

CHANGES  
TO THE  
PUBLISHED  
2015 ATP  
OFFICIAL RULEBOOK



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

Last revised 09/02/2015

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A correction to page 10, 1.07 D. Commitment has been made to the published 2015 ATP Official Rulebook. It is noted in **italics** below:

#### D. Commitment

The commitment for the commitment player is, the singles event of all ATP World Tour Masters 1000 tournaments for which he is accepted, the Barclays ATP World Tour Finals (if qualified as a direct acceptance or designated as the alternate) and four (4) ATP World Tour 500 tournaments, one (1) of which must be held following the US Open. For commitment and ranking purposes, the Monte Carlo Masters 1000, **London Queens and Halle** will be included in the minimum requirements for the 500 category. 2015 Davis Cup points may be counted as one (1) of the best of six (6) in the Emirates ATP Rankings, however, it shall not count towards the commitment requirement of a commitment player. See page 193 "Ranking Penalty."

Effective Immediately

Additions have been made to pg. 282, **Exhibit O – Glossary**, noted below in **italics**:

#### Draw Results:

The supervisor must record match results using, where appropriate, the following definitions:

**Abandoned:** Match began but was not completed for any reason other than default or retirement. There is no winner or loser. The match is not to be completed. Players receive points and money equivalent to loser of that round.

**Default:** Losing player was defaulted under provisions of Code of Conduct after match had begun.

**Incomplete:** Match began but was not completed for any reason other than weather, default, or retirement. There is no winner or loser. It is anticipated that the match will be resumed and completed.

**Ineligible:** *Player fails to sign the Consent and Agreement Form prior to his first match.*

**Retired:** Losing player retired because of illness or injury after match had begun.

**Unplayed:** Match did not begin for any reason other than (a) illness or injury on the part of one player or (b) one player was subjected to penalties of Code of Conduct before first serve of match was struck or otherwise not permitted by the ATP or tournament supervisor from playing. There is no winner or loser and the match will not be played.

**Unregistered - Player fails to complete the registration process prior to his first match.**

**Walkover:** Match did not begin because:

- a) losing player was ill or injured or
- b) losing player was subjected to penalties of Code of Conduct before first serve of match was struck or otherwise not permitted by the ATP or tournament supervisor to play.

This would not be used when a lucky loser or alternate is substituted. Winners of "walkover" matches receive points and prize money as if the match had been played.

**Weather:** Match began but was not completed because of inclement weather. There is no winner or loser. It is anticipated that the match will be resumed and completed.

Effective Immediately

A **note** has been added to Section 9.03 ATP Rankings, G. Points, 5) Point Table, pg. 195 directly beneath the Points Table:

**NOTE: Challenger tournaments that provide hospitality receive the points of the next highest prize money level.**

Effective Immediately

A clarification has been added to Section 7.09, B. 2), pg. 91 to the heading as noted below in **italics**:

#### 2) Doubles - ATP World Tour 500 2015 Trial (**Mandatory**) & Challenger (**Optional**)

There shall be a four-draw event with one team qualifying.

Effective Immediately

Corrections/clarifications have been made to Section 7.20, A. 3), pg. 107 regarding vacancies as indicated below in **italics**:

- a) The sign-in for doubles lucky losers or alternates shall follow the same procedures as the sign-in for singles lucky losers or alternates. One member of a lucky loser team may sign in for the team. If there is no qualifying competition, substitutions shall come from the alternate list of teams not accepted directly into the main draw, **and shall follow the acceptance procedures outlined above.** In either case, only substitutions of the originally paired teams are permitted. If two (2) or more positions become available at the same time during the preceding period, the positions to be occupied shall be determined by drawing.
  - c) There shall be one **Lucky Loser** / alternate sign-in sheet that will have all eligible **Lucky Loser** / alternate teams listed.
  - d) The system of merit for alternates is based on the same method as used in the system of merit for entry.
  - e) **The system of merit for Lucky Losers is based on the same method as used to determine seeding.**

