

**CHANGES
TO THE
PUBLISHED
2021 ATP
OFFICIAL RULEBOOK**



(This document includes all rule changes/additions/clarifications to date)

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Effective 11 January 2021: An amendment has been made to the ATP and Challenger Addendums, Rankings Section, pgs. 389-390 and 404-405, 9.03, A. 2) and 4) a) (viii) as noted below in **red and with new clarifications added in red:**

ATP & CHALLENGER ADDENDUMS

9.03 FedEx ATP Rankings

A. Commitment Players & B. Non-commitment Players

- 1) Due to the suspension of the ATP Tour and impact of COVID-19 pandemic, the FedEx ATP Ranking from 16 March 2020 has been frozen except for players serving suspensions for Anti-Doping or Corruption offenses. Any player who is under suspension for Anti-Doping and or Corruption offenses is not eligible to have his ranking frozen for the duration period of the player's suspension for Anti-Doping and/or Corruption reasons.
- 2) For all other players the points from the player's 16 March 2020 ranking breakdown are frozen and will have their drop date extended by 52 weeks **or until the event is played again the following year (whichever occurs first),** including the points earned at the 2019 Nitto ATP Finals **which will drop on the Monday following the last ATP Tour event of 2021.**
- 3) Until and including the week of **15** March 2021 there are no mandatory events. ATP Masters 1000 and 500 events commitment is eliminated.
- 4) Results from events following the resumption of the ATP Tour in 2020, up until and including the tournament week of **15** March 2021 will be added into the ATP Rankings in the following manner:

a) ATP Tour/Grand Slam Level Events:

- 2019 event will be replaced from a player's breakdown if that player plays the same event in 2020 and earns a better result.
- 2020 event will be replaced from a player's breakdown if that player plays the same event in 2021* and earns a better result.

(i) A player's result will only be replaced if the result is better.

aa) If the result is better, it will be considered a 'best other' for ranking purposes.

bb) If the player does not play the 2020/21* Main Draw because he did not have a high enough ranking to be an original main draw direct acceptance and never moved into the main draw, his previous year's result will be considered a 'best other'.

(ii) If a player earns fewer points or ties his previous year's result, his previous year's result will remain in his ranking.

(iii) If a player did not play the previous year's event, his result will count if better than the lowest "best other".

(iv) If a player earned a 0-point ranking penalty his result can/will replace the 0-pointer if better.

(v) If a player earned a 0-point ranking penalty and does not play the following year's event his previous year's 0-point ranking penalty will remain in his ranking.

(vi) A player cannot count the same ATP Tour/Grand Slam result twice in his breakdown.

aa) Example: cannot count '19 and '20 or '20 and '21* result from the same tournament, will use the better of the two results.

(vii) An ATP Tour/Grand Slam qualifying result can/will be replaced by the main draw of that tournament and vice versa.

(viii) New results from ATP Tour/Grand Slam events **in 2021** that replace the 2019 or 2020 event will stay on until event is played again **in-2021 the following year** or 52 weeks, whichever occurs first.

b) ATP Challenger/ITF WTT Level Events:

Players who compete in ATP Challengers/ITF WTT events post the ATP Tour suspension will use the new, 2020/2021* result to replace their worst 'best other' result if the 2020/21* result is better.

(i) A player's worst 'best other' will only be replaced if the 2020/21* result from an ATP Challenger/ITF WTT event is better.

(ii) New results from an ATP Challenger/ITF WTT that replace player's worst 'best other' will stay on the players' FedEx ATP ranking for 52-weeks.

- 5) Beginning on **15** March 2021, the ATP rankings will add and drop points as per the ATP Rules prior to the COVID-19 pandemic outbreak.

*Applicable for tournaments up to and including the week of **15** March 2021 only.

9.04 FedEx ATP Doubles Rankings

A. The FedEx ATP Doubles Rankings is based on calculating, for each player, his total points from his best 19 results from all eligible tournaments, including the Nitto ATP Finals (Doubles) played in the Ranking period. For entry purposes there are no mandatory events.

- 1) For a player that plays any Grand Slam or Masters 1000 event upon the Tour resumption, he must earn a better result in 2020/21* to have the event be considered 'best other' for ranking purposes
- 2) For a player that does not play any Grand Slam or Masters 1000 event upon Tour resumption, the previous year's event will be considered 'best other'

*Applicable for tournaments up to and including the week of **15** March 2021 only.

Effective 13 January 2021: A correction has been made to the Challenger Addendum, pg. 393, 1.21 A. 2) c) noted below in **red:**

CHALLENGER ADDENDUM

I. ATP CIRCUIT REGULATIONS

1.21 Hotel Accommodations

A. Tournament Obligations

2) ATP Challenger Tour Tournaments

c) Qualifiers.

