



**AITA TOURNAMENT STRUCTURE FOR JUNIORS**  
**AND**  
**THE RULES COVERING THE AITA JUNIOR CIRCUIT**

**Effective from 01 January 2024**

## General

- AITA tournaments will be sanctioned only to the AITA registered centers or AITA registered academies.
- Tournament applications should be sent to the AITA Office through the respective State Association only.
- It is **mandatory** for all players participating in any level of AITA tournament to have a **valid AITA Registration (Renewed up to date)**. A player not having a valid AITA registration card will not be permitted to participate in AITA tournaments.
- All Players should **complete the registration /renewal formalities well in advance** before they apply for or plan to participate in a tournament.

## Restrictions

- There will be a restriction on the number of AITA tournaments a player can play in a year so that players don't burn out. It will help in prolonging the tennis career of the players.
- A player will be allowed to play the **following maximum number of AITA tournaments** depending on the age. **(This will include both main draw and qualifying)**.
- A tournament played **in any age group will count** towards a tournament played.
- **The limit will be calculated for the calendar year (Jan to Dec)**.
  - Under 12 Player - 18 Tournaments
  - Under 14 Player - 25 Tournaments
  - Under 16 Player - 30 Tournaments
  - Under 18 Player - No restriction

### **Example: Under 12 Player (born between 01/01/2012 to 31/12/2017)**

An Under 12 player is eligible to play Under 12, Under 14 and Under 16 age group tournaments. Hence, he/she can play a total of 18 tournaments combined. (U12+U14+U16 = 18 tournaments)

1. Participation in Singles & Doubles event of one tournament and age group qualifies as **One Tournament** (whether Main Draw or Qualifying Draw)
  2. If a venue is conducting two age group tournaments, and a player is playing **both age groups** then it will be counted as **Two Tournaments** (towards total count of 18 in a calendar year).
- **Note:** ITF and ATF tournaments are not included in this restriction.
  - Players found violating the above rule will be penalized and strict action will be taken against the players which may include hefty penalty points.

## Tournament Structure

The AITA Juniors Tournament Structure would have the following tournaments during the year 2023:

- ◆ Talent Series (TS) (7 Days)
- ◆ Championship Series (CS) (3 Days)
- ◆ Championship Series (CS) (7 Days)
- ◆ Super Series (SS)
- ◆ National Series (NS)
- ◆ Two Nationals - Hard Court and Clay

## Requirements for Organizing a Tournament

- No tournament can take place at two venues, irrespective of the distance apart. (AITA reserves the right to sanction the tournament on two venues in an exceptional case).
- A registered academy is allowed to do maximum of 2 AITA Junior events in a month. Academy having six courts of same surface are allowed to two age group tournaments in a week.

### Courts

- A venue must have a minimum of three courts.  
or
- Two lighted courts having the same surface with a minimum of 380 Lux (12 units) with enough tournament staff to extend the matches into the night.
- Under exceptional circumstances, and due to unfavorable weather conditions, **if another venue is clubbed with the main venue**, it would be the responsibility of the organizers to provide proper transportation between the 2 venues.

### Talent Series

- There will be **no Talent Series tournaments for the Under 18** age group.
- **TOP 75 AITA-ranked** players in their respective age groups **will NOT be permitted** to take part in TS tournaments in that age group.
- This ranking would be as on the date of the entry deadline for TS7 and on the day of Sign in for TS3 tournaments. (The rankings would be as available on the AITA website on those dates)
- **TS tournaments taking place in a particular zone** will be **open to players registered from that zone only**. No player can play a tournament in a zone other than in which he is registered in.
- **A player can apply for a change in the zone**, because of a change in the residence address/ change in domicile/ school or for any other reason, in writing to AITA.
- Once the permission is granted by AITA and the zone change for the player is effected, the zone change cannot be changed again before the expiry of 6 months. A player can participate in the new zone, effected by such a change in the zone, only once the approval is granted.
- The player should **carry the written approval of AITA effecting this change of zone** to all the tournaments where he participates thereafter.

