

XI. CASES AND DECISIONS

Administration

Tournament Week Change Request

Case: A tournament, scheduled and announced for a Saturday final, during the week requests to move the final to Sunday (no weather issues), is this allowed? **Decision:** Unless weather or other unavoidable circumstances cause the tournament to be extended to Sunday then no change to the original approved schedule may be made.

Special Event Request

Case: May a player, who is not a Commitment Player after losing, retiring or withdrawing from the qualifying, play in a special event held the following week-end?

Decision: Yes. However, the player must still ask for and receive a release from the Supervisor prior to participating in such special event. (Also see provisions listed in section 7.06 One Tournament Per Week and Exception)

Case: A player withdraws on-site from singles before his first singles match but is still in doubles. Is he eligible for first round prize money compensation if all other conditions are met?

Decision: Yes. The player may collect the on-site prize money if he is still competing in the doubles of that tournament as long as he receives medical clearance prior to the doubles match. The doubles match cannot be on the same day as his withdrawal or on the day of his scheduled singles match.

Case: A player withdraws from singles before his first singles match and collects on site prize money. Can he play a special event or another tennis event that week?

Decision: No. Once a player withdraws he cannot continue or participate in any other event that week; whether he collects the on-site prize money compensation or not.

Case: A player withdraws on site and collects prize money. Is he allowed to do the same at the next tournament he's entered in.

Decision: No. A player is not allowed to collect prize money when withdrawing on-site at two consecutive tournaments. A player must compete in a tournament before being allowed to collect prize money at another event.

Case: A player withdraws on site and receives prize money at an ATP Challenger Tour tournament. Subsequently, he withdraws on site and receives prize money at an ATP Tour tournament. Is the player allowed to withdraw on site and receive prize money at another ATP Challenger Tour or ATP Tour tournament?

Decision: No. Once the player has withdrawn on site and received prize money at any two, non-consecutive ATP Tour or ATP Challenger Tour tournaments, he has used his 2 tournament limit for the year and is not eligible to receive prize money for any future on-site withdrawal at an ATP World Tour or ATP Challenger Tour tournament in that calendar year.

Case: A player is out of competition for 30 days after retiring or withdrawing due to injury. Is he eligible to receive prize money if he

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withdraws on-site after being out the 30 consecutive days since his retirement/withdrawal?

Decision: No. *The player is only eligible for the provision to receive prize money for an on-site withdrawal after he has returned to competition and competed in his first event.*

Case: *A player using a protected ranking for entry withdraws on site and collects prize money. Does this tournament count towards the total number of tournaments the player has used with his protected ranking?*

Decision: Yes.

Case: *If a player qualifies, accepts a special exempt or accepts a wild card and becomes a main draw player, can he receive on-site prize money if otherwise eligible?*

Decision: Yes. *Once he is accepted into the main draw as a qualifier, special exempt or wild card, he can receive on-site prize money compensation if otherwise eligible.*

Case: *A player who is not on-site withdraws after the 12 noon, Friday deadline and comes on-site to do promotional activity or to be medically examined (Challengers) in order to avoid the applicable penalties. Is he eligible for first round prize money compensation?*

Decision: No. *The player must be on-site at the time of the withdrawal in order to be eligible for first round prize money compensation under the rule.*

Case: *May a player who withdraws on-site and otherwise qualifies, decline the first round prize money?*

Decision: Yes, *the player may decline to accept the money and then it becomes a normal on-site withdrawal.*

Case: *A player is an on-site withdrawal and wants to wait to decide whether or not to accept the first round prize money if otherwise eligible. Is the player allowed to wait?*

Decision: No. *The player must declare his intent at the time of the on-site withdrawal.*

Case: *A main draw player that would have been seeded with a bye withdraws on-site after the Qualifying started but before the main draw was done. He is eligible for compensation. Does he get 1st or 2nd round PM compensation?*

Decision: *The player receives 1st round PM compensation. Seeding is not official until the draw is made.*

Case: *A main draw player withdraws late after the Qualifying has started and travels to the tournament site to perform Promotional Activities to avoid the LW fine. Is he eligible for prize money compensation?*

Decision: *The player is not eligible for compensation as he was not on-site when the withdrawal was done.*

Case: *During Qualifying 2 players withdraw from the main draw list. One player was on-site and eligible for compensation while the other player was not on-site or otherwise ineligible to receive prize money. Neither player was seeded with a Bye. How is it decided what PM will the LL's be receiving?*

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Decision:

1. The lucky loser who was drawn as the number 1 LL is eligible to receive first round prize money or whatever money he earns in the main draw. He does not keep the final round qualifying money.
2. The lucky loser who was drawn as number 2 LL receives final round qualifying money plus money earned in main draw, less the amount paid to the withdrawing player.
3. The same principle applies if there were more than two withdrawing players prior to the completion of the qualifying or the qualifiers being placed in the draw.

Case: A seeded main draw player with a Bye withdraws on-site after the Qualifying started, the main draw has been made and the player is eligible to collect 2nd round prize money compensation. The order of play for the first day has not been released and the next seeded player who did not receive a Bye moves into that position. How is the prize money distributed?

Decision: The seeded player moving to the bye position will receive first round prize money if he loses and first round prize money plus the difference between 2nd round and the round reached if he wins. The LL inserted in the draw receives final round qualifying money plus prize money earned in main draw less the 1st round prize money.

Case: Same situation as above, however the order of play for the first day has been released.

Decision: If a qualifier is drawn into the bye position he will receive first round prize money if he loses and first round prize money plus the difference between 2nd round and the round reached if he wins. The lucky loser who was drawn into the 1st round position receives final round qualifying money plus money earned in main draw, less the 1st round money paid to the qualifier drawn into the bye position.

Case: Two main draw players withdraw overnight after the Qualifying has finished. The Qualifiers were drawn into their respective positions in the draw. The Order of Play for the first day of main draw is released. One of the withdrawing players was seeded with a bye. The LL's are drawn into the vacant position in the draw. The second LL is drawn to replace the seeded player with the bye. How is the prize money decided if the withdrawing players have received compensation?

Decision: The LL's receive PM dependent on which player they were drawn to replace in the draw. This is a different procedure than the cases when the WD's happen before the Q is finished and the Q/LL's inserted into the draw.

Entries – Advance & On-Site

From Q to Main Draw of another event

Case: May a player who is a direct acceptance to an ATP Tour qualifying event be withdrawn to move into the main draw of an ATP Tour 250 or ATP Tour 500 event as a Direct Acceptance or Wild Card which is held in the same week?

Decision: Yes, as long as the first ball of the qualifying at the tour-

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nement where he is in the qualifying draw has not been struck.

Withdrawing Main Draw to Play Qualifying

Case: *May a player withdraw BDA from the main draw alternate list of an ATP Tour Event and remain on and/or play the same event?*

Decision: *Yes, unless he would have moved into the main draw of that event, had he not withdrawn. A player may not turn down this main draw position to play the qualifying of that event.*

Case: *May a player withdraw BDA from the main draw alternate list of an ATP Tour or Challenger event and play the Qualifying of the same event?*

Decision: *Yes, unless he would have moved into the main draw of that event, had he not withdrawn. A player may not turn down this main draw position to play the qualifying of that event. He may, however, play the Qualifying of a different event.*

Moving from Qualifying to Main Draw at Another Event

Case: *May a player who is accepted to play qualifying in an ATP Challenger Tour Tournament, ATP Tour 250 or ATP Tour 500 be withdrawn to move into the main draw singles of an ATP Tour 250 or ATP Tour 500 event as a Direct Acceptance or as a Wild Card which is held the same week?*

Decision: *Yes, as long as the first ball of the qualifying at the tournament where he is in the qualifying draw has not been struck.*

ADVANCE ENTRY QUALIFYING

Case: *How are vacancies handled for ATP Tour qualifying events if there are no eligible players remaining on the Advanced Entry list and there are not enough players who signed the Friday On Site Alternate list to fill the draw?*

Decision: *If there are no eligible players remaining on the Advanced Entry list and there are not enough players who signed the Friday On Site Alternate list to fill the draw then Byes should be awarded to the seeded players by ranking order. Any additional vacancies occurring after the draw will be filled from the "day of" Alternate sign-in list.*

Player Pulled from ATP Tour 500 or 250 Qualifying

Case: *An ATP Tour 500 and an ATP Tour 250 or a different ATP Tour 250 or 500 event are being held the same week. Can a player inside the original cut of the ATP Tour 250 or 500 qualifying list be withdrawn in order to be moved into the main draw of the ATP Tour 250 or 500 or a different ATP Tour 500 or 250 event or accept a wild card*

Decision: *Yes*

Withdrawing from Qualifying to Play Main Draw Doubles at Another Event

Case: *May a player who is direct acceptance in the singles qualifying event of an ATP Tour 250 or ATP Tour 500 enter through the Advance Entry system and become a direct acceptance into the main draw doubles of another ATP Tour 250 or ATP Tour 500 event which is held the same week?*

Decision: *No. Once a player enters and is accepted into the*

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Qualifying of an ATP Tour Tournament, he is committed to that tournament unless he moves into the main draw singles of another ATP Tour event. However, a player who competes and loses in the singles qualifying competition may enter the doubles event of any tournament, provided he has lost prior to the respective tournament's on-site doubles sign-in deadline.

Withdrawing from Qualifying to play Main Draw Doubles at the same event.

