

SENIOR TENNIS

Background:-

ITF conducts Tennis tournaments for seniors under 11 age groups in Men & Women Category as under :-

35+,40+,45 +,50+,55+,60+,65+,70+,75+,80+,85+ (Men)

35+, 40+, 45 +, 50+,55+,60+,65+,70+,75+,80+,85+ (Women)

If AITA was to send teams for all SENIOR events AITA would have to send total 22 Teams. Each team would entail expense of Rs. 5 to 10 Lacs. This way AITA would have to spend around Rs. 2 Crore for sending SENIORS team for international competitions.

Some of the SENIOR who can afford to fund their own travel and accommodation are propagating that as they are participating individually at their own expense AITA should put entry consisting of them as a team representing the country. Most of the ex. Davis Cup players / national champions do not participate in these tournaments, due to their work commitments or lack of funding. Aita cannot send a team on the basis of who is available at the tournament venue and who can afford to be there. If a team has to be sent it has to be of the best players available in that age group so that name of the country is not looked down upon.

Keeping in view this huge expenditure which AITA cannot afford and other issues brought out above, it was decided by the Executive Council of AITA to have a uniform policy in the regard to SENIOR category International Tournaments held in India and Participation of SENIOR teams in International tournaments abroad, which is as follows:

Participation of SENIORS in International Tournaments abroad

Prioritise the age group for teams for SENIOR tournaments. Keeping in view the large number of age groups AITA will only focus on Sending SENIOR teams of age group 35+ , 40+, to world Championships, that too with the funds raised by the SENIORS/ SENIOR tournaments and players to be selected on the basis of selection trial.

Sponsorship money raised by SENIORS from all sources and profits of the International Senior/ Indian Senior Tournaments should be used to fund the travel of these teams. The sponsorship money raised by the SENIOR players can be deposited with AITA in the central Pool for SENIOR Tournaments Six months in advance. AITA will prioritise and use the funds to send the team of age group mentioned above.

Tournaments

AITA will conduct international tournament with the help of State Association in the age category 35+, 40+, 45+. It was ruled that states should allot these tournament to institutions, Clubs, Schools, College with tennis facilities, and not to any individual. The National tournaments can be conducted by the state after allotment by AITA. The Accounts for these tournaments will be sent to AITA by the organization/ State Association. The profits generated from all such tournaments will be shared on 50% basis and the profits be deposited in the central pool for SENIOR Teams and will be utilised for travel and accommodation expenses of SENIOR teams travelling for world championships in the order of Priority starting from 35+, 40+, onwards.

All seniors tournaments (SENIORS) being conducted under the auspicious of AITA will have an AITA Supervisor and the Secretary of the state Association will be the Chairman of the organizing committee. It was also decided the ED AITA will visit the tournaments to ensure smooth conduct.

Team Selection-

Team Selection / trials will be done whenever sponsorship is available to send a team for any Seniors World Championships.

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