



RULES OF THE COURT 2019

SUMMARY OF MODIFICATIONS

For 2019, the following changes have been made:

Rules of Tennis

The ITF has not made any modifications to the Rules of Tennis themselves for 2019.

Tennis Canada Tournament Regulations

- Tennis Canada has added a Heat Index Chart to Tournament Regulation 9 (Rest Periods) in order to assist Referees in determining when extreme weather conditions occur so that they can consider granting players an authorized 10-minute rest period between the second and third sets.
- Paragraph D (Between Matches) of Tournament Regulation 13 (Scheduling Guidelines) has been expanded to specify that when a player is involved in both a singles and a doubles final played on the same day he/she will be allowed a rest period of 30 minutes between the two finals.

Code of Conduct

- In Paragraph 2 (Point Penalty System), a sentence has been added to clarify that a penalty (warning, point, game, default) that is imposed by the referee/supervisor shall be final and unappealable.
- Paragraph 6 (Suspensions and Suspension Points) has been enhanced in several ways, primarily dealing with player suspension procedures. In particular, a) it has been clarified that a suspension will remain in effect during an appeal of that suspension, and b) the suggested lengths of suspensions for Junior players have been modified.

Officials: Duties and Responsibilities

- Section 2 (Chair Umpire Announcements) has been updated.

Modifications and additions are underlined.

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 rest period will not normally be authorized when a match tie-break is played in place of a third set.

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.

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

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).

Generally, weather conditions are considered to be extreme when the Heat Index (a combination of air temperature and relative humidity) meets or exceeds 34.0°C (93.2°F), as indicated by the chart below. However, the referee may use his/her judgment and declare that extreme weather conditions are in effect at a lower Heat Index if he/she feels that the safety of the players justifies doing so. When the Heat Index meets or exceeds 40.1°C (104.2°F), it is recommended that play be suspended.

Air temperature											
	21.1°C 70°F	23.9°C 75°F	26.7°C 80°F	29.4°C 85°F	32.2°C 90°F	35°C 95°F	37.8°C 100°F	40.6°C 105°F	43.3°C 110°F	46.1°C 115°F	48.9°C 120°F
Relative humidity	Heat Index (combined index of air temperature and relative humidity)										
	0%	17.8°C 64°F	20.6°C 69°F	22.8°C 73°F	25.6°C 78°F	28.3°C 83°F	30.6°C 87°F	32.8°C 91°F	35°C 95°F	37.2°C 99°F	39.4°C 103°F
10%	18.3°C 65°F	21.1°C 70°F	23.9°C 75°F	26.7°C 80°F	29.4°C 85°F	32.2°C 90°F	35°C 95°F	37.8°C 100°F	40.6°C 105°F	43.9°C 111°F	46.7°C 116°F
20%	18.9°C 66°F	22.2°C 72°F	25°C 77°F	27.8°C 82°F	30.6°C 87°F	33.9°C 93°F	37.2°C 99°F	40.6°C 105°F	44.4°C 112°F	48.9°C 120°F	54.4°C 130°F
30%	19.4°C 67°F	22.8°C 73°F	25.6°C 78°F	28.9°C 84°F	32.2°C 90°F	35.6°C 96°F	40.1°C 104.2°F	45°C 113°F	50.6°C 123°F	57.2°C 135°F	64.4°C 148°F
40%	20°C 68°F	23.3°C 74°F	26.1°C 79°F	30°C 86°F	33.9°C 93°F	38.3°C 101°F	43.3°C 110°F	50.6°C 123°F	58.3°C 137°F	66.1°C 151°F	
50%	20.6°C 69°F	23.9°C 75°F	27.2°C 81°F	31.1°C 88°F	35.6°C 96°F	41.7°C 107°F	48.9°C 120°F	57.2°C 135°F	65.6°C 150°F		
60%	21.1°C 70°F	24.4°C 76°F	27.8°C 82°F	32.2°C 90°F	37.8°C 100°F	45.6°C 114°F	55.6°C 132°F	65°C 149°F			
70%	21.1°C 70°F	25°C 77°F	29.4°C 85°F	33.9°C 93°F	41.1°C 106°F	51.1°C 124°F	62.2°C 144°F				
80%	21.7°C 71°F	25.6°C 78°F	30°C 86°F	36.1°C 97°F	45°C 113°F	57.8°C 136°F					
90%	21.7°C 71°F	26.1°C 79°F	31.1°C 88°F	38.9°C 102°F	50°C 122°F						

