



RULES OF THE COURT 2010 **SUMMARY OF MODIFICATIONS**

In 2010, the following changes have been made:

Tennis Canada Tournament Regulations

- Tennis Canada has revised Tournament Regulation 9 (Rest Periods) in such a manner that a) only players in the senior men's and women's 60 and over age categories may take a 10 minute rest period between the second and third sets; and b) players late in returning from an authorized rest period will be penalized with consecutive time violations.
- Tennis Canada has revised Tournament Regulation 17 (Toilet Break) in order to specify that a player who needs to take a toilet break *during* a set must do so before his/her own serve; if he/she takes a toilet break before or during the opponent's service game, such action will be penalized according to the Point Penalty Schedule of the Code of Conduct.

- Tennis Canada has revised Tournament Regulation 19 (Proper Attire) by making explicit that the Referee may authorize players to warm-up or to play their match wearing warm-up clothing under appropriate circumstances.

Code of Conduct

- Tennis Canada has revised paragraph **g** (Delay of Play) of Article 1 (Violations of the Code of Conduct) so as to more clearly define the nature of a Delay of Play infraction.
- Tennis Canada has added to Article 1 (Violations of the Code of Conduct) a new paragraph **m** dealing with entering two tournaments in the same time period.
- Tennis Canada has modified Article 3 (Time Violations) so as to more clearly make the distinction between a Time Violation and a Code Violation for Delay of Play.

Officials: Duties and Responsibilities

- In section 2 (Chair Umpire Announcements), a paragraph on making announcements in the context of team events has been added.

Rules of Tennis

The International Tennis Federation has modified three Appendices of its Rules of Tennis:

- Appendix I (The Ball) has been modified by the addition of information on ball durability requirements.
- Appendix V (Role of Court Officials) has been modified by the addition of a paragraph in the section concerning Electronic Review Procedures.
- Appendix VI (Official 10 and Under Tennis Competition) has been modified by some minor changes concerning suitable court types and ball types.

Since all of the above changes are of a technical nature, they will not be reproduced in the present document.

Modifications and additions are indicated in grey highlighting.

TENNIS CANADA TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS

9. REST PERIODS

Tennis Canada recommends that provision be made for a ten (10) minute rest period after the second set in a two out of three set match in the **Senior Men's and Women's 60 and over age categories**.

The ten minute period is measured from the time of the final point of the set that precedes the rest, until the players are in position to strike the first ball of the next set.

The rest period is not mandatory in any age category, however. By mutual agreement, the players may decide to continue without a pause; should one of the players or teams (in the above age categories) wish to avail themselves of the rest period, however, then play will be suspended for ten minutes.

Tournament officials must ensure that the ten minute time period is never exceeded and be prepared to penalize players who are late. Any extension of the rest period beyond ten minutes, as defined above, is a violation of the Continuous Play Rule (Rule 29), and will be penalized **with consecutive Time Violations**.

At the discretion of the Referee, a ten minute rest period can also be granted in any age category in the case of extreme weather conditions (e.g., unusually hot and humid weather).

During an authorized rest period, players may consult their coaches.

17. TOILET BREAK

A player is allowed to request permission to leave the court for a reasonable time for a toilet break or (for women only) a change of attire break. Toilet breaks *should* be taken on a set break and can be used for no other purpose. If it is necessary for a player to take a toilet break during a set, it *must* be taken before the player's own service game. If, in exceptional

circumstances, the player has been authorized to leave the court before or during the opponent's service game, then the player will be considered to be leaving the court on his/her own time and will be penalised in accordance with the Point Penalty Schedule of the Code of Conduct if the player is not ready to play within the allowed time.

Change of attire breaks (women only) *must* be taken on a set break. In women's singles, a player is entitled to two (2) breaks during a match. In men's singles, a player is entitled to one (1) toilet break during a best of three set match and two (2) in a best of five set match. In all doubles matches, each *team* is entitled to a total of two (2) breaks. If the partners leave the court together, it counts as one (1) of the team's authorised breaks.

Any time a player leaves the court for a toilet break, it is considered to be one of the authorised breaks regardless of whether or not the opponent has left the court. Any toilet break taken after a warm-up has started is considered as one of the authorised breaks.

Additional toilet breaks may be authorised, but will be penalised in accordance with the Point Penalty Schedule if the player is not ready to play within the allowed time (i.e., within 90 seconds during a changeover and within 120 seconds during a set break). The Referee shall have the authority to deny a player permission to leave the court for a toilet and/or change of attire break if it is interpreted by the Referee as gamesmanship and/or flagrant abuse of the Rules.

19. PROPER ATTIRE

Every player shall dress and present himself for play in proper tennis attire, as designated by the Tournament Committee and/or the regulations of the host club. Proper attire includes appropriate shoes with non-marking soles.