The States/UTs are divided into **Zones** as follows:

NORTH ZONE	WEST ZONE	SOUTH ZONE	EAST ZONE
Jammu & Kashmir	Gujarat	Andhra Pradesh	Bihar
Ladakh	Maharashtra	Telangana	West Bengal
Punjab	Goa	Karnataka	Odisha
Chandigarh	Madhya Pradesh	Tamil Nadu	Jharkhand
Himachal Pradesh	Chhattisgarh	Pondicherry	Assam
Delhi	Rajasthan	Kerala	Manipur
Haryana			Meghalaya
Uttar Pradesh			Mizoram
Uttarakhand			Tripura
			Arunachal Pradesh
			Nagaland

## Championship Series

- There will be **no restriction in Championship Series**. All ranked players can play irrespective of their rank.
- A State will have to **necessarily conduct a CS tournament after conducting 6 TS** in that state. This will be calculated on a combined basis - for all age groups.
- A State will have to **necessarily conduct a Super Series tournament after conducting 5 CS** in that state. This will be calculated on a combined basis - for all age groups.

## Talent Series/ Championship Series

- Only one age group of tournaments will be allowed to be conducted at a venue for TS/CS (3 days or 7 days) tournaments.
- Tournaments with 2 different age groups will be permitted in the same week at the same venue if the venue has **six courts** having the **same surface**.
- There is **no restriction on the number of TS/CS** to be held in the country in any week. It means that there could be more than one TS/ CS tournament in a particular age in a week in the country.
- Chair Umpires must be provided by the organizers for Semifinals and Finals in TS and CS tournaments.

## Super Series/ National Series

- **Only one age group of tournaments** will be allowed to be conducted **at a venue in a week**.
- **Only one Super Series/ National Series tournament**, for a particular age group, would be permitted in a week across the country.
- The requirement in terms of the number of courts will remain as a **minimum four (4) courts in Super Series** and **five (5) courts with floodlights in National Series**.
- For Super Series with two age groups, a venue must have a minimum of **six courts having the same surface**.
- **This number of courts available must be mentioned at the time of applying for a tournament.**

### Nationals

- **Nationals can have more than one age group of tournaments being conducted in the same week at the same venue.**

## Doubles Events

- **There will be no doubles in CS (3 days) tournaments.**
- **For TS7 / CS7 / SS / NS / Nationals Tournaments doubles are a must.** Points for Doubles will be counted towards the Rankings.
- Minimum size of Draw for points to be awarded for Doubles is 08.

## Maximum Number of Matches

- For **SS / NS / Nationals** where one event is being held by the Organizers, the **players should not be made to play more than two matches**, (i.e. One Singles and One Doubles) in a day.
- **Only when a player is playing in two events** (Nationals with 2 Events) would a player be **required to play 3 matches a day** (2 Singles of different events and 1 Doubles).
- Only in case of unforeseen weather circumstances, a player may be asked to play more matches, which would be at the discretion of the referee.

## Others

- **Application of all tournaments** should be sent to AITA **at least 6 weeks prior to the start** of the tournament.
- **Fact Sheet of all tournaments** should be sent to AITA **at least 4 weeks prior to the start** of the tournament & it will be displayed on the AITA website <https://www.aitatennis.com/>
- Chair Umpires must be provided by the organizers from Quarter Finals onwards for SS, NS and Nationals.
- Adequate, roaming umpires must be provided by the organizers to oversee the other matches being played without chair umpires.

## Tournament Referee

- An **ITF White Badge Official** would be **mandatory to supervise the Super Series / National Series / Nationals/ Asian Under 14/ Asian Under 16 events**.
- The name will be decided by AITA and added to the Fact Sheet.
- Referee in Talent Series and Championship Series will be appointed by the State Association. It will be the responsibility of the State Association to send the contact details of Tournament Referee such as Name, Mobile Number and Email Id in order to put the same in the factsheet atleast 21 days before the event.
- AITA can nominate the AITA supervisors for the conduct of selected tournaments, from the AITA certified list of AITA supervisors.
- All expenses (AITA policy) for these AITA supervisors will be the responsibility for the organizers.

## Obligations Binding a Player

- **No player can play two different tournaments at different venues during the same tournament week.** i.e. If you play the qualifying of one tournament you cannot play the Main Draw / Qualifying of another tournament in the same week. This is binding for all AITA, ATF, and ITF tournaments.
- However, if a player plays the Main Draw of one tournament he/she can play the Qualifying of the next week's tournament.
- 2-3 day tournaments, though starting on a Saturday, will be considered as a tournament belonging to the next week. This would mean a player playing a 2-3 day tournament cannot play the main draw of another tournament from Monday onwards.
- If a tournament has two age groups, **NO** player can play the qualifying of both the age groups. He / She may play the Main Draw of one age group and the Qualifying of the other.
- If the entry has been sent for both the age groups & the player is in the qualifying of both the age groups the referee will withdraw the player from the higher age group after the qualifying sign in.
- In case a player does play both the qualifying events, no points will be given to that player for that tournament.

