



**INTERNATIONAL PADEL  
FEDERATION**

# **PADEL BALLS**

# **FIP APPROVED**

**Effective: 1<sup>st.</sup> of January to 31<sup>st.</sup> of December, 2019**

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## **THE INTERNATIONAL PADEL FEDERATION**

Following the Constitution Act and the Bye-Lays, the International Padel Federation (FIP) is the world-wide governing body of Padel.

### **INTRODUCTION**

The International Padel Federation's headquarters are located in Lausanne, Switzerland.

The International Padel Federation was founded in Madrid on 12 July 1991 by the legal representatives of the Argentine Padel Association, the Spanish Padel Association and the Uruguayan Padel Association, by means of Public deeds signed before the Notary Mr. Javier Gaspar Alfaro, with the protocol number 2486.

The International Padel Federation is a non-profit making organisation of unlimited duration whose goal is to promote all forms of padel throughout the world.

The International Padel Federation recognise the International Organisations who manage the sport, as GAISF, SportAccord, the International Olympic Committee, and another organisations who promote the sport development, without distinctions.

### **Extract of MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION**

I The name of the organisation is International Padel Federation.

The International Padel Federation, henceforth the IPF, is the maximum authority in the world for padel in all its forms and the ultimate arbitrator for any question related to the sport.

The International Padel Federation is an independent association constituted by Federations and/or Associations or corresponding Organisations who are properly affiliated and recognised.

...

III The objects and purposes, without being limiting, for which the Federation is established are to:

- (a) foster the growth and development of the sport of padel on a worldwide basis;
- (b) perform the functions of the world governing body for the sport of padel;
- (c) make, amend, uphold and enforce the Rules of Padel;
- (d) achieving a consistent interpretation of padel rules and match control whilst providing recommendations and advice to Judges and Umpires;
- (e) promote universally the development of the game at all levels and ages for both able-bodied and disabled men and women;

- (f) take such measures as may appear expedient for advancing the interests of padel from an international point of view;
- (g) promote and encourage the teaching of Padel;
- (h) make and uphold the Regulations for the International Team and Couples Championships and the competitions of the Federation;
- (i) award Official Padel Championships recognised by the Federation;
- (j) give the Members of the Federation by joint action a greater influence in their dealings with the governing bodies of other sports;
- (k) preserve the independence of the Federation in all matters concerning the game of padel without the intervention of any outside authority in its relations with its Members and other regional organisations affiliated to the Federation;
- (l) define the requirements for player status in padel and to regulate amateur, professional and mixed amateur/professional play;
- (m) periodically printing and publishing, as required, all the standards and rules that may be necessary to enable the appropriate development of padel;
- (n) administrate the finances of the Federation in such a manner as shall be deemed expedient;
- (o) preserve the integrity and independence of Padel as a sport;
- (p) engage in any other act or activity that is not prohibited under any law for the time being in force in the Country where the Federation has the Headquarter;
- (q) establish and foster relations, contacts and negotiations with Associations, Federations and other sports related Organisations;
- (r) strengthening friendship and sporting ties between the different members and encouraging inscription of new members;
- (s) requiring all the members to accept the sanctions that any one of them might impose on any of their own affiliates;
- (t) acting as arbitrator and resolving any disputes between members, and in general, upholding the principles on which the IPF is founded, taking any measures that may appear necessary to defend the interests of padel from all points of view, including international;
- (u) represent the sport of padel in front of International Organisations, International Sport Federations and any other organisation, defending the own interests and the full integration in the International Olympic Committee and the participation in the Olympic Games.

Generally, all acts as consequence of previous behaviour, or an act toward a benefit for international sport development and toward padel particularly;

- (v) carry out its objects and purposes without unfair discrimination on grounds of colour, race, nationality, ethnic or national origin, age, sex or religion. In fact, the IPF will follow the Olympic principles;
- (w) support an equal representation of women in sport activities and sport management.

IV The liability of the members is limited.

V This memorandum may be amended at any time and from time to time in such manner as may be prescribed by the Articles of Association of the Federation.