**NOTE: 4) Vacancies in ATP World Tour 500 Doubles main draw will be filled by the following method:**

- i.) Team losing in the final round of qualifying shall be the number 1 lucky loser; and
  - ii.) The two teams losing in the first round of the doubles qualifying shall be numbers two (2) and three (3) based upon their ranking as used in the determination of seeds; and then
  - iii.) All teams who signed in for the on-site entry list and were not accepted or could not participate in the qualifying and shall be ordered based upon their rank on the acceptance list.
  - iv.) One player from each team must sign the daily lucky loser / alternate sign-in sheet to be eligible to fill a vacancy.
- 5) Vacancies in Challenger Doubles main draw will be filled by the following method:**
- i.) **Team losing in the final round of qualifying shall be the number 1 lucky loser; and**
  - ii.) **The two teams losing in the first round of the doubles qualifying shall be numbers two (2) and three (3) based upon their ranking as used in the determination of seeds.**
  - iii.) **One player from each team must sign the daily lucky loser / alternate sign-in sheet to be eligible to fill a vacancy.**

Effective Immediately

## Rule Changes passed at the Barcelona Board Meetings – April 2015

Changes to Pg. 106, 7.20 A. Lucky Losers, Substitutions and Vacancies are noted below in **bold**.

- A. Lucky Loser Selection  
A player may be entered in the main draw of a tournament if he meets the criteria outlined for a lucky loser.
- 1) Lucky losers are players who have lost in the final round of the qualifying event or, if more lucky losers are required, those players who have lost in the previous qualifying round(s). Lucky Losers shall be selected based on the computer rankings **used for the determination of qualifying seeding** as follows: ***If there are no vacancies when the qualifying event has been completed, then the order of the Lucky Loser list shall be selected on the basis of their position on the Emirates ATP Rankings (singles or doubles) list used for determination of qualifying seeding (protected ranking is not considered). If there is a vacancy in the main draw when qualifying is completed then the order of the two (2) highest ranked players shall be randomly drawn, thereafter the order shall follow the players' rankings, unless there are two (2) or more withdrawals at the time the Qualifying competition is finished in which case the size of the random draw will be the number of withdrawals plus two (2) one (1). In the case where players from the previous round are included in the draw they will be placed behind all players who have lost in the final round of qualifying. Only those accepted into the qualifying competition may sign in as lucky losers.***

Effective for events week of 4 May 2015 (Madrid + Challengers – Busan, Aix en Provence, Cali, Karshi and Rome).

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Pg. 86, 7.05 Withdrawals/Late Withdrawal Penalties D. 2) has been revised as follows in **bold**:

### D. No Play After Withdrawal

- 1) If a player withdraws after the entry/withdrawal deadline from the singles or doubles event of a Grand Slam, ATP World Tour, ATP Challenger Tour, ITF Futures tournament or the qualifying competition of an ATP World Tour Masters 1000 or ATP World Tour 500 tournament for any reason, he may not play in any other tournament or special event during that tournament week.
- 2) ***If the withdrawal occurs prior to 12 noon, Eastern Time, USA, on Friday before the tournament week, then the player may not enter or compete in the doubles event of such tournament or any other tournament or event that week.*** If the withdrawal was for medical reasons ***and was after 12 noon Eastern Time, USA, on Friday before the tournament week or the withdrawal was from an ATP World Tour Masters 1000 or ATP World Tour 500 qualifying,*** then the player may enter and compete in the doubles event of the same tournament provided he is determined by the supervisor, upon written medical advice, to be physically capable to compete on a professional level of play.

Effective for events week of 4 May 2015 (Madrid + Challengers – Busan, Aix en Provence, Cali, Karshi and Rome).

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Correction on page 87, 7.05 E 1) to add 250 tournaments noted below in **bold**:

### 7.05 Withdrawal/Late Withdrawal Penalties

- E. Withdrawals from the qualifying competition at ATP World Tour Masters 1000 or ATP World Tour 500 tournaments will be without penalty if one of the following occurs:

- 1) Player is accepted into the main draw of the ATP World Tour Masters 1000, ATP World Tour 500 **or ATP World Tour 250** tournament.

