



# **FIP Promises Tour Official Rulebook**

**Version February 25  
Application date: January 1, 2026**

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Printed in Lausanne (Switzerland)

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 DESCRIPTION AND APPLICABILITY

This document sets forth the Rules and Regulations governing the FIP Promises Continental Tour and the FIP Promises World Tour.

For all intents and purposes, the tournaments comprising the FIP Promises Continental Tour and the FIP Promises World Tour are official competitions of the International Padel Federation (FIP), the governing body of the sport.

Tournaments within the FIP Promises Continental Tour and the FIP Promises World Tour may be male, female, or single-gender events, subject in all cases to the prior approval of the FIP Sports Department.

This document shall be updated as necessary.

Any matter not expressly addressed in these Technical Regulations shall be subject to review and resolution by the FIP Sports Department. Such decisions shall be taken into consideration for future amendments and/or additions to the Technical Regulations.

Each player participating in a competition of the FIP Promises Continental Tour or the FIP Promises World Tour agrees, as a condition of participation, to comply with and be bound by these Rules, which include the principal competition regulations and the Code of Conduct.

In the event of any inconsistency between these Rules and Regulations of the FIP Promises Continental Tour and the FIP Promises World Tour and any other documents or guidelines, these Rules and Regulations shall prevail.

These Rules and Regulations shall apply to all tournaments included in the official calendar of the FIP Promises Continental Tour and the FIP Promises World Tour.

The FIP reserves the right to amend this document from time to time, and the most recent version shall be deemed binding.

Unless otherwise specified, all references to “player” in these Rules shall be understood to include individuals of all genders.

### 1.2 RULES

In accordance with the provisions set forth in these Official Rules, as periodically amended and updated online, the FIP selects and schedules the Tournaments included in the Calendar and is responsible for resolving any conflicts or related disputes, including the imposition of sanctions on Players, Tournaments of the FIP Promises Continental Tour and the FIP Promises World Tour, Tournament Staff, Family Members and Representatives of the Players, Coaches, and other Accredited Persons.

These Rules may be altered, amended, or repealed by the FIP in accordance with the FIP Statutes.

The headings and section titles contained in this document are inserted solely for convenience and shall not affect the meaning or interpretation of the Rules.

Any action taken by the FIP pursuant to these Rules shall be deemed effective only once the affected parties have been duly notified thereof or, in the case of actions of general applicability, once notice has been published in a manner that ensures wide dissemination.

Notices and alerts addressed to players and tournaments shall be considered official means of communication by the FIP with its members and shall be published in a manner that ensures wide dissemination through the Players' Portal and/or the official website.

The FIP may impose appropriate sanctions on any person or entity subject to these Rules who participates in, assists, or incites any violation thereof. Any violation of these Rules for which no specific sanctioning procedure is provided shall be resolved by the FIP, and such decision may be appealed before the FIP.

English and Spanish are the official languages of the Tour. Accordingly, these Rules are drafted in both languages; however, in the event of any discrepancy between the two versions, the Spanish version shall prevail.

### 1.3 CALENDAR

The FIP shall publish the Tentative Calendar for the following year no later than December 31 of the current competition year.

The Tournament Calendar of the FIP Promises Continental Tour and the FIP Promises World Tour for a given year shall constitute the official list of tournaments selected by the FIP to be held during that calendar year.

Each Tournament shall be assigned a specific tournament week within the FIP Tournament Calendar.

In duly justified circumstances, modifications to the Calendar may be made during the course of the year. In such cases, the corresponding changes shall be communicated to the National Padel Federations or Associations affiliated with the Tour (the "Associate Members") and published on the Players' Portal and the official FIP Website in accordance with the deadlines established herein.

### 1.4 POLICIES

#### 1.4.1 Open Competition / Non-Discrimination

Each tournament of the FIP Promises Continental Tour and the FIP Promises World Tour shall be subject to the provisions of these Rules. Any player participating in a tournament of the FIP Promises Continental Tour or the FIP Promises World Tour shall likewise be fully subject to and bound by these Rules. Mere participation by a player shall constitute acceptance of the entirety of these Rules, as well as all other regulations and provisions of the FIP, including the FIP Code of Discipline and the FIP Code of Ethics in force at the time.

Participation in tournaments of the FIP Promises Continental Tour and the FIP Promises World Tour is open to all players ranked in the official FIP Promises Tour Ranking (the "**Ranking**") on the basis of merit and without discrimination, subject only to the conditions set forth in the FIP Statutes and these Rules, including, but not limited to, the Age Eligibility Rules and the Gender Participation Policy.

#### 1.4.2 Gender Participation Policy

All players are subject to the FIP Gender Participation Policy (“Gender Participation Policy”), as periodically amended, which sets forth the gender eligibility requirements for entry and participation in tournaments of the FIP Promises Continental Tour and the FIP Promises World Tour.

#### 1.4.3 Nationality

To be eligible to participate in tournaments of the FIP Promises Continental Tour and the FIP Promises World Tour, a player must hold a valid federative license issued by the National Federation or National Association (Associate Member) of their passport country and must not be subject to any sanction imposed by the FIP or any Associate Member.

A player may hold as many licenses as passports (provided that the statutes of the respective Associate Members allow it), issued by Associate Members, but must designate the chosen nationality for the purposes of its display in the Ranking. By declaring a license to the FIP, the player shall be indicating their “sporting nationality,” which implies that, for the purposes of FIP competitions, they may only represent that sporting nationality in all FIP competitions for the duration specified in the current version of these Rules.

*Note: If a player’s country of origin is not an Associate Member of the FIP, the player must obtain a license issued directly by the FIP at a cost of €30. Such license shall remain valid until the end of the current calendar year.*

#### 1.4.4 Eligibility

All players must comply with the eligibility requirements of the Padel Anti-Doping Program (the “**Padel Anti-Doping Program**”), as well as the provisions set forth in the World Anti-Doping Code, the Prohibited List, the Prohibited Pharmacological Groups, and the non-regulatory methods of doping in sport, approved by the World Anti-Doping Agency (“**WADA**”).

All players must comply with the eligibility requirements of the Padel Anti-Doping Program (the “Padel Anti-Doping Program”), as well as the provisions set forth in the World Anti-Doping Code, the Prohibited List, the Prohibited Pharmacological Groups, and the non-regulatory methods of doping in sport, approved by the World Anti-Doping Agency (“**WADA-AMA**”).

The FIP has delegated the management of all its activities aimed at ensuring clean sport to the International Testing Agency (“ITA”), an independent organization that manages anti-doping programs on behalf of international federations.

<https://www.padelfip.com/es/deporte-limpio/>

<https://www.wada-ama.org/en>

<https://ita.sport/>

#### **1.4.5 Compliance with Laws and Regulations**

Each player grants and assigns to the events in which they participate the right to produce, use, and display, at their discretion, moving images, still photographs, and live, recorded, or filmed television broadcasts and other reproductions of their likeness during such events, in connection with the promotion of said events, without compensation.

Each player also agrees to cooperate with the media and, upon request, to participate in reasonable promotional activities of international tournaments. Such activities shall not be used as an endorsement by the player of any brand or product.

Each event shall have the right to approach players for a series of tournament-related events/functions necessary for the promotion of the sport, the Tour, the event itself, and its sponsors. Accordingly, players must make themselves available for such activities, provided they are reasonable in number and respect the commitments and responsibilities of both the Tournament and the player. Players are strictly and exclusively committed to the event and are not permitted to participate in any other private function or event during their presence in the host city of the Tournament without the prior written consent of the Promoter and the FIP.

Furthermore, it is understood and agreed that all rights in any data produced and/or generated during the tournaments (including, but not limited to, statistics, live analytics, analytics technology data, and similar data) shall likewise be granted to the events and must be made available for use, including licensing, assignment, and/or other promotional and commercial purposes. To the extent that any player holds rights in such data, the player hereby irrevocably grants and assigns those rights to the FIP, which may use them in official competitions.

Tournaments, by virtue of their inclusion in the FIP Tournament Calendar, undertake to comply with all provisions of the Rules and Regulations of the FIP Promises Continental Tour and the FIP Promises World Tour, as well as with the provisions set forth in the FIP Promises Tour Promoters Manual, the FIP Branding Guidelines, and the FIP Broadcast Manual.

The Tournament Promoter shall provide and make available at the venue/club all services necessary for the proper staging of the Tournament in accordance with the relevant regulations published by the FIP.

The Tournament Promoter acknowledges that all matches and other aspects of the Tournament shall at all times be subject to the Rules and Regulations, Standards, and Guidelines issued by the FIP. The Tournament Promoter shall cooperate with the FIP at all times to ensure the Tournament's compliance with the Sports Regulations and the implementation of appropriate Anti-Doping and Anti-Corruption procedures in connection with the Tournament.

The Tournament Promoter shall be responsible for ensuring full compliance of the Tournament with all applicable local laws and regulations, including, but not limited to, medical requirements, a comprehensive safety and security concept, and the provision of all appropriate medical and health services, including any necessary measures to contain the COVID-19 pandemic and/or any other future public health situation.

#### **1.4.6 Local Authorities and Approvals**

The Tournament Promoter shall take all necessary measures to ensure the full support and cooperation of the authorities (at all institutional levels, both sporting and governmental, at national and local levels) for the smooth and successful organization and staging of the Tournament within the territory and at the venue, in accordance with applicable local sports regulations, if any.

The Tournament Promoter shall obtain all approvals, consents, licenses, and assistance that may be required from third parties in order to organize the Tournament as contemplated in this agreement (including, but not limited to, all relevant police, medical, and fire authorities, as well as governmental, military, and any other local, regional, or national authorities) in connection with the Tournament (the "Permits"), and shall ensure that all other persons, entities, or governmental bodies involved in the Tournament cooperate fully with the FIP. The Tournament Promoter shall ensure that all Permits are in force sufficiently in advance of the Tournament dates to allow for its proper operation, and prior to any deadline that the FIP may reasonably specify in writing.

The Tournament Promoter shall work in cooperation with the authorities of the host city to coordinate the proper planning and implementation of a mobility concept (including measures to ensure access for people and goods to and from the Tournament site, and the arrangement of transportation facilities to and from major arrival points in the host city, with convenient and reasonable travel times to facilitate efficient access and mobility between the host city center, official hotels, and the venue).

#### **1.4.7 Confidentiality**

Players, coaches, members of the Player Support Team, and all individuals accredited at the request of players shall not disclose any confidential information of any kind relating to the FIP and/or the FIP Promises Continental Tour and the FIP Promises World Tour, unless expressly authorized in writing.

## **2. ENTRY / ACCEPTANCE TO THE TOURNAMENT AND WILD CARD**

### **2.1 ENTRY TO THE TOURNAMENT**

Players' acceptance into tournaments of the FIP Promises Continental Tour and the FIP Promises World Tour shall be based on their combined FIP Promises Continental Ranking as a pair, using the latest available ranking at the time of the entry deadline.

Each tournament of the FIP Promises World Tour shall have a predetermined number of places allocated to each continent. By submitting an application for entry to any tournament of the FIP Promises Continental Tour or the FIP Promises World Tour, each player agrees to the following:

- The player must pay in advance the registration fee established for that Tournament (maximum €25/player/category for tournaments of the FIP Promises Continental Tour and €40/player for tournaments of the FIP Promises World Tour). Failure to do so, the Tournament Promoter shall notify the Main Referee in writing, who will prevent the player's participation and declare the match lost by walk-over (W.O.). For sanctioning purposes, this shall be considered an unjustified W.O.
- Payment of the registration fee must be made in all cases, even when the player is declared W.O. A player shall not be permitted to participate in another competition until the fee has been paid. For this purpose, the Tournament Promoter shall send a list of players declared W.O. in arrears

to the FIP, which shall inform the affected players, with a copy to the Association/Federation that issued the player's license, warning them that they will not be permitted to enter the draw of any competition until their situation has been regularized.

- The player agrees to comply with all provisions of the Rules and Regulations of the FIP Promises Continental Tour and the FIP Promises World Tour, the FIP Statutes, including any amendments to the Rules and Regulations applicable at the time of entry and at the time of the Tournament.
- The player agrees to comply with all provisions of the FIP Anti-Corruption Program.
- The player agrees to comply with all provisions of the FIP Anti-Doping Program and agrees to submit to anti-doping control testing upon notification, in accordance with the procedures established by the FIP Anti-Doping Program and WADA. In addition, the player consents to disclose to the FIP all anti-doping test results obtained during events of the FIP Promises Continental Tour and the FIP Promises World Tour, including failures to appear for testing and/or failures to submit samples.
- The player agrees to undergo a medical examination if requested by FIP medical representatives. Furthermore, if the FIP requires an annual medical examination as a condition of participation, the player agrees to submit the complete medical report prior to competing in any FIP event during the calendar year.
- The player, under their own responsibility, affirms that they hold an international personal medical insurance policy covering medical treatment beyond the standard medical services of the Tournament, and acknowledges their financial responsibility for such insurance and/or medical treatment.
- The player agrees to grant the FIP and the Tournament in which they participate the right to record and use their name, performance, image, voice, and biographical data, in any medium (including the right to produce, display, and use still or moving images, and live or recorded or filmed television and other reproductions of the player), solely for the purpose of promoting and/or advertising the FIP Promises Continental Tour, the FIP Promises World Tour, or the Tournament, without compensation to the player, their heirs, executors, or administrators. This agreement does not grant the FIP or the Tournament the right to use the player's name, performance, image, voice, or biography in a manner constituting endorsement of any product, service, or company.
- The player agrees not to promote or advertise in any way any other Tour or padel organization during the week of the Tournament.

### 2.1.1 General

#### a. Responsibility of the FIP

The FIP is responsible for processing all player applications to enter tournaments of the FIP Promises Continental Tour and the FIP Promises World Tour and for notifying the Tournaments of all relevant player information in a timely manner.

#### b. Player Entry and Commitment to Rules

Any player entering or participating in any tournament of the FIP Promises Continental Tour or the FIP Promises World Tour consents and agrees to the following:

I. Compliance with the Rules

Each player must comply with and is subject to all provisions of the Rulebook of the FIP Promises Continental Tour and the FIP Promises World Tour, and the FIP Statutes, including, without limitation, all amendments thereto.

II. Compliance with Integrity Rules

The FIP Anti-Doping Program and the FIP Competition Manipulation Prevention Code (available on the FIP website) shall apply and be binding on all players, and shall govern the entry and participation of players in tournaments of the FIP Promises Continental Tour and the FIP Promises World Tour (together with the Rules, each of which shall apply simultaneously and without prejudice to the other), as well as other events specified in the FIP Anti-Doping Program and the FIP Competition Manipulation Prevention Code. Players must complete any padel integrity or anti-doping education program required by the FIP.

III. Consent

Each calendar year, all players, as a condition of entering or participating in any event organized by the FIP, together with the completion of the Annual Player Form, must consent and agree to comply with the Rules, the FIP Anti-Doping Program, and the FIP Competition Manipulation Prevention Code.

c. Entry Conditions

I. Annual Player Form

A player must complete the Annual Player Form before playing their first match in each calendar year of the FIP competition calendar and must ensure that the FIP has at all times a copy of their valid passport or, if the player does not hold a valid passport, a copy of their birth certificate or a photo identification document.

Under no circumstances may a player participate in a FIP event until they have completed and returned the Annual Player Form and confirmed that a copy of such documentation is available.

II. Entries

The parent, guardian, or legal representative of a player in the FIP Promises Tour must submit the official entry in order for the player to be accepted into FIP tournaments. Official entries shall be made through the platforms designated by the FIP.

III. Eligibility Requirements

No entry shall be accepted unless the player's participation in the Tournament complies with the Gender Participation Policy and the Age Eligibility Rules, and the player is eligible to participate in the Tournament under the Integrity Rules.

IV. Ineligibility and Provisional Suspension

Pursuant to the Integrity Rules, a player serving a period of ineligibility or provisional suspension under

the FIP Anti-Doping Program or the FIP Competition Manipulation Prevention Code, as applicable, is not eligible to enter a FIP Tournament, nor to automatically enter a FIP Tournament scheduled during the period of ineligibility or provisional suspension. If a player contests their provisional suspension under the FIP Anti-Doping Program or the FIP Competition Manipulation Prevention Code, as applicable, they may remain on the entry list for any Tournament in which they were registered prior to the effective date of the provisional suspension until the qualification registration deadline of such Tournaments, at which time the player shall be automatically withdrawn from the relevant Tournament(s) if they are not yet eligible.

### **2.1.2 Enrollment Deadlines**

All references to registration deadlines refer to Central European Time (CET), unless otherwise specified.

Players wishing to participate in a FIP Promises Continental Tour or FIP Promises World Tour event must submit their registration application prior to the Tournament entry deadline.

Players who submit their entry after the entry deadline will not be included in any acceptance list for the Tournament.

Players serving any sanction imposed by the FIP for disciplinary reasons or for violations of the Anti-Doping or Anti-Corruption Programs are not eligible to participate in any event of the FIP Promises Continental Tour or the FIP Promises World Tour until the sanction period has been completed.

The entry deadline for tournaments of the FIP Promises Continental Tour and the FIP Promises World Tour shall be Wednesday two (2) weeks prior to the Tournament at 12:00 CET (12 pm).

The closing date for registration may be modified, always by extending the deadline, with prior notice.

A player may register for a maximum of two (2) categories of one (1) FIP Promises Continental Tour tournament in the same week. In the event that a player appears registered in more than one tournament, with the same or different partners, after the closing of entries, all registrations shall be cancelled, and the player shall not be permitted to participate in any of the tournaments.

### **2.1.3 Participation in Two or More Tournaments in the Same Week**

#### **FIP Promises Continental Tour Tournaments**

A player may register for a maximum of two categories of the same FIP Promises Continental Tour tournament. A player may register in the category corresponding to their age and in the immediately higher category. The player shall be obliged to play the total number of matches determined by each category in its Official Rules.

#### **FIP Promises Continental Tour / World Tour and PP / CFT Tournaments**

A player may compete in a FIP Promises Continental Tour or FIP Promises World Tour tournament and

a Premier Padel or CFT tournament in the same week, provided that both tournaments are held at the same venue/club. If the tournaments in which a player wishes to participate are held in the same city but not at the same venue/club, the player must choose one of the two tournaments, unless otherwise approved by the FIP. In all cases, the player shall be solely responsible for assuming the maximum match load for each competition as stipulated in the Rules of each tournament.

## 2.2 TOURNAMENT ACCEPTANCE

### 2.2.1 Direct acceptance

Direct Acceptance refers to a pair who is accepted into a registration list under their FIP Ranking (combined ranking of both players added together) or under their Protected Ranking, unless otherwise determined by the FIP, the Age Eligibility Rules, or the Integrity Rules.

Once a player has been accepted into a Tournament, they shall not be removed from the Acceptance List unless they officially withdraw or unless otherwise stated in the Rules.

The list of Direct Acceptances for each Tournament shall be issued after the Entry Deadline.

Any pair who has not entered the Tournament prior to the Entry Deadline shall not appear on the list of registrants and may not be converted into a Direct Acceptance for the draw.

A player may not register with more than one (1) partner. In the event that a player appears registered in more than one (1) Tournament, with the same or different partners, after the closing of entries, all registrations shall be cancelled and the player shall not be permitted to participate in any of the Tournaments.

Players participating in a Tournament of the FIP Promises Continental Tour or the FIP Promises World Tour using their Protected Ranking must submit an official registration to the FIP indicating that they wish to use such ranking for entry into the Tournament.

### 2.2.2 Tournament Acceptance Lists

The Tournament Acceptance Lists are as follows:

**Alternate List:** Comprised of all pairs who have been excluded from the Qualifying list due to their ranking. Acceptance Lists shall not be updated after the Entry Deadline. Any pair may be removed from the Alternate List without penalty provided they have not accessed the Qualifying draw.

Once the Qualifying draw has been made, in the event of a withdrawal, Alternate pairs shall only be admitted by signing in on site, no later than thirty (30) minutes prior to the start of the first match of the day.

**Acceptance List – Qualifying Draw:** Comprised of all pairs who have been excluded from the Main Draw due to their ranking. Acceptance Lists shall not be updated after the Entry Deadline.

In the event of a withdrawal from the Main Draw List up to one (1) hour before, local time, the draw of the Qualifying Draw is conducted, the pairs on this list shall be admitted into the Main Draw according to their position in the order of the Acceptance List.

**Acceptance List – Main Draw:** Comprised of all pairs who have been accepted into the Main Draw based on their ranking. Acceptance Lists shall not be updated after the Entry Deadline.

**Continental Acceptance:** In the tournaments of the FIP Promises Continental Tour, each category will have one reserved spot for a pair from each of the other three (3) continents different from that of the organizing tournament. These spots will be assigned to the pairs with the highest ranking within each of the respective continents. If no pair from one of these three (3) continents has registered, that spot will be drawn among the other two (2) continents different from that of the organizing tournament. The pair with the highest ranking from the continent that wins the draw will occupy the spot in question.

For registration purposes, a pair using a continental spot will be drawn together with the rest of unseeded pairs. However, the points obtained after participating in the tournament will be added to their continental ranking.

In cases where a player from the continent where the tournament is held registers with a player whose continental ranking is different from that of the organizing tournament, the registration will be made using the ranking of the player from the continent where the tournament is held, as their partner, being from a different continent, will have a ranking of zero (0). The combination of both rankings will determine the position on the registration list. The points obtained after participating in the tournament will be added to each player's continental ranking. In these cases, the pair will not occupy one of the Continental Acceptance spots.

### 2.2.3 Acceptance Procedure in the Event of a Tie

If the rankings of two (2) or more pairs are tied at the time of Tournament acceptance, the following criteria shall always apply in order:

1. the pair with the player holding the highest ranking shall be placed ahead.
2. if the tie persists, a draw shall be held among them.

In the event that several pairs do not have FIP points, a draw shall be held among all of them.

### 2.2.4 Distribution of Acceptance Lists

Tournament Acceptance Lists shall be distributed to the Tournament Director once available and shall be published on the FIP website.

### 2.2.5 Tournament Status

The status of the Tournament shall be available to players on the FIP website or through the Supervisor.

## 2.2.6 Administrative Error in Acceptance Lists

Players shall have the right, within the first twenty-four (24) hours following the publication of the definitive list of registrants, to file a complaint if they are not included in the list of registrants or if they detect any error in their registration data.

Once twenty-four (24) hours have elapsed since the initial publication of the definitive list of registrants, no further changes due to administrative errors shall be considered or permitted, and a final list of registrants shall be published, including corrections to any administrative errors that may have occurred.

### 1. Omitted Player

If an administrative error has been made in an Acceptance List resulting in the omission of a player, the pair shall be placed, as appropriate, in the Main Draw or in the Qualifying Draw.

### 2. Acceptance of Too Many Players

In the event of an error, the list shall be adjusted according to the Ranking as of the Entry Deadline and in accordance with the allocation of places applicable to the type of Tournament.

## 2.3 WILD CARDS

### 2.3.1 Definition

Wild Cards are those pairs selected by the Tournament to fill the designated spots in the draw. The Wild Card request must be made by the pair themselves and always within the maximum period reported on the Fact Sheet of the corresponding tournament.

All nominations regarding player eligibility must be approved by the FIP under the Age Eligibility Rule and the Integrity Rules, and other limitations of the rules. Wild Cards are not considered official until approved by the FIP.

#### a. Assignment Timelines

The Tournament Promoter has the right to submit to the FIP, for its approval, all the Wild Cards chosen for the Main Draw and the Qualifying Draw no later than 12:00 CET on the Friday prior to the start of the Tournament, unless otherwise approved by the FIP.