The duties of the Technical Commission shall be to advise and make recommendations to the Board of Directors on all technical questions and national teams questions concerning the game of padel.

The Technical Commission of the International Padel Federation has the responsibility of monitoring the specific equipment and technology developments, in order to verify from time to time the full application of the Rules and Regulations and the necessity to apply changes to them, protecting the nature of The Game of Padel at all levels.

## **a) INTRODUCTION**

In the padel game Regulations it is required that any ball used in an official competition should fulfil the technical specifications.

Following the procedures presented in this document, all balls tested and approved that have met the technical specification should identify the brand and model as being on the official list of International Padel Federation (FIP), certified balls.

The Rules of Game of Padel provide for two types of ball, with different performance characteristics: the Standard ball and a High Altitude ball.

Also, the better understanding and knowledge of certified products will be of interest to Players, National Associations, Referees and Umpires, tournament organisers, and a guideline for Padel ball manufacturers worldwide.

All tests and measurements have to correspond to ISO Standards and be indicated using SI units system.

The Padel ball approval procedure is introduced in order to achieve the standardisation of International manufacturers and their products available in the market.

The International Padel Federation (FIP) has begun the testing procedures for FIP Approval for the calendar year 2017 and on 1° April 2017.

The testing procedure for balls which are to be included on the official list of 2018 FIP Approved balls will start on 1° July 2017.

All Padel balls approved will be listed in the next version of this booklet and in the official web-site [www.padelfip.org](http://www.padelfip.org) and [www.padelfip.com](http://www.padelfip.com).

As more Padel balls are tested and approved, they will be included on [www.padelfip.org](http://www.padelfip.org) and [www.padelfip.com](http://www.padelfip.com).

The on-line version published in the official web-site is definitive, and shall prevail in the event of any discrepancy with the printed version.

All the Companies with Padel Ball Brands are invited to apply.

In the event more detailed information is required on the procedures on how to obtain the FIP Approval for Padel balls, please contact the FIP Secretary.

## **b) THE RULES OF GAME OF PADEL**

Extract of articles of the Rules and Regulations related to the Padel ball.

### **THE BALL**

The balls used for official competitions are those approved by the F.I.P. for the game of Padel.

The ball should be a rubber sphere with a uniform exterior surface in either white or yellow. Its diameter should measure between 6.35 and 6.77 cm and its weight between 56.0 y 59.4 grms. The bounce



is understood to be between 135 and 145 cm when let fall onto a hard surface from a height of 2.54 m.

The ball must have an internal pressure of between 4.6 Kg and 5.2 Kg per 2.54 square cm.

When play is at an altitude of more than 500 m above sea level another type of ball may be used. These should be identical to the aforementioned except for in the bounce which should be more than 121.92 cm and less than 135 cm.

Addendum to the official Regulations:

The International Padel Federation shall rule on the question of whether any ball complies with the Rules or is otherwise approved, or not approved, for play. Such ruling may be taken on its own initiative or upon application by any party with a bona fide interest therein, including any player, equipment manufacturer or National Association/Federation or members thereof.

### **RULE 17. CHANGE OF BALLS**

The competition organizers must announce the following in advance:

- a) The make and model of balls;
- b) The number of balls to be used in the match (2 or 3);
- c) Ball change policy, if any.

Ball changes, if any should be made using one of the following alternatives for each match:

1. After an established odd number of games. The warm up period is counted as two games and the “tie break” as one, for the change of balls.

A ball change will not take place at the beginning of a “tie break”. In this case the change of balls will be delayed until the beginning of the second game of the following set.

2. At the beginning of a set.

In cases where ball changes should occur after an established number of games and are not, the error must be corrected when it is the turn of the team that should have served with new balls before the error occurred. After this the balls will be changed during the match as originally anticipated.

When a ball is lost, broken, or sufficiently deteriorated and differs from the others the Umpire will supervise a change with a ball in the same conditions as those in play. Otherwise, a complete match of balls of balls will be made. It is mandatory to have available at least two balls to start the point.