Case: *May a player who is included in the singles qualifying event of an ATP Challenger Tour Tournament, ATP Tour 250 or ATP Tour 500 and is forced to withdraw, be allowed to come back and play doubles at the same event?*

Decision: *Yes*

Case: *A player withdraws from an ATP Tour tournament prior to the Friday, 12 noon deadline with injury. He is allowed to play doubles in the same event provided he is determined to be physically capable to compete. Since he is coming on-site to play doubles, does he have to do promotional activity?*

Decision: *No, however, he is required to complete his Stars requirements if requested by ATP staff.*

Emailed Doubles Entry

Case: *The Supervisor/Referee is sent a doubles entry via email. The email was not seen by the Supervisor/Referee until after the entry deadline. The date/time of the email show that it was received prior to the deadline. Is this a valid entry?*

Decision: *No. To be considered as a valid entry the official at the site of the doubles event (Supervisor, Referee or Tour Manager) must have actually viewed the email. The same decision would be made on undelivered faxes or an entry left on voice mail.*

Note: *Proper procedure for any emailed or faxed entries would be to ask for a confirmation from the person to whom the entry was sent. Barring confirmation, you should make personal contact prior to the entry deadline.*

Sunday Start for Qualifying

Case: *The qualifying event begins on Sunday, how does this affect players being signed in coming from the previous week's event?*

Decision: *The criteria for signing players in from other events is adjusted by one day, i.e. a player losing on Wednesday on a different continent is not eligible to be signed in when the next event's qualifying begins on Sunday*

Can I Play Both?

Case: *A player is playing a doubles match on the Friday night before a Saturday start to Qualifying that will not finish before 9 p.m. local time at the following week's tournament. The next tournament is 2-3 hours traveling time and because the doubles semi-finals is scheduled for Saturday night, it is feasible for the player to drive between the two locations so that he could compete in the qualifying singles and still play the doubles semi-final should he win on Friday night. Can he be signed in for the singles qualifying or if an ATP Tour event, remain a direct acceptance?*

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Decision: Yes. The Saturday night doubles match (which cannot be a result of special scheduling) makes this possible for the player. Appropriate penalties apply if the player does not appear for his qualifying match or his doubles semi-final match, if he wins Friday night.

Players Miss Sign-In

Case: Players cannot be at the qualifying sign-in on time because of circumstances beyond their control. If the Supervisor is satisfied that the players were not at fault, may he sign them in?

Decision: No. However, the tournament does have the option of giving wild cards to such player(s).

Sign Me In

Case: A player loses a match after 9 p.m. on Friday night but before the following weeks qualifying draw has been made. May he be signed in to the qualifying?

Decision: No. He may, however, be offered and accept a wild card into the qualifying.

Potential Special Exempt & Preserving Eligibility

Case: A player is a potential special exempt for one or more Challenger tournaments. Can he also preserve his eligibility on an alternate list?

Decision: Yes. A player who is a possible special exempt may also preserve his eligibility on an alternate list, however the player may only preserve his eligibility on one list.

NOTE: If he preserves his eligibility on a list and gets in that main draw before he has completed his match for the special exempt spot, he would be removed as a possible special exempt. Conversely, if he wins his match and thus becomes the special exempt before he is accepted in the main draw from the alternate list, his name would be removed from eligibility on the alternate list. He is obligated to compete at whichever tournament he gets in the main draw first.

Case: May a player use his Protected Ranking to preserve eligibility for a Challenger tournament?

Decision: Yes, but only if he was on the original alternate list with his Protected Ranking.

Too Many Players Sign-In

Case: The Tournament Director wants to increase the size of the qualifying to accommodate all of the players who have appeared on-site for the qualifying sign-in. Can he do this?

Decision: No. The size of the qualifying draw may not be increased.

Whom To Fine?

Case: Player A and player B agree to play doubles together in a tournament, so player B signs the team in to play. On Monday, player A withdraws from singles and consequently from doubles. As player A does not come on-site for promotional activities, he is aware that he will get a withdrawal penalty for singles. What penalties apply to the doubles team?

Decision: Player A gets a fine for doubles while player B does not

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as he is on-site. Even if player B was not on-site, he would not be penalized as he did not cause the withdrawal.

Note: If player A and player B were only playing doubles and if player A denies agreeing to play with player B then both players are penalized with a fine unless one of the team accepts responsibility for signing the team in.

Withdrawing and Then Accepting Wild Card in Same Event

Case: May a player withdraw from a tournament where he is a Direct Acceptance in singles or doubles (with his regular or protected ranking) and then accept a wild card into the same tournament?

Decision: Yes, provided the withdrawal is prior to the withdrawal deadline, a player may withdraw from a tournament and then accept a wild card into the same tournament. For doubles, the wild card must be with his original partner. He cannot accept a wild card nor play in any other tournament or event in the same week as the tournament he withdrew from. (Tour Policy)

Case: A player accepted in an ATP Tour, ATP Challenger Tour main draw or ATP Tour Qualifying list using a PR withdraws prior to the withdrawal deadline and accepts a WC into the same event. Does this tournament count towards the total tournaments the player can use his PR at?

Decision: No, this tournament will not count towards the player's total of tournaments.

Two Chances

Case: Can a player who loses in the qualifying receive a wild card into the main draw?

Decision: No.

Wild Card After ATP Tour Qualifying Withdrawal

Case: A player withdraws from the qualifying of an ATP Tour tournament on Friday because he is still competing in an ATP Challenger Tour tournament. The player is offered a wild card in another ATP Challenger Tour event to be held the following week. May the player accept the wild card or do the provisions of "No Play After Late Withdrawal" apply?

Decision: The player is allowed to accept the wild card. Because the player was competing in a qualified event on the Friday, he is allowed to withdraw from the ATP Tour qualifying event without penalty and therefore it is not considered as a "Late Withdrawal".

Wild Card Pulled from Challenger Qualifying

Case: After a Challenger qualifying draw has been made but before that Challenger qualifying competition has officially begun, may a player who is included in that qualifying draw be offered and accept a wild card into that or another tournament's main draw?

Decision: Yes. As long as the qualifying competition has not begun (first ball is struck), a player may accept a wild card into the main draw of any ATP Tour or ATP Challenger Tour tournament and be withdrawn from that qualifying event. The vacancy created in the qualifying shall be filled by an eligible alternate.

Unused Wild Cards

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Case: A tournament elects not to use all of its main draw singles wild cards. How are these spots filled?

Decision: If the qualifying has not begun, the next player on the acceptance list is moved into the main draw. If qualifying has begun, a lucky loser is to be inserted into the main draw.

Top 50 Player Refused Main Draw Wild Card, Wants to Play Qualifying

Case: A player ranked between 11 and 50 asks for a wild card into a \$75,000/€64,000* ATP Challenger Tour and is denied by the tournament. The player then signs in for the qualifying. Is he allowed to play qualifying?

**Plus Hospitality*

Decision: He is allowed to play only if the tournament grants him a wild card into the qualifying. The WC, however, will not count against the maximum allowed number of 11-50 players for the tournament.

Player Drops Out of Top 50 Prior to Qualifying

Case: A player ranked 11-50 at the time of the entry deadline asks for a wild card into a \$75,000/€64,000* ATP Challenger Tour and is denied by the tournament. The player then drops below 50 and he signs in for the qualifying. Is he allowed to play qualifying?

**Plus Hospitality*

Decision: Yes. Since his ranking dropped below 50, he is allowed to sign in and play qualifying and does not need a wild card.

Case: May a player who was ranked in the 11-50 range at the time of the entry deadline into a 75K no H or 50K +H event, but whose ranking falls below this at the time of the qualifying sign-in, be accepted into the event as a main draw or qualifying wild card or sign-in for the qualifying event?

Decision: No. The rule under 7.07 A 3) states that these players are prohibited from entering, accepting a wild card or competing in an ATP Challenger Tour tournament offering less than \$75,000/€64,000 in on-site prize money plus Hospitality.

May I Accept a Challenger Wild Card after Losing in an ATP Tour Qualifying?

Case: Can a Tournament Director at a Challenger, which is held in the same week as an ATP event, request permission to offer a main draw wild card to a player who has lost in the qualifying of the ATP Tour event?

Decision: No. A player may only compete in one tournament per week.

May I Play Grand Slam Qualifying After Losing in an ATP Tour tournament?

Case: Can a player lose in the main draw of an ATP event, which is held the week before a Grand Slam tournament, and be eligible to compete in the qualifying for the Grand Slam event that is held that same week?

Decision: Yes, as long as he meets the entry deadline set by the Grand Slam event. The player is not violating the one tournament

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per week rule because the main draws for the two events are in different weeks.

Entering Challenger Same Week as Nitto ATP Finals

Case: *Can a player who will possibly qualify for the Nitto ATP Finals Doubles enter a Challenger event scheduled in the same week as the Nitto ATP Finals?*

Decision: *Yes. However, if the player qualifies for the Nitto ATP Finals then he may be withdrawn, without penalty, from the Challenger event.*

May I Accept a Wild Card after Withdrawing from an ATP Tour Qualifying?

Case: *A player was still competing in a Challenger on the day before Q's started at an ATP Tour event. He wanted to withdraw from the Q's due to "still competing" and then take a wild card into a Challenger event. Is this allowed?*

Decision: *Yes. The rule states that he may withdraw without penalty from the qualifying if he is still competing on the day prior to the commencement of the qualifying. The "without penalty" would relieve him from the "No Play After Withdrawal" provisions of the rules.*

May I Sign In for Doubles after Withdrawing from an ATP Tour Qualifying?