Effective immediately – 26 April 2015.

Pg. 52, 5.04 Doctor, Physiotherapist and Massage Therapist A. 1) has been revised as follows in **bold**:

### A. ATP World Tour Tournaments

- 1) **Tournament Doctor.** Beginning with the qualifying competition, it is the responsibility of each ATP World Tour tournament to provide on-site during the entire tournament an English-speaking doctor who specializes in sports medicine, unless otherwise approved by the ATP's Medical Services Committee. ***Each tournament shall send the name and address of the tournament doctor to the appropriate ATP regional coordinator forty-two (42) days in advance of the tournament.***

Effective 1 January 2016

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Section 7.01 A 2) will be amended to state that there are no entry fees at ATP Challenger Tour Tournaments.

Effective 1 January 2016

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**All changes since last edit sent on 4/28/15 included below:**

On Pg. 65, Section 6.01 D. Lighting, 2) a) the amount of LUX has been corrected as noted in **bold italics**:

### D. Lighting

#### 2) Intensity

- a) **ATP World Tour Tournaments.** Lighting must be evenly distributed on the court with a minimum recommended intensity of 100 foot-candles (1076 LUX), averaged over 15 readings on court. The recommended minimum lighting for televised events broadcasting in high definition is an average of 285 foot candles (approximately **3,067** LUX). The light should be distributed across the court evenly with a consistent color temperature.

Effective Immediately

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Pg. 101 before the Unranked Players as Alternates, a new Case & Decision has been added in **bold italics**:

### ***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: No. To be eligible for the "day of" alternate sign-in, the player must sign-in the night before prior to the sign-in deadline. ATP POLICY***

***NOTE: The above does not apply if there is not a "night before" sign-in.***

Effective Immediately

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There was a clarification to 7.13 C2, pg. 102 as noted in **bold** below and a new **Case & Decision** directly below the rule change.

- 2) If the doubles draw cannot be filled ***by teams where both members are listed in the Emirates ATP Rankings or Emirates ATP Doubles Rankings, the remaining places shall be filled with byes.***

### ***Only One Doubles Player Has Ranking***

***Case: A doubles team has one player who is listed in the Emirates ATP Rankings or Emirates 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.***

**NOTE: The rationale for this is that all players, except Wild Cards, must be an ATP Member or a 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.**

Effective Immediately

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Correction to Page 156, 8.03 J. 3) d) as noted below in **bold**.

- 8.03 Player Code of Conduct ("Code")
- J. Repeal of Withdrawal Fines and/or Penalties
- 3) ATP World Tour Masters 1000
- d) Exceptions.

The player will not have the suspension **or ranking penalty** assessed if he qualifies for a reduction in his 1000 commitment **and he withdraws prior to the withdrawal deadline.**

~~however the ranking penalty is automatic and cannot be rescinded under any circumstances.~~

Effective Immediately

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A clarification and two (2) new Cases & Decisions have been added to Pg. 110, 7.20 C. Vacancies – Doubles as noted below in **bold**.

C. Vacancies – Doubles

ATP World Tour

- 1) A team shall constitute a doubles entry. If either of the players of a team cannot play, that doubles entry is subject to withdrawal and substitution.
- 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.
- 3) If the withdrawal is from the advance acceptance list and occurs after the 12 Noon (EST) deadline then an additional on-site entry position is created for each withdrawal.
  - a. For both 2 and 3 above, the partner of the withdrawing player may enter **doubles or sign in for the singles qualifying of the same or another event** through the on-site entry method; or
  - b. If the withdrawal was due to one or both players being accepted into the main draw singles of another ATP World Tour or ATP Challenger Tour event, then both players may enter the doubles of that event through the appropriate onsite entry procedure.
- 4) If a player from a team that is a direct acceptance withdraws based on a medical reason or other unavoidable circumstances after the on-site sign-in deadline but before the draw, his partner may enter again with another player who has not already been accepted into the main draw doubles event. This new team may be considered for acceptance based on its position in the on-site entry list including any entry protection position.

