examination**

Each player participating in a WTA Tournament must undergo an annual examination as specified by the WTA. If the exam is not performed by the SS&M staff, medical and disability examinations will be at the expense of the player. Each player's medical doctor will be required to complete the WTA annual medical examination online using the WTA medical documentation system or as otherwise directed by the WTA and provide any supportive documentation such as vaccination records in English.

#### **a. Timing**

The completed medical examination documentation (provided by the WTA) must be submitted to the SS&M Department by March 31 of the current Tour Year.

#### **b. Medical Documentation Handling**

This and all medical information will be maintained in a secure and

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confidential on-line medical documentation system and/or filed with the SS&M Department.

#### c. Penalties

If the examination is not completed by the deadline, the player may be subject to a \$500 fine, and if the player has purchased disability insurance from the WTA, the player will not be eligible for disability coverage under the WTA Plan.

## 2. Player Treatment Area/Training Room

Each Tournament must provide a secure, private medical treatment area. This area should be easily accessible to the locker room and the match courts and should have good ventilation and temperature control, as well as a sink for sanitary purposes.

#### a. Specifications

The following size specifications are recommended based on draw sizes:

<b>Singles Draw Size</b>	<b>Recommended Area of Treatment Room</b>
30 or 32	500 square feet (46.45 square meters)
56 or 64	650 square feet (60 square meters)
96 or 128	1000 square feet (93 square meters)

#### b. Required Setup

This area is for treatment of players only and must be large enough to accommodate the SS&M staff and the Massage Therapists. A separate area for physician examinations should be provided.

If two (2) training rooms are designated for player treatments, all of the requirements herein must be provided in both training rooms according to the number of PHCPs/Massage Therapists servicing each training room.

#### c. Required Equipment and Supplies

##### i. Automated External Defibrillator

An Automated External Defibrillator must be available on site at each Tournament and must be located within the Tournament Physician's on-site office.

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#### **ii. Physician Area**

The following must be provided:

- (a) Padded treatment table, desk, chair and lockable cabinet;
- (b) Access to a telephone/fax machine and Internet connection (connection of a minimum of 1MB/second of download and upload speed) for necessary medical documentation, confidential correspondence and consultations.

#### **iii. PHCP Area**

- (a) One (1) padded adjustable treatment table (electric or hydraulic) in good repair and sanitary condition for each PHCP at Premier tournaments.\* One (1) padded adjustable treatment table (preferably electric or hydraulic) in good repair and sanitary condition for each PHCP at International tournaments.;
- (b) A desk, tables or a counter top for medical supplies;
- (c) One (1) chair and/or rolling stool for each PHCP;
- (d) A lockable cupboard; and
- (e) An adequate supply of towels, sheets, ice and non-carbonated water and WTA-approved carbohydrate-electrolyte replacement drinks (in connection with the Anti-Doping Program) must be provided for use during medical treatments.

Additionally, it is recommended that a large mirror be available in the training room.

\*At the WTA Finals, it is required that one (1) padded, adjustable (hydraulic or electric) treatment table per PHCP is provided at both the official hotel and on-site.

#### **iv. Massage Therapy Area**

Each Massage Therapist also will require:

- (a) A separate supply of towels (minimum of 30 per day); and
- (b) A minimum of 30 sheets per day.

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Easy access to proper hand washing and toilet facilities is requested. Also requested are: i) a desk or lockable cupboard; ii) waste bins; iii) chairs for players; and iv) one (1) rolling stool per Massage Therapist.

For all Tournaments, the WTA will provide WTA-approved Massage Therapy lotion to be used by the Massage Therapist(s) in order to be compliant with the Tennis Anti-Doping Program.

#### **v. Sanitation Requirements**

Dispensed, liquid soap and paper towels are needed in the training room for proper hand washing. It is recommended that Tournaments provide metal waste bins with lids and be pedal-controlled in order to reduce the handling of infected waste. The locker room and training room must be cleaned regularly, including the floors.

#### **vi. Communication Needs**

The Tournament shall provide:

- (a) A two-way radio with adequate reception for each PHCP and for the Tournament Physician. A separate channel is required for the collective use of the Supervisor, officiating staff and PHCP to ensure direct and private communication for on-court matters among them.
- (b) A secure, international long-distance phone line in each training room, if more than one, for the PHCP for emergency purposes. The Tournament shall be responsible for the cost of installing the phone lines.
- (c) Access to a constant and reliable high-speed or wireless Internet connection (connection of a minimum of 1MB/second of download and upload speed) for each PHCP, Core Massage Therapist and Tournament Physician assigned to the Tournament. This can be provided through individual DSL/ADSL connections, a single ADSL line with a router and cabling to provide individual connections or a WiFi router providing adequate Internet service to the group. This should be provided in each training room, if more than one. The Tournament shall be responsible for the cost of installing the Internet connection.
- (d) A two-way radio or phone line for the Massage Therapy

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Area if the Massage Therapists are working in isolation.

Additionally, it is requested that a live TV score monitor or a radio system be provided for court updates during match play.

d. Timing and Installation

All requirements must be ready and operable by 9:00 a.m. tournament local time the day of Qualifying Sign-In (i.e., the day before Qualifying matches begin).

e. Accessibility and Security

Locker room and training room areas and the office of the Tournament Physician must be accessible to players and WTA personnel and the Massage Therapist(s) only. Security must be provided at all times, from the day before Qualifying through to the completion of the Tournament, outside the training room and locker room. The training room and office of the Tournament Physician should be locked or secured when the Tournament is not in session. No animals are permitted in the player treatment area/training room or locker room.

f. Treatment

Treatment in the official WTA locker room or player treatment area/training room will be given only by the WTA-approved personnel.

g. Area for Player Personal Health Care and Fitness Providers

Where space is available at Premier Tournaments, a private room/area with a partition and treatment table should be provided for players to receive treatment from their personal health care providers and fitness professionals. The room/area should be accessible and professional (i.e., not under stairwells or in player lounges, hallways, general gym areas, or Tournament staff areas). This area should be set up by the first day of Qualifying.

Players' health care providers are required to provide their own equipment and medical supplies.

### 3. Treatment On Court

Only WTA-approved personnel are permitted to provide treatment on court. Unauthorized personnel shall not be allowed on court during a match, Medical Time-Out, or when a player is being treated by a PHCP and/or Tournament Physician.

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**4. Physician**

The Tournament Director must appoint a Chief Tournament Physician to coordinate the local medical team. Each Tournament must complete the Tournament Physician Information Sheet and provide it to a SS&M Department, Tournament Relations staff member no later than ninety (90) days prior to the event.

The local medical team should include no more than two (2) assistant physicians. The Tournament Physician may assist in providing medical care for spectators and Tournament staff; however, the priority will be to care for the Players. Therefore, it is recommended that separate medical staff, such as first aid or paramedics, be appointed to care for spectators and Tournament staff. Also, it is recommended that the emergency medical staff is either able to respond within a five (5) minute transit time to the Tournament site or available on-site at all times during play.

a. Physician Skills and Medical Qualifications

The Tournament Physician must:

- i. Specialize in orthopedic, internal medicine or primary care sports medicine and tennis;
- ii. Be licensed and insured in the country and jurisdiction of the Tournament by an insurance carrier acceptable to the WTA;
- iii. Have admitting privileges at the local hospital;
- iv. Be fluent in both English and the local language; and
- v. Possess a current CPR certification and Emergency Response certification (or the international equivalent).

b. Physician Responsibilities

The Tournament Physician must be prepared to perform the required duties established by the WTA and will be evaluated by the WTA Senior Vice President, SS&M and Transitions, and Medical Advisor(s).

i. Duties Prior to the Tournament

- (a) It is required that all Tournament Physicians participate in a pre-tournament telephone orientation, including an online medical documentation training session, with a SS&M Department, Tournament Relations staff member at least

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two (2) weeks prior to the start of the event.

- (b) Each Tournament Physician must carry professional medical liability (malpractice) insurance in an amount of US\$1,000,000 with an insurance carrier acceptable to the WTA for the duration of the Tournament. Such insurance policy must provide coverage for the Tournament Physician while performing services for WTA players and/or at the Tournament venue. The Tournament Physician professional medical liability insurance shall name the WTA Tour, Inc. and its directors, officers, employees, and agents (the "Insured Parties") as additional named insured's with respect to any claims or suits brought against the Insured Parties, regardless of the court of jurisdiction, arising out of the negligent act or omission of the Tournament Physician. All Tournament Physicians must email proof of this insurance policy along with a copy of their license, CPR Certification, and Emergency Response Certification at least ninety (90) days prior to the event.

#### ii. Duties During the Tournament

##### (a) Schedule and Availability

- (i) The Tournament Physician shall be on site at all times during play for both Qualifying and Main Draw matches at all Tournaments.
- (ii) A Tournament Physician must be on site one (1) hour before matches begin and must remain on site until the end of play or after all players requiring physician care have been treated, whichever is later. On the first day of Qualifying, a Tournament Physician must be on site at least one (1) hour and thirty (30) minutes before the start of play to participate in a medical emergency execution plan.
- (iii) The Tournament Physician must be available on call after hours, including the day before Qualifying matches start.

##### (b) Referrals to Other Local Medical Specialists

The Tournament Physician should have a local referral list of other medical specialists available during the Tournament.

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#### **(c) Medical Documentation**

The Tournament Physician shall submit Tournament Physician evaluation and treatment documentation to the PHCP or enter such evaluation, diagnostic and treatment documentation (digital diagnostic tests when possible) into the online WTA medical documentation system as directed by the PHCP. In either case, all such information must be in English and submitted or entered by the end of each Tournament day.

It is required that all Tournament Physicians participate in a training session, in order to access the WTA online medical documentation system. Best efforts will be made to include this training as part of the pre-Tournament orientation.

#### **(d) WTA Annual Medical Examination**

The Tournament Physician shall be available to assist in completing the WTA Annual Medical Examinations.

#### **iii. Duties Upon Conclusion of the Tournament**

In addition to the daily medical treatment documentation required during the Tournament, all off-site testing or treatment procedure documentation referred by the Tournament Physician must be submitted to the PHCP upon completion of the Tournament.

#### **iv. Medical Supplies and Equipment**

The Tournament Physician must have the standard medical supplies and equipment that are required by the SS&M Department and communicated to the Tournament Physician in advance of the Tournament. All medical supplies must be within their expiration dates.

#### **c. Treatment Procedures**

- i. Medical procedures undertaken by the Tournament Physician must comply with the Anti-Doping Program.**
- ii. Treatment provided by the Tournament Physician to the players on-site must be free of charge.**



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- iii. Players, however, are responsible for the payment of off-site treatment, medical testing or prescriptions, if they are necessary.
- d. Additional Requirement for the WTA Finals

During the WTA Finals, an Internal Medicine/Primary Care Physician and an Orthopedic Surgeon must be appointed to provide medical coverage for the entire Tournament.

## 5. Medical Procedures

### a. Medical Conditions

A medical condition is a medical illness or a musculoskeletal injury that warrants medical evaluation and/or medical treatment by the PHCP in conjunction with the Tournament Physician, if appropriate, during the warm-up or the match.

#### i. Treatable Medical Conditions

##### (a) Acute Medical Condition

The sudden development of a medical illness or musculoskeletal injury during the warm-up or the match that requires immediate medical attention.

##### (b) Non-Acute Medical Condition

A medical illness or musculoskeletal injury that develops or is aggravated during the warm-up or the match and requires medical attention at the change of ends or set break.

#### ii. Non-Treatable Medical Conditions

Players may not receive treatment at any time during the match (or warm-up) for the following conditions:

- (a) Any medical condition that cannot be treated appropriately.
- (b) Any medical condition (inclusive of symptoms) that will not be improved by available medical treatment within the time allowed, specifically chronic conditions such as over-use injuries and recurring injuries.

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- (c) General player fatigue.
- (d) Any medical condition requiring injections, intravenous infusions or supplemental oxygen, except for diabetes for which prior medical certification has been obtained and for which subcutaneous injections of insulin may be administered.

#### b. Medical Evaluation

##### i. Purpose

The purpose of the medical evaluation is to determine if a player has sustained or aggravated a treatable medical condition and, if so, to determine when medical treatment is warranted and whether a Medical Time-Out (as further described in sub-Section c below, "MTO") is necessary. The development of the condition need not be witnessed by the Chair Umpire.

##### ii. Player Request and Process

If at any time during the warm-up or the match, the player believes that medical evaluation and treatment are required, she may request, through the Chair Umpire only, to see a PHCP.

The Chair Umpire may ask the player if she is able to continue playing; however, the Chair Umpire is under no obligation to do so.

The player has the option to:

- (a) Stop play and wait until the PHCP arrives, only in the case that a player believes she has developed an acute, treatable medical condition necessitating an immediate stop in play; or
- (b) Wait until the next change of ends or set break to see the PHCP, if the injury is a non-acute, treatable medical condition.

The player is expected to be forthright about whether she believes she suffers with an acute medical condition that warrants a stop in play; otherwise, she is subject to a penalty in accordance with the Unsportsmanlike Conduct section of the Code of Conduct.

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#### **iii. Timing and Location of Evaluation**

Accompanied on the court by the Supervisor (or Referee), the PHCP will begin, and the Chair Umpire shall begin to time, the evaluation when the PHCP commences communication with the player.

Evaluations by the PHCP shall be performed within a reasonable length of time, balancing player safety on the one hand and continuous play on the other (recommended not to exceed three [3] minutes), and may take place off court, if the PHCP so requests.

Once the evaluation is completed, the PHCP will inform the Chair Umpire if treatment is needed and when treatment is to begin.

#### **iv. Involvement of Tournament Physician**

At the discretion of the PHCP, should further evaluation be required by the Tournament Physician, this shall be a separate evaluation, also of a reasonable length of time.

#### **v. Potential Outcomes of Evaluation**

##### **(a) Non-Treatable Medical Condition**

If after evaluation, the PHCP determines the player has a non-treatable medical condition, then the player will be advised that no medical treatment will be allowed. Medical treatment, including medication, is allowed only for treatable medical conditions.

##### **(b) Treatable Medical Condition Requiring MTO**

The PHCP may authorize for that condition a one-time, three-minute MTO, which would take place during a change of ends or set break, unless the PHCP determines it is an acute medical condition that requires immediate medical treatment.

##### **(c) Treatable Medical Condition not Requiring MTO**

If the PHCP determines that the player has a treatable medical condition, but that a MTO is not needed in cases such as illness or muscle cramping, then the PHCP may,

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following the evaluation, begin treatment if time remains in the change of ends or set break. If necessary, the PHCP may treat the player for this medical condition for two (2) additional change of ends, not necessarily consecutive.

#### vi. Medical Treatment

A player may only receive on-court medical evaluation, treatment and/or supplies from the PHCP (who may request assistance from the Tournament Physician) during any 90-second change of ends or 120-second set break (not necessarily consecutive) for each treatable medical condition.

Players may not receive medical treatment for non-treatable medical conditions.

##### (a) Definition

PHCP on-court medical evaluation, treatment or supplies shall include:

- (i) Adjustment of medical support and/or tape;
- (ii) Provision of medication; or
- (iii) Supplies for contact lenses.

##### (b) Process and Timing

All such requests for treatment must be made through the Chair Umpire, who shall notify the PHCP and Supervisor (or Referee) of a player's request to see the PHCP and will time the change of ends (or set break) as the usual 90 (or 120) seconds. Medical treatment is limited to two (2) change of ends (or set breaks) for each treatable condition, before or after a MTO (defined below) and need not be consecutive. If adjustment of medical equipment is necessary during or immediately following the warm-up, the player must request an adjustment immediately following the warm-up, limited to 90 seconds.

This treatment should not exceed two (2) changes of ends, which need not be consecutive. During a warm-up, if adjustment of medical equipment is necessary it must be done at the end of the warm-up (90 seconds).

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#### (c) Non-Medical Equipment

Any non-medical equipment (e.g., hair accessories, food, drinks, etc.) requested by a player while on court must be given to an on-court official by a PHCP or Supervisor/Referee to be delivered to the player.

#### vii. Additional Administrative Procedures Applicable to Change of Ends or Set Break

If evaluation takes place on a change of ends, prior to "Time" being called, the Chair Umpire will ask the PHCP if she is continuing the evaluation. The PHCP will indicate:

(a) If yes, the PHCP clearly will state if she is continuing the evaluation, or if she is starting a MTO. If the evaluation is completed before "Time" has been called, the remaining time of the change of ends may be added to the three (3) minutes for the MTO.

(b) If no, the Chair Umpire will call "Time" at 60 seconds (change of ends) or 90 seconds (set break). Once "Time" is called, the player has 30 seconds in which to resume play.

#### c. Medical Time-Out

A MTO is granted by the Supervisor or Chair Umpire when the PHCP has evaluated the player and has determined that additional time for medical treatment is required. The MTO takes place during a change of ends or set break, unless the PHCP determines the player has developed an acute medical condition that requires immediate medical treatment.

##### i. Player Allowance

A player is allowed one (1) MTO per match for each distinct treatable medical condition. The following shall be considered as one (1) treatable medical condition:

(a) All treatable musculoskeletal injuries that manifest and are assessed as part of a kinetic chain continuum; and

(b) Any and all clinical manifestations of heat illness and cramping subject to the following:

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- (i) A player may receive treatment for muscle cramping only during the time allotted for change of ends and/or set breaks. Players may not receive a MTO for muscle cramping. In cases where there is doubt about whether it is (x) an acute medical condition, (y) non-acute medical condition inclusive of, muscle cramping or (z) non-treatable medical condition, the decision of the PHCP in conjunction with the Tournament Physician, if appropriate, is final. If a player exhibits symptoms of an illness or heat illness (i.e., heat stroke or heat exhaustion) and cramping is one of the manifested symptoms, a MTO may be taken, which will be determined by the PHCP at the time of evaluation.
- (ii) A player who has stopped play by claiming an acute medical condition, but is determined by the PHCP, in conjunction with the Tournament Physician, if appropriate, to have muscle cramping, shall be ordered by the Supervisor/Referee to resume play immediately. If the player cannot continue playing due to severe muscle cramping, the player may forfeit the point or game(s) needed to get to a change of ends or set break in order to receive treatment.\* There may be a total of two (2) change of ends treatments for muscle cramping in a match, not necessarily consecutive. If it is determined by the Chair Umpire or Supervisor/Referee that gamesmanship was involved, then a Code Violation for Unsportsmanlike Conduct may be issued.

\*The chair umpire will announce to the players and spectators: "Miss/Mrs. \_\_\_\_ is requesting immediate medical treatment for cramping. She may receive this treatment only on a change-over/set break and therefore is conceding all points and games up to the next changeover/set break."

#### ii. Time and Duration of Treatment

Should the MTO take place, it will not exceed three (3) minutes. It shall begin after the completion and diagnosis of medical condition by the PHCP and Tournament Physician, if required, and be timed from the moment when the PHCP is ready to commence treatment.

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#### iii. Off-Court Treatment

At the discretion of the PHCP, and for reasons of privacy and modesty, treatment during a MTO may be performed off court in the most private location nearest the court and may proceed in conjunction with the Tournament Physician.

In such a case, the Chair Umpire and/or Supervisor shall be responsible for notifying the PHCP of time remaining. At the conclusion of the three-minute, off-court treatment, the player will immediately return to court.

#### iv. Provisions for Players with Diabetes

Players with diabetes with prior medical written certification obtained from a primary care physician or endocrinologist and submitted to the Anti-Doping Program administrator may be allowed to use devices off court to check blood sugar during the reasonable time evaluation period and administer subcutaneous injections of insulin (if needed) during the MTO.

#### v. Additional MTO Administrative Procedures

- (a) At the commencement of the MTO the Chair Umpire will announce publicly, "Miss/Mrs. \_\_\_\_ is now receiving a Medical Time-Out" and start timing.
- (b) The Chair Umpire will announce to the players and the PHCP the following:
  - (i) "Two (2) minutes remaining."
  - (ii) "One (1) minute remaining."
  - (iii) "Thirty (30) seconds remaining."
  - (iv) "Time" (publicly).
- (c) Should the MTO take less than the permitted three (3) minutes, the PHCP shall inform the Chair Umpire when treatment has finished, and the Chair Umpire shall announce to the players: "Treatment complete" and then publicly: "Time."
- (d) When treatment takes the full three (3) minutes, the Chair

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Umpire shall announce "Treatment complete" and then publicly: "Time." After "treatment complete," is announced, if needed, the player should be given the time necessary to put on her socks and shoes before "Time" is called.

- (e) If a player is unable to play after 30 seconds, then the player will be subject to a Code of Conduct violation (in accordance with the Point Penalty Schedule).
- (f) At the conclusion of the MTO, the PHCP shall leave the court. The player may receive treatment on two (2) additional change of ends, which need not be consecutive, for each MTO taken.

#### vi. Consecutive MTOs

A total of two (2) consecutive MTOs may be allowed by the Supervisor or Chair Umpire for the special circumstance in which the PHCP determines the player has developed at the same time at least two (2) distinct treatable medical conditions.

##### (a) Circumstances Allowing for Consecutive MTOs

Such circumstances may include:

- (i) A medical illness in conjunction with a musculoskeletal injury; or
- (ii) Two (2) or more distinct musculoskeletal injuries.

##### (b) Process and Timing

In such cases, the PHCP will perform a medical evaluation for the two (2) or more treatable medical conditions during a single evaluation, and may then determine that two (2) consecutive MTOs are required, advising the Chair Umpire accordingly.

The Chair Umpire will count down the MTOs separately, making appropriate announcements for the commencement of each MTO (e.g., "Miss/Mrs. \_\_\_\_ is taking a second Medical Time-Out").

#### d. Resumption of Play and Penalties for Rule Violations

After completion of a MTO or medical treatment, any delay in



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resumption of play shall be penalized by as a Code of Conduct violation for Delay of Game.

Any player abuse of this Medical Rule will be subject to penalty in accordance with the Unsportsmanlike Conduct Section of the Code of Conduct.

e. Additional Administrative Procedures

i. Biohazardous Materials

The Chair Umpire will suspend play and call for the PHCP when Biohazardous Materials (blood and vomit) are present on the court. Play is suspended until the court is cleaned by the appropriate Tournament Personnel, with proper disposal of Biohazardous Materials using the Tournament-provided spill kits.

(a) Bleeding

If a player is bleeding, the Chair Umpire must stop play as soon as possible and call the PHCP to the court for evaluation and treatment. The PHCP, in conjunction with the Tournament Physician, if appropriate, will evaluate the source of the bleeding and request a MTO for treatment, if necessary.

If requested by the PHCP and/or Tournament Physician, the Supervisor or Chair Umpire may extend the MTO and allow up to a total of five (5) minutes to assure control of the bleeding.

If within five (5) minutes, the bleeding is not controlled, the PHCP may advise that continued play is detrimental to the player's health. In that case, the Supervisor/Referee may retire the player from the match.

If blood has spilled onto the court or its immediate vicinity, play should not resume until the blood spill has been cleaned appropriately.

(b) Vomiting

If a player is vomiting, the Chair Umpire must stop play if vomit has spilled onto the court, or if the player requests medical evaluation.

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If the player requests medical evaluation, then the PHCP shall determine if the player has a treatable medical condition.

If vomiting is continuous, the PHCP may advise that continued play is detrimental to the player's health. In that case, the Supervisor/Referee may retire the player from the match.

If vomit has spilled onto the court, play must not resume until the vomit spill has been cleaned appropriately.

#### **ii. Physical Incapacity**

During the match, if there is an emergency medical condition, and the player involved is unable to make a request for a PHCP, the Chair Umpire immediately shall call for the PHCP and Tournament Physician to assist the player.

Either before or during a match, if a player is considered physically unable to compete, or poses a serious health risk to players, officials or Tournament staff, the PHCP and/or Tournament Physician should inform the Supervisor and recommend that the player be ruled unable to compete in the match to be played, or retired from the match in progress.

The Supervisor/Referee shall use great discretion before taking this action and should base the decision on the best interests of Professional Tennis, as well as taking all medical advice and any other information into consideration.

Subject to the restrictions set forth in Matches Scheduled Same Day – Section III.B.6.a, the player subsequently may compete in another event at the same tournament if the Tournament Physician determines the player's condition has improved to the extent that the player may safely physically perform at an appropriate level of play and no longer poses a serious health risk to players, officials or Tournament staff.

#### **iii. Medically-Warranted Shirt Change**

If during an on-court evaluation or MTO the PHCP deems it medically-warranted for the player to change her clothing, the PHCP could include this during the MTO (performed off court at the closest/most private location); otherwise, a clothing change

## STANDARDS

### SECTION XVII - TOURNAMENT STANDARDS OF PERFORMANCE

only may be taken at the end of a set.

#### iv. Simultaneous Court Calls

In the event there are simultaneous court calls, when a second PHCP is not covering the Tournament, the PHCP will go to the first request, unless otherwise advised of a medical emergency.

If there are two (2) court calls on the same court the following procedure will occur:

- (a) The PHCP will go to the first request or medical emergency, administer a complete evaluation and MTO, if indicated, then;
- (b) Go to the second request and administer a complete evaluation and MTO, if indicated; and
- (c) The PHCP will rotate treatments on the change of ends, if necessary, beginning with the player who had the first request, until the process is complete.

In the event the PHCP determines both court calls to be muscle cramping, the PHCP will treat the player who had the first request for 60 seconds (as timed by the Chair Umpire) and then treat the second player for the remaining 60 seconds of the 120 second change of ends, or treat each player for 90 seconds during a set break.

#### v. Warm-Up Period

With regard to the Medical Rule, the match includes both the warm-up and play; thus, any medical condition incurred during the warm-up is considered a medical condition during the match. If a player sustains an acute treatable medical condition during the warm-up that prevents the player from starting the match as scheduled, the player can receive either a MTO or 90-second treatment period at the end of the warm-up, prior to the start of the match.

If the MTO is taken during the warm-up, the five-minute warm-up shall be suspended until the conclusion of the MTO. If it is clear the player is not physically able to compete after receiving treatment, then the match should not begin.

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### 6. Extreme Weather Conditions and Lightning

#### a. Definitions

##### i. Extreme Weather Conditions

Extreme Weather Conditions shall be defined as when the Heat Stress Index (Wet-Bulb Globe Temperature (WBGT) Index) meets or exceeds 30.1 degrees Celsius/86.2 degrees Fahrenheit.

Air Temperature (Celsius/Fahrenheit)											
	21.1° 70°	23.9° 75°	26.7° 80°	29.4° 85°	32.2° 90°	35° 95°	37.8° 100°	40.6° 105°	43.3° 110°	46.1° 115°	48.9° 120°
Relative Humidity	<b>Apparent Temperature</b> (combined index of air temperature and relative humidity)										
0%	17.8° 64°	20.6° 69°	22.8° 73°	25.6° 78°	28.3° 83°	30.6° 87°	32.8° 91°	35° 95°	37.2° 99°	39.4° 103°	41.7° 107°
10%	18.3° 65°	21.1° 70°	23.9° 75°	26.7° 80°	29.4° 85°	32.2° 90°	35° 95°	37.8° 100°	40.6° 105°	43.3° 111°	46.7° 116°
20%	18.9° 66°	22.2° 72°	25° 77°	27.8° 82°	30.6° 87°	33.9° 93°	37.2° 99°	40.6° 105°	44.4° 112°	48.9° 120°	54.4° 130°
30%	19.4° 67°	22.8° 73°	25.6° 78°	28.9° 84°	32.2° 90°	35.6° 96°	40.1° 104.2°	45° 113°	50.6° 123°	57.2° 135°	64.4° 148°
40%	20° 68°	23.3° 74°	26.1° 79°	30° 86°	33.9° 93°	38.3° 101°	43.3° 110°	50.6° 123°	58.3° 137°	66.1° 151°	
50%	20.6° 69°	23.9° 75°	27.2° 81°	31.1° 88°	35.6° 96°	41.7° 107°	48.9° 120°	57.2° 135°	65.6° 150°		
60%	21.1° 70°	24.4° 76°	27.8° 82°	32.2° 90°	37.8° 100°	45.6° 114°	55.6° 132°	65° 149°			
70%	21.1° 70°	25° 77°	29.4° 85°	33.9° 93°	41.1° 106°	51.1° 124°	62.2° 144°				
80%	21.7° 71°	25.6° 78°	30° 86°	36.1° 97°	45° 113°	57.8° 136°					
90%	21.7° 71°	26.1° 79°	31.1° 88°	38.9° 102°	50° 122°						
Extreme Heat Condition - Modification of Play											
Extreme Heat Condition - Suspension of Play											

##### ii. Modification of Play

If a WBGT meter is not available for measuring the WBGT Index, then the apparent temperature should be calculated based on the chart above, and Extreme Weather Condition – Modification of Play shall be defined when the apparent temperature meets or exceeds 34 degrees Celsius/93 degrees Fahrenheit.