Case: *A player was still competing on the day before Q's started at an ATP Tour event. He wanted to withdraw from the Q's due to "still competing" and then sign in for doubles at the same or other event. Is this allowed?*

Decision: *Yes. The rule states that he may withdraw without penalty from the qualifying if he is still competing on the day prior to the commencement of the qualifying. The "without penalty" would relieve him from the "No Play After Withdrawal" provisions of the rules.*

Can I Sign In?

Case: *A tournament with an advanced entry qualifying holds an Alternate Sign-In on Friday night. If a player does not sign-in on Friday night, may he sign-in on the Saturday morning Alternate sign-in sheet?*

Decision: *Yes. Following the sign-in occurring prior to the qualifying draw being made, the Alternate sign-in on the day of first round play is a new list and any player who is on-site and with an ATP ranking is eligible to sign-in.*

Unranked Players as Alternates

Case: *The tournament has used their wild card allocation. Are players without a ranking eligible to sign in as alternates?*

Decision: *No. Unranked players are only allowed into the draw as a wild card selection.*

Fill by Random or Alternative Method

Case: *After concluding the qualifying sign-in, there are not a sufficient number of players listed in the ATP Rankings or the ATP Doubles Rankings to fill the draw. If there are still additional vacancies, may the Tournament Director fill the remaining spots with players according to the local system?*

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Decision: No. Unranked players are only allowed into the draw as a wild card selection.

Sign me in if I have a “Bye”

Case: A player asks to be signed-in to the singles qualifying which begins on Saturday. He is in another tournament and is playing the doubles final scheduled for Saturday. He asks that he be signed-in if he gets a bye for Saturday, as he would not be able to play the qualifying on Saturday.

Decision: The entry for singles qualifying cannot be accepted.

Case: A player asks to be signed-in to the doubles qualifying which begins on Saturday. He is in another tournament and is playing the doubles final scheduled for Saturday. He asks that he be signed-in if he gets a bye for Saturday, as he would not be able to play the qualifying on Saturday.

Decision: The entry for doubles qualifying cannot be accepted. The player could sign-in for main draw doubles, but not for qualifying.

Case: A player enters an event using his current ranking. After the deadline, he realizes he did not get in with his current ranking and informs the Supervisor that he wants to use his protected ranking. May he do this?

Decision: No, the intent to use a protected ranking must be declared at the time of entry and cannot be declared after the deadline for the event.

Challenger Cancels, Where can I Play?

Case: A player enters and is main draw of a Challenger on the original Acceptance List. The Challenger cancels. The deadline has now passed for entering another Challenger or 250 tournament during the same week. What are the player’s options for competing that week?

Decision: The player may sign in for Qualifying at any Challenger event or sign in as an Alternate at any ATP Tour qualifying event the same week. Or he may accept, if offered, a Wild Card at any Challenger or ATP Tour event. He may not be inserted directly into the draw or placed on another Acceptance List.

Options if Tournament Changes Surface after the Entry Deadline

Case: Can a player withdraw from the main draw and play elsewhere during the same week if a tournament changes its surface after the Acceptance List has come out?

Decision: The player may sign in for Qualifying at any event that week or he may accept, if offered, a Wild Card at any Challenger or ATP Tour event. He may not be inserted directly into the draw or placed on another Acceptance List.

Only One Doubles Player Has Ranking

Case: A doubles team has one player who is listed in the ATP Rankings or ATP Doubles ranking and one player who is not. Can the team be in the doubles draw?

Decision: Since one player does not have a ranking, the only way into the draw is via a wild card.

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NOTE: The rationale for this is that all players, except Wild Cards, must be an ATP Member or registered player. Since one player of the team does not have a ranking he is not eligible to register and therefore the only way into the draw is via Wild Card.

Withdrawing from Doubles at One Event to Accept Wild in Home County Event

Case: A player who is main draw in doubles is offered a singles wild card in his home country. Can he withdraw from main draw doubles and accept the wild card opportunity into singles at another event?

Decision: Yes. He can withdraw to accept a wild card into singles only. This would be considered the same as him being accepted into the main draw singles of another ATP Tour or Challenger tournament which is allowed.

Can I Withdraw from Doubles to Accept a Singles Wild Card?

Case: A player who is main draw in doubles is offered a singles wild card into an ATP Tour or ATP Challenger Tour event. Can he withdraw from main draw doubles to accept this singles wild card at another event?

Decision: Yes. The player can withdraw from the doubles before the doubles on-site entry deadline to accept a wild card into the singles. This would be considered the same as the player being accepted into the main draw singles of another ATP Tour or ATP Challenger Tour tournament which is allowed.

Can I Sign in for Q's after Withdrawing from Doubles?

Case: A player is withdrawing from a Doubles Advanced Entry list where he is a direct acceptance. Can he sign in for the singles qualifying of another ATP or Challenger tournament that same week or play doubles somewhere else?

Decision: No. However, his partner, who was not the reason for the withdrawal, can sign in for singles qualifying or find another partner and sign-in on-site for doubles at the same or another tournament.

CASE: Which ATP Ranking is used to determine the emergency substitution rule?

DECISION: The most recent ATP Rankings is used to determine the seeding of the withdrawing players as well as the seeding of the substitute player.

CASE: If a Wild Card player will become one of the tournament's top two seeds, can a tournament switch the Wild Card to a substitute player if the Wild Card was announced?

DECISION: No, once the Wild Card has been announced, such player is not eligible to become a substitute player.

Draws

What Size Draw?

Case: At a 32 draw Challenger qualifying event, you only have 15 sign in. How do you handle the placement and distribution of seeds?

Decision: You should treat the qualifying draw as a 16 draw with one bye going to the number one (1) seeded player. This principle should be used at any draw where you have 1/2 or fewer of the number of players sign in.

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Less than 8 Players

Case: Only 7 players sign in for qualifying. There are 4 qualifying spots in the main draw. How is this handled?

Decision: The top seed is moved into the main draw, but does not receive qualifying points. The remaining 6 players play one match each to determine the remainder of the qualifiers.

Qualifier Eligible To Be Seeded

Case: A qualifier's ranking was high enough for him to be seeded in the main draw. The main draw was completed prior to the end of the qualifying event. After the player had qualified but prior to the order of play being released for the first day of main draw a seeded player withdraws. Is the qualifier eligible to be seeded?

Decision: Yes. The successful qualifier shall be accorded the same right to be seeded as the other players who have gained entry as Direct Acceptances, Wild Cards, Special Exempt etc. As per ATP rules a player may not use his Protected Ranking for seed purposes.

Remake of the Draw

Case: On Monday morning, two (2) of the four (4) seeded teams withdraw from a 16-draw doubles event. The doubles competition has not yet begun. May the draw be remade?

Decision: Yes. However, it is the option of the tournament.

Correct When Left Out of Draw

Case: After the qualifying draw has been made, it is discovered that player A, who was properly entered on the sign-in sheet, has been left out of the draw. What is the procedure to correct this mistake?

Decision:

1. If player A is unseeded, replace the last direct acceptance in the qualifying draw with player A in the draw. Follow this procedure if play has begun unless the last direct acceptance has begun his first match. If the last direct acceptance has started his first match then no correction is to be made and player A is left out of the draw.
2. If player A is seeded, then if he is one of the top four (4) seeds he replaces seed four (4) and then seed four (4) replaces seed eight (8). Seed eight (8) then replaces the last direct acceptance. If player A is to be seeded 5-8, then he shall replace seed eight (8) and then seed eight (8) replaces the last direct acceptance. The same principle is followed for larger qualifying draws where you have a greater number of seeds. If play has begun, then the Supervisor shall evaluate the impact upon the draw and correct when possible. If the last direct acceptance has begun play, then no corrections are possible.

Correcting an Error in Seeding

Case: After the event has begun, it is discovered that a tie between 2 seeded players or teams was not broken correctly. What action may be taken?

Decision: If the players or teams involved in the error have not played their first match, then the error in seeding may be corrected by switching the positions of the affected players or teams.

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Don't Have Eight Seeds

Case: In a qualifying draw, there are only seven (7) players listed in the singles or doubles ATP Rankings. Since there will not be an eighth seed, how are seeds 5-7 placed in the Draw?

Decision: Draw seeds 5, 6 and 7 for placement in sections 2, 3 and 4.

Less than 8 Players

Case: Only 7 players sign in for qualifying. There are 4 qualifying spots in the main draw. How is this handled?

Decision: The top seed is moved into the main draw, but does not receive qualifying points. The remaining 6 players play one match each to determine the remainder of the qualifiers

I'm In the Main Draw?

Case: In an ATP Challenger Tour tournament, ten (10) players withdraw prior to the entry deadline. Only eight (8) players are available from the acceptance list to fill the available places. How are the remaining places filled?

Decision: The two (2) highest-positioned players on the most recent ATP Rankings or ATP Doubles Rankings that sign in for the qualifying by 9 p.m. or who have preserved their eligibility are used to fill the two (2) remaining places in the main draw.

Note: A player is not permitted to turn down the main draw place in order to play in the qualifying.

Main Draw Seed for a Qualifier

Case: May a player who gains a place in the main draw by qualifying be seeded in the main draw?

Decision: Yes. However, if the main draw is made prior to the completion of the qualifying, then the original seeding's are final.

Who to Seed in singles Qualifying

Case: Seven (7) players listed in the ATP Rankings sign in for the singles qualifying. Two (2) other players listed in the ATP Doubles Rankings sign-in along with fifteen (15) other players. How many and which players will be seeded?

