

Australian Ranking Tournament Regulations 2016

Key Reminders / Changes

1. Tournament Entry Dates

Tournaments can choose to select an entry closing date of either 10 or 14 days prior to the start of the tournament (nothing in-between). We remind tournaments that selecting a 10 day option will not necessarily result in additional entries, as data from previous years shows the percentage of entries received is always highest in the final 2-3 days of the entry period, no matter how long the entry deadline is before the tournament.

2. Match Plans

Whilst it is not a requirement to have a tournament match plan for 2016, it will become a mandatory requirement for 2017. In 2017, tournaments will need to submit a match plan to show how they will operate their tournament. It is a simple plan of detailing how many matches a tournament plans to play on each day across all of its events. The number of matches per day should then be an appropriate amount based on the number of courts you will have available for matches on that day. Example match plans are available from your Member Association tournament contact.

3. Entries accepted not to exceed the stated maximum

A reminder that if your tournament is stated to only accept a certain number of entries (for example, 64 entries), it must stick to this number. If there are changes that need to be made to your stated maximum, then this needs to occur before entries open and a case proven to your Member Association that your tournament is capable of operating a larger draw whilst still abiding by the Australian Ranking Tournament Regulations.

4. Referee Duties

We are re-emphasising that all appointed Tournament Referees need to be involved in the draw and scheduling procedures. At a minimum, they should be at least approving all draws and schedules before they are publicly released. Referees should also be involved in allocation of Qualifiers and Lucky-Losers.

5. Court Supervisor Self-Sufficiency

This is not a requirement for 2016, but in 2017, all Australian Ranking Tournaments must be self-sufficient in regards to court supervisors for their tournaments. More details will follow during the year about this requirement, but we recommend clubs start putting plans in place to recruit club members, parents or players to undertake this role at their tournament in 2017.

6. Draw Sizes – AMT and JT Platinum and Gold Tournaments

Please note that if your club has been allocated a Platinum or Gold status event, it MUST operate either a 16 or 24 player main draw size if an AMT event. Or a 16 or 32 player main draw size if a JT event. No extensions will be permitted.

7. Australian Money Tournaments – AR points for 2017

Whilst a final decision has yet to be made, it is likely there will be changes for the allocation of AR points in relation to Australian Money Tournaments for junior players in 2017. There will certainly be changes to the current rule where players can earn points from 4 AMT results from the start of their 14th birth year.

8. Scoring Reductions – Fast 4

A reminder that when needing to reduce your scoring format down to “short-sets” that this is not the Fast4 scoring format.

9. Payment timelines of prizemoney at Australian Money Tournaments

A change that allows tournaments to pay prizemoney at Australian Money Tournaments within 14 days of the conclusion of the tournament from the previous 7 days. The preference from the players’ point of view is the quicker this can be done, the better.

10. Approved Balls – 2015/16

Please make a note of changes to the Tennis Australia approved tennis balls that must be used at Australian Ranking tournaments in 2016.

Wilson

- Championship
- Australian Open Official Ball (3-ball or 4-ball cans)
- US Open
- Australian Open Grasscourt
- Tour All Court
- Tour Red Clay
- Starter Play – Red, Orange and Green (Hot Shots & JDS Tournaments Only)

Slazenger

- Championship Hydroguard
- Hardcourt
- Open
- Wimbledon
- Introductory Balls – Green and Orange (Hot Shots & JDS Tournaments Only)

Head

- Head ATP
- Head Championship

Babolat

- Roland Garros
- Babolat Gold

Tretorn

- Championship
- Serie +

Technifibre

- X One

11. Age Eligibility – 10/u players into Platinum JT events

Platinum Tournaments (12 & 14 Nationals and December Showdown and related Qualifying events):

- Players under the age of 10 shall not be eligible for entry into any Platinum tournament. The player's age as of the first day of the tournament Main Draw shall be used.
- Players eligible to compete in 12/u competitions may also compete in tournaments for players 14/u.

12. Bonus AR Points Structure

Tennis Australia has added in the following bonus points table for the main draw singles events at the Victorian, NSW, and Queensland State Championships and Bruce Cup Individual tournament

| Total Points Awarded (inclusive of Bonus Points) | 12/u | 14/u | 16/u |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Winner | <u>23</u> | <u>34</u> | <u>60</u> |
| Finalist | <u>16</u> | <u>24</u> | <u>36</u> |

13. Increase in 16/u Gold points for winners and finalists

There has been a 25% increase in the amount of winners and finalist's points at the 16/u Gold level in Singles and Doubles.

14. 12/u & 14/u Platinum National Championships will all be the same level of AR points

The National Grasscourt Championships, National Claycourt Championships and Australian Championships (December Showdown) will all offer the same level of Platinum level points with no differentiation between the three tournaments.

15. Reminder about players not receiving AR points when playing qualifying at international pro circuit events

This rule was implemented at the start of 2015, but it requires additional communication to the tennis community. A reminder that players will not receive Australian Ranking points when competing in qualifying events of international pro circuit events. Players will only receive Australian Ranking points once they have earned ATP/WTA world ranking points.

16. Officiating Requirements – Changes for 2016

Tournaments are required to provide chair umpires and linespeople for finals of all events, however they are not expected to cover travel/accommodation costs.