- In a tournament having two age groups a player may be in the Main Draw of one and Qualifying of the other. If he does not show up for the qualifying (No Show) he is not permitted to play the Main Draw of that tournament.
- A Player would be allowed to take part in 3 events in all, in a Tournament that involves more than one age group. **This would be two Singles Main Draw and One Doubles Main Draw.** A player is not allowed to participate in One Singles and Two Doubles Events.
- The **Entry to Doubles event** would be decided on Merit of **Combined Ranking.**
- A player who is given a walkover/bye in the first round & loses in the second round will be given the points of the first round. This applies to Doubles as well.

### For the year 2024

CATEGORY	ELIGIBLE DOB
Under 18	1/1/2006 – 31/12/2011
Under 16	1/1/2008 – 31/12/2013
Under 14	1/1/2010 – 31/12/2015
Under 12	1/1/2012 – 31/12/2017

- **Withdrawal** deadline is Monday before the start of the tournament.
- **Withdrawal** from a tournament, after the withdrawal deadline, **means withdrawal from all events of the tournament.**
- If a player does not want to take part in a tournament after he has sent his/her entry, he/she must withdraw at the earliest so that the next player can be moved up.
- Withdrawals must be sent to AITA till the **Freeze Deadline** (1700 Hrs on Thursday before the start of the tournament).
- Thereafter it must be sent to the referee, whose e-mail & Tel No will be available on the Fact Sheet.
- Withdrawal (after the withdrawal deadline), irrespective of the reason, will be allowed only twice in a calendar year.
- **Third withdrawal will be penalized as per the penalty schedule as stated below.** If a player is in the main draw or qualifying draw at the time of withdrawal (after the withdrawal deadline) will be considered as a late withdrawal.
- If a player is taking part in Singles and Doubles of a tournament and **concedes/walk over/retired** from any of the events due to any reason, then he will not be permitted to continue in that tournament. e.g. If he is playing Singles and doubles in under 14 and under 16 and decides to concede the doubles in under 16 then he will not be permitted to continue playing the Under 14 and Under 16 Singles of that tournament and his opponent will be given a walk over.
- His doubles partner will however be permitted to continue to play.

### Match Format in Tournaments

#### (3 Day) Championship Series

- Only Singles Main Draw of 48 will be made without Qualifying Draw for 3 days tournaments.
- DA and Points will be given from the Round of 32.

- This will be made after the sign in which closes one day before the tournament start date at 14:00 Hrs.
- Matches will start on any date and to be completed in three days.
- In these tournaments, each player may be asked to play up to a maximum of two matches in a day.

### Singles Format

- Upto QF - Best of 15 Games. At 7 all, the Tie Breaker will apply.
- QF & SF - Best of 17 Games. At 8 all, the Tie Breaker will apply.
- Final - Best of three sets.
- There will be no change in the tournament courts except Finals
- It is left to the Organisers to conduct the number of rounds in a day.
- The finals should be conducted on the third day. However, AITA recommends the below number of rounds in a day:
  - Day 1 – Round of 32
  - Day 2 – Round of 16 and Quarter Finals
  - Day 3 - Semi Finals and Finals
- Unranked players should be selected by draw of lots if there is a vacancy in a draw.
- Lots should be picked in front of the players in the Referee room.
- NO LET rule in service will be followed. It means if the service hits the top of the net and falls in the correct service box the point will continue.
- Any deviation from the format of matches as defined above should be with written approval from the AITA office.
- **There will be NO doubles in CS (3 Days) tournaments.**

### Talent and Championship Series (7 Days)

- If a TS or CS tournament is planned to finish on Friday (7 Days) the same must be endorsed by AITA & mentioned on the Tournament Schedule & Fact Sheet.
- Sign in for qualifying will be between 1200 & 1400 Hrs on Friday. Qualifying draw should be made before 18:00 on Friday and displayed on site/ website/ other places as required.
- Main Draw sign in will be between 1200 & 1400 Hrs on Sunday. The Singles Main Draw should be made before 18:00 on Sunday and displayed prominently as required.
- **Tournament can finish on Friday (to be endorsed by AITA) or on Saturday.**

### Match Format

**Singles Qualifying Draw** - All Qualifying matches should be of three sets, with two (2) tie-break sets, and one match tiebreak game (10 points) if the score becomes 1 set all to decide the match. Normal scoring format to be used after deuces.