The Tournament Director must inform the FIP and the Supervisor in writing of the Wild Card nominations.

If, after the Wild Card assignment deadline, one of the pairs enters the Qualifying or Main Draw by merit, the Tournament Director may replace them with another previously nominated pair or with a new pair until the Qualifying Draw is held.

b. Wild Card Acceptance Confirmation

I. Responsibilities of the Tournament

Prior to communicating Wild Cards to the FIP or Supervisor, the Tournament Director must have confirmed with the pair that they will accept the Wild Card.

II. Responsibilities of the Pair

The pair must confirm to the Tournament Director that they will accept a Wild Card. If requested, the pair must also notify the Supervisor in writing of their acceptance of the Wild Card by email.

If a pair accepts a Wild Card and subsequently withdraws before playing their first match, they shall be subject to a late withdrawal sanction.

Tournaments may not receive any compensation, nor may players offer any compensation, in exchange for a Wild Card in any of the tournaments of the FIP Promises Continental Tour or the FIP Promises World Tour.

III. Each draw of each category shall have two (2) reserved places for two (2) pairs. The Tournament Promoter may assign these WCs according to the criteria specified above.

### 2.3.2 Exceptions

The following exceptions apply to Wild Cards where indicated:

1. Any player sanctioned by the FIP shall not be eligible to receive a Wild Card until the sanction has been fully served.
2. In accordance with the Anti-Doping Program, sanctioned players shall not be eligible to receive a Wild Card until they have satisfied the applicable anti-doping testing requirements.

### 2.3.3 Withdrawals

a. Main Draw

If a pair or a Wild Card player withdraws from the Tournament after the assignment deadline, the Tournament Director may replace them with another pair until the Qualifying Draw is held. Such pair may not be composed of players who are already registered with other partners.

If the Tournament does not nominate another Wild Card before the Qualifying Draw, that place shall be replaced by the first pair on the Qualifying Acceptance List.

b. Qualifying draw

If a Wild Card pair in the Qualifying Draw withdraws from the Tournament after the assignment deadline, the Tournament Director may replace them with a new pair until the Qualifying Draw is conducted. Such pair may not be composed of players who are already registered with other partners.

If the Tournament does not nominate another Wild Card before the Qualifying Draw, that place shall be replaced by the first pair on the Alternate List.

#### 2.3.4 Additional Wild Cards

In Tournaments where the Qualifying Phase or the Main Draw is not complete, vacancies may be filled with Additional Wild Cards (“Additional Wild Cards”). Such Additional Wild Cards shall never hold a FIP Ranking that would entitle them to a Seeded status in the Main Draw of the Tournament and must hold the same nationality as the country where the Tournament is played.

The number of Additional Wild Cards shall be determined so as to complete a draw of 8, 16, 24, 32, 48, 56, or 64 pairs, regardless of the pre-established draw size. For example:

In the case of a 32-pair draw with 12 registrants, only 4 Additional Wild Cards shall be accepted to complete a 16-pair draw.

In the case of a 32-pair draw with 17 registrants, up to 7 Additional Wild Cards shall be accepted to complete a 24-pair draw.

In the case of a 48-pair draw with 37 registrants, up to 9 Additional Wild Cards shall be accepted to complete a 48-pair draw.

In the case of a 64-pair draw with 55 registrants, only 1 Additional Wild Card shall be accepted to complete a 56-pair draw.

To grant Additional Wild Cards, the Tournament Director must:

- a) Submit a request to the National Federation and to the Tournament Director for FIP’s approval with the pairs selected as Additional Wild Cards.
- b) The deadline for submitting such request shall be one (1) week after the closing of registrations.

### 3. DEREGISTRATIONS AND WITHDRAWALS

#### 3.1 WITHDRAWALS

Players may withdraw from a maximum of two (2) tournaments per year with a medical certificate approved by the FIP without penalty before the “**Withdrawal Deadline 2**,” which shall be two (2) days prior to the draw of the Qualifying Draw and Main Draw at 12:00 CET. The draw shall take place no later than Monday of the same week of the tournament at 12:00 CET.

From this moment onwards, any withdrawal must be made on site.

### 3.1.1 Requirements for All Withdrawals

#### a. Responsibility of the Player

Withdrawals shall only be accepted from a player's parent/guardian. Under no circumstances may a coach or designated agent withdraw a player. The player and their parent/guardian are ultimately responsible for all entries and withdrawals.

#### b. Sending of the Withdrawal

A player's withdrawal from a Tournament shall be effective only if:

- I. The player is on site, completes a medical examination with the Tournament medical staff, and submits a withdrawal form to the Supervisor and the FIP Sports Department; or
- II. The player is not on site and submits the withdrawal form in writing via email to the Supervisor and the FIP Sports Department.

#### c. Withdrawal Statements

- I. At the time of a withdrawal from a Tournament of the FIP Promises Continental Tour or the FIP Promises World Tour, a player must provide a statement containing the reason for their withdrawal and an appropriate quote, at the discretion of the FIP Communications Department, which the FIP may disclose to the media and the public.
- II. Failure to provide a withdrawal statement from a Tournament of the FIP Promises Continental Tour or the FIP Promises World Tour shall result in the following sanctions:
  - (a) If a player withdrew under a Justified Withdrawal, the withdrawal shall not count as a Justified Withdrawal and the player shall be assessed the applicable late withdrawal point penalty plus the applicable point penalty below; or
  - (b) If a player withdrew through a Late Withdrawal, the player shall be assessed the applicable late withdrawal point penalty plus the applicable fine below.
- III. Any player who publicly announces their withdrawal from a Tournament before submitting their official withdrawal to the FIP in accordance with this section shall be sanctioned for Dishonourable or Unprofessional Conduct under the Code of Conduct.

#### d. Responsibility of the FIP

Except as otherwise provided in these Rules, the FIP shall not remove a player from any Acceptance List in the event of a withdrawal unless it has received notice of the withdrawal in accordance with this section.

### 3.1.2 Additional Requirements for On-Site Withdrawals

- a. In addition to the above withdrawal requirements, if a player withdraws on site, they must:
  - I. Meet with the Tournament Medical Services for an evaluation of injury or illness prior to leaving the tournament city;

### **3.1.3 Late Withdrawals from the Main Draw**

- a. Definition

A withdrawal from the Main Draw shall be considered a Late Withdrawal if a player withdraws after **Withdrawal Deadline 2**.

- b. Sanctions

- I. Procedures

- (a) Unless otherwise specified below, all players shall automatically receive sanctions for Late Withdrawals from the Main Draw of a Tournament.

- II. Point Penalties

Automatic point sanctions for a player's Late Withdrawal from the Main Draw shall be based on the following table:

Tournament Category	Main Draw
FIP Promises World Tour Finals	200 points
FIP Promises World Tour	100 points
FIP Promises Continental Finals	50 points
FIP Promises Continental Tour	25 points

Sanctions shall be doubled with each subsequent violation.

- c. No Show

A player who enters and is accepted into the Main Draw of a Tournament, does not withdraw, and fails to attend their first match commits a No Show violation. The automatic point sanction for a No Show violation shall be double the applicable Late Withdrawal point sanction.

### **3.1.4 Late withdrawals from Qualification**

- a. Definition

A withdrawal in the Qualifying Phase shall be considered a Late Withdrawal if a player withdraws after **Withdrawal Deadline 2**.

b. Sanctions

I. Procedures

Players on the Alternate List shall be notified by the FIP as they enter the Qualifying List. Pairs must confirm acceptance of the place in the Qualifying List. If a pair does not accept the place, the next pair on the Alternate List shall be notified

c. No show

Players on the Alternate List shall be notified by the FIP as they enter the Qualifying List. Pairs must confirm acceptance of the place in the Qualifying List. If a pair does not accept the place, the next pair on the Alternate List shall be notified.

### **3.1.5 Justified Withdrawals**

a. Definition

Justified withdrawals include the following:

I. Justified Withdrawals

Subject to the procedures and restrictions in subsection b. below, no more than two (2) times per calendar year of the FIP Promises Contin FIP Promises World Tour competition circuits, a player may withdraw from a Tournament without receiving a Late Withdrawal 2 sanction ("Justified Withdrawal"), provided that the FIP receives the player's official withdrawal and medical certificate prior to Withdrawal Deadline 2.

b. Procedures and Restrictions

The following procedures and restrictions apply to subsection a above:

I. A player must make every effort to withdraw under a Justified Withdrawal prior to Withdrawal Deadline 2. If a Justified Withdrawal occurs after Withdrawal Deadline 2, the FIP, at its sole discretion, may impose a Late Withdrawal sanction if the player does not withdraw on site.

II. No player may use a Justified Withdrawal for the FIP Continental Tour Finals or the FIP World Tour Finals.

c. On site Withdrawal

A player who has exhausted their quota of withdrawals by Withdrawal Deadline 2, in order to avoid being sanctioned, must attend the Tournament and withdraw on site after undergoing a medical check-up with the Tournament Medical Services and fulfilling all responsibilities with the FIP.

### **3.1.6 Consecutive withdrawals**

a. Definition

Subject to the requirements and restrictions of subsection b. below, if a player withdraws by any method from a Tournament of the FIP Promises Continental Tour or the FIP Promises World Tour due to a medical illness or musculoskeletal injury that warrants medical evaluation or treatment (“Medical Condition”), the player may withdraw from the following Tournament of the FIP Promises Continental Tour or the FIP Promises World Tour in which they are registered without using any additional Justified Withdrawals or being sanctioned for Late Withdrawal, provided that the withdrawal occurs before Withdrawal Deadline 2.

b. Requirements and Restrictions

- I. If the player’s initial withdrawal occurs on site at any Tournament of the FIP Promises Continental Tour or the FIP Promises World Tour, then they must comply with the withdrawal requirements in Section 3.1.2 above.
- II. If the player’s initial withdrawal does not occur on site at a Tournament of the FIP Promises Continental Tour or the FIP Promises World Tour, in addition to the withdrawal requirements in Section 3.1.1 above, they must:
  - (a) Meet with an accredited Doctor for an evaluation and assessment of the Medical Condition;
  - (b) within ten (10) days of their initial withdrawal:
    - (I) submit to the FIP a medical information certificate, which must be written in English or Spanish and completed by an accredited Doctor, indicating the nature of the medical condition and verifying that they cannot play in the tournament.
    - (II) Attach copies of clinical visit records to the FIP, including Doctor notes/documentation and all relevant laboratory tests in English or Spanish; and,
    - (III) personally sign the FIP withdrawal form ensuring that they were unable to play in the tournament from which they withdrew.
  - (c) provide an adequate and reasonable statement regarding their inability to compete in the initial Tournament from which they withdrew and authorize the FIP to publicly disclose the statement and the reasons for their withdrawal.
- III. The player may not compete in any Tournament of the FIP Promises Continental Tour or the FIP Promises World Tour, or in any other exhibition/non-FIP event, regardless of whether ranking points are awarded.
- IV. A player who uses a Justified Withdrawal at the end of the season may not withdraw from a Tournament in the following year by consecutive withdrawal until they first use a new Justified Withdrawal or are sanctioned.
- V. A player who withdraws from a Tournament of the FIP Promises Continental Tour or the FIP Promises World Tour by consecutive withdrawal shall receive zero (0) ranking points for that Tournament in accordance with Section 7.1.3.

c. Non-compliance

If at any time during a consecutive withdrawal a player fails to comply with the requirements and restrictions of this Section, then the consecutive withdrawal shall immediately end, and the player must use a Justified Withdrawal and shall be subject to all applicable sanctions under these Rules.

### **3.1.7 Inability to Attend the First Match**

- a. The withdrawal of a pair from the Qualifying Draw of a Tournament of the FIP Promises Continental Tour shall not be considered a Late Withdrawal from Qualifying if the pair is unable to reach their first scheduled match for the following reason:
  - I. On the day of the Qualifying Draw for that Tournament of the FIP Promises Continental Tour, the pair is participating in a FIP Tournament from the previous week, whether of the FIP Promises Continental Tour or the FIP Promises World Tour.

The pair must report the withdrawal appropriately indicating the reason for the withdrawal.

- b. If a player is unable to reach the first scheduled match of the Main Draw of a Tournament of the FIP Promises Continental Tour and/or the FIP Promises World Tour, or withdraws from the Main Draw of such Tournament, the player must follow the procedures set forth in this Section to withdraw from the Tournament and shall be subject to the Late Withdrawal point sanctions established in Section 3.1.3.

### **3.1.8 Prohibition of Withdrawal from a Tournament to Play Another**

Once a player has been accepted into the Main Draw or Qualifying Draw of a Tournament of the FIP Promises Continental Tour or the FIP Promises World Tour, they may not withdraw in order to play in another Tournament in the same week.

If a player is found to have violated this prohibition, (a) they will forfeit all ranking points received from the other tournament in which they played; and, (b) they will receive the applicable late withdrawal fine.

## **3.2 WITHDRAWALS**

If a player withdraws from a match, they must:

- a. Before withdrawing from the match, call the FIP Medical Services and the Supervisor to report the reason for the withdrawal;
- b. Immediately after the deregistration,
  - I. meet with the FIP Medical Services on site and the Tournament Doctor for an evaluation and assessment of the injury or illness before leaving the Tournament city;
  - II. submit an FIP withdrawal form to the Supervisor on site; and

- III. provide a statement containing the reason for their withdrawal and an appropriate quote, at the discretion of the FIP Communications Department, which may be disclosed to the media and the public.

### **3.3 RESTRICTIONS, EXCEPTIONS AND PROCEDURES**

#### **3.3.1 Following Week's Tournament**

A player may register and compete in one (1) Tournament of the FIP Promises Continental Tour or the FIP Promises World Tour per Tournament week. Once a player enters and is accepted into the Main Draw or the Qualifying Draw, they undertake to play that Tournament until completion or elimination during that week, provided they comply with the requirements established in the regulations of two (2) categories per week.

A player may not withdraw from any draw of a current Tournament in order to play in any Tournament of the following week. However, if a player is forced to withdraw from a current Tournament due to a Medical Condition and is registered in a Tournament of the following week with the intention of playing it, they must receive authorization from the FIP Medical Services for participation and submit such certificate to the FIP.

A player shall be automatically withdrawn from the Tournament of the following week if:

- a. they have withdrawn from the current Tournament without cause or for unprofessional reasons;
- b. they fail to provide proof of medical examination by submitting a medical certificate to the FIP signed by a Doctor and approved by the FIP Medical Services;
- c. their next match in the current Tournament is scheduled for the same day or after their first match in the Tournament of the following week

Any player found to have violated this rule shall not receive points. This rule does not apply to a player whose partner is forced to withdraw or retires from their match.

#### **3.3.2 Withdrawal of Seeded Teams**

See Section 4.2.5.d – Withdrawal of a Seeded Team.

#### **3.3.3 Ranking Points**

See Section 7.2.3 - 8.1. - Byes, Walkovers and Disqualifications.

#### **3.3.4 Unsportsmanlike Conduct**

Any player who withdraws during Withdrawal Deadline 2 or withdraws during their matches in the Qualifying or Main Draw of a Tournament of the FIP Promises Continental Tour or the FIP Promises World Tour and competes in other Tournaments in the same week without the express authorization of the FIP and the FIP Medical Services shall automatically be sanctioned with up to 400 points for Unsportsmanlike Conduct.

### **3.3.5 Unprofessional Conduct**

If a player's withdrawal is for unprofessional reasons or damages the image of the FIP, it shall be subject to disciplinary review and sanctions.

### **3.3.6 Extraordinary Circumstances**

In the event of an extreme personal emergency (for example, the death of a family member, a serious illness, or a life-threatening situation affecting the player or a family member) or similar extraordinary circumstances ("Extraordinary Circumstances"), a player has the right to appeal a Late Withdrawal point sanction or the use of a Justified Withdrawal to the Disciplinary Committee.

A player must submit an appeal, including documentation supporting the Extraordinary Circumstances, within twenty-one (21) days after the date they receive notification of the Late Withdrawal sanction or the date on which they withdrew using a Justified Withdrawal

## **4. TOURNAMENTS, DRAWS AND ORDER OF PLAY**

### **4.1 TOURNAMENT CATEGORIES**

The FIP Promises Tour is composed of events divided into the following three (3) categories:

- FIP Promises Continental Tour
- FIP Promises Continental Tour Finals
- FIP Promises World Tour

The Tournament draw size, distribution of points, Tournament fees, and operational requirements are determined by the Tournament category, as detailed in the following sections.

### **4.2 DRAWS**

#### **4.2.1 Types of Draws**

The minimum number of pairs registered for a category to be played is four (4).

- a) Direct Elimination

This format shall be played under a single-elimination system. Pairs shall be matched according to the established draw, with only the winning pairs of each match advancing to the next round. No repechage or reinstatement of eliminated pairs shall be permitted at any stage of the draw. The FIP shall not recognize any consolation draw.

b) Round Robin (Group Stage)

This format consists of dividing the registered pairs into groups in which all pairs play against each other. The best pairs from each group shall play the semifinals and/or finals according to the following distribution:

- i. In categories with four (4) or five (5) pairs, one group shall be formed with all pairs playing against each other. After all matches have been played, the two (2) best pairs shall play the final.
- ii. In categories with six (6) to eight (8) pairs, two groups shall be formed in which all pairs in each group shall play against each other. The two (2) best pairs from each group shall advance to the semifinals. The first pair of one group shall play against the second pair of the other group.
- iii. In categories with nine (9) up to a maximum of sixteen (16) pairs, four (4) groups shall be formed in which all pairs in each group shall play against each other.

The distribution of groups shall be carried out as follows:

Number of pairs	Group Formats	Qualified Pairs
16	4 groups of 4 pairs	1st pair of each group
15	3 groups of 4 pairs + 1 group of 3 pairs	
14	2 groups of 4 pairs + 2 groups of 3 pairs	
13	1 group of 4 pairs + 3 groups of 3 pairs	
12	4 groups of 3 pairs	
11	3 groups of 3 pairs + 1 group of 2 pairs*	
10	1 group of 4 pairs + 2 groups of 3 pairs	1st pairs of each group + 2nd best pair of the group of 4 pairs
9	3 groups of 3 pairs	1st pair of each group + 2nd best pair of the 3 groups

*\*The 2 pairs of the group with 2 pairs Will play two matches against each other. See Points Distribution chart. Check points distribution chart.*

In categories with two (2) groups, Seeded Pair 1 and Seeded Pair 2 shall be placed in separate groups. Seeded Pairs 3 and 4 shall be drawn between the two groups in such a way that they remain separated. The remaining pairs shall be drawn randomly between the two groups.

In the case of groups of different sizes, the first Seeded Pair shall always have priority and shall be placed in the group with the smaller number of pairs. If, after placing the first Seeded Pair, there are still

groups with different numbers of pairs, the second Seeded Pair shall be placed in the group with the smaller number of pairs. If, after placing the first and second Seeded Pairs, there are still groups with different numbers of pairs, the third Seeded Pair shall be placed in the group with the smaller number of pairs.

Each pair will play against all the other pairs in the group. The ranking of each group will be determined by the results of the group matches.

When in Round Robin competitions there are ties between three pairs or three teams, the following process shall apply:

In case of a tie in pair competitions:

1. difference between sets won and lost among the three tied pairs, and if the tie persists;
2. difference between games won and lost among the three tied pairs, and if the tie persists;
3. draw.

Once the triple tie has been resolved, if two pairs remain tied, the winner of the head-to-head match between them shall prevail.

In case of a tie in team competitions:

1. difference between matches won and lost among the three tied teams, and if the tie persists;
2. difference between sets won and lost among the three tied teams, and if the tie persists;
3. difference between games won and lost among the three tied teams, and if the tie persists;
4. draw.

Once the triple tie has been resolved, if two teams remain tied, the winner of the head-to-head match between them shall prevail. For the sole purpose of resolving ties that may occur in pair or team competitions, the result of matches in which one of the opponents has not appeared shall be recorded as 6/0 6/0.

### **c) Semifinals and Finals in Round Robin**

In categories with a Round Robin followed by Semifinals and a Final, the matchups for the final phase shall be determined as follows:

- If there are two (2) groups in the Round Robin phase, the two (2) best pairs from each group shall advance to the semifinals. The first pair of one group shall play against the second pair of the other group.
- If there are three (3) groups in the Round Robin phase, the best-classified pair of Group 1 shall play in the semifinals against the second best-classified pair among the three (3) groups. The best-classified pair of Group 2 shall play in the semifinals against the best-classified pair of Group 3.

- If there are four (4) groups in the Round Robin phase, the best-classified pair of Group 1 shall play in the semifinals against the best-classified pair of Group 4. The best-classified pair of Group 2 shall play in the semifinals against the best-classified pair of Group 3.

In all cases, the two (2) winning pairs of the semifinals shall play the final.

d) Choice of Draw Format

In Tournament categories with seventeen (17) or more pairs registered, the direct elimination system must be used.

In Tournament categories of the FIP Promises Continental Tour with between nine (9) and sixteen (16) pairs registered, either the direct elimination system or the Round Robin system may be used, at the discretion of the Tournament Promoter and always with the prior approval of the FIP, provided that the following conditions are met:

- The club/venue has sufficient courts to play the Round Robin format, as reflected in the match schedule plan approved by the FIP.
- The Tournament Promoter announces it in the Factsheet or on the Information page of the website.
- The maximum draw size shall be sixteen (16) pairs.

In Tournament categories of the FIP Promises Continental Tour with between four (4) and eight (8) pairs registered, the draw format shall be Round Robin.

#### **4.2.2 Composition**

a) Main Draw

The Main Draw shall consist of some or all of the following:

I. Direct acceptance

See Section 2.2.1 – Direct Acceptance.

II. Direct Acceptance FIP Promises World Tour

Direct acceptance in Tournaments of the FIP Promises World Tour shall be based on the combined continental ranking of each pair. Each Tournament of the FIP Promises World Tour shall have the following number of places allocated to each continent, regardless of the host country:

- Europe – 7 pairs
- America – 4 pairs
- Asia – 2 pairs
- Africa – 2 pairs

The Tournament Promoter may assign one (1) Wild Card to a pair from any continent, provided that the pair holds a continental ranking and always subject to the approval of the FIP.

### III. Qualifiers

A pair who has won all matches in all rounds of the Qualifying Event and accesses the Main Draw shall be known as a Qualifier.

Once the Qualifying Draw is complete, the Qualifiers shall be drawn into the assigned Main Draw positions to determine which Qualifier occupies each position.

The number of Qualifiers by Event type is as follows:

Type of Event	Main Draw	Qualifying Draw	Number of Qualifiers	Number of WC Main Draw
<b>FIP Promises Continental Tour</b>	32 / 16 / 8	64 / 32 / 16	8 / 4 / 4	2 / 1 / 0
<b>FIP Promises Continental Finals</b>	8	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>FIP Promises World Tour</b>	16	N/A	N/A	1

### IV. Wild Cards

See Section 2.3 – Wild Cards.

### V. Alternates

An Alternate is a pair who, by virtue of their ranking, is placed outside the direct acceptance positions of the Qualifying List.

A vacancy occurring in the Qualifying Draw shall be filled by the next available pair on the Alternates List.

Alternates must register each day when there are potential Alternate places. The registration deadline shall be thirty (30) minutes prior to the scheduled start of the first match of the day, and registration must be open at least one (1) hour before such deadline. These times shall be announced in the Order of Play of the day.

In the event of inclement weather or other circumstances beyond control that may result in a delay in the start of the first match of the day, the Tournament Supervisor has the authority to modify the date and time of the Alternates registration deadline.