Decision: Eight (8) players. The seven (7) singles players and the highest-positioned doubles player.

Remaking the Draw

Case: A draw has to be remade. How is the remake of the draw done?

Decision: There are 2 methods for remaking a draw: (1) Retaining the original order of the chips drawn and (2) Starting from the beginning and redrawing the chips.

Retaining the original order of the chips drawn is the preferred method and is used in all cases except when the cause of the remake had to do with an issue with the chips, such as a loss of a chip; a chip being accidentally thrown back into the bowl and drawn a second time, etc. In the instance of remaking the draw retaining the original order of the chips, the following procedure is followed:

1) The Chip List (order of the names of players and/or teams) is regenerated

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2) The draw is populated using the list of chips drawn in the original order

3) No other action is taken

In the instance when the draw is remade by starting from the beginning and redrawing the chips, the following procedure is followed:

1) The Chip List (order of the names of players and/or teams) is regenerated.

2) The Chips are redrawn according to the procedures outlined in the ATP Rulebook 7.09

Where does the “No Match” go?

Case: At an ATP Tour Qualifying, the draw is made and the OP is published on Friday night. Overnight, 3 withdrawals occur. The players who withdrew were on Line 2, Line 11 and Line 13. The next morning, only 2 players sign in for the on-site alternate list leaving a “No Match” spot for the draw. How is it determined on which line the “No Match” is placed?

Decision: By random draw

Special Exempts

Potential Special Exempt Playing at 9 p.m. Friday

Case: A player is competing in the singles event of a “qualified event” on the night before the next week’s qualifying. If the player wins, he will be eligible for a special exempt. His singles match, however, will not be completed by 9 p.m. local time at the qualifying site for the next week’s tournament. How does this affect the “composition of draws” at the next week’s tournament?

Decision: The special exempt slot in the main draw shall be left available pending the result of the player’s match. The qualifying draw should be made as required at 9 p.m. unless it is prudent to wait up to an hour for the match result. If the player vying for the special exempt loses, then the unused special exempt place shall be filled by the next player on the original acceptance list*. If the next player on the original acceptance list is in the qualifying draw, then he shall be withdrawn and moves into the main draw. The vacancy created in the qualifying draw shall be filled from the qualifying alternate list.

*For ATP Challenger Tour events, the vacancy is filled with the highest ranked player from the list of those who signed in for the qualifying or properly preserved their eligibility at that event.

Potential Special Exempt Loses: After 9 p.m.

Case: A potential special exempt player loses his match at 9:15 p.m. on Friday night and he calls the qualifying sign-in site requesting that he be given a wild card into the singles qualifying competition. May a wild card be given to him for the next week’s tournament if the qualifying draw has not been made?

Decision: Yes. The wild card belongs to the tournament, which may give it to this player as long as the draw has not been made and no special scheduling is required because of the travel plans of the player.

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Potential Special Exempt Playing at Midnight Friday

Case: Same situation as above, except that the player's match is still in progress after midnight. Does this make the player eligible for a special exempt based on the fact that he was still competing on the date the qualifying competition begins in another qualified event?

Decision: No. For the purpose of the rule, competing on the date the qualifying competition begins shall be defined as: "Starting or resuming a match as part of that day's (normally Saturday) scheduled program". If the player wins the match, he is eligible to be considered for a special exempt position.

Special Exempt Awarded if Player Is in Semis?

Case: A tournament has a Saturday final and a player asks for a special exempt after he wins his quarterfinal match on Thursday. Is he eligible?

Decision: No. The player must be scheduled to play on Saturday when the day that the "qualifying is scheduled to begins".

Potential Special Exempt & Preserving Eligibility

Case: A player is a potential special exempt for one or more Challenger tournaments. Can he also preserve his eligibility on an alternate list?

Decision: Yes. A player who is a possible special exempt may also preserve his eligibility on an alternate list, however the player may only preserve his eligibility on one list.

NOTE: If he preserves his eligibility on a list and gets in that main draw before he has completed his match for the special exempt spot, he would be removed as a possible special exempt. Conversely, if he wins his match and thus becomes the special exempt before he is accepted in the main draw from the alternate list, his name would be removed from eligibility on the alternate list. He is obligated to compete at whichever tournament he gets in the main draw first.

Special Exempt Player Moved into Main Draw

Case: A player has won a position as a Special Exempt but he is also next on the Acceptance List. After the draw is made, but prior to the start of the qualifying competition, there is a late withdrawal and the player gets in due to the withdrawal. Does his status change from SE to Direct Acceptance, thus allowing the Special Exempt to go to the next player who earned the Special Exempt spot?

Decision: Yes, since the player ultimately got in because he was next on the list, this frees up the Special Exempt for the next player who earned it. If there are no Special Exempts, the list drops by the applicable number of spots

Am I kept on the Special Exempt List?

Case: A player expresses an interest in a Special Exempt spot prior to the match that will qualify him for the position and becomes a possible Special Exempt. He does not contact the Supervisor or Player Relations staff member to accept the Special Exempt within one hour after the completion of the match that qualifies him. Is he kept on the list of possible Special Exempts?

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Decision: No. If the player does not contact the Supervisor or Player Relations staff member no later than one hour following the completion of the match that qualified him, to accept the Special Exempt spot, he will be taken off the list of possible Special Exempts.

Must I Appear for Play After Accepting a Special Exempt?

Case: A player is listed as a possible Special Exempt and the Supervisor confirms with him that he is interested in the spot. There are other Special Exempt players ahead of him on the list of possible Special Exempts whose matches are scheduled after his. No later than one hour after the match that qualifies him as a Special Exempt, he informs the Supervisor or Player Relations staff member that he accepts the Special Exempt spot. If the remaining possible Special Exempt players ahead of him on the list lose their matches, thus earning him the Special Exempt spot, must he accept the Special Exempt?

Decision: Yes. Because he had accepted the Special Exempt spot within one hour after the match that qualified him, he is obligated to accept the position and shall be treated as an entered player and be subject to the appropriate penalties if he does not appear for play.

Case: Can a player with no ranking receive a Special Exempt if otherwise eligible?

Decision: No. A player must have a singles ranking or a singles protected ranking in order to be considered for a Special Exempt.

Case: May a player who has entered and been accepted into an ATP Tour Qualifying draw starting on Sunday be considered for a possible Challenger Special Exempt position for the following week?

Decision: Yes, however the player must decide on Friday within an hour after winning his match whether he will accept the Challenger SE or stay on the ATP Qualifying list. Should the player decide to accept an available Challenger SE position, he will be withdrawn from the ATP Qualifying with "still competing".

Protected Ranking

Forgot to Declare Use of Protected Ranking

Case: A player enters an event using his current ranking. After the deadline, he realizes he did not get in with his current ranking and informs the Supervisor that he wants to use his protected ranking. May he do this?

Decision: No, the intent to use a protected ranking must be declared at the time of entry and cannot be declared after the deadline for the event.

Use of Both Rankings

Case: A player has a protected singles ranking of 201, true singles ranking of 458, protected doubles ranking of 320 and true doubles ranking of 408. Can the player use his protected singles ranking to enter doubles when he has already used it to enter the singles of that tournament or does he have to use his "true" singles ranking or his protected doubles ranking?

Decision: The protected singles ranking CAN be used for entry into the doubles. It would not count against his allowed total for singles events but would count against his doubles allotment.

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Protected Ranking is for Entry, Not Seeding

Case: *May a player's protected ranking be used for seeding purposes?*

Decision: *No. The protected ranking position can be used for: 1) entry into the qualifying competition and main draw, or 2) special exempt position. It may not be used for: 1) seeding, or 2) lucky loser order.*

Alternates, Lucky Losers & Vacancies

Alternate Sign-In Procedures

Case: *The two (2) players ahead on an alternate list do not sign in 1/2 hour before the singles qualifying matches are to begin. One (1) of the players arrives on-site just before it is known that an alternate is going to be needed. Who gets in?*

Decision: *Neither of the two (2) players. In order to be eligible for substitution, an alternate must sign in before the deadline and must be ready to play within five (5) minutes of being called.*

Doubles Alternate at two tournaments?

Case: *A team signs in for doubles at two tournaments the same week. They do not get into the main draw, but are the #1 alternate at both events. The team signs the Alternate list at tournament A on Monday and Tuesday and then wants to sign the Alternate list at tournament B on Wednesday. Are they permitted to do this?*

Decision: *Yes, however, a team is only eligible to be signed in on one "live" list per day.*

Alternate Team Using Protected Ranking

Case: *A team submits an advance entry for a 250 tournament with one of the players using a protected ranking. They are among 6 teams not ranked high enough to be selected. The other 5 teams are using their best of rankings. Where is the team using the protected ranking placed on the alternate list if they are the next team in based on that ranking or the 4th highest team using their best of ranking?*

Decision: *The team using the protected ranking is placed at the top of the alternate list. Protected ranking is used for entry into a tournament either directly or as an alternate (either an advanced entry or as an on-site entry).*

Eligible for Lucky Loser

Case: *May a player or team sign the lucky loser sign-in sheet if they are not accepted into the qualifying competition?*

Decision: *No. To be eligible as a lucky loser, a player or team must have played and lost in the qualifying event.*

Extending Closing Times

Case: *The first-round singles matches are scheduled to start at 10 a.m. A steady rain is falling at 9 a.m. and it is decided to postpone the start of play until 11 a.m. should the lucky loser sign-in be extended?*

Decision: *Yes. Extend the deadline to 10:30 a.m.*

Late for Sign-In

Case: *The lucky loser Sign-in closed at 10:30. A player arrives at*

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10:45 to sign in saying that:

1. The Referee told me that the deadline would be at 11:00; or
2. Somebody on the phone said the deadline was 11:00; or
3. Tournament transportation was 45 minutes late.