Extreme weather conditions may be declared before the start of matches or may be put into effect at any time on all courts, including matches in progress. Once notified that extreme weather conditions have been declared, officials will inform the players at the next change of ends. If there is a change in conditions and the weather is no longer considered as extreme, those matches already in progress will continue under extreme weather procedures.

13. SCHEDULING GUIDELINES

The following guidelines should be observed in scheduling matches.

A. Latest Start Time

For Juniors competition, the latest start time for any match should not be later than 9:00 pm (21:00 hours). Any match that is not completed by midnight (00:00 hours) should be interrupted and postponed until the following day. (The Referee can extend the time of play if, in his/her opinion, the match can be concluded in a reasonable time.)

B. Earliest Start Time

It is recommended that, for any competition, the earliest that matches should commence each day should not be before 8:00 am (8:00 hours).

C. Between Days

No player should be required to play his first match of the day until at least 12 hours after completion of his/her last match on the preceding day.

D. Between Matches

The following guidelines should be observed in order to ensure proper rest between matches:

- a. Between singles matches, players shall be entitled to a rest period of at least 45 minutes.
- b. Between a singles and a doubles match, or between two doubles matches, players shall be entitled to a rest period of at least 30 minutes.
- c. If a player is involved in the singles final and the doubles final played on the same day, he/she will be allowed a rest period of 30 minutes between the two finals.
- d. The Referee has the authority to modify the above guidelines in view of special circumstances (e.g., length of a match, weather conditions, etc.)

The above guidelines do not apply if a player is entered in more than one age category or class. In addition, in certain instances the Referee may need to modify the above guidelines if it is necessary to do so in order to complete a tournament within the established time period.

Code of Conduct

2. THE POINT PENALTY SYSTEM

The Point Penalty Schedule to be used for the violations set forth above is as follows:

- FIRST OFFENSE..... WARNING
- SECOND OFFENSE..... POINT PENALTY
- THIRD AND EACH
SUBSEQUENT OFFENSE.....GAME PENALTY

However, after the third Code Violation, the Referee shall determine whether each subsequent offense shall constitute a default.

In the case of a serious violation of the Code of Conduct, a player may be subject to an immediate default without going through the individual steps of the Point Penalty Schedule.

In doubles, the Point Penalty Schedule applies to the team rather than to the individual members of the team.

The imposition by the referee/supervisor of a penalty (Warning, Point, Game, Default) under the Point Penalty Schedule shall be final and unappealable.

Note: A game penalty that is assessed during a tie-break game will entail the loss of that game. Since Appendix V of the Rules of Tennis clearly states that a match tie-break is a tie-break *game*, a game penalty assessed during a match tie-break will entail the loss of the match tie-break and thus of the match.

Note: It is not necessary to report "Warnings" (ROM) to the sanctioning Association. Report only the issuance of "Point Penalties", "Game Penalties" and "Defaults".

6. SUSPENSIONS AND SUSPENSION POINTS

As indicated in Article 5 above, serious disciplinary problems or infractions in a tournament may necessitate the submission of a recommendation of the assessment of Suspension Points (SP) to the tournament's sanctioning body (Tennis Canada, in the case of national tournaments; the Provincial Association of the province in which the player is resident, in the case of provincial tournaments).

Forthwith upon receiving the report and recommendation noted in Article 5 above, the sanctioning body shall decide whether or not to assess SP against the player. In the case of national tournaments, if Tennis Canada decides to assess suspension points, it shall promptly notify the player as well as the Provincial Association where the player resides concerning the assessment of SP. In the case of provincially sanctioned tournaments, the Provincial Association shall inform the player concerning the assessment of SP. If a player is not a resident of the province which sanctioned the tournament in which the infraction took place, the decision of the local sanctioning body to assess SP shall be immediately reported to the player's own Provincial Association.