##### iii. Suspension of Play

This shall be defined as a Heat Stress Index (WBGT Index) of, or greater than, 32.2 degrees Celsius/90 degrees Fahrenheit. If a WBGT meter is not available for measuring the WBGT Index, then the Apparent Temperature should be established from the chart above, and Extreme Weather Condition – Suspension of Play shall be defined as an Apparent Temperature of, or greater than, 40.1 degrees Celsius/104.2 degrees Fahrenheit.

## **STANDARDS**

### **SECTION XVII - TOURNAMENT STANDARDS OF PERFORMANCE**

#### **b. Procedures for Measuring/Monitoring Weather Conditions**

The WBGT Index or Apparent Temperature should be measured by the PHCP a minimum of three (3) times, and a maximum of five (5) times, per day. The readings will be determined by the PHCP and the Supervisor prior to the start of play and will be posted in the Supervisor's office. Measurements should be taken every two (2) hours, but at a minimum, three (3) readings should be taken at the following times:

- i. One-half hour before match play begins;
- ii. Middle of the scheduled day; and
- iii. Just prior to beginning of the last match of the day, or prior to the start of the first evening match.

The WBGT Index or Apparent Temperature also should be measured under the following circumstances:

- (a) Following any suspension of play; and
- (b) At the discretion of the Supervisor, in consultation with the Tournament Physician and/or PHCP.

#### **c. Modification of Play Timing and Weather Condition Change**

When the Extreme Weather Condition Modification of Play is in effect before the start of a match, the procedures set out below in sub-Section d, shall be followed.

In the event that during the day there is a change in weather conditions as determined by this periodic monitoring, the Extreme Weather Condition Rule can be put into effect at any time on all courts, including matches already in progress. Once notified that the Extreme Weather Condition Rule is in effect, the Chair Umpire must inform the players at the next change of ends.

If there is a sudden change in weather conditions and the Rule is lifted, those matches already in progress will continue under the Extreme Weather Condition Rule. In the case of rain or interruption to play, the Supervisor and PHCP can re-assess the Extreme Weather Condition Rule.

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#### d. Modification of Play Procedures, Singles

A 10-minute break will be allowed between the 2nd and 3rd sets if either player requests such a break. If neither player requests such a break, then play will continue.

The Supervisor, in consultation with the PHCP, also may choose to delay the starting time for matches until such a time as the Extreme Weather Condition Modification of Play no longer is in effect.

##### i. During the 10-minute break

- (a) On-court coaching will be allowed (90 seconds within the 10 minutes, either at the start or end of the break).
- (b) During televised matches, the Host Broadcaster will be allowed to interview the on-court coaches.
- (c) Medical evaluations, MTOs or medical treatments will not be allowed, unless approved by the Referee/Supervisor prior to leaving the court or before the end of the 2nd set, in which case treatment may be conducted off court.

A player, however, may be allowed to receive an adjustment of medical support (including re-taping), medical equipment and/or medical advice from the PHCP.

##### ii. Immediately following the 10-minute break

- (a) Any delay in resumption of play shall subject a player to back-to-back Time Violations in accordance with Section IV.G.
- (b) No re-warm up will be allowed. (This rule also applies to the two [2] bathroom and/or change of attire breaks allowed during the match.)
- (c) A player may not receive medical evaluations, MTOs or medical treatments, unless approved by the Referee/Supervisor prior to leaving the court or before the end of the 2nd set.

##### iii. Consecutive Breaks

An Extreme Weather Condition 10-minute break and a Bathroom/Change of Attire break may not be taken consecutively.

## **STANDARDS**

### **SECTION XVII - TOURNAMENT STANDARDS OF PERFORMANCE**

#### **e. Suspension of Play Procedures**

When the Extreme Weather Condition Suspension of Play is in effect, play shall be suspended according to the suspension policy then in effect, until the temperature falls below the criterion for Suspension of Play.

#### **f. Lightning**

The Supervisor has the authority to suspend play when lightning is sighted. Play shall resume when the likelihood of a lightning strike has passed.

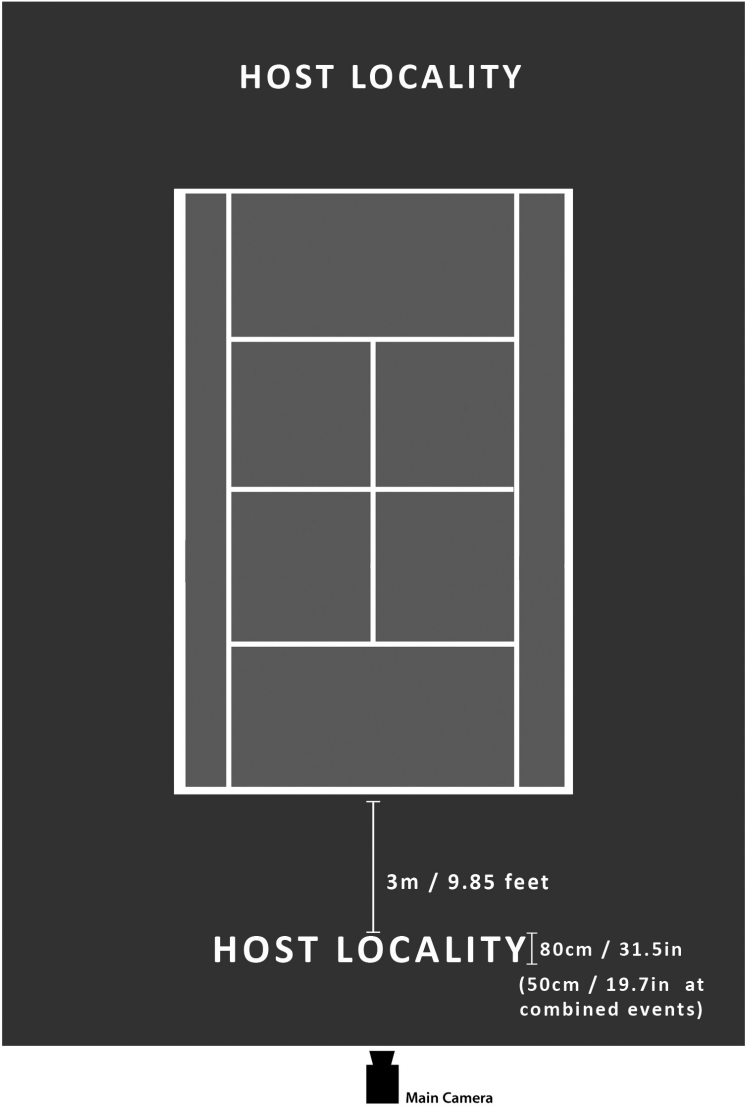
### **7. Medical Withdrawals**

See Medical Withdrawals – Section III.B.4.

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**D. ON-COURT SIGNAGE**

**Court Host Locality  
Signage Option 1**

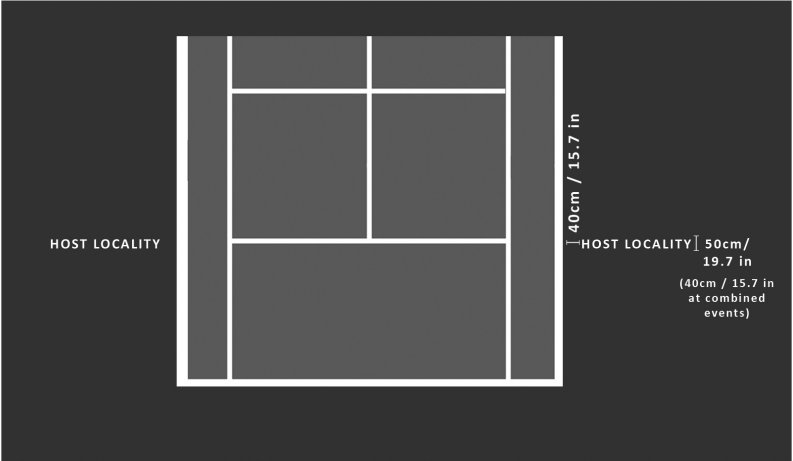


Please note that this diagram is not to scale.

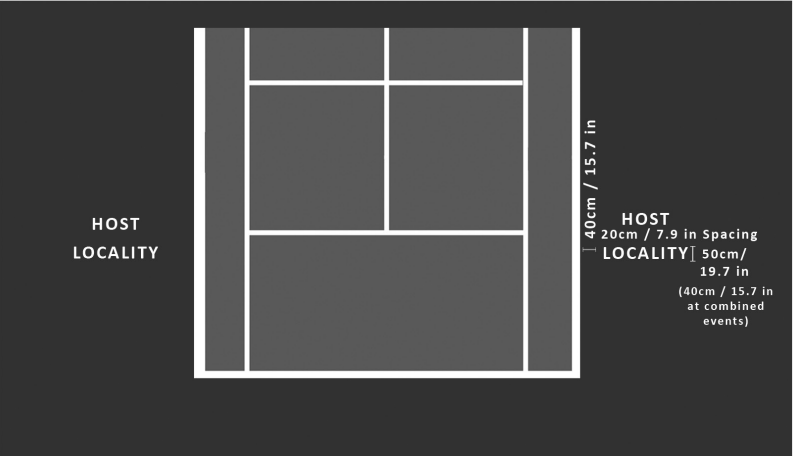


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Court Host Locality  
Signage Option 2



Main Camera

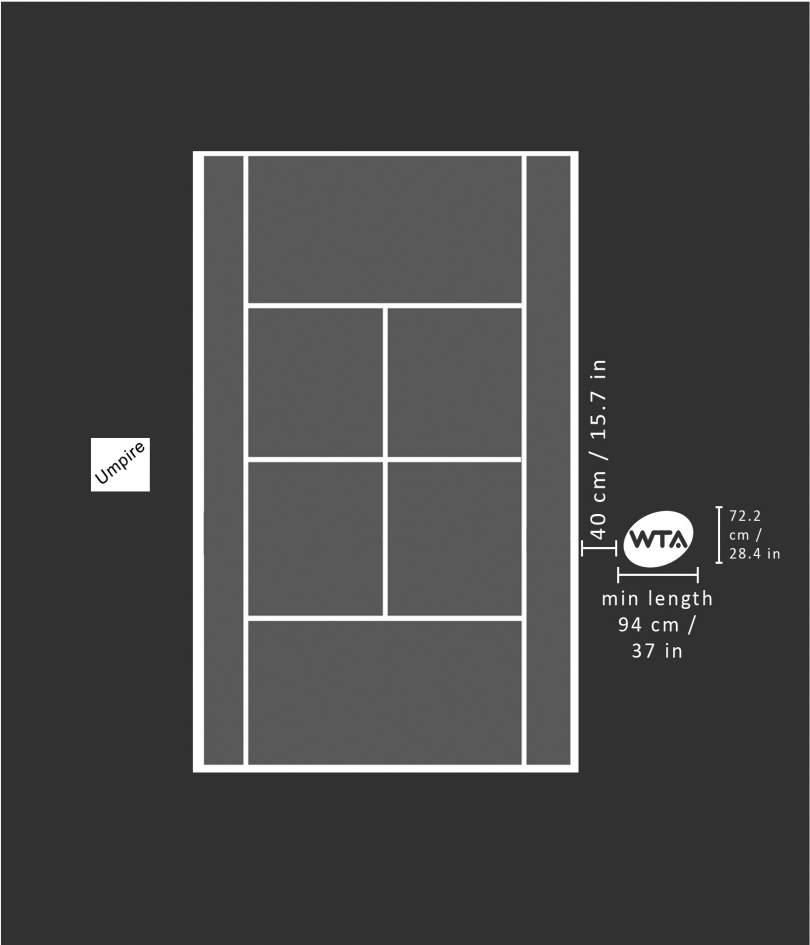


Main Camera

Please note that these diagrams are not to scale.

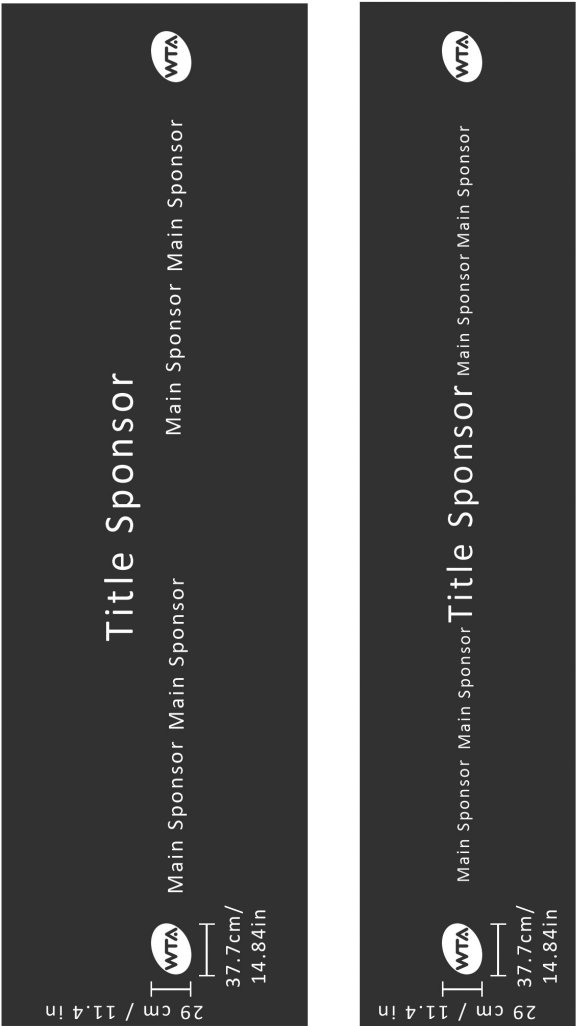
**STANDARDS**  
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**Court Signage**  
**WTA Logo - Court Surface**



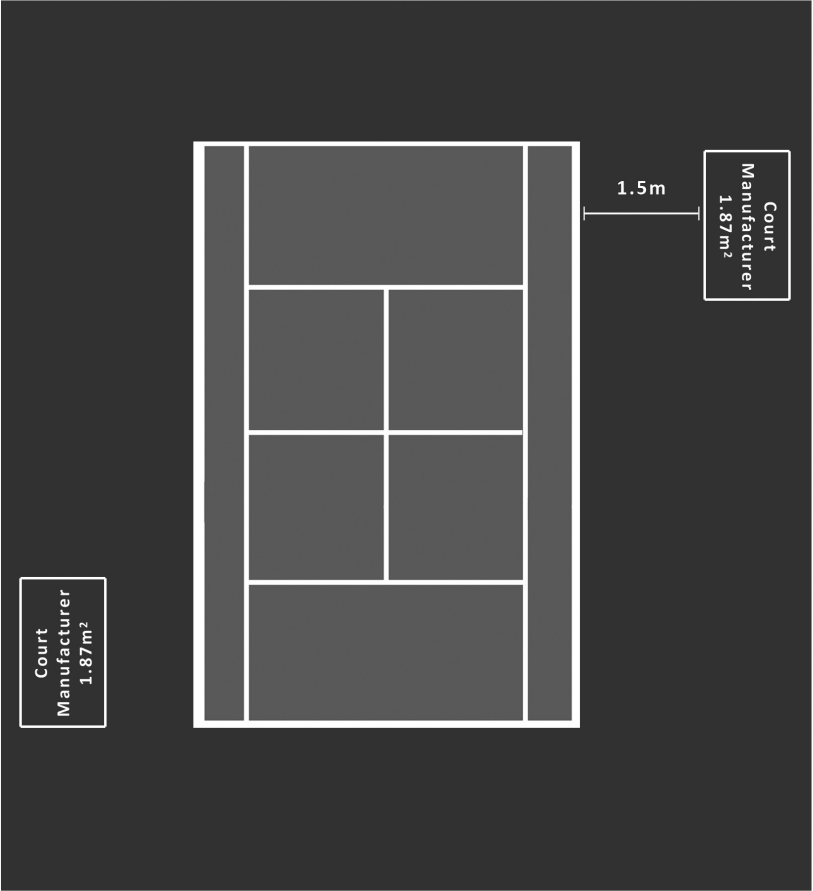
Please note that this diagram is not to scale.

Court Signage  
WTA Logo - Back Fence



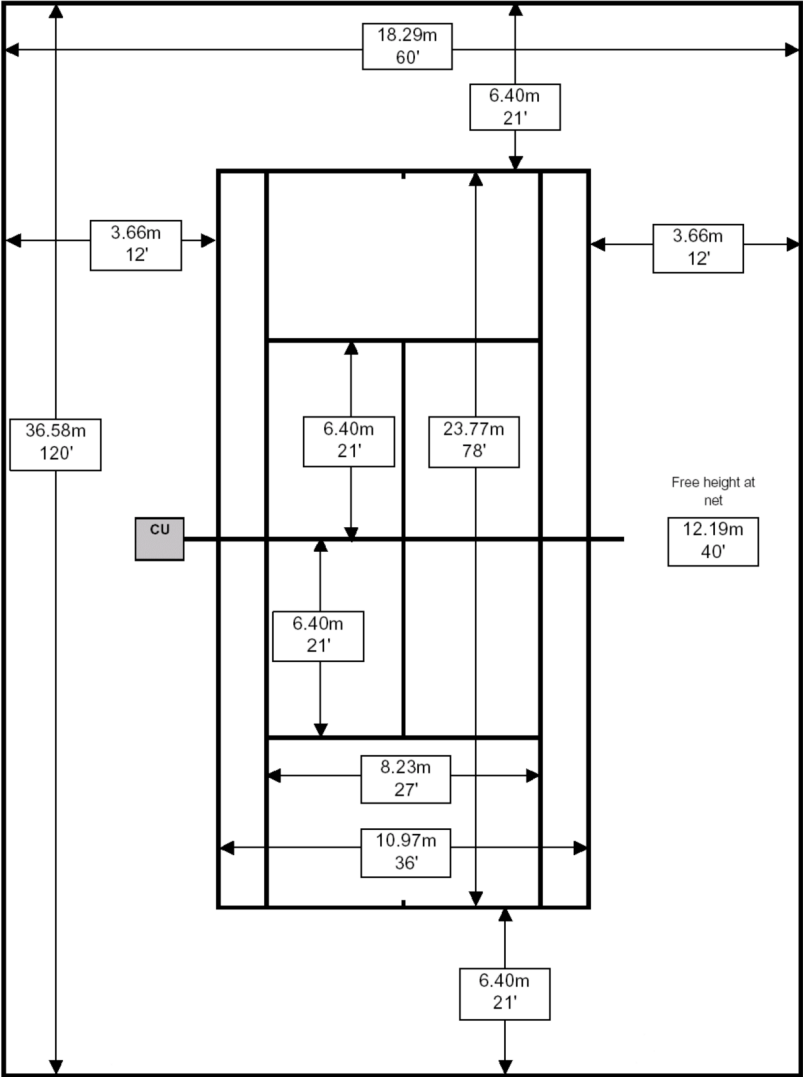
Please note that these diagrams are not to scale.

Court Signage  
Court Manufacturer



STANDARDS  
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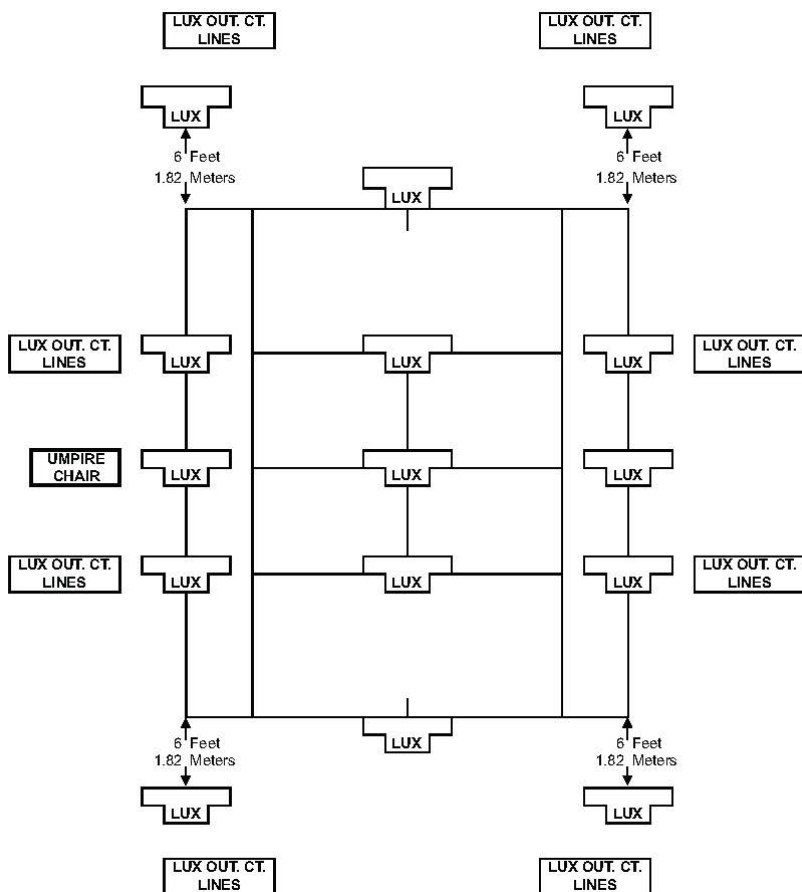
E. COURT MEASUREMENTS



# STANDARDS

## SECTION XVII - TOURNAMENT STANDARDS OF PERFORMANCE

### F. LIGHT MEASUREMENTS



Readings  
Displayed in  
LUX

AVERAGE:

HIGH:

LOW:

RATIO:

Required Minimum Average:

1076

Required Maximum Ratio:

1.50

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**SECTION XVII - TOURNAMENT STANDARDS OF PERFORMANCE**

**G. ELECTRONIC REVIEW**

An approved electronic system for reviewing line calls and/or overrules is authorized for use at WTA Tournaments, and its use is required on center court at all Premier hard court and Premier grass court Tournaments. The protocol for its use is as follows:

**1. Reviewable Points**

A request for an Electronic Review of a line call or overrule by a player (team) shall be allowed only on either a point-ending shot or when a player (team) stops playing the point during a rally. (Returns are permitted, but then the player immediately must stop.)

**2. Doubles Appeal to Chair Umpire**

In doubles, the appealing player must make her appeal in such a way that either play stops, or the Chair Umpire stops play. If an appeal is made to the Chair Umpire, then he/she must first determine that the correct appeal procedure was followed. If it was not correct, or if it was late, then the Chair Umpire may determine that the opposing team was hindered deliberately, in which case the appealing team loses the point.

**3. Number of Challenges Allowed**

Each player (team) shall receive three (3) incorrect challenges per set and one (1) extra challenge in case of a tie-break. In doubles, when a ten (10) point match tie-break is played in lieu of a final set, the number of challenges is reset to three (3) at the beginning of the match tie-break.

**4. Additional Challenge for Tie-Break Game**

During the tie-break game in any set, each player (team) shall receive one (1) additional challenge. This is in addition to any challenges not lost, if any, during the set.

**5. Clear Communication to Umpire of Intent to Challenge**

To challenge a line call or overrule, the player must show to the Chair Umpire an immediate interest in making a challenge and must do so in a timely manner. The player must make her intention to the challenge known to the Chair Umpire either verbally or visually (e.g., by using her racquet, arm, or hand). The Chair Umpire will:

- a. Reconfirm with the player her intent to challenge;

## **STANDARDS**

### **SECTION XVII - TOURNAMENT STANDARDS OF PERFORMANCE**

- b. Confirm that the player has challenges remaining; and
- c. Proceed with the Electronic Review.

#### **6. No Electronic Review Decision Available**

The original call or overrule always will stand if the Electronic Review is unable, for whatever reason, to make a decision on that line call or overrule. In this case, the player shall not have her available number of challenges reduced.

#### **7. Electronic Review in Lieu of Call from On-Court Officials**

If there is no call made from the on-court officials (unsighted Line Umpire, and Chair Umpire cannot make the call) on a point-ending shot, the Chair Umpire may call for a review, and the result of the review will not affect the remaining challenges of either player.

#### **8. Final Decision**

The decision of the Electronic Review is final and cannot be appealed. In the situation where the written ruling (IN/OUT) on the video board differs from the graphic show (ball mark digital imagery), then the ball mark imagery determines whether the ball is IN or OUT, not the written ruling, however, the Chair Umpire must contact the review official to get the final confirmation on the call.

#### **9. Review Official**

A certified official, approved by the Supervisor, shall act as the review official, whose duties shall include, but are not limited to:

- a. Determining which impact shall be reviewed by the system.
- b. Monitoring the system to ensure it is functioning properly.
- c. Notifying the Chair Umpire immediately in the case of a system failure or any other condition that prohibits or brings into question the ability of the system to review a challenged call. In this case, the Chair Umpire immediately shall notify both players that review is not available until further notice.
- d. Acting as the final authority on the number of challenges each player has remaining. Communicating with the Chair Umpire, at first possible opportunity, when one (1) challenge is left, and confirming the one (1) remaining challenge.



## **STANDARDS**

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The review official and supporting technology staff shall be located within the stadium or arena in a secured area and with an unobstructed view of the court.

#### **10. Video Board**

For each court that is using a review system, there shall be a minimum of one (1) video board, of sufficient size, located in a position where the Chair Umpire, players and spectators may view the results of the challenge.

#### **11. Review Booth**

The following specifications are recommended for the electronic system review booth:

- a. The booth must be located in direct line of sight to the court, in order to provide an unobstructed view of the court. It should preferably be at the back (North or South end) of the court when possible.
- b. The Review Official must have a full view of the whole court and line umpires.
- c. The booth must have direct audio from the Chair Umpire's microphone (not from the television feed).
- d. The Review Official should be able to hear the line umpire calls from the court.
- e. The booth must have room for five (5) persons plus equipment (minimum of 25 sq. meters (82 sq. feet) with a minimum court frontage of 5 meters (16.5 feet) as required by review vendor).
- f. The booth should have full air conditioning for equipment and personnel, unless technically unable to do so, and approved by the WTA and the vendor.
- g. Access to the booth must be reasonably easy and safe.
- h. Appropriate communication with the Supervisor, Chair Umpire and Video Board operator (if not in the same room) must be available.
- i. Tables, chairs and high stools must be provided as requested by the ELC team.

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#### H. ON-COURT COACHING

Provided the following rules and procedures are followed, a player may request that her coach go on-court during a match to provide coaching.