**Singles Main Draw** - Best of 3 Tie Break sets.

**Doubles Draw** – All double matches, should be of three sets, with two (2) tie-break sets, and one match tiebreak game (10 points) if the score becomes one set all to decide the match. No ad scoring will be used.

## Doubles

- Size of the Draw will be of 16 pairs.
- Acceptance List will be made from the AITA Rankings by adding the **Ranking** of each of the players in the pair. The sign-in for doubles shall close on Monday at 12:00 noon
- **NO LET** rule in service will be in place. It means if the service hits the top of the net and falls in the correct service box the point will continue.

## Super Series / National Series / Nationals

**Singles Qualifying Draw** - All Qualifying matches should be of three sets, with two (2) tie-break sets, and one match tiebreak game (10 points) if the score becomes 1 set all to decide the match. Normal scoring format to be used after deuces.

**Singles Main Draw** - Best of 3 Tie Break sets.

**Doubles Draw** – All double matches, should be of three sets, with two (2) tie-break sets, and one match tiebreak game (10 points) if the score becomes one set all to decide the match. No ad scoring will be used.

## Doubles

- Size of Draw will be of 16 pairs.
- Sign-in for doubles shall close on Monday at 12:00 noon.
- **NO LET** rule in service will be in place. It means if the service hits the top of the net and falls in the correct service box the point will continue.
- Any change in the format of matches can happen only with the written approval of AITA, which has to be displayed on the notice board at the tournament premises.

## Acceptance for Doubles

- *Direct Acceptance for Doubles*
- Following acceptance priority will be used for selecting the direct acceptance of teams in doubles.

### **Priority -1**

- If both the players of a doubles team are singles main draw players (as direct acceptance, special exempt, qualifier or lucky loser). The selection of teams under this priority will be done as follows:-
- First - If both the players have ranking, then the combined ranking will determine the order.
- Second- If only 1 player has ranking, then the ranking of this one player will be used to decide the order.
- Third- if both the players are unranked, then by lots.
- The lucky loser/ qualifying status of the singles players will be as determined at the time of closing of doubles sign in. Singles main draw wild cards will not be considered for this priority.

### **Priority-2**

- If one player of a doubles team is a singles main draw player (as direct acceptance, special exempt, qualifier or lucky loser). The selection of teams under this priority will be done as follows:-
- First - If both the players have ranking, then the combined ranking will determine the order.
- Second- If only 1 player has ranking, then the ranking of this one player will be used to decide the order.
- Third- if both the players are unranked, then by lots.



### Priority-3

- If both the players of a doubles team are not singles main draw players (as direct acceptance, special exempt, qualifier or lucky) as considered for the above 2 priorities. The selection of the teams under this priority will be done as follows:-
- First - If both the players have ranking, then the combined ranking will determine the order.
- Second- If only 1 player has ranking, then the ranking of this one player will be used to decide the order.
- Third- if both the players are unranked, then by lots.

**In circumstances which are beyond the control of the organizer, like, rain, strike or any other natural calamity, the number of matches to be played on a day may be changed, to complete the tournament. However, AITA's permission must be obtained for this change.**

### **\*\* POINTS SYSTEM FOR AITA CIRCUIT:**

Round Of	R64	R32	R16	Q	SF	F	W
TALENT SERIES (7 Days)	-	2	6	8	10	12	15
CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES (3 Days)	-	1	3	4	6	8	10
CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES (7 Days)	-	4	8	10	15	20	25
SUPER SERIES	-	5	10	20	30	40	50
NATIONAL SERIES	5	10	20	30	40	50	75
NATIONALS	20	40	60	80	100	150	200

- **It is mandatory for all players to participate in the Nationals, for selection to Junior Teams.**
- If the Singles (Main Draw in the case of TS or CS (7 Day's) /SS / NS / Nationals) has less than 16 players or the Doubles (Main Draw in the case of CS (7 Day's) / SS / NS / Nationals) has less than 8 pairs. The tournament may continue. However, no ranking points will be awarded. In the case of three day tournaments if the draw is of less than eight players the tournament may continue but no ranking points will be awarded.
- However, to encourage the North East Sector points will be awarded to all players taking part in any NE Sector Talent Series tournament having a minimum of eight players in Main Draw.
- Qualifying points for the National Series and Nationals are 6-4-2 and for TS / CS (7 Days) / Super Series 1 point awarded to players who qualify.