Any SP that is assessed will remain in effect for a period of 12 months after the date of the infraction. The assessment of three or more SP within a 12 month period will result in the suspension of the player. If a player accumulates 3 suspension points within a 12 month timeframe, and receives a suspension, those points are not erased until 12 months after each point was received. If, after the end of the suspension period, additional suspension points are received, once again bringing the total to 3 or more suspension points, another suspension period will result.

Each Provincial Association will have the responsibility for maintaining records of the suspension points amassed by players who are resident in that province and for imposing suspensions when the accumulated number of suspension points warrants that a suspension be imposed. The length of the suspension will be determined by the Provincial Association, which shall notify the player in writing within 4 business days, including the following:

- the length and reason for the suspension
- the player's right to appeal, and the process thereof; and
- a statement that should the player not appeal within 5 business days after receiving notice of the suspension, the suspension will begin 7 business days after the date the notice was communicated.

In assessing player suspensions, Provincial Associations should be cognizant of the age of the player, the circumstances under which the suspension points were issued, and the severity of the infractions. The following table of *suggested* suspension periods is provided as a *guideline*. Provincial Associations may modify these guidelines as they see fit. Infractions that are particularly egregious may warrant longer suspension periods.

Player	1 st suspension	2 nd suspension	3 rd suspension
Junior	<u>3 months</u>	<u>6 months</u>	<u>6+ months</u>
Open/Senior	4 – 12 weeks	8 – 24 weeks	24+ weeks

A suspension and/or the length of a suspension may be appealed to the Disciplinary Committee of the player's Provincial Association within a period of 4 business days after the player receives written notice of the suspension. The Disciplinary Committee must hear and rule on the appeal within 5 business days following receipt by the Provincial Association of the player's appeal. The decision of the Disciplinary Committee of that sanctioning body shall be final and there shall be no appeal from its decision. The suspension of a player who is in the process of appealing that suspension will continue to be in effect until

either a) the appeal is disposed of in the player's favour (i.e., either overturned or reduced in length) or b) the original period of suspension has run its due course.

In the case of very serious infractions (including, but not restricted to, those causing the player to be defaulted) that occur in the context of national tournaments and, in particular, in cases where a player may be scheduled to compete in another event in the following weeks, Tennis Canada may decide to suspend the player from further competition at all levels. Please refer to Tennis Canada's *National Events Disciplinary Procedures* document for full details on this policy.

A player suspended by his or her Provincial association will be ineligible to compete in national tournaments during the duration of the suspension. Players suspended by Tennis Canada for offenses in national tournaments will be ineligible to compete in provincial tournaments for the duration of the national suspension. Tennis Canada and each provincial association shall recognize the suspensions imposed by each other. A player suspended by Tennis Canada or by a Provincial association shall thus be ineligible to compete in a sanctioned tournament of Tennis Canada or of any province which has adopted the procedures herein.

Retroactivity. Each Provincial association that adopts these procedures shall recognize any suspension points which had been previously imposed in that province, as well as any suspensions which had been imposed by Tennis Canada or by any of the other provinces which have adopted these procedures.

When a suspension is imposed, the sanctioning body shall immediately notify Tennis Canada (the Manager of Officiating and the Coordinator of National Rankings) concerning the length of the suspension. The latter will ensure that this information is made available to all sanctioning bodies so as to ensure that the suspension is applied in all provinces across the country.

Below is a recommended index of penalties for use in national events. Each province's SP system should not vary from this system.

Officials: Duties and Responsibilities

2. CHAIR UMPIRE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Umpires should announce matches as follows:

A. Warm-up

- a. “Three minutes” - three minutes until warm-up ends
- b. “Two minutes” - two minutes until warm-up ends
- c. “One minute” - one minute until warm-up ends
- d. “Time, prepare to play” - end of warm-up, direct ball to
server’s end of court
- e. “ ____ to serve, play” - immediately prior to server
preparing to serve