

**CHANGES
TO THE
PUBLISHED
2016 ATP
OFFICIAL RULEBOOK**



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

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Effective Immediately: A clarification to page 80, 7.03 A. 2) NOTE has been made to the published 2016 ATP Official Rulebook. It is noted in *italics* below:

NOTE: For the Asian **ATP World Tour qualifying** tournaments only, if a withdrawal occurs prior to 12 noon, Eastern Time, USA, the qualifying vacancy shall be filled by the next player on the qualifying alternate list regardless of when the qualifying draw is finalized.

Effectively Immediately: A new Case & Decision has been added to 7.22 Q. Medical Cases on page 140, after the *Penalties After Medical Time-Out* Case & Decision and after the same Case in the C&D Section of the rulebook on page 350 as follows:

Case: *A player receives treatment on a changeover or receives a Medical Time-Out. The player is then slow to resume play after "Time" has been called. What is the appropriate penalty?*

Decision: *The appropriate Delay of Game Penalty (Warning, Point, Game).*

Case: *After receiving treatment for cramping on the changeover, a player plays one or more points and then is slow to resume play. If the player goes over the allowed time, what penalty does the player receive?*

Decision: *The appropriate Time Violation (Warning, Point/Fault).*

**The following rule changes were passed at the recently completed
Miami Board Meetings - Miami, FL – March 2016**

Effective April 1, 2016: A change has been made to the Stars Program to address the situation when a player is required to visit with a sponsor that conflicts with one of the player's existing endorsement or sponsor contracts as noted below in *italics*:

Pg. 15, 1.14 Stars Program

Responsibilities

- A. All players competing in the main draw of any ATP World Tour tournament will be required, if asked, to participate in ATP sponsored activities.
- B. Each player is obligated to provide up to two (2) hours each week as arranged by the ATP staff, for a maximum of up to four (4) separate activities.
- C. *Each player, if requested, is obligated to conduct visits to private sponsor lounges. Tournaments shall instruct sponsors that no video or photos shall be taken if the player has a conflicting sponsor contract (i.e., is within the same product or service category), however, personal photos that do not include any corporate or product signage/identification and will not be used for a commercial purpose are allowed. Tournaments must ensure that no images or footage of any player visit shall be used by the sponsor for a commercial purpose (i.e., giving the appearance the player endorses a product or service) without the prior written consent of the player. No players are permitted to visit the sponsor lounge (or other location) of a company that offers betting on tennis.*
- D. *Each player, if requested, is obligated to conduct visits to sponsor public booths except if the player has a conflicting sponsor contract (i.e., is within the same product or service category). Tournaments must ensure that no images or footage of such visits shall be used by the sponsor for a commercial purpose (i.e., giving the appearance the player endorses a product or service) without the prior written consent of the player. No players are permitted to visit the public booth (or other location) of a company that offers betting on tennis.*

E. *Each player, if requested, is obligated to participate in official tournament activities. However, Tournaments must ensure, pursuant to rule 1.13 B, that any player's participation in an official tournament activity shall not be conducted or promoted in a manner that would give the appearance that such player endorses a particular product, service or company without the prior written consent of the player. In addition, Tournaments must ensure that no images or footage of an official tournament activity shall be used by a sponsor for a commercial purpose (i.e., giving the appearance that a player endorses a product or service) without the prior written consent of each player.*

- F. Each player, if requested, is obligated to participate in up to two (2) sets of activities/days for promotional purposes as arranged by ATP. Such activities/days may take place outside of an ATP World Tour tournament week and/or location. Players and their agents will be consulted in advance to ensure that any such activities will not substantially intrude upon the player's schedule. Players and their agents will also be consulted with respect to the scope and substance of the activities to ensure that the player is comfortable with the proposed activities. ATP will cover all expenses incurred by a player while participating in any such activities.
- G. Any player who fails to provide the required minimum service shall be subject to the penalties outlined in the player Code of Conduct.

Effective July 4, 2016: A change has been made to move the qualifying alternate sign-in from 9:00pm local to 6:00pm local. Qualifying draw to be made at 6:00pm local or as soon as all direct entries are confirmed, but no later than 9:00pm local. Changes are noted below in *italics* for each applicable section:

Pg. 80, 7.03 Entry Deadline

A. Main Draw / Qualifying Singles

- 2) **ATP World Tour Qualifying.** Twenty-one (21) days prior to the first Monday of the tournament week. A player directly accepted into the qualifying competition may withdraw, without penalty, if he is moved into the main draw, or accepts a wild card into an ATP World Tour 250 or ATP World Tour 500 tournament, or if he is still competing in an ATP World Tour, ATP Challenger Tour, or Futures tournament at any time on the day prior to the commencement of qualifying. If a player is still competing past *the sign-in deadline* (9:00 p.m. local time), he will be automatically withdrawn from the qualifying without penalty and will be allowed to accept a wild card into any ATP World Tour 250, ATP World Tour 500, ATP Challenger Tour or Futures tournament, including qualifying. If a withdrawal occurs prior to 12 noon, Eastern Time, USA, on Friday, the qualifying vacancy shall be filled by the next player on the qualifying alternate list. This player is not required to sign in. If a withdrawal occurs after 12 noon, Eastern Time, USA, on Friday, the qualifying vacancy will be filled from the on-site sign-in list, using the most recent Emirates ATP Rankings list. Main draw vacancies will be filled from the main draw alternate list, not the qualifying acceptance list.