**Note:** *As stated in all FIP Rules and Regulations, any ball to be used in an official competition which is played under the Rules and Regulations of Padel must be included on the official FIP list of Approved balls, issued and published by the International Padel Federation.*



### c) THE PADEL BALL TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

a. The outer cover of the Padel ball shall have an unvaried outer core and a hollow inner core composed of rubber. The outer core shall be primarily of a smooth surface that can incorporate a seamless pleat and be made of a combination of multi-textile materials of cotton, wool, and nylon fibers.

b. The Padel ball shall be in conformity to one of the following types:

	<b>STANDARD TYPE <sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>HIGH ALTITUDE TYPE <sup>(2)</sup></b>
<b>MASS (WEIGHT)</b>	56,0-59,4 grams	56,0-59,4 grams
<b>SIZE</b>	6,35-6,77 cm	6,35-6,77 cm
<b>REBOUND</b>	135-145 cm	121,92-135 cm
<b>FORWARD DEFORMATION <sup>(3)</sup></b>	0,56-0,74 cm	0,56-0,74 cm
<b>RETURN DEFORMATION <sup>(3)</sup></b>	0,80-1,08 cm	0,80-1,08 cm
<b>COLOUR</b>	White or Yellow	White or Yellow

#### Notes:

- (1) The Standard padel ball may be pressurised or pressureless. The pressureless ball shall be acclimatised a minimum of 60 days at the altitude of which the specific championship or tournament will be held. The internal pressure shall be no greater than 7 kPa and may be used for high altitude play above 1.219 m above sea level.
- (2) The High Altitude ball type is pressurised and is specified for play in court locations at high altitude of 1.219 m above sea level only.
- (3) No two deformation readings shall differ by more than 0,08 cm on the average of a single reading along each of three perpendicular axes.

c. All ball types specified under paragraph (b) shall conform to durability requirements as described in the following table showing the maximum allowable changes in the specified properties. The durability test apparatus is used to simulate the effects of nine games of play.

	<b>MASS (WEIGHT)</b>	<b>REBOUND</b>	<b>FORWARD DEFORMATION</b>	<b>RETURN DEFORMATION</b>
<b>MAXIMUM CHANGE</b>	0,4 grams	4,0 cm	0,08 cm	0,10 cm

**d) FUTURE DEVELOPMENT TESTING METHODS AND PADEL BALL SPECIFICATIONS**

The International Padel Federation reserves the right to amend and update the information given in this document without prior notice.

## **PADEL BALL TESTING**

### **1. REGULATIONS FOR THE TESTING OF PADEL BALLS FOR FIP APPROVAL**

The International Padel Federation specifies the properties of the padel balls provide uniformity, and consistency in performance. Special testing facilities and apparatus must be used to accurately measure these properties.

The information for those involved in the testing or evaluation of Padel balls and should be read in conjunction with the specification for a Padel ball, as described in Chapter of the Rule of Game of Padel “The Ball” and “The Padel Ball Technical Specifications”.

#### **1.1. General Aspects**

The required test conditions and procedures is something well known by the experienced operators, scientists and laboratory tests managers.

There is not a particular obligation to use a specific method, but the results of tests and declared measurements has to be fully consistent with the required technical specifications and characteristics, and carried out in controlled atmosphere, with parameters of temperature, relative humidity and atmospheric pressure indicated in the test reports.

It is suggested to measure Deformation using a Stevens Machine, but it is not mandatory.

As for Rebound measurement, it is suggested to use calibrated scales and digital video camera.

In absence of equipment in the test laboratory to check the Durability, simulating the effect of nine games of play, the equipment may be substituted with regular play of nine games and then use the balls for the further test of Mass, Rebound and Deformation.

#### **1.2. Test Procedure**

A box of 24 cans have to be submitted of padel balls (72 balls).

The accredited Test Laboratory selects 24 padel balls for testing, randomly.

The padel balls are extracted from the cans and kept in the controlled atmosphere for a minimum of 24 hours, then afterwhich the test will proceed.

Prior to testing and after visual inspection, each ball should be marked with a letter, number or code.

The corresponding test results are assigned to each marked ball.