The registration sheet shall only be opened on the day in question and shall be valid only for that day.

### VI. Byes/Exempts

When the pairs in a draw are not a power of two, the “exempt” system shall be applied to achieve that power in the second round. “Exempts” are those pairs who do not need to play the initial round.

To determine the number of exempts, the total number of registrants shall be subtracted from the power of two immediately above the number of registrants.

The number one Seed shall be exempt first; the number two Seed shall be exempt second; the number three Seed shall be exempt third; and so on in descending order.

If, after all the Seeds have been placed, there are still additional exempts, they shall be divided into two parts, placing half in the upper part of the draw and the other half in the lower part, filling the highest available positions in the upper part and the lowest available positions in the lower part alternately.

When the number of exempts is odd, one more shall be placed in the upper part.

(See Section 4.2.4.d).

## VII. Lucky Losers

Lucky Losers are pairs who, after having been eliminated (lost or retired in the match) in the Qualifying Draw, are accepted into the Main Draw following a withdrawal or an absence in the first Main Draw match of a pair that had been accepted into that draw, provided that such withdrawal occurs after the Qualifying Draw has been made.

Lucky Losers shall be selected according to the following criteria:

- a. round reached in the Qualifying;
- b. position of the pair in the Tournament Acceptance List.

If there are no vacancies in the Main Draw before the Main Draw entry draw has been conducted, the Lucky Loser shall be determined on site according to the criteria mentioned above.

If there are vacancies in the Main Draw before the Qualifying Draw has been completed, then all losers of the final round of the Qualifying Draw shall be drawn at random to fill that place

If, before the Qualifying Draw is completed, the number of vacancies in the Main Draw is greater than the number of pairs losing in the final round of the Qualifying Draw, the highest-ranked Lucky Loser(s) from the previous Qualifying round(s) shall enter the random draw to cover the remaining spot(s).

*If two or more pairs have no FIP ranking points, they shall be drawn at random to determine their order of classification*

If a position becomes available once the Qualifiers have been drawn into the Main Draw positions, the Lucky Loser shall be determined on site according to the criteria mentioned above.

When two or more positions are available at the same time, the positions to be occupied by each Lucky Loser shall be determined by a draw.

In all such cases, the Supervisor shall be responsible for notifying the players involved in the draw.

Lucky Losers must register each day when there are possible Lucky Loser places. The registration deadline shall be thirty (30) minutes prior to the scheduled start of the first match of the day, and registration must be open at least one (1) hour before such deadline. These times shall be announced in the Order of Play of the day.

In the event of inclement weather or other circumstances beyond control that may result in a delay in the start of the first match of the day, the Tournament Supervisor has the authority to modify the Lucky Loser registration deadline.

The registration sheet shall only be available on the day when there are possible Lucky Loser places and shall be valid only for that day.

(a) Eligibility

A player who is not registered and has not competed in the Qualifying Draw cannot be considered for Lucky Loser status.

A player who has been eliminated from the Qualifying may retain their right to Lucky Loser status for the duration of the Tournament provided that:

- (I) they register with the Supervisor before the Lucky Loser signing deadline;
- (II) they receive a medical exam from the tournament Doctor and Physiotherapist if they withdraw; and
- (III) the main draw match is not scheduled for the same day they withdrew from their qualifying match.

(b) Procedure

- (I) Lucky Loser positions in the Main Draw shall not be published until the Qualifying Draw is complete, unless the Qualifying has not been completed at the time the Order of Play is released. In that case, the Supervisor may release the position of a pair when necessary and schedule the players who have been accepted into the Main Draw.
- (II) If there are withdrawals from the Main Draw after the Qualifying has begun and before the Qualifiers have been drawn into the Main Draw, the Qualifiers and the Lucky Losers shall be drawn together to determine their positions in the Main Draw, except that only the Qualifiers shall be drawn if any positions are exempt until no Qualifiers remain to fill such positions.
- (III) In Tournaments where the final round of Qualifying and the first round of the Main Draw are played on the same day and there is a withdrawal in the Main Draw matches scheduled for the crossover day, the positions of Qualifiers and Lucky Losers shall be determined as follows:

- If there is one withdrawal, the place to be played on the crossover day shall be filled by a Lucky Loser and all Qualifiers shall be drawn for the Qualifier positions.
- If there are two or more withdrawals, the places required to be played on the crossover day shall be drawn among the Lucky Losers. All remaining Qualifiers and Lucky Losers shall be drawn to fill the remaining positions in the Main Draw.

(IV) When the final round of Qualifying and the first round of the Main Draw are played on the same day, Lucky Losers must register no later than thirty (30) minutes after the conclusion of the last Qualifying match.

(V) The first Lucky Loser or Alternate must be ready to play a match within fifteen (15) minutes of the original absence or default. If the first Lucky Loser on site is not ready to play within fifteen (15) minutes, the next Lucky Loser on site must be ready to play within five (5) minutes of being called for their match. Any subsequent Lucky Loser on site must be ready to play within five (5) minutes of being called for their match. If a Lucky Loser decides not to register on a given day, they may still register on the following day. However, if they register, their match is cancelled, and they fail to appear (for any reason), they shall lose their Lucky Loser status for the remainder of the Tournament.

If a player withdraws from their Qualifying match on the same day that there is an open Lucky Loser position in the Order of Play, they thereby forfeit their Lucky Loser status for that day.

I. Wild Cards

See Section 2.3 – Wild Cards

II. Alternates

(a) Registration Procedures

The Alternate List shall be frozen at the Entry Deadline.

- (I) The registration deadline for Alternates shall be thirty (30) minutes prior to the scheduled start of play for the day.
- (II) An Alternate is not required to register on one day in order to be eligible as an Alternate on another day.
- (III) An on-site Alternate is eligible to substitute in all first-round matches and in second-round matches when the pair has received a first-round bye.

(b) The first on-site Alternate pair must be ready to play within fifteen (15) minutes of being called for a match. If the first on-site Alternate is not ready to play within fifteen (15) minutes, the next on-site Alternate must be ready to play within five (5)

minutes of the time their match is called. Any subsequent on-site Alternates must be ready to play within five (5) minutes of the time they are called for their match.

(c) Priority of Acceptance of On-Site Alternates

(I) Players who have entered the Tournament prior to the Entry Deadline and appear on the Waiting List shall be accepted according to the order of the list.

III. If there are vacant positions in the draw and there are no Alternates or additional Wild Cards, byes shall be granted to the Seeds in descending order.

#### **4.2.3 Registration Deadlines**

a. On-Site Lucky Losers

A Lucky Losers sign-in sheet shall be made available to the players on the day of the first-round matches of the Main Draw, with a cut-off time of thirty (30) minutes prior to the first scheduled match of the day, and the sign-in must be open at least one (1) hour before such deadline. These times shall be announced in the Order of Play of the day.

b. On-Site Alternates

An Alternates sign-in sheet shall be made available to the players on the day of the first-round matches of the Qualifying Draw, with a cut-off time of thirty (30) minutes prior to the first scheduled match of the day, and the sign-in must be open at least one (1) hour before such deadline. These times shall be announced in the Order of Play of the day.

In the event of inclement weather or other circumstances beyond control that may result in a delay in the start of the first match of the day, the Tournament Supervisor has the authority to modify the registration deadline of the qualified Alternates. The sign-in sheet shall only be opened on the day when there are possible places for Lucky Losers/Alternates and shall be valid only for that day.

#### **4.2.4 Draw**

a. Draw Location

The draw for Tournaments of the FIP Promises Continental Tour and the FIP Promises World Tour shall be conducted at the FIP offices in Madrid by the Supervisor/Referee at the designated time.

Any person interested in attending the draw may do so provided they request it in advance from the FIP.

b. Schedule

I. Main Draw

The draw for the Main Draw shall be conducted no later than Monday of the week in which the Tournament begins, at 12:00 CET. In exceptional cases, the FIP reserves the right to delay the draw.

## II. Qualifying Draw

The draw for the Qualification Draw shall be conducted no later than Monday of the week in which the Tournament begins, at 12:00 CET. In exceptional cases, the FIP reserves the right to delay the draw.

### c. Seeds

All Tournaments shall have a seeding draw. (See Section 4.2.4).

### d. Byes

I. The default number of Byes in the draws of all categories of the FIP Promises Continental Tour and the FIP Promises World Tour is zero (0). In the event that the draws are not completed, the awarding of Byes shall be as described below..

#### II. Awarding of Byes

##### (a) Before conducting the draw

Byes shall automatically be awarded to the Seeded players in descending order. If, after all Byes have been awarded to the Seeds, there are still additional exempt players, they shall be divided into two parts: half placed in the upper part of the draw and half in the lower part, filling the highest available positions in the upper part and the lowest available positions in the lower part alternately. When the number of Byes is odd, one more shall be placed in the part of the draw where Seed number one is located.

### 4.2.5 Seeds

#### a. General principles

##### I. All Main Draws and Qualifying Draws shall have a seeding draw

Seeds are pairs who, by virtue of their combined FIP ranking, shall obtain preferential positions in the draw.

The order of the Seeds shall be based on the combined ranking of the players using the latest FIP ranking at the time of the draw.

If the rankings of two (2) or more pairs are tied at the time of the draw, the following criteria shall always apply in order:

- (a) the pair with the player holding the highest ranking shall be placed ahead;
- (b) if the tie persists, a draw shall be held among them.

II. Wild Cards are eligible to be Seeds. Qualifiers and Lucky Losers are not eligible to be Seeds.

b. Number of Seeds

The number of pairs that shall be Seeds is as follows:

Main Draw	Qualifying Draw	Seeds Main Draw	Seeds Qualifying Draw	Number of Qualifiers
8	-	4	-	-
16	16	4	4	4
32	32	8	8	4
32	64	8	16	4

c. Seeding Procedures

Seeds shall be placed or drawn as set forth below.

I. For all elimination draws

- (a) Seed 1 shall be placed on line 1 and Seed 2 shall be placed on line 16 (16 draw), line 32 (32 draw), line 64 (64 draw).
- (b) To determine the location of the remaining Seeds, groups of two (Seeds 3 and 4), groups of four (Seeds 5 to 8), and groups of eight (Seeds 9 to 16) shall be drawn in the order drawn, on the lines indicated in the following table:

Draw Type		16 Draw 4 Seeds	32 Draw 8 Seeds	64 Draw 16 Seeds
Seeds	Lines to be filled in the draw			
3 - 4	1st Draw	Line 8	16	32
	2nd Draw	Line 9	17	33
5 to 8	1st Draw	Line	8	16
	2nd Draw	Line	9	17
	3rd Draw	Line	24	48
	4th Draw	Line	25	49
9 to 16	1st Draw	Line		8
	2nd Draw	Line		9
	3rd Draw	Line		24
	4th Draw	Line		25
	5th Draw	Line		40
	6th Draw	Line		41
	7th Draw	Line		56
	8th Draw	Line		57

II. For all Round Robin draws

In the case of draws with two (2) groups, Seed 1 shall be placed in the first group and Seed 2 in the second group. Seeds 3 and 4 shall be drawn separately into the two groups.

In the case of draws with three (3) groups, Seeds 1, 2 and 3 shall be placed in three separate groups. Seed 4 shall be drawn into any of the three groups.

In the case of draws with four (4) groups, Seeds 1, 2, 3 and 4 shall be placed in four separate groups.

In the case of groups with a different number of pairs, Seed 1 shall always be placed in the group with the smallest number of pairs, followed by Seed 2, and so on.

III. For the Qualification of the FIP Continental Tour Finals

See Sections 5.VI.B.3 and VI.C.3, respectively.

d. Main Draw – Withdrawal of a Seeded Pair

I. Before 15:00 (3pm) local time

If a Seeded Pair withdraws from the Main Draw of a Tournament after the draw has been conducted, but before 15:00 (3pm) local time on the day prior to the start of the Main Draw, the following procedure shall apply:

(a) If the withdrawing Seeded Pair does not have a Bye, then:

- (I) The next pair eligible to be a Seed shall take the position of the withdrawing Seeded Pair in the draw; and
- (II) The next pair eligible to enter the draw (i.e., Qualifier or Lucky Loser, as applicable) shall take the remaining open position in the draw.

(b) If the withdrawing Seeded Pair has a Bye, then:

- (I) If all Seeds in the draw have a Bye, then:
  - The next pair eligible to be a Seed shall take the position of the withdrawing Seeded Pair in the draw; and
  - The next pair eligible to enter the draw (i.e., Qualifier or Lucky Loser, as applicable) shall take the remaining open position in the draw.
- (II) If not all Seeds in the draw have a Bye, then:
  - The next Seeded Pair eligible to receive a Bye shall take the position of the withdrawing Seeded Pair in the draw; and
  - The next pair eligible to be a Seed shall take the position of the vacant Seed in the draw; and
  - The next pair eligible to enter the draw (i.e., Qualifier or Lucky Loser, as applicable) shall take the remaining open position in the draw.

II. After 15:00 (3pm) local time

If a Seeded Pair withdraws from the Main Draw of a Tournament after 15:00 (3pm) local time on the day prior to the start of the Main Draw, then the next pair eligible to enter the draw (i.e., Qualifier or Lucky Loser, as applicable) shall take the open position in the draw.

e. Qualifying – Withdrawal of a Seeded Pair

If a Seeded Pair withdraws from the Main Draw of a Tournament after 15:00 (3pm) local time on the day prior to the start of the Main Draw, then the next pair eligible to enter the draw (i.e., Qualifier or Lucky Loser, as applicable) shall take the open position in the draw.

f. Errors in Seedings

Errors in seeding may only be corrected if the error is discovered before 15:00 (3pm) local time on the day prior to the first match of the corresponding draw.

#### 4.3 SCHEDULE AND ORDER OF PLAY

#### 4.3.1 Responsibility of the FIP

Preferably, the halves of the draws shall be scheduled together or, alternatively, each of the sections together, to provide similar conditions and rest times to both pairs involved.

The Order of Play for the following day shall be issued by the Supervisor or the Tournament Referee and shall not be issued later than 22:00 (10pm) local time on the night before (except in special situations).

It is recommended not to start any match after 22:00 (10pm) local time. Therefore, the Tournament Supervisor may move some matches to other courts, taking into consideration all implications of such change and always prioritizing what is best for the Tournament, the spectators, the broadcast, and the players' conditions.

The Order of Play shall include all relevant registration information and shall also indicate that any match on any court may be rescheduled.

The Supervisor, in consultation with the Tournament Director, the Referee, and the FIP Sports Department, is responsible for the scheduling of matches. All schedule requests must go through the Supervisor, who shall make the final decision.

The Tournament Supervisor has the authority to modify the published Order of Play if necessary, provided that all affected parties are notified of such modifications in an appropriate and timely manner.

The scheduling of matches shall take into account relevant factors, including television contracts, the possibility and timing of matches on the following day, the actual start time of matches, and other relevant factors.

#### 3.3.2 Obligations of the player

- a. Players are expected to play when scheduled. Players may be asked to play on any day of a Tournament.
- b. Players are responsible for finding out the time of their matches according to the Order of Play. Only information issued directly by the Supervisor or the FIP shall be considered official.
- c. When weather or other unavoidable circumstances cause a disruption in the schedule, a pair shall not be expected to play more than two (2) matches per category in a single day without their consent.

#### 4.3.3 Player schedule requests

Commitments from previous Tournaments or medical illness/injury are the main considerations when granting schedule requests. If a request is due to illness/injury, the player must be evaluated by the FIP Medical Services. Submission of a request by a player does not guarantee that it will be granted by the Supervisor/Referee.

#### **4.3.4 Television**

When a Tournament is televised, television commitments shall be taken into account in the scheduling.

#### **4.3.5 Tournament First Qualifying Round Not Postponed**

No Qualifying match of the Tournament shall be postponed for a player who is still participating in the Tournament of the previous week.

#### **4.3.6 Rescheduling of Matches**

- a. Under extenuating circumstances, a match may be rescheduled at the discretion of the Supervisor or the FIP Sports Department, in consultation with the Tournament Director.
- b. Matches shall not be rescheduled due to illness, injury, travel issues, or lost luggage.
- c. A player who personally and directly notifies the Supervisor or Referee sufficiently in advance, in the opinion of the Supervisor or Referee, may, at the discretion of the latter, be granted an extension of fifteen (15) minutes after the call for their match and shall not be subject to defaults or penalties.

#### **4.3.7 Rescheduling of Finals**

##### **a. Date Extension**

If, due to extreme weather conditions or extraordinary circumstances, a Tournament cannot be completed on the last scheduled day, the Tournament shall be required to be extended by one (1) day to complete the event, unless the Tournament and the FIP agree to end the Tournament on the day the final was originally scheduled to be played. The event must be extended even if only one (1) entity wishes to play the final. No additional extension shall be permitted without FIP approval.

##### **b. Penalties for Players Who Do Not Play the Postponed Final**

An additional sanction of up to 250 points shall be imposed on any player who does not play a postponed final on the day following the last originally scheduled day of the Tournament in question. All such sanctions shall be automatic and unappealable.

##### **c. Alternative Venue/Club**

When a Tournament cannot be completed outdoors and there is an appropriate indoor facility, the Tournament must be played until completion. If the Tournament is interrupted or postponed, players shall play on the day following the last originally scheduled day of the Tournament in accordance with subsection a above.

Any final decision on scheduling shall be made by the Supervisor, who has the authority (in consultation with the Tournament Director and the FIP) to move a match to another court, indoor or outdoor, regardless of the court.

If an alternate venue/club is used for the provision of additional training facilities, or as an alternate venue for matches in the event of extreme weather conditions or extraordinary circumstances, it must comply with the following:

- (I) The alternate venue/club must be located within a reasonable distance of the principal venue.
- (II) An adequate number of vehicles must be provided to ensure that players can move between venues to meet the requirements of their matches and training.
- (III) If the courts at the alternate venue/club are to be used for matches, they must provide all necessary equipment for Referees and players and must provide office space and basic facilities for the Supervisor, Referees, and others, as necessary.
- (IV) The manufacturer, model, and condition of the alternate courts must be communicated to the FIP no later than thirty (30) days prior to the start of the Tournament and must be inspected by the FIP for approval. The FIP's decision on suitability shall be final.
- (V) When courts at an alternate venue/club are used for matches in the event of unforeseeable causes, it is not mandatory to provide live scoring or television broadcast coverage; however, all existing commercial signage not related to the Tournament or the FIP must be removed.

If the alternate venue/club is planned to be used for training purposes, the courts must be free of commercial signage representing sponsors or brands not related to the Tournament or the FIP, unless otherwise approved by the FIP.

#### **4.3.8 Change of Court**

If it is deemed necessary to move a match, the Supervisor, in consultation with the Tournament Director and the FIP, has the authority to delay the start of the match or move a match to another court, indoor or outdoor.

The Referee, in consultation with the Supervisor, may decide whether a match shall be moved to another court if circumstances so require.

During the course of a match, if conditions or circumstances require, the Supervisor or the Referee may require players to move to another court. The new court must have the same structure as the previous one (i.e., glass or wall), although it may have a different surface, a different exit format, and may or may not be covered.

#### **4.3.9 Climate Conditions**

The Referee, in consultation with the Supervisor, shall decide when play shall be stopped in view of weather conditions or extraordinary circumstances. (See Section 12.XVIII.18.B.7 – Extreme Weather Conditions).

#### **4.3.10 Stadiums with Retractable Ceilings**

See Appendix B.

#### **4.3.11 Time Between Matches**

When it is necessary to schedule more than one match on the same day for the same pair, the Supervisor or Referee shall grant a minimum rest period to the affected players based on the duration of the match they have just completed, unless both pairs agree otherwise.

- If the previous match lasted less than one (1) hour: one (1) hour of rest.
- If the previous match lasted between one (1) hour and one and a half (1½) hours: one and a half (1½) hours of rest.
- If the previous match lasted more than one and a half (1½) hours: two (2) hours of rest

The rest period a pair is entitled only affects matches within the same category.

#### **4.3.12 Interruptions and breaks**

##### **Suspension and Postponement of Play**

The Chair Umpire has the authority to temporarily suspend play when they consider that conditions are not suitable or safe for the continuation of the match and must immediately notify the Tournament Supervisor.

The Tournament Supervisor shall decide whether the match will be postponed to another time on the same day or to a later day.

Until such a decision is made, all parties involved in the match must remain ready to resume play.

The Chair Umpire is responsible for collecting the match balls and storing them safely, as well as recording all aspects of the match such as suspension time, score, server, side of each pair, among others.

When play is temporarily suspended but expected to resume shortly, players may be asked to remain on court at the player benches, awaiting further instructions from the Tournament Supervisor.

Once it is determined that the suspension will last longer than is practically adequate to keep the players on court, the Tournament Supervisor shall inform the players that the match is suspended and that they may leave the court, and shall later inform them of the expected time of resumption and/or postponement.

Every effort shall be made to keep the public, the press, and all other parties informed of the situation and the expected resumption of play or subsequent announcements.

a. Interruptions

If a Tournament match is interrupted or postponed, players must be prepared to play when the match resumes. If a match must be suspended for reasons beyond the players' control (rain, lack of light, accident, etc.), when the match restarts the pairs shall be entitled to a courtesy warm-up according to the following:

A suspension lasting less than five (5) minutes shall result in resumption of play with no additional warm-up period.

A suspension lasting between five (5) and twenty (20) minutes shall result in a permitted warm-up period of three (3) minutes. The Chair Umpire shall use similarly worn balls during this warm-up, and once the time is complete, the Chair Umpire shall remove the balls used for the warm-up and bring back the match balls. Before resuming the match, the Chair Umpire shall announce the score at the time of suspension and the player who is about to serve.

A suspension lasting more than twenty (20) minutes shall result in a permitted warm-up period of five (5) minutes. The Chair Umpire shall use similarly worn balls during this warm-up, and once the time is complete, the Chair Umpire shall remove the balls used for the warm-up and bring back the match balls. Before resuming the match, the Chair Umpire shall announce the score at the time of suspension and the player who is about to serve.

If, after resumption of play, one or more further suspensions occur, the same procedures mentioned above shall apply during each suspension.

b. Authorized breaks

I. Change of Ends

At the change of ends, a maximum of ninety (90) seconds shall elapse from the time the last point of the game ends until the first serve of the next game is struck. If such first serve is a fault, the second serve must be executed by the server without delay.

However, after the first game of each set and during a Tie-break, play shall be continuous and players shall change ends without a rest period.

II. End of a Set

At the end of each set, regardless of the result, there shall be a break of one hundred and twenty (120) seconds from the time the last point of the set ends until the first serve of the following game is struck. If a set ends after an even number of games, there shall be no change of ends until after the first game of the following set.

III. Televised matches

During televised matches, the Chair Umpire may reasonably extend the time during change of ends with a rest period if requested by the broadcast production.

## 5. FIP PROMISES FINALS

### 5.1 FIP PROMISES WORLD TOUR FINALS

At the end of the year, the final event of the FIP Promises World Tour, the FIP Promises World Tour Finals, may be held. After all the events of the FIP Promises World Tour have been played, the sixteen (16) best players in the FIP Promises World Tour ranking of that year shall gain direct entry into this Tournament.

To be eligible to compete in the FIP Promises World Tour Finals, a player must have played a minimum of six (6) events during that same year. Out of the total of ten (10) annual events, only the results of the seven (7) best events for each player shall count.

The competition format shall be a Round Robin phase of eight (8) pairs, divided into two groups of four (4) pairs, where each pair shall compete against all other pairs in its group. After all Round Robin matches have been played, the two best pairs from each group shall advance to the semifinals. The first-ranked pair of each group shall face the second-ranked pair of the other group.