A player with improper attire may be ordered by the Referee, Chair Umpire or Roving Umpire to change his attire or equipment immediately; he will have a maximum of 15 minutes to do so. Failure to comply with such an order may result in an immediate default.

If judged appropriate due to the circumstances (e.g., weather conditions, temperature of indoor courts, religious factors), the Referee may authorize players to warm-up and/or to play their match wearing warm-up clothing, provided that it meets the criteria of proper tennis attire.

Code of Conduct

g. Delay of Play

A player who fails to respect the time limit between points (25 seconds), on changeovers (90 seconds) or on set breaks (120 seconds), or a receiver who fails to play to the reasonable pace of the server is subject to a **time violation** (see article 3 of the Code of Conduct, "Time Violations"). Time Violations have their own separate penalty schedule which does not intersect with the Point Penalty System for violations of the Code of Conduct.

However, certain situations that delay play are treated under the **Delay of Play provision of the Code of Conduct** and are thus penalized using the Point Penalty System described below in article 2 of the Code of Conduct. These situations include:

- i. When an official judges that the receiver is employing "gamesmanship" in purposely delaying the reasonable pace of the server.
- ii. When, after receiving a time violation for playing too slowly, a player still is not ready to play after the next 25 seconds. In other words, except in the case of delay in resuming play after an authorized rest period, two time violations will not be issued consecutively as part of the same situation; the second violation will be treated as a violation of the Delay of Play provision of the Code of Conduct.

- iii. When, after being instructed to play by an official (e.g., in order to end an overly long discussion), a player is not ready to play within the next 25 seconds.
 - iv. When there is a delay in the resumption of play following a medical time-out or medical treatment.
 - v. When a player who has been given permission to leave the court on his/her own time for a) an emergency toilet break before the opponent's serve or b) an additional toilet break (e.g., a second toilet break for a male or a third toilet break for a female) fails to resume play within the normal time limits (e.g., within 25 seconds between games, 90 seconds on a changeover or 120 seconds on a set break).
 - vi. When a player who has been given permission to leave the court to find another racquet fails to resume play within the normal time limits (e.g., within 90 seconds on a changeover or within 120 seconds on a set break).
- m.** Entering two tournaments in the same time period without prior permission of both Tournament Referees.

3. TIME VIOLATIONS

- i. A maximum of twenty-five (25) seconds shall elapse from the moment the ball goes out of play at the end of the point until the time that the ball is struck for the first serve of the next point. If such serve is a fault, then the second serve must be struck by the server without delay.
- ii. When changing ends, a maximum of ninety (90) seconds shall elapse from the moment the ball goes out of play at the end of the game until the time that the ball is struck for the first serve of the next game. If such first serve is a fault, the second serve must be struck by the server without delay. However, after the first game of each set and during a tie-break, play shall be continuous and the players shall change ends without a rest period.
- iii. At the conclusion of each set, regardless of the score, there shall be a set break of a maximum of two minutes (120 seconds) from the moment the ball goes out of play at the end of the set until the time that the first serve is struck for the next set. If such first serve is a fault, the second serve must be struck by the server without delay.

- iv. The receiver shall play to the reasonable pace of the server and shall be ready to receive within a reasonable time of the server being ready to serve.
- v. Any delay in the resumption of play following an authorized rest period between the second and third sets shall subject a player to consecutive Time Violations.

The first violation of this section shall be penalized first by a Time Violation warning and then each subsequent, but (except in the case of delay in resuming play after an authorized rest period) non-consecutive, violation shall be penalized by the assessment of one (1) Time Violation point penalty.

It should be noted that Time Violation penalties do not form part of the Point Penalty System for Code of Conduct violations described in Section 2 above. For example, a player that violates the 25 second maximum between points in the third game of a set will receive a Time Violation, Warning; if the player does it again in the sixth game he/she will receive a Time Violation, Point Penalty, and so forth irrespective of any Code of Conduct violations that may have occurred.

Note that, except when late in resuming play after an authorized rest period (paragraph v of this section and Tournament Regulation 9), in the case of consecutive Time Violations, the Code of Conduct and its Point Penalty System apply. For example, a player that receives a Time Violation, Warning for exceeding the 25 second maximum between points, but then is not ready to play after an additional 25 seconds (a consecutive violation of the 25 second rule), will receive a Code Violation for Delay of Play; the appropriate penalty will depend on if the player has any previous Code of Conduct violations in the match.

Officials 2. Chair Umpire Announcements

Note that, in the case of team events, the name of the team (e.g., country, province or club) will be substituted for the name of the player in announcements concerning the score, violations of the Code of Conduct, and time violations.