### **\*\* Ranking System takes into consideration, tournaments played during the last 52 weeks:**

- **From 2024, results of best 8 tournaments will be considered for ranking.**
- **Under -18 Category** - Rankings are prepared on the basis of best 8(eight) tournament results, played in India, of singles along with 25% of the best 8(Eight) tournament points from doubles. The points earned in ITF Juniors (points used to calculate the ITF Junior ranking only) will be doubled (ie points X 2) and added to the above AITA under 18 points. Plus the points earned from AITA Men/ Women tournaments (points used to calculate the AITA Men's/Women's ranking)

- **Under -16 Category** - Rankings are prepared on the basis of best 8 (eight) tournaments results, played in India, of singles along with 25% of the best 8(eight) tournaments points from doubles plus 25% of the points of the best 3 results from Asian - U16 tournaments played in India, plus points earned from best 8 AITA U-18 will be added.
- **Under -14 Category** - Rankings are prepared on the basis of best 8(eight) tournament results, played in India, of singles along with the 25% of the best 8 (eight) tournament points from doubles plus 25% of the points of the best 3 results from Asian - U14 tournaments played in India, plus the points earned from best 8 AITA U-16 will be added.
- **Under -12 Category** - Rankings are prepared on the basis of best 8 (eight) tournament results, played in India, of singles along with the 25% of the best 8 (eight) tournament points from doubles plus the points earned from best 8 AITA U-14. Plus the 25% of points earned in best 3 of Asian U14 tournaments played in India.

### Main Draw Sizes

Singles Main Draw Size	Singles Main Draw (Boys)	Singles Main Draw (Girls)
TS (7 Days)	32	32
CS (3 Days)	48	48
CS (7 Days)	32	32
Super Series	32	32
National Series	64	48
Nationals	64	48

- There will be no doubles in CS (3 Days). In all other tournaments, the maximum draw size for doubles would be 16.

### Qualifying Draw Sizes

Singles Qualifying Draw Size	Singles Qualifying Draw (Boys)	Singles Qualifying Draw (Girls)
TS (7 Days)	Open	Open
CS (7 Days)	Open	Open
Super Series	48	32
National Series	48	32
Nationals	64	48

- There will be no qualifying for Doubles.
- There is no qualifying draw for CS (3 Days) tournaments.

### SIGN IN REQUIREMENTS

#### **CS (3 Days)**

- There will be no requirement to send entries.
- Sign in will be a day before the start of the tournament between 1200 & 1400 Hrs at the venue.
- Draw to be made and displayed before 18:00 Hrs on the sign day itself.
- WhatsApp / Email may be used for Sign-in. However, if a player has done a sign in and does not appear for his match he/she will be fined Rs 1,000 + 180 (18% GST) = **₹1,180**.
- Entry fees will not be refunded if the player does not show up for the match.

## TS and CS (7 Days)

- WhatsApp / Email may be used for Sign-in. However, if a player has done a sign in and does not appear for his match he/she will be fined Rs 1500 + 270 (18% GST) = **₹1,770**.
- Entry fees will not be refunded back if the player does not show up for the match.

## SS/NS/Nationals

- Physical sign in for qualifying is compulsory.
- **Qualifying sign in**
  - The sign in for qualifying will be uniform for all tournaments to be held on Friday between 12:00-14:00.
  - The Singles Qualifying draw is to be made latest by 18:00 and displayed prominently as required.
- Main Draw sign-in is required only at TS7/ CS7, where the main draw sign-in shall take place on Sunday between 12:00-14:00.
- The Singles main draw shall be made before 18:00 and displayed prominently as required.
- **There will be No Main Draw Sign-in for SS/NS/Nationals.**

### Making the Draw

- All draws should be made immediately after the respective sign-in has closed preferably in the Referee room or decided by the tournament director at the venue.
- All draws shall be made by the Referee (in public) in front of the players and the draw shall be video recorded and shared with the AITA office.
- The draw should be signed by two players preferably these players should be from different States to that of the host State.
- **No hand written draws will be permitted.**

### Composition of the Draws:

	<b>Open Main Draw</b>	<b>Main Draw size- 32</b>	<b>Main Draw Size- 48</b>	<b>Main Draw Size- 64</b>
Direct-On ranking	ALL	23	39	55
Qualifiers	NONE	8	8	8
Special Exempt	NONE	1	1	1
Wildcards	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE

	Qualifying Draw-32	Qualifying Draw -48	Qualifying Draw-64
Direct-on ranking	28	44	60
Wild cards	4	4	4

- For Doubles – draw of 16, all teams to be selected as per the rules defined earlier.
- There will no Wild cards, Special Exempt or qualifying for doubles events in any tournament.