Decision:

1. Allow the player to sign in. Information given by the Referee (if verified) must be honored.
2. Sign-in not allowed. Players receiving information over the phone do so at their own risk unless they speak directly to the Supervisor or Referee.
3. Sign-in not allowed. The player is responsible for arriving on time.

Which Lucky Loser to Insert?

Case: On Monday before the last singles match has gone on court, a player whose first-round singles match is scheduled for Tuesday is forced to withdraw because of injury. No one signed the lucky loser list on Monday. How is the vacancy resolved?

Decision: The vacancy should be filled from Monday's lucky loser list. However, since no one signed the lucky loser list on Monday, the vacancy shall be filled from the Tuesday lucky loser list, if any eligible players sign in. If no one signs on Tuesday, then a walkover shall be awarded.

Who Goes In?

Case: A player withdraws from the singles event on Tuesday. His singles match was not scheduled until Wednesday. There was a singles lucky loser sign-in on Tuesday. The last singles match scheduled for Tuesday has not gone on court. Is the vacancy filled from Tuesday or Wednesday's lucky loser sign-in?

Decision: Tuesday's sign-in

Partner Injured: Who May Replace Him?

Case: A player's doubles partner withdraws after the on-site sign-in deadline but before the draw is made. In looking for a new partner, is the withdrawing player's partner allowed to choose another partner from the qualifying draw?

Decision: No. The player seeking a new partner may not team with any player who is accepted into the qualifying or main doubles draw. He may re-enter with any player that he chooses as long as their combined position in the ATP Rankings qualifies them by virtue of the system of merit for doubles entries. He may not select from players who will be or who are in the qualifying draw based on the sign-in sheet.

Main Draw Vacancy Before Qualifying Starts

Case: After making the qualifying draw, a vacancy occurs in the main draw. How is the vacancy filled?

Decision: If the qualifying competition has begun, the vacancy is filled by the eligible lucky loser. If the qualifying competition has not begun, the vacancy is filled as follows:

ATP Tour events: by the next player on the original acceptance list.

ATP Challenger Tour events: the highest ranked player who signed in for the qualifying competition, including those who have

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preserved their eligibility.

Seeds Withdraw or Are Withdrawn

Case: The team seeded 4th withdraws after the draw but prior to the order of play being released for the first day of main draw. How is the vacancy filled?

Decision: For a 16 team draw, the vacancy created by the removal of a seeded team is filled by the next highest positioned team eligible to be seeded. The appropriate alternate or lucky loser team shall fill the remaining vacancy.

When is the withdrawn player replaced?

Case: A player withdraws from the main draw 2 hours prior to the close of the lucky loser sign-in deadline. A few minutes later, the highest ranked lucky loser signs in. There is still one hour left before the lucky loser sign-in deadline closes. As the player who signed-in is the highest ranked LL, is he inserted at that moment, or is the vacancy filled after the sign-in deadline passes?

Decision: The player is not inserted in the draw until after the sign-in deadline as others may withdraw necessitating drawing for the available spots. Multiple withdrawals occurring after the last match of that event began on the previous day, and the time that the sign-in deadline closes on the next day, are considered to have occurred at the same time and the positions to be occupied by each lucky loser shall be determined by drawing.

Who is inserted as the doubles alternate?

Case 1: After the sign-in deadline for doubles alternate has closed, there are 7 teams signed-in. At 16:55 a team scheduled to play at 17:00 withdraws due to injury of one of the players. The #1 team on the alternate list is inserted into the draw. The match is called at 17:00. It is discovered that the inserted team is at the hotel and at 17:15 the alternate is defaulted for punctuality. What should be done now?

Decision: If an eligible alternate team cannot be found who is ready to go on court by 17:20, then a walkover is awarded. 7.20 B 2) b) states that to be eligible for substitution, a lucky loser (alternate) must "be ready to play within five (5) minutes after the announcement of a default for punctuality".

ATP POLICY: While every effort must be made to locate an eligible, signed-in alternate team, the 15 minute punctuality rule must be enforced to protect the opponent who is ready to play. It is incumbent upon the teams signed-in as alternates to be available, reachable and ready to go when the match is called or within 5 minutes of the announcement of a punctuality default. In the instance of one player on court in singles, his partner must be available, reachable and ready to go, the team would be inserted and the match rescheduled. This policy extends to Lucky Losers also.

Case 2: A doubles match is called at 11:00 AM and one of the teams cannot be found. At 11:15 AM a punctuality default is awarded. How is the vacancy filled?

Decision: The highest ranked doubles team from the alternate list who are eligible to be inserted in the draw and are ready to play

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within the five (5) minute allotted time period will replace the defaulted team. 7.20 B 2) b) states that to be eligible for substitution, a lucky loser (alternate) must "be ready to play within five (5) minutes after the announcement of a default for punctuality".

ATP POLICY: Alternates (Lucky Losers) are to be ready when called upon to fill a vacancy. By signing the daily alternate (Lucky Loser) list they are declaring that they are on-site and ready to play, if needed. While every effort will be made by the ATP staff to locate the alternate/LL teams it is the alternate/lucky loser teams/players responsibility to keep ATP staff informed of their whereabouts and to remove their names if they leave the site or otherwise become unavailable for substitution

Scheduling

Extending Tournament Due to Weather

Case: A tournament with an approved and announced Saturday final is interrupted by weather so that the final is scheduled for Sunday. If adverse weather on Sunday prevents the match from being played, may the tournament be extended to Monday at the option of the tournament?

Decision: No. For a tournament with a Saturday final the tournament week would end on Saturday and the one (1) extra day allowed at the option of the tournament would be Sunday. It must be noted however that if play cannot be completed on Sunday then ATP would consider approving Monday play only in the case where all parties (tournament & all players) request to finish on Monday.

Player Entitled to Minimum Rest

Case: Because of rain delays, the singles semi-final and final matches are scheduled for Sunday. The two (2) semi-final singles matches are played on two (2) courts starting at 10 a.m. The final, because of television commitments, is scheduled to begin at 2 p.m. with live television coverage. One of the semi-final matches does not finish until 1:15 p.m. The tournament and the television staff still insist that the final match begin at 2 p.m. What is the solution?

Decision: The player is entitled to a minimum rest of 1 1/2 hours. The final cannot start before 2:45 p.m.

NOTE: In circumstances where television is a factor, the Supervisor should try to give as much flexibility as possible by starting the semi-final matches as early as possible. Also, it is important to know the latest start time acceptable for television. The goal is to give the players more than their minimum rest time between a semi-final and final.

Rain: How Many Matches Per Player?

Case: Due to weather or other unforeseen circumstances, a player played two singles qualifying matches on Monday in an outdoor tournament. May he be scheduled for a main draw singles match on Tuesday?

Decision: Yes. The provision of not playing on Monday after playing two qualifying matches on Sunday does not apply as there are no Wednesday starts permitted.

Case: Rain has put the tournament behind schedule. Player A's

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singles match was suspended at one set all. Player A is also behind in the doubles. How many matches may player A be scheduled to play the next day?

Decision: Three (3). Completion of a match shall count as one (1) match. If the player wins the singles match in progress then he may be scheduled for one (1) more singles plus one (1) doubles. If he loses the first singles match, then he may be scheduled for two (2) doubles matches.

Scheduling Priorities

Case: In preparing the schedule of play for Wednesday in a 32-draw outdoor event, the upper half of the draw is the half the tournament would like to play. Several players will have played singles on Monday and not again until Thursday if that half is played. Sections of the draw would have to be split to accommodate players not having two (2) days off between singles matches. What is the correct priority in scheduling?

Decision: Scheduling in outdoor events must keep sections of the draw together. Preferably, halves of the draw are scheduled together, if that is not possible then quarters are scheduled together. Players playing singles on Monday and Thursday should be avoided; however, halves sections of the draw should be kept together. Inclement weather can adversely affect the schedule as well as the fair treatment of the players unless these priorities are followed.

Rain Delayed Semi-final, When to Play Final?

Case: Rain on Saturday prevents both semi-final singles from being played. The second semi-final is played on Sunday morning, with the winner due to play the final that afternoon. Can the winner of the second semi-final insist on a Monday final?

Decision: No. Every effort must be made to finish the tournament on Sunday. The winner of the second semi-final should be given the maximum amount of rest possible before playing the final. (ATP Policy)

Moving Indoors at an Outdoor event

Case: Rain has disrupted play to the point where the event is in danger of not being completed. There are indoor courts available for use. May the Supervisor move the matches indoors to complete this event?

Decision: Yes. Under the responsibilities of the Supervisor it states that "the Supervisor may, if necessary to eliminate the possibility of a player having to play two singles matches in one day, or if necessary to complete the event, move a match to another court, indoors or outdoors, regardless of surface". The exception to this is if the Tournament Director demonstrates to the Supervisor that there will be a detrimental impact on the success of the tournament if singles or doubles matches are played indoors. In this case, the Supervisor may elect to keep all matches for outdoor play. (ATP Policy)

Wednesday Start?

Case: A player competes in a Grand Slam Junior match on the final Sunday. Is he eligible for a Wednesday start if his next tournament is the following week and on a different continent?