##### 1. Designation Procedures

- a. A player must designate her on-court coach prior to the start of her match or before going back on court to finish a suspended match (same or different day). A player can designate her on-court coach by signing in with the Supervisor in the on-site WTA office.
- b. For doubles, both players may designate an on-court coach, however, only one (1) coach is permitted on court at a time.
- c. A player can change her designated on-court coach during the week but can only designate one (1) on-court coach per match, unless the match is suspended and the originally designated coach is unavailable when the match resumes (same or different day), in which case the player can nominate a different coach.
- d. To be eligible to be designated as an on-court coach, the coach must (i) complete and sign a Player Support Team form (one time only); (ii) complete a media information form (one time only); and (iii) sign-in with the on-site WTA office before the start of the match.

##### 2. On-Court Coaches

- a. On-court coaches are subject to Code of Conduct, including the provisions relating to player on-court behavior (see Section XVI.D.4).
- b. On-court coaches should dress and present themselves in a professional manner. They must wear appropriate and clean tennis attire. Whether a coach is dressed professionally shall be at the sole discretion of the Supervisor and Referee and shall not be appealable. If a coach is asked to change and fails to do so, it shall result in his/her on-court coaching privileges being removed for that match.
- c. Microphones

On World Feed Courts, on-court coaches shall wear a microphone to capture their on-court coaching and conversations with their players, which may be used for television broadcasts.

- i. On-court coaches must be available in the Players Lounge 15 minutes prior to the match for the microphone to be fitted. No

## STANDARDS

### SECTION XVII - TOURNAMENT STANDARDS OF PERFORMANCE

coach will be allowed on a World Feed Court court if he/she is not wearing a microphone.

- ii. If an on-court coach is not wearing the microphone on his or her clothing appropriately (e.g., as fitted prior to the match) or has his or her microphone switched off or otherwise obstructed during the on-court coaching time-out:
  - (a) the on-court coach will not be allowed to participate in on-court coaching for the remainder of that Tournament and for the following WTA Tournament at which he or she coaches any player(s); and
  - (b) each player who designated the on-court coach as her coach for the Tournament at which the violation occurred will not be allowed to receive on-court coaching (and may not designate a different coach) for the remainder of that Tournament and during the following WTA Tournament in which she participates.

An on-court coach's microphone may be switched off while he or she is sitting in the stands.

- d. On-court coaches may converse in their chosen language.
- e. On-court coaches should sit in the designated coaching seats to allow easy and quick access to the court. The coach must use the official court entrance to get onto the court and can under no circumstances climb the stands or jump over fences, which may result in his/her on-court coaching privileges being removed.
- f. On-court coaches shall only provide advice during the on-court coaching period and are not permitted to bring any articles (i.e., food, drinks, tennis equipment, or medical supplies) onto the court to provide to their player(s), unless any such articles have been seen and approved by the Chair Umpire. Notes and official WTA authorized electronic devices may be brought onto the court but may not be left with the player.
- g. On-court coaches must leave the court immediately upon the Chair Umpire announcing "Time".
- h. On-court coaches may not provide coaching or communicate with a player outside of the court.

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Coaches are subject to the normal coaching rules outside the on-court coaching procedures and may be penalized in accordance to the Point Penalty Schedule for Coaching.

#### 3. On-Court Coaching Requests

- a. On-court coaching requests must be made to the Chair Umpire.
- b. During a match, a player can request her coach at the following times:
  - i. Once per set (either on a change of ends or at the end of a set). A set break will count as part of the set that just finished;\*
  - ii. When her opponent takes a change of attire/toilet break, or asks for a PHCP except in the following cases:
    - (a) change of ends treatments (i.e., the two (2) additional change of ends following an MTO or the two (2) change of ends for muscle cramping),
    - (b) call for re-taping during the regular change of ends time, or
    - (c) medication delivery during the regular change of ends time.

On-court coaching can start from when the PHCP is called to court or when the player leaves the court, respectively.

- iii. In accordance with the Extreme Weather Condition Rule (90 seconds within the 10 minutes, either at the start or end of the break).

\*In addition to the coaching requests of the previous set, doubles teams may see their coaches before the start of the match tie-break played instead of the 3rd set.

- c. If a player makes an on-court coaching request without her opponent asking for a PHCP or taking a change of attire/toilet break, such request will count as her one (1) allowed on-court coaching request for that set, regardless of whether her opponent also makes a request for her coach.

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- d. During a match, a player can only make one (1) of the following requests at the same time: (i) on-court coaching request; (ii) request for a PHCP; or (iii) request for a toilet/change of attire break.
- e. In doubles, if one partner leaves the court for a toilet break, her partner on-court may not request to see her coach at the same time, however their opponents may request to see their coach.

#### 4. Chair Umpire

- a. Prior to the start of a match, the Chair Umpire shall confirm that a player has a designated coach for on-court coaching.
- b. During the pre-match meeting, the Chair Umpire may include a brief explanation of the on-court coaching procedures if necessary and shall confirm that both, one or none of the players have a designated coach for the match.
- c. The following procedures shall apply when an on-court coaching time is taken:
  - i. The player shall request through the Chair Umpire her desire to have her designated coach on the court. The Chair Umpire will confirm to the player whether the request is granted or not.
  - ii. The Chair Umpire shall immediately announce over the microphone: "Miss/Mrs. \_\_\_\_ has requested to see her coach."
  - iii. The Chair Umpire will monitor the timing of the change of ends, set break, change of attire/toilet break or MTO as per normal procedure and will call "Time" at 60/90 seconds or later if on a World Feed court (change of ends/set break) or at the end of the change of attire/toilet break/MTO. If a player receiving on-court coaching is not ready to play within 30 seconds of the Chair Umpire calling "Time", the delay will be penalized in accordance with the Point Penalty Schedule for a Delay of Game.
- iv. If the Extreme Weather Rule is in effect and:
  - (a) One or both players want to take the 10 minute break after the 2nd set, then they can only receive on-court coaching for a maximum of 90 seconds which has to be taken on-court either at the beginning of the 10 minute break or at the end of it (choice of the player); however the coaching time will be included in the 10 minutes. The Chair Umpire

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shall time the 90 seconds and ask the coach to leave the court at the conclusion of the allowed on-court coaching time.

- (b) If none of the players want to take the 10 minute break, the normal set-break procedures will apply.
- v. Only WTA-approved personnel are permitted to provide treatment on-court, any actions interpreted as treatment by a coach during the on-court coaching may be penalized in accordance with the Point Penalty Schedule for Unsportsmanlike Conduct.
- vi. Immediately after completion of a match, the Chair Umpire should return the completed On-Court Coaching Umpire Work Sheet to the WTA office.

Any concerns about on-court coaching/personnel on-court should be communicated directly to the Supervisor/Referee.

## 5. Television

- a. On World Feed Courts, where coaches are required to wear microphones and additional microphones (booms) are provided around the player's chair to capture the on-court coaching, broadcasters are not required to delay the on-court coaching until play commences and may air the on-court coaching live, subject to certain limitations.
- b. Only conversations related to coaching (e.g., strategic, tactical and emotional advice) shall be broadcasted. Conversations relating to injuries or personal matters and extended emotional outbursts shall not be aired.
- c. Audio broadcasts of on-court coaching in the stadium are not permitted.
- d. Audio and audiovisual broadcasts of coaches via their on-court coaching microphones while they are not providing on-court coaching are not permitted.
- e. When the Extreme Weather Condition Rule is in effect, coaches shall be available to conduct an interview with the Host Broadcaster either during the match or within the 10-minute break.

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**I. INTERNATIONAL MEDIA RIGHTS POOL**

All WTA Tournaments must participate in the official WTA international media rights pool ("Media Pool") consistent with the rights and obligations set forth in these Standards and as may be established by the Board of Directors.

**1. Definitions**

a. Additional Matches

Any Matches which (i) are not Produced Matches and (ii) are produced and delivered by the WTA (or anyone acting under its authority) for broadcast.

b. Clean Feed

The Clean Feed shall mean the "clean" TV video and audio signal of the Produced Matches. The audio feed shall be in stereo and shall consist of one track with natural sound (mixed without commentary) and one track with the Host Broadcaster or production partner commentary for both guide and broadcast purposes. The video feed shall be continuous without (i) commercials, Host Broadcaster promotional material, commentators "in-vision," Host Broadcaster logo or domestic network identification; or (ii) Host Broadcaster graphics (scoring and statistical) unless otherwise requested by the WTA no later than one (1) week prior to the start of the Main Draw. The video feed shall include the Hawkeye officiating system if in operation at the Tournament, the rights for which must be cleared by the Tournament.

c. Dirty Feed

The Clean Feed augmented with the official WTA graphics.

d. Domestic Area

The country in which a Tournament is held unless approval has been provided in writing by the WTA for an expanded Domestic Area.

e. Host Broadcaster

A telecaster that has been granted all or a portion of the Tournament Media Rights in the Domestic Area by a Tournament.

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f. Host Broadcaster Feed

The Host Broadcaster Feed is a video and audio TV signal of Matches produced by a Host Broadcaster or production partner appointed by a Tournament, (i) including the Host Broadcaster graphics (scoring and statistical) and Hawkeye officiating system if in operation at the Tournament; and (ii) excluding Host Broadcaster logo and domestic network identification.

g. Matches

The tennis matches from a Tournament.

h. Media Distribution

Any and all forms, means or modalities of electronic or other tangible or non-tangible exhibition of audio, visual or audiovisual content to or from any location including by any means, whether now known or hereafter developed, including cable, wire, fiber or other fixed (permanent and temporary) forms of distribution or connectivity, any form of wireless distribution or technology, satellite, terrestrial broadcast systems and technologies, IPTV, the Internet or any other form of IP-delivery (via any connection, technology and/or device), open video systems, any and all forms of mobile telecommunications and/or mobile broadcast technologies in any frequency band, in-flight and ship-at-sea, and any other electronic or non-tangible medium via analogue, digital, mobile and any other forms of distribution and communication technologies, where the audio, visual or audiovisual programming is produced, distributed or otherwise made available in any format, resolution or quality including 3D Technology, HDTV transmission (or any other form of enhanced transmission), Standard Definition distribution or distribution in any other quality, code or form for use, display or viewing on any device in any context and made available on any basis including free or pay (including subscription and pay-per-view), encrypted or unencrypted, time-shifted, interactive or any other means or basis. Media Distribution shall include, without limitation, viewing enhancements that allow a person watching a Match to modify the exhibition or otherwise enhance the viewing of a Match (e.g. by selecting the camera angles). In-flight and in-ship distribution shall be deemed to be distributed in the home country of the vessel that carries the Matches.

i. Outside Court Feeds

Feeds of Produced Matches from courts that are not designated for



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the World Feed by the WTA (or its designees). These matches shall be produced according to the Outside Court Running Order provided to the Tournament by the WTA (or its designees) at least sixty (60) days prior to the start of the event.

j. **Produced Matches**

All Matches that are produced by a Tournament's Host Broadcaster or production partner appointed by a Tournament at the site of the Tournament, which shall include (i) all main draw singles Matches; and (ii) each semifinal and final round doubles Match if a production court is available at the Tournament's standard production cost at the time such Match is played.

k. **Television Revenues**

The revenues generated by the Media Pool.

l. **Virtual Advertising**

The manipulation by computer of authentic images, either live or delayed, and the substitution of various elements of those images with the purpose of implementing advertising messages into the feed of the Matches, or the electronic insertion (as opposed to laying over) into the feed of the Matches of video images not present at the site of a Tournament, in the form of synthetic advertising boards, panels and/or signs.

m. **World Feed**

The feed of a select number (in accordance with Section XVII.J.1) of Produced Matches designated by the WTA (or its designees). These matches shall be produced according to the World Feed Running Order provided to the Tournament by the WTA (or its designees) at least sixty (60) days prior to the start of the event.

## **2. Match Distribution Rights and Obligations**

a. **Tournament Media Rights**

Subject to the Television Broadcast Standards in Section XVII.J, each Tournament reserves the following rights with respect to the Matches at its event:

- i. Subject to Sub-section v below, the exclusive rights of transmission, distribution and exploitation of the Host Broadcaster

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Feed of the Matches exercisable throughout the Domestic Area for reception by the public via any form of Media Distribution (collectively, "Tournament Media Rights").

- ii. The non-exclusive, perpetual right to (i) utilize up to five (5) minutes of footage of each Produced Match after the completion of the Match throughout the world solely for the purposes of advertising and/or promoting the WTA, the Tournament or women's tennis; and (ii) use and permit others to use in the Domestic Area, up to three (3) minutes of footage from each Produced Match after the completion of the Produced Match for any purpose provided that in both cases the Tournament shall not receive any consideration for such use, except that use of clips of Produced Matches in the context of sponsorship or similar arrangements where the Tournament receives consideration in respect of the arrangement taken as a whole shall not be prohibited so long as no sponsor is permitted to make use of any such clips in the context of any product or service which is produced for onward sale to a third party. Nothing herein shall prevent Tournaments from permitting their Host Broadcaster from distributing clips from its Produced Matches in the Event Domestic Area as part of a free or subscription based news service.
- iii. The right to incorporate Virtual Advertising in the broadcast exploitation of the Tournament Media Rights in the Domestic Area as long as (a) the Virtual Advertising does not negatively alter, impair or obstruct any signage of the WTA or WTA sponsor(s), (b) the Virtual Advertising does not negatively alter, impair or obstruct any competitive elements of a Match, including but not limited to court surface, players (including their attire and equipment), balls, net, lines and officials, or interfere with the integrity of the competitive presentation of the Match, and (c) the Clean Feed delivered to the WTA (or anyone acting under its authority) for international broadcast does not contain any such Virtual Advertising; and
- iv. The right to incorporate into the Tournament's domestic telecast, logos of the Host Broadcaster or domestic network, billboards, graphics and other audio and visual elements consistent with professional tennis television programming, provided that no reference to a Tournament's sponsor shall be made in a manner that appears to the public that such Tournament sponsor is a WTA sponsor.
- v. Notwithstanding the foregoing exclusivity, the WTA (or anyone

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acting under its authority) shall at all times have the (i) right to stream the Matches worldwide on a pay basis; and (ii) the exclusive right to provide a stream of the Matches to betting service operators, provided such operators only offer access to the Matches to its customers that have an account with such operator. In the Tournament Domestic Area, such Match streaming to betting service operators may only be streamed at download speeds no greater than six hundred kilobits per second (600 Kbps) and displayed in a view having a total area of not more than 200,000 pixels.

#### b. WTA Media Rights

- i. As a member of the Media Pool, each Tournament grants the WTA an exclusive, perpetual license under copyright throughout the world except for the Domestic Area to:
  - (a) Transmit, distribute, and exploit, and authorize third parties to transmit, distribute, and exploit, the Produced Matches for reception by the public via any form of Media Distribution (collectively, "WTA Media Rights");
  - (b) Exploit the WTA Media Rights to promote WTA feed graphics sponsor(s) in such capacity; and
  - (c) Incorporate the official WTA graphics (in the positions that the Media Pool approves from time to time) in the exploitation of the WTA Media Rights; provided, however, that such official WTA graphics must not negatively alter, impair, or obstruct the on-site signage of any Tournament sponsor(s).
- ii. The non-exclusive, perpetual worldwide right to exploit and permit others to exploit (a) excerpts of up to three (3) minutes per Match, anytime after the completion of the Match; and (b) up to five (5) minutes of footage of each Match to promote the WTA and/or WTA sponsors and for use by the WTA in educational programs and for internal purposes. Any revenues from the sale of highlights shall be included in Television Revenues.

#### c. Obligations

- i. All Produced Matches must meet the production level requirements detailed in Section XVII.J - WTA Television Broadcast Standards.
- ii. Each Tournament shall ensure the production of a Clean Feed

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for all Produced Matches and shall provide the WTA (or anyone acting under its authority) with access to the Clean Feed and a redundant backup of the Clean Feed by providing the necessary cabling from the Clean Feed point of origin to the on-site Graphics Office (see Section XVII.J.4.h.iii(c)). In addition, if the Host Broadcaster or production partner chooses to deliver the Dirty Feed from the on-site Graphics Office to the Clean Feed point of origin, the Host Broadcaster or production partner must provide all necessary cabling for such delivery. The WTA (or its designees) is responsible for the cabling necessary to carry the Dirty Feed from the on-site Graphics Office to the on-site transmission point; provided, however, that each Tournament shall introduce the WTA (or its designees) to its facilities provider so that the WTA (or its designees) may contract directly with such facilities provider for such cabling.

- iii. All Produced Matches must be made available to the WTA (or anyone acting under its authority) at no cost, including the redundant backup of the Clean Feed.
- iv. All necessary measures, including geo-blocking technology, must be employed to assure that each audiovisual media service is only capable of being received in the applicable territories and is not capable of being received by reception devices outside such territories.
- v. The WTA and each Tournament shall promote the domestic and international television and online broadcast schedules on their respective websites.

### 3. Overspill

The natural and incidental reception of broadcast and streaming transmissions from either the WTA or its licensees within the Domestic Area or a Tournament or its licensees outside of the Domestic Area will not (a) constitute a violation of these Standards as long as there is no marketing, promotion, advertising or support of such Overspill, or (b) give rise to any additional payments by the WTA to a Tournament or any damages, remedies, setoff rights or holdback rights.

### 4. Match Schedule

- a. At least 120 days before the commencement of a Tournament, the Tournament shall provide the WTA (and its designees) with a preliminary outline of the times of the Produced Matches, which outline may change.

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- b. Not less than 60 days prior to the commencement of a Tournament, the Tournament shall provide the WTA (and its designees) with a final outline of the times of the Produced Matches and the name and telephone number of the production coordinator of the Host Broadcaster.
- c. The WTA (or its designees) must be advised immediately of any scheduling change that affects the Produced Matches.

#### 5. Per Match Fees

- a. If a Tournament fails to make available to the WTA (or its designees) a Clean Feed (other than failure pursuant to sub-Section c below), the Covered Tournament shall pay a per match fee of up to \$100,000 (the "Per Match Fee") for each Match for which the relevant feed was not made available.
- b. If a Tournament fails to make available to the WTA (or its designees) a Clean Feed materially in accordance with the Television Broadcast Standards - Section XVII.J, for any Produced Match (other than failure pursuant to sub-Section c below), the Tournament shall pay the Per Match Fee for each feed that is not materially in accordance with the Television Broadcast Standards.
- c. If one or more of the Produced Matches are (i) cancelled or not completed due to a weather-related or other incident (such as a rainout, blackout, player strike, player labor action, player injury or other failure of players to play) outside of the control of the Tournament (or anyone acting under its authority), and not directly or indirectly attributable to the fault of the Tournament (or anyone acting under its authority) and (ii) not rescheduled, and the Tournament as a result of such incident fails to make available to the WTA a Clean Feed, any Per Match Fee charged for each Produced Match for which a Clean Feed was not made available, shall be paid for out of the Television Revenues before allocation of the WTA's share.
- d. Upon a Tournament's failure to produce a Produced Match Feed and/or a Clean Feed and/or provide access to a Clean Feed, the WTA may, in its sole discretion and election, offset against a Tournament's share of the Television Revenues (i) the actual out-of-pocket costs incurred in remedying or attempting to remedy such failure plus an amount equal to 20% of the amount paid to remedy such failure, and/or (ii) an amount equal to any Per Match Fees due pursuant to sub-Sections a or b above as the result of such failure.
- e. The payments specified above (and/or permitted offset pursuant to sub-Section d) shall be made no later than thirty (30) days following

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receipt by the Tournament of an invoice issued by the WTA.

f. Additional Matches

- i. If the WTA (or any of its designees) desires to broadcast any Additional Matches from a Tournament, the production costs shall be borne by the WTA. The Host Broadcaster or Tournament production partner shall pay for any Additional Matches that it requests for production, but the WTA (or its designee) shall provide a production contribution fee on a per-match basis in accordance with the following schedule:

TOURNAMENT PRODUCTION OPTIONS				
Option	Tournament Media Rights	Host Broadcaster/Production Partner	Additional Technical Fees	Production Costs
1	Included in Media Pool on a non-exclusive basis	WTA (or its designees)	N/A	Covered by Perform
2	Excluded from the Media Pool	WTA (or its designees)	Tournament is responsible for a \$750.00 per match technical access fee for its Domestic Area broadcast partner to access Matches on site; access to Matches via satellite may incur additional fees.	Covered by Perform
3	Included in Media Pool on a non-exclusive basis	Appointed by Tournament	N/A	Perform will pay the following production contribution fees on a per match basis: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>World Feed Matches: Premier Mandatory/Premier 5 - \$8,000; Premier 700 - \$5,000; International - \$3,000</li> <li>Non-World Feed Matches: Premier Mandatory/Premier 5/Premier 700 - \$1,000; International - \$500</li> </ul>
4	Excluded from the Media Pool	Appointed by Tournament	N/A	Perform will pay the following production contribution fees on a per match basis: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>World Feed Matches: Premier Mandatory/Premier 5 - \$4,000; Premier 700 - \$2,500; International - \$1,500</li> <li>Non-World Feed Matches: Premier Mandatory/Premier 5/Premier 700 - \$1,000; International - \$500</li> </ul>

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- ii. The broadcast of an Additional Match will not entitle a Tournament to an additional share of the Television Revenues. All revenues received by the WTA for such Additional Matches, shall be included in Television Revenues.

#### **6. Exploitation of Rights**

- a. Tournaments must not take any action that interferes with or impairs the rights granted hereunder to WTA.
- b. Neither a Tournament nor its Host Broadcaster or production partner shall at any time claim any legal ownership in respect of the exploitation of the rights granted to the WTA, or any other aspect or activity of WTA.
- c. Upon request, a Tournament shall execute such documents and instruments evidencing or affecting the WTA's license of rights and shall cooperate with the WTA to encourage its Host Broadcaster or production partner to execute any such similar documents and instruments as requested from time to time.

#### **7. Clearances**

- a. Each Tournament shall procure all necessary consents, clearances, permissions, licenses and waivers from all individuals in attendance at the Tournament whose image might be broadcast.
- b. With respect to the inclusion of Host Broadcaster or production partner commentary language in the Clean Feed for broadcast use, if English is the Host Broadcaster language, the Tournament must clear any applicable contractual restrictions at its expense (i.e., consents, residuals, etc.); however, for commentary in all other languages, the Tournament shall only be required to clear the commentary for broadcast use if requested by the WTA.
- c. The WTA shall have the non-exclusive, worldwide right in perpetuity to use and grant others the right to use, the Tournament's name and reproductions of the Tournament's facilities in exploiting the rights granted to the WTA and in promoting the Tournament, the WTA and WTA sponsors in their capacity as sponsors of the WTA.

#### **8. Breach of Standards**

A Tournament's failure to meet any of its requirements in this Section XVII.I is a breach of the Tournament Standards of Performance and subject to the procedures and sanctions in Section XVII.A.45 of these Rules.

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#### J. WTA TELEVISION BROADCAST STANDARDS

The definitions of the capitalized terms which are used but not defined in these Television Broadcast Standards are set forth in Section I above.

##### 1. Minimum Broadcast Requirements by Tournament Category Level

- a. Each Premier Mandatory Tournament shall assure production of a minimum of thirty-five (35) World Feed Matches, including the four (4) singles quarterfinal, two (2) singles semifinal, and singles final matches across a minimum of two (2) courts. Any main draw singles Matches not designated for the World Feed must be produced in accordance with the Minimum Production Requirements in the table below.
- b. Each Premier 5 Tournament shall assure production of a minimum of thirty (30) World Feed Matches, including the four (4) singles quarterfinal, two (2) singles semifinal, and singles final matches across a minimum of two (2) courts. Any main draw singles Matches not designated for the World Feed must be produced in accordance with the Minimum Production Requirements in the table below.
- c. Each Premier Tournament shall assure production of a minimum of twenty (20) World Feed Matches, including the four (4) singles quarterfinal, two (2) singles semifinal, and singles final matches. Any main draw singles Matches not designated for the World Feed must be produced in accordance with the Minimum Production Requirements in the table below.
- d. Each International Tournament shall assure production of a minimum of ten (10) World Feed Matches, including the four (4) singles quarterfinal, two (2) singles semifinal, and singles final matches. Any main draw singles Matches not designated for the World Feed must be produced in accordance with the Minimum Production Requirements in the table below.
- e. In addition, while production of all doubles Matches is not a requirement, all Tournaments shall produce, at a minimum, each semifinal and final round doubles Match in accordance with the Minimum Production Requirements in the table below if a production court is available at the Tournament's standard production cost at the time such Match is played. For clarity, if a production court is not available at the Tournament's standard production cost at the time a semifinal or final round doubles Match is played, then the Tournament is not required to produce such Match. In accordance with the chart



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in Section XVII.I.5.f.i., each Tournament that has chosen Option 3 or Option 4 will receive a Non-World Feed Match contribution fee for each doubles Match it produces.

- f. All Produced Matches must be fully produced (excluding graphics and commentary) and delivered to the WTA (or its designees) on site.

PRODUCTION ITEM	TOURNAMENT LEVEL		
	WTA FINALS, PREMIER MANDATORY, AND PREMIER 5	PREMIER	INTERNATIONAL
World Feed	Main Draw pre-Quarterfinals: 5 Cameras	Main Draw pre-Quarterfinals: 5 Cameras	Main Draw pre-Quarterfinals: 3 Cameras*
	Main Draw Quarterfinals through Finals: 8 Cameras	Main Draw Quarterfinals through Finals: 8 Cameras	Main Draw Quarterfinals through Finals: 5 Cameras
Outside Court Feed; Doubles Matches	3 Cameras	3 Cameras	3 Cameras
Production Coverage and Distribution	All Main Draw singles Matches required; all doubles semifinal and final Matches required if a production court is available at Tournament's standard production cost; all other doubles Matches encouraged	All Main Draw singles Matches required; all doubles semifinal and final Matches required if a production court is available at Tournament's standard production cost; all other doubles Matches encouraged	All Main Draw singles Matches required; all doubles semifinal and final Matches required if a production court is available at Tournament's standard production cost; all other doubles Matches encouraged
Commentary (provided by WTA or its designees, subject to availability for pre-semifinal round doubles Matches)	Commentators at all Produced Matches	Commentators at all Produced Matches	Commentators at all Produced Matches
	Co-Commentators at all Produced Matches on Center Court	Co-Commentators at all Produced Matches during the last 3 Main Draw Days	
Graphics (provided by WTA or its designee)	All Produced Matches	All Produced Matches	All Produced Matches
Newsfeed (provided by WTA or its designees)	All Main Draw Days	Last 5 Main Draw Days	Last 2 Main Draw Days

\*NOTE: To reach the minimum ten (10) World Feed Matches required under Section XVII.J.1.d above, each International Tournament must use five (5) cameras in the production of three (3) Main Draw pre-quarterfinals Matches.

