

# FIP CERTIFICATIONS APPROVED BALLS

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## **INTERNATIONAL PADEL FEDERATION**

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

### **A. INTRODUCTION**

In 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:

- Standard ball
- 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.

Only certificated Balls approved by FIP can be used in FIP Tournaments and/or Competitions part of the Official Calendar (between them, all FIP Championships, PREMIER PADEL, CUPRA FIP TOUR, FIP PROMISES, etc....) and all other competitions recognized by FIP in the world.

The process to obtain the certification for the product of Padel balls used in our sport has been upgraded to facilitate the Companies owners of this product the way to get approval from FIP.

The most significant points, starting this season 2023 are the following:

- The Certification can be used to advertise the balls on packing cans of the ball, websites, communications, advertisements, etc....
- FIP will provide all companies with the FIP APPROVED logos to use for the purposes mentioned before.
- The duration of the Certification will need to be renewed every two (2) years. Starting from the date that FIP confirms the acceptance of the certification.
  - First Model of a Brand: 4.500€ / 2 years
  - Second Model of a Brand: 3.000€ / 2 years
  - Following Models of a Brand: 1.500€ / 2 years
- The payment for biannual renovation must be done one month before the date of expiration of 2 years' certification.

**Note:** For new balls only, all laboratory test costs should be carried out by the companies themselves.

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

As more Padel balls are tested and approved, they will be included [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 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 FIP 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 800 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 brand and model of balls;
- b. The number of balls to be used in the match (2, 3 or 4);
- 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 warmup 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

1. 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.
2. The Padel ball shall be in conformity to one of the following types:

	<b>STANDARD TYPE (1)</b>	<b>HIGH ALTITUDE TYPE (2)</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 (3)</b>	0,56-0,74 cm	0,56-0,74 cm
<b>RETURN DEFORMATION (3)</b>	0,80-1,08 cm	0,80-1,08 cm
<b>COLOUR</b>	White or Yellow	White or Yellow

**Notes:**

- a. *The Standard padel ball may be pressurized or pressure less. The pressure less 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.*
  - b. *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.*
  - c. *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.*
3. 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 grams	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**
**A. 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 Rules of Game of Padel “The Ball” and “The Padel Ball Technical Specifications”**.

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.

2. Test Procedure

A box of 24 cans must be submitted, (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, after this period the test will start.

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.

3. 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 to the accredited laboratory described below. 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 as “*FIP APPROVAL*” it can consider suitable for use in tournaments played according to the Rules of Padel. FIP approval is based on the current Regulation of the Padel Game and therefore FIP Approval does not imply any other form of approval.

**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.



### B. 2023-2024 FIP APPROVED PADEL BALLS

FIP has approved the following balls for the calendar year of 2023-2024.

All balls approved are **STANDARD** and can be pressurized or not pressurized 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 pressurized ball.

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

Nº	Brand	Model	Issue Date	Renewal	Expire Date
1	All For Padel (Adidas)	Speed Rx	10/11/2023	10/10/2025	10/11/2025
2	Babolat	Padel Court	20/01/2023	20/12/2024	20/01/2025
3		Padel Ace	20/01/2023	20/12/2024	20/01/2025
4	Bullpadel	Next Pro	27/01/2023	27/12/2024	27/01/2025
5		Next	27/01/2023	27/12/2024	27/01/2025
6	Contra Padel	Contra Padel Speed	-	-	-
7	Decathlon	Kuikma C	22/06/2022	1/02/2024	1/02/2024
8		Kuikma S	22/06/2022	1/02/2024	1/02/2024
9	Dunlop	Dunlop Pro Padel	31/01/2023	31/12/2024	31/01/2025
10		Dunlop Fort Padel	31/01/2023	31/12/2024	31/01/2025
11	Four Sports	Four Padel	30/08/2023	30/07/2025	30/08/2025
12	Head	Padel Pro	22/01/2023	22/12/2024	22/01/2025
13		Padel Pro S	22/01/2023	22/12/2024	22/01/2025
14		Padel	-	-	-
15	Palbea	Palbea Pro Padel	02/10/2023	02/09/2025	02/10/2025
16	Pro Kennex	Globo PadelBall.	-	-	-
17	Renewaball	Renewaball Padel	19/07/2023	19/06/2025	19/07/2025
18	Slazenger	Slazenger Padel nº1	16/02/2023	16/01/2025	16/02/2025
19	Tretorn	Tretorn Series+Padel	27/01/2023		
20	Varlion	Summum Pro S	-	-	-
21		Summum Pro W	-	-	-
22	Willson	Padel X3	26/02/2023	26/01/2025	26/02/2025
23		Padel X· speed	26/02/2023	26/01/2025	26/02/2025

### C. 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.

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

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



**LABOSPORT**

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