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Decision: No. The Wednesday start provisions indicated in the ATP Rulebook only apply to Main Draw Singles, Main Draw Doubles and Mixed Doubles.

On-Court

Ball Change Error

Case: A player serves a first service fault. He starts to serve the second serve and the Chair Umpire realizes that there should be new balls in play.

Decision: The Chair Umpire should wait to change balls until that player or team is scheduled to serve (Rules of Tennis, rule 27), unless a let is called resulting in the first point being replayed.

New Balls to Wrong Player(s)

Case: The wrong player or team was given new balls with which to serve.

Decision: If the error is discovered after the first point, then the team/player continues to serve with the new balls. The team/player who should serve with new balls receives new balls to serve the next game. Once a point has been played in the second game, the ball change sequence shall remain as altered. In no case shall new balls be replaced by the old balls after a service game has started.

Re-Warm-Up, Balls

Case: At the end of a game there is a twenty (20) minute rain delay. A ball change was also to occur after that game. When play is resumed, new balls will be in play. What balls are used for the re-warm-up?

Decision: New balls should be used for the re-warm-up. At the end of the warm-up, these balls will be taken away and replaced with new balls to resume the match.

Broken Ball

Case: A ball in play breaks (no compression).

Decision: Replay the point.

Soft Ball

Case: After the point has been completed, the player claims that the point should be replayed because the ball is soft and unplayable.

Decision: The point stands as played. A "soft" ball is not cause for replaying a point even if the Chair Umpire decides that the ball must be replaced.

Case: During a rally, player A catches the ball and wants the point re-played, claiming that the ball is "soft" and unfit for play.

Decision: Player A loses the point. A "soft" ball is not cause for replaying a point. The ball, however, may be taken out of play.

Tennis Law

Appeal of Judgment Calls

Case: A first serve is hit down the middle and is called out and then corrected to good by the center service Line Umpire. The Chair

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Umpire awards the point to the server, but the receiver disagrees saying that he had a play on the ball. The Chair Umpire agrees and rules that the point be replayed. The Supervisor is called to the court.

Decision: *Point to server. The Chair Umpire may not change a judgment decision after a player appeal.*

Appeal of the "Facts": Receiver

Case: *First point of a game, the first serve is called fault and overruled by the Chair Umpire to good. The Chair Umpire then announces 15-Love. The receiver states that the point should be re-played because he returned the ball into the court. The Chair Umpire realizes that the receiver did in fact return the ball and orders the point to be replayed. The server claims that the Chair Umpire cannot change his decision and asks for the Supervisor to be called.*

Decision: *The point is re-played. The Chair Umpire's initial awarding of the point to the server was incorrect based upon the facts as described by the Chair Umpire: The receiver did return the serve.*

Appeal of the "Facts": Server

Case: *First point of a game, the first serve is called fault and overruled by the Chair Umpire to good. The Chair Umpire awards the point to the server based upon his judgment that the receiver did not have a play on the ball. The receiver claims that he could have played the ball. The Chair Umpire is not sure of his original judgment and orders the point to be re-played. The server claims that the Chair Umpire may not change his judgment based upon an appeal from the receiver and asks for the Supervisor to be called.*

Decision: *Point to the server. The facts on which the Chair Umpire based his initial decision did not change. Therefore, the Chair Umpire may not change his original decision based upon a player's appeal or protest.*

Umpire Blocked on Question of Fact

Case: *Player A stops play claiming that player B had played the ball after it had bounced twice. The Chair Umpire said that he was "blocked" and could not make the decision.*

Decision: *The point stands as played. When the Chair Umpire has the primary responsibility for a call (nets, throughs, not-ups and touches) as opposed to the secondary responsibility (line calls), an immediate decision must be made. If the Chair Umpire did not see a rules violation on something for which he has the primary responsibility then technically no violation can be called*

Appealing for a Let

Case: *Player A serves and player B returns the ball for a winner. Player A appeals to the Chair Umpire that the service was a let. The Chair Umpire says that he did not hear a let. Player A then asks player B if he heard a let. Player B answers yes. Upon hearing this, the Chair Umpire says that since both players heard a let, we shall play a let. Player B objects saying that it is the Chair Umpire's call and that he was only confirming to player A that the Chair Umpire had made a mistake.*

Decision: *The point stands as played. The Chair Umpire cannot*

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make assumptions as to the intent of player B's comment. The Chair Umpire should be certain that the intention of player B was to play a let before making any decision.

Hindrance Cases

Corrected Call

Case: A second serve is a "net" call. The service Line Umpire calls "out," then corrects it to "good."

Decision: Second serve

Opponent's Gear Falls On The Court

Case: A player's hat, towel, or a ball from his pocket falls to the court during play.

Decision: The Chair Umpire shall call a let and replay the point. He shall also inform the player that if the Chair Umpire makes a second call of let, it will result in a loss of point.

Case: A player's shoe comes off during play and is laying on the court.

Decision: The default position of the Chair Umpire should be that the point continues, unless the Chair Umpire is convinced that the opponent is hindered and in that case, a let could be called.

Opponent Makes Noise

Case: During play, a player thinking he has hit a winner, shouts "vamos", "come on", "yes", etc. as his opponent is in the act of hitting the ball.

Decision: If the Chair Umpire rules that a hindrance has occurred then, as the sound or exclamation that caused the hindrance was deliberate, the point shall be awarded.

Inadvertent Hindrance

Case: As a player is in the process of hitting a volley into the net, his hat falls off. He then claims a let for hindrance.

Decision: No let. A player may not hinder himself. A let should only be called when the opponent could have been hindered.

Singles Stick Falls

Case: After a first serve fault, the singles stick falls to the court.

Decision: The Chair Umpire should award a first serve unless in his opinion the replacement time was such that the server was not delayed in his delivery of a second serve.

Spectator Noise

Case: During play an "out" call is made by a spectator. The player stops playing and claims hindrance.

Decision: The point stands as played.

Early Foot Fault Call

Case: The baseline umpire calls a foot fault on the server prior to him hitting a first serve. The server continues with his motion and hits the serve into the net.

Decision: First serve awarded. It is not a foot fault until the ball has been struck. Therefore, the call is erroneous and the Line Umpire has hindered the server.

Clay Court Cases

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Can't Find Ball Mark

Case: A Line Umpire calls a ball out on a clay court. The Chair Umpire asks him to show the mark. The Line Umpire cannot locate the mark and neither can the Chair Umpire.

Decision: The original (out) call must stand.

Clay Court: Doubles Ball Mark Appeal

Case: Player B returns a serve but his partner, player A, says, "wait" as he moves to look at the mark. The Chair Umpire stops play. The opponent, player C, appeals to the Supervisor, saying player B returned the serve, which player C put away.

Decision: The procedure was correct (The Chair Umpire stopped play after an interruption by player A.) The mark is examined and if it is good, Team A-B loses the point; otherwise, it is a second serve.

Must Both Players on a Team Stop to Get Ball Mark Inspection.

Case: In doubles on a clay court, the second serve is called good. The receiver returns the ball but hesitates in search of the mark. His partner crosses (poaches) and hits the ball into the net. The receiver then appeals the second serve, stating that he stopped play prior to his reflex return.

Decision: The point stands as played. Both players must stop playing or the player appealing must do so in a manner that results in the Chair Umpire stopping play.

Overrule Then Inspect Ball Mark

Case: As a Chair Umpire, you overrule a ball on a clay court. The player disagrees and asks for a ball mark inspection. You think that maybe you made a mistake on the overrule.

Decision: The Chair Umpire should check the mark.

Time and Equipment Cases

Crowd Movement

Case: The server is given a Time Violation for going beyond the 25 seconds that is allowed between points. The server claims that he should have been given additional time because there were some spectators taking their seats.

Decision: The Time Violation stands. The continuous play procedures shall be in effect regardless of spectator movement unless the Chair Umpire believes the movement is intended as a deliberate attempt to distract a player(s) or occurs in the designated lowest tier of seats.

Ball Person as Personal Valet

Case: A player receives a time violation from the Chair Umpire while waiting for the ball person to retrieve a towel. The player claims the ball person caused the delay.

Decision: The Time Violation stands. Toweling off between points with or without the help of a ball person is not a valid reason for delay.

Time Violation, No Play, Results in Code

Case: A player, upon hearing a Time Violation, comes to the Chair Umpire and asks "Why?" He receives an explanation followed by "Let's Play". The player continues his discussion and is given a

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Code Violation. The player appeals to the Supervisor saying he should have received a Time Violation, Point Penalty.