## 2. Host Broadcaster's Responsibilities

Each Tournament must incorporate the following terms within its new or renewed contract with a Host Broadcaster or production partner:

- a. Broadcast Recordings

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Each Tournament's Host Broadcaster or production partner shall provide the WTA (or its designees) with USB3 external hard drives containing one (1) clean recording of each semifinal and final round singles Match that the Host Broadcaster or production partner produced for broadcast within one (1) hour after the completion of each such Match. If future license agreements require the WTA to provide additional recordings of first round through quarterfinal round Matches, each Tournament's Host Broadcaster or production partner shall provide such recordings to the WTA (or its designees) at no cost to the WTA (or its designees).

b. Data Collection and Resale

With respect to any live match scores or related statistical data provided to a Host Broadcaster by WTA (or its designees), or collected by the Host Broadcaster, such Host Broadcaster shall agree (i) not to onward supply, sublicense or otherwise make such scores and data available to any third party for use not related to the broadcast, and (ii) to restrict their use of such scores and data to use on a contemporaneous basis within their live broadcast of any match; any other use shall be subject to a delay of at least :30 seconds. All Tournament agreements with Host Broadcasters must comply with, and shall be subject to all WTA Rules as amended from time-to-time.

c. Compliance with WTA Rules

All Tournament agreements with Host Broadcasters and production partners must comply with, and shall be subject to, the Rules as amended from time to time.

d. Production and Access of Feeds

i. The Host Broadcaster or production partner appointed by a Tournament shall, at no cost to the WTA (or its designees), produce a Clean Feed for all Produced Matches and provide the WTA (and its designees) with access to the Clean Feed and the back-up feed for the Clean Feed (total of at least two (2) feeds for every produced court).

ii. Access to the Clean Feed shall:

(a) begin not less than fifteen (15) minutes prior to the scheduled start time of a Match with a wide shot of the court before the players walk on the court and conclude not less than five (5) minutes after the players walk off the court at the conclusion of the Match for all quarterfinal, semifinal and final Produced Matches; and

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- (b) begin not less than seven and a half (7.5) minutes prior to the scheduled start time of a Match with a wide shot of the court before the players walk on the court and conclude not less than two and a half (2.5) minutes after the players walk off the court at the conclusion of the Match for all other Produced Matches.
  - iii. At no cost to the WTA (or its designees), the Host Broadcaster or production partner must provide all necessary cabling to deliver the Clean Feed (and a back-up of the Clean Feed) to the on-site Graphics Office. In addition, if the Host Broadcaster or production partner chooses to deliver the Dirty Feed from the on-site Graphics office to the Clean Feed point of origin, the Host Broadcaster or production partner must provide all necessary cabling for such delivery. The WTA (or its designees) is responsible for the cabling necessary to carry the Dirty Feed from the on-site Graphics Office to the on-site transmission point; provided, however, that each Tournament shall introduce the WTA (or its designees) to its facilities provider(s) so that the WTA (or its designees) may contract directly with such facilities provider(s) for such cabling.
  - iv. The Clean Feed must be the primary source for all subsequent feeds. Any Host Broadcaster Feed must be augmented downstream of the Clean Feed.
- e. Feed Content
- i. The Clean Feed provided to the WTA (or its designees) shall contain no graphics or insertions with the exception of the WTA transition wipe.
  - ii. The WTA (and anyone acting under its authority) shall have the right to incorporate into the Clean Feed, for purposes of creating the World Feed and Outside Court Feed delivered to viewers, the WTA Logo, logos of one or more of its licensees' billboards, graphics and other audio and visual elements consistent with professional tennis television programming, provided that no incorporation of the WTA Logo or other element containing any reference to a WTA sponsor shall be made in a manner that appears to the public that such WTA sponsor is a sponsor of the Tournament, provided further, however, that no such incorporation shall be permitted for any WTA sponsor if such use would be contrary to any contractual restrictions imposed on the Tournament by its Title or Presenting Sponsor (such restrictions must be made known to WTA in writing).

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- iii. The Clean Feed will contain all commercial identification visible at a Tournament's site. A Tournament shall be entitled to place on site any and all logos, sponsor credits, advertising, signage and other commercial identification and the WTA shall not be entitled to any revenues on the sale of such logos, sponsor credits, advertising, signage and other commercial identification.
- iv. Neither the WTA nor any of its licensees shall utilize or permit the utilization of Virtual Advertising into the Clean Feed without the approval of the majority of the Media Pool Tournaments.
- f. Match Start Times
  - i. A specific start time, or an appropriate not before time, must be designated for all quarterfinal, semifinal, and final Matches. In the event that two (2) quarterfinal or semifinal Matches are scheduled to run back-to-back, a specific start time, or not before time, must only be specified for the first Match.
  - ii. A not before time must be specified if a doubles semifinal or final Match will precede a Match and at combined events where an ATP match precedes a Match. Unless otherwise approved by the Supervisor, a minimum of two hours (2:00) should be allowed for each preceding match before scheduling the not before time for a regular Match and a minimum of two and a half hours (2:30) should be allowed for each preceding Match before scheduling a not before time for a singles semifinal or final.
- g. Broadcast Signal

The Tournament's Host Broadcaster or production partner shall produce a broadcast signal in High Definition (HD), which should be filmed and produced in a 14x9 (graphics/title safe) aspect ratio.

### **3. Technical Requirements**

Each Tournament must incorporate the following technical terms within its Host Broadcaster or production partner contract. These conditions represent the minimum technical standards necessary to produce a quality broadcast, and each Tournament shall ensure that its Host Broadcaster or production partner produces its matches at standards that are equal to or greater than these minimum technical standards.

- a. Cameras
  - i. Each Tournament shall comply with the Minimum Broadcast

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Requirements in the table in Section XVII.J.1 above for all Produced Matches.

ii. Cameras 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 must be in the following positions:

(a) Camera 1

Provides a traditional master shot and must be positioned high up in the stands (center court line).

Positioning must be correct for optimal main angle camera coverage. In order to calculate this, a guideline ratio of 4:1 should be used, where 4 is the distance from the base of the net to the bottom of the camera platform and 1 is the height of the camera lens from the ground. This gives an angle of 12 degrees.

(b) Camera 2

Provides coverage/close up and must be positioned approximately three (3) rows lower below Camera 1 (center court line) either in a central position or an off center position toward the side where Cameras 3 and 4 are positioned. The camera's position should give the effect of looking over the player's shoulder as she serves from that side of the court.

(c) Cameras 3 and 4

Provide player close-ups for cutting into coverage and isos and may be positioned courtside on the same or opposite side from where the players sit down on the change of ends. The camera objective lens height should be approximately one (1) meter.

(d) Camera 5

Low-angle camera positioned on court behind the baseline, in line with the sideline.

b. Tripods, Camera Mounts and Irises

All cameras must be on secure tripods with fully-rotating camera mounts and remotely-controlled irises.

c. Lenses

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- i. Center and Show Courts with five (5) camera coverage or above
  - (a) Lens for Camera 1 should be a minimum of 22:1,
  - (b) Lens for Cameras 2 should be a minimum of 50:1,
  - (c) Lenses for Cameras 3 and 4 should be a minimum of 40:1 (or similar) with a 2x extender and must be able to provide extreme close ups.
  - (d) Lens for Camera 5 should be a minimum of 14:1.
- ii. Outside Court Coverage with less than five (5) camera coverage  
Lens for Camera 1 should be a minimum of 14:1.

#### d. Production

Tournaments must have full unilateral production on all courts where there is a main draw singles Match.

#### e. Microphones

- i. Center and Show Courts with five (5) camera coverage or above  
A minimum of 12 audio microphones.
- ii. Outside Court Coverage with less than five (5) camera coverage  
A minimum of 6 audio microphones.

#### f. On-Court Coaching

- i. Two (2) wireless microphones for each Match on the World Feed.
- ii. An audio assistant must liaise with each player's coach no less than 15 minutes prior to the start of each televised Match in order to prepare the coach's microphone before the start of play.
- iii. A discreet boom microphone may be added to the player bench area.
- iv. When a player is being coached, a hand held camera may approach the player and coach, but the camera must not get

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closer than six (6) feet (1.83 meters) to their conversation and the camera framing must be discreet.

(See Section XVII.H for additional provisions concerning On-Court Coaching.)

#### 4. Tournament Facilities

Each Tournament must comply with the following requirements:

a. Access

- i. Each Tournament shall grant free access to personnel of the WTA (and its designees) and shall provide the WTA (and its designees) with such passes or tickets as are required for such access.
- ii. At no cost to the WTA (or its designees), each Tournament shall provide the WTA (and its properly credentialed designees) with access to the player areas, and the site at which awards are to be made.

b. Lighting

- i. Each Tournament shall cause all Matches staged on courts where Produced Matches are staged to be lighted in a manner such that high quality, color telecasting can be conducted.
- ii. To the extent any Produced Matches are staged on courts other than those equipped to be lighted for television production, the WTA (or its designees) shall be responsible for the costs associated with any lighting (including equipment) that may be required for such matches.
- iii. If the Tournament is held indoors, the Tournament shall cause the use of strobe lights on any "still" photographic equipment to be discouraged at the site. The indoor playing surface must be illuminated evenly at a minimum 1076 lux. The light source must be from either side of the court and must not be perpendicular to the inside of the playing area. The best type of lamp source is a tungsten lamp with a color temperature of 3200 Kelvin. The tungsten light source offers a far more stable color temperature than discharge lamps and is far more reliable. The most suitable luminaries are flood lights with a symmetrical reflector and 1.5 kw. Depending upon the reflective values of surfaces within the area and the distance between the luminaries and the playing

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surface, 60-80 (30-40 on each side) luminaries are required. If 80 lamps are required, the total power requirements are 120 kw. A venue requires a minimum of 200A 415V supply.

c. **Public Address System**

At no cost to WTA (or its designees), each Tournament shall provide the WTA (and its designees) with audio pick-up access to all public address system announcements during the Tournament.

d. **Security**

At no cost to the WTA (or its designees), each Tournament shall take reasonable customary measures to provide the WTA (and its designees) with 24-hour security during the duration of the Tournament necessary to help provide for the safety of the equipment and personnel of the WTA (and its designees) at the site.

e. **Walkie-Talkies**

At no cost to WTA (or its designees), each Tournaments shall provide WTA (and its designees) a total of seven (7) walkie-talkies (one (1) for the on-stie WTA Broadcast office, one (1) for outside court production, two (2) for the on-site production office, one (1) for center court production, one (1) for the newsfeed production office, and one (1) for a technical manager.

f. **Other Facilities**

Upon the request of the WTA (or its designees), a Tournament shall, at no cost to the WTA and if not otherwise prohibited by contractual restrictions or space constraints, provide to the WTA (and its designees) any other production facilities or equipment which may be required by the WTA (or its designees).

g. **Commentary Positions**

i. Each Tournament shall, at no cost to the WTA (or its designees), and if not otherwise prohibited by Host Broadcaster or other agreements, provide to the WTA (and its designees) all physical space and utilities reasonably necessary to permit one (1) or more on-camera unilateral commentary positions at the site of the Tournament for foreign language broadcasts.

ii. At a minimum, each Tournament shall, at no cost to the WTA, provide to the WTA all facilities reasonably necessary to permit



## STANDARDS

### SECTION XVII - TOURNAMENT STANDARDS OF PERFORMANCE

one (1) or more on-camera unilateral commentary positions, for World Feed production on each court that is supporting a World Feed production and to display a reasonable sized temporary banner near the commentary position in a location approved by the WTA and Tournament.

- iii. The facilities shall include, without limitation, cameras, color monitors, microphones, camera operators, directors, switchers, an audio mixer, technicians, high speed internet and business phones, with the understanding that the WTA (and/or its designees) will be charged no more than the Tournament's then-current rate card prices for the use of those facilities and personnel.
  - iv. The WTA (and/or its designees) shall specify the number, location and size of the commentary positions as soon as possible prior to commencement of the Tournament. At the request of WTA (or its designees), the Tournament shall cause the commentary positions to be fully equipped (or partially equipped in the manner specified by WTA or its designees). At a minimum, the commentary positions shall be equipped with a table (large enough for two people), two (2) chairs, wiring for a minimum of three (3) telephones, two (2) television monitors, and the technical television equipment necessary to broadcast.
  - v. If a commentary box is constructed, it should be positioned on the same gantry as that used for Camera 1. The commentary box shall not be positioned at the end opposite from Camera 1.
- h. Production Space
- i. Each Tournament shall provide, at no cost to the WTA (or its designees), the following production facilities and spaces for the WTA (or its designees):
    - (a) WTA Broadcast Office: Office space located within the TV compound that is at least 10 feet x 32 feet and includes at least two (2) desks, two (2) chairs, access to four (4) power outlets, access to a minimum 4 Mbps wireless internet connection via a router in the Broadcast Office, a configurable 32" multi-view HD monitor that can access the World Feed and Outside Court Feeds (including embedded audio), and one (1) international phone line. The office space must be able to be securely locked.
    - (b) WTA Interview Studio: A room to be used as a post-match interview studio, which is conveniently located near the

## STANDARDS

### SECTION XVII - TOURNAMENT STANDARDS OF PERFORMANCE

players' exit from the stadium court and the press room. The space should have good sound proofing from the crowd, plumbing, electrical and/or car noises, have easy access to power, and be able to be securely locked.

- ii. In addition, in the event it is necessary to bring in an uplink truck for providing transmission service of the signal, the Tournament shall allocate space and power for this purpose at no cost to WTA (or its designees).
- iii. Subject to space restraints and contractual restrictions and, except as this Section XVII.J.h.iii otherwise states, at the cost of the WTA (or its designees), each Tournament shall provide any other production facilities and production space that the WTA (or its designees) deems necessary for production personnel and equipment used in connection with the broadcast of the Tournament (e.g., production trucks, satellite equipment, camera equipment, mobile units, tape units, switchers, microphones), including but not limited to the power required for use of such equipment; provided, however, that the WTA (or its designees) is responsible for the cost of power only to the extent that the WTA's (or its designees') power requirements exceed the greater of the industry-standard adequate power supply or an amount of power equivalent to the power supplied to the Host Broadcaster. The WTA (and its designees) must not be charged more than the Tournament's cost for all such production facilities (including power) and production space. The following outlines the standard production facilities and production space requirements:
  - (a) Transmission Office: Office space within the TV compound, which is at least 10 feet x 15 feet and contains two (2) long work tables (approximately 6 feet x 3 feet), seven (7) chairs, access to four (4) power outlets, Host Broadcaster cabling of the Clean Feed (including back-up feed), a configurable 31" multi-view HD, two (2) cabled high-speed internet line connections, and access to a minimum 4 Mbps wireless internet connection via a router in the Transmission Office. The office space must be able to be securely locked. Where a fiber rack is the chosen method of delivery, WTA shall designate the location for the fiber rack, and two (2) 16 amp diverse single phase c-form connector power sources must also be available in the same location. Except for lighting, power (including the aforementioned c-form connector power sources), telephone, internet, and other utilities (each of which must be operational 24 hours per

## STANDARDS

### SECTION XVII - TOURNAMENT STANDARDS OF PERFORMANCE

day), WTA (or its designees) is responsible for all costs of the Transmission Office.

- (b) Newsfeed Production Office: An office space located within the TV compound in close proximity to the Host Broadcaster truck to be used for recording match highlights, producing the newsfeed, and managing the distribution of the newsfeed globally. The office space should be at least 12 feet x 22 feet, contain at least three (3) long work tables (approximately 6 feet x 3 feet), two (2) desks, seven (7) chairs, two (2) cabled high speed internet lines, an international phone line, four (4) power outlets, a TV monitor with multi-view, a "Matches in Progress" feed, and access to a minimum 4 Mbps wireless internet connection via a router in the Newsfeed Production Office. The office space must be able to be securely locked. Except for lighting, power, telephone, internet, and other utilities (each of which must be operational 24 hours per day), WTA (or its designees) is responsible for all costs of the Newsfeed Production Office.

In addition to the foregoing, the following internet connection must be provided to the following specifications for the Newsfeed Production Office:

- (i) Minimum ten (10) Mbps (Megabits per second) or greater upload speed.
- (ii) Dedicated connection for the sole use of delivering the newsfeed.
- (iii) Static public IP Address.
- (iv) Dedicated hardwired access point (not a wireless access point) CAT5 internet connection with RJ45 connectors to the workstation area.
- (v) Open connection without any logins, usernames or passwords and direct internet access with no homepage or payment redirection features.
- (vi) Details of ISP or provider with support contact number and escalation process.
- (vii) If the connection provided is shared with the venue, the necessary upload must be segment-

## STANDARDS

### SECTION XVII - TOURNAMENT STANDARDS OF PERFORMANCE

ed to guarantee the dedicated bandwidth for the stream.

- (viii) The connection type (e.g., Leased Line/EFM Circuit/SHDSL/Fiber/Microwave, etc.) must be communicated in the setup to determine the suitability of the connection for delivery of broadcast files.

For the purpose of testing and determining the optimum entry points, the public IP address (and/or subnet mask and/or gateway IP address) must be provided as soon as available but not later than 9:00 a.m. on the day of Qualifying Sign-In.

- (c) Graphics Office: Office space within the TV compound that is at least 10 feet x 15 feet and contains two (2) long work tables (approximately 6 feet x 3 feet), three (3) chairs, access to four (4) power outlets, Host Broadcaster cabling of the Clean Feed, two (2) cabled high-speed internet line connections, and access to a minimum 4 Mbps wireless internet connection via a router in the Graphics Office. The office space must be able to be securely locked. Except for the lighting, power, telephone, internet, and other utilities (each of which must be operational 24 hours per day), WTA (or its designees) is responsible for all costs of the Graphics Office.
- (d) Court Production Office: At all Tournaments where the WTA (or its designees) is selected as the Tournament's production partner, the Tournament shall provide office space within the TV compound that is at least 10 feet x 23 feet and contains six (6) long work tables (approximately 6 feet x 3 feet), six (6) chairs, access to one (1) 32 amp single phase on c-form connectors, and six (6) domestic power outlets. The office space must be able to be securely locked. Where a fiber rack is the chosen method of delivery, WTA shall designate the location for the fiber rack, and two (2) 16 amp diverse single phase c-form connector power sources must also be available in the same location. The office must have access via a router to generic tournament wireless internet (minimum ten (10) Mbps upload speed). Except for lighting, power (including the aforementioned c-form connector power sources), telephone, internet, and other utilities (each of which must be

## **STANDARDS**

### **SECTION XVII - TOURNAMENT STANDARDS OF PERFORMANCE**

operational 24 hours per day), WTA (or its designees) is responsible for all costs of the Court Production Office.

- (e) Additional Office Space: At all tournaments where the WTA (or its designees) is selected as the Tournament's production partner, the Tournament shall provide any additional office space that the WTA (or its designees) requests beyond the office spaces in Sections (a) through (d) above, but WTA (or its designees) shall pay the costs of such additional office space (excluding lighting, power, telephone, internet (including access to a minimum 4 Mbps wireless internet connection via a router in the Additional Office Space), and other utilities, each of which must be operational 24 hours per day).

#### **i. Utilities**

- i. Each Tournament shall provide the WTA (and its designees) with access to, and the right to utilize, all existing lighting, power and telephone systems servicing the site of the Tournament during the Tournament, including reasonable setup time before and reasonable tear down time after the Tournament.
- ii. All office spaces provided to the WTA (or its designees) in the TV compound shall have adequate air conditioning (a minimum of two (2) 4kW units per office space).
- iii. A Tournament shall be responsible for all utilities charges, except that the WTA (or its designees) shall be responsible for all long distance telephone service charges incurred by it.
- iv. Each Tournament shall provide WTA (and its designees) an introduction to, and contact details of, their internet (ISP) and/or fiber providers, and shall assure that WTA (or its designees) has access to preferred tournament rate card costs and adequate bandwidth to distribute Match footage.

#### **j. Parking**

Three (3) parking passes within the TV compound, or as close as possible to the TV compound if space within the compound is not available. WTA shall provide the names of individuals to which the parking passes will be assigned.

#### **k. Equipment**

## **STANDARDS**

### **SECTION XVII - TOURNAMENT STANDARDS OF PERFORMANCE**

- i. The WTA (and its designees) shall have the right to install, operate, maintain and remove such platforms, cables, wires, equipment and other apparatus as may be reasonably necessary for the broadcast of the Tournaments. In accordance with a Tournament's rights and obligations under its site agreement, a Tournament shall allow the WTA and its designees adequate "set up time" and "tear down time" for the installation, testing and removal of all such platforms, cables, wires, equipment and other apparatus.
- ii. Subject to applicable law and/or union regulations, the WTA (and its designees) shall designate the personnel who shall install, operate, maintain and remove the equipment of the WTA (or its designees) at a Tournament.

#### **5. Match Recordings for Players**

Each Tournament must automatically prepare three (3) USB flash drives of, or provide another WTA-approved method of access to, each Produced Match and, within one (1) hour following the conclusion of the relevant Match, provide the USB flash drives or other WTA-approved method of access to the WTA Broadcast Office at no cost to the WTA or the players.

#### **6. Broadcast and Ratings Information**

To the extent available, each Tournament shall provide the WTA with the ratings and broadcast schedule of the Host Broadcaster's broadcasts of the Produced Matches selected by the WTA (or its designees) for broadcast in the Domestic Area.

#### **7. Breach of Standards**

A Tournament's failure to meet any of the requirements in this Section XVII.J is a breach of the Tournament Standards of Performance and subject to the procedures and sanctions in Section XVII.A.45 of these Rules.

### **K. CODE OF CONDUCT FOR OFFICIALS**

The WTA, the Grand Slam Tournaments, the ATP and the ITF as members of the Joint Certification Programme require a high standard of professionalism from all Certified Officials (Green, White, Bronze, Silver and Gold) and all other officials, (together "Officials") working at ATP, Grand Slam, ITF and WTA events.

For the complete ITF Code of Conduct for Officials, please reference <http://www.itftennis.com/officiating/officials/code-of-conduct.aspx>.



## **FINAL DISPUTE RESOLUTION**

### **XVIII. FINAL DISPUTE RESOLUTION**

#### **A. GOVERNING LAW**

Any dispute between or among the WTA, WTA Tournaments, or WTA players (including, but not limited to, matters concerning the arbitrability of disputes) arising out of the application of any provision of this Rulebook ("Dispute") shall be governed by the laws of the State of New York without reference to New York conflict of laws principles.

#### **B. ARBITRATION**

1. Any Dispute (with the exception of any Dispute relating to or arising out of a change in Tournament Class Membership status) which is not finally resolved by applicable provisions of this Rulebook, shall be submitted exclusively to the AAA for final and binding arbitration before a single arbitrator in accordance with the Expedited Procedures of the AAA's Commercial Arbitration Rules in effect on the date that a demand for arbitration is filed with the AAA. Any request for arbitration shall be filed with AAA within 21 days of the action which is the subject of the dispute.
2. The parties shall select the arbitrator by mutual agreement from the AAA's National Roster, provided, however, that if the parties are unable to agree, the arbitrator will be selected by the AAA according to its expedited procedures for the appointment of an arbitrator (Rule E-4).
3. The non-prevailing party will be responsible for paying the AAA's administrative fees and the fees and expenses of the arbitrator. Each party will be individually responsible for its own costs and expenses, including its attorney's fees.

#### **C. CONFIDENTIALITY**

Except as required by law or other form of legal process, any proceedings related to a Dispute before the Code of Conduct and Standards of Performance Committee, the Board of Directors, or an arbitrator, including any submissions and any written reasons for the decision, shall remain non-public and confidential. For the avoidance of doubt, the fact of the dispute and the outcome of the proceedings shall not be considered confidential information.

#### **D. INVALIDITY**

In the event any provision of this Section is determined invalid or unenforceable, the remaining provisions shall not be affected. This Section shall not fail because any part of it is held invalid.





### WTA PLAYER MEMBERSHIP

#### 1. Membership Qualifications

##### a. Full Membership

###### i. Eligibility

Any player who had a WTA Ranking as of the end of the Tour Year of 150 or better in singles or 50 or better in doubles and played in a minimum of six (6) WTA Tournaments (including Grand Slams but not WTA 125Ks or ITF Women's Circuit events) in one (1) of the past two (2) Tour Years, is eligible for Full Membership status.

###### ii. Benefits

This membership entitles players to all the benefits and voting privileges available to Full Members of the WTA and the WTBA. (See sub-Section 2 of this Appendix.)

###### iii. Annual Dues

The annual membership dues are \$1,500.

##### b. Associate Membership

Associate Membership is not available to any player who qualifies for Full Membership.

###### i. Eligibility

Any player who (a) has earned a WTA Singles Ranking of 750 or a WTA Doubles Ranking of 250 in one (1) of the past two (2) Tour Years and (b) has participated in a minimum of one (1) WTA Tournament (excluding WTA 125Ks), is eligible for Associate Membership status.

###### ii. Benefits

This membership entitles players to all the benefits available to Associate Members of the WTA and the WTBA. (See sub-Section 2 of this Appendix)

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**WTA PLAYER MEMBERSHIP**

iii. Annual Dues

The annual membership dues are \$650.

2. Membership Benefits

a. Full and Associate Member Benefits

- i. Personal access to the PlayerZone.
- ii. Important WTA information and Tournament updates via email.
- iii. Optional worldwide medical, dental and vision insurance.
- iv. Waiver of \$250 administrative fee at all WTA Tournaments and Grand Slams.

b. Additional Full Member Benefits

- i. Optional Disability Insurance.
- ii. Eligibility to participate in the Player Pension Plan.
- iii. Opportunity to vote for or serve as a Players' Council member.

c. A complete list of membership benefits, including player discounts and sponsor programs, are available on the PlayerZone.

3. Member Responsibilities

a. Compliance with Rules

As a condition of WTA membership, players must abide by the Rules, including, but not limited to:

- i. The Tennis Anti-Doping Program;
- ii. The Tennis Anti-Corruption Program; and
- iii. The timely payment of all monies owed to the WTA, including fines.

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**WTA PLAYER MEMBERSHIP**

b. Attendance at Mandatory Meetings

There will be two (2) mandatory meetings per calendar year for Full Members participating in the Main Draw singles or doubles of the Tournament where the meetings are held. A meeting may be made mandatory for all Full Members or for specific ranking groups of Full Members, as determined by the WTA. If a meeting is mandatory for a player and the player collects her credentials at the Tournament where the meeting is being held, the player will be deemed to be available to attend the meeting.

i. Penalty for Non-Attendance

Failure to attend will result in a fine being assessed based on the players' ranking at the time of the Tournament as outlined below:

<b>Player Ranking</b>	<b>Fine Amount</b>
1-10	\$4,000
11-20	\$2,000
21-50	\$1,000
51-100	\$ 500
101+	\$ 250

All such fines shall be automatic and non-appealable, except in the case of Extraordinary Circumstances.

ii. Appeals

All fine appeals must be filed within 21 days from the date of notice.

4. Membership and Insurance Enrollment Period and Payment Options

a. Membership

i. All Current Full and Associate Members

All current Full and Associate Members must pay for their Membership for the following Tour Year as follows:

- (a) Via their PlayerZone account beginning September 1 of the year prior to the applicable Tour Year;

**APPENDIX A**  
**WTA PLAYER MEMBERSHIP**

- (b) With the on-site Supervisor at a WTA Tournament no later than the end of the WTA Elite Trophy; or
- (c) By returning the completed and signed Membership Application Form, plus payment, to WTA headquarters in Florida, USA by December 15 prior to the start of the applicable Tour Year.

Please note that New Full Members, whose eligibility for Full Membership is only confirmed after the WTA year-end rankings, must pay the difference between Associate and Full Membership by March 31 of the following Tour Year.

ii. New Associate Members

New Associate Members may join at any time throughout the year by returning the completed and signed Membership Application Form, plus payment, to an on-site Supervisor or to the WTA headquarters in Florida, USA.

Regardless of the date of joining, new Associate Members must renew their Memberships for the following Tour Year by December 15 of the year prior to the applicable Tour Year for which they are purchasing Memberships.

iii. Late Fee

Any current member who does not pay her Membership Dues by the December 15 deadline will be charged a \$100 late fee for each payment.

b. Insurance

All Full and Associate Members of the WTA and WTBA have the option to purchase insurance (currently through Aetna Global PPO) as part of the membership benefit package.

i. Coverage Dates

Insurance coverage is for the calendar year, January 1 to December 31.