In the event of a three-way tie in point competitions between three pairs or three teams, the following process shall apply:

In case of a tie in pair competitions:

1. Difference between sets won and lost among the three tied pairs; if the tie persists,
2. Difference between games won and lost among the three tied pairs; if the tie persists,
3. Draw.

Once the three-way tie has been resolved, if two pairs remain tied, the winner of the head-to-head match between them shall prevail.

A player may participate with another player of any nationality in the FIP Promises World Tour Finals.

### 5.2 FIP PROMISES CONTINENTAL TOUR FINALS

At the end of the year, the final events of the FIP Promises Continental Tour, the FIP Promises Continental Tour Finals, may be held in each continent. After all the events of the FIP Promises Continental Tour have been played, the sixteen (16) best-ranked players in each category shall gain direct entry into the FIP Promises Continental Tour Finals of their corresponding continent.

To be eligible to compete in the FIP Promises Continental Tour Finals, a player must have played a minimum of five (5) FIP Promises Continental Tour events during that same year. A player may participate

in an unlimited number of tournaments outside their licensed continent in the same year. However, only the points from a maximum of two (2) tournaments played outside their licensed continent shall be counted.

The competition format shall be a draw of eight (8) pairs, divided into two (2) groups of four (4) pairs in Round Robin format, where each pair shall compete against all other pairs in its group. After all Round Robin matches have been played, the two best pairs from each group shall advance to the semifinals. The first-ranked pair of each group shall face the second-ranked pair of the other group.

In the event of a three-way tie in point competitions between three pairs or three teams, the following process shall apply:

In case of a tie in pair competitions:

1. Difference between sets won and lost among the three tied pairs; if the tie persists,
2. Difference between games won and lost among the three tied pairs; if the tie persists,
3. Draw.

Once the three-way tie has been resolved, if two pairs remain tied, the winner of the head-to-head match between them shall prevail.

## 6. RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PLAYER AND ON-COURT PROCEDURE

### 6.1 CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT

#### 6.1.1 Definitions

a. Identification

For the purposes of this Section, “identification” means any type of identification associated with or intended to be associated with a commercial sponsor, an apparel or equipment manufacturer, or any other person or entity, regardless of trademark registration, status of the identification, and shall include any and all forms of writing.

b. Commercial

For the purposes of this Section, “commercial” means any person who is not a manufacturer of the clothing or equipment in question.

c. Manufacturer

For purposes of this Section, the “manufacturer” means a manufacturer that:

- i. is the manufacturer of the clothing or equipment in question; and

- ii. the FIP recognizes (at its reasonable discretion) as a company that obtains a substantial portion of its income from the manufacture and sale of clothing or equipment intended primarily for use in the sport of Padel.
- d. Manufacturer's standard identification  
  
A standard manufacturer identification is a manufacturer identification of a size that is normally made on the clothing or equipment in question.
- e. Player ID  
  
For a padel-wear collection that includes a player's name, initials, or other identifier that is used only for padel-wear and accessories ("Player ID"), such Player ID may be used interchangeably with the apparel manufacturer's identification provided that manufacturer identifications are permitted under this rule.
- f. Clothing sponsor  
  
For purposes of the Section, the "clothing sponsor" means a company designated as a sponsor of a player's clothing (not a manufacturer).
- g. Size determination

The size limitations of the identifications in this section are determined by the area of the actual patch or other addition to a player's clothing regardless of the color of the same. To determine the area, depending on the shape of the patch or other addition, a circle, triangle or rectangle will be drawn around it, and the size of the patch for the purposes of this rule will be the area within the circle circumference or perimeter of the triangle or rectangle as the case may be.

### **6.1.2 General appearance**

A player must present themselves in a professional manner and wear appropriate padel attire, at the discretion of the Supervisor or Referee, during training, warm-up, matches, all Tournament functions, including media interviews and official or promotional functions, among others. A player may be asked to change their clothing if deemed necessary by the Supervisor or Referee. Failure to do so may result in a sanction.

For the safety of the players, playing with rings or other objects that may cause injury is strictly prohibited. The Chair Umpire may request players to remove such objects before playing matches.

From the start of the pre-match meeting until the prize-giving ceremony, a player's clothing and equipment must comply with the appearance and identification provisions contained in this Section.

Both players of a pair must compete in attire of the same color. If both pairs present themselves on court wearing the same color, the lower-ranked pair must change to a different color.

Players who violate this provision must change clothing immediately to comply with it, and refusal or failure to do so may result in default and sanctions.

Players' clothing may not contain commercial advertising that may violate local government regulations.

Players' clothing may not bear any logo advertising another circuit, tournament, series, or padel exhibition, unless otherwise approved by the FIP.

Players have the right to display their name and the flag of their country/community on the back of their shirts.

The names of both players must be displayed using similar font type and size.

The FIP reserves the right to determine the type and size of font to display player names on their apparel, and such determination shall be effective from the first Tournament of the season immediately following the announcement.

#### **6.1.3 Clothing and Commercial Identifications**

Players acknowledge that, in any case:

- (a) They shall not include more than nine (9) personal sponsor logos in the Advertising Spaces during each Tournament and Additional Championship Event.
- (b) Any logo or element that players insert into the Advertising Spaces and that is different from the main corporate logo, brand, or company name of the players' personal sponsor must be approved in advance in writing by the FIP, which shall not unreasonably withhold or delay its consent.
- (c) The rights regulated in this Section are subject to compliance with the FIP sports rules, in particular with respect to certain activities in the Tournaments, such as the opening ceremony, closing ceremony, award ceremony, etc.

##### A. Dimensions of Commercial Identifications

See Appendix E – Clothing and Commercial Identifications

#### **6.1.4 Equipment and Identification**

##### a. Racket

Standard racket manufacturer identifications are allowed on the racket.

##### b. Bags, towels or other equipment

Standard identifications from padel material manufacturers, or the FIP logo.

##### c. Beverage containers

Players may use a reasonably sized beverage container on the court if the beverage container:

- I. has no identifications; or

- II. has one (1) manufacturer identification not to exceed twenty-six (26) cm<sup>2</sup>, provided that the container manufacturer:
  - (a) is not a beverage manufacturer; or
  - (b) is also a beverage manufacturer, and
    - i. is the official beverage sponsor of the Tournament; or
    - ii. is not in conflict with beverages advertised by Tournament sponsors.

d. Electronic devices

A player/coach may not use any electronic device from the start of the warm-up until the end of the match (including during a restroom/clothing change break, medical time-out, heat rule break, or any pause in play) unless approved by the Tournament Supervisor/Referee. When the match is officially suspended, a player may use an electronic device.

The use of any non-FIP approved electronic device and/or non-FIP approved Player Analytics Technology is subject to the provisions and sanctions of the Code of Conduct. If there is a conflict between the Rules regarding electronic devices and related use, the decisions of the FIP Supervisor/Referee shall prevail.

If any player must use an electronic device for health reasons to monitor themselves during the match, they must request permission from the Supervisor for approval.

#### **6.1.5 Other events**

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary, identification by use of the name, emblem, logo, brand, symbol or other description of any padel circuit, series or exhibition, special event or padel tournament other than the competitions governed by the FIP may not appear on the player, their clothing or their equipment in any Tournament on the FIP competition calendar unless pre-approved by the FIP.

#### **6.1.6 Sanctioned Entities**

Players are prohibited from using or otherwise publicly displaying the identification of a sanctioned entity on or off the court during a Tournament in which their entry has been accepted, whether at the Tournament venue/club or elsewhere, or during any other event in which they participate.

#### **6.1.7 General**

If the use of any of the permitted identifications above conflicts with the sponsorship restrictions set forth in Section 6.1.2 or with any governmental regulation (including with respect to television), then the identification shall be prohibited

## 6.2 RESTROOM / CLOTHING CHANGE BREAKS

A player may request permission to leave the court in order to use the bathroom, change clothing, or both (“Authorized Break”), but not for any other reason.

### 6.2.1 Number of “authorized breaks” allowed

Each pair is entitled to a maximum of two (2) Authorized Breaks per match. If both partners leave the court together, it shall count as one (1) Authorized Break for each of the players, regardless of whether their opponents also leave the court for the same purpose.

### 6.2.2 Time of Authorized Breaks

a. A player may take an Authorized Break only at the following times:

Break Requested	Authorized	Maximum Time
Restroom Break	At the end of a set	3 minutes
Clothing change break	At the end of a set	3 minutes
Break for changing clothes with restroom breaks.	At the end of a set	5 minutes

An Authorized Break is counted from the time the player leaves the playing area until the time the player returns to the playing area.

The request for an Authorized Break must be made no later than twenty (20) seconds after the end of the set; otherwise, the request shall not be granted.

- If a player exceeds the permitted time, they shall be penalized under the Code of Conduct.
- If a player decides to take an additional break beyond the Authorized Breaks, they may do so, but they shall be penalized under the Code of Conduct if they are not ready to play within the time applicable to that break.
- Each time a player leaves the court to go to the restroom or change clothing after the warm-up has begun, it shall be considered either an Authorized Break or an additional break, regardless of whether the opponent has also left the court.

A player may not take a restroom or clothing change break and a medical time-out consecutively unless approved by the Supervisor/Referee.

### 6.2.3 Denial of a Player’s Request

The Supervisor/Referee shall have the authority to deny a player permission to leave the court during a match to use the restroom if the Supervisor/Referee interprets this as gamesmanship and/or a flagrant abuse of the Rules

#### **6.2.4 Leaving the Court without Authorization**

Whenever a player wishes to leave the court to use the bathroom or to change clothing, the player must notify the Chair Umpire or Referee.

#### **6.2.5 Abuse of Rule**

Players shall be penalized in accordance with the Code of Conduct Penalty Program for any abuse of this Rule.

### **6.3 MEDICAL RULES**

See Section 12.6 - Medical Procedures.

### **6.4 CODE OF CONDUCT**

A violation of the Code on court, under the Code of Conduct, may be declared by the Chair Umpire acting on their own or when directed by the Supervisor or Referee.

For complete information, see Section 10 – Code of Conduct.

### **6.5 CONTINUOUS PLAY**

#### **6.5.1 Penalties at the Start of the Match**

A player shall receive a Warning for their first violation and a Code of Conduct violation within the following timeframes:

<b>Situation</b>	<b>Maximum Time</b>
Coming to the net for the pre-match meeting (time begins when the last player reaches their bench/chair after entering the court)	60 seconds
Courtesy Warm-up (time starts at the end of the pre-match meeting)	5 minutes
Start of the match (time starts at the end of the courtesy rally)	120 seconds

#### **6.5.2 Penalties During the Match**

- a. Time violation / Delay of Game

A player is subject to a Code of Conduct violation if they are not ready to play within the following time limits:

In-match pauses	Maximum Time
Between Points	20 seconds
Change of ends, except after the 1st game of the Set	90 seconds
End of a Set	120 seconds
Extreme Heat Rule - Between the 1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> set	5 minutes

The player who fails to comply with these times shall receive a Warning for their first violation.

A player may receive consecutive Code of Conduct violations for the same delay.

b. Towel Use / Hydration

Hydration is permitted at change of ends and not at the end of even-numbered games. Any violation of this rule shall be penalized under the Code of Conduct. The first violation shall result in a Warning, and subsequent violations shall result in Code of Conduct penalties.

## 6.6 INTERFERENCE

Interference may result from a corrected decision by an Umpire or when a player commits an action, whether deliberate or involuntary, that disturbs their opponent in the execution of a stroke.

### 6.6.1 Correction of the Chair Umpire

- a. If a decision is corrected from “in” to “out,” then the point ends and there is no interference.
- b. If a decision is corrected from “out” to “in,” then a “let” shall be played.

### 6.6.2 Undeliberate Hindrance

- a. A “let” shall be called the first time a player has created involuntary interference (e.g., a ball falling from the pocket, a cap falling off, etc.), and the player shall be warned that any such situation thereafter will be considered deliberate.
- b. A “let” shall be called if a player is hindered by an element foreign to the match being played that invades the court space during play or during the service motion.

- c. Noise or other similar distractions caused by spectators shall not be considered interference, and the point must stand as played.

### **6.6.3 Deliberate Hindrance**

Any interference caused by a player that is deemed deliberate shall result in the loss of a point.

## **6.7 DEFAULT**

### **6.7.1 Procedure**

- a. The Supervisor/Referee may declare default for a single violation of the Code of Conduct.
- b. If the Chair Umpire considers that a single violation is sufficiently serious to justify immediate default, the Chair Umpire must call the Supervisor/Referee to discuss immediate default. The Supervisor/Referee may declare immediate default for a violation whether witnessed or not witnessed by the Chair Umpire.
- c. In all cases of default, the decision of the Supervisor/Referee shall be final and unappealable.

### **6.7.2 Penalties**

- a. See Defaults Section 10.1.7 – Code of Conduct. (See also Section 6.7 – Resumption of play and penalties for rule violations).
- b. Any player disqualified under the Code of Conduct shall count zero (0) as one of their best nine (9) results

## **6.8 APPEAL OF SANCTIONS**

Appeals of sanctions must be filed within twenty-one (21) days from the date of notification

## **7. RANKING SYSTEM**

### **7.1 GENERAL**

#### **7.1.1 Description**

FIP Rankings reflect a player's participation and performance in the FIP Promises Continental Tour, the FIP Promises World Tour, and other International events that determine player acceptances and seeding for all Tournaments. Rankings are calculated and published weekly by the FIP.

### 7.1.2 Ranking processing

- a. Rankings of all Tournaments are processed weekly.
- b. Points shall be valid for fifty-two (52) weeks from the Monday following the end of the Tournament.

### 7.1.3 Results of Tournaments Included in the Ranking

#### I. Tournaments

Except for the Protected Ranking Rule, a player's ranking shall be determined by adding his or her nine (9) best results obtained, including any result of zero (0) points in tournaments of the FIP Promises Continental Tour and the FIP Promises World Tour.

A player may participate in an unlimited number of tournaments outside his or her licensing continent within the same year. However, only the best score obtained in a maximum of two (2) tournaments played outside the player's licensing continent shall be counted.

#### II. Continental Ranking

Each player participating in a FIP Promises Continental Tour or FIP Promises World Tour tournament will have a single ranking, which will correspond to the continent where their country is located.

A player may change this single ranking and score points in a different continent from the one to which their country belongs if they request it and provide proof of residence in a different country. The FIP reserves the right to deny any request that is not duly substantiated.

When a player changes their continental ranking, their ranking will be calculated based on the points obtained in tournaments within the new continent, plus the two best results from tournaments played outside their new continent.

### 7.1.4 Tie-breaker in case of equal points

If two or more players within the same category have the same number of points, the ranking order shall be determined according to the number of tournaments played to obtain that score. The player who has achieved that number of points by playing fewer tournaments shall be placed higher than the other players with the same number of points.

If the tie persists, the number of weeks occupying that position shall determine priority between players. The player who has occupied that position for a greater number of weeks shall be placed higher than the other players with the same number of points.

### 7.1.5 Points table

The following table sets out the number of ranking points awarded to players per round, including qualifying, and per tournament.

Points Distribution	Winner	Finalist	1/2	1/4	R16	R32	R64
<b>FIP World Championships</b>	2000	1200	720	360	180	90	35
<b>FIP Continental Championship</b>	1000	600	360	180	90	45	20
<b>FIP World Tour Finals</b>	750	420	250	125	70		
<b>FIP Promises World Tour</b>	450	270	135	70	35		
<b>FIP Promises Continental Tour Finals</b>	600	360	180	90	45		
<b>Promises Continental 32 Draw</b>	450	270	135	70	35	14	
<b>Promises Continental Tour 16 Draw</b>	300	180	90	50	25		
	Winner	Finalist	1/2	2nd Place	3rd Place	4th Place	
<b>Promises Continental Tour 16 RR (3 o 4 groups)</b>	300	180	90	50	38	25	

*\*In the RR draws with 11 pairs, the 2nd best pair in the group of 2 pairs will receive 38 points.*

	Winner	Finalist	1/2	3rd Place	4th Place
<b>Promises Continental Tour 8 RR (2 groups)</b>	250	150	70	30	14
	Winner	Finalist	3rd Place	4th Place	5th Place
<b>Promises Continental Tour 5 RR (1 group)</b>	200	100	50	20	8
	Winner	Finalist	3rd Place	4th Place	
<b>Promises Continental Tour 4 RR (1 group)</b>	200	100	35	12	

The Qualifying Draw of a tournament shall not award points per round. Only those players who qualify for the Main Draw of a Tournament shall receive points for the round reached in the Main Draw.

### 7.1.5 Bonus for Category Change

A FIP Promises player who changes category at the end of a year shall receive a percentage of the points obtained in the previous season from their nine (9) best tournaments, valid until the completion of 365 days from the date of obtaining such points, as follows:

- Transition from U12 to U14: 10% of the points obtained in the U12 category
- Transition from U14 to U16: 10% of the points obtained in the U14 category
- Transition from U16 to U18: 10% of the points obtained in the U16 category
- Transition from U18 to the Absolute FIP Ranking: 5% of the points obtained in the U18 category

#### Example of Bonus Application

A U14 player obtained 1,000 points in 2025 (500 on February 15 and 500 on August 15). In 2026, the player moves to the U16 category and receives a bonus of 100 points (10% of the points obtained in 2025 in the U14 category).

On February 15, 2026, 50 points of the total 100 bonus expire and are deducted from the player's Ranking. Similarly, on August 15, 2026, the remaining 50 points expire and are deducted from the Ranking.

Thus, as the year progresses and the Tournaments in which the player earned points in the U14 category expire, the bonus points are reduced until reaching zero.

## 7.2 STANDARDS AND PROCEDURES

### 7.2.1 Ranking Order

Players are ranked based on their total ranking points in accordance with Section 7.1.

### 7.2.2 General Ranking Points

- a. Players receive points for the highest round they reach.
- b. Players who receive a Wild Card receive the same points as any other player.
- c. Qualifiers earn points based on the highest round reached in the Main Draw.
  - i. Qualifying pairs who have not played a match (except those who win by WO/Withdrawal) in the Qualifying Draw and advance to the Main Draw shall receive only points from the Main Draw.
- d. Lucky Losers earn ranking points from the Main Draw based on the highest round reached in the Main Draw. If a Lucky Loser replaces an exempt Seeded Pair, they must win their first match to add the points corresponding to that round (in case of defeat, they shall only add the points corresponding to the first round).

### 7.2.3 Withdrawals, Byes, Walkovers and Defaults

#### a. Withdrawals

- i. If a player withdraws or is automatically withdrawn from a Tournament before playing the first match, they shall not receive points
- ii. If a player withdraws from a Tournament after the start of their first match, they shall receive points for reaching the round in which they withdrew.

#### b. Byes

If a pair receives one (1) or more consecutive Byes and fails or withdraws without playing the match, the pair shall not receive points unless it is a Lucky Loser, in which case they shall be awarded the points earned in the qualifying.

#### c. Walkovers

If a pair wins by Walkover in the first round and there is no Alternate/Lucky Loser to take the spot, the team shall receive ranking points for the round reached.

#### d. Defaults

For any disciplinary Default that occurs in a Tournament after the match begins:

- i. The advancing pair shall receive ranking points for the round reached; and
- ii. The pair that is defaulted shall lose all points earned for that event in that Tournament.

#### **7.2.4 Cancellation of the Tournament or Early Termination**

a. Cancellation of the Tournament without play

If a Tournament is cancelled and no matches have been played, players shall not receive any ranking points.

b. Cancellation of the Tournament after play has started

If play has started and ends before the first round is completed, players shall not receive any ranking points. However, if the first round has been completed, all players shall receive the points earned up to the last round completed.

c. Cancellation of the Tournament without completion of the finals

If a Tournament officially ends before the finals are completed, each finalist shall receive finalist points.

d. Cancellation of the Tournament due to lack of entries

A Tournament category must have a minimum of four (4) pairs to be played. Otherwise, the FIP must approve the holding of that category.

#### **7.2.5 Tiebreaker procedures**

When two (2) or more players have the same number of points in the Ranking, the tie in the Ranking position shall be decided according to the following priorities in order:

- i. The player with the most combined points in FIP Promises World Tour Tournaments.
- ii. The player with the most combined points in FIP Promises Continental Tour Tournaments.
- iii. The player with the fewest number of Tournaments in a fifty-two (52) week period

### **7.3 PROTECTED RANKING**

#### **7.3.1 Definition**

Unless the context requires otherwise, the following bolded terms in this Section have the following meanings:

- a. **“Medical Condition”** means a medical illness or musculoskeletal injury that warrants medical evaluation or treatment.
- b. **“Out-of-Competition”** means:
  - i. not participating in any tournament or padel exhibition other than an event for which the player was granted an exemption pursuant to subsection 7.3.6 below; and
  - ii. not competing in any other organized sport.
- c. **“Out-of-Tournament Period”** means a period during which a player is Out of Competition due to a Medical Condition, Pregnancy, or Parental Initiation for a minimum of sixteen (16) weeks, which for a particular player is calculated using the last day of the last Tournament the A player may not count any suspension period or period of ineligibility for violation of the Rules, the FIP Anti-Doping Program, or the FIP Competition Manipulation Prevention Code towards their Out of Competition Period.
- d. **“Parental Initiation”** means adoption, subrogation or becoming a legal guardian of a person under the age of eighteen (18).
- e. **“Pregnancy”** means the medically diagnosed pregnancy condition of pregnancy.
- f. **“Return to Competition”** means whichever occurs first of:
  - a. playing or competing in any Tournament other than a Tour Exhibition Event for which a player was granted an exemption pursuant to subsection 7.3.6 below; or any other organized sport; or
  - b. acceptance into a Tournament using a special ranking and withdrawal after that Tournament's withdrawal deadline; or
  - c. for a Parental Initiation Protected Ranking, the date that is fifty-two (52) weeks after the start of a player's original Out of Competition Period; or
  - d. the date that is one hundred and four (104) weeks after:
    - a) for a Medical Condition Protected Ranking, the beginning of a player's original Out of Competition Period; or
    - b) for a Pregnancy Special Ranking.
- g. **“Protected Ranking”** The Protected Ranking will be determined by the player's average score in the FIP ranking during the sixteen (16) weeks following their last tournament disputed or in which they received prizes money.
- h. **“Protected Ranking Request”** has the meaning given to that term by Section 8.3.3a.
- i. **“Padel Event”** means any Premier Padel Tournament, Cupra FIP Tournament, FIP Event, or Exhibition/Non-PP Event, regardless of whether ranking points are awarded.

### 7.3.2 Eligibility

To be eligible for a Protected Ranking a player must:

- i. have an Out of Competition Period of no less than sixteen (16) weeks;
- ii. submit documentation required by the FIP of a Medical Condition, Parental Initiation, or Pregnancy in accordance with Section 7.3.3.a.

For clarity, unless granted an exemption to participate in an event pursuant to subsection 7.3.6 below, if a player participates in a padel event or competes in any other organized sport within sixteen (16) weeks of the intended start of their Out of Competition Period, they are not eligible to obtain a Protected Ranking.

### 7.3.3 Request procedure and deadline

#### a. Request

To request a Protected Ranking, a player must submit the following documentation ("Protected Ranking Request") to the FIP for approval:

- i. A completed and signed Protected Ranking request form;
- ii. A public disclosure statement;
- iii. If applicable, medical documentation, including:
  - (a) the diagnosis of the Medical Condition or Pregnancy; a copy of the clinical visit documentation; Doctor notes/documentation; and all relevant laboratory tests and applicable surgical reports; and if applicable, evidence (e.g., legal documentation) demonstrating Parental Initiation.