Decision: *The Chair Umpire suspends play and calls for the Supervisor. Upon arrival, the Supervisor affirms the decision of the Chair Umpire (two time violations are not given back-to-back unless there was a game changeover between them).*

Time Violation + 25 Seconds = Code

Case: *A player receives a time violation while standing at the back fence. He does not move to play and the Chair Umpire says, "Let's play". After another 25 seconds elapses, what does the Chair Umpire do?*

Decision: *A Code Violation is announced, (and possibly an inquiry, such as, "Are you OK?") followed by "Let's Play".*

Two Explanations are Enough

Case: *A player asks for an explanation and is given one. He then raises another point and receives another response. How long may this go on?*

Decision: *Normally only twice since continuous play provisions are not being complied with. After two brief responses, the Chair Umpire announces "Let's Play" and subsequently issues a Code Violation if the ball is not in play as a result of that player's action.*

Changing Shoes

Case: *May a player receive extra time on a changeover in order to change his shoes and/or socks? If yes, how many times may he do so during the course of the match?*

Decision: *Yes. The Chair Umpire may allow a reasonable extension of the allotted changeover time in order for a player to change his shoes and/or socks. The player should not be allowed to leave the court in this instance. The player is limited to one change per match when extra time is granted unless the provisions for "equipment out of adjustment" take precedent. In that case, the Chair Umpire has the authority to decide each request on its own merit.*

Contact Lens

Case: *During a match, a player requests permission to leave the court in order to put in a contact lens.*

Decision: *The request to leave the court is denied. Contact lenses shall not be considered as equipment out of adjustment unless the player is wearing them at the time of the incident.*

Note - *Every attempt should be made to assist the player so that he may put the contact lenses in during the changeover.*

Time: Refusal to Play

Case: *After several close calls that go against him, a player comes to his chair on the changeover and says, "I'm not playing until the Line Umpire Crew is changed". After the Chair Umpire calls "Time", the player says, "I told you I'm not playing until the Line Umpires are changed". What should the Chair Umpire do?*

Decision: *The Chair Umpire should order the player to play and after 25 seconds use the Point Penalty Schedule.*

Re-Gripping Racquet

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Case: During a change of ends, while a player is re-taping the grip of his racquet, the Chair Umpire calls time. The player walks out to the baseline still taping the grip. At the end of the 90 seconds, the player has failed to commence his serve and is still working on the grip.

Decision: The Chair Umpire issues a Time Violation. The racquet is not equipment out of adjustment and therefore the player must serve within the allotted time. (Rules of Tennis, 29.) Similarly, adjusting the position of the strings or fixing string savers is not an excuse for delaying play.

Replacing Shoes

Case: During a match, a player requests permission to leave the court area to retrieve another pair of tennis shoes. He states that he is slipping and wants to get a pair of shoes with a different sole from his locker.

Decision: The request is denied. However, the Chair Umpire should use all possible means to have the shoes retrieved and brought to the court. This is not considered "Equipment Out of Adjustment". The shoes could have been brought to the court with the player and changed on-court; however, once he has the shoes, reasonable time is allowed for the change.

Shoe Breaks

Case: A player breaks his shoe and he needs to change, but his second pair is in the locker room.

Decision: The Chair Umpire should stop play and allow the player to get shoes.

No Play After 90 Seconds

Case: A player is not ready to play after the ninety (90) second changeover (no injury involved).

Decision: A Time Violation is announced. "Let's Play" is normally added. The same applies if a player is not ready to play after the 120-second set break.

Toilet Visit

Case: In a best of three (3) set match, a player has used his one toilet visit. The player informs the Chair Umpire that at the next changeover he would like to take another toilet visit prior to his serving.

Decision: The Chair Umpire may allow a player to leave the court but must inform the player that any delay beyond the 90 seconds will be penalized in accordance with the Point Penalty Schedule.

Toilet Visit: When Does Play Resume?

Case: After play has been suspended for an authorized toilet visit, when does the "clock" start to resume play?

Decision: When the player returns to the court and has had the opportunity to retrieve his racquet, then the Chair Umpire should announce "Time". This announcement shall signal the players to resume the match.

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Medical

Delayed Medical Time-Out

Case: A player has an accidental injury and asks to have a medical time-out during the next changeover. What procedure should be used for timing the treatment if the Physiotherapist arrives?

A. 30 seconds into the changeover?

B. After 60 seconds has elapsed on the changeover?

Decision A: The Physiotherapist has 3 1/2 minutes [but, as a minimum, he has three (3) minutes to treat after completing his diagnosis] to treat the player before the Chair Umpire announces "Time". The player then has 30 seconds to play, subject to the Point Penalty Schedule.

Decision B: The Chair Umpire stops the clock at 60 seconds and stops play until the Physiotherapist is ready to treat the player. The three-minute medical time-out begins, and after the Chair Umpire announces "Time", the player has 30 seconds to play or be subject to the Point Penalty Schedule.

Equipment Out of Adjustment (Knee Brace)

Case: During play, a player's knee brace becomes out of adjustment. The player requests time to repair his knee brace.

Decision: The player is allowed reasonable time to repair his knee brace without penalty. Any medical apparatus worn by a player shall be considered as equipment in regards to "Equipment Out of Adjustment".

Exceeding 90 Seconds: Code Violation

Case: If a player is receiving treatment by the Physiotherapist on a 90-second change-over, and the treatment goes over the allowed 90 seconds, what happens?

Decision: When the Chair Umpire says "Time", the player must put the ball in play within 30 seconds. Any delay after that will result in a Code Violation.

Medical Time-Out and Re-Warm-Up

Case: If eight (8) minutes elapse before the Physiotherapist arrives and treatment begins two (2) minutes later (the medical time-out begins) and is completed after another three (3) minutes, is a re-warm-up authorized?

Decision: No, a re-warm-up is not authorized.

Medical Time-Out Request Honored?

Case: A player asks for the Physiotherapist. After examination, it is determined by the Physiotherapist that the player is suffering from general fatigue that may not be improved by on-court medical treatment. What course of action should the Chair Umpire take?

Decision: The Chair Umpire announces, "Let's Play", after the Physiotherapist completes his diagnosis. Delays will be penalized in accordance with the Point Penalty Schedule. The Chair Umpire has the option to issue a Code Violation for Unsportsmanlike Conduct in unusual cases.

Medical Time-Out Starts When?

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Case A: When does a medical time-out begin?

Decision A: Medical time-out begins when the Physiotherapist arrives and is ready and able to treat the player. Thus, the Physiotherapist has completed his examination/diagnosis and the medical time-out starts when the Physiotherapist begins treating the player.

Case B: A player asks to see the Physiotherapist during the middle of a game although the Chair Umpire observed no accidental injury. What should the umpire do?

Decision B: First, tell the player that you will call the Physiotherapist and he can see him at the changeover. If the player insists that he cannot continue, then stop play and call the Physiotherapist. The Physiotherapist will make the decision, upon examining the player, whether a medical time-out is needed.

Only 90 Seconds to Re-Tape

Case: A player turns his ankle, which is taped by the Physiotherapist, and then on the next changeover wants the ankle re-taped.

Decision: The Chair Umpire may authorize the re-taping which must be completed within the 90-second changeover or the Point Penalty Schedule applies.

Penalties After Medical Time-Out

Case: When is the player penalized for going over three minutes on a medical time-out?

Decision: After the Chair Umpire says "Time"; the player must put the ball in play within 30 seconds. Any delay after that will result in a Code Violation. The player is allowed the time necessary to put on shoes, socks, ankle supports, etc.

Case: A player receives treatment on a changeover or receives a Medical Time-Out. The player is then slow to resume play after "Time" has been called. What is the appropriate penalty?

Decision: The appropriate Delay of Game Penalty (Warning, Point, Game).

Case: After receiving treatment for cramping on the changeover, a player plays one or more points and then is slow to resume play. If the player goes over the allowed time, what penalty does the player receive?

Decision: The appropriate Time Violation (Warning, Point/Fault).

Re-Injury

Case: A player injures his ankle and is granted a three (3) minute medical time-out by the Physiotherapist. Five (5) games later, the player asks for another medical time-out claiming that he has re-injured the same ankle.

Decision: The Chair Umpire shall call for the Physiotherapist who shall determine upon examination whether or not a three (3) minute medical time-out is authorized.

Resuming Play After a Medical Time-Out

Case A: After an injury and a four-minute suspension (by the Chair Umpire) for the arrival of the Physiotherapist, the Physiotherapist arrives and completes the treatment in one and 1/2 minutes. When does play resume?

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Decision A: Immediately.

Case B: After a player becomes injured, the Physiotherapist treats the player in two (2) minutes. When should play resume?

Decision B: Immediately when the player and Physiotherapist are satisfied with the treatment administered, but the treatment is not to exceed three (3) minutes.

Tape Is Not “Equipment Adjustment”

Case: During play, a player requests play to be suspended in order for him to adjust the tape on his ankle.

Decision: Play must continue. Taping is not considered as “Equipment Out of Adjustment”.

Note: The Physiotherapist may be called to make adjustments during the 90-second changeover; however, any delays shall be penalized in accordance with the Point Penalty Schedule. If the player makes the adjustment without the help of the Physiotherapist and violates the continuous play rule, then the player shall be penalized in accordance with the penalties set forth under “Unreasonable Delay”, i.e., Time Violation.

Treatment for Fatigue

Case: May a Physiotherapist put his hands on a player suffering from what appears to be fatigue?

Decision: Yes. The Physiotherapist then makes the decision regarding a medical time-out.

Treatment: Within 90 Seconds

Case: After an even game, a player asks to see the Physiotherapist on the next changeover. The next game ends and 90 seconds elapse without the Physiotherapist arriving on-court. The player asks that the changeover time be extended so that he may receive treatment. His rationale is that the Physiotherapist’s arrival to the court is not the player’s fault.

Decision: The Chair Umpire suspends play until the Physiotherapist examines the player and determines whether a medical Time-out is needed.

When to Take a Medical Time-Out?

Case: What happens if a player is injured during a match and decides not to take his injury time-out right away? (Before the end of the next change-over)

Decision: A player may call for the Physiotherapist at any time. The Physiotherapist shall determine whether the medical time-out is to be authorized.

Chair Umpire Orders Medical Time-Out

Case: A player has an accidental ankle injury and the Chair Umpire believes that continued play will result in non-professional play. May the Chair Umpire stop play (and call for the Physiotherapist)?

Decision: Yes.