## **\*\* Entry Regulations:**

- The Acceptance List for **Talent Series/ Championship (7 Days) / SS / NS / Nationals** will be made, taking into account the latest Rankings available on the website.
- Whilst making the Acceptance List, no player without a ranking will be put in the Main Draw. In case there are vacancies in the Main Draw, these spots shall be filled in by Lucky Losers.
- Players with no rankings will remain in the alternates till the time the number of vacancies in the qualifying is equal to the number of unranked players in the alternates.
- If two or more players have the same ranking at the time of making the Acceptance List then the best eight Singles points will be the criteria for placing on the Acceptance List. If the singles points are also the same then there will be a draw of lots.

## **\*\* Entries**

- Entries for Talent Series, Championship Series (7 Days), Super Series, National Series & Nationals will be taken online. **Once the player sends the entry through online, he/she will get a confirmation through e-mail as well as the reference number of his/her entry will be available in the player's dashboard.**
- No Fax OK slip or confirmation by phone is acceptable. Link of online entry system will be available on the tournament factsheet.
- Due to an administrative mistake, if a player's entry is missed out the name will be added as No 1 in the qualifying (if the player should have been in the Main Draw) or No 1 in the alternates (if the player should have been in the Qualifying). As and when there is a Withdrawal the player will be moved into his correct place on the acceptance list.

## **\*\*Withdrawals**

- Withdrawals from Talent Series, Championship Series (7 Days), Super Series, National Series & Nationals will be taken online. **No withdrawals will be accepted through e-mail before the freeze deadline of the tournament.** The player should send late withdrawal to the tournament referee whose contact details are available on the tournament factsheet after the freeze deadline to avoid a no-show.
- If a player whose name is there on the acceptance list neither withdraws nor does the sign-in then it will be treated as **No Show**.
  - Withdrawal - Till Withdrawal Deadline - Via AITA Login.
  - Late Withdrawal - After the Withdrawal Deadline till the Freeze Deadline - Via AITA Login.
  - Late Withdrawal - After the freeze deadline till the Qualifying Sign In - Via Email to the Tournament Referee whose email address is mentioned on the fact Sheet and copy to [entries@aitatennis.com](mailto:entries@aitatennis.com)
- Note: After the Qualifying Sign-in deadline, if any player sends a withdrawal from Qualifying Acceptance or Main Draw Acceptance, it will be considered a No-Show.
- For any technical query on any particular tournament, the player must get in touch with the Referee only via email, whose email id will be available on the Fact Sheet and copy to AITA Entries System ([entires@aitatennis.com](mailto:entires@aitatennis.com)).

- Tournament Directors are requested to refrain from taking decisions and/or request's related to technical and should be communicated/forwarded to the Tournament Referee immediately. Email sent to any other than Tournament Referee / AITA email address will not be considered.
- If a player withdraws before the withdrawal deadline due to any reason, can play the tournament signing in as onsite alternate but if the player withdraws from the tournament after the withdrawal deadline, then he will not be allowed to play and it will be considered as Late Withdrawal.

### **Ball Rule**

#### **Super Series, National Series, and Nationals**

**Balls:** ITF-approved balls should be used. In Qualifying events, there shall be a minimum of three new balls for each new match. In Main Draw matches, 03 new Balls are to be provided for each match. For the semi-finals and finals, 03 new balls must be provided before the start of the 3<sup>rd</sup> set.

Practice balls - a minimum of 3 once used balls of playable condition must be provided to the players against a refundable deposit.

#### **Talent Series and Championship Series**

**Balls:** ITF-approved balls should be used. It is suggested that new balls should be given for every Main Draw match (3 Balls).

Qualifying matches should be played with new balls as far as possible.

### **Extensive Heat Conditions**

For the safety of the players and officials, it is recommended to implement a heat rule in case of extreme heat conditions. The referee is responsible for implementing the heat rule. In case, the heat rule is implemented, there would be a break of 10 minutes before the start of the 3<sup>rd</sup> set. **The heat rule is applicable for the Singles matches only.**

During the 10 minutes heat break, players are allowed to leave the court and use the toilets.

