

ITF PRO CIRCUIT CODE OF CONDUCT 2017

RULE CHANGES

ARTICLE II, MEN'S PLAYER ENTRY OFFENCES

B. ENTRY OFFENCES

1. Late Withdrawal / No Show

Any withdrawal from a player accepted into the Main Draw or Qualifying that occurs after the Withdrawal Deadline shall be considered a late withdrawal and will be penalised unless:

- The player has complied with the provisions of section V. and VI. Entries and Withdrawals of the ITF Men's Circuit regulations;
- a player who is on the Qualifying Acceptance List but who is still playing in another ITF Men's Circuit or ATP tournament at the time of the Qualifying sign-in deadline, provided the player withdraws before the Qualifying sign-in closes;
- a player who is on the Qualifying Acceptance List but who is still playing in another "qualified" ITF Men's Circuit or ATP tournament and who applies for a Special Exempt position, but where such Special Exempt position is not available for the player;
- a player who qualifies for entry or receives a Wild Card into the Qualifying or Main Draw of a Grand Slam tournament, provided the player withdraws before the Qualifying sign-in deadline.
- the provisions of section V.E. Playing Another Event / One Tournament per Week apply.

Players who have been subject to Automatic Withdrawals will not be fined.

F. REMISSION OF FINES

Under extraordinary circumstances a player has the right to appeal a Late Withdrawal or No Show fine to the ITF Internal Adjudication Panel provided such appeal is filed within ten (10) days of the last day of the tournament. Such extraordinary circumstances must be substantiated by documentation. There shall be no right of appeal from the ITF Internal Adjudication Panel's decision.

H. APPEALS

Any player found to have committed an Entry Offence may, after paying all fines as above provided, appeal to the ITF Internal Adjudication Panel, which shall determine the matter in accordance with its Procedural Rules (save that there shall be no right of appeal against the ITF Internal Adjudication Panel's decision).

ARTICLE III, WOMEN'S PLAYER ENTRY OFFENCES

B. ENTRY OFFENCES

3. Extraordinary circumstances

Under extraordinary circumstances a player has the right to appeal a Late Withdrawal or No Show fine to the ITF Internal Adjudication Panel provided such appeal is filed within ten (10) days of the last day of the tournament. Such extraordinary circumstances must be substantiated by documentation. There shall be no right of appeal from the ITF Internal Adjudication Panel's decision.

G. APPEALS

Any player found to have committed an Entry Offence may, after paying all fines as provided above, appeal to the ITF Internal Adjudication Panel, which shall determine the matter in accordance with its Procedural Rules (save that there shall be no right of appeal against the ITF Internal Adjudication Panel's decision).

ARTICLE IV, PLAYER ON-SITE OFFENCES

A. GENERAL

Every player shall, during all matches and at all times while within the precincts of the site of an ITF Pro Circuit Tournament and/or Official Tournament Hotel, conduct himself/herself in a professional manner. The provisions hereinafter set forth shall apply to each player's conduct while within the precincts of each such site.

C. DRESS AND EQUIPMENT

3. Identification

b. ITF Women's Circuit tournaments

A total of one (1) WTA patch may be worn on a player's clothing (including hats, headband, wristband etc.) during the match.

W. APPEALS

Any player found to have committed an On-Site Offence may, after paying all fines as provided above, appeal to the ITF Internal Adjudication Panel, which shall determine the matter in accordance with its Procedural Rules (save that there shall be no right of appeal against the ITF Internal Adjudication Panel's decision).

ARTICLE V, PLAYER MAJOR OFFENCES

C. DETERMINATION AND PENALTY

The ITF will investigate all facts concerning any alleged Major Offence. All Players and Related Persons must cooperate fully with such investigations. The ITF may make a written demand to a Player or Related Person (a "Demand") to furnish to the ITF any information that may evidence or lead to the discovery of evidence of a Major Offence, including (without limitation) requiring the Player or other Related Person to attend an interview and/or to provide a written statement setting forth his/her knowledge of the relevant facts and circumstances. The Player or Related Person must furnish such information within seven business days of the making of such Demand, or within such other deadline as may be specified by the ITF.

Where, as the result of an investigation under this Article VI.C, the ITF forms the view that a Player or Related Person has a case to answer for commission of a Major Offence, the ITF shall refer the matter to the Review Board.

Review Board

The ITF shall identify one or more individuals who are independent of the ITF and who have the expertise required by the nature of the particular case to form the Review Board and to review the evidence to determine whether there is a case to answer. The ITF shall send the entire dossier of evidence to the Review Board member(s). Where necessary, the Review Board may request that the ITF provide additional information for the Review Board's consideration. There shall be no obligation for the Review Board to meet in person to deliberate. However, any decision by the Review Board that the Player or other Person has a case to answer must be unanimous.

