

15 July 2021

Dear President / General Secretary / National Association Contact,

Thanks to the hard work of national associations and tournament organisers, we are currently operating a calendar with approximately 80% the number of tournaments held in the same period in 2019. Considering the continued uncertainty and restrictions that remains in many regions, this is extremely positive and appreciated.

Following our most recent communication in May 2021, we have a number of further updates regarding the ITF World Tennis Tour Juniors:

#### **ITF World Tennis Tour Junior Finals**

Despite plenty of positive progress, unfortunately, we are still in a position where the hosting of events continues to be impacted by the pandemic. We can confirm that the 2021 Junior Finals, due to take place in Chengdu, China will not take place in 2021, and at this stage of the year, it is not possible to secure an alternative host or date in the calendar. The Junior Finals are a major event in the ITF's calendar, and we will look forward to their return to Chengdu in 2022.

#### **Tournament applications**

Continued flexibility will be offered in relation to tournament applications. For the remainder of 2021, tournament applications must be submitted at least 8 weeks prior to the tournament start date.

#### **Draw sizes**

Draw sizes will remain limited to 32 players in qualifying and singles main draw, up to 24 pairs in doubles, however, tournaments of all grades, including Grade 4 (J4) and Grade 5 (J5) tournaments from 1 August 2021 onwards, may apply for larger draw sizes where there is good accessibility into the nation. This shall be assessed by the ITF Juniors department based on the volume of players who are able to access the host country.

#### **Extended Ranking Period**

As previously communicated, ranking points from March 2019 – June 2019 have now dropped. From 5 July – 13 December 2021, results from the previous 104 weeks will be counted. The ITF Juniors Committee are assessing the feasibility of returning to a 52-week ranking period, which is planned to happen on 13 December 2021.

Further details of the current ranking system can be found [here](#).

#### **2021 Junior Team Competitions**

Qualifying events for the 14U World Junior Tennis competition and the 16U Junior Davis Cup and Junior Billie Jean King Cup by BNP Paribas are underway. Unfortunately, the final qualifying events in Asia/Oceania have been cancelled in both events. Nations from the region will qualify based on a 3-year average of the final qualifying results in the region between 2017-2019, and the Juniors department have been in touch separately with those nations.

Please contact [juniors@itftennis.com](mailto:juniors@itftennis.com) if you have any questions on these items, or other matters related to the ITF World Tennis Tour Juniors and ITF Junior Team Competitions.

Kind regards,



Matt Byford  
Head of Juniors & Seniors