**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.**

**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 World 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 World Tour or ATP Challenger Tour tournament which is allowed.**

Effective Immediately

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Clarification and title added to the Case & Decision on pg. 80, 7.03 A. 2) under **NOTE** as noted below in **bold**:

**From Q to Main Draw of another event**

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

**Decision:** Yes

Effective Immediately

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Clarification to the Case & Decisions in Section 7.09 Size & Method of Draw to be added on pg. 93 just above 7.10 Special Exempts (SE) as noted in **bold**:

**Player Pulled from ATP World Tour 500 Qualifying**

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

**Decision:** Yes

Effective Immediately

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Clarification/changes to the Case & Decision at the top of pg. 81 above as noted below in **bold**. Should be placed above **3) ATP Challenger Tour Tournament**.

**Withdrawing from Qualifying to Play Main Draw Doubles at Another Event**

**Case:** May a player who is included in the singles qualifying event of an ATP Challenger Tour Tournament, ATP World Tour 250 or ATP World Tour 500 be withdrawn to move into the main draw doubles of an ATP World Tour 250 or ATP World Tour 500 event which is held the same week?

**Decision:** Yes, provided he moves into the main draw doubles as an alternate on the original advance entry doubles list **or is offered a main draw wild card** and as long as the first ball of the qualifying at the tournament where he is in the qualifying draw has not been struck.

Effective Immediately

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New Case & Decision on pg. 81 below the revised C&D from above:

**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 World Tour 250 or ATP World Tour 500 and is forced to withdraw, be allowed to come back and play doubles at the same event?**

**Decision:** Yes.

Effective Immediately

**NOTE: The deadline for a player to declare his intent to accept a Special Exempt, if eligible, is no later than one hour following the completion of the match that qualified him for a Special Exempt. Once he has declared his intent to the Supervisor or Player Relations staff, he must accept the Special Exempt, if eligible, or be subject to the applicable withdrawal/late withdrawal penalties.**

Effective Immediately

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Two new Cases & Decisions added after the last Special Exempt Case & Decision on page 96 as noted below:

**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?**

**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.**

Effective Immediately

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To correct a formatting error, please note the following change passed at the recent Board Meetings in London, June 2015

Pg. 223, Exhibit C – Broadcast Standards 2) has been changed by taking the last sentence of c) and making it a d) as noted below in **bold**.

Exhibit C- Broadcast Standards

Broadcast Quality Standards

b) Broadcaster's Responsibilities

- c) With respect to any live match scores or related statistical data provided to broadcaster by ATP, or its designee, or collected by broadcaster, such broadcasters shall agree (i) not to onward supply, sublicense or otherwise make such scores and data available to any third party for use not related to the broadcast, and (ii) to restrict their use of such scores and data to use on a contemporaneous basis within their live broadcast of any match; any other use shall be subject to a delay of at least :30 seconds.

**d) All tournament agreements with Host Broadcasters must comply with, and shall be subject to, all ATP rules as amended from time to time.**

Section VIII. 8.04, A. 2) Conduct Contrary to the Integrity of the Game, page 174, has been amended as noted in **bold**:

2) Conduct Contrary to the Integrity of the Game

The favorable reputation of the ATP, its tournaments and players is a valuable asset and creates tangible benefits for all ATP members. Accordingly, it is an obligation for ATP players and Related Persons, to refrain from engaging in conduct contrary to the integrity of the game of tennis.

- a) Conduct contrary to the integrity of the game shall include, but not be limited to, ~~comments to the news media publicized comments~~ that unreasonably attack or disparage **any person or group of people**, a tournament, sponsor, player, official or the ATP. Responsible expressions of legitimate disagreement with ATP policies are not prohibited. However, public comments that one of the stated persons above knows, or should reasonably know, will harm the reputation or financial best interests of a tournament, player, sponsor, official or the ATP are expressly covered by this section.