Pg. 85, 7.04 Entry / Withdrawal Method

C. Qualifying

- 3) **Time.** *The ATP Challenger Qualifying* sign-in shall begin no later than 7 p.m. and close at 9 p.m. local time on the night prior to the start of the qualifying competition (Friday night for a qualifying commencing on Saturday). *The ATP World Tour Qualifying Alternate sign-in shall begin no later than 4 p.m. and close at 6 p.m. local time on the night prior to the start of the qualifying competition (Friday night for a qualifying commencing on Saturday).*

Pg. 91, 7.08 The Draw
B. Composition of Draws

- 3) **Qualifying:** Sign in for **ATP Challenger** singles qualifying shall **be from not before begin no later than 7 p.m. up to and close at 9 p.m.** local time on the night prior to the start of the qualifying competition (Friday night when qualifying commences on Saturday). **The Alternate** Sign-in for **ATP World Tour** singles qualifying shall **be from not before 7 begin no later than 4 p.m. up to 9 and close at 6 p.m.** local time on the night prior to the start of the qualifying competition (Friday night when qualifying commences on Saturday). Once the qualifying competition has begun, only those players who ultimately qualify and lucky losers may be accepted into the main draw. The qualifying competition commences when the first ball of the first qualifying match is struck.

Pg. 94, 7.10 Special Exempts (SE)

A. Eligibility

Players may receive a special exempt into the main draw of the following week's tournament if they meet the criteria and apply for it in a timely manner.

- 1) A player is eligible to receive a special exempt into the singles main draw of the following week's tournament, subject to the provisions of this section, if he is unable to compete in that qualifying competition because he is still competing on the date the qualifying competition begins in another qualified event, and his current ranking as of the date of the entry deadline would not have otherwise qualified him as a direct acceptance on the original acceptance list if he had entered. In addition, a player who is still playing a match at 9 p.m., **on Friday (the qualifying competition sign-in deadline) local time at the qualifying site**, is eligible to receive a special exempt only if he wins that match.

Pg. 96, 7.10 Special Exempts (SE)

D. Special Exempt Process

- 5) If **on the day prior to the start of qualifying** a player does not finish his Friday match by the nine (9) p.m. **deadline local time** at the qualifying site and subsequently loses his match, then he is not eligible to be signed in for qualifying or for a special exempt; however, he may receive a wild card from the tournament if it is known before the qualifying draw that he has lost and that no special scheduling shall be required.

Pg. 99, 7.11 Time of Draw

B. Qualifying

- 1) **Singles – ATP World Tour.** The qualifying competition draw shall be made and the order of play announced as soon as possible **on the Friday night** following the **alternate sign-in deadline or when the direct acceptance list is finalized, whichever is later. The deadline for finalizing the acceptance list is 9 p.m. local time.**
- 2) **Singles – ATP Challenger Tour.** The qualifying competition draw shall be made and the order of play announced as soon as possible **on the Friday night** following the **qualifying sign-in deadline.**
- 3) current 2 becomes new 3 - No change.

Pg. 102, 7.13 Selection of Entries

B. Singles Qualifying

- 4) There shall be an alternate sign-in list comprised of players that sign in who are not selected as direct acceptances. In the event that direct acceptance players are not present for first-round qualifying matches or if players are moved into the main draw from the qualifying (before the first ball is hit), players shall be selected from the alternate sign-in list in the order described in sections 1), and 2) above. Alternate sign-in deadline is **6:00 pm (9:00 pm for Challengers)** local time the day before the start of the qualifying. Thereafter, the deadline is one half (1/2) hour before the first scheduled match each day an Alternate may be required.

Case: A player is playing a doubles match on **the Friday night before a Saturday start to Qualifying** that will not finish before the 9 p.m. **singles qualifying deadline for local time at** the following week's tournament. The next tournament is 2-3 hours traveling time and because the doubles semi-finals is scheduled for Saturday night, it is feasible for the player to drive between the two locations so that he could compete in the qualifying singles and still play the doubles semi-final should he win on Friday night. Can he be signed in for the singles qualifying **or if an ATP World Tour event, remain a direct acceptance?**

Decision: Yes. The Saturday night doubles match (which cannot be a result of special scheduling) makes this possible for the player. Appropriate penalties apply if the player does not appear for his qualifying match or his doubles semi-final match, if he wins Friday night.

Pg. 335, Case & Decisions, Special Exempts

Potential Special Exempt Playing at 9 p.m. Friday

Case: A player is competing in the singles event of a "qualified event" on **the night before the next week's qualifying Friday evening.** If the player wins, he will be eligible for a special exempt **in a tournament the next week.** His singles match, however, will not be completed by 9 p.m. **local time** at the qualifying sign-in site for the next week's tournament. How does this affect the "composition of draws" at the next week's tournament?

Decision: The special exempt slot in the main draw shall be left available pending the result of the player's match. The qualifying draw should be made as required at 9 p.m. unless it is prudent to wait up to an hour for the match result. If the player vying for the special exempt loses, then the unused special exempt place shall be filled by the next player on the original acceptance list*. If the next player on the original acceptance list is in the qualifying draw, then he shall be withdrawn and moves into the main draw. The vacancy created in the qualifying draw shall be filled from the qualifying alternate list.

*For ATP Challenger Tour events, the vacancy is filled with the highest ranked player from the list of those who signed in for the qualifying or properly preserved their eligibility at that event.

Pg. 327, Cases & Decisions
Can I Play Both?