

2019 WORLD RANKING

Summary of changes

1. **Point Validity**

In order to avoid issues that might arise from hosting the same type of event in different months of the year, the point validity for the Men's, Women's and Team World Cup, World Tour Grand Finals and continental championships should last from edition to edition instead of 12 months.

That will ensure that only one of the same event is counted and will also give the players the possibility to defend the points during the next year edition.

The point validity for all the other events shall remain unchanged.

2. **Multi-sport events**

Due to the existence of various multi-sport events, especially at regional and territorial level, the singles ranking shall count a maximum of one multi-sport event per player.

This will also encourage the participation at the ITTF own events.

3. **Half point policy**

In order to simplify the calculation process and no longer penalize the seeded players that lose in the first round, it was decided to eliminate the half points policy. For compensatory reasons, the point allocation was modified by reducing the gap between the qualifications rounds and the main draw.

4. **Point Table Review**

The new tier of events, the ITTF Challenge Plus Series has been added to the ITTF Calendar and a new point table has been allocated accordingly to the positioned level.

Modification of the point breakdown percentages based on the principle of differentiation for the top positions.

- creating bigger gap between the point allocation for winner, runner-up, semifinalists,
- more compact point allocation for the middle range rounds.
- Lower points for individual points for team matches played in the 2nd and 3rd divisions.

5. **Points for the Qualification stage**

At the World Championships, World Tour and Challenge Series, ranking points will be allocated based on positions also in the qualification stages.

The points earned during the round-robins qualifications system should not be included in the total number of points awarded if the player reaches the main draw.

6. **Special seeding for other age groups**

Based on the experience gained during 2018, the special seeding rule for other age categories has been revoked and new general rules have been established for each of the case.

Under 21, junior and cadet age group players might get special seeding positions for Youth Olympic Games, World Title or certain major ITTF Sanctioned events, in case the player fulfils the following:

- U21 aged player who does not have 4 events in the U21 ranking and the player is ranked in top 40 on the senior ranking.

- Junior aged player who does not have 4 events in the junior ranking and the player is ranked in top 30 on U21 or top 100 on senior ranking.
- Cadet aged player who does not have 4 events in the cadet ranking and the player is ranked in top 30 on junior or U21 and top 100 on senior ranking.

The National Association of the player must send the written request to the ITTF Competition Manager of the competition and to the ITTF Results and Ranking Manager latest 31 days before the start of the event or before the entry deadline, whichever earlier. Requests for special seeding for cases which do not fall under the criteria above are welcome but ITTF has the right to approve/decline.

Special seeding can be applied by the Ranking Committee if deemed necessary, regardless if a written request was received from one or more National Association(s).

7. Special seeding for injuries and pregnancy

The players can apply for special seeding in cases of injury and pregnancy.

When assigning the seeding position, it was decided to take into consideration the ranking points at the time of the last activity, instead of calculating the average ranking position.

8. Penalty policy

Regulations of the penalties have been added to the ranking description instead of having a separated document.

9. Other age groups

- For U21 - the World Tour categories had been removed; Challenge Plus got higher points than the Continental Championships.
- For Juniors and Cadets - the World Junior Circuit Finals had been removed. Following the Junior event Experts/Representatives recommendation the points for the WJC have been increased and the ones for the Continental Championships have decreased.

10. WR Periodicity

Weekly World Ranking release once the automatic system is ready

11. Mixed Doubles

Mixed doubles seeding positions will be calculated using 100% mixed double results. In the past we used a percentage of Men's and Women's doubles due to lack of mixed double events. Results of the mixed doubles at Olympic Games will be counted with a 12-months period.