No coaching, medical treatment, interaction with parents/ coaches/ friends will be allowed.

#### **\*\* Daily Allowance:**

- Daily allowance as per the following, has to be paid by the tournament to all the main draw players in Championship Series (3 Days or 7 Days)/ SS/NS/ Nationals.
- There will be NO Daily Allowance payable for Talent Series tournaments.
- The Daily allowance for the CS (3) will be payable to players from the round of 32.
- PLAYERS are entitled to the daily allowance from 1<sup>st</sup> day of the main draw (or from the day of round of 32 in case of CS3) till the day he is eliminated (both singles & doubles) from the tournament. The Daily allowance is payable even if the matches cannot start due to weather conditions, or does not take place on any day due to any reason.

#### **Daily Allowance for Main Draw players (Singles & Doubles)**

- **Nationals:** ₹ 1000/day
- **National Series:** ₹ 800/day
- **Super Series:** ₹ 600/day
- **Championship Series (7 Day):** ₹ 400/day
- **Championship Series (3 Day):** ₹ 300/day

- DA to be paid for days the player is in the Singles/Doubles Main Draw.
- If a match has to be completed the next day then DA will be given for the day the match is completed.
  - In CS (7 day's) / SS / NS / Nationals a Player receives DA from the Monday of the tournament until the day of elimination from the tournament, even if the player's first match is on Tuesday.

#### **\*\* Entry Deadlines for Tournaments:**

- The entry deadline for TS & CS (7 days), Super Series, National Series, and Nationals would be 3 Mondays prior to commencement of the Tournament.
- **Acceptance list** for TS & CS (7 day's), Super Series, National Series and Nationals would be announced at least, 10 Days prior to commencement of Main Draw. The Acceptance list will be available on the website.

#### **\*\* Seedings:**

- Seeding's for the qualifying & Main Draw of TS & CS (7 days), Super Series, National Series, and Nationals will be made taking into account the **Rankings available** on the AITA website on the Tuesday of the previous week of the tournament. However, if the rankings are updated before the Draw is made it is left to the referee to follow the updated rankings or not. In case two players have the same ranking, then the player with the higher (Best eight) Singles points will be seeded higher.
- In the case of CS (3 Day) tournaments, the seeding will be dependent on the number of players who have signed in (eight for a draw of 32 and 16 for a draw of more than 32). Seedings will be made taking into account the **Rankings available** on the AITA website.

#### **\*\* Special Exempt:**

- Special Exempt position is given to players on the Qualifying Acceptance List (entered players only) who have applied for and received an exemption from the Qualifying event because he/she is still competing at a "Qualified Tournament" on the day the Qualifying event is scheduled to begin. A "Qualified Tournament" is the singles event of another AITA tournament of the same or higher grade, in the preceding week. Any unused Special Exempt place will be filled by an entered player who has signed in for Qualifying and is to be selected in accordance with his/her position on the Acceptance List. (No 1 position on the qualifying acceptance list after sign in)
- **No Special exempt is to be given for any other reason as defined above.**

#### **\*\* Lucky Losers:**

- Any vacancies arising in the first round, (or in the 2<sup>nd</sup> round in case of byes in the first round) of the Main Draw, after the completion of the final qualifying round, shall be filled in by Lucky losers as follows: -
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Preference – To all ranked players losing in the final qualifying round **picked up by lots**
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Preference – To all unranked players losing in the final qualifying round **picked up by lots**
- If additional lucky losers are needed the losers of the previous round of qualifying shall be selected in the same manner.

- The tournament referee shall conduct a Lucky Loser sign-in at an appropriate time to decide the Lucky Loser spots in the Main Draw. The Lucky Loser sign in time must be put on the tournament notice board well in time but not less than six hours before the sign in time. Lucky Looser sign in will be done every day in case the first round is delayed and not completed on the first or second day of the main draw.

## **\*\* Tournament Days:**

- **Championship Series (3 Days)** will be conducted for 3 Days. It can start from Monday to Wednesday **or** Friday to Sunday.