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ii. Coverage Included

(a) Full Members

The insurance package for Full Members includes world-wide Medical, Dental, Vision and Disability coverage, and Full Members also have the option to purchase Disability Insurance only.

(b) Associate Members

The insurance package for Associate Members includes worldwide Medical, Dental and Vision coverage.

iii. Additional Requirement for Disability Coverage

To qualify for Disability Coverage during the current calendar year, players will need the Annual Medical Examination Form to be completed by SS&M staff or a personal physician. (WTA physicals may be offered at designated Tournaments during the Tour Year.)

iv. Enrollment Period

All current Full and Associate Members can purchase insurance:

(a) By credit card through their PlayerZone accounts; or

(b) By sending the completed and signed Membership/ Insurance Application Form, plus payment, to WTA headquarters in Florida, USA by December 15.

v. Late Fee

Any current member who does not pay her Insurance Fees by the December 15 deadline will be charged a \$100 late fee for each payment.

5. Pension Plan Information

a. Qualification for Pension Plan

A player must be a Full Member and have five (5) years of Vesting Service to begin receiving 100% of the money in her Pension Plan account when she turns 50 years of age.

## **APPENDIX A**

### **WTA PLAYER MEMBERSHIP**

#### **b. Initial Eligibility**

A Full Member initially is eligible for the Pension Plan if she has played at least 12 singles (Main Draw or Qualifying) or 10 doubles (Main Draw or Qualifying, only if Qualifying counts for ranking points, excluding mixed doubles) at WTA Tournaments (including Grand Slams but not WTA 125Ks) in one (1) calendar year.

#### **c. Vesting Service**

After fulfilling her initial eligibility, in subsequent years a Full Member may earn years of Vesting Service by competing in a minimum of six (6) singles (Main Draw or Qualifying) or five (5) doubles (Main Draw or Qualifying, only if Qualifying counts for ranking points, excluding mixed doubles) at WTA Tournaments (including Grand Slams but not WTA 125Ks). Each year of Vesting Service counts towards the five (5) years of Vesting Service that are required to be eligible to begin receiving the money in her account when she turns 50 years of age.

#### **d. Eligibility to Receive an Allocation from the Plan**

Only Full Members who have competed in either 12 singles (Main Draw or Qualifying) or 10 doubles (Main Draw or Qualifying, only if Qualifying counts for ranking points, excluding mixed doubles) at WTA Tournaments, including Grand Slams, in one (1) calendar year will be eligible to receive an allocation from the Pension Plan.

#### **e. Allocation from Pension Plan**

The amount of a player's Pension Plan allocation is based on the number of points she receives in each year of Vesting Service. The player earns points at a rate of:

- i. One (1) point for each WTA Tournament (including Grand Slams but not WTA 125Ks) in which the player competed in the Main Draw; and
- ii. One-half (½) point for each WTA Tournament (including Grand Slams but not WTA 125Ks) in which the player competed only in the Qualifying event.

#### **f. Maximum Allocation**

The maximum amount of allocation points that can be earned in a Year are 18 for singles and 15 for doubles. Points for singles and doubles are tallied separately and will not be interchangeable.

## **APPENDIX A**

### **WTA PLAYER MEMBERSHIP**

A Full Member may receive a singles and/or doubles allocation depending upon her individual points earned in that year.

#### **g. Pension Plan Distributions**

A player must have five (5) years of Vesting Service to receive the amount in her Pension Plan. Payout of that money begins when a player turns 50 and, in most cases, the money is paid as a monthly annuity over 20 years. Specific exceptions, which are set forth in the Plan Document, may apply.

#### **6. Membership/Insurance/Pension Contacts, Addresses and Numbers**

##### **a. Membership, Insurance Fees and Pension Plan**

All player questions regarding Membership, Insurance fees and the Pension Plan should be directed to:

Michaela Oldani  
Player Relations  
WTA Tour, Inc.  
100 Second Avenue South, Suite 1100-S  
St. Petersburg, Florida 33701 USA  
Phone: +1 727 502 1271  
Fax: +1 727 894 1982  
E-mail: moldani@wtatennis.com

##### **b. Medical and Dental Insurance Claims**

All player claim questions for Medical and Dental Insurance should be directed to:

Aetna Global Benefits/Aetna  
P.O. Box 981543  
El Paso, TX 79998-1543 USA  
Phone: +1 800 231 7729  
Direct Phone: +1 813 775 0190  
Fax: +1 859 425 3363 (in the U.S.)  
Fax: +1 800 475 8751 (outside the U.S.)  
E-mail: agbservice@aetna.com



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**WTA PLAYER MEMBERSHIP**

c. Disability Insurance

All player questions concerning Disability Insurance should be directed to:

ESIX

Kelly Price

Entertainment & Sports Insurance Experts

2727 Paces Ferry Rd., Building Two, Suite 1500

Atlanta, Georgia 30339 USA

Phone: +1 (678) 324-3340 ext 140


Fax: +1 (678) 324-3303

E-mail: [kprice@esixglobal.com](mailto:kprice@esixglobal.com)

## APPENDIX B

### 2018 WTA CALENDAR (AS OF DECEMBER 6, 2017)

Visit [www.wtatennis.com/calendar](http://www.wtatennis.com/calendar) for the current 2018 WTA Calendar.

 <b>2018 WTA Calendar</b> As of December 14th, 2017			
Week	Week of	Premier	International
1	1-Jan	Brisbane International presented by Suncorp - Brisbane	Shenzhen Open - Shenzhen
2	8-Jan	Sydney International - Sydney	ASB Classic - Auckland
3	15-Jan		Hobart International - Hobart
4	22-Jan		Australian Open - Melbourne*
5	29-Jan	St. Petersburg Ladies Trophy - St. Petersburg	Taiwan Open - Taipei City
6	5-Feb	Fed Cup by BNP Paribas First Round*	
7	12-Feb	Qatar Total Open 2018 - Doha	
8	19-Feb	Dubai Duty Free Tennis Championships - Dubai	Hungarian Ladies Open - Budapest
9	26-Feb		Abierto Mexicano TELCEL presentado por HSBC - Acapulco
10	5-Mar	BNP Paribas Open - Indian Wells	
11	12-Mar		
12	19-Mar	Miami Open presented by Itaú - Miami	
13	26-Mar		
14	2-Apr	Volvo Car Open - Charleston	ABIERTO GNP SEGUROS - Monterrey
15	9-Apr		Ladies Open Lugano - Lugano
16	16-Apr	Fed Cup by BNP Paribas Semi-finals and Play-offs*	Claro Open Colsonitas - Bogota
17	23-Apr	Porsche Tennis Grand Prix - Stuttgart	
18	30-Apr		TER BNP Paribas Istanbul Cup - Istanbul
19	7-May	Mutua Madrid Open - Madrid	J&T Banka Prague Open - Prague
20	14-May	Internazionali BNL d'Italia - Rome	Grand Prix De SAR La Princesse Lalla Maryam - Rabat
21	21-May		
22	28-May		NURNBERGER Versicherungscup - Nürnberg
23	4-Jun		Internationaux de Strasbourg - Strasbourg
24	11-Jun		Roland Garros - Paris*
25	18-Jun	The Classic Birmingham - Birmingham	The Open Nottingham - Nottingham
26	25-Jun	The International Eastbourne - Eastbourne	Dutch Grasscourt Championships - 's-Hertogenbosch
27	2-Jul		Mallorca Open - Mallorca
28	9-Jul		
29	16-Jul		The Championships - Wimbledon*
30	23-Jul		Bucharest Open - Bucharest
31	30-Jul	Bay Area Classic - Stanford	Ladies Championship Gstaad by ixion Services - Gstaad
32	6-Aug	Coupe Rogers présentée par Banque Nationale - Montreal	O1 Properties Moscow Open - Moscow
33	13-Aug	Western & Southern Open - Cincinnati	Jiangxi Open - Nanchang
34	20-Aug	Connecticut Open - New Haven	Citi Open - Washington, D.C.
35	27-Aug		
36	3-Sep		US Open - Flushing Meadows*
37	10-Sep		COUPE BANQUE NATIONALE - Quebec City
38	17-Sep	Toray Pan Pacific Open - Tokyo	Japan Women's Open - Hiroshima
39	24-Sep	Wuhan Open - Wuhan	Guangzhou Open - Guangzhou
40	1-Oct	China Open - Beijing	Korea Open - Seoul
41	8-Oct		Tashkent Open - Tashkent
42	15-Oct	Kramlin Cup - Moscow	Prudential Hong Kong Tennis Open - Hong Kong
43	22-Oct		Ladies Linz - Linz
44	29-Oct		Tianjin Open - Tianjin
45	5-Nov	BNP Paribas WTA Finals Singapore presented by SC Global - Singapore	BGL BNP PARIBAS Luxembourg Open - Luxembourg
46	12-Nov	WTA Elite Trophy - Zhuhai	
47	19-Nov	Fed Cup by BNP Paribas Final*	
48	26-Nov		
49	3-Dec		
50	10-Dec		
51	17-Dec		
52	24-Dec		

\* Grand Slams and Fed Cup are not WTA events.

\* Fed Cup Final by BNP Paribas - date TBD

Note: The main draw of the Premier Mandatory events in Madrid and Beijing start on Saturday



## APPENDIX C

### WTA CONTACT INFORMATION

#### WTA

##### USA Headquarters

100 Second Avenue South  
Suite 1100-S  
St. Petersburg, Florida 33701  
USA  
Phone: +1 727 895 5000  
Fax: +1 727 894 1982

##### European Headquarters

1 Palliser House, Palliser Road  
Barons Court, West Kensington  
London W14 9EB  
UNITED KINGDOM  
Phone: +44 (0)20 7386 4100  
Fax: +44 (0)20 7386 4102

##### Asia-Pacific Headquarters

Chaowai SOHO, Building A, Floor 9  
Room 915, 6B Chaowai Street  
Chaoyang District  
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**APPENDIX C**  
**WTA CONTACT INFORMATION**

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### ROOF POLICY

#### General Conditions:

- WTA Tournaments played outdoors may have one (1) or more courts with a retractable roof, allowing play to continue or be resumed even when inclement weather affects the Tournament.
- Tournaments with retractable roofs shall remain primarily outdoor events. Wherever practicable, the conditions on courts with retractable roofs shall be the same as those on all other courts.
- When the roof on a court is open, the two (2) moveable halves shall be positioned as determined by the Supervisor based on the site's configuration.
- At combined events, the Supervisor, in consultation with the ATP supervisor, shall make all decisions concerning the closing, re-opening and positioning of the roof.

#### Rain:

- In the event of rain falling prior to the scheduled start of play, the roof shall remain closed for the duration of the match.
- If the rain stops or the weather forecast is good, the roof may be opened after the match in progress is completed. Decisions on re-opening the roof will be made on a match-by-match basis depending upon current conditions and the weather forecast.
- If play commences with the roof closed, the roof shall remain closed for the remainder of such match. A decision may be made to open the roof for the following scheduled matches.
- If play commences with the roof open, a decision to close the roof will normally be made after play has stopped due to rain, although if other factors warrant the roof to be closed prior to play being stopped, the Supervisor shall make such decision.
- In general, the roof will not be closed because of a threat of rain.
- In the event high winds of a sufficient capacity to harm the retractable roof are forecasted with reasonable certainty, the roof may be closed prior to the start of the match. The reverse is applicable when the roof is closed and high winds or other conditions necessitate, for safety reasons, that the roof be reopened.

## **APPENDIX D**

### **ROOF POLICY**

- Changes to the order of play, including the completion of an unfinished match on a different court than the one on which it started, may be authorized in exceptional circumstances in the best interests of completing a Tournament on schedule.

#### Darkness:

- If the roof must be partially closed in order for the lights to work properly, then the roof must be partially closed prior to the start of the match. The Supervisor will determine the exact time of day after which the roof will be closed for this purpose.

#### Cold:

- In the event the temperature is below 50F/10C prior to the start of a match, in order to enhance the fan experience, the roof may be closed as directed by the Supervisor. Decisions on whether to close the roof for cold will be made on a match-by-match basis.

## APPENDIX E

### WTA PLAYER AND TOURNAMENT FINES<sup>†</sup>

All fines will be deducted from player prize money at Tournaments to be determined by the WTA, in its sole discretion.

Category	Top 10 Players	All Other Players	Fines
Late Withdrawal (Player in Main Draw) (III.B.2)	After entering the Tournament*	After acceptance into the Main Draw	Based on position on Top 10 List or, if not on the Top 10 List, ranking at time of withdrawal and Tournament Category <sup>^</sup> (See III.B.2.c.ii for amounts)
After Qualifying Sign-In deadline, fines 50% greater, including any doubling			
Late Withdrawal (Player in Qualifying) (III.B.3)	N/A	W/in three weeks	\$ 300 <sup>^</sup>
		No Show	\$ 600 <sup>^</sup>
Violation of Diamond ACES Policy (IV.A)	All Players	All Players	Based on position on Top 10 List or, if not on the Top 10 List, ranking at the entry deadline (See page 96 for amounts)
ACES Fines are increased for subsequent offenses.			
Violation of Marketing Activity Requirements (IV.B.1.e)	All Players	All Players	Based on position on Top 10 List or, if not on the Top 10 List, ranking at the time of notification of the activity, whichever is greater (See page 102 for amounts)
Non-Compliance with Media Obligation Upon Withdrawal (IV.B.4)	All Players	All Players	Top 10      \$ 6,000 11-50      \$ 3,000 Seeded      \$ 2,000 All other    \$ 500
Violation of WTA Patch Rule (unless conflicting contract) (IV.B.1.i.)	All Players	All Players	1st offense    warning 2nd offense    \$ 100 3rd offense    \$ 500 4th offense    up to \$25,000
Not Wearing the WTA Patch for duration of the match (after 5 warnings) (IV.B.1.i.)			\$ 100
Violation in any televised match from QF on (IV.B.1.i.)			up to \$50,000



## APPENDIX E

### WTA PLAYER AND TOURNAMENT FINES

Category	Top 10 Players	All Other Players	Fines
Tennis Anti-Corruption Program (Appendix I)	All Players	All Players	up to \$250,000 plus amounts received
Violation of AER or Player Development Requirements (XV.C.2)	All Players	All Players	up to \$25,000
On Court Match Violations <sup>§</sup> (XVI.D.4)	All Players	All Players	
Visible Obscenity			up to \$ 5,000
Audible Obscenity			up to \$ 5,000
Verbal Abuse			up to \$ 10,000
Physical Abuse			up to \$ 10,000
Ball Abuse			up to \$ 2,500
Racquet Abuse			up to \$ 2,500
Coaching & Coaches			up to \$ 5,000
Unsportsmanlike Conduct			up to \$ 10,000
Best Efforts			up to \$ 10,000
Leaving the Court			up to \$ 3,000
Failure to Complete a Match			up to \$ 5,000
Punctuality			
- 10 minutes late			\$ 250
- 15 minutes late			\$ 750
- Missed TV "walk-on" time			up to \$ 10,000
Dress & Equipment (IV.C.2)			
- Commercial Identification			**up to \$ 25,000
- Manufacturer's Logo			**up to \$ 25,000
- Other Tennis Events			up to \$ 5,000
- Unacceptable Attire			up to \$ 500
Dishonorable or Unprofessional Conduct (XVI.D.12)	All Players	All Players	up to \$ 10,000
Aggravated Behavior (XVI.D.12.b)	All Players	All Players	up to \$25,000 or prize money won, whichever is greater
Mandatory Annual Medical Exam Violation	All Players	All Players	\$ 500
Exhibition/Non-WTA Event Rule Violation (XVI.E)***	1-3 4-6 7-10	11 - 20 21 - 50	\$100,000 \$ 75,000 \$ 50,000 \$ 20,000 \$ 15,000

† If a discrepancy exists between this chart and the Rule language, the Rule language shall prevail.

^ The fine shall double with each subsequent offenses.

\* Top 10 Players who enter but are not accepted into an International Tournament due to the Prize Money Policy, may withdraw before acceptance, without penalty.

§ Monetary fines do not apply for Code Violations received due to loss of physical conditioning or as a result of the medical treatment not being complete in the allocated time, unless it is interpreted by the Referee/ Supervisor as gamesmanship.

\*\* For each offense.

\*\*\* Based on the higher of a player's Top 10 Listing or her ranking six (6) weeks prior to the Exhibition/Non-WTA Event.

## APPENDIX E

### WTA PLAYER AND TOURNAMENT FINES

#### TOURNAMENT STANDARDS OF PERFORMANCE FINES

Violation	Fine Guideline	Maximum Fine
<b>Level 1 Violation</b>		
Ball Persons	\$5,000	\$100,000
Fitness Center	\$5,000	\$100,000
Media Facilities	\$5,000	\$100,000
Officials' Clothing	\$5,000	\$100,000
Officiating	\$5,000	\$100,000
On-Court Equipment	\$5,000	\$100,000
On-Court Supplies	\$5,000	\$100,000
Player Lounge	\$5,000	\$100,000
Player Travel Documentation	\$5,000	\$100,000
Tournament Personnel/Player Services/Welcome Desk	\$5,000	\$100,000
Towels & Sheets	\$5,000	\$100,000
Training Room	\$5,000	\$100,000
Walkie Talkies	\$5,000	\$100,000
Web Filter	\$5,000	\$100,000
WTA Office	\$5,000	\$100,000
Other Level 1 Violations	\$5,000	\$100,000
<b>Level 2 Violations</b>		
Balls	\$50,000	\$100,000
Center Court Seating	\$50,000	\$100,000
Court Signage	\$50,000	\$100,000
Credentials/Tickets/Seating	\$50,000	\$100,000
Hotel	\$50,000	\$100,000
Internet Communication	\$50,000	\$100,000
Locker Rooms	\$50,000	\$100,000
Physician	\$50,000	\$100,000
Player Restaurant	\$50,000	\$100,000
Prize Money	\$50,000	\$100,000
Scoreboards/Video Screens	\$50,000	\$100,000
Transport & Parking	\$50,000	\$100,000
Other Level 2 Violations	\$50,000	\$100,000
<b>Level 3 Violations</b>		
Live Scoring	\$100,000	\$100,000
Marketing (including Commercial Benefit Requirements)	\$100,000	\$100,000
Match Court Specifications (including the Net)	\$100,000	\$100,000
Number of Courts	\$100,000	\$100,000
Practice Facilities	\$100,000	\$100,000
Security	\$100,000	\$100,000
Television	\$100,000	\$100,000
Other Level 3 Violations	\$100,000	\$100,000



## APPENDIX F

### GLOSSARY

**Alternate** - Any player who has entered a Tournament but who has not been accepted into either the Main Draw or Qualifying Draw of that Tournament.

**Breach** - Violation of a rule.

**Bye** - A bye is used to advance a player to the 2nd round without playing a match, either because there are a designated number of byes assigned to seeded players from the outset, or because there are vacancies in the draw and no Alternates are available to fill the spots.

**Calendar Week** - The start of a Tournament's Main Draw.

**Default** - The losing player is defaulted under the Code of Conduct after the match has been called.

**Exhibition/Non-WTA Event** - A tennis competition between two (2) or more players who compete in Professional Tennis tournaments whether or not the players receive financial remuneration for their participation in the event, which is not a part of the WTA or ITF Women's Circuit and is not recognized on the WTA or ITF Women's Circuit Calendars. These events include single-day, multiple-day, week-long and seasonal team-oriented competitions, as well as charity events.

**ITF Women's Circuit Event** - An ITF Women's Circuit event with prize money between \$10,000 and \$100,000. Results from these events are eligible for inclusion on the WTA Rankings.

**Official with International Certification** - An official who has successfully passed the ATP-ITF-WTA Joint Officiating Program school, proven by earning an international certification as a referee (gold and silver badges), chief umpire (gold and silver badges), or chair umpire (gold, silver, and bronze badges).

**Penalty** - Financial or disciplinary action taken against a WTA player or Tournament that fails to fulfill their professional obligations or violates a Rule.

**Performance Bye** - The type of bye awarded to a player based on her previous week's performance as determined by the WTA when approving the calendar and draw sizes.

**Player Commitment** - The formula by which the WTA commits and delivers Top 10 Players to play in Premier Mandatory, Premier 5 and Premier 700 Tournaments.

**Point** - Unit of counting in the scoring of a game or contest.

**Preliminary Match** - If an administrative error has been made in a Tournament Acceptance List and too many players have been accepted into the Tournament, the

## APPENDIX F

### GLOSSARY

last two (2) players accepted into the Tournament based upon the most current updated entry list regardless of whether the draw has been made (excluding Wild Cards, Qualifiers and Premier List Players) will play a preliminary match for one (1) spot in the draw.

**Qualifier** - Those players accepted into the Main Draw due to their success in the Qualifying competition.

**Ranking** - WTA Rankings is a system which reflects a player's 16 results for singles and 11 results for doubles that yield the highest ranking points in Tournament play during the prior 52-week period.

**Related Geographic Area** - In a country which has multiple WTA Tournaments, Related Geographic Area is a radius of approximately 125 miles (200 km) from an original venue. For those countries with only one (1) WTA Tournament, the Related Geographic Area is the entire country.

**Retirement** - The losing player retires because of illness or injury after the match has started.

**Satellite Event** - An ITF Women's Circuit with prize money of \$10,000. Main Draw results from this event are eligible for inclusion in the WTA Rankings.

**Special Exempt Spot** - A singles Main Draw spot reserved for a singles player who is unable to compete in the Qualifying of an International Tournament in which she has been accepted because she is still competing in a Qualified Singles Event. A "Qualified Singles Event" is defined as the singles event of any International, Premier, or Grand Slam Tournament in the week before the Special Exempt Tournament.

**Tournament Director** - The person or persons responsible for the overall organization and conduct of the Tournament and other personnel as necessary.

**Tournament Owner** - A person or entity that owns the right to organize, promote and conduct a professional women's tennis tournament on the WTA in a specific geographic region.

**Waive** - To make an exception to a rule or policy or dismiss charges brought against a recognized body or constituent of the WTA.

**Walkover** - Match did not begin because a) losing player was ill or injured or b) losing player was subjected to penalties of the Code of Conduct before 1st serve of match was struck or otherwise not permitted by the WTA or Tournament official to play. This would not be used when a Lucky Loser is substituted.

**Wild Card** - Players chosen by the Tournament Director to fill designated spots in the draw.

## **APPENDIX F**

### **GLOSSARY**

**Withdrawal (from tournament)** – After being accepted into a WTA Tournament, a player officially notifies the WTA in writing that she will not participate in the Tournament and provides a reason for her withdrawal.

**Withdrawal (from match)** – The losing player officially notifies the on-site Supervisor that she is unable to compete because of illness, injury or any other reason justifying her withdrawal from one or all events of the Tournament.

**WTA 125K** - Tournaments sanctioned and licensed by the WTA that offer hospitality to the players, in addition to minimum prize money of \$125K, and are eligible for inclusion of their results on the WTA Rankings.



## **APPENDIX G**

### **ITF RULES OF TENNIS**

This Appendix G is only an excerpt of the ITF Rules of Tennis. For the complete and current ITF Rules of Tennis, please visit <http://www.itftennis.com/official-tennis/rulebooks/rules-of-tennis.aspx>.

### **ITF RULES OF TENNIS**

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Rule 1	The Court
Rule 2	Permanent Fixtures
Rule 3	The Ball
Rule 4	The Racket
Rule 5	Score in a Game
Rule 6	Score in a Set
Rule 7	Score in a Match
Rule 8	Server & Receiver
Rule 9	Choice of Ends & Service
Rule 10	Change of Ends
Rule 11	Ball in Play
Rule 12	Ball Touches a Line
Rule 13	Ball Touches a Permanent Fixture
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Rule 15	Order of Receiving in Doubles
Rule 16	The Service
Rule 17	Serving
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Rule 23	The Let
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Appendix III	Player Analysis Technology
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## APPENDIX G

### ITF RULES OF TENNIS

Appendix VIII Plan of the Court

Appendix IX Suggestions on How to Mark a Court

## FOREWORD

The International Tennis Federation (ITF) is the governing body of the game of tennis and its duties and responsibilities include protecting the integrity of the game through determination of the Rules of Tennis.

To assist the ITF in carrying out this responsibility, the ITF has appointed a Rules of Tennis Committee which continually monitors the game and its rules, and when considered necessary makes recommendations for changes to the Board of Directors of the ITF who in turn make recommendations to the Annual General Meeting of the ITF which is the ultimate authority for making any changes to the Rules of Tennis.

Appendix V lists all known and approved alternative procedures and scoring methods. In addition, on its own behalf or on application by interested parties, certain variations to the rules may be approved by the ITF for trial purposes only at a limited number of tournaments or events and/or for a limited time period. Such variations are not included in the published rules and require a report to the ITF on the conclusion of the approved trial.

**Notes:** *References to the International Tennis Federation or ITF shall mean ITF Limited. Except where otherwise stated, every reference in these Rules of Tennis to the masculine includes the feminine gender.*

## APPENDIX G

### ITF RULES OF TENNIS

#### 1. THE COURT

The court shall be a rectangle, 78 feet (23.77 m) long and, for singles matches, 27 feet (8.23 m) wide. For doubles matches, the court shall be 36 feet (10.97 m) wide.

The court shall be divided across the middle by a net suspended by a cord or metal cable which shall pass over or be attached to two net posts at a height of 3½ feet (1.07 m). The net shall be fully extended so that it completely fills the space between the two net posts and it must be of sufficiently small mesh to ensure that a ball cannot pass through it. The height of the net shall be 3 feet (0.914 m) at the centre, where it shall be held down tightly by a strap. A band shall cover the cord or metal cable and the top of the net. The strap and band shall be completely white.

- The maximum diameter of the cord or metal cable shall be 1/3 inch (0.8 cm).
- The maximum width of the strap shall be 2 inches (5 cm).
- The band shall be between 2 inches (5 cm) and 2½ inches (6.35 cm) deep on each side.

For doubles matches, the centres of the net posts shall be 3 feet (0.914 m) outside the doubles court on each side.

For singles matches, if a singles net is used, the centres of the net posts shall be 3 feet (0.914 m) outside the singles court on each side. If a doubles net is used, then the net shall be supported, at a height of 3½ feet (1.07 m), by two singles sticks, the centres of which shall be 3 feet (0.914 m) outside the singles court on each side.

- The net posts shall not be more than 6 inches (15 cm) square or 6 inches (15 cm) in diameter.
- The singles sticks shall not be more than 3 inches (7.5 cm) square or 3 inches (7.5 cm) in diameter.
- The net posts and singles sticks shall not be more than 1 inch (2.5 cm) above the top of the net cord.

The lines at the ends of the court are called baselines and the lines at the sides of the court are called sidelines.

## **APPENDIX G**

### **ITF RULES OF TENNIS**

Two lines shall be drawn between the singles sidelines, 21 feet (6.40 m) from each side of the net, parallel with the net. These lines are called the servicelines. On each side of the net, the area between the serviceline and the net shall be divided into two equal parts, the service courts, by the centre serviceline. The centre serviceline shall be drawn parallel with the singles sidelines and half way between them.

Each baseline shall be divided in half by a centre mark, 4 inches (10 cm) in length, which shall be drawn inside the court and parallel with the singles sidelines.

- The centre serviceline and centre mark shall be 2 inches (5 cm) wide.
- The other lines of the court shall be between 1 inch (2.5 cm) and 2 inches (5 cm) wide, except that the baselines may be up to 4 inches (10 cm) wide.

All court measurements shall be made to the outside of the lines and all lines of the court shall be of the same colour clearly contrasting with the colour of the surface.

No advertising is allowed on the court, net, strap, band, net posts or singles sticks except as provided in Appendix IV.