Complimentary hotel accommodations for players in the singles qualifying shall be available to begin on the night before the start of qualifying competition and be available to each player through the night of the player's last qualifying match (not applicable for events with 48 main draw).

Successful qualifiers shall have their hospitality at the official hotel made retroactive from **the night before the start of the qualifying competition. Friday-night (not applicable for events with 48 main draw).**

Effective Immediately (26 January 2021): A correction has been made to the ATP Addendum, pg. 376, 5.04, 3) as noted below in **red.** The deleted sentence is covered in the Updated RTC (Renamed to ATP Tour COVID-19 Protocols):

5.04 Doctor, Tournament Infection Control Officer (TICO), Physiotherapist and Massage Therapist

- 3) **ATP Physiotherapists:** Predetermined numbers of ATP Physiotherapists will be assigned to each tournament venue. Physiotherapists arrive one day prior to the start of qualifying and staff the training room through the duration of the event. **Further details on the provision of physiotherapy are listed below in the section outlining the training room.** During the return to play period, additional

volunteers, interns, and local physiotherapists would be prohibited to minimize staffing in the training room.

Effective (28 January 2021), the Challenger 50 category was reinstated by the Board with the following changes to the Challenger Addendum:

5.04 Doctor, Tournament Infection Control Officer (TICO), Physiotherapist and Massage Therapist

2) Physiotherapists.

- Challenger ~~80-85~~ **50 to 90**: Tournaments to provide two (2) English-speaking Physiotherapists, one of whom should work on-site and the other at the official hotel. One Physiotherapist to be available from Saturday through the final Sunday, the other from Saturday through Friday.

3) Massage Therapist.

- ~~Challenger 80 to 110~~: At **Challenger 80-85 **50 to 90** level, the second Physiotherapist may work as the Massage Therapist.**

5.08 Line Umpire

- Unless otherwise approved by ATP, tournaments are required to provide the following minimum number of line umpires per match in 2021.

a) Hard Court/Synthetic

	Q	R1	R2	QF	SF	F
CHALLENGER 50	1	3	3	3	5	5
CHALLENGER 80	1	3	3	3	5	5
CHALLENGER 90	1	3	3	3	5	5
CHALLENGER 100	1	3	3	3	7	7
CHALLENGER 110	1	3	3	3	7	7
CHALLENGER 125	1	3	3	3	7	7

b) Clay Court:

	Q	R1	R2	QF	SF	F
CHALLENGER 50	None	None	None	None	3	3
CHALLENGER 80	None	None	None	None	3	3
CHALLENGER 90	None	None	None	None	3	3
CHALLENGER 100	None	3	3	3	5	5
CHALLENGER 110	None	3	3	3	7	7
CHALLENGER 125	None	3	3	3	7	7

6.03 Balls

A. Changes and Number. 2)

Challenger ~~80 50~~ to 110: minimum 4 balls to be changed every 7 and 9 games. Six (6) balls recommended.

7.08 The Draw

C. Composition of Draws – Challenger Tour Tournaments

1) through 5):

ALL CHALLENGER CATEGORIES: (50 – 125)		
MAIN DRAW SINGLES	QUALIFYING SINGLES	MAIN DRAW DOUBLES
32 PLAYERS	16 PLAYERS	16 TEAMS
25/23 Direct Acceptances	13 Direct Acceptances	13 Direct Acceptances
3 Wild Cards	3 Wild Cards	3 Wild Cards
4 Qualifiers		
0/2 Special Exempts		

• ~~In 2021, the Challenger 50 category is not available.~~

- Challengers in the week before a Grand Slam (same region) are approved for a Saturday final.

A Points Table has also been added to the Challenger Addendum at 9.03 G, pg. 405 which was previously only available through the detail sheet(s).

G. Points.

5) Point table.	W	E	SE	QF	R16	R32	Q	Q2
ATP Challenger Tour 125	125	75	45	25	10	•	5	*2
ATP Challenger Tour 110	110	65	40	20	9	•	5	*2
ATP Challenger Tour 100	100	60	35	18	8	•	5	*2
ATP Challenger Tour 90	90	55	33	17	8	•	5	*2
ATP Challenger Tour 80	80	48	29	15	7	•	4	*2
ATP Challenger Tour 50	50	30	15	7	4	•	2	1

***Points should be made retroactive to all Challenger events in 2021.**

Effective Immediately (12 February 2021), A Dubai Performance Bye (PB) rule has been added to the ATP Addendum:

7.18 Byes – Assignment and Placement

A. Singles Main Draw

3) If there is a 48* or 96 main draw, each seed shall be awarded a bye.