Singles Retirement: Still in Doubles?

Case: A player retires from his singles match because of illness or medical reason. May he compete in the doubles competition?

Decision: If upon examination by the tournament Doctor after the

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retirement and again before the player's scheduled doubles match, it is determined that the player's condition has "improved" to the extent that he can compete at a professional level, then the player may continue in the doubles competition. If the player's condition has not improved then he must not be allowed to compete in the doubles.

No Medical? Big Mistake

Case: A player retires from his singles match and leaves the tournament site without having been examined by the tournament Doctor. Later, it is discovered that the player has left the tournament city. What action does the Supervisor take?

Decision: Any player who fails to submit to an on-site examination by the tournament Doctor after retiring from a match shall be subjected to a fine of \$10,000 (\$1,000 for ATP Challenger Tour tournaments) or the amount of prize money won at the tournament, whichever is greater.

Miscellaneous Officiating

Broken String: First Service Fault

Case: On a first service fault, the receiver breaks a string.

Decision: In Singles matches if the receiver changes his racquet, then a first serve will be awarded to the server. If the receiver elects not to change racquets, then the server must play a second serve. In Doubles matches if the receiver changed the racquet with his partner the Chair Umpire should award a second serve unless in his opinion the replacement time was such that the server was delayed in his delivery of a serve.

Broken String: First Service Let

Case: The receiver breaks a string on a first service let.

Decision: The receiver must change racquets. A player is allowed to finish the point with a broken string but may not start a point with a broken string.

Broken String: No Racquets

Case: The player breaks a string in his last racquet.

Decision: The player is not allowed to continue with broken strings. The player is subjected to the penalties set forth in the Point Penalty System for Unreasonable Delay.

Receiver Not Ready

Case: The receiver is not ready but looks up as the second serve is hit, reflexes a return and says, "wait."

Decision: Second serve. The server should observe that the receiver is ready. (If the Chair Umpire believes that gamesmanship is involved on the part of the receivers, then he may issue a code violation for Unsportsmanlike Conduct).

Ball Hits Net Post Signage

Case: The ball, while in play, hits the top of the ATP net signage and goes into the proper court.

Decision: ATP net signage will be considered permanent fixtures (other than the net, posts, singles sticks, cord or metal cable, strap

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or band) and will result in the loss of point.

Ball hits Overhead Camera Cable

Case: A player throws up a lob which is over the court and it hits the cable supporting Spider Cam which is positioned diagonally across the court from the service line to baseline. Is the point awarded to the opponent; is the point replayed; or does play continue?

Decision: The cable is considered a permanent fixture and therefore, it is a loss of point.

Invasion: Ball in Play

Case: A player's dampening device flies out of his racquet and touches the net or goes into his opponent's court.

Decision: If the ball was still in play, the player loses point. The dampening device shall be considered a part of the racquet.

Invasion: No Replay

Case: After the point has been completed, player discovers opponent's dampening device lying in his court. The player claims a point based on Rules of Tennis, rule 24.)

Decision: The point stands as played. Since the Chair Umpire did not see the dampening device land in the opponent's court, he may not rule that an invasion occurred. Invasion occurs only when the ball is in play. Since the Chair Umpire did not know the timing of the incident, he may not assume that an invasion did occur.

Player Hits Net Pipe Support

Case: A player touches a "pipe support" with his foot while the ball is in play.

Decision: In this case the "pipe support" is to be considered as part of the net; thus if a player touches it while the ball is in play, he loses the point.

Touching Net or Opponent's Court

Case: If while the ball is in play a player's foot slides under the net but does not touch the net, should this still be considered a "touch" since the net should have extended fully to the court surface?

Decision: No. This cannot be considered a "touch" if the player did not actually touch the net. It is likely, however, that an invasion has occurred from the player's foot touching his opponent's court. If this did occur, then the Chair Umpire shall call an "invasion" and award the point to the player's opponent.

Ball Touches Net Pipe Support

Case: The ball falls over the net and hits the "pipe support" used on indoor courts.

Decision: In this case, the "pipe support" is to be considered as part of the court; thus when the ball hit the pipe, it would be ruled as a first bounce.

Player Touches Net Outside of Singles Stick

Case: A player runs for a drop shot and returns it into the opponent's court and then runs into net between net post and singles stick. What is the ruling?

Decision: Play continues. This part of the net is considered a permanent fixture.

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Ball Rolls Onto Court

Case: After a first service fault, a ball comes into the court from another court.

Decision: If the server has started his motion, then a first serve shall be awarded. In other cases, a second serve shall be played unless in the opinion of the Chair Umpire the delay was unusually long and unfairly disrupted the rhythm of the server.

Umpire Unsighted

Case: A Line Umpire is unsighted and the Chair Umpire cannot make the decision.

Decision: The point is replayed, except in the case where it was discovered after the point had been completed that during a rally a Line Umpire had been unsighted. In that case, the point would stand as played.

Intimidating Line Umpire

Case: A serve is hit near the sideline and the receiver, hearing no call, immediately turns around and screams at the Line Umpire. The Line Umpire, who had signaled good, then calls and signals out.

Decision: The Chair Umpire rules the serve good based on the Line Umpire's original call. The Supervisor, if called, upholds the Chair Umpire's decision based on an official not changing his call based on a player appeal.

Note: The Chair Umpire may have to ask for the Line Umpire's original call if he is uncertain or disregard the Line Umpire's call and make the call himself.

Service Order

Case: In a doubles match, Team A serves out of order. After two points have been played, the Chair Umpire realizes the mistake.

Decision: The Chair Umpire should correct the mistake immediately.

Receiving Order

Case: In a doubles match, the players on the team switched their receiving positions during the set. When this is realized, what action should the Chair Umpire take?

Decision: The original receiving positions of each player on that team must be taken after the completion of the game in progress. If error occurred during a tie break, then the receiving order shall remain as altered until the completion of the tie break game.

Players Don't Call Lines

Case: In ATP Tour or ATP Challenger Tour qualifying events where approval has been granted to use less than five (5) Line Umpires per match; may the Chair Umpire designate certain or all lines for the players to make the calls?

Decision: No. If a Chair Umpire is required to umpire a match without any Line Umpires or without a full complement of Line Umpires, then the Chair Umpire must make the calls for the net and all unattended lines.

No Penalty After Retirement

Case: A player is injured at an ATP Tour tournament and is forced

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to retire from his match. He is also unable to compete in the next week's tournament. The injury occurred after 12 noon, Friday, Eastern Time, USA. Must the player travel to the next tournament to be examined by that tournament's Doctor to avoid the appropriate penalties?

Decision: No. If the player is forced to retire after 12 noon, Friday, Eastern Time, USA, he may be examined by that tournament's Doctor.

Tattoo as Logo

Case: A player arrives on court wearing an approved sleeveless shirt. The Chair Umpire notices that the player has a tattoo of the clothing manufacturer on his upper arm. If there is no issue with the size, is this allowed?

Decision: No. The rules for both clothing manufacturer and commercial I.D. logo placement clearly specify where these logos may be placed.

Electronic devices

Case: May a player listen to an mp3 player or other device on a changeover?

Decision: A player is not allowed to use any electronic devices (e.g. CD players, mobile phones, etc.) during matches, unless approved by the Supervisor. (Tour Policy)

Default - List Penalties

Case: If a player is defaulted through the Code of Conduct for misconduct, what penalties result?

Decision: The player may be withdrawn from any other event he is entered in, as determined by the Supervisor; lose all points and gross prize money earned for the event where he was defaulted; and hotel accommodations, in addition to the fines that may be imposed for the code violations. If the player is removed from the other event as well, he will lose all points and prize money earned from both events, and hotel accommodations.

Late Transportation

Case: The scheduled transportation is late to pick up players from the tournament hotel. A player is defaulted for punctuality and subsequently arrives on-site with tournament transportation. Should the default be rescinded and the match played?

Decision: The player is defaulted. Transportation is a service provided by the tournament; however, the player is responsible for arriving on time for his match.

Case: Player A retires / withdraws from the doubles for medical reasons. Player A is also in the singles draw but is not scheduled to play his next match until the next day. On the day of his scheduled singles match Player A withdraws from the singles and receives medical documentation from the Tournament Doctor declaring him unfit for competition. The medical condition is the same condition that caused the doubles retirement / withdrawal.

Decision: In this case the doubles team shall receive points / prize money from the round reached.

Case: Player A retires from the singles competition due to a medical

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issue. He is in the doubles competition but is not scheduled to play doubles that day. Player A is examined by the tournament Doctor who confirms that the medical issue is such that the player would not be able to compete in the doubles that week. May Player A's withdrawal and medical be accepted even though he is not scheduled to play doubles that day?

Decision: *If the medical issue is such that the tournament Doctor can confirm the player's condition will not improve enough to compete in the doubles that week then the player may withdraw immediately and the medical is valid. Player A and his partner shall be eligible to receive ranking points and prize money from the round reached.*

Case: *Player A withdraws from the singles competition due to food poisoning, he is in the doubles competition but is not scheduled to play doubles until the next day. Player A would like to withdraw from the doubles immediately, however the tournament Doctor says he cannot declare him unfit for play for a match scheduled the following day.*

Decision: *If Player A withdraws from the doubles without a medical from the tournament Doctor declaring him unfit for play then the team receives ranking points / prize money from the previous round.*

Note: *In cases where the condition of the player is likely to improve in a short time period the tournament Doctor should examine the player on the day of the match to determine his status and if he feels the player is fit for competition.*

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