In addition to the court described above, the court designated as “Red” and the court designated as “Orange” in Appendix VII can be used for 10 and under tennis competition.

*Note: Guidelines for minimum distances between the baseline and backstops and between the sidelines and sidestops can be found in Appendix IX.*

## **2. PERMANENT FIXTURES**

The permanent fixtures of the court include the backstops and sidestops, the spectators, the stands and seats for spectators, all other fixtures around and above the court, the chair umpire, line umpires, net umpire and ball persons when in their recognised positions.

In a singles match played with a doubles net and singles sticks, the net posts and the part of the net outside the singles sticks are permanent fixtures and are not considered as net posts or part of the net.

## **3. THE BALL**

Balls, which are approved for play under the Rules of Tennis, must comply with the specifications in Appendix I.

## **APPENDIX G**

### **ITF RULES OF TENNIS**

The International Tennis Federation shall rule on the question of whether any ball or prototype complies with Appendix I or is otherwise approved, or not approved, for play. Such ruling may be taken on its own initiative, or upon application by any party with a bona fide interest therein, including any player, equipment manufacturer or National Association or members thereof. Such rulings and applications shall be made in accordance with the applicable Review and Hearing Procedures of the International Tennis Federation.

The event organisers must announce in advance of the event:

- a. The number of balls for play (2, 3, 4 or 6).
- b. The ball change policy, if any.

Ball changes, if any, can be made either:

- i. After an agreed odd number of games, in which case, the first ball change in the match shall take place two games earlier than for the rest of the match, to make allowance for the warm-up. A tie-break game counts as one game for the ball change. A ball change shall not take place at the beginning of a tie-break game. In this case, the ball change shall be delayed until the beginning of the second game of the next set; or
- ii. At the beginning of a set

If a ball gets broken during play, the point shall be replayed.

*Case 1: If a ball is soft at the end of a point, should the point be replayed?*

*Decision: If the ball is soft, not broken, the point shall not be replayed.*

Note: Any ball to be used in a tournament which is played under the Rules of Tennis, must be named on the official ITF list of approved balls issued by the International Tennis Federation.

## **4. THE RACKET**

Rackets, which are approved for play under the Rules of Tennis, must comply with the specifications in Appendix II.

The International Tennis Federation shall rule on the question of whether any racket or prototype complies with Appendix II or is otherwise approved, or not approved, for play. Such ruling may be undertaken on its own initiative, or upon application by any party with a bona fide inter-

## **APPENDIX G**

### **ITF RULES OF TENNIS**

est therein, including any player, equipment manufacturer or National Association or members thereof. Such rulings and applications shall be made in accordance with the applicable Review and Hearing Procedures of the International Tennis Federation.

*Case 1: Is more than one set of strings allowed on the hitting surface of a racket?*

*Decision: No. The rule mentions a pattern (not patterns) of crossed strings. (See Appendix II)*

*Case 2: Is the stringing pattern of a racket considered to be generally uniform and flat if the strings are on more than one plane?*

*Decision: No.*

*Case 3: Can vibration damping devices be placed on the strings of a racket? If so, where can they be placed?*

*Decision: Yes, but these devices may only be placed outside the pattern of the crossed strings.*

*Case 4: During a point, a player accidentally breaks the strings. Can the player continue to play another point with this racket?*

*Decision: Yes, except where specifically prohibited by event organisers.*

*Case 5: Is a player allowed to use more than one racket at any time during play?*

*Decision: No.*

*Case 6: Can a battery that affects playing characteristics be incorporated into a racket?*

*Decision: No. A battery is prohibited because it is an energy source, as are solar cells and other similar devices.*

## **5. SCORE IN A GAME**

### **a. Standard game**

A standard game is scored as follows with the server's score being called first:

## APPENDIX G

### ITF RULES OF TENNIS

No point	-	"Love"
First point	-	"15"
Second point	-	"30"
Third point	-	"40"
Fourth point	-	"Game"

except that if each player/team has won three points, the score is "Deuce". After "Deuce", the score is "Advantage" for the player/team who wins the next point. If that same player/team also wins the next point, that player/team wins the "Game"; if the opposing player/team wins the next point, the score is again "Deuce". A player/team needs to win two consecutive points immediately after "Deuce" to win the "Game".

#### b. Tie-break game

During a tie-break game, points are scored "Zero", "1", "2", "3", etc. The first player/team to win seven points wins the "Game" and "Set", provided there is a margin of two points over the opponent(s). If necessary, the tie-break game shall continue until this margin is achieved.

The player whose turn it is to serve shall serve the first point of the tie-break game. The following two points shall be served by the opponent(s) (in doubles, the player of the opposing team due to serve next). After this, each player/team shall serve alternately for two consecutive points until the end of the tie-break game (in doubles, the rotation of service within each team shall continue in the same order as during that set).

The player/team whose turn it was to serve first in the tie-break game shall be the receiver in the first game of the following set.

Additional approved alternative scoring methods can be found in Appendix V.

## 6. SCORE IN A SET

There are different methods of scoring in a set. The two main methods are the "Advantage Set" and the "Tie-break Set". Either method may be used provided that the one to be used is announced in advance of the event.

## **APPENDIX G**

### **ITF RULES OF TENNIS**

If the "Tie-break Set" method is to be used, it must also be announced whether the final set will be played as a "Tie-break Set" or an "Advantage Set".

a. "Advantage Set"

The first player/team to win six games wins that "Set", provided there is a margin of two games over the opponent(s). If necessary, the set shall continue until this margin is achieved.

b. "Tie-break Set"

The first player/team to win six games wins that "Set", provided there is a margin of two games over the opponent(s). If the score reaches six games all, a tie-break game shall be played.

Additional approved alternative scoring methods can be found in Appendix V.

## **7. SCORE IN A MATCH**

A match can be played to the best of 3 sets (a player/team needs to win 2 sets to win the match) or to the best of 5 sets (a player/team needs to win 3 sets to win the match).

Additional approved alternative scoring methods can be found in Appendix V.

## **8. SERVER & RECEIVER**

The players/teams shall stand on opposite sides of the net. The server is the player who puts the ball into play for the first point. The receiver is the player who is ready to return the ball served by the server.

*Case 1: Is the receiver allowed to stand outside the lines of the court?*

*Decision: Yes. The receiver may take any position inside or outside the lines on the receiver's side of the net.*

## **9. CHOICE OF ENDS & SERVICE**

The choice of ends and the choice to be server or receiver in the first game shall be decided by toss before the warm-up starts. The player/team who wins the toss may choose:

## **APPENDIX G**

### **ITF RULES OF TENNIS**

- a. To be server or receiver in the first game of the match, in which case the opponent(s) shall choose the end of the court for the first game of the match; or
- b. The end of the court for the first game of the match, in which case the opponent(s) shall choose to be server or receiver for the first game of the match; or
- c. To require the opponent(s) to make one of the above choices.

*Case 1: Do both players/teams have the right to new choices if the warm-up is stopped and the players leave the court?*

*Decision: Yes. The result of the original toss stands, but new choices may be made by both players/teams.*

### **10. CHANGE OF ENDS**

The players shall change ends at the end of the first, third and every subsequent odd game of each set. The players shall also change ends at the end of each set unless the total number of games in that set is even, in which case the players change ends at the end of the first game of the next set.

During a tie-break game, players shall change ends after every six points.

Additional approved alternative procedures can be found in Appendix V.

### **11. BALL IN PLAY**

Unless a fault or a let is called, the ball is in play from the moment the server hits the ball, and remains in play until the point is decided.

### **12. BALL TOUCHES A LINE**

If a ball touches a line, it is regarded as touching the court bounded by that line.

### **13. BALL TOUCHES A PERMANENT FIXTURE**

If the ball in play touches a permanent fixture after it has hit the correct court, the player who hit the ball wins the point. If the ball in play touches a permanent fixture before it hits the ground, the player who hit the ball loses the point.



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#### **14. ORDER OF SERVICE**

At the end of each standard game, the receiver shall become the server and the server shall become the receiver for the next game.

In doubles, the team due to serve in the first game of each set shall decide which player shall serve for that game. Similarly, before the second game starts, their opponents shall decide which player shall serve for that game. The partner of the player who served in the first game shall serve in the third game and the partner of the player who served in the second game shall serve in the fourth game. This rotation shall continue until the end of the set.

#### **15. ORDER OF RECEIVING IN DOUBLES**

The team which is due to receive in the first game of a set shall decide which player shall receive the first point in the game. Similarly, before the second game starts, their opponents shall decide which player shall receive the first point of that game. The player who was the receiver's partner for the first point of the game shall receive the second point and this rotation shall continue until the end of the game and the set.

After the receiver has returned the ball, either player in a team can hit the ball.

*Case 1: Is one member of a doubles team allowed to play alone against the opponents?*

*Decision: No.*

#### **16. THE SERVICE**

Immediately before starting the service motion, the server shall stand at rest with both feet behind (i.e. further from the net than) the baseline and within the imaginary extensions of the centre mark and the sideline.

The server shall then release the ball by hand in any direction and hit the ball with the racket before the ball hits the ground. The service motion is completed at the moment that the player's racket hits or misses the ball. A player who is able to use only one arm may use the racket for the release of the ball.

#### **17. SERVING**

When serving in a standard game, the server shall stand behind alternate halves of the court, starting from the right half of the court in every game.

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In a tie-break game, the service shall be served from behind alternate halves of the court, with the first served from the right half of the court.

The service shall pass over the net and hit the service court diagonally opposite, before the receiver returns it.

#### **18. FOOT FAULT**

During the service motion, the server shall not:

- a. Change position by walking or running, although slight movements of the feet are permitted; or
- b. Touch the baseline or the court with either foot; or
- c. Touch the area outside the imaginary extension of the sideline with either foot; or
- d. Touch the imaginary extension of the centre mark with either foot.

If the server breaks this rule it is a "Foot Fault".

*Case 1: In a singles match, is the server allowed to serve standing behind the part of the baseline between the singles sideline and the doubles sideline?*

*Decision: No.*

*Case 2: Is the server allowed to have one or both feet off the ground?*

*Decision: Yes.*

#### **19. SERVICE FAULT**

The service is a fault if:

- a. The server breaks Rules 16, 17 or 18; or
- b. The server misses the ball when trying to hit it; or
- c. The ball served touches a permanent fixture, singles stick or net post before it hits the ground; or
- d. The ball served touches the server or server's partner, or anything the server or server's partner is wearing or carrying.

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*Case 1: After tossing a ball to serve, the server decides not to hit it and catches it instead. Is this a fault?*

*Decision: No. A player, who tosses the ball and then decides not to hit it, is allowed to catch the ball with the hand or the racket, or to let the ball bounce.*

*Case 2: During a singles match played on a court with net posts and singles sticks, the ball served hits a singles stick and then hits the correct service court. Is this a fault?*

*Decision: Yes.*

## **20. SECOND SERVICE**

If the first service is a fault, the server shall serve again without delay from behind the same half of the court from which that fault was served, unless the service was from the wrong half.

## **21. WHEN TO SERVE & RECEIVE**

The server shall not serve until the receiver is ready. However, the receiver shall play to the reasonable pace of the server and shall be ready to receive within a reasonable time of the server being ready.

A receiver who attempts to return the service shall be considered as being ready. If it is demonstrated that the receiver is not ready, the service cannot be called a fault.

## **22. THE LET DURING A SERVICE**

The service is a let if:

- a. The ball served touches the net, strap or band, and is otherwise good; or, after touching the net, strap or band, touches the receiver or the receiver's partner or anything they wear or carry before hitting the ground; or
- b. The ball is served when the receiver is not ready.

In the case of a service let, that particular service shall not count, and the server shall serve again, but a service let does not cancel a previous fault.

Additional approved alternative procedures can be found in Appendix V.

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#### 23. THE LET

In all cases when a let is called, except when a service let is called on a second service, the whole point shall be replayed.

*Case 1: When the ball is in play, another ball rolls onto court. A let is called. The server had previously served a fault. Is the server now entitled to a first service or second service?*

*Decision: First service. The whole point must be replayed.*

#### 24. PLAYER LOSES POINT

The point is lost if:

- a. The player serves two consecutive faults; or
- b. The player does not return the ball in play before it bounces twice consecutively; or
- c. The player returns the ball in play so that it hits the ground, or before it bounces, an object, outside the correct court; or
- d. The player returns the ball in play so that, before it bounces, it hits a permanent fixture; or
- e. The receiver returns the service before it bounces; or
- f. The player deliberately carries or catches the ball in play on the racket or deliberately touches it with the racket more than once; or
- g. The player or the racket, whether in the player's hand or not, or anything which the player is wearing or carrying touches the net, net posts/singles sticks, cord or metal cable, strap or band, or the opponent's court at any time while the ball is in play; or
- h. The player hits the ball before it has passed the net; or
- i. The ball in play touches the player or anything that the player is wearing or carrying, except the racket; or
- j. The ball in play touches the racket when the player is not holding it; or

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- k. The player deliberately and materially changes the shape of the racket when the ball is in play; or
- l. In doubles, both players touch the ball when returning it.

*Case 1: After the server has served a first service, the racket falls out of the server's hand and touches the net before the ball has bounced. Is this a service fault, or does the server lose the point?*

*Decision: The server loses the point because the racket touches the net while the ball is in play.*

*Case 2: After the server has served a first service, the racket falls out of the server's hand and touches the net after the ball has bounced outside the correct service court. Is this a service fault, or does the server lose the point?*

*Decision: This is a service fault because when the racket touched the net the ball was no longer in play.*

*Case 3: In a doubles match, the receiver's partner touches the net before the ball that has been served touches the ground outside the correct service court. What is the correct decision?*

*Decision: The receiving team loses the point because the receiver's partner touched the net while the ball was in play.*

*Case 4: Does a player lose the point if an imaginary line in the extension of the net is crossed before or after hitting the ball?*

*Decision: The player does not lose the point in either case provided the player does not touch the opponent's court.*

*Case 5: Is a player allowed to jump over the net into the opponent's court while the ball is in play?*

*Decision: No. The player loses the point.*

*Case 6: A player throws the racket at the ball in play. Both the racket and the ball land in the court on the opponent's side of the net and the opponent(s) is unable to reach the ball. Which player wins the point?*

*Decision: The player who threw the racket at the ball loses the point.*

*Case 7: A ball that has just been served hits the receiver or in doubles the receiver's partner before it touches the ground. Which player wins the point?*

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*Decision: The server wins the point, unless it is a service let.*

*Case 8: A player standing outside the court hits the ball or catches it before it bounces and claims the point because the ball was definitely going out of the correct court.*

*Decision: The player loses the point, unless it is a good return, in which case the point continues.*

## 25. A GOOD RETURN

It is a good return if:

- a. The ball touches the net, net posts/singles sticks, cord or metal cable, strap or band, provided that it passes over any of them and hits the ground within the correct court; except as provided in Rule 2 and 24 (d); or
- b. After the ball in play has hit the ground within the correct court and has spun or been blown back over the net, the player reaches over the net and plays the ball into the correct court, provided that the player does not break Rule 24; or
- c. The ball is returned outside the net posts, either above or below the level of the top of the net, even though it touches the net posts, provided that it hits the ground in the correct court; except as provided in Rules 2 and 24 (d); or
- d. The ball passes under the net cord between the singles stick and the adjacent net post without touching either net, net cord or net post and hits the ground in the correct court, or
- e. The player's racket passes over the net after hitting the ball on the player's own side of the net and the ball hits the ground in the correct court; or
- f. The player hits the ball in play, which hits another ball lying in the correct court.

*Case 1: A player returns a ball which then hits a singles stick and hits the ground in the correct court. Is this a good return?*

*Decision: Yes. However, if the ball is served and hits the singles stick, it is a service fault.*

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*Case 2: A ball in play hits another ball which is lying in the correct court. What is the correct decision?*

*Decision: Play continues. However, if it is not clear that the actual ball in play has been returned, a let should be called.*

## 26. HINDRANCE

If a player is hindered in playing the point by a deliberate act of the opponent(s), the player shall win the point.

However, the point shall be replayed if a player is hindered in playing the point by either an unintentional act of the opponent(s), or something outside the player's own control (not including a permanent fixture).

*Case 1: Is an unintentional double hit a hindrance?*

*Decision: No. See also Rule 24 (f).*

*Case 2: A player claims to have stopped play because the player thought that the opponent(s) was being hindered. Is this a hindrance?*

*Decision: No, the player loses the point.*

*Case 3: A ball in play hits a bird flying over the court. Is this a hindrance?*

*Decision: Yes, the point shall be replayed.*

*Case 4: During a point, a ball or other object that was lying on the player's side of the net when the point started hinders the player. Is this a hindrance?*

*Decision: No.*

*Case 5: In doubles, where are the server's partner and receiver's partner allowed to stand?*

*Decision: The server's partner and the receiver's partner may take any position on their own side of the net, inside or outside the court. However, if a player is creating a hindrance to the opponent(s), the hindrance rule should be used.*

## 27. CORRECTING ERRORS

As a principle, when an error in respect of the Rules of Tennis is discovered, all points previously played shall stand. Errors so discovered shall be corrected as follows:

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- a. During a standard game or a tie-break game, if a player serves from the wrong half of the court, this should be corrected as soon as the error is discovered and the server shall serve from the correct half of the court according to the score. A fault that was served before the error was discovered shall stand.
- b. During a standard game or a tie-break game, if the players are at the wrong ends of the court, the error should be corrected as soon as it is discovered and the server shall serve from the correct end of the court according to the score.
- c. If a player serves out of turn during a standard game, the player who was originally due to serve shall serve as soon as the error is discovered. However, if a game is completed before the error is discovered the order of service shall remain as altered. In this case, any ball change to be made after an agreed number of games should be made one game later than originally scheduled.

A fault that was served by the opponents(s) before the error was discovered shall not stand.

In doubles, if the partners of one team serve out of turn, a fault that was served before the error was discovered shall stand.

- d. If a player serves out of turn during a tie-break game and the error is discovered after an even number of points have been played, the error is corrected immediately. If the error is discovered after an odd number of points have been played, the order of service shall remain as altered.

A fault that was served by the opponent(s) before the error was discovered shall not stand.

In doubles, if the partners of one team serve out of turn, a fault that was served before the error was discovered shall stand.

- e. During a standard game or a tie-break game in doubles, if there is an error in the order of receiving, this shall remain as altered until the end of the game in which the error is discovered. For the next game in which they are the receivers in that set, the partners shall then resume the original order of receiving.
- f. If in error a tie-break game is started at 6 games all, when it was previously agreed that the set would be an "Advantage set", the error shall be corrected immediately if only one point has been played. If the error is discovered after the second point is in play, the set will



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continue as a "Tie-break set".

- g. If in error a standard game is started at 6 games all, when it was previously agreed that the set would be a "Tie-break set", the error shall be corrected immediately if only one point has been played. If the error is discovered after the second point is in play, the set will continue as an "Advantage set" until the score reaches 8 games all (or a higher even number), when a tie-break game shall be played.
- h. If in error an "Advantage set" or "Tie-break set" is started, when it was previously agreed that the final set would be a match tie-break, the error shall be corrected immediately if only one point has been played. If the error is discovered after the second point is in play, the set will continue either until a player or team wins three games (and therefore the set) or until the score reaches 2 games all, when a match tie-break shall be played. However, if the error is discovered after the second point of the fifth game has started, the set will continue as a "Tie-break set". (See Appendix V)
- i. If the balls are not changed in the correct sequence, the error shall be corrected when the player/team who should have served with new balls is next due to serve a new game. Thereafter the balls shall be changed so that the number of games between ball changes shall be that originally agreed. Balls should not be changed during a game.

## **28. ROLE OF COURT OFFICIALS**

For matches where officials are appointed, their roles and responsibilities can be found in Appendix VI.

## **29. CONTINUOUS PLAY**

As a principle, play should be continuous, from the time the match starts (when the first service of the match is put in play) until the match finishes.

- a. Between points, a maximum of twenty (20) seconds is allowed. When the players change ends at the end of a game, a maximum of ninety (90) seconds are allowed. However, after the first game of each set and during a tie-break game, play shall be continuous and the players shall change ends without a rest.

At the end of each set there shall be a set break of a maximum of one hundred and twenty (120) seconds.

The maximum time starts from the moment that one point finishes until the first service is struck for the next point.

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Event organisers may apply for ITF approval to extend the ninety (90) seconds allowed when the players change ends at the end of a game and the one hundred and twenty (120) seconds allowed at a set break.

- b. If, for reasons outside the player's control, clothing, footwear or necessary equipment (excluding the racket) is broken or needs to be replaced, the player may be allowed reasonable extra time to rectify the problem.
- c. No extra time shall be given to allow a player to recover condition. However, a player suffering from a treatable medical condition may be allowed one medical time-out of three minutes for the treatment of that medical condition. A limited number of toilet/change of attire breaks may also be allowed, if this is announced in advance of the event.
- d. Event organisers may allow a rest period of a maximum of ten (10) minutes if this is announced in advance of the event. This rest period can be taken after the 3rd set in a best of 5 sets match, or after the 2nd set in a best of 3 sets match.
- e. The warm-up time shall be a maximum of five (5) minutes, unless otherwise decided by the event organisers.

### 30. COACHING

Coaching is considered to be communication, advice or instruction of any kind and by any means to a player.

In team events where there is a team captain sitting on-court, the team captain may coach the player(s) during a set break and when the players change ends at the end of a game, but not when the players change ends after the first game of each set and not during a tie-break game.

In all other matches, coaching is not allowed.

*Case 1: Is a player allowed to be coached, if the coaching is given by signals in a discreet way?*

*Decision: No.*

*Case 2: Is a player allowed to receive coaching when play is suspended?*

*Decision: Yes.*

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*Case 3: Is a player allowed to receive on-court coaching during a match?*

*Decision: Sanctioning bodies may apply to the ITF to have on-court coaching allowed. In events where on-court coaching is allowed, designated coaches may enter the court and coach their players under procedures decided by the sanctioning body.*

### **31. PLAYER ANALYSIS TECHNOLOGY**

Player analysis technology, that is approved for play under the Rules of Tennis, must comply with the specifications in Appendix III.

The International Tennis Federation shall rule on the question of whether any such equipment is approved, or not approved. Such ruling may be taken on its own initiative, or upon application by any party with a bona fide interest therein, including any player, equipment manufacturer or National Association or members thereof. Such rulings and applications shall be made in accordance with the applicable Review and Hearing Procedures of the International Tennis Federation.

### **AMENDMENT TO THE RULES OF TENNIS**

The official and decisive text to the Rules of Tennis shall be for ever in the English language and no alteration or interpretation of such Rules shall be made except at an Annual General Meeting of the Council, nor unless notice of the resolution embodying such alteration shall have been received by the Federation in accordance with Article 17 of the Constitution of ITF Ltd (Notice of Resolutions) and such resolution or one having the like effect shall be carried by a majority of two-thirds of the votes recorded in respect of the same.

Any alteration so made shall take effect as from the first day of January following unless the Meeting shall by the like majority decide otherwise.

The Board of Directors shall have power, however, to settle all urgent questions of interpretation subject to confirmation at the General Meeting next following.

This Rule shall not be altered at any time without the unanimous consent of a General Meeting of the Council.

## APPENDIX G ITF RULES OF TENNIS

### APPENDIX I

#### THE BALL

For all measurements in Appendix I, SI units shall take precedence.

- a. The ball shall have a uniform outer surface consisting of a fabric cover except for the Stage 3 (Red) foam ball. If there are any seams they shall be stitchless.
- b. The ball shall conform to one of the types specified in the table immediately below or in the table under paragraph (d).

	<b>Type 1 (Fast)</b>	<b>Type 2 (Medium)<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Type 3 (Slow)<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>High Altitude<sup>3</sup></b>
<b>Weight (Mass)</b>	56.0-59.4 grams (1.975-2.095 ounces)	56.0-59.4 grams (1.975-2.095 ounces)	56.0-59.4 grams (1.975-2.095 ounces)	56.0-59.4 grams (1.975-2.095 ounces)
<b>Size</b>	6.54-6.86 cm (2.57-2.70 inches)	6.54-6.86 cm (2.57-2.70 inches)	7.00-7.30 cm (2.76-2.87 inches)	6.54-6.86 cm (2.57-2.70 inches)
<b>Rebound</b>	138-151 cm (54-60 inches)	135-147 cm (53-58 inches)	135-147 cm (53-58 inches)	122-135 cm (48-53 inches)
<b>Forward Deformation<sup>4</sup></b>	0.56-0.74 cm (0.220-0.291 inches)	0.56-0.74 cm (0.220-0.291 inches)	0.56-0.74 cm (0.220-0.291 inches)	0.56-0.74 cm (0.220-0.291 inches)
<b>Return Deformation<sup>4</sup></b>	0.74-1.08 cm (0.291-0.425 inches)	0.80-1.08 cm (0.315-0.425 inches)	0.80-1.08 cm (0.315-0.425 inches)	0.80-1.08 cm (0.315-0.425 inches)
<b>Colour</b>	white or yellow	white or yellow	white or yellow	white or yellow

Notes:

- 1 This ball type may be pressurised or pressureless. The pressureless ball shall have an internal pressure that is no greater than 7kPa (1 psi) and may be used for high altitude play above 1,219 m (4,000 feet) above sea level and shall have been acclimatised for 60 days or more at the altitude of the specific tournament.
- 2 This ball type is also recommended for high altitude play on any court surface type above 1,219 m (4,000 feet) above sea level.
- 3 This ball type is pressurised and is specified for high altitude play above 1,219 m (4,000 feet) above sea level only.
- 4 The deformation shall be the average of a single reading along each of three perpendicular axes. No two individual readings shall differ by more than 0.08 cm (0.031 inches).

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### ITF RULES OF TENNIS

- c. In addition, all ball types specified under paragraph (b) shall conform to the requirements for durability as shown in the following table:

	<b><u>MASS (WEIGHT)</u></b>	<b><u>REBOUND</u></b>	<b><u>FORWARD DEFORMATION</u></b>	<b><u>RETURN DEFORMATION</u></b>
<b><u>MAXIMUM CHANGE</u></b> <sup>1</sup>	0.4 grams (0.014 ounces)	4.0 cm (1.6 inches)	0.08 cm (0.031 inches)	0.10 cm (0.039 inches)

Notes:

- <sup>1</sup> The largest permissible change in the specified properties resulting from the durability test described in the current edition of *ITF Approved Tennis Balls & Classified Court Surfaces*. The durability test uses laboratory equipment to simulate the effects of nine games of play.
- d. Only the ball types specified in the ITF Rules of Tennis can be used in 10 and under tennis competition. See the complete rules for details.
- e. All tests for rebound, mass, size, deformation and durability shall be made in accordance with the Regulations described in the current edition of *ITF Approved Tennis Balls & Classified Court Surfaces*.

### Classification of Court Pace

The ITF test method used for determining the pace of a court surface is ITF CS 01/02 (ITF Court Pace Rating) as described in the ITF publication entitled “ITF guide to test methods for tennis court surfaces”.

Court surfaces which have an ITF Court Pace Rating of 0 to 29 shall be classified as being Category 1 (slow pace). Examples of court surface types which conform to this classification will include most clay courts and other types of unbound mineral surface.

Court surfaces which have an ITF Court Pace Rating of 30 to 34 shall be classified as being Category 2 (medium-slow pace), while court surfaces with an ITF Court Pace Rating of 35 to 39 shall be classified as being Category 3 (medium pace). Examples of court surface types which conform to this classification will include most acrylic coated surfaces plus some carpet surfaces.

Court surfaces with an ITF Court Pace Rating of 40 to 44 shall be classified as being Category 4 (medium-fast pace), while court surfaces which have an ITF Court Pace Rating of 45 or more shall be classified as being Category 5 (fast pace). Examples of court surface types which conform to this classification will include most natural grass, artificial grass and some carpet surfaces.

