

## Announcement Updates to the Rules and Regulations for the conduct of Official Tournaments

Tennis Ireland is pleased to announce the release of an updated version of the Regulations for the Conduct of Official Tournaments, effective 1st June 2024.

The complete updated Rules and Regulations document can be found on the Tennis Ireland website at:

[1ST-JUNE\\_REGULATIONS-FOR-THE-CONDUCT-OF-OFFICAL-TI-TOURNAMENTS-2024.pdf \(tennisireland.ie\)](#) .

Tennis Ireland encourages all players, parents, coaches and officials, to familiarize themselves with the revised rules.

Key highlights of the updated Rules and Regulations are below:

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### MAJOR ALTERATIONS:

#### 5.11 PLAYERS RECEIVING WALKOVERS AND RANKING POINTS

Players who receive a walkover in their FIRST round/match of any Tour tournament will receive the ranking points associated with that round as they themselves had won that round.

#### 8.5 WITHDRAWALS OFFENCES AND CODE OF CONDUCT VIOLATIONS

##### Ranking Points:

If a player:

- 8.4.1. Withdraws from an event after having started a match in that event;
- 8.4.2. fails to appear at an event ready and prepared to play;
- 8.4.3. retires during an event and/or gives a walk-over during an event; he/she will lose ALL ranking points obtained in that event.

If a player withdraws from one event to be able to play in an overlapping event (even if the overlap is two days or less) he/she will lose ALL Ranking points from the TWO events.

##### Penalty Points:

A player who:

- a) Withdraws from the competition after the Withdrawal deadline specified in the competition information; or
- b) fails to appear at the competition venue ready and prepared to play in his/her relevant matches without having Withdrawn; will incur the following automatic Withdrawal Points:

Withdrawal from the competition after the withdrawal deadline specified but before the draw is made	2
Withdrawal from the competition after the draw has been made	7
Failing to appear at the competition for a match without having withdrawn (no show)	7

### Explanatory notes:

If a Player is not ready to play within 15 minutes after his/her match has been called, that Player may be deemed to have failed to appear by the Referee and, if so, will incur **SEVEN** Withdrawal Points. In practice, it is anticipated that Referees will be pragmatic and, before deeming that a Player has failed to appear, will consider all relevant factors including, for example, whether the Player has made any attempt to notify the Referee that he/she will be arriving late and of the time when he/she is likely to be ready to play; whether the Player's match can be easily rescheduled without disruption to the competition; whether the Referee is satisfied that the Player has done all he/she reasonably can to be ready to play on time; whether the Player's notification should in fact be treated as a Withdrawal.

- a) A player who withdraws after having started a match in the event will:
  - 1 Incur **SEVEN** withdrawal points, and
  - 2 Will lose ALL ranking points in that event
- b) A player who fails to appear at an event without having notified the referee that he/she is withdrawing will:
  - 1 Incur **SEVEN** withdrawal points, and
  - 2 Will lose ALL ranking points in that event
- c) A player that has accumulated 10 or more suspension penalty points will be prohibited from taking part in any official tournament for a given period as per 8.6.8.

### Exceptions:

1. Where a doubles pair withdraws and it is made clear to the Referee at the time of the withdrawal or failure to appear that it is solely due to one of the players (in which case only that player will incur withdrawal points and lose of ranking points).
2. A player who retires during a match due to sickness or injury
3. A player who withdraws from a competition as a result of being suspended

### Appeal:

A player may only challenge the imposition of Withdrawal penalty points:

1. Where such imposition was a result of the player having been wrongly identified as the offending player; and/or
2. Where the player can show exceptional circumstances.

### **8.6.8. SUSPENSION**

Players who receive **10 penalty points** within a calendar year will be banned from the next T500 event on the calendar.

Players who receive **14 penalty points** within a calendar year will be banned from the next T500 and T1000 tournament on the calendar.

Any **additional penalty points after this ban will be dealt with in the same manner**, i.e. banned from the next T500 and T1000 tournament on the calendar for each event incurred.

## **CLARIFICATIONS:**

### **3.2. TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS**

- 3.2.3. That players are prohibited from entering more than one Tournament taking place during the same period. (See rule 5.1.2).  
Players are prohibited from entering two age groups in T100 or 200 events in the same tournament.  
T200 Events - Players with a National ranking of 1-29 are not eligible to enter the Tour 200.  
T100 Events – Players with a National ranking of 1-59 are not eligible to enter the Tour 100.  
Note: If you are not eligible to play your own age group under these regulations i.e. ranked 1-29 or 1- 59, you may not enter another age group.

### **5.1.2 CONCURRENT TOURNAMENTS**

- 5.1.2.1. A player is specifically prohibited from entering more than one tournament advertised to take place during overlapping dates of more than one day.
- 5.1.2.2. Where a player enters two tournaments that take place during overlapping dates of more than one day and is accepted directly into one of them, he/she must withdraw from the other tournament before the withdrawal date.
- 5.1.2.3. If a player enters two overlapping tournaments, he/she will receive no rankings points for any of the tournaments involved. If a player enters two overlapping tournaments and gives a walk-over because of incompatible match times, he/she will commit a **NO SHOW** offence, will receive no rankings points for any of the tournaments involved and will incur penalty points (Appendix 8.5.).

**Rule 5.1.2. in full is viewable on the Tennis Ireland Website at:**

[1ST-JUNE\\_REGULATIONS-FOR-THE-CONDUCT-OF-OFFICAL-TI-TOURNAMENTS-2024.pdf \(tennisireland.ie\)](#) .