The FIP, at its sole discretion, reserves the right to require a player to submit additional documentation to verify the Medical Condition, Parental Initiation, or Pregnancy. If a player requests a Protected Ranking for more than one (1) Medical Condition or for a combination of Medical Condition(s) and Parental Initiation, they must submit documentation for each Medical Condition or Parental Initiation.

#### b. Deadlines

Each player requesting a Protected Ranking must submit their Request:

- i. Within the first eight (8) weeks from their last Tournament, which shall mark the start of their Out of Competition Period.

#### **7.3.4 Requests for subsequent reports or documentation**

The FIP may request subsequent medical and legal status reports (as applicable), and if a player does not promptly comply with such requests, the FIP may revoke their Protected Ranking. All medical and legal documentation will remain confidential.

#### **7.3.5 Criteria and Rules of Use**

##### **a. Number of tournaments**

###### **I. If the period of absence is between sixteen (16) and twenty-eight (28) weeks:**

The player will be entitled to six (6) tournaments or twenty-four (24) weeks, whichever occurs first.

###### **II. If the period of absence is more than twenty-eight (28) weeks and up to fifty-four (54) weeks:**

The player will be entitled to nine (9) tournaments or thirty-six (36) weeks, whichever occurs first.

###### **III. If the period of absence exceeds fifty-four (54) weeks:**

The player will be entitled to twelve (12) tournaments or fifty-four (54) weeks, whichever occurs first.

##### **b. Deadlines**

i. The earliest a player may return to competition is in a scheduled match during the same calendar week in which their Out-of-Competition Period reaches sixteen (16) weeks.

ii. The maximum duration for which the Out-of-Competition Period may apply is one hundred and four (104) weeks. After this date, the player will no longer have a Protected Ranking for tournament entry.

iii. The last time a player may use their Protected Ranking is in a tournament scheduled during the same calendar week in which their Protected Ranking expires.

##### **c. Procedures**

###### **i. Request to freeze the Protected Ranking**

###### **(a) Subsequent medical condition**

If a player returns to competition before their Protected Ranking expires and subsequently becomes Out-of-Competition for a minimum of eight (8) weeks due to a Medical Condition, they may request to “freeze” the remaining Protected Ranking period by completing and submitting another Protected Ranking Request.

###### **(b) Subsequent pregnancy or parental leave**

If, before a player's Protected Ranking expires (regardless of whether they have returned to competition), the player subsequently becomes Out-of-Competition due to Pregnancy or Parental Leave, they may complete and submit another Protected Ranking Request to request:

(I) to "freeze" their current Protected Ranking Period.

(II) a new Protected Ranking.

(c) Restrictions

(I) A player may not "freeze" their Protected Ranking during any suspension period for breach of the Rules, the FIP Anti-Doping Program, or the Competition Manipulation Prevention Code.

(II) A player may "freeze" their Protected Ranking Period a maximum of two (2) times per Protected Ranking. After the second and third return to competition, the player will retain the same number of tournaments and the same remaining time in their Protected Ranking Period, as well as the same number of tournaments left to use their eligibility, as they had when the "freeze" took effect.

ii. Entry and acceptance to the tournament

A player must email the Tournament Supervisor to use their Protected Ranking to enter tournaments of the FIP Promises Continental Tour and the FIP Promises World Tour before the applicable entry deadline. Requests submitted after the deadline will not be accepted.

A player may use either their Protected Ranking or their actual FIP Ranking to enter, but may not change the ranking used for entry after the tournament's entry deadline. If multiple players with the same ranking enter the same tournament, the player using their actual FIP Ranking will be accepted before the player using their Protected Ranking.

(a) All tournaments

If a player enters and is accepted into the Qualifying Draw or Main Draw using their Protected Ranking and subsequently withdraws after the applicable withdrawal deadline in Section 3.1.3 below, this will count as one (1) of their Protected Ranking tournaments.

(b) FIP Continental Tour Finals and FIP Promises World Tour Finals

A player may not use their Protected Ranking to qualify for the FIP Continental Tour Finals or the FIP Promises World Tour Finals.

d. Wild Card

If a player is accepted into the Qualifying Draw or Main Draw of a tournament using their Protected Ranking, they may not accept a Wild Card in the same event.

e. Top Seeds

A player's Protected Ranking applies both for tournament entry and for seedings.

f. Lucky Loser

A player's actual FIP Ranking, not their Protected Ranking, determines their Lucky Loser position or status.

g. Player responsibilities

Each player is responsible for tracking the tournaments in which they use their Protected Ranking. If a player exceeds the allowed maximums, they will lose all points earned in all FIP Promises Continental Tour and FIP Promises World Tour tournaments where they used their Protected Ranking beyond those limits.

h. Protected Ranking Abuse

If at any time the FIP determines, at its sole discretion, that a player has abused or is abusing their Protected Ranking status, it has the authority to:

- (i) revoke the player's Protected Ranking;
- (ii) revoke any ranking points obtained through such abuse; and
- (iii) penalize the player under Section 10.1.11.

### **7.3.6 Exemption from Exhibition/Non-FIP Event**

Any player subject to this Protected Ranking Rule may request an exemption from the FIP to participate in one (1) exhibition event that will not restart their Out-of-Competition Period. This exemption may be granted by the FIP at its sole and absolute discretion.

## **8. PROMISES AWARDS**

### **8.1. Definition**

The Promises Awards are recognitions granted by the FIP to players who finish the year with the best results in the FIP Promises World Tour. These awards acknowledge sporting achievement and support the career development of players.

At the end of each season, the top ten (10) male players and the top ten (10) female players in the FIP Promises World Tour global ranking will receive the Promises Awards, in accordance with the provisions set out in this section.

The Promises Awards will consist of:

(a) Financial Scholarships

These scholarships are intended exclusively to cover expenses related to the practice and competition of padel, including travel, accommodation, meals, and sports equipment.

(b) Wild Cards

Sporting invitations will consist of Wild Cards for official tournaments of the CFT and PP.

## 8.2. Conditions and Allocation

1. The amount and specific conditions of the scholarships will be determined annually by the FIP, based on criteria of fairness, budget availability, and program scope. The FIP will publish the scholarship and sporting invitation system before the start of the season.
2. Wild Cards will be subject to approval by the FIP Sports Department and may be granted individually or as a pair, in accordance with the current regulations of professional circuits.
3. The awards are personal and non-transferable and must be used for the sporting purposes established.
4. In the event of a player's refusal or inability to accept, the FIP may reassign the benefit according to the ranking order or leave it vacant.

## 8.3 Compatibility and Supervision

The Promises Awards will be compatible with other aids granted by National Federations or public bodies, unless otherwise stipulated by the FIP.

The FIP may require the submission of supporting documentation for the use of scholarships or formal acceptance of invitations for control and transparency purposes.

## 8.4 Final Provision

The granting of the Promises Awards will be governed by the principles of sporting merit, equal opportunity, and the promotion of international youth development. The FIP reserves the right to modify, expand, or update the program conditions each season.

# 9. ELIGIBILITY BY AGE

## 9.1 ELIGIBILITY

The requirements of the Age Eligibility Rule shall apply to competition in all tournaments included in the FIP competition calendar worldwide.

### 9.1.1 Definition

a. Competition in a FIP Promises Continental Tour or FIP Promises World Tour Tournament

For the purposes of this Rule, competition in a FIP Promises Continental Tour or FIP Promises World Tour tournament is defined as participation in the Main Draw or Qualifying Draw of any tournament in which a player earns FIP Ranking points. Participation in a tournament on the FIP competition calendar counts toward a player's Tournament Allocation. If a player participates in the Qualifying Draw and qualifies for the Main Draw, it will count as one (1) tournament.

b. Age

Players, according to their age, will have the following categories and conditions:

- U12: Must not have reached 12 years of age on January 1 of the year in which the competition takes place.
- U14: Must not have reached 14 years of age on January 1 of the year in which the competition takes place.
- U16: Must not have reached 16 years of age on January 1 of the year in which the competition takes place.
- U18: Must not have reached 18 years of age on January 1 of the year in which the competition takes place.

### 9.1.2 Participation in Tournaments

Tournament Allocation and Wild Card Allocation in FIP Promises Continental Tour and FIP Promises World Tour tournaments:

i. Under 9 years of age

Any player who does not turn 9 years old during the current year shall not be eligible to participate in the U12 category of a FIP Promises Continental Tour tournament.

2026 Exception: All players under 8 years of age who, as of 01/01/2026, hold a ranking in the FIP Promises circuit in the U12 category shall be allowed to participate in the FIP Promises circuit in that same category.

ii. Under 10 years of age

Any player who does not turn 10 years old during the current year shall not be eligible to participate in the U14 category of a FIP Promises Continental Tour tournament.

iii. Participation in higher categories of FIP Promises tournaments

A player may only participate in the category corresponding to their age and the next higher category. Under no circumstances may a player participate in a category two levels above their own.

iv. Participation in the FIP Promises World Tour

To participate in a FIP Promises World Tour tournament, a player must have reached their fifteenth (15th) birthday before starting participation in the tournament.

*\*In the event that any national law conflicts with this rule, the FIP will evaluate the case individually and may authorize such a request.*

### **9.1.3 Wild Card**

To accept a Wild Card in any FIP Promises Continental Tour or FIP Promises World Tour tournament, a player must:

- (I) Register on the FIP entry registration platform.
- (II) Have submitted all required documentation (i.e., proof of identity (copy of passport or birth certificate), proof of compliance with minimum requirements, etc.) and authorization from a parent or legal guardian.

## **9.2 VIOLATIONS**

### **9.2.1 Loss of Ranking Points**

If a player competes in a tournament that exceeds the permitted number or level, or enters a tournament that in any way conflicts with these rules, they will automatically lose all points earned from that tournament.

### **9.2.2 Penalties**

- a. Players who fail to comply with any of the provisions are subject to:
  - i. Suspension from competing in or attending FIP Promises Continental Tour and FIP Promises World Tour tournaments for up to six (6) months.
- b. In addition, Player Support Team Members who fail to comply with any of the requirements will be considered violators and subject to the penalties set out in Appendix D.

## **10. CODE OF CONDUCT**

### **10.1 RULES AND PENALTIES – PLAYERS**

#### **10.1.1 Entry**

All Players will comply with the entry rules set forth by the FIP.

#### **10.1.2 Withdrawals**

Any Late Withdrawal by a player from a tournament for reasons other than a Justified Withdrawal, a Consecutive Withdrawal, or Extraordinary Circumstances will constitute a violation of the Code and will automatically be sanctioned with the points listed in this Code.

For a full explanation of the following, see the corresponding sections listed below:

a. Withdrawal Penalties

See Section 3.1.3 – Late withdrawals from the Main Draw.

b. No-Show Penalties

See Section 3.1.3.c – No-Show violation.

a. Prohibition on withdrawing from one tournament to play another

See Section 3.1.8 – Prohibition on withdrawing from a tournament to play another.

b. Justified Withdrawals

See Section 3.1.1 – Justified withdrawals.

#### **10.1.3 Penalty Program**

Violations of the Code of Conduct on court will result in the following penalty schedule, in addition to monetary that the Tournament Supervisor/Referee may impose when reviewing each violation of the Code.

The Chair Umpire must provide, after the match, a detailed description of each Code of Conduct violation, including all relevant elements that may be considered during the evaluation of each violation.

The point penalty schedule to be applied during a match in the event of Code violations is as follows:

1st Violation	Warning
2nd Violation	Loss of point
3rd Violation	Default

**Note:** Violations committed by both members of the pair and even by the coach accredited to the pair (if related to Instructions) are cumulative.

However, after the second violation, the Supervisor/Referee will determine whether to apply the default.

Penalties must be appealed on site to the Supervisor/Referee, whose decision will be final.

## Direct Default

In the event of a very serious violation, the Supervisor/Referee may determine the immediate default of the player or coach who committed the offense. If the default applies to a player currently playing a match, they will lose the match and must leave the competition. If it applies to a coach or player accredited or registered in the ongoing competition, they will be defaulted and must leave the event.

All penalties in the table above apply to the pair; however, point penalties will apply to the player who committed the violation.

### 10.1.4 Player Conduct On and Off the Court

#### a. Player violations On Court

##### i. Visible Obscenity

- (a) Players must not make obscene gestures of any kind while on the tournament premises. Visible obscenity is defined as making signs with the hands and/or racket or ball that are commonly understood to have an obscene meaning.
- (b) Violation of this section will subject the player to a penalty of up to 250 ranking points for each violation. In addition, if such a violation occurs during a match, the player will be penalized in accordance with the Penalty Program (Section 17.3.2).

In flagrant circumstances, where the gesture is particularly profane, insulting, or contrary to local or international customs, a single violation of this category may result in Direct Default, as established in Section 17.3.2.

##### ii. Audible Obscenity

- (a) Players must not use audible obscenities of any kind while on the tournament premises. Audible obscenity is defined as the use of words commonly known and understood to be profane or insulting, provided the words are not directed at another individual (in which case the violation falls under Verbal Abuse) and are spoken clearly and loudly enough to be heard.
- (b) Violation of this section will subject the player to a penalty of up to 150 ranking points for each violation. In addition, if such a violation occurs during a match, the player will be penalized in accordance with the Penalty Program (Section 17.3.2).

In flagrant circumstances, where the language is particularly profane or contrary to local or international customs, a single violation of this category may result in Direct Default, as established in Section 17.3.2.

##### iii. Racket or Equipment Abuse

- (a) Players must not hit, kick, or throw the racket or other equipment in a violent, dangerous, or angry manner within the tournament premises. For the purposes of this rule, racket or

equipment abuse is defined as intentionally, dangerously, and violently striking the net, court, umpire's chair, or any other fixed element on the premises due to anger.

(b) Violation of this section will subject the player to a penalty of up to 250 ranking points for each violation. In addition, if such a violation occurs during a match, the player will be penalized in accordance with the Penalty Program (Section 17.3.2). The player will also be responsible for repairing or replacing any tournament property that is damaged or destroyed.

iv. Ball Abuse

(a) Players must not strike, kick, or throw a padel ball in a violent, dangerous, or angry manner while on the tournament premises, except in the reasonable pursuit of a point during a match (including warm-up). For the purposes of this rule, ball abuse is defined as intentionally or recklessly striking a ball violently or hitting a ball without regard for the consequences.

(b) Violation of this section will subject the player to a penalty of up to 250 ranking points for each violation. In addition, if such a violation occurs during a match, the player will be penalized in accordance with the Penalty Program (Section 17.3.2). If the ball is not in play and violently strikes another player, umpire, ball boy, or any person on the premises, the violation may result in Direct Default, as established in Section 17.3.2.

v. Physical Abuse

(a) Players must not physically abuse at any time any referee, opponent, spectator, or other person within the tournament premises. For the purposes of this rule, physical abuse is defined as unauthorized physical contact with a referee, opponent, spectator, or other person.

(b) Violations of this section will subject the player to a penalty of up to 1.500 ranking points for each violation. In addition, if such a violation occurs during a match, the player will be penalized in accordance with the Penalty Points Program (Section 17.3.2).

In flagrant circumstances that are particularly detrimental to the success of the tournament, or that are singularly egregious, a single violation of this section may result in Direct Default, as set forth in Section 17.3.2.

In cases that are especially serious and may jeopardize the image of the tournament, the image of the FIP, or the image of the sport, the Tournament Supervisor may refer the case to the Sports Discipline Committee to evaluate whether the player has committed a serious offense of Behavior or Conduct Contrary to the Integrity of the Sport, which may result in suspension and additional sanctions.

vi. Verbal Abuse

(a) Players must not at any time verbally abuse, directly or indirectly, any referee, opponent, sponsor, spectator, or any other person within the tournament premises. Verbal abuse is defined as any statement about a referee, opponent, spectator, or any other person that implies dishonesty or is derogatory, insulting, or otherwise abusive.

(b) Violations of this section will subject the player to a penalty of up to 250 ranking points for each violation. In addition, if such a violation occurs during a match, the player will be penalized in accordance with the Penalty Program (Section 17.3.2).

In flagrant circumstances that are particularly detrimental to the success of the tournament, or that are singularly egregious, a single violation of this section may result in Direct Default, as set forth in Section 17.3.2.

In cases that are especially serious and may jeopardize the image of the tournament, the image of the FIP, or the image of the sport, the Tournament Supervisor may refer the case to the Sports Discipline Committee to evaluate whether the player has committed a serious offense of Behavior or Conduct Contrary to the Integrity of the Sport, which may result in suspension and additional sanctions.

vii. Continuous Play / Delay of Game

- (a) Once the match has begun, play must be continuous, and no player may delay it without reasonable cause beyond the times allowed in the Official Rules of Play.
- (b) Violations of this section will subject the player to a penalty of up to 50 ranking points for each violation. In addition, such violation will be penalized in accordance with the Penalty Program (Section 17.3.2).

viii. Coaching and Coaches

- (a) Each pair may receive advice and instructions during a match from a duly accredited coach provided that they occur during the authorized break times.
- (b) Players are responsible for the conduct of their coaches and registered companions at all times during the Tournament, including the on-court coach and other player support team members accredited under the player's name. Coaches are prohibited from: using an audible obscenity or making obscene gestures of any kind, abusing any referee, opponent, spectator or other person, verbally or physically, and/or engaging in conduct contrary to the integrity of the Sport. Conduct contrary to the integrity of the Sport will include, but not be limited to, public comments, whether or not to the media, that attack or disparage a Tournament, a sponsor, a player, a referee or the FIP.

The use of any electronic device (excluding an FIP-approved electronic device under Section 6.1.4.d) constitutes a coaching violation.

- (c) Violation of this section will subject the pair to a penalty of up to 250 ranking points per violation. For clarity, penalties derived from the conduct of coaches on the court will apply to both players, while penalties derived from the conduct of other members of the player support team will apply to the player who requested the accreditation of that member for the Tournament.

In circumstances that are flagrant and particularly detrimental to the success of a Tournament, or that are singularly egregious, the Tournament Supervisor will have the authority to remove the coach or player support team from their position on the court or from the venue, and in the event of non-compliance with such order, may declare the Direct Default of the pair.

ix. Unsportsmanlike Conduct

- (a) Players must at all times behave in a sportsmanlike manner and duly respect the authority of the referees and the rights of opponents, spectators and others. Unsportsmanlike conduct is defined as any misconduct by a player that is clearly abusive or detrimental to the success of a

Tournament, the FIP or the sport. In addition, unsportsmanlike conduct will include, but not be limited to, giving, making, issuing, authorizing or endorsing any public statement that has, or is designed to have, an effect detrimental to the best interest of the Tournament and/or the FIP.

(b) Violations of this section will subject the player to a penalty of up to 500 ranking points for each violation. In addition, if such violation occurs during a match, the player will be penalized in accordance with the Penalty Program (Section 17.3.2).

In circumstances that are flagrant and particularly detrimental to the success of the Tournament, or that are singularly egregious, a single violation of this section will also constitute Direct Default, as set forth in Section 17.3.2.

x. Best efforts

(a) A player must make their best efforts during a match when competing in a tournament.

(b) Violation of this section will subject the player to a penalty of up to 250 ranking points for each violation. For the purposes of this rule, the Supervisor/Referee and/or Chair Umpire will have the authority to penalize a player in accordance with the Penalty Program (Section 17.3.2).

In circumstances that are flagrant and particularly detrimental to the success of the tournament, or that are singularly egregious, a single violation of this section may also constitute Direct Default, as set forth in Section 17.3.2.

xi. Leaving the Court

(a) A player must not leave the court area during a match (including warm-up) without the permission of the Chair Umpire or Supervisor/Referee.

(b) Violation of this section will subject the player to a penalty of up to 150 ranking points for each violation. In addition, the player may be suspended and will be subject to additional penalties for not completing the match.

xii. Failure to Complete a Match

(a) A player must complete an ongoing match unless prevented by a health reason or force majeure approved by the Supervisor.

(b) Violation of this section will subject the player to a penalty of up to 250 ranking points for each violation. Such violation will result in immediate breach and will also constitute a serious aggravated conduct offense.

xiii. Punctuality

Players must be ready when called for their matches.

(a) Any player who is not ready to play within fifteen (15) minutes after their match is called may be defaulted unless the Supervisor, after considering all relevant circumstances, decides not to declare a breach. In this case, the player will be penalized with up to 100 ranking points.

b. Other On-Court Violations

- (a) A player may also be reported to the FIP for inappropriate off-court behavior if obscene conduct or language during a match is not observed or heard by the referees on court but causes a negative impact on the image of the sport because it is seen on television or at the venue.
- (b) Violation of this section will subject the player to a penalty of up to 150 ranking points for each violation. Such violation will result in immediate breach and will also constitute a serious aggravated conduct offense.

c. Sexual abuse

- (a) Players must not sexually abuse any player or any other person. Sexual abuse is defined as forcing sexual activity by one person on another person (a) with diminished mental capacity or (b) through the use of physical force, threats, coercion, intimidation, or undue influence.
- (b) A violation of this section will constitute an aggravated conduct offense and may result in the player's suspension and ineligibility.

d. Sexual harassment

- (a) Players must not engage in sexual harassment (for example, making unwanted advances, requests for sexual favors, or other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature where such conduct may create an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment).
- (b) A violation of this section will constitute an aggravated conduct offense and may result in the player's suspension and ineligibility.

e. Additional Procedures for Penalties and Appeals

- i. Penalties will not apply for Code violations received due to loss of physical condition or as a result of medical treatment not completed within the allotted time, unless the Referee/Supervisor interprets it as gamesmanship.
- ii. If another player, a referee, or a tournament official reports a player's behavior to the FIP, that player will be subject to an applicable penalty, even if no warning was issued during the match.
- iii. Penalties will be enforced in the manner stipulated by the FIP in each case.

#### **10.1.5 Interference Rule**

See Section 6.6 for the Interference Rule.

#### **10.1.6 Toilet Break / Clothing Change Break**

See Section 6.2 for restroom/clothing change break rules.

#### **10.1.7 Default**

The Supervisor may declare a Default for a single violation of this Code (Immediate Default) or in accordance with the Penalty Program set forth in Section 10.1.3.

Similarly, the Tournament Supervisor has the authority to remove a pair from the tournament for a Code of Conduct violation that takes place on site, but not during a match.

For clarity, on site means any of the following: tournament venue, training venue (if different), tournament hotel(s), transportation or during any official or promotional tournament activity.

In all cases of Default, the decision of the Supervisor/Referee will be final and unappealable.

#### **10.1.8 Tour Medical Rules**

See Section 12.6 for Tour medical rules and penalties.

#### **10.1.9 Clothing and Equipment**

See Section 6.1 for clothing and equipment rules and penalties.

#### **10.1.10 Game Delay**

See Sections 6.5.1 and 6.5.2 for game delay rules.

#### **10.1.11 Dishonorable or Unprofessional Conduct**

##### **a. Responsibilities of the Player**

###### **i. Player Conduct**

A player must at all times, but particularly during a tournament or event in which their entry has been accepted, whether on the tournament site or not, refrain from engaging in conduct detrimental to the FIP or contrary to the integrity of the sport. Conduct detrimental to the FIP or contrary to the integrity of the sport includes, but is not limited to, public comments, whether or not to the media, that unjustifiably attack or disparage any person, group of people, tournament, sponsor, player, referee, FIP staff or the entity itself. Responsible expressions of legitimate disagreement with FIP policies are not prohibited. However, this section expressly prohibits public comments that a player knows, or should reasonably know, will harm the reputation or financial best interests of a tournament, player, sponsor, Official, or the FIP.

Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, players must also comply with the following:

###### **(a) Proper Clothing**

A player must dress and present themselves in a professional manner at all times at the tournament site or any official training site.

###### **(b) Payment of Personal Expenses**

A player must pay all fair debts incurred in connection with their travel, accommodation and participation in tournaments, including telephone, food and medical care.

(c) Avoid Public or Media Criticism

A player must not direct criticism at a tournament, sponsor, player, referee, or the FIP to the media or the public. All such complaints must be submitted to the Supervisor.

ii. Penalties

Failure to comply with any of the above will constitute a violation of the Code and subject the offending player to (a) a penalty of up to 250 ranking points, (b) breach in accordance with the procedures provided in Section 10.1 - Player Conduct On and Off the Court, and (c) suspension from participating in the FIP Promises Continental Tour and/or FIP Promises World Tour for a specific period as determined by the Sports Discipline Committee.

b. Aggravated conduct

No player will engage in Aggravated Conduct, as defined below:

i. Definition

- (a) One (1) or more incidents of conduct designated in this Code as constituting Aggravated Conduct.
- (b) An incident of conduct that is flagrant and particularly detrimental to the success of a tournament, the FIP, or that is singularly egregious, including the sale of a credential or unauthorized disclosure of confidential information.
- (c) A series of two (2) or more violations of the Code within a twelve (12) month period that individually do not constitute Aggravated Conduct, but when considered together establish a pattern of conduct that is collectively egregious and detrimental or harmful to tournaments or the FIP.

ii. Penalties

Violation of this section will subject the player to a penalty of up to 500 ranking points and/or suspension from play in a tournament or event for a minimum period of twenty-one (21) days and a maximum period of one (1) year. The suspension will commence on the Monday following the expiration of the period within which an appeal may be filed or, in the case of an appeal, from the Monday following the final decision on the appeal.

c. Decision-Making Authority

The FIP will have exclusive authority to declare a player's violation under this section based on a formal and substantiated complaint. The FIP's decision may be appealed to the Appeals Committee.

## 10.2 PROCEDURES FOR PLAYER SUPPORT TEAM MEMBERS AND ACCREDITED PERSONS

### 10.2.1 Player Support Team

Player Support Team members are expected to behave professionally at all times. In this regard, a Code of Conduct has been established to set out the rules that all members of the Player Support Team must comply with at all times.

a. Competence

- i. Player Support Team members will provide services only within the limits of their competence, based on their education, training, supervised experience, or appropriate professional experience.
- ii. Player Support Team members who provide services for a player will strive to increase their level of competence and skill by staying up to date and seeking ongoing education and certification in safety, health, training, and other developments relevant to padel.
- iii. Player Support Team members who provide services for a player will seek advice and counsel from colleagues and experts, provided such consultation is in the best interest of the player.
- iv. Player Support Team members will endeavor to protect the health, safety, and physical and psychological well-being of a player under their direction, ensuring that all activities under their control are carried out for the player's physical and psychological well-being.

b. Unfair and/or Discriminatory Conduct

- i. Player Support Team members must not engage in unfair or unethical conduct, including any attempt to intentionally injure, incapacitate, or interfere with the preparation or competition of any player.
- ii. Player Support Team members must not discriminate in the provision of services on the basis of race, ethnicity, gender, national origin, religion, age, or sexual orientation.

c. Abuse of Authority; Abusive Conduct

- i. Player Support Team members must not abuse their position of authority or control and must not compromise or attempt to compromise the psychological, physical, or emotional well-being of any player.
- ii. Player Support Team members must not engage in abusive conduct, whether physical or verbal, or in threatening conduct or language directed at any player, tournament referee, FIP staff member, on-court official, coach, parent, spectator, or member of the press/media.
- iii. Player Support Team members must not exploit any relationship with the player to promote personal, political, or commercial interests at the expense of the player's best interest.

d. Sexual conduct

To prevent sexual abuse and the negative consequences resulting from the imbalance of a dual relationship, sexual conduct of any kind between a player and members of their Player Support Team is expressly prohibited. In addition, the following conduct is expressly prohibited:

- i. Player Support Team members must not have any sexual contact with any player who is a legal minor in the jurisdiction where the conduct takes place or where the player resides.
- ii. Player Support Team members must not sexually abuse a player of any age. Sexual abuse is defined as forcing sexual activity by one person on another person with diminished mental capacity or through the use of physical force, threats, coercion, intimidation, or undue influence.
- iii. Player Support Team members must not engage in sexual harassment (for example, making unwanted advances, requests for sexual favors, or other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature where such conduct may create an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment).

e. Criminal Conduct

Player Support Team members must comply with all applicable criminal laws. For clarity and without limiting the foregoing, this obligation is violated if members of the Player Support Team have been convicted of, pleaded guilty to, or do not contest a criminal charge or indictment for a crime involving:

- i. Use, possession, distribution, or intent to distribute illegal drugs or substances;
- ii. Sexual misconduct, harassment, or abuse; or
- iii. Child abuse.

f. Anti-Doping activity

Player Support Team members must comply with the Anti-Doping Program and must not assist or in any way encourage a player to violate the Anti-Doping Program.

g. Anti-Corruption Program

Player Support Team members must comply with the Anti-Corruption Program and must not assist or in any way encourage a player to violate the Anti-Corruption Program.

h. Conduct and General Requirements

- i. Player Support Team members must be familiar with the Rules, agree to abide by them, and encourage players to comply with them.
- ii. Player Support Team members must comply with all requirements of any Player Support Team member registration program established by the FIP.
- iii. Player Support Team members must refrain at all times, whether at the tournament site or not, from engaging in conduct detrimental to the FIP or contrary to the integrity of the sport. Conduct detrimental to the FIP or contrary to the integrity of padel includes, but is not limited to, public comments, whether or not to the media, that unjustifiably attack or disparage any person, group of people, tournament, sponsor, player, referee, or FIP staff. Responsible expressions of legitimate disagreement with FIP policies are not prohibited. However, this section expressly prohibits public comments that a Player Support Team member knows, or should reasonably know, will harm the reputation or financial best interests of a tournament, player, sponsor, referee, or the FIP.

- iv. Player Support Team members must not disclose confidential information unless authorized in writing by the FIP or until such information becomes publicly available through means authorized by the FIP.

#### **10.2.2 Accredited Persons**

No person who has been granted a credential for a tournament, including members of the media, may at any time during the tournament engage in abusive conduct directed toward any player, referee, spectator, or tournament or FIP personnel.

### **11. STANDARDS**

#### **11.1.1 Anti-Doping Testing Facilities and On Site Personnel Assistance**

- a. Doping Control Station

Each tournament, when selected to conduct player testing, is required to provide, at its own cost, the facilities specified in the Promoter's Manual.

- b. Tournament-Provided Escorts

Each tournament, when selected to conduct player testing, is required to provide, at its own cost, adult staff members and/or volunteers who can assist the Official Anti-Doping Personnel and the Supervisor with notification and observation of players selected for testing.

#### **11.1.2 Ball Persons**

The FIP Promises World Tour Tournament Promoter must provide a minimum of one (1) ball person on the center court. For FIP Continental Tour Finals and FIP Continental Tour tournaments, it is recommended to have one (1) ball person on the center court.

Ball persons' chairs should be placed in diagonally opposite corners, and every effort should be made to minimize obstruction of spectator visibility during play. For outdoor tournaments, ball boys should be positioned, as much as possible, in a shaded area and/or provided with a cap and water.

The Tournament Promoter must appoint a coordinator to recruit and manage ball persons. Ball persons must not wear clothing predominantly white, yellow, or other light colors that may interfere with players' vision unless otherwise approved by the FIP. Ball persons' uniforms must not be identical to chair umpire uniforms.

#### **11.1.3 Balls**

- a. Ball Type and Specifications

Bullpadel balls will be used in all tournaments. The FIP reserves the right to authorize exceptions regarding the official ball in FIP Promises Continental Tour and FIP Promises World Tour tournaments.

The FIP will announce the Bullpadel ball model at least three (3) weeks prior to the start of the Main Draw.

High-altitude balls must not be used unless conditions require it, and such use must be approved by the FIP and indicated in the Fact Sheet/Tournament Overview.

It is the responsibility of the FIP and the Tournament Promoter to ensure that sufficient balls are obtained to cover all needs, including matches and practice sessions. The Promoter is responsible for ensuring that balls arrive at the venue well in advance of the tournament. The FIP will bear the cost of the balls.

b. Number and Rotation Procedure During Matches

In FIP Promises World Tour tournaments, in all Main Draw matches, three (3) balls will be used and changed after the first nine (9) games and thereafter every eleven (11) games, unless otherwise approved by the FIP.

In FIP Promises Continental Tour Finals, in all Main Draw matches, three (3) balls will be used and changed after the first eleven (11) games and thereafter every thirteen (13) games, unless otherwise approved by the FIP.

In FIP Promises Continental Tour tournaments, in all Main Draw matches, three (3) balls will be used. There shall be no ball change, unless otherwise approved by the FIP.

In FIP Promises Continental Tour tournaments, in all Qualifying Draw matches, three (3) balls will be used for the entire match, unless otherwise approved by the FIP.

If a ball is lost or damaged during play, it must be replaced with a ball of similar wear. If the ball is lost or damaged during warm-up or when fewer than two (2) games have been played after a ball change, then the ball must be replaced with a new one. If the ball is lost after the first point of the match or after the first point of the third game following a ball change, then a used ball of similar wear will be put into play to replace the lost ball. The Chair Umpire is responsible for carrying spare balls of different wear before entering the court for the match.

Play must be stopped when only one (1) ball remains available to the players, and the Chair Umpire will provide replacement balls according to the procedure described above.

After a suspension or interruption of a match requiring a new warm-up, the warm-up will not be carried out with the match balls; instead, balls of similar wear will be used. Once the warm-up is complete, those balls will be removed, and the match balls that were in use at the time of the interruption will be reinstated.

The Chair Umpire is responsible for ensuring that the match balls are collected at the time of interruption and properly stored in clearly marked containers for secure use when play resumes.

c. Availability

The balls of the designated brand and model to be used in the tournament must be available at the venue at least one day before the start of the Qualifying Draw for players in both the Main Draw and Qualifying Draw until they are eliminated.

Each pair, regardless of whether they are in the Qualifying Draw or Main Draw, will be entitled to three (3) used balls per day for practice until the day they are eliminated from the tournament.

Players must return previously issued practice balls to the designated tournament desk to receive their next allocation of practice balls.

#### **11.1.4 Chairs/Umbrellas**

Chairs must be provided on court for use by players and coaches during side changes. In outdoor tournaments, umbrellas to shade player chairs must be provided whenever required by the Supervisor/Referee.

#### **11.1.5 Cleaning**

- a. Tournaments must have dedicated cleaning personnel who are trained and equipped to clean and disinfect tournament facilities in accordance with local health regulations.
- b. Procedures must be in place for cleaning and disinfecting equipment, training facilities, uniforms, and high-traffic and high-contact areas, particularly after use.
- c. Procedures should be adapted to the specific cleaning, disinfection, sanitization, and ventilation needs of each unique area of the tournament.
- d. Locker rooms, dining areas, and healthcare-related areas of the tournament facilities must be cleaned and disinfected regularly throughout each day of the tournament. Locker rooms and all healthcare-related areas must be cleaned at least every night after treatments are completed and before reopening for use the following day.
- e. Whenever required by the Supervisor/Referee, the tournament must provide cleaning services to meet the requirements outlined in this section.

#### **11.1.6 Court**

- a. Court Specifications
  - i. Court surface
    - (a) Tournaments must be played on a surface certified and/or approved by the FIP, including but not limited to the color of the court surface and the outside play area. Tournaments must submit a written request for approval to the FIP before making any changes to the existing surface and pay for any testing deemed necessary by the FIP.

Manufacturers and models of courts and turf for the FIP Promises Continental Tour and FIP

Promises World Tour must be certified and/or approved by the FIP no later than six (6) weeks before the event.

- (b) If a new surface is being considered, approval must be granted by the FIP.
- (c) The surface must be maintained to the approval of the Supervisor/Referee.
- (d) Tournaments must ensure that the same surface is used for the Main Draw and Qualifying Draw. If circumstances beyond the Tournament Director's control arise, Qualifying matches may be played on a different surface only with FIP approval.
- (e) The Tournament Promoter will be responsible, at its sole cost, for providing the courts and all related infrastructure, services, and equipment, including but not limited to all necessary preparation and protection for temporary courts, electrical and network infrastructure, carpet surrounding the court, permanent or temporary seating stands, among others.
- (f) Unless otherwise approved by the FIP, outdoor courts must be oriented with the longitudinal axis north-south; geographic considerations may modify this orientation to minimize the adverse effect of serving into the sun.

ii. Court Measurements

- (a) Court dimensions must comply with those established in the FIP Rules of Play. It is the responsibility of the Tournament Director to ensure, during the final preparation of the courts before the tournament begins, that all specifications, including outside play area measurements, meet the standards set forth in the Rules of Play – Court and lighting measurements.
- (b) Any steps resulting from metal plates used on temporary courts to weld posts and frame structures must be leveled into a slight slope to prevent players from tripping during off-court play. Similarly, any other small steps around the court must be leveled in the same way.
- (c) All match courts must be equipped with a chair whenever there is a Chair Umpire, a table for the Chair Umpire to place the scoring tablet, communication devices or any other equipment necessary for officiating, as well as benches for players and the coach. All of these must be located outside the safety area for off-court play and must be free of sharp or dangerous edges that could pose a risk to players during the match.
- (d) The tournament must have, at a minimum, one person responsible for the court ensuring that everything necessary for each match is available (drinks, towels, ice, etc.) and at least one person responsible for managing the training courts.
- (e) For the center court, the width of the safety area is recommended to be at least four (4) meters to increase the safety margins for players during off-court play. The FIP may approve other measurements provided that the requirements of the FIP Rules of Play are met. All court entrances must be protected on three sides, and the net post must also be covered with padded material, which must be securely and firmly attached to the metal structures or post, in accordance with applicable padel regulations.
- (f) The safety zone must be covered with a non-slip material with grip properties similar to the court turf.

(g) It is important to ensure that no microphone cables, camera cables, or any other equipment pass through the safety zone.

(h) All wiring in the area surrounding the court must be covered by carpet to minimize visibility of such connections and enhance the professional appearance of the court.

b. Court Signage

i. On the Court Surface

(a) There may be no commercial identification on the court surface except for the court manufacturer's name and the tournament host location, which may be placed on the court surface with prior FIP approval (as described below). A tournament must request FIP approval for placement of the host location logo and signage and/or court manufacturer identification and provide full details of all signage (text and location) to the FIP at least six (6) weeks prior to the event.

(b) Tournaments may place on the court the name of their host location, which may include one (1) of the following: city, region (state or county), or country, subject to the location and size restrictions set forth below. Signage must be consistent with the texture and feel of the court surface so as not to affect play or pose a safety hazard.

ii. Banners/LEDs

There may be no banners with predominantly white, gray, yellow, or any other light-colored backgrounds behind the ends of the court. The background and letters of rotating signs/LEDs must be consistent with the color of the back walls.

Posters must comply with the sponsorship rules regarding tobacco products, betting companies, political activities, or other categories considered detrimental to the sport of padel.

c. Preparation of the Court

Courts must be swept, brushed, and cleaned before the start of all matches if deemed necessary by the Supervisor or Referee.

All glass and the court structure must be cleaned prior to the start of all matches if deemed necessary by the Supervisor or Referee.

d. Seats

i. Color of the boxes and seats at the ends of the court

It is recommended that spectator seats be free of white, gray, yellow, or other light colors that may interfere with player vision, and that such light-colored seats be covered.

ii. Spectator movement during play

Spectators above the lowest level of seats may move freely to and from their seats at any time during the match. The Tournament Director and Supervisor will determine this lowest level of seating for each tournament. When there is no clear guideline, the Tournament Director and Supervisor will decide the most logical designation for spectator movement during play.

e. Smoking

Except where permitted by law, smoking will not be allowed around the courts and in all restricted areas for players, as well as in the Tour and referee office areas.

#### **11.1.7 Lighting**

a. Specifications and Measurements

Lighting must be evenly distributed across the court, meeting the minimum and recommended standards as indicated in the Rules of the Game.

A vertical lighting level of at least 1000 lux is required for TV broadcasts; however, this value may increase depending on the distance from the camera to the object.

It is the responsibility of the Tournament Director to ensure, during the final preparation of the padel courts before the tournament begins, that all court specifications, including lighting measurements, comply with the standards set forth in the FIP Rules of Play.

The Supervisor has the authority to suspend play on any court if, in their judgment, the lighting intensity is insufficient for padel to be played under optimal conditions.

#### **11.1.8 Officials and Officiating**

All tournaments must designate, in consultation with the FIP, an internationally certified Referee and, if necessary, a Chief Referee to work together with the Supervisor.

All Chair Umpires designated for tournaments must be FIP-certified Chair Umpires. All designated officials must be fully familiar with the FIP Rules and Procedures, FIP Padel Rules, and the Code for Officials, and, together with the Supervisor, ensure compliance.

a. Team of Officials

The FIP will appoint the following officials:

- Tournament Supervisor(s)
- Main Referee of the Tournament
- Chief of Umpires
- Minimum number of Chair Umpires
- Minimum number of Review Officials
- Minimum number of Court Umpires

In the event that a review system is in place, two (2) additional Officials will be appointed when the review system is used on one court and three (3) additional Officials when the review system is used on two courts. These Officials will be called Review Officials.

The FIP must approve the method of selection (application system, etc.) and the list of officials designated for the tournament.

The Tournament Promoter will be responsible for all expenses related to travel expenses, accommodation, local transportation, meals, laundry, and fees for all the Officials mentioned above.

Meals for Officials (lunch and dinner) are expected to be provided on site, and breakfast at the hotel. When meals (lunch and dinner) cannot be provided on site, they may be provided at the hotel or the Tournament Promoter may offer a meal allowance, which must be approved by the FIP. All conditions must be communicated to the Officials at the time of appointment.

All Officials will stay at the official tournament hotel unless otherwise approved by the FIP.

b. Role of the Officials' Team

The Officiating Team is responsible for enforcing all sporting regulations, managing competition in accordance with FIP rules and procedures, acting as the authority interpreting rules and regulations on site, enforcing applicable codes of conduct, and managing results.

i. Question of Fact

A question of fact refers to an issue related to what actually occurred on the court during a specific match.

Only the Chair Umpire has the authority to determine a question of fact, and neither the Tournament Supervisor nor the Tournament Referee has the right to change the Chair Umpire's determination on a question of fact.

The Chair Umpire cannot change their decision on a question of fact based on a player's appeal.

However, when the review system is in place, a player may request a review, provided it is done in accordance with all applicable procedures.

ii. Question of Law

A question of law refers to the application or interpretation of any padel rule during a specific match.

The Chair Umpire will make the initial determination on a question of law.

If the Chair Umpire is uncertain or if the player appeals the interpretation of the rule, the question of law will be addressed by the Tournament Supervisor (or the Main Referee in their absence), and that decision will be final and not subject to appeal.

A player may appeal the initial interpretation of the rule by the Chair Umpire (Question of Law) according to the following procedure:

- If the player believes that the Chair Umpire's interpretation of the rule is incorrect, they must immediately appeal to the Chair Umpire in a professional and respectful manner.
- Whenever the appeal effectively refers to a Question of Law and not a Question of Fact, the Chair Umpire will stop play immediately and call the Tournament Supervisor (or the Main Referee in their absence). When the Tournament Supervisor arrives, the Chair Umpire must clearly state all the facts and their decision to the Tournament Supervisor, who will review the applicable rules with the Chair Umpire and the player and either confirm the Chair Umpire's initial decision or overturn it. The Tournament Supervisor's decision is final and cannot be appealed by the player.
- Play will resume immediately after the Tournament Supervisor's decision, and no more than ten (10) seconds should elapse before the next point begins.

c. Tournament Supervisor

The FIP will designate one or more Tournament Supervisors.

When the Supervisor is unavailable, he will appoint a Main Referee to perform their duties during their absence.

The Tournament Promoter will be responsible for the Tournament Supervisor(s)' fees, single room accommodation at the official hotel, provision of meals including breakfast, lunch and dinner, and any other relevant expenses.

(a) Responsibilities and Duties

The Tournament Supervisor/Referee must:

- i. Act as the final on-site authority for the application and implementation of the FIP Promises Rulebook, the FIP Padel Rules, and, in the absence of the FIP Players Relations, for the supervision, application, and implementation of the Promoter's Manual.
- ii. Be the final authority in resolving any Question of Law related to padel.
- iii. To be the final decision in the event of a breach due to violations of the players' Code of Conduct.
- iv. Inspect, upon initial arrival at the venue, all competition facilities to ensure that the courts are suitable for play and that there are no elements that pose a danger to players.
- v. In addition, the Tournament Supervisor has the authority to request the Tournament Promoter to make necessary changes to the facilities to safeguard player safety and has the authority to prohibit play on one or more courts if, in their opinion, the playing conditions would endanger the safety and well-being of the players.

- vi. Request the Tournament Promoter to modify or implement any facility or condition so that the Tournament Organizer complies with all applicable regulations and guidelines in the Promoter's Manual.
- vii. Inspect the venue to ensure compliance with all provisions of the FIP guidelines.
- viii. Ensure that all cameras, microphones, and other broadcasting equipment are positioned in such a way and in locations that do not affect play and do not pose a danger during off-court play.
- ix. Evaluate the performance of other members of the officiating team and prepare performance evaluation reports for them, submitting such reports to the FIP after discussing them with the referees concerned.
- x. Designate, together with the Main Referee and the Chief of Officials, the Chair Umpires for each match of the day.
- xi. Hold regular meetings during the week with the Chair Umpires to discuss tournament procedures, unusual cases that occurred during the week, or any topic the Tournament Supervisor considers relevant.
- xii. Assess conditions, including weather, and determine whether conditions are safe for play. The Tournament Supervisor has the authority to suspend or postpone play until conditions are deemed safe.
- xiii. Verify lighting conditions on all courts and determine whether they are suitable for night play.
- xiv. Decide whether a court is fit for play and whether a match should be moved to another court. The Tournament Supervisor has the right to move a match to another court, indoor or outdoor, to prevent a player from having to play two matches in one day or to ensure the tournament can be completed as scheduled.
- xv. Conduct all tournament draws.
- xvi. Maintain and communicate the results of all matches.
- xvii. Apply all regulations regarding no-shows, Lucky Loser selection, draw updates, removal of seeds if applicable, registration sheets, among others.
- xviii. Designate the location from which matches will be called and inform players of the match call procedures.
- xix. The Tournament Supervisor must issue the order of play for the following day daily at a reasonable time but no later than 10 pm; if matches are still being played at that time, then the Tournament Supervisor must issue the order of play pending the winners of the unfinished matches and update the order of play after the completion of those pending matches.
- xx. Maintain constant communication with the Tournament Director throughout the tournament week and discuss all issues that arise.
- xxi. In coordination with the Tournament Doctor/Physiotherapist, be responsible for implementing the Extreme Heat Rule.

- xxii. Request security to remove a person from the stands or playing area when their behavior endangers the safety of players or others, the integrity and image of the tournament, or the integrity and image of the FIP or the sport.
- xxiii. Prepare the final tournament report.
- xxiv. Be on site at all times during match play.

d. Main Referee

The FIP shall appoint one or more Main Referees.

Whenever the Tournament Supervisor is unavailable, the Main Referee will perform all the functions of the Tournament Supervisor during their absence.

