



REGULATIONS OF THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS FOR NATIONAL TEAMS

Categories Absolute and Junior

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 PURPOSE AND APPLICABILITY

The purpose of this document is to regulate the organisation and development of the International Padel Federation (FIP) World Championships for National Teams, categories Absolute and Junior, hereinafter referred to as the **"World Championships"**.

In addition to this document, participation in the World Championships is governed by the Rulebook for the relevant competition (which contains all the information and detailed instructions for each competition), the Regulations on player eligibility to represent a country in official FIP competitions and any other applicable FIP rules (e.g. the Disciplinary Code, the Code of Ethics, etc.).

The World Championships will be subject to the FIP anti-doping rules.

For all intents and purposes, the World Championships are competitions of FIP, the governing body of the sport.

The World Championships will be men's and women's events.

Unless otherwise stated, all references to "player" in these Regulations include both sexes.

1.2 RESPONSIBILITY

FIP is responsible for the overall organisation of all World Championships, including:

1.2.1. Selection: choice of organisers.

1.2.2. Dates: designation of dates.

1.2.3. Conflicts: resolution of any conflicts that may arise.

1.3 RULES

In accordance with the provisions of the competition's Rulebook, FIP is the entity responsible for imposing sanctions on players, members of delegations, promoters, tournament support staff and other accredited persons.

The headings and titles of the sections contained in these Regulations are included solely for convenience and shall not affect in any way the interpretation or scope of the corresponding regulatory provisions.

These Regulations are written in both Spanish and English, without prejudice to the fact that in the event of any discrepancy between the two, the Spanish version shall prevail.

1.4 CALENDAR

The FIP Board of Directors is responsible for determining the dates and venues for the World Championships.

In duly justified circumstances, changes may be made to the official calendar during the course of the year. Any changes shall be formally communicated to the national federations affiliated to FIP and published on the official FIP website.

The World Championships in the category Absolute shall be held every two (2) years, coinciding with even-numbered years.

The World Championships in the category Junior shall be held every two (2) years, coinciding with odd-numbered years.

1.5 NAME

The World Championships organised by FIP are as follows:

- **World Championships for National Teams Absolute**, in the men's and women's categories.
- **World Championships for National Teams Junior**, in both men's and women's categories.

2 ENTRY / ACCEPTANCE

2.1 ENTRY TO THE CHAMPIONSHIP

Sixteen (16) men's teams and sixteen (16) women's teams will participate in the World Championships.

The ranking of national teams will be determined by the results obtained in previous Absolute and Junior Continental Championships.

2.2 DIRECT ENTRY

In both absolute and junior categories, and in both the men's and women's categories, national teams that have reached the semi-finals in the last edition of the World Championship will obtain a direct place in the next edition of the corresponding tournament.

The organising and host country of the World Championship will also obtain a direct place for the edition it organises.

If that country has already qualified by other means, the place reserved for the host country will be reallocated to the quota corresponding to the continent in which the World Championship is held, in accordance with the criteria established by FIP.

TYPE OF EVENT	DRAW SIZE	DIRECT QUALIFIERS		QUALIFIED THROUGH FIP CONTINENTAL CHAMPIONSHIPS	
World Championships for National Teams, category Absolute	16	4	4 + Host *	12	11 *
World Championships for National Teams, category Junior	16	4	4 + Host *	12	11 *

2.3 ADDITIONAL TEAMS

FIP will determine the additional participating teams, their continental distribution and seedings based on the results obtained in the last competitions.

2.4 COMPETITION FORMAT

In each of the men's and women's competitions, the sixteen (16) participating national teams will be divided into four (4) groups of four (4) teams each.

Each group will play a round-robin qualifying phase, with a total of six (6) matches per group. The final group standings will be determined in accordance with the provisions of the relevant Rulebook.

Each match between national teams will be played in a three (3) - match format. In the Junior category, the three matches will be played by the following age categories: under-14, under-16 and under-18.