### **Sign In:**

Tournament commencing on **Monday**, then sign in will be **Sunday between 1200 Hrs – 1400 Hrs.**

Tournament commencing on **Friday**, then sign in will be **Thursday between 1200 Hrs – 1400 Hrs.**

- **Talent/ Championship Series (7 days) / Super Series / National Series / Nationals:**
  - Main Draw will be from Monday to Friday / Saturday.
  - Qualifying: Saturday, Sunday & Monday if required.
  - **Qualifying Sign In will be on Friday 12:00 -2:00 pm. Main Draw Sign in for TS7 & CS7 will be 1200 Hrs to 1400 Hrs on Sunday. There will be no Main Draw Sign in for SS/NS/Nationals.**
  - **Onsite Alternates:** - All players who are in qualifying list, alternate list or any onsite alternate should sign in along with the qualifying sign in on Friday.
  - After the sign in closes, a list is to be compiled of the players who signed in but did not get into the qualifying draw. These players will need to sign in again on the day qualifying matches start as per the time notified by the referee to take up the spots created in qualifying by any no shows.

### **Sign In for Doubles**

- **Talent Series / Championship Series / Super Series / National Series / Nationals:** Monday by 1200 Hrs.

## **\*\* Penalty Points:**

- **Super Series / National Series / Nationals – Irrespective of the reason.**
  - **Late Withdrawal – Third late withdrawal, in a calendar year, will lead to minus 15 points.** Thereafter, on every late withdrawal **15 points** will be deducted.
  - In case of No Show (Main Draw or Qualifying). Points will be deducted as follows:-
  - Talent Series (7 Days) – **5**
  - Championship Series (7 Days) – **5**
  - Super Series – **5**

- National Series – **10**
- Nationals – **15**

If a tournament has two age groups and a player is a no-show for the qualifying of one age group, he will not be permitted to take part in the Qualifying/Main Draw of the other age group.

**\*\* Tournament Entry Fees:**

- **The entry fees for all tournaments will be as follows.**

<b>Juniors</b>	<b>Singles</b>	<b>Doubles (for each pair)</b>
Talent Series (7 Days)	₹ 400	₹ 400
Championship Series (3 Days)	₹ 400	NA
Championship Series (7 Days)	₹ 600	₹ 700
Super Series	₹ 700	₹ 900
National Series	₹ 900	₹ 1100
Nationals	₹ 1100	₹ 1300

- The State Association will be charged the following on application for each age group (in case the tournament is for two age groups it will be double):-

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>GST (18%)</b>	<b>Total (₹)</b>
1	Talent Series (7 Days)	5,000	900	5,900
2	Championship Series (3 Days)	3,500	630	4,130
3	Championship Series (7 Days)	5,000	900	5,900
4	Super Series	7,500	1,350	8,850
5	National Series	10,000	1,800	11,800
6	Nationals	12,500	2,250	14,750

**Notes:**

- Players, their coaches, and relatives, accompanying them on-site, shall behave professionally at all times. They
  - a) Shall not use an audible obscenity within the precinct of the tournament site.
  - b) Shall not make obscene gestures of any kind within the precincts of the tournament site.
  - c) Shall not at any time directly or indirectly verbally abuse any official, opponent, sponsor, spectator or other person within the precincts of the tournament site.



- d) Shall not violently, dangerously or with anger hit, kick or throw a tennis ball or Racquet, within the precincts of the tournament site.
  - e) Shall not receive coaching during a match. Communications of any kind, audible or visible, between a player and a coach/parent/relatives, may be construed as coaching.
- If such a violation occurs during a match, the player shall be penalized in accordance with the point penalty schedule of ITF rules and regulations.
  - In circumstances that are flagrant and particularly injurious to the success of a tournament, or singularly egregious, a single violation of this section shall constitute a major offense, and a player may be defaulted from the tournament.
  - Players, their coaches, and relatives accompanying the players, shall not at any time physically abuse any official, opponent, or another person within the precincts of the site, shall not issue, authorize or endorse any public statement within the precincts of the tournament site having, or designed to have, an effect prejudicial or detrimental to the best interest of the tournament and or of the officiating thereof. If such a violation occurs during a match or during tournament week, the violation shall be considered a major offense and the player may be defaulted from the tournament.
  - The decision of the immediate default of the player shall be decided by the supervisor, in consultation with the tournament director and/or with the state Secretary. Further action may be initiated by AITA against the players/coaches/parents as deemed fit by the tournament committee/code of conduct committee of AITA

**The points, rules and regulations which are not covered in the above stated guidelines, the ITF rules and regulations will prevail.**

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