The Tournament Promoter shall be responsible for the Main Referee's fees, single-room accommodation at the official hotel, provision of meals including breakfast, lunch and dinner, and any other relevant expenses.

(a) Responsibilities and Duties

The Main Referee(s) shall:

- i. Organize the venue facilities and verify the equipment and staff to support the development of the tournament from the beginning of the qualifying event.
- ii. Confirm all playing conditions, such as ball (brand and ball change), match schedule, court service conditions between matches, among others.
- iii. Decide, in consultation with the Supervisor, that each court is equipped in accordance with the provisions of the Rules and Regulations and the Tournament Standards and Guidelines. The Main Referee must also verify that the court is safe for play and that there are no issues that could endanger the safety and well-being of players during play.
- iv. Be available to promptly resolve any on-court disputes, supervise medical time-outs, and enforce the Code of Conduct.
- v. Assign and replace, when necessary, Chair Umpires or Review Officials. The Supervisor has the final decision in all assignments.
- vi. Be in contact with the Supervisor and decide on the competence of the officials.
- vii. Make all necessary arrangements to ensure that players can be safely escorted to and from the courts before and after matches and when attending any official, promotional, or press functions of the Tournament.
- viii. Be on-site at all times during matches.
- ix. Perform any tasks of the Tournament Supervisor as requested by the Tournament Supervisor.
- x. If necessary, organize group sessions for local Chair Umpires.

- xi. Measure courts, net posts, and lights, and check the quality of nets and the availability of spare nets before the start of the Tournament.
- xii. He will be responsible for conducting the evaluations of the Chair Umpires.
- xiii. Arrive each day at least one (1) hour before the first scheduled match, remain on-site at all times during matches, and leave no earlier than thirty (30) minutes after the end of play.
- xiv. Confirm that all updated draws and the order of play have been distributed at the end of each day's play.
- xv. Designate a specific area from which matches will be called, determine a meeting point for players once the match is called, and coordinate security escorts to/from the courts.
- xvi. Not act as Chair Umpire of the Tournament unless necessary.

e. Chief of Umpires

If necessary, the FIP shall appoint a Chief of Umpires for a specific tournament.

The Tournament Organizer will be responsible for the Chief of umpire's fees, accommodation, food expenses, and any other relevant expenses.

If accommodation is required, the chief of umpires will be accommodated in a single room at the official hotel, including breakfast.

(a) Responsibilities and Duties

The Chief of Umpires shall:

- i. Be familiar with the local language.
- ii. Be able to assist the Main Referee and the Supervisor when necessary and be present on-site at all times during play.
- iii. Conduct meetings with Chair Umpires to specify assignments and specific procedures.
- iv. Schedule on-court assignments for all Chair Umpires in consultation with the Main Referee and with the Supervisor's approval.
- v. Coordinate evaluations of all Officials (Chair Umpires and Line Umpires) with the Supervisor and the Main Referee.
- vi. Not act as Chair Umpire for the Tournament.
- vii. Be able to assist the Main Referee and the Supervisor whenever necessary and remain on-site at all times during play.

- viii. Arrive at least one (1) hour before the first scheduled match, remain on-site at all times during matches, and leave the venue once play has finished.
- ix. Coordinate Chair Umpire uniforms and collect sizes from all officials in advance. Inform Officials at least two (2) weeks before the event about the dress code and/or uniform provided by the Tournament, if any.
- x. Send all arrival and departure details of designated Officials to the FIP at least twenty-one (21) days before the Tournament.
- xi. Send designated Officials information about venue/club conditions such as transportation, hotel, and meals at least seven (7) days before the Tournament.

**f. Chair Umpire**

The FIP shall appoint Chair Umpires in the number established in section (b) of this same part.

The Tournament shall cover the fees of the Chair Umpires, single-room accommodation at the official hotel, provision of meals including breakfast, lunch and dinner, and any other relevant expenses.

Chair Umpires shall dress appropriately according to weather conditions, preferably khaki or blue trousers and a white or blue shirt/sweater provided.

**(a) Responsibilities and Duties**

Chair Umpires shall:

- i. Enforce the Tour Regulations and the FIP Rules of Padel during the match they are designated to officiate.
- ii. Be on court prior to the players' arrival and ensure the court is equipped in accordance with the provisions of the Rules and Regulations and the Tournament Standards and Guidelines.
- iii. Control the match in all respects. They may only be overruled by the Supervisor/Main Referee on Questions of Law, not on Questions of Fact.
- iv. Score matches promptly and accurately using the manual scoring system or any other method provided by the FIP. Be competent in the use of the scoring system. Monitor and record when balls should be changed.
- v. Take charge of all ball persons when on court.
- vi. Have a stopwatch to monitor match timing, such as warm-up time, time between points, time during interruptions, time during side changes, time during medical time-outs, and other timing needs.
- vii. Have a measuring tape to check nets, court elements, rackets, etc.
- viii. Conduct a pre-match meeting with the players to inform them of all applicable match rules and regulations.

- ix. Ensure correct pronunciation of all players' names and be able to easily identify each player.
- x. Ensure that all players use rackets that comply with the FIP Rules of Padel.
- xi. Conduct the pre-match coin toss in the presence of all players to determine service choice and sides. If the match is suspended before it starts, the pair that won the toss may change their choice of service or side before play begins.
- xii. Ensure that players and coaches are dressed in accordance with the dress code (similar attire). If both pairs appear in the same color, the higher-ranked team shall choose the color, and the other pair must change to a different color within a reasonable time. The Chair Umpire may call the Supervisor/Referee to explain the rule and procedures to the players.
- xiii. Make a decision on all Questions of Fact that arise during the match. The Chair Umpire's determination on Questions of Fact shall be final unless there is a challenge using the review system in accordance with the relevant procedures.
- xiv. Make an initial determination of Questions of Law that arise during the match. Players have the right to appeal decisions on Questions of Law, and the Chair Umpire shall abide by the final decision made on such appeal by the Tournament Supervisor or the Main Referee in the absence of the Tournament Supervisor.
- xv. Make all announcements during the match in accordance with all applicable officiating procedures. If more than one language is used during announcements, the local language shall be used first.
- xvi. Turn off the microphone when speaking to players and also turn it off during changeovers and at the end of the set.
- xvii. Communicate as needed with players during the match, and whenever the communication is in a language not spoken by the other pair, be prepared to explain to the other pair the nature of the communication.
- xviii. Announce decisions communicated by the Review Official following use of the review system. The Chair Umpire must announce the number of challenges remaining for the pair making the challenge.
- xix. Use best efforts to control the crowd and, when doing so, address the audience clearly, respectfully, and professionally.
- xx. Monitor ball persons and ensure they perform their duties in accordance with applicable procedures.
- xi. Be responsible for handling balls in play, ball changes, and ball replacement as needed. Whenever a match is suspended, the Chair Umpire shall collect the match balls and store them separately for use when play resumes.

- xxii. Be familiar with the use of the scoring tablet and have a scorecard as backup in case of tablet malfunction.
- xxiii. Fairly enforce the Code of Conduct and report any code violations to the Tournament Supervisor. In addition, the Chair Umpire shall provide a detailed report of any code violations or unusual circumstances at the end of the match.
- xxiv. Update the Tournament Supervisor and the Main Referee with the match score at the end of each set or at the end of the match.
- xxv. Call physiotherapists or doctors whenever necessary in the event of injury or medical condition and enforce all medical time-out procedures.
- xxvi. Immediately notify the Tournament Supervisor if any player arrives late on court.
- xxvii. Ensure that the time between points does not exceed the twenty (20) seconds allowed and that play resumes after each changeover within the ninety (90) seconds allowed.
- xxviii. Ensure that after any appeal and final determination, play resumes within ten (10) seconds of the announcement of such determination.
- xxix. Act as Review Official if designated for that position by the Tournament Supervisor/Main Referee.
- xxx. Determine whether the court remains suitable for play. If conditions change during a match such that the Chair Umpire considers the court unsuitable for play, or if weather conditions require interruption, the Chair Umpire shall suspend play and immediately notify the Supervisor.
- xxxi. Provide a detailed report on any penalties imposed under the Code of Conduct in relation to the relevant match(es).
- xxxii. Wear and use the officiating uniform, tablet, tablet stand, and microphone provided by the FIP. Except for the FIP logo, no other commercial branding may be applied to the Chair Umpire's uniform, scoring tablet, tablet stand, or microphone without prior approval from the FIP and the relevant Tournament.

(b) Chair umpire interventions during the match

The Chair Umpire shall actively officiate at all times during the match and shall intervene and make the appropriate announcement in situations such as:

- **OUT:** when the ball in play, except during the execution of a serve, and before first bouncing within the playable limits of the court, hits the metal fence, side walls, bounces directly out of the court, or any other situation in which the ball is considered out of bounds in accordance with the FIP Rules of Padel.
- **FAULT:** A fault occurs when the served ball bounces outside the receiver's service area (Rule 7.c), or if, after bouncing in the correct receiver's area, it hits the fence surrounding the court before the second bounce (Rule 7.e) or bounces directly out of the court directly through the gates of a court without a safety zone (Rule 7.f), or if the server misses the ball when attempting to hit it during the

service motion (Rule 7.b), or if the ball hits the server, their partner, or anything used or carried by either of them (Rule 7.d), or if the server hits the ball before it bounces on the ground within the service area in which they stand to make the serve (Rule 6.2), or if the height of the ball is above the level of the server's waist (Rule 6.5). The chair umpire will announce the fault. The server will then proceed to make a second serve, unless the fault occurred during the second serve, in which case the point will be awarded to the receiving pair and the Chair Umpire will follow the announcement of the fault with the announcement of the new score in the game.

- **FOOT FAULT:** When a player touches the service line or the imaginary extension of the center service line during the execution of a serve (Rule 6.4), if the server does not have at least one foot in contact with the ground at the moment of contact with the ball during the execution of the serve (Rule 6.5), or if the player walks, runs, or jumps during the execution of the serve (Rule 6.7), the chair umpire will announce the foot fault. The server will then proceed to make a second serve, unless the foot fault occurred during the second serve, in which case the point will be awarded to the receiving pair and the chair umpire will follow the foot fault decision by announcing the new score.
- **LET:** when the serve is executed before the receiver is ready, or when any foreign object enters or flies onto the court, or if a ball breaks during play, or when unintentional hindrance or an obstacle occurs during play (such as a player accidentally dropping something they are wearing or carrying, provided the object does not touch the net before the let is requested and unless it falls after the point has been decided), or in other exceptional circumstances where the Chair Umpire decides that a let is necessary, the point shall be replayed. The Chair Umpire shall announce "let," repeat the point, and then announce the score as it was at the beginning of the point before the incident.

Note: See clarification in the Hindrance section below for repeated cases of unintentional interference.

- **TOUCH / NET:** When a player, or anything they use or carry, touches the net before the point has been decided, the player who touches the net will lose the point. The chair umpire will announce "touch" (or Net) and announce the new score after awarding the point to the other pair.

If the player jumps over the net, the Chair Umpire shall announce "touch."

- **TOUCH:** When a ball in play touches a player or anything they are carrying (except the racket), the player shall lose the point. The Chair Umpire shall announce "touch," followed by the new score.
- **FOUL SHOT:** When a player hits the ball before it has crossed the net to their side of the court, or if the player hits the ball with any part of the body, or if the player hits the ball twice with the racket, or if the ball is hit by a racket thrown by the player (not held by the player's hand at the time of contact), or if both players hit the ball simultaneously or consecutively before it crosses to the other side of the net, according to the Rules of Padel (Rule 13 f, i, m, o), the player shall lose the point. The Chair Umpire shall announce "foul shot," followed by the new score.

- **THROUGH:** When the ball passes through a hole in the net instead of over the net, the player who made the shot shall lose the point, unless it occurs during a serve, in which case it shall be a fault. The Chair Umpire shall announce "through," followed by the new score or "second serve" (if it occurred during a first serve).
- **NOT UP:** When the ball bounces twice on the court surface before the player can make a successful return, the player shall lose the point. When the second bounce and the attempt to hit the ball occur

very close in time, the Chair Umpire shall announce “*not up*” if there was a double bounce, followed by the new score.

- **HINDRANCE:** When a deliberate or undeliberate action by a player prevents or may prevent an opponent from making a stroke.

- i. If the hindrance is undeliberate, a “*let*” shall be called as described above. The Chair Umpire shall also inform the player that subsequent cases of undeliberate hindrance will result in loss of the point. From the second case onward, the player causing the hindrance shall lose the point. The Chair Umpire shall announce “*hindrance*,” followed by the new score, and be prepared to explain that the point loss is due to repeated undeliberate interference.
- ii. If the hindrance is deliberate, the player causing it shall lose the point and, if the Chair Umpire considers that unsportsmanlike conduct is involved, it may also result in a Code of Conduct violation. The Chair Umpire shall announce “*hindrance*,” followed by the new score, and if issuing a Code violation, announce it according to the procedures described for Code of Conduct violations.

The Chair Umpire shall decide whether an object falling during play was deliberate or undeliberate and, consequently, whether the hindrance was deliberate or undeliberate.

- iii. The breaking of the racket safety cord shall not be considered an involuntary action, and the player shall automatically lose the point.

- **CORRECTIONS:** If the Chair Umpire immediately realizes, a player’s appeal, that their previous decision on whether a ball was good or out was incorrect, they must make the appropriate correction announcements as per officiating procedures.

- i. When correcting from Out or fault to good, the Chair Umpire will announce “*Correction, the ball was Good*”.
- ii. When correcting from good to fault or Out, the Chair Umpire will announce “*fault*” or “*out*”, followed by the updated score or second serve if it was after a first serve.

When a player is not ready or when any unusual circumstance occurs that may hinder a player, the Chair Umpire will delay the start of the point by announcing “*Wait Please*”. The Chair Umpire must be prepared to inform any player of the reason for the delay.

Chair Umpires will also enforce medical time-out procedures, Code of Conduct implementation and Code violation schedule implementation and make appropriate announcements.

### (c) Scoring Announcements

Points in a game corresponding to the number of points won by a pair shall be referred to as follows:

No points won by a pair in a game:	“Zero”
First point won by a pair in a game:	“Fifteen”
Second point won by a pair in a game:	“Thirty”
Third point won by a pair in a game:	“Forty”
Both pairs have won three points each:	“Deuce”

Point won by a pair after Deuce 1:  
The pair with Advantage wins the next point:  
The pair with Advantage loses the next point:

“Advantage”  
“Game”  
“Deuce”

**In case of “Golden Point”**  
Both pairs have won three points each:  
Point won by a pair after Deuce:

“Deuce, Golden Point”  
“Game”

**In case of “Star Point”**  
Both pairs have won three points each:  
Point won by a pair after Deuce 1:  
The pair with advantage wins the next point:  
The pair with advantage loses the next point:  
Point won by a pair after Deuce 2:  
The pair with advantage wins the next point:  
The pair with advantage loses the next point:  
The pair that wins the Star Point:

“Deuce”  
“Advantage”  
“Game”  
“Second Deuce”  
“Second Advantage”  
“Game”  
“Deuce, Star Point”  
“Game”

The score of a game shall be announced by first mentioning the points won by the serving pair, followed by the points won by the receiving pair.

At the end of a game, the Chair Umpire shall announce the game as follows:

- If it is the first game won by any pair: “*Player X, Player Y; first game, (first, second or final) set.*”
- If it is not the first game of a set, the chair umpire will announce the winners of the game followed by the score of the set:

Example: Game Player X, Player Y. Player X, Player Y lead by three games to two.

- If a pair has not won any games, no games won will be called “Love”: Game Player X, Player Y. Player X, Player Y lead by three games to love.
- If both pairs have won the same number of games: “*Game Player X, Player Y. Three games all.*”
- When both pairs have won six games: “*Game Player X, Player Y. Six games all, (first, second or final) tie-break.*”

During a tie-break, the Chair Umpire shall announce the score first, followed by the names of the leading pair:

- If the pair composed of Players X and Y leads 3–2: “*Three–two, Player X, Player Y.*”
- If both pairs have the same number of points (e.g., 3–3): “*Three all.*”
- In a tie-break, if a pair has not won any points, it shall be called “Zero.”

At the end of a set, the Chair Umpire shall announce the game and the set to Player X and Player Y, followed by the number of games in the set, and then the number of sets. For example:

- *“Game and first set Player X, Player Y, six games to three. Player X, Player Y lead by one set to love.”*
- *“Game and second set Player X, Player Y, six games to three. One set all.”*

When a pair wins their second set and therefore the match, the Chair Umpire shall announce: *“Game, set and match Player X, Player Y”* followed by the number of sets won by each pair and the score of each set, announcing first the games won by the winning pair in each set. For example:

- *“Game, set and match Player X, Player Y by two sets to love, seven–six, six–four.”*
- *“Game, set and match Player X, Player Y by two sets to one, seven–six, four–six, six–four.”*

#### (d) Code Violations Announcements

The chair umpire will announce any violation of the Code of Conduct following this structure:

Code violation, section of the code of conduct violated by the player, and player names. For example:

- *“Code violation, racket abuse. Warning Player X, and for the pair Player X, Player Y”*

After a one-point penalty, the chair umpire will announce the new result. For example:

- *“Code violation, racket abuse. Point penalty Player X, and for the pair Player X, Player Y”, after announcing the new score.*

Code of Conduct violations will be sanctioned in accordance with Section 10.1.3.

In the event of a third Code of Conduct violation or a serious violation that may result in the pair being defaulted from the match, the chair umpire will call the Tournament Supervisor to discuss possible default.

In this case, the chair umpire will announce:

- *“Code violation, racquet abuse, Player X, Supervisor has been called to the court” and notify the Tournament Supervisor to come to the court to discuss a possible default.*

#### (e) Time between points and breaks

There will be a maximum of twenty (20) seconds between the end of one point and the start of the next.

On the change of ends after the first game of each set, a maximum of thirty (30) seconds will elapse between the end of the first game and the start of the first point of the next game.

At the end of a game that results in a change of ends (except at 1–0 in the set or at the end of the set), a maximum of ninety (90) seconds will elapse between the end of the point and the start of the first point after the authorized break.

The Chair Umpire will announce the time after 60 seconds have elapsed, and the game must be restarted within 30 seconds of that announcement.

At the end of a set, a maximum of 120 seconds will elapse between the end of the set and the start of the first point of the next set.

The Chair Umpire will announce the time after 90 seconds have elapsed, and the game must be restarted within 30 seconds of that announcement.

(f) On-court procedures

The Tournament Director will coordinate with the Tournament Supervisor the procedures for walking onto the court.

Although this may vary slightly from tournament to tournament, the recommended standard procedure is as follows:

- The Main Referee will review the players' uniforms before entering the court to avoid having to leave the court to change clothes.
- The lower-ranked team will enter the court first.
- The Tournament Promoter may choose to introduce both players of the first pair together and have them walk onto the court together, or introduce them one player at a time. In the latter case, the second player will be announced once the first player has reached the bench.
- Players will enter the court carrying all necessary items and equipment for the match. Once they have entered the court, they must not leave to bring any equipment.
- During the players' presentation, the Chair Umpire will wait next to the umpire's chair.
- Once all players from both pairs have reached their benches and have had the opportunity to prepare for the match, all four players will enter the court for the pre-match meeting with the Chair Umpire.

(g) Procedures before the match and warm-up

Once the players enter the court, they will remain with the Chair Umpire for pre-match photos.

The Chair Umpire will conduct the pre-match meeting with the players and provide match information such as ball change procedures, the scoring system in use, and any additional relevant information.

The Chair Umpire will then perform the coin toss, which may be physical or virtual if conducted by an authorized provider. The pair winning the toss will have the option to select:

- Serve (the pair losing the toss will choose sides)
- Receive (the pair losing the toss will choose sides)

- Choose sides (the pair losing the toss will choose to serve or receive)
- Ask the opponents to choose first.
- The winning pair may not select more than one (1) of the above options. For example, they cannot choose to serve from the right side.

If a player's clothing is not appropriate, the Chair Umpire will ask them to change.

After the coin toss, the players will begin the 3-minute courtesy rally, and the chair umpire will announce "*three minutes*".

After announcing "*two minutes*", the referee will proceed to present the match as appropriate.

After two minutes have elapsed, the chair umpire will announce "*one minute*".

At the end of the three (3) minutes, the chair umpire will announce "*End of the rally, one minute to start the match.*"

Players will finish the warm-up and go to their benches, where they will have two (2) minutes to prepare for the match and receive instructions from their coach.

During the first twenty (20) seconds of this period, a player may request a bathroom break, which will count as one of the authorized breaks for the team.

At the end of the two minutes, the Chair Umpire will announce "*Time*," and play must begin within twenty (20) seconds.

When the first player is ready to serve the first point of the match, the chair umpire will announce, "*First set. Player X to serve, play*" Similarly, when the players begin the second game of the set, the chair umpire will announce, "*Player Z to serve*" and so on until the complete serving sequence of all four players is finished.

The same procedure will be followed during each set of the match, with the last set referred to as the "*final set.*"

g. Review officials

The FIP shall appoint Review Officials in the number established in section 18.1.23.a.

The Tournament Promoter shall be responsible for the fees of the Review Officials, single-room accommodation at the official hotel, provision of meals including breakfast, lunch and dinner, and any other relevant expenses.

Review Officials must comply with the same uniform requirements as Chair Umpires.

(a) Responsibilities and Duties

Review Officials shall:

- i. Be fully familiar with all aspects of the Rules of Padel, and in particular with electronic review procedures, the corresponding Tournament Rules and Regulations, and the Duties and Responsibilities of Officials. They shall perform their duties in accordance with FIP procedures.

- ii. Be in the electronic review booth at least twenty (20) minutes before the start of the first match or session of the day on the assigned court, and ten (10) minutes before subsequent matches.
- iii. Check the means available to communicate with the Chair Umpire, Tournament Referee, screen operator, and television.
- iv. Confirm with the operator that the system is configured for the appropriate event.
- v. During the warm-up, conduct at least one (1) test review that will not be shown on television or on the scoreboard screen.
- vi. Confirm with system operators that all systems are fully operational before the start of the match.
- vii. Be responsible for identifying each play that may be subject to review.
- viii. Determine whether the requested play for review is available.
- ix. Monitor the proper functioning of the system.
- x. In case of system malfunction, immediately notify the Chair Umpire and the Tournament Referee. When the system is restored and tested, inform them immediately.
- xi. Notify the Chair Umpire that the original decision will stand when the Review Official cannot retrieve the image for review.
- xii. If the play shown on the screen does not match the text or graphic displayed, inform the Chair Umpire of the correct outcome of the challenge and, if possible, display the corrected graphic on the screen.
- xiii. Immediately inform the Chair Umpire when the review monitor is working properly but other screens in the stadium are malfunctioning.
- xiv. Keep a record of the number of successful and unsuccessful challenges for each pair and confirm the number of remaining failed challenges to the Chair Umpire.
- xv. Act as the final authority regarding the number of remaining failed challenges for each pair. Verify with the Chair Umpire whether a pair has one (1) or no challenges remaining.
- xvi. Remain at their position until the match has ended.
- xvii. Do not use any electronic devices in the booth unless approved by the FIP during matches. This includes personal smartphones, smartwatches, and personal tablets or laptops.
- xviii. Watch the match on the live feed and anticipate potential review situations.
- xix. Alert system operators about possible reviews, confirm when a review has been requested, or anticipate when no review will occur.
- xx. Be responsible for sending the correct shot for review. Listen carefully to the Chair Umpire's request and understand which review is being requested.

xxi. Once the best image has been determined, communicate the decision to the Chair Umpire and give the order to display it on the scoreboard screen.

h. Officiating Standards

All Officials must be certified and approved by the FIP. The FIP will appoint internationally certified Chair Umpires and Review Officials for all Tournaments. It is recommended that each Tournament provide additional FIP-approved Chair Umpires for the Qualifying and for some Main Draw matches that are not covered by the Chair Umpires designated by the FIP.

i. Chairs – Chair Umpire

The Chair Umpire's chair is recommended to have a minimum height of 1.75 meters and a maximum height of 2.25 meters. It must be placed outside the safety area for off-court play and must be free of any sharp or dangerous edges that may pose a safety hazard to players or others.