At the end of the group stage:

- the top two (2) teams in each group will advance to the knockout stage for the title.
- The teams ranked third and fourth in each group will compete in a knockout stage.

The official draw held at the start of the competition will determine both the composition of the groups and the match schedule for the knockout stage.

2.5 PLAYERS

2.5.1. Eligibility requirements and licences

To participate in the World Championship, players must comply with the Regulations on player eligibility to represent a country in official FIP competitions and hold a valid federative licence issued by the relevant FIP-affiliated National Federation.

Players who are serving a disciplinary sanction imposed by FIP or any other sports authority recognised by FIP are not eligible to participate.

National federations must inform FIP, when requested, of the issuance of federative licences, sending an updated list of official licences issued during the corresponding season.

2.5.2. Team composition and documentation requirements

In Absolute category, each national team shall be composed of a minimum of six (6) and a maximum of eight (8) players duly registered.

In Junior category, each national team shall be composed of a minimum of six (6) and a maximum of twelve (12) players duly registered.

In the case of the World Championship, category Junior, only players who have reached at least eleven (11) years of age on 1 January of the year in which the competition is held may participate.

At the time of official registration, each national federation must provide FIP with the following information regarding the team's players:

- Full name and surname.
- Valid passport's number.
- Federative licence's number.
- Date of birth.

3 ORGANISER

The organiser of the World Championship will be appointed by FIP based on the proposal that, in the opinion of FIP, guarantees the success of the tournament. To this end, the following elements will be taken into account:

- The quality and suitability of the services offered to participating teams.
- The expected media coverage.
- The availability and conditions of the sports infrastructure.

The organisation of the World Championship must be formally requested to FIP by an affiliated national federation. FIP may, if deemed appropriate, enter into a contract with the organising federation.

If the organising federation delegates all or part of the organisation to third parties, it shall remain jointly and severally liable with them for the compliance with the conditions agreed with FIP and the applicable regulations.

The venue for the World Championship shall be communicated in due course by FIP to all affiliated national federations.

Without prejudice to any contractual measures that may be applicable, any lack of organisation or failure to comply with any provision of the FIP rules by the organising federation shall constitute a disciplinary offence, that can be sanctioned in accordance with the FIP Disciplinary Code.

In the event that no affiliated national federations submit a suitable proposal for the organisation of the World Championship, FIP may entrust the organisation to a private entity. To this end, FIP shall enter into a specific staging agreement with the selected company, setting out the applicable technical, operational and legal conditions.

4 OFFICIATING TEAM

The officiating team for the World Championship shall be appointed by FIP.

The duties of the officiating team of the World Championship are:

1. to ensure compliance with the competition rules;
2. to schedule and announce the order of play of the competition in due course;
3. to decide whether a court meets the necessary conditions for play or whether a match should be moved to another court, and designating which court each match should be played on;
4. to identify the participating players;
5. not to allow the participation of players whose age or nationality does not correspond to the category of the event in which they intend to participate or to the Regulations on player eligibility;
6. notify players of the system and conditions of play;
7. to apply walk-overs (w.o.);
8. to conduct draws;
9. to order ball changes;
10. to record all results on the scoreboards;
11. to decide when a match should be postponed or replayed;
12. to be present at the venue where the competition is held during all matches;
13. to take the appropriate decisions in the event of inclement weather;
14. to send the results, incident reports from the officiating team members and the match report at the end of the competition, within the indicated deadlines and by appropriate means.

The facts recorded in the official match reports of the officiating team shall be submitted to the evaluation of the disciplinary bodies of FIP, in accordance with the procedure set out in the FIP Disciplinary Code.

5 ENTRY INTO FORCE

These Regulations shall enter into force immediately after their approval by the FIP General Meeting, with the exception of Article 2.2, the application of which is postponed until:

- The 2027 edition of the World Championships, category Junior.
- The 2028 edition of the World Championship, category Absolute.

With respect to the 2026 edition of the World Championship, category Absolute, the following teams shall automatically qualify:

- The top nine (9) teams from the previous edition of the World Championships, category Absolute.
- The national team of the organising country.