*0 – 6 “Performance Byes” (PB) in addition to the 16 byes for the top seeds will be made available for the 2021 DUBAI 500 tournament. These “Performance Byes” (PB) (max 2 PB spots per qualified event) are to be awarded to singles finalists and/or semi-finalists of the 2021 Santiago and Marseille tournaments or singles finalists of the 2021 Doha tournament whose ranking does not qualify them to be among the top 16 seeded players on the respective Main Draw list. To be eligible player(s) must be accepted in the Dubai singles main draw.

Each PB consists of 1 spot in the draw – to allow for the bye.

Priority for PB will be based on:

- 1st priority Finalists in Santiago/Marseille/Doha in ranking order (most recent)
- 2nd priority Semi-Finalists in Santiago/Marseille/ in ranking order (most recent)

For every PB not used, the Dubai Main Draw acceptance list would drop by one (1) prior to the start of Qualifying.

The deadline for confirming the number of PB's per event is the start of Qualifying in DUBAI.

The PB's are in addition to the Special Exempt position in the DUBAI main draw.

DUBAI DRAW MAIN DRAW SINGLES COMPOSITION:

30 – 38 Direct Acceptances

6 - Qualifiers

4 – 5* Wild Cards. *Applies only for an A+ player from the region.

0 – 1 Special Exempts

0 – 6 Performance Byes

TOTAL: 48

Effective Immediately (16 February 2021), a correction has been made to 9.06 as noted below in **red**.

9.06 Retiring from the Professional Tennis Circuit

Any player wishing to officially retire from the professional tennis circuit must submit a signed Player Retirement Form to the **Chief Player Officer Vice President, Player Relations** of ATP. Once the signed form is received the player shall be removed from the Fed Ex ATP Rankings (singles and doubles). The player also agrees to the terms of the Tennis Anti-Doping Program regarding reinstatement protocol.

Effective (22 February 2021), an exception has been made to 7.20 C. 2), page 388 of the ATP Addendum in response to all doubles entries being modified to advance entries, as noted below in **red**.

C. Vacancies – Doubles

ATP Tour

2) If the withdrawal is from the advance acceptance list and prior to 12 Noon (EST) on the Friday before the event, then the next team on the alternate list is moved into the main draw*.

*** Exception - If a player has to withdraw based on a medical reason or other unavoidable circumstances after the entry deadline, but prior to 12 Noon (EST) on the Friday before the event, his partner may enter again and repair with another player who has not already been accepted into the doubles event, and this new team may be considered for acceptance based on its position in the entry list including any entry protection position (the repairing team must have a combined entry ranking better than the first alternate team to remain as a Direct Acceptance). The repairing team entry must be received prior to the withdrawal deadline by a player relations staff member or the ATP Supervisor. Players are allowed to use the repair option up to 3 times per a calendar year.**

Effective (01 January 2021), a change to the rule has been made at 8.02 D. in the 2021 on-line ATP Rulebook as noted below in **red**.

D. ATP Fantasy Sport and Sponsorship

~~1) ATP Tour 500 and 250 category tournaments may enter sponsorship agreements with a company that offers wagering on tennis (a “Betting Sponsor”) subject to the terms and conditions in Exhibit AD. The agreements may not extend beyond December 31, 2023. ATP will assess any negative effects of such sponsorship agreements in determining whether to extend the period beyond 2023.~~

~~2) ATP Masters 1000 tournaments may only accept sponsorship from a fantasy sport branded company promoting only the fantasy sport brand. If the company does not offer, and is not affiliated with a company that offers, wagering on tennis, there are no restrictions on the sponsorship agreement. However, most fantasy sport brands offer, or are affiliated with companies that offer, wagering on tennis and constitute a Betting Sponsor as defined herein. In that case, the terms and conditions in Exhibit AD apply to such fantasy sport Betting Sponsors.~~

D. ATP Fantasy Sport and Sponsorship

ATP Tour tournaments may enter sponsorship agreements with a company that offers wagering on tennis (a “Betting Sponsor”) subject to the terms and conditions stated in Exhibit AD. The agreements for Masters 1000 tournaments may not extend beyond December 31, 2021, and the agreements for 500 and 250 category tournaments may not extend beyond December 31, 2023. ATP will assess any negative effects of such sponsorship agreements in determining whether to extend these periods.