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### ITF RULES OF TENNIS

*Case 1: Which ball type should be used on which court surface?*

*Decision: 3 different types of balls are approved for play under the Rules of Tennis, however:*

- a. Ball Type 1 (fast speed) is intended for play on slow pace court surfaces*
- b. Ball Type 2 (medium speed) is intended for play on medium-slow, medium and medium-fast pace court surfaces*
- c. Ball Type 3 (slow speed) is intended for play on fast pace court surfaces*

#### **Notes:**

*In addition to the ball types specified under paragraph (b) above, the Stage 1 (Green) ball may be used for all levels of competitive play except for world ranking professional tennis events, Davis Cup and Fed Cup, the Olympic Tennis Event, Junior Tournaments and Team events sanctioned by the ITF and affiliated Regional Associations, ITF Senior Circuit and Team events and ITF Wheelchair Circuit and Team events.*

*Each National Association shall have the right to decide which national competitive events should use the Stage 1 (Green) ball.*

## APPENDIX II

### THE RACKET

For all measurements in Appendix II, SI units shall take precedence

- a. The racket shall consist of a frame and string(s). The frame shall consist of a handle and head, and may also include a throat. The head is defined as that part of the racket to which the string(s) connect. The handle is defined as that part of the racket connected to the head which is held by the player in normal use. The throat, where present, is that part of the racket that joins the handle to the head.
- b. The hitting surface, defined as the main area of the stringing pattern bordered by the points of entry of the strings into the head or points of contact of the strings with the head, whichever is the smaller, shall be flat and consist of a pattern of crossed strings, which shall be alternately interlaced or bonded where they cross. The stringing pattern must be generally uniform and, in particular, not less dense in the centre than in any other area.

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### **ITF RULES OF TENNIS**

The racket shall be designed and strung such that the playing characteristics are identical on both faces.

- c. The racket shall not exceed 73.7 cm (29.0 inches) in overall length, and 31.7 cm (12.5 inches) in overall width. The hitting surface shall not exceed 39.4 cm (15.5 inches) in overall length, when measured parallel to the longitudinal axis of the handle, and 29.2 cm (11.5 inches) in overall width, when measured perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the handle.
- d. The racket shall be free of any attached object, protrusion or device which makes it possible to change materially the shape of the racket, or its moment of inertia about any principal axis, or to change any physical property which may affect the performance of the racket during the playing of a point. Attached objects, protrusions and devices that are approved as Player Analysis Technology, or that are utilised to limit or prevent wear and tear or vibration or, for the frame only, to distribute weight, are permitted. All permissible objects, protrusions and devices must be reasonable in size and placement for their respective purpose(s).

No energy source that in any way could change or affect the playing characteristics of a racket may be built into or attached to a racket.

## **APPENDIX III**

### **PLAYER ANALYSIS TECHNOLOGY**

Player Analysis Technology is equipment that may perform any of the following functions with respect to player performance information:

- A. Recording
- B. Storing
- C. Transmission
- D. Analysis
- E. Communication to a player of any kind and by any means

Player Analysis Technology may record and/or store information during a match. Such information may only be accessed by a player in accordance with Rule 30.

## **APPENDIX G ITF RULES OF TENNIS**

### **APPENDIX IV**

#### **ADVERTISING**

1. Advertising is permitted on the net as long as it is placed on the part of the net that is within 3 feet (0.914 m) from the centre of the net posts and is produced in such a way that it does not interfere with the vision of the players or the playing conditions.

A mark (non-commercial) of the sanctioning body is permitted on the lower part of the net, minimum 20 inches (0.51 m) from the top of the net, as long as it is produced in such a way that it does not interfere with the vision of the players or the playing conditions.

2. Advertising and other marks or material placed at the back and sides of the court shall be permitted unless it interferes with the vision of the players or the playing conditions.
3. Advertising and other marks or material placed on the court surface outside the lines is permitted unless it interferes with the vision of the players or the playing conditions.
4. Notwithstanding paragraphs (1), (2) and (3) above, any advertising, marks or material placed on the net or placed at the back and sides of the court, or on the court surface outside the lines may not contain white or yellow or other light colours that may interfere with the vision of the players or the playing conditions.
5. Advertising and other marks or material are not permitted on the court surface inside the lines of the court.

### **APPENDIX V**

#### **ALTERNATIVE PROCEDURES AND SCORING METHODS**

The alternatives listed in this Appendix V may be used.

#### **SCORE IN A GAME (RULE 5)**

##### **"No-Ad" SCORING METHOD**

A "No-Ad" game is scored as follows with the server's score being called first:



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No point	-	"Love"
First point	-	"15"
Second point	-	"30"
Third point	-	"40"
Fourth point	-	"Game"

If both players/teams have won three points each, the score is "Deuce" and a deciding point shall be played. The receiver(s) shall choose whether to receive the service from the right half or the left half of the court. In doubles, the players of the receiving team cannot change positions to receive this deciding point. The player/team who wins the deciding point wins the "Game".

In mixed doubles, the player of the same gender as the server shall receive the deciding point. The players of the receiving team cannot change positions to receive the deciding point.

### SCORE IN A SET (RULES 6 AND 7)

#### 1. SHORT SETS

The first player/team who wins four games wins that set, provided there is a margin of two games over the opponent(s). If the score reaches four games all, a tie-break game shall be played. Alternatively (at the discretion of the sanctioning body), if the score reaches three games all, a tie-break game shall be played.

#### 2. SHORT SET TIE-BREAK

When playing Short Sets only, a Short Set tie-break may be used. The first player/team to win five points wins the "Game" and "Set", with a deciding point if the score reaches four all. The order and number of serves shall be determined by the sanctioning body. Players/Teams will only change ends after the first four points have been played.

#### 3. MATCH TIE-BREAK (7 POINTS)

When the score in a match is one set all, or two sets all in best of five sets matches, one tie-break game shall be played to decide the match. This tie-break game replaces the deciding final set.

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The player/team who first wins seven points shall win this match tie-break and the match provided there is a margin of two points over the opponent(s).

#### 4. MATCH TIE-BREAK (10 POINTS)

When the score in a match is one set all, or two sets all in best of five sets matches, one tie-break game shall be played to decide the match. This tie-break game replaces the deciding final set.

The player/team who first wins ten points shall win this match tie-break and the match provided there is a margin of two points over the opponent(s).

**Note:** *When using the match tie-break to replace the final set:*

- *the original order of service continues. (Rules 5 and 14)*
- *in doubles, the order of serving and receiving within the team may be altered, as in the beginning of each set. (Rules 14 and 15)*
- *before the start of the match tie-break there shall be a 120 seconds set break.*
- *balls should not be changed before the start of the match tie-break even if a ball change is due.*

#### CHANGE OF ENDS (RULE 10)

During a tie-break game, players shall change ends after the first point and thereafter after every four points.

#### THE LET DURING A SERVICE (RULE 22)

##### "NO LET" RULE

This alternative is play without the service let in Rule 22a, whereby a serve that touches the net, strap or band is in play.

At the discretion of the sanctioning body, when playing doubles using Short Sets in combination with No-Ad scoring and the No-Let rule, either player on the receiving team is permitted to return a serve that touches the net, strap or band and lands within the correct service box.

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### APPENDIX VI

#### ROLE OF COURT OFFICIALS

The referee is the final authority on all questions of tennis law and the referee's decision is final.

In matches where a chair umpire is assigned, the chair umpire is the final authority on all questions of fact during the match.

The players have the right to call the referee to court if they disagree with a chair umpire's interpretation of tennis law.

In matches where line umpires and net umpires are assigned, they make all calls (including foot-fault calls) relating to that line or net. The chair umpire has the right to overrule a line umpire or a net umpire if the chair umpire is sure that a clear mistake has been made. The chair umpire is responsible for calling any line (including foot-faults) or net where no line umpire or net umpire is assigned.

A line umpire who cannot make a call shall signal this immediately to the chair umpire who shall make a decision. If the line umpire cannot make a call, or if there is no line umpire, and the chair umpire cannot make a decision on a question of fact, the point shall be replayed.

In team events where the referee is sitting on-court, the referee is also the final authority on questions of fact.

Play may be stopped or suspended at any time the chair umpire decides it is necessary or appropriate.

The referee may also stop or suspend play in the case of darkness, weather or adverse court conditions. When play is suspended for darkness, this should be done at the end of a set, or after an even number of games have been played in the set in progress. After a suspension in play, the score and position of players on-court in the match shall stand when the match resumes.

The chair umpire or referee shall make decisions regarding continuous play and coaching in respect of any Code of Conduct that is approved and in operation.

*Case 1: The chair umpire awards the server a first service after an overrule, but the receiver argues that it should be a second service, since the server had already served a fault. Should the referee be called to court to give a decision?*

*Decision: Yes. The chair umpire makes the first decision about questions of tennis law (issues relating to the application of specific facts). However, if*

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*a player appeals the chair umpire's decision, then the referee shall be called to make the final decision.*

**Case 2:** *A ball is called out, but a player claims that the ball was good. May the referee be called to court to make a decision?*

**Decision:** *No. The chair umpire makes the final decision on questions of fact (issues relating to what actually happened during a specific incident).*

**Case 3:** *Is a chair umpire allowed to overrule a line umpire at the end of a point if, in the chair umpire's opinion, a clear mistake was made earlier in the point?*

**Decision:** *No. A chair umpire may only overrule a line umpire immediately after the clear mistake has been made.*

**Case 4:** *A line umpire calls a ball "Out" and then the player argues that the ball was good. Is the chair umpire allowed to overrule the line umpire?*

**Decision:** *No. A chair umpire must never overrule as the result of the protest or appeal by a player*

**Case 5:** *A line umpire calls a ball "Out". The chair umpire was unable to see clearly, but thought the ball was in. May the chair umpire overrule the line umpire?*

**Decision:** *No. The chair umpire may only overrule when sure that the line umpire made a clear mistake.*

**Case 6:** *Is a line umpire allowed to change the call after the chair umpire has announced the score?*

**Decision:** *Yes. If a line umpire realises a mistake, a correction should be made as soon as possible provided it is not as the result of a protest or appeal of a player.*

**Case 7:** *If a chair umpire or line umpire calls "Out" and then corrects the call to good, what is the correct decision?*

**Decision:** *The chair umpire must decide if the original "Out" call was a hindrance to either player. If it was a hindrance, the point shall be replayed. If it was not a hindrance, the player who hit the ball wins the point.*

**Case 8:** *A ball is blown back over the net and the player correctly reaches over the net to try to play the ball. The opponent(s) hinders the player from doing this. What is the correct decision?*

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*Decision: The chair umpire must decide if the hindrance was deliberate or unintentional and either awards the point to the hindered player or order the point to be replayed.*

#### **BALL MARK INSPECTION PROCEDURES**

1. Ball mark inspections can only be made on clay courts.
2. A ball mark inspection requested by a player (team) shall be allowed only if the chair umpire cannot determine the call with certainty from his/her chair on either a point-ending shot or when a player (team) stops playing the point during a rally (returns are permitted but then the player must immediately stop).
3. When the chair umpire has decided to make a ball mark inspection, he/she should go down from the chair and make the inspection himself. If he/she does not know where the mark is, he/she can ask the line umpire for help in locating the mark, but then the chair umpire shall inspect it.
4. The original call or overrule will always stand if the line umpire and chair umpire cannot determine the location of the mark or if the mark is unreadable.
5. Once the chair umpire has identified and ruled on a ball mark, this decision is final and not appealable.
6. In clay court tennis the chair umpire should not be too quick to announce the score unless absolutely certain of the call. If in doubt, wait before calling the score to determine whether a ball mark inspection is necessary.
7. In doubles the appealing player must make his/her appeal in such a way that either play stops or the chair umpire stops play. If an appeal is made to the chair umpire then he/she must first determine that the correct appeal procedure was followed. If it was not correct or if it was late, then the chair umpire may determine that the opposing team was deliberately hindered.
8. If a player erases the ball mark before the chair umpire has made a final decision, he/she concedes the call.
9. A player may not cross the net to check a ball mark without being subject to the Unsportsmanlike provision of the Code of Conduct.

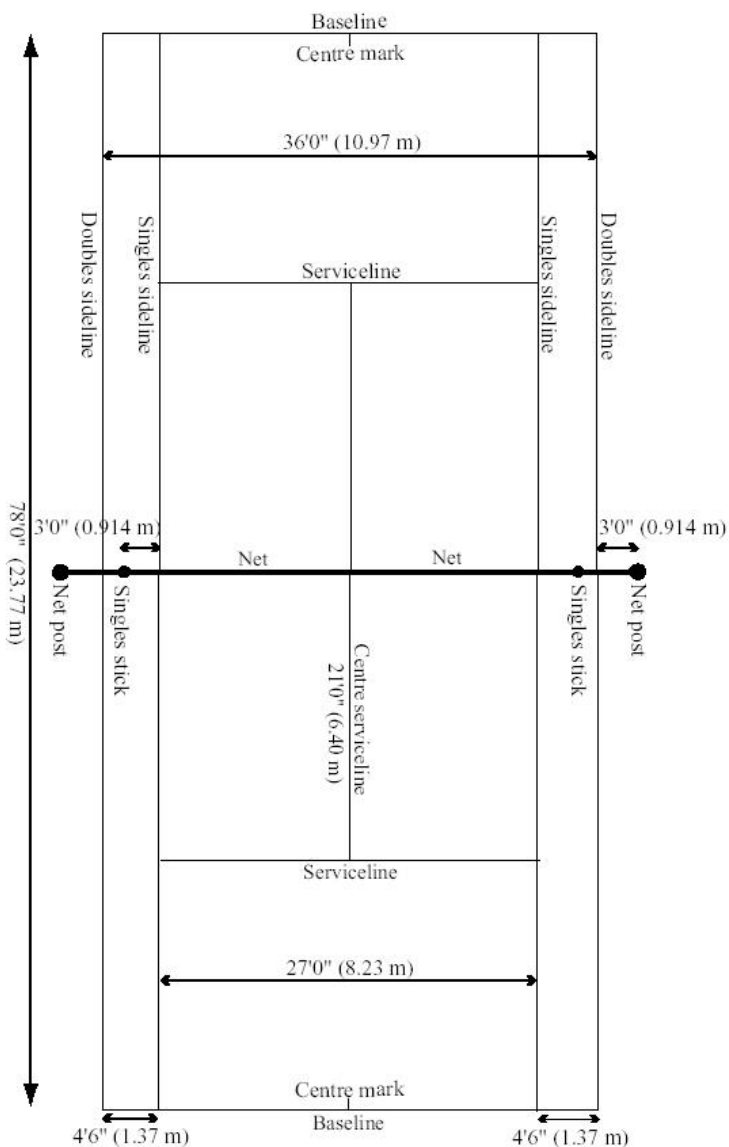
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**ELECTRONIC REVIEW PROCEDURES**

At tournaments where an Electronic Review System is used, the following procedures should be followed for matches on courts where it is used.

1. A request for an Electronic Review of a line call or overrule by a player (team) shall be allowed only on either a point-ending shot or when a player (team) stops playing the point during a rally (returns are permitted but then the player must immediately stop).
2. The chair umpire should decide to use the Electronic Review when there is doubt about the accuracy of the line call or overrule. However, the chair umpire may refuse the Electronic Review if he/she believes that the player is making an unreasonable request or that it was not made in a timely manner.
3. In doubles the appealing player must make his/her appeal in such a way that either play stops or the chair umpire stops play. If an appeal is made to the chair umpire then he/she must first determine that the correct appeal procedure was followed. If it was not correct or if it was late, then the chair umpire may determine that the opposing team was deliberately hindered, in which case the appealing team loses the point.
4. The original call or overrule will always stand if the Electronic Review is unable, for whatever reason, to make a decision on that line call or overrule.
5. The chair umpire's final decision will be the outcome of the Electronic Review and is not appealable. If a manual choice is required for the system to review a particular ball impact, a review official approved by the referee shall decide which ball impact is reviewed.
6. Each player (team) is allowed three (3) unsuccessful appeals per set, plus one (1) additional appeal in the tie-break. For matches with advantage sets, players (teams) will start again with a maximum of three (3) unsuccessful appeals at 6 games all and every 12 games thereafter. For matches with match tie-break, the match tie-break counts as a new set and each player (team) starts with three (3) appeals. Players (teams) will have an unlimited number of successful appeals.

## PLAN OF THE COURT

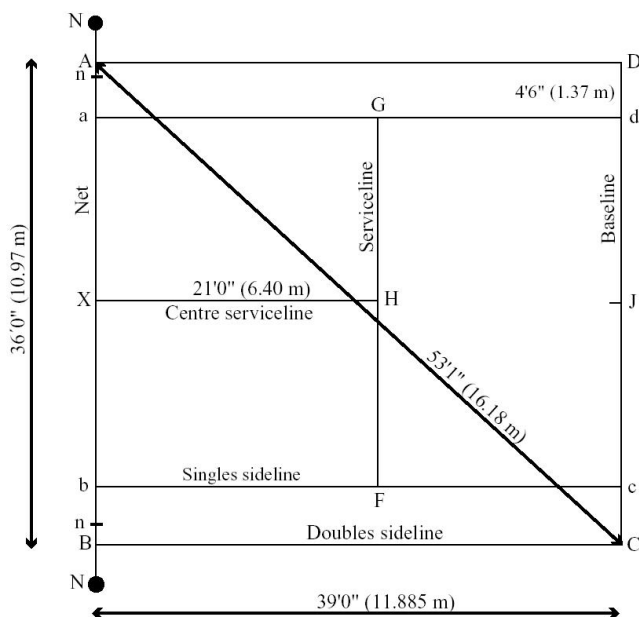


**Note:** All court measurements shall be made to the outside of the lines.

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### APPENDIX IX

#### SUGGESTIONS ON HOW TO MARK OUT A COURT



**Note:** All court measurements shall be made to the outside of the lines.

The following procedure is for the usual combined doubles and singles court. (See note at foot for a court for one purpose only.)

First select the position of the net; a straight line 42 feet (12.80 m) long. Mark the centre (X on the diagram above) and, measuring from there in each direction, mark:

- at 13'6" (4.11 m) the points a, b, where the net crosses the inner sidelines,
- at 16'6" (5.03 m) the positions of the singles sticks (n, n),
- at 18'0" (5.48 m) the points A, B, where the net crosses the outer sidelines,
- at 21'0" (6.40 m) the positions of the net posts (N, N), being the ends of the original 42'0" (12.80 m) line.

Insert pegs at A and B and attach to them the respective ends of two measuring tapes. On one, which will measure the diagonal of the half-court, take a length 53'1" (16.18 m) and on the other (to measure the sideline) a length of



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39'0" (11.89 m). Pull both taut so that at these distances they meet at a point C, which is one corner of the court. Reverse the measurements to find the other corner D. As a check on this operation it is advisable at this stage to verify the length of the line CD which, being the baseline, should be found to be 36'0" (10.97 m); and at the same time its centre J can be marked, and also the ends of the inner sidelines (c, d), 4'6" (1.37 m) from C and D.

The centreline and serviceline are now marked by means of the points F, H, G, which are measured 21'0" (6.40 m) from the net down the lines bc, XJ, ad, respectively.

Identical procedure the other side of the net completes the court.

If a singles court only is required, no lines are necessary outside the points a, b, c, d, but the court can be measured out as above. Alternatively, the corners of the baseline (c, d) can be found if preferred by pegging the two tapes at a and b instead of at A and B, and by then using lengths of 47'5" (14.46 m) and 39'0" (11.89 m). The net posts will be at n, n, and a 33'0" (10 m) singles net should be used.

When a combined doubles and singles court with a doubles net is used for singles, the net must be supported at the points n, n, to a height of 3 feet 6 inches (1.07 m) by means of two singles sticks, which shall be not more than 3 inches (7.5 cm) square or 3 inches (7.5 cm) in diameter. The centres of the singles sticks shall be 3 feet (.914 m) outside the singles court on each side.

To assist in the placing of these singles sticks it is desirable that the points n, n, should each be shown with a white dot when the court is marked.

When sanctioning bodies approve so called "Blended Lines" on courts the following guidelines must be followed:

Colour:

- Within the same colour family as the background playing surface.
- Lighter than the background playing surface.
- Limit on colour variation of +22 points on the L\* scale  
(Add 25% by volume of white paint to the background colour)

Pace:

- Within 5 CPR of the playing surface.

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#### Dimensions:

- 1.0-1.5 cm narrower than the standard lines.

#### Marking:

- Terminate 8 cm from intersection with white playing lines.

#### **Note:**

*As a guide for international competitions, the recommended minimum distance between the baselines and the backstops should be 21 feet (6.40 m) and between the sidelines and the sidestops the recommended minimum distance should be 12 feet (3.66 m).*

*As a guide for recreational and Club play, the recommended minimum distance between the baselines and the backstops should be 18 feet (5.48 m) and between the sidelines and the sidestops the recommended minimum distance should be 10 feet (3.05 m).*

*As a guide, the recommended minimum height measured at the net from the court surface to the ceiling should be 29.6 feet (9.0 m).*



## APPENDIX H

### ANTI-DOPING CONTROL STATION

The Doping Control Station must be a dedicated facility for the exclusive use of the Doping Control team for the duration of the event.

Location: Near the locker room (but not with direct access).

Accommodation: A minimum of two (2) (and preferably three (3)) connected areas or rooms including a Sample Collection Room and a Waiting Room at a minimum, plus an Administration Room if possible, all of which should be air-conditioned or well ventilated. The Sample Collection Room should be directly connected to a toilet (for the sole use of Doping Control).

Security: If free-standing, a security guard should be posted to restrict admission to those with appropriate credentials. It must be lockable, with access restricted to the Doping Control team. The Doping Control Officer must be given charge of all keys to all rooms for the duration of testing.

Hygiene: The Doping Control Station should be cleaned every day at a time agreed with the Doping Control Officer.

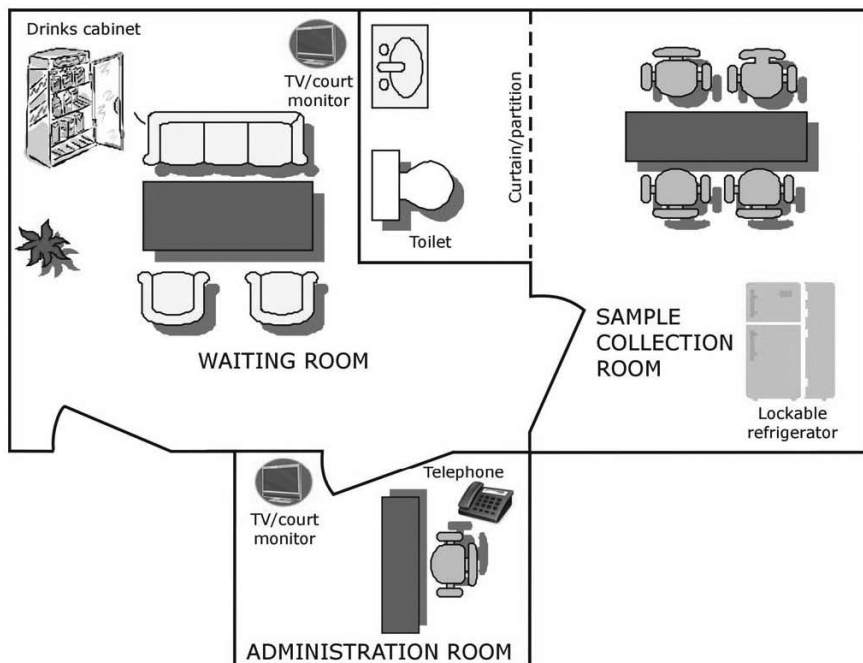
Items to be supplied in the Doping Control Station (for all draw sizes):

SAMPLE COLLECTION ROOM	WAITING ROOM
1 toilet	Comfortable seating for at least 8 people
Desk and 4 chairs	Refrigerator with an adequate supply of individually sealed, non-caffeinated and non-alcoholic beverages
Table to display testing material	Table to display reading material
TV/court monitor (and also in the Administration Room if provided)	Various newspapers and magazines
Telephone (to be placed in Administration Room if provided)	TV/court monitor
Mains electricity supply	Waste bin
Lockable refrigerator	
2 large waste bins	
Sink, with soap or hand-wash	
Paper towels	
Storage cupboard	

## APPENDIX H

### ANTI-DOPING CONTROL STATION

A suggested layout for a Doping Control Station is shown in the diagram below.



### TENNIS ANTI-CORRUPTION PROGRAM

#### A. Introduction

The purpose of the Tennis Anti-Corruption Program is to (i) maintain the integrity of tennis, (ii) protect against any efforts to impact improperly the results of any match and (iii) establish a uniform rule and consistent scheme of enforcement and sanctions applicable to all professional tennis Events and to all Governing Bodies.

#### B. Definitions

1. "AHO" refers to an Anti-Corruption Hearing Officer.
2. "ATP" refers to the ATP Tour, Inc.
3. "CAS" refers to the Court of Arbitration for Sport.
4. "Consideration" refers to anything of value except for money.
5. "Corruption Offense" refers to any violation of any provision of the Program by a Covered Person, including any offense described in Section D, E, or F of this Program.
6. "Covered Person" refers to any Player, Related Person, or Tournament Support Personnel.
7. "Decision" refers to a decision of an AHO regarding the commission of a Corruption Offense.
8. "Demand" refers to a written demand for information issued by the TIU to any Covered Person.
9. "Event" refers to those professional tennis matches and other tennis competitions identified in Appendix 1.
10. "Governing Bodies" refers to the ATP, the ITF, the WTA and the GSB.
11. "GSB" refers to the Grand Slam Board.
12. "Hearing" refers to a hearing before an AHO in accordance with Section G of this Program.
13. "Information in the public domain" refers to information which has

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been published or is a matter of public record or can be readily acquired by an interested member of the public and/or information which has been disclosed according to the rules or regulations governing a particular event.

14. "Inside Information" refers to information about the likely participation or likely performance of a Player in an Event or concerning the weather, court conditions, status, outcome or any other aspect of an Event which is known by a Covered Person and is not information in the public domain.
15. "ITF" refers to the International Tennis Federation.
16. "Notice" refers to written notice sent by the PTIO to a Covered Person alleged to have committed a Corruption Offense.
17. "Participation" refers to playing in, coaching at, accessing, attending or in any way receiving accreditation for, any Sanctioned Event.
18. "Player" refers to any player who enters or participates any Event.
19. "Program" refers to this Tennis Anti-Corruption Program.
20. "Provisional Suspension" refers to a period of ineligibility from Participation in Sanctioned Events imposed by an AHO, in accordance with Sections F.3 and G.1.c, before a Hearing has taken place.
21. "PTIO" refers to the Professional Tennis Integrity Officer appointed by each Governing Body.
22. "Related Person" refers to any coach, trainer, therapist, physician, management representative, agent, family member, tournament guest, business associate or other affiliate or associate of any Player, or any other person who receives accreditation at an Event at the request of the Player or any other Related Person.
23. "Sanctioned Events" refers to any tennis competition or event in any jurisdiction that is affiliated to, organized, controlled or otherwise sanctioned by any Governing Body.
24. "Substantial Assistance" refers to assistance given by a Covered Person to the PTIO or TIU that results in the discovery or establishing of a corruption offense by another Covered Person.
25. "TIB" refers to the Tennis Integrity Board.