Where the Review Board concludes that there is no case to answer, then the ITF shall notify the Player or Related Person and any other party with a right of appeal, and (subject to the rights of appeal) the matter shall not proceed any further.

When the Review Board determines that a Player or Related Person has a case to answer, the ITF will send a written notice to the Player or Related Person (the "Notice of Charge"), with a copy to the Chairman of the Independent Tribunal, setting out:

(a) the Major Offence(s) alleged to have been committed, a summary of the facts upon which such allegations are based;

(b) the potential consequences applicable if it is determined that the alleged Major Offence has been committed; and

(c) the Player or Related Person's entitlement to respond to the Notice of Charge in one of the following ways:

(i) to admit the Major Offence(s) charged, and accede to the consequences specified in the Notice of Charge;

(ii) to admit the Major Offence (s) charged, but to dispute and/or seek to mitigate the consequences specified in the Notice of Charge, and to have the Independent Tribunal determine the consequences at a hearing; or

(iii) to deny the Major Offence (s) charged, and to have the Independent Tribunal determine the charge and (if the charge is upheld) any consequences, at a hearing;

(d) if the Player or Related Person wishes to exercise his/her right to a hearing before the Independent Tribunal, he/she must submit a written request for such a hearing so that it is received by the ITF as soon as possible, but in any event within 10 days of the Player or Related Person's receipt of the Notice. The request must also state how the Player or Related Person responds to the charge in the Notice and must explain (in summary form) the basis for such response. In the event no such response is received by that deadline, the Player or Related Person will be deemed to have admitted the Major Offence(s) charged, and to have acceded to the consequences specified in the Notice of Charge.

In the event that the ITF withdraws the Notice of Charge, or the Player or Related Person admits the Major Offence (s) charged and accedes to the consequences specified by the ITF (or is deemed to have done so), a hearing before the Independent Tribunal shall not be required. Instead the ITF shall promptly issue a decision confirming (as applicable) its withdrawal of the Notice of Charge or the commission of the Major Offence(s) and the imposition of the specified consequences, and shall send a copy of the decision to the Player or Related Person.

Provisional Suspension

If (and only if):

(a) the Player or Related Person has pleaded guilty to, or otherwise admitted (for example, in response to a Notice of Charge) engaging in, conduct that constitutes a Major Offence; and

(b) the Review Board has completed its review and has concluded that the Player or Related Person in question has a case to answer in respect of that Major Offence;

then the ITF may notify the Player in writing that he/she will be Provisionally Suspended with effect from the date 10 days after the date of deemed receipt of the notice, pending a full hearing. However, the ITF shall at the same time notify the Player or Related Person of his/her right, at his/her election, to make an application to the Chairman of the Independent Tribunal convened to hear his/her case, either immediately or at any time prior to the full hearing, for an order that the Provisional Suspension should not be imposed (or, if the Provisional Suspension has been imposed, that it should be vacated). The Chairman of the Independent Tribunal, sitting alone, will rule on the application as soon as reasonably practicable.

A Player or Related Person may not, during the period of any Provisional Suspension, play, coach or otherwise participate in any capacity in the Competition.

Hearing

If the Player or Related Person charged exercises his/her right to a hearing, the matter shall be referred to the Independent Tribunal and shall be resolved in accordance with the Independent Tribunal's Procedural Rules.

ARTICLE VIII, TOURNAMENT OFFENCES

A. APPLICABILITY

This Article shall apply to each ITF Pro Circuit Tournament and Applicant.

E. ITF PRO CIRCUIT RULES

No ITF Pro Circuit Tournament shall violate any provisions of these ITF Pro Circuit Rules. Violation of this Section shall subject the tournament to withdrawal of sanction, a fine up to \$5,000 and/or forfeiture of all sums, if any, previously paid to the ITF.

G. DETERMINATION AND PENALTY

The ITF shall cause an investigation to be made of all facts concerning any alleged Tournament Offence by an ITF Pro Circuit Tournament and shall provide written notice of such investigation to the tournament involved. The tournament shall be given at least ten (10) days to provide to the ITF, directly or through counsel, such evidence as the tournament deems to be relevant to the investigation. Where, as the result of an investigation the ITF forms the view that a tournament has a case to answer for commission of a Tournament Offence, the ITF shall refer the matter to the Internal Adjudication Panel, which shall determine the matter in accordance with its Procedural Rules.

I. APPEALS

Any ITF Pro Circuit Tournament found to have committed a Tournament Offence may, after paying all fines as above provided, appeal the decision of the Internal Adjudication Panel to the Independent Tribunal, which shall determine the matter in accordance with its Procedural Rules.