ATP Tour tournaments may accept sponsorship from a fantasy sport branded company promoting only the fantasy sport brand. If the company does not offer, and is not affiliated with a company that offers, wagering on tennis, there are no restrictions on the sponsorship agreement. However, most fantasy sport brands offer, or are affiliated with companies that offer, wagering on tennis and constitute a Betting Sponsor as defined herein. In that case, all the terms and conditions in

Exhibit AD apply to such fantasy sport Betting Sponsors. Such agreements may not extend beyond December 31, 2023.

Effective (03 March 2021), a change has been made to the ATP Addendum, pg. 371, 1.07 D. in the on-line ATP Rulebook as noted below in **red**.

1.07 Commitment, Membership Obligations and Bonus Pool

D. Commitment. ~~There will be no commitment for commitment players at the ATP Masters 1000 and ATP 500 tournaments until and including the week of 1 March 2021.~~

ATP Masters 1000 commitment will remain for Bonus Pool purposes

Effective (03 March 2021), further amendments have been made to the ATP and Challenger Addendums, Rankings Section, pgs. 390-393 and 405-408. Please use only what is in the current on-line Addendums.

Effective Immediately (09 April 2021), all references to President in the Rulebook have been changed to ATP Chief Executive Officer (CEO).

Effective Immediately (17 May 2021), the following change has been made to the Challenger Addendum, pg. 397 as noted below in **red**

5.04 Doctor, Physiotherapist and Massage Therapist

B. ATP Challenger Tour Tournaments

1) Tournament Doctor.

Tournament must appoint an English-speaking Doctor and assisting nurse, to be present on-site **or on call in proximity of the tournament site** from the start of the tournament until its completion. Their tasks ~~will~~ **may** include:

- Act as Tournament Infection Control Officer (TICO).
- Medical evaluation of players, tournament personnel as required.
- Act on emergency situations as required.

Effective Immediately (01 June 2021), the following change has been made to 7.04 B. b), pg. 110 as noted below in **red**:

B. Main Draw - Doubles

1) Advance Entry – ATP Tour Only

- a) No team shall be considered entered or withdrawn from an ATP Tour tournament* unless their written entry or written withdrawal is received on or before the entry or withdrawal deadline by a player relations staff member or ATP Supervisor. A team must have entered in order to be moved into the main draw as a direct acceptance because of the withdrawals of other players.
- b) Once a team enters they are subject to all the withdrawal provisions.

*The top 13 teams from the final 2020 ATP Doubles Team Rankings shall receive automatic Direct Acceptance into the first 5 Masters 1000 events in the 2021 season (if not included as a Direct Acceptance on their own merit). To qualify for automatic acceptance a team must have competed as a team in 11 ATP Tour or Grand Slam events during the 2020 season.

For each of the remaining four (4) Masters 1000 events, the top 13 teams in the Team Race at the advanced entry deadline for that event, shall receive automatic Direct Acceptance into that Masters 1000 event (if not included as a Direct Acceptance on their own merit).

To qualify for automatic acceptance into the first 5 Masters 1000 events a team must have competed together as a team in each week of the 2021 season where both players were playing **doubles** in that week. The exception would be when they were both involved in the singles of different events.

To qualify for automatic acceptance into the final 4 Masters 1000 events, once a team has competed together as a team, they must compete together as a team in each week of the 2021 season where both players were playing **doubles** in that week. The exception would be when they were both involved in the singles of different events.

Effective Immediately (01 June 2021), the following change has been made to the 8.04. M. 4) p) Media Conference, pg. 208 as noted below in **red**

~~p) Media Conference~~ **Post-Match Media Availability** (See ATP Addendum, page 390)

i) All players scheduled to play on televised courts will be required, if requested, to perform a pre-match TV interview on the day of the match (not to exceed 2 minutes in total). The interview may be conducted at either the player's practice court or as the players approach the court for walk-on as determined by the host and player's national broadcasters.

~~ii) All players who win during a televised match will be required to perform on court TV interviews, if requested, with the host and player's national broadcaster(s) for that match (not to exceed 5 minutes in total).~~

~~iii) All players will be required to perform post-match radio and TV news service interviews directly following the post-match press conference (not to exceed 10 minutes in total). If there is no post-match press conference, the interviews will need to take place within 30 minutes of the conclusion of their match.~~

~~iv) Unless injured and physically unable to appear, a player or team must be available post-match in the mixed zone or media conference area, as determined by ATP, after the conclusion of each match whether the player or team was the winner or loser. Post-match media obligations include two (2) interviews, with the host and player's national broadcasters. This rule shall also apply to matches won or lost as a result of a withdrawal or retirement.~~

ii) Unless injured and physically unable to appear, a player or team must be available, as determined by ATP, on court (for TVs only), in the mixed zone or media conference area after the conclusion of each match whether the player or team was the winner or loser. Post-match media obligations include three (3) interviews, with the news service, host and player's national broadcasters. This rule shall also apply to matches won or lost as a result of a withdrawal or retirement.

iii) Violation of this section shall subject a player to a fine in accordance with the following schedule (based on most recent position in the FedEx ATP Rankings):

1 - 10	\$20,000
11 - 25	\$10,000
26 - 50	\$5,000
51 - 100	\$3,000
101 +	\$1,000

Fines will be increased to the next higher level for any national player.
Fines will double for each repeat offense within an ATP Circuit Year.
For ATP Challenger Tour events, a violation of this section shall result in a fine of \$500.