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26. "TIU" refers to the Tennis Integrity Unit.
27. "Tournament Support Personnel" refers to any tournament director, Officials, owner, operator, employee, agent, contractor or any similarly situated person and ATP, ITF and WTA staff providing services at any Event and any other person who receives accreditation at an Event at the request of Tournament Support Personnel.
28. "Wager" refers to a wager of money or Consideration or any other form of financial speculation.
29. "WTA" refers to the WTA Tour, Inc.

**C. Covered Players, Persons and Events**

1. All Players, Related Persons, and Tournament Support Personnel shall be bound by and shall comply with all of the provisions of this Program and shall be deemed to accept all terms set out herein as well as the Tennis Integrity Unit Privacy Policy which can be found at [www.tennisintegrityunit.com](http://www.tennisintegrityunit.com).
2. It is the responsibility of each Player, Related Person and Tournament Support Personnel to acquaint himself or herself with all of the provisions of this Program. Further, each Player shall have a duty to inform Related Persons with whom they are connected of all of the provisions of this Program and shall instruct Related Persons to comply with the Program.

**D. Offenses**

Commission of any offense set forth in Sections D, E or F of this Program or any other violation of the provisions of this Program shall constitute a Corruption Offense for all purposes of this Program.

1. Corruption Offenses
  - a. No Covered Person shall, directly or indirectly, wager or attempt to wager on the outcome or any other aspect of any Event or any other tennis competition.
  - b. No Covered Person shall, directly or indirectly, solicit or facilitate any other person to wager on the outcome or any other aspect of any Event or any other tennis competition. For the avoidance of doubt, to solicit or facilitate to wager shall include, but not be limited to: display of live tennis betting odds on a Covered Person website; writing articles for a tennis betting publication



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or website; conducting personal appearances for a tennis betting company or any other company or entity directly affiliated with a tennis betting company; and appearing in commercials encouraging others to bet on tennis.

- c. No Covered Person shall, directly or indirectly, solicit or accept any money, benefit or Consideration for the provision of an accreditation to an Event (i) for the purpose of facilitating a commission of a Corruption Offense; or (ii) which leads, directly or indirectly, to the commission of a Corruption Offense.
- d. No Covered Person shall, directly or indirectly, contrive or attempt to contrive the outcome or any other aspect of any Event.
- e. No Covered Person shall, directly or indirectly, solicit or facilitate any Player to not use his or her best efforts in any Event.
- f. No Covered Person shall, directly or indirectly, solicit or accept any money, benefit or Consideration with the intention of negatively influencing a Player's best efforts in any Event.
- g. No Covered Person shall, directly or indirectly, offer or provide any money, benefit or Consideration to any other Covered Person with the intention of negatively influencing a Player's best efforts in any Event.
- h. No Covered Person shall, directly or indirectly, solicit or accept any money, benefit or Consideration, for the provision of any Inside Information.
- i. No Covered Person shall, directly or indirectly, offer or provide any money, benefit or Consideration to any other Covered Person for the provision of any Inside Information.
- j. No Covered Person shall, directly or indirectly, offer or provide any money, benefit or Consideration to any Tournament Support Personnel in exchange for any information or benefit relating to a tournament.
- k. No Covered Person may be employed or otherwise engaged by a company which accepts wagers on Events.
- l. No Covered Person shall, directly or indirectly, solicit or facilitate any other person to contrive or attempt to contrive the outcome or any other aspect of any Event.

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2. Reporting Obligation

a. Players

- i. In the event any Player is approached by any person who offers or provides any type of money, benefit or Consideration to a Player to (i) influence the outcome or any other aspect of any Event, or (ii) provide Inside Information, it shall be the Player's obligation to report such incident to the TIU as soon as possible.
- ii. In the event any Player knows or suspects that any other Covered Person or other individual has committed a Corruption Offense, it shall be the Player's obligation to report such knowledge or suspicion to the TIU as soon as possible.
- iii. If any Player knows or suspects that any Covered Person has been involved in an incident described in Section D.2.b below, a Player shall be obligated to report such knowledge or suspicion to the TIU as soon as possible.
- iv. A Player shall have a continuing obligation to report any new knowledge or suspicion regarding any Corruption Offense, even if the Player's prior knowledge or suspicion has already been reported.

b. Related Persons and Tournament Support Personnel

- i. In the event any Related Person or Tournament Support Person is approached by any person who offers or provides any type of money, benefit or Consideration to a Related Person or Tournament Support Person to (i) influence or attempt to influence the outcome of any aspect of any Event, or (ii) provide Inside Information, it shall be the Related Person's or Tournament Support Person's obligation to report such incident to the TIU as soon as possible.
- ii. In the event any Related Person or Tournament Support Person knows or suspects that any Covered Person or other individual has committed a Corruption Offense, it shall be the Related Person's or Tournament Support Person's obligation to report such knowledge or suspicion to the TIU as soon as possible.

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- c. For the avoidance of doubt, a failure by any Covered Person to comply with (i) the reporting obligations set out in Section D.2; and/or (ii) the duty to cooperate under Section F.2 shall constitute a Corruption Offense for all purposes of the Program.

**E. Additional Matters**

1. Each Player shall be responsible for any Corruption Offense committed by any Covered Person if such Player either (i) had knowledge of a Corruption Offense and failed to report such knowledge pursuant to the reporting obligations set forth in Section D.2. above or (ii) assisted the commission of a Corruption Offense. In such event, the AHO shall have the right to impose sanctions on the Player to the same extent as if the Player had committed the Corruption Offense.
2. For a Corruption Offense to be committed, it is sufficient that an offer or solicitation was made, regardless of whether any money, benefit or Consideration was actually paid or received.
3. Evidence of a Player's lack of efforts or poor performance during an Event may be offered to support allegations that a Covered Person committed a Corruption Offense, but the absence of such evidence shall not preclude a Covered Person from being sanctioned for a Corruption Offense.
4. A valid defense may be made to a charge of a Corruption Offense if the person alleged to have committed the Corruption Offense (i) promptly reports such conduct to the TIU and (ii) demonstrates that such conduct was the result of an honest and reasonable belief that there was a significant threat to the life or safety of such person or any member of such person's family.

**F. Investigation and Procedure**

1. Anti-Corruption Hearing Officer
  - a. The TIB shall appoint one or more independent AHOs, who shall be responsible for (i) determining whether Corruption Offenses have been committed, and (ii) fixing the sanctions for any Corruption Offense found to have been committed.
  - b. An AHO shall serve a term of two years, which may thereafter be renewed in the discretion of the TIB. If an AHO becomes unable to serve, a new AHO may be appointed for a full two-year term pursuant to this provision.

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2. Investigations

- a. The TIU shall have the right to conduct an initial interview and follow-up interviews, if necessary as determined solely by the TIU, with any Covered Person in furtherance of investigating the possibility of a commission of a Corruption Offense.
  - i. The date and time of all interviews shall be determined by the TIU, giving reasonable allowances for Covered Persons' tournament and travel schedules.
  - ii. The Covered Person shall have the right to have counsel attend the interview(s).
  - iii. The interview shall be recorded. The recorded interviews shall be used for transcription and evidentiary purposes and thereafter shall be retained by the TIU for a minimum of 3 years in a secure place following the conclusion of any investigation or proceedings before an AHO, whichever is later.
  - iv. The Covered Person shall have the right to request an interpreter, and the cost shall be borne by the TIU.
  - v. Transcripts of the interview shall be provided to the Covered Person, upon request, within a reasonable period of time following the conclusion of the interview.
- b. All Covered Persons must cooperate fully with investigations conducted by the TIU including giving evidence at hearings, if requested. No Covered Person shall (i) tamper with, damage, disable, destroy or otherwise alter any evidence or other information related to any Corruption Offense or (ii) solicit or facilitate any other person to tamper with, damage, disable, destroy or otherwise alter any evidence or other information related to any Corruption Offense.
- c. If the TIU believes that a Covered Person may have committed a Corruption Offense, the TIU may make a Demand to any Covered Person to furnish to the TIU any object or information regarding the alleged Corruption Offense, including, without limitation, (i) personal devices (including mobile telephone(s), tablets and/or laptop computers), (ii) access to any social media accounts and cloud storage held by the Covered Person (including provision of user names and passwords); (iii) hard copy or

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electronic records relating to the alleged Corruption Offense (including, without limitation, itemized telephone billing statements, text of SMS and WhatsApp messages received and sent, banking statements, Internet service records), computers, tablets, hard drives and other electronic information storage devices, and (iv) a written statement setting forth the facts and circumstances with respect to the alleged Corruption Offense. The Covered Person shall furnish such information immediately, where practical to do so, or within such other time as may be set by the TIU. Any information furnished to the TIU shall be (i) kept confidential except when it becomes necessary to disclose such information in furtherance of the prosecution of a Corruption Offense, or when such information is reported to administrative, professional, or judicial authorities pursuant to an investigation or prosecution of non-sporting laws or regulations and (ii) used solely for the purposes of the investigation and prosecution of a Corruption Offense.

- d. By participating in any Event, or accepting accreditation at any Event, or by completing IPIN registration and/or player agreement forms a Covered Person contractually agrees to waive and forfeit any rights, defenses, and privileges provided by any law in any jurisdiction to withhold information or delay provision of information requested by the TIU or the AHO.
3. Provisional Suspension
- a. The PTIO may at any time prior to the Hearing make an application to the AHO, for a Provisional Suspension of a Covered Person, including before a Notice has been issued. A Provisional Suspension may be imposed if the AHO is satisfied on the preponderance of the evidence that at least one of the following two conditions are met:
    - i. a Covered Person has (i) failed to comply with a Demand or (ii) delayed or obstructed, without reasonable justification, compliance with a Demand or purported to comply with a Demand through the provision of any object or information that has been tampered with, damaged, disabled or otherwise altered from its original state; or
    - ii. (i) there is a likelihood that the Covered Person has committed a Corruption Offense punishable by permanent ineligibility; (ii) in the absence of a Provisional Suspension, the integrity of tennis would be undermined; and (iii) the harm

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resulting from the absence of a Provisional Suspension outweighs the hardship of the Provisional Suspension on the Covered Person.

- b. The Covered Person shall be notified within three business days that the PTIO has made an application for a Provisional Suspension and shall be given the opportunity to (i) agree to the imposition of the Provisional Suspension by the AHO or (ii) make written submissions in response to the application. There will be no right for a Covered Person to request a hearing. The AHO shall decide the appropriate procedure for determining the Provisional Suspension application, provided that any such determination takes place within three business days of the notification of the application to the AHO upon the Covered Person. The Covered Person shall be afforded a reasonable opportunity to present his/her case and supporting evidence.
  - c. The provisions of Section H regarding the effect of a sanction of a period of ineligibility shall apply to a Covered Person who is serving a Provisional Suspension. The Provisional Suspension shall take effect from the date on which the AHO's decision regarding the application for the Provisional Suspension is issued and shall remain in place until an AHO determines that the Provisional Suspension should be lifted.
  - d. In the event that the Provisional Suspension applied under Section F.3.a.ii is still in force 60 days after the AHO determined that a Provisional Suspension was appropriate, the Covered Person may apply to the AHO for the Provisional Suspension to be lifted. The provisions of Section F.3.b and c shall apply to any such application by the Covered Person.
  - e. In the event that an AHO imposes a Provisional Suspension against a Player under this section F.3 whilst the Player is participating in an Event, that Player will be entitled to retain any ranking points and prize money, that the Player has earned from participating in the Event in advance of the Provisional Suspension being imposed.
  - f. The TIB will publicly report the imposition of a Provisional Suspension, unless otherwise directed by an AHO.
4. Referral to the AHO

At the conclusion of an investigation if the PTIO concludes that a Corruption Offense may have been committed, then the PTIO

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shall refer the matter to the AHO, and the matter shall proceed to a Hearing before the AHO in accordance with Section G of this Program.

**5. Contact Requirements**

Each Covered Person shall be determined to be immediately contactable at their current (i) postal address, (ii) personal mobile telephone or (iii) personal email address. A Notice or communication sent to any postal address, email address or mobile telephone number provided by the Covered Person to a Governing Body or directly to the TIU shall be deemed to have been sent to the Covered Person's current address or mobile telephone number. In each case it is the responsibility of the Covered Person to ensure that the relevant Governing Body has been provided with the necessary up to date contact details. Any Notice or other communication delivered hereunder to a Covered Person shall be deemed to have been received by the Covered Person (i) in the case of a postal address, on the date of delivery to such address in the confirmation of delivery provided by the relevant courier service company or (ii) in the case of a personal mobile telephone or personal email address, at the time the relevant communication was sent.

**G. Due Process**

**1. Commencement of Proceedings**

- a. When the PTIO refers a matter to the AHO pursuant to Section F.4, the PTIO shall send a Notice to each Covered Person alleged to have committed a Corruption Offense, with a copy to the AHO, setting out the following:
  - i. the Corruption Offense(s) alleged to have been committed, including the specific Section(s) of this Program alleged to have been infringed;
  - ii. the facts upon which such allegations are based;
  - iii. the potential sanctions prescribed under this Program for such Corruption Offense(s); and
  - iv. the Covered Person's entitlement to have the matter determined by the AHO at a Hearing.
- b. The Notice shall also specify that, if the Covered Person wishes to dispute the PTIO allegations, the Covered Person must

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submit a written request to the AHO for a Hearing so that it is received as soon as possible, but in any event within fourteen business days of the date of the receipt of Notice as defined in Article F.5.

- c. If the Covered Person is alleged to have committed any of the Corruption Offenses referred to at (i) sections D.1.c to D.1.j, (ii) D.1.l or (iii) section D2, then upon receipt of the Notice the AHO will immediately issue an order that the Covered Person be subject to a Provisional Suspension.
- d. A Covered Person shall direct any response to a Notice to the AHO with a copy to the PTIO and may respond in one of the following ways:
  - i. To admit the Corruption Offense and accede to the imposition of sanctions, in which case no hearing shall be conducted and the AHO shall promptly issue a Decision confirming the commission of the Corruption Offense(s) alleged in the Notice and ordering the imposition of sanctions, which shall be determined by the AHO after requesting and giving due consideration to a written submission from the PTIO on the recommended sanction.
  - ii. To deny the Corruption Offense and to have the AHO determine the charge, and if the charge is upheld, the sanctions, at a Hearing conducted in accordance with Section G.2.
  - iii. To admit that he or she has committed the Corruption Offense(s) specified in the Notice, but to dispute and/or seek to mitigate the sanctions specified in the Notice. Either a request for a hearing or a written submission solely on the issue of the sanction must be submitted simultaneously with the Covered Person's response to the Notice. If a hearing is requested, it shall be conducted in accordance with Section G.2. If no hearing is requested, the AHO shall promptly issue a Decision confirming the commission of the Corruption Offense(s) specified in the Notice and ordering the imposition of sanctions, after giving due consideration to the Covered Person's written submission (if any) and any response submitted by the PTIO.
- e. If the Covered Person fails to file a written request for a Hearing by the deadline set out in Section G.1.b, he or she shall be deemed:



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- i. to have waived his or her entitlement to a Hearing;
  - ii. to have admitted that he or she has committed the Corruption Offense(s) specified in the Notice;
  - iii. to have acceded to the potential sanctions specified in the Notice; and,
  - iv. the AHO shall promptly issue a Decision confirming the commission of the Corruption Offense(s) alleged in the Notice and ordering the imposition of sanctions, (after requesting and giving due consideration to a written submission from the PTIO on the recommended sanction).
- f. If, for any reason, the AHO is or becomes unwilling or unable to hear the case, then the AHO may request that the TIB appoint a substitute or successor AHO for such matter in accordance with Section F.1.
- g. In the event a Covered Person requests a Hearing under Section G.1.d.ii or G.1.d.iii, thereafter, but no more than twenty business days after the date of the Notice or request for a Hearing is received, the AHO shall convene a meeting or telephone conference with the PTIO and/or its legal representatives (if any), the Covered Person to whom the Notice was sent and his or her legal representatives (if any), to take jurisdiction formally over the matter and to address any pre-Hearing issues. The non-attendance of the Covered Person or his or her representatives at the meeting, after proper notice of the meeting has been provided, shall not prevent the AHO from proceeding with the meeting in the absence of the Covered Person, whether or not any written submissions are made on behalf of the Covered Person. In the meeting or telephone conference the AHO shall:
- i. determine the date(s) (no sooner than twenty business days after the meeting or telephone conference, unless the parties consent to a shorter period) upon which the Hearing shall be held. Subject to the foregoing sentence, the Hearing shall be commenced as soon as practicable after the Notice is sent, and ordinarily within ninety days of the date that the Covered Person requests a Hearing.
  - ii. establish dates reasonably in advance of the date of the Hearing at which:

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1. the PTIO and the Covered Person shall produce  
(i) any relevant documents or other materials upon which they intend to rely at the Hearing and (ii) any relevant documents or other materials requested by the other party;
  2. the PTIO and the Covered Person shall exchange any written evidence of any witness, signed with a statement of truth, together with copies of any exhibits that they intend to rely on at the Hearing;
  3. the PTIO shall submit a written brief with argument on all issues that they wish to raise at the Hearing;
  4. the Covered Person shall submit an answering brief, addressing the arguments of the PTIO and setting out argument on the issues that the Covered Person wishes to raise at the Hearing; and
  5. the PTIO may submit a reply brief, responding to the answer brief of the Covered Person.
- h. The PTIO and/or Covered Person may rely on any and all information and evidence gathered at any time prior to the filing of their written brief. After filing their written brief, additional information or evidence may only be relied on with the permission of the AHO, who, if permission is granted, shall ensure that the other party has a suitable opportunity to respond. The PTIO may at any time in proceedings apply to the AHO for permission to amend the charges with which the Covered Person has been charged.
- i. An AHO may at any time, on an application by a party, order consolidation of separate proceedings under the Program if the AHO is satisfied that it is appropriate and in the interests of the fair and efficient management of proceedings to do so.
- j. The AHO may, at any time prior to issuing a Decision, request that an additional investigation be conducted into any matter reasonably related to the alleged Corruption Offense. If the AHO requests such an additional investigation, the TIU shall conduct the investigation in accordance with the AHO's directions and shall report the findings of that investigation to the AHO and the Covered Person implicated in the alleged Corruption Offense at least ten days prior to the Hearing. If the Covered Person wishes

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to object to, or raise any issues in connection with, such additional investigation, he or she may do so by written submission to the AHO.

**2. Conduct of Hearings**

- a. Hearings shall be conducted on a confidential basis. Unless the AHO orders otherwise for good cause shown by a party, each Hearing shall take place in either Miami, Florida, USA or London, England, as determined by the AHO.
- b. The Covered Person shall have the right (i) to be present and to be heard at the Hearing and (ii) to be represented at the Hearing, at his or her expense, by legal counsel. The Covered Person may choose not to appear at the Hearing, but rather to provide a written submission for consideration by the AHO, in which case the AHO shall take such submission into account in making his or her Decision. However, the non-attendance of the Covered Person or his or her representative at the Hearing, after proper notice of the Hearing has been provided, shall not prevent the AHO from proceeding with the Hearing in his or her absence, whether or not any written submissions are made on his or her behalf.
- c. The procedures followed at the Hearing shall be at the discretion of the AHO, provided that the Hearing shall be conducted in a fair manner with a reasonable opportunity for each party to present evidence (including the right to call and to question witnesses), address the AHO and present his, her or its case.
- d. The PTIO shall make arrangements to have the Hearing recorded or transcribed at the PTIO expense. If requested by the Covered Person, the PTIO shall also arrange for an interpreter to attend the Hearing, at the PTIO expense.
- e. Witness testimony presented in person or by video conference is acceptable.
- f. The TIB as well as PTIO members shall be permitted to attend all hearings, in person or by audio or video conference.

**3. Burdens and Standards of Proof**

- a. The PTIO (which may be represented by legal counsel at the Hearing) shall have the burden of establishing that a Corruption Offense has been committed. The standard of proof shall be

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whether the PTIO has established the commission of the alleged Corruption Offense by a preponderance of the evidence.

- b. Where this Program places the burden of proof upon the Covered Person alleged to have committed a Corruption Offense to rebut a presumption or establish facts or circumstances, the standard of proof shall be by a preponderance of the evidence.
- c. The AHO shall not be bound by any jurisdiction's judicial rules governing the admissibility of evidence. Instead, facts relating to a Corruption Offense may be established by any reliable means, as determined in the sole discretion of the AHO.

4. Decisions

- a. Once the parties have made their submissions, the AHO shall determine whether a Corruption Offense has been committed. Where Section H of this Program specifies a range of possible sanctions for the Corruption Offense found to have been committed, the AHO shall also fix the sanction within that range, after considering any submissions on the subject that the parties may wish to make.
- b. The AHO shall issue a Decision in writing as soon as possible after the conclusion of the Hearing. Such Decision will be sent to the parties and shall set out and explain:
  - i. the AHO's findings as to what Corruption Offenses, if any, have been committed;
  - ii. the sanctions applicable, if any, as a result of such findings; and
  - iii. the rights of appeal applicable pursuant to Section I of this Program.
- c. The TIU shall pay all costs and expenses of the AHO and of staging the Hearing. The AHO shall not have the power to award costs or make any costs order against a Covered Person or the PTIO. Each party shall bear its own costs, legal, expert and otherwise.
- d. Subject only to (i) section F.3.d and (ii) the rights of appeal under Section I, of this Program, the AHO's Decision shall be the full, final and complete disposition of the matter and will be binding on all parties. If the AHO determines that a Corruption Offense

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has been committed, the TIB will publicly report the Decision in full, subject to any necessary redaction of information that the PTIO considers to be confidential.

**H. Sanctions**

1. The penalty for any Corruption Offense shall be determined by the AHO in accordance with the procedures set forth in Section G, and may include:
  - a. With respect to any Player, (i) a fine of up to \$250,000 plus an amount equal to the value of any winnings or other amounts received by such Covered Person in connection with any Corruption Offense, (ii) ineligibility from Participation in any Sanctioned Events for a period of up to three years unless permitted under Section H.1.c, and (iii) with respect to any violation of Section D.1, clauses (d)-(j) Section D.2. and Section F ineligibility from Participation in any Sanctioned Events for a maximum period of permanent ineligibility unless permitted under Section H.1.c.
  - b. With respect to any Related Person or Tournament Support Person, (i) a fine of up to \$250,000 plus an amount equal to the value of any winnings or other amounts received by such Covered Person in connection with any Corruption Offense; (ii) ineligibility from Participation in any Sanctioned Events for a period of not less than one year, and (iii) with respect to any violation of clauses (c)-(i) of Section D.1, ineligibility from Participation in any Sanctioned Events for a maximum period of permanent ineligibility.
  - c. A Player who has been declared ineligible from Participation in a Sanctioned Event shall be permitted to receive accreditation or otherwise access a Sanctioned Event if invited to do so by any Governing Body for the purpose of any authorized anti-gambling or anti-corruption education or rehabilitation program organized or sanctioned by that Governing Body.
  - d. No Player who has been declared ineligible shall, during the period of ineligibility, be credited with any ranking points for any competition played during the period of ineligibility.
2. The TIU may report information regarding an investigation to the TIB and the PTIO at any time.

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3. The TIB may report Corruption Offenses that also violate non-sporting laws and regulations to the competent administrative, professional or judicial authorities.
4. If any Covered Person commits a Corruption Offense under this program during a period of ineligibility, it shall be treated as a separate Corruption Offense under this Program.
5. If a Covered Person breaches the terms of any sanction applied by an AHO under this Program or a sanction applied or upheld by CAS, the case shall be referred back to the AHO who imposed the original sanction, who may, at their discretion, impose an additional sanction. The AHO shall also determine whether further written submissions or a further Hearing are required.
6. Substantial Assistance. The AHO may reduce any period of ineligibility, either at the time of the original decision or subsequently (by reconvening), if the Covered Person has provided substantial assistance to the PTIO or the TIU that results in the discovery or establishing of a Corruption Offense by another Covered Person. Upon application by the Covered Person pursuant to this provision, the AHO shall establish an appropriate procedure for consideration of the application, including the opportunity for the Covered Person and the PTIO to make submissions regarding the application. The AHO has complete discretion in consideration of an application for reduction of a penalty under this provision.

**I. Appeals**

1. Any Decision (i) that a Corruption Offense has been committed, (ii) that no Corruption Offense has been committed, (iii) imposing sanctions for a Corruption Offense, or (iv) that the AHO lacks jurisdiction to rule on an alleged Corruption Offense or its sanctions, may be appealed exclusively to CAS in accordance with CAS's Code of Sports-Related Arbitration and the special provisions applicable to the Appeal Arbitration Proceedings, by either the Covered Person who is the subject of the Decision being appealed, or the PTIO.
2. Any Decision appealed to CAS shall remain in effect while under appeal unless CAS orders otherwise.
3. The deadline for filing an appeal with CAS shall be twenty business days from the date of receipt of the Decision by the appealing party.

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4. The decision of CAS shall be final, non-reviewable, non-appealable and enforceable. No claim, arbitration, lawsuit or litigation concerning the dispute shall be brought in any other court or tribunal.

**J. Conditions of Reinstatement**

1. Once a Covered Person's period of ineligibility or suspension has expired and the Covered Person has paid all fines and/or prize money forfeitures, the Covered Person will become automatically eligible and no application by the Covered Person for reinstatement will be necessary.
2. All fines and/or prize money forfeitures imposed on players hereunder must be paid within thirty (30) days following the later of the receipt of an AHO decision or, if appealed to CAS, the receipt of the CAS decision. If not paid within the prescribed timeframe, the player shall be ineligible for participation in any event organized or sanctioned by any Governing Body until such time as the fine and/or prize money forfeitures have been paid in full. The AHO and the PTIO shall have the discretion to establish an installment plan for payment of any fines and/or prize money forfeitures. For the avoidance of doubt, the schedule of payments pursuant to such plan may extend beyond any period of ineligibility; however, a default in payment under such plan shall automatically trigger a period of ineligibility until such default is cured.

**K. General**

1. No action may be commenced under this Program against any Covered Person for any Corruption Offense unless such action is commenced within either (i) eight years from the date that the Corruption Offense allegedly occurred or (ii) two years after the discovery of such alleged Corruption Offense, whichever is later.
2. Section headings within this Program are for the purpose of guidance only and do not form part of the Program itself. Nor do they inform or affect the language of the provisions to which they refer.
3. This Program shall be governed in all respects (including, but not limited to, matters concerning the arbitrability of disputes) by the laws of the State of Florida, without reference to conflict of laws principles.
4. In the event any provision of this Program is determined invalid or unenforceable, the remaining provisions shall not be affected. This Program shall not fail because any part of this Program is held invalid.

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5. Except as otherwise stated herein, failure to exercise or enforce any right conferred by the Program shall not be deemed to be a waiver of any such right nor operate so as to bar the exercise or enforcement thereof or of any other right on any other occasion.
6. This Program is applicable prospectively to Corruption Offenses occurring on or after the date that this Program becomes effective. Corruption Offenses occurring before the effective date of this Program are governed by the former rules of the Governing Bodies which were applicable on the date that such Corruption Offense occurred.
7. Except as otherwise agreed to by the parties, all filings, Decisions, Hearings and appeals shall be issued or conducted in English.



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**Appendix 1**

Grand Slam Tournaments (Excluding the Junior Competition)

ATP World Tour Finals

ATP World Tour Masters 1000

ATP World Tour 500

ATP World Tour 250

ATP Challenger Tour Tournaments

WTA Finals

WTA Elite Trophy

WTA Premier and International Tournaments

WTA 125K Series

ITF Pro Circuit Tournaments

Davis Cup

Fed Cup

Hopman Cup

Olympic Tennis Event

Any new tournament introduced by any one of the Governing Bodies must be agreed by the Tennis Integrity Board.

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