## 1.2. Conditions for FIP Approval

All padel ball manufacturers that wish their ball product(s) to be considered for inclusion on the official FIP list of Approved padel balls must submit a sample of their ball product(s) for testing by the FIP accredited laboratory as described above. The FIP will determine if the sample balls meet all requirements of the rules of padel before Approval can be granted.

Contact details for FIP Accredited laboratories can be found in Section 4.

Once a ball has been granted FIP Approval it can be considered suitable for use in tournaments played according to the Rules of Padel. The FIP approval is based on the current Regulation of the Padel Game and therefore FIP Approval does not imply any other form of approval.

The FIP and its Technical Commission reserve the right to withdraw FIP Approval from any padel ball brand(s) at any time if it finds that balls are not in keeping with the sample(s) submitted for approval or that such balls are not able to meet the specifications in the Rules of Padel, or if the approved balls otherwise fail to meet a reasonable quality standard.



## 2. 2018 FIP APPROVED PADEL BALLS

The FIP has approved the following balls for the calendar year of 2018.

The ball manufacturers contact information can be found in the next chapter, by cross-referencing against the code given below.

All balls approved are **STANDARD** and can be pressurised or not pressurised balls. In the second case, the balls are filled with a micro-cellular material designed to simulate the effect of an increased internal pressure of a pressurised ball.

Balls approved by the FIP after the publication of this notice are listed on the FIP websites [www.padelfip.org](http://www.padelfip.org) and [www.padelfip.com](http://www.padelfip.com).

<b>Brand and Ball name</b>	<b>Country of Origin</b>	<b>Code</b>
<b>HEAD Padel Pro S</b>	<b>China</b>	<b>FIP Approved 1</b>
<b>HEAD Padel Pro</b>	<b>China</b>	<b>FIP Approved 2</b>
<b>HEAD Padel</b>	<b>China</b>	<b>FIP Approved 3</b>
<b>DUNLOP Pro Padel</b>	<b>Philippines</b>	<b>FIP Approved 4</b>

## HIGH ALTITUDE PADEL BALLS

<b>Brand and Ball name</b>	<b>Country of Origin</b>	<b>Code</b>
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### 3. CONTACT DETAILS FOR PADEL BALL SUPPLIERS

<b>Code</b>	<b>Supplier</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Tel/E-mail</b>
FIP Approved 1	HEAD Sport GmbH	Wuhrkopfweg n.1 A-6921 Kennelbach Austria	T +43 5574 608 330 E <a href="mailto:c.reuter@head.com">c.reuter@head.com</a>
FIP Approved 2	HEAD Sport GmbH		
FIP Approved 3	HEAD Sport GmbH		
FIP Approved 4	DUNLOP International Europe Ltd.	Berguedà 1, Esc A, Pl. Baja, 08820 El Prat de Llobregat, Barcelona - Spain	T +34 93 544 1401 E <a href="mailto:r.jackson@dunlopsports.com">r.jackson@dunlopsports.com</a>

#### **4. FIP ACCREDITED LABORATORIES**

Test samples of padel balls may be refused by the FIP accredited laboratory if they are damaged or in poor condition.

Tests shall be conducted in accordance with well established test methods as described in the test report document.

The FIP Accredited laboratory shall submit a test report to the FIP for review after completion of the test and receipt of the testing fee payment.

Test reports should be received by the FIP within one month of the test date. Once approved by the FIP, the FIP Accredited laboratory shall send the report to the manufacturer.

##### **LABOSPORT**

Technoparc du circuit des 24 Heures  
Chemin aux Bœufs  
72100 Le Mans  
France  
Responsible: Mr. Xavier HEROUIN

Centro Sviluppo Materiali (CSM)  
Via di Castel Romano, 100  
00128 Roma  
Italy  
Responsible: Eng. Antonio LUCCI

Instituto de Biomecanica de Valencia (IBV)  
Universidad Politécnica de Valencia  
Edificio 9C  
Camino de Vera s/n  
E-46022 Valencia  
Spain  
Responsible: Ms. Laura MAGRANER