Effective Immediately (19 July 2021), the following change has been made to 7.04 B. b), pg. 110 as noted below in **red**:

B. Main Draw - Doubles

1) Advance Entry – ATP Tour Only

- a) No team shall be considered entered or withdrawn from an ATP Tour tournament* unless their written entry or written withdrawal is received on or before the entry or withdrawal deadline by a player relations staff member or ATP Supervisor. A team must have entered in order to be moved into the main draw as a direct acceptance because of the withdrawals of other players.
- b) Once a team enters they are subject to all the withdrawal provisions.

*The top 13 teams from the final 2020 ATP Doubles Team Rankings shall receive automatic Direct Acceptance into the first **4** Masters 1000 events in the 2021 season (if not included as a Direct Acceptance on their own merit). To qualify for automatic acceptance a team must have competed as a team in 11 ATP Tour or Grand Slam events during the 2020 season.

For each of the remaining **five (5)** Masters 1000 events, the top 13 teams in the Team Race at the advanced entry deadline for that event, shall receive automatic Direct Acceptance into that Masters 1000 event (if not included as a Direct Acceptance on their own merit).

To qualify for automatic acceptance into the first **4** Masters 1000 events a team must have competed together as a team in each week of the 2021 season where both players were playing doubles in that week. The exception would be when they were both involved in the singles of different events.

To qualify for automatic acceptance into the final **5** Masters 1000 events, once a team has competed together as a team, they must compete together as a team in each week of the 2021 season where both players were playing doubles in that week. The exception would be when they were both involved in the singles of different events.

Effective Immediately (19 July 2021), the following change has been made to 9.03 C. pg. 392 of the ATP Addendum as noted below in **red**

- C. ATP Tour 500 – Ranking Penalty.** There will be no ranking penalty assessed for any player withdrawing from an ATP Tour 500 event **through the end of 2021 until and including the week of 28 June 2021**, whether on time or after the 12-noon deadline.

Effective 4 August 2021, the following changes have been made to 1.07 D., pg. 371 and 9.03 A. 3) and 5), pgs. 390-391 of the ATP Addendum and pgs. 405-408 of the Challenger Addendum as noted below in **red**.

1.07 Commitment, Membership Obligations and Bonus Pool

- D. Commitment.** ATP Masters 1000 commitment will remain for Bonus Pool purposes **through the end of 2021**.

9.03 FedEx ATP Rankings

A. Commitment Players & B. Non-commitment Players

- 3) Until the ~~week of 28 June end of~~ 2021 there will be no ranking penalties issued to players for ATP events. ATP Masters 1000 commitment will remain for Bonus Pool purposes.
- 5) Beginning on 16 August 2021, the ATP rankings will add and drop points as per the ATP Rules prior to the COVID-19 pandemic outbreak. **However, there will be no mandatory tournaments for ranking purposes through the end of 2021.**

Effective 13 August 2021, the following change has been made to 9.03 F. 6), pg. 392 of the ATP Addendum and pgs. 407-408 of the Challenger Addendum as noted below in **red**.

6) COVID-19 Protected Ranking

Starting from 8 March 2021, players who are out of competition for four consecutive weeks will, on one occasion, be eligible for a COVID-19 Protected Ranking (CPR). The expiration of using the CPR is 21 March 2022 and is designed to allow players greater flexibility in their scheduling without harming their ability to enter future tournaments. The current length of being able to obtain a CPR is through **and including** the week of ~~9 August~~ **8* November**, 2021. Eligible players will be granted four entry opportunities, excluding ATP Cup, Grand Slams and/or the Olympic Games using their 'frozen' ranking.

Players will only be able to use their COVID-19 Protected Ranking for entry into as many ATP Masters 1000 events as they miss during their time away from competition.

***The extension period from the week of 9 August to and including the week of 8 November 2021 is only applicable for players that meet the out of competition criteria due to testing positive for Covid-19 and ordered in isolation, or quarantined because of being ruled as close contacts.**