For outdoor courts, the Chair Umpire's chair should be placed on the west side of the court to minimize the impact of the sun on the Chair Umpire. Whenever the sun is a factor, the chair must have shade to prevent sunlight from entering the Chair Umpire's direct line of sight.

There must be a microphone in each Chair Umpire's chair for announcements, and the microphone must have an on/off switch that is easy to locate and operate. During disputes or direct communication with players, the Chair Umpire must turn off the public microphone.

All necessary power and network connections for scoring tablets, as well as various types of power adapters, must be provided to ensure that tablets can be used according to the region where the event is played.

All connections must be installed in a manner that provides protection against inclement weather.

All power, network, and audio cables must be hidden from view. In addition, wiring around the court must be placed before installing the surrounding carpets to further conceal them.

All Chair Umpire chairs must include a writing platform with recommended dimensions of 30 x 30 cm, so the Chair Umpire can comfortably place the scoring tablet or any other equipment required to perform their duties during a match.

j. Conditions for Officials

Each Official designated by the FIP shall receive the following, from the day before the first day of matches (at the earliest) until the morning after their last match (at the latest), free of charge:

- i. Airport pick-up (or taxi reimbursement);
- ii. Single room at the official hotel or another hotel approved by the Supervisor and Officiating Department;
- iii. Breakfast, lunch, and dinner (at the hotel, on-site, or via stipulated allowances) from the night before the start of their duties until the morning after the last day of their duties;
- iv. Complimentary laundry service for their uniforms;

- v. Transportation between the hotel and the Tournament venue;
- vi. Return to the airport (or taxi reimbursement); and
- vii. High-speed internet access on-site.

Officials agree not to disseminate, transmit, publish, or disclose any data or information related to the match to any third party, and will not authorize or assist any third party to do so, without the express written consent of the FIP.

#### **11.1.9 Scoring System**

All matches, both in the Qualifying Draw and in the Main Draw, of the FIP Promises Continental Tour and the FIP Promises World Tour shall be played as best of three sets. The first two sets shall be played with a Tie-Break to decide the winner in the event of a 6–6 game score; and the final set shall be a Match Tie-Break played to 10 points. To win a Match Tie-Break, a pair must reach 10 points and lead their opponents by at least two points. The pair that wins the Match Tie-Break shall be declared the winner of the match.

The first two sets will be played using the Star Point system. When a pair wins its first point, “15” will be called, on the second point won “30”. At the third point “40” and the fourth “game”. Except, if each pair have won three points, at which time “deuce 1” will be called. The following point won “advantage 1” is called in favor of the pairs who won the point: then, if the same pair wins the next point they win the game, if the point is lost the score will return to “deuce 2”. The following point won “advantage 2” is called in favor of the pairs who won the point: then, if the same pair wins the next point they win the game, if the point is lost the score will return to “deuce 3” and a deciding point called the “Star Point” will be played. The receiving pair will choose whether to receive the service on the right or the left side of the court. The players of the receiving pair cannot change positions to receive the deciding point. The pair that wins the “Star Point” wins the game.

FIP reserves the right to authorize the use of alternative scoring systems in tournaments of the FIP Promises Continental Tour and the FIP Promises World Tour.

The FIP Rules of Padel shall apply in their entirety except where otherwise specified in these Rules.

#### **11.1.10 Tournament Director**

Each Tournament shall designate, at its own expense, an appropriate, knowledgeable, and fully trained Tournament Director to lead the local organization of the FIP Promises Continental Tour and FIP Promises World Tour tournaments.

The approval of the Tournament Director must be ratified by FIP, which also reserves the right to require a Tournament to replace its Tournament Director in the event of non-compliance or refusal to comply with or implement any provision of the FIP Regulations and Standards.

The Tournament Director shall:

- i. Be responsible for the implementation of the FIP Rules and Regulations, the Promoter's Manual and other guidelines, and for ensuring the Tournament's compliance with such provisions.
- ii. Be responsible for providing all basic conditions to the players.
- iii. Be responsible for efficient procedures to facilitate the entry of players and other Tournament participants into the country, including the provision of visas or other entry documents, as well as the supply of any relevant information to facilitate the entry of players into the country.
- iv. Be responsible for the efficient implementation of transportation, lodging, and catering arrangements during the event.
- v. Be responsible for ensuring that the venue is prepared on time for the Tournament, in accordance with all scheduled times defined in these Rules, the Promoter's Manual, the Broadcasting Manual, the FIP Branding Guidelines, among others.
- vi. Provide FIP with all required documentation prior to or after the Tournament, in accordance with the FIP Regulations and Standards, the Promoter's Manual, the Broadcasting Manual, the FIP Branding Guidelines, among others.
- vii. Act in coordination and cooperation with FIP and FIP-designated personnel on site.
- viii. Not enter the court during a match (including warm-up) nor otherwise interfere with any matter related to the Code of Conduct or sporting aspects.
- ix. Be responsible for engaging all relevant emergency organizations to handle any emergencies during the event, whether medical, security, or otherwise.

#### **11.1.11 Awards and Trophies**

The Tournament Organizer will be responsible for providing the following Tournament trophies and prizes:

- i. two winner trophies per category (one for each player in the pair)
- ii. two finalist trophies per category (one for each player in the pair)
- iii. prizes in the form of sports equipment for each of the winners and each of the finalists of each category, according to the guidelines of the Promoter's Manual. As a reference, the value of the prize for each winner shall be €200 and €100 for each finalist.
- iv. a Welcome Pack for all participants, as stipulated in the Promoter's Manual.
- v. optionally, two trophies for the Chair Umpires of the finals

The Tournament Organizer shall ensure, if present, that at least one FIP member (or its sponsors) takes part in the presentation at the Tournament awards ceremony.

Both players of the winning pair of the Tournament and both players of the finalist pair must be present at the awards ceremony to collect their prize and shall follow the ceremony protocols, as instructed by the Tournament Organizer and FIP.

## 12. MEDICAL SECTION

The FIP requires the Tournament Organizer to provide professionally trained medical personnel and medical areas and facilities, in accordance with the FIP Promoter's Manual, to ensure the well-being of the players during the Tournament, including both the Qualifying and the Main Draw.

The Tournament Organizer shall be responsible for securing and covering the expenses of all medical personnel.

On-site medical services, evaluation and treatment of injuries sustained, and match preparation treatment shall be free of charge for the players; however, the Tournament Organizer may not cover additional treatment of chronic injuries and medical conditions, advanced treatment of injuries sustained, or advanced evaluation examinations.

### 12.1 Medical Plan for FIP Promises World Tour Tournaments

The Tournament Organizer shall provide a complete and detailed medical services plan (the Medical Plan), developed in accordance with FIP requirements and best practices, for approval no later than two (2) weeks prior to the start of the Tournament.

The Medical Plan shall include the planned medical personnel, infrastructure, equipment, and medical procedures (including emergency procedures), for both players and non-players (spectators, staff, volunteers, etc.).

The first phase shall consist of an evaluation of medical needs. All activities around and during the Tournament must be subject to a medical needs evaluation. The primary objective is to ensure that there are no delays in providing rapid access to emergency care in situations where time is critical for athletes, staff, and the public, while also ensuring that athletes have timely access to all other medical services.

Once the medical needs evaluation has been completed, a Medical Plan must be established. Within a detailed schedule of medical services, the plan shall include any contracts with medical service providers (e.g., ambulances), identification and hiring of qualified local medical personnel, establishment of fully equipped medical rooms, identification of all external medical facilities with relevant contracts (hospitals, clinics, medical centers, etc.), as well as any other relevant medical area or service planning.

Once approval of the plan has been obtained from FIP Sports Management, the hiring of personnel shall begin as soon as possible. All such activities must be monitored and supervised by FIP through a local presence or close exchange of information with the FIP Sports Department. The FIP Sports Department and the physician and/or physiotherapist of the local organization shall remain in constant communication to monitor progress on all objectives and to resolve any challenges that may arise.

Plans for the provision of medical services shall be delivered according to the following schedule:

- a) Two (2) weeks before the Tournament
  - i. Completion of the preparation of the medical facilities at the venue.
  - ii. Possible site visit or submission of all information required by FIP for inspection of the designated medical facilities, hospitals, and external health centers.

## 12.2 Player Treatment Area

Each Tournament shall provide at least one secure and private medical treatment area.

These areas must be easily accessible from the locker rooms and courts, and must have good ventilation and temperature control.

- a. Communication Needs

The Tournament shall provide:

- A walkie-talkie with proper reception for the Tournament Physician and Physiotherapists. A separate channel shall be required for the collective use of the Supervisor, Referees, and Tournament Physician to ensure direct and private communication for on-court matters among them.
- The Tournament shall cover the installation costs of the Internet connection.

## 12.3 Tournament Doctor

The Tournament Promoter shall appoint a Tournament Doctor, preferably with experience in Sports Medicine. The Tournament Doctor shall have the final operational and clinical responsibility for the overall organization of local medical services, including emergency medical services and equipment.

- a. Medical skills and qualifications of the Doctor

The Tournament Doctor must:

- i. Specialize in orthopedics, internal medicine, primary care sports medicine, or emergency medicine;
- ii. Be licensed and insured in the country and jurisdiction of the Tournament by an insurance company acceptable to FIP;
- iii. Hold admission privileges at the local hospital;
- iv. Be fluent in both English and the local language, and preferably also in Spanish; and
- v. Hold a current certification in CPR and emergency response (or its international equivalent).

- vi. Be available on call outside of regular hours, including the day before the Qualifying matches begin.
- vii. The Tournament Doctor must have a list of local references of other medical specialists available during the Tournament.

b. Treatment procedures

- i. Medical procedures performed by the Tournament Doctor must comply with the Anti-Doping Program.
- ii. Treatment provided by the Tournament Doctor to players on site must be free of charge.
- iii. Players, however, are responsible for the payment of treatments, medical tests, or prescriptions outside the venue/club, if required.

The Tournament Promoter must submit the name and medical malpractice insurance policy of each proposed Tournament Doctor to FIP for approval no later than two (2) weeks prior to the start of the event.

The Tournament Doctor must be appointed at least two (2) weeks prior to the start of the Tournament.

The Tournament Doctor must be a medical professional, preferably specialized in sports medicine or emergency medicine, with experience in leading the provision of medical services at major sporting events or mass gatherings, and must possess extensive knowledge of local and international health systems, a comprehensive multidisciplinary medical network, and connections with health authorities.

The Tournament Doctor must have a service- and solution-oriented character, strong communication skills, solid leadership competencies, and proficiency in English at a minimum. Proficiency in Spanish is strongly recommended, as well as proficiency in any local language as required.

The Tournament Doctor shall manage the medical relationship with the Tournament venue management and with the medical authorities of the host city/country, including medical service providers and hospitals.

Furthermore, the local organization is expected to assist in obtaining the necessary authorization to import required medicines or medical equipment, devices, or supplies.

The local organization is also responsible for the local medical registration of the medical support staff of the participants.

The Tournament Doctor shall be responsible for attending to any medical condition suffered by the players.

The Tournament Promoter shall be responsible for all costs related to the provision of Tournament Doctors.

The Tournament Doctor must be available during all days of play, from at least one hour before the start of play until after the end of the day. At other times, and during the two days prior to the start of

the qualifying event, the Doctor designated by the Tournament shall remain on call, and a reliable telephone number must be made available to the organization.

If local medical regulations require the presence of a Doctor during the medical assessment, then for that Tournament it may be implemented that the Physiotherapist shall carry out the medical assessment with the presence of the Tournament Doctor as well.

#### **12.4 Physiotherapists**

In the FIP Promises World Tour tournaments, the Tournament Promoter shall appoint a minimum of two (2) Physiotherapists with experience in sporting events for top-level athletes, designated exclusively for the treatment of players on court. In the FIP Promises Continental Tour and the FIP Promises Continental Tour Finals tournaments, the Tournament Promoter shall appoint a minimum of one (1) Physiotherapist with experience in sporting events for top-level athletes, designated exclusively for the treatment of players on court. Pre-match and post-match massage services shall depend on the availability of the Physiotherapist, and such services shall always be at the player's own expense.

The Tournament Promoter shall bear all costs related to the Physiotherapists, including fees, lodging and transportation if required, provision of meals, equipment and materials needed, among others.

#### **12.5 Medical Equipment and Supplies**

The Tournament is responsible for the supply, at its own cost, of all medical equipment, materials and supplies necessary for the conduct of the event, including all equipment and supplies necessary for the provision of the medical services of the players specified in the Promoters Manual.

The tournament must ensure that medical supplies are sufficient in quantity and quality to meet the needs of the Tournament.

It is also recommended that defibrillator equipment be available in good working order near player areas, near courts and near spectator areas.

A vehicle dedicated exclusively to any emergency transfer must be available to the medical department.

#### **12.6 Medical Procedures**

##### **a. Medical conditions**

A medical condition shall be defined as a medical illness or a physical (musculoskeletal) injury that requires medical evaluation and/or medical treatment by the Physiotherapist (or by the Tournament Doctor if so determined by the Physiotherapist) during the match, including the warm-up.

##### **i. Treatable medical conditions**

The following conditions shall be considered treatable and shall allow medical treatment in accordance with the medical treatment procedures:

- (a) Acute medical condition: a medical illness or musculoskeletal injury that occurs suddenly during the match, including the warm-up, and requires immediate medical treatment.
- (b) Non-acute medical condition: a medical illness or musculoskeletal injury that develops or worsens during the match, including the warm-up, and requires medical attention during a changeover or at the end of a set.

ii. Non-treatable medical conditions

Players shall not receive treatment at any time during the match (or warm-up) for the following conditions:

- (a) Any medical condition that cannot be adequately treated within the time available for medical treatment during the match.
- (b) Any medical condition that has not occurred or has not worsened during the match.
- (c) General player fatigue.

Medical conditions requiring injections or intravenous infusions, or the supply of supplemental oxygen, except for diabetes (where prior medical certification has been obtained and presented) for which an insulin injection may be administered. Physiotherapists and Tournament Doctors must be aware of any case in which a player with a known and reported diabetic condition is on court playing a match, and whenever they are called to enter that court, they must carry any necessary insulin injection and be prepared to treat the player concerned.

b. Medical evaluation

i. Purpose

The purpose of the medical evaluation is to determine whether a player has suffered or aggravated a treatable medical condition and, if so, to determine when medical treatment is justified and whether a Medical Time Out (as described in more detail in subsection c. below, "MTO") is necessary. The development of the condition does not need to be witnessed by the Chair Umpire.

ii. Player request and process

If at any time during the warm-up or the match the player believes that medical evaluation and treatment are required, the player may request, through the Chair Umpire only, to see the Tournament Doctor/Physiotherapist.

If the Chair Umpire considers it appropriate, they may ask the player if they are able to continue playing.

The player has the option to:

- (a) Stop play and wait until the Doctor/Physiotherapist arrives, only in the case where a player believes they have developed an acute and treatable medical condition that requires immediate interruption of play; or

- (b) Wait until the next changeover or set break to see the Doctor/Physiotherapist, if the injury is a non-acute and treatable medical condition.

The player is expected to be candid about whether they believe they suffer from an acute medical condition that justifies interruption of play; otherwise, they shall be subject to a penalty under the Unsportsmanlike Conduct section of the Code of Conduct.

iii. Timing and location of the evaluation

Accompanied on court by the Supervisor/Referee, the Doctor/Physiotherapist shall begin the evaluation, and the Chair Umpire shall begin timing the evaluation when the Doctor/Physiotherapist begins communicating with the player.

Evaluations by the Doctor/Physiotherapist shall be conducted within a reasonable period of time, balancing player safety on the one hand and continuous play on the other (it is recommended not to exceed two (2) minutes), and may be conducted off court if requested by the Doctor/Physiotherapist.

Once the evaluation is completed, the Doctor/Physiotherapist shall inform the Chair Umpire whether treatment is required and when treatment should begin.

iv. Potential outcomes of the evaluation

(a) Non-treatable medical condition

If, after the evaluation, the Doctor/Physiotherapist determines that the player has a non-treatable medical condition, the player shall be informed that no medical treatment will be permitted. Medical treatment, including the supply of medication, is permitted only for treatable medical conditions.

(b) Treatable medical condition requiring MTO (Medical Time Out)

The Doctor/Physiotherapist may authorize for that condition one (1) MTO of three (3) minutes, which shall be taken during a changeover with rest, unless the Doctor/Physiotherapist determines that it is an acute medical condition requiring immediate medical attention.

(c) Treatable medical condition not requiring MTO (Medical Time Out)

If the Doctor/Physiotherapist determines that the player has a treatable medical condition but that an MTO is not necessary, in cases such as illness or muscle cramps, then the Doctor/Physiotherapist may, after the evaluation, begin treatment if time remains during the changeover or set break. If necessary, the Doctor/Physiotherapist may treat the player for this medical condition for two (2) additional changeovers with rest, not necessarily consecutive.

v. Medical treatment

A player may only receive medical evaluation, treatment, and/or supplies on court from the Doctor/Physiotherapist during any authorized ninety (90) second changeover or one hundred twenty (120) second set break (necessarily consecutive) for each treatable medical condition.

Players shall not receive medical treatment for non-treatable medical conditions.

(a) Definition

On-court evaluation, treatment, or medical supplies by the Doctor/Physiotherapist shall include:

- (I) Adjustment of medical support and/or bandaging;
- (II) Supply of medication; or
- (III) Supplies for contact lenses.

(b) Process and timing

All such treatment requests must be made through the Chair Umpire, who will notify the Physio and the Supervisor (or Referee) of the player's request to see the Physio and will time the changeover (or set break) as the usual ninety (90) (or one hundred and twenty (120)) seconds. Medical treatment is limited to one (1) three-minute period per each Treatable Medical Condition, and may be repeated during the next two (2) authorized changeovers (or set breaks) for each Treatable Medical Condition, with no limitation regarding the number of games played since the application of the MTO, and always within the official time of the changeover or set break, with no additional time granted.

It shall be the responsibility of the player to request in advance from the Chair Umpire that they will need the attention of the Doctor/Physiotherapist for the next changeover.

If medical equipment adjustment is required during or immediately after the warm-up, the player must request an adjustment immediately after the warm-up, limited to ninety (90) seconds.

(c) Non-medical equipment

Any non-medical equipment (e.g., isotonic drinks, energy bars, gels, towels, etc.) requested by a player while on court shall not be the responsibility of the medical team.

vi. Additional procedures applicable to changeovers or end of a set

If the evaluation is conducted during a changeover with rest, before "Time" is called, the Chair Umpire shall ask the Doctor/Physiotherapist whether the evaluation continues.

- (b) If yes, the Doctor/Physiotherapist shall clearly indicate whether the evaluation continues or whether an MTO is being initiated. If the evaluation is completed before "Time" has been called, the remaining time of the changeover may be added to the three (3) minutes for the MTO.
- (c) If no, the Chair Umpire shall call "Time" at sixty (60) seconds (changeover) or ninety (90) seconds (set break). Once "Time" is announced, the player has twenty (20) seconds to resume play.

c. Medical Time-Out (MTO)

An MTO is granted by the Supervisor or the Chair Umpire when the Doctor/Physiotherapist has evaluated the player and determined that additional time is required for medical treatment. The MTO shall take place during a changeover with rest or at the end of a set, unless the Doctor/Physiotherapist determines that the player has developed an acute medical condition requiring immediate medical treatment.

i. Allocation per player

A player is allowed one (1) MTO per match for each distinct treatable medical condition. The following shall be considered as one (1) treatable medical condition:

(a) All treatable musculoskeletal injuries that manifest and are evaluated as part of a continuous kinetic chain.

(b) All clinical manifestations of heat illness and cramps, subject to the following:

- A player may receive treatment for muscle cramps only during the time allocated for changeovers and/or set breaks. Players may not receive an MTO for muscle cramps. In case of doubt as to whether it is (x) an acute medical condition, (y) a non-acute medical condition including muscle cramps, or (z) a non-treatable medical condition, the decision of the Doctor/Physiotherapist, if applicable, shall be final. If a player presents symptoms of heat illness (i.e., heat stroke or heat exhaustion) and cramps are one of the manifested symptoms, an MTO may be taken, as determined by the Doctor/Physiotherapist at the time of evaluation.
- The Supervisor/Referee or the Chair Umpire shall order a player who has interrupted play claiming a serious medical condition, but whom the Doctor/Physiotherapist, if applicable, has determined to have muscle cramps, to resume play immediately. If the player cannot continue playing due to severe muscle cramps, the player may lose the point or game(s) necessary to reach a changeover with rest or end of set in order to receive treatment. \*There may be a total of two (2) changeover treatments for muscle cramps in a match, not necessarily consecutive.\*

\*The Chair Umpire shall announce to the players and spectators: "First name/last name requests immediate medical treatment. Player X may receive this treatment only at a changeover/set break and therefore is conceding all points and games until the next changeover/end of set."

ii. Time and duration of treatment

In the event that an MTO takes place, it shall not exceed three (3) minutes. It shall begin after the completion and diagnosis of the medical condition by the Doctor/Physiotherapist, if necessary, and shall be timed from the moment the Doctor/Physiotherapist is ready to begin treatment.

iii. Treatment off court

At the discretion of the Doctor/Physiotherapist, and for reasons of privacy and modesty, treatment during an MTO may be conducted off court, in the nearest and most private location.

In such case, the Chair Umpire and/or Supervisor shall be responsible for notifying the Doctor/Physiotherapist of the remaining time. At the end of the three (3) minutes of off-court treatment, the player shall return immediately to the court.

iv. Provisions for players with diabetes

Players with diabetes who have a prior written medical certification obtained from a primary care physician or endocrinologist and submitted to the Anti-Doping Program administrator and the FIP Sports Department may use devices to monitor blood sugar levels during the reasonable evaluation period and administer insulin (if necessary) during the MTO. Players who have not submitted a prior medical certificate of diabetes must be evaluated by the Tournament Doctor before checking blood sugar levels or administering insulin, and must retroactively submit documentation to the Anti-Doping Program administrator if insulin is injected.

v. Additional MTO procedures

- (a) At the beginning of the MTO the Chair Umpire shall publicly announce, "Player X is receiving a medical time-out" and shall start timing.
- (b) The Chair Umpire shall announce to the players and the Doctor/Physiotherapist the following:
  - (I) *"Two (2) minutes remaining"*
  - (II) *"One (1) minute remaining"*
  - (III) *"Thirty (30) seconds remaining"*
  - (IV) *"Time"* (publicly).
- (c) If the MTO lasts less than the permitted three (3) minutes, the Doctor/Physiotherapist shall inform the Chair Umpire when treatment has ended, and the Chair Umpire shall announce to the players: "Treatment completed" and then publicly: "Time."
- (d) When treatment lasts the full three (3) minutes, the Chair Umpire shall announce "Treatment completed" and then publicly "Time." After "Treatment completed" is announced, if necessary, the player shall be given the time required to put on socks and shoes before "Time" is called.
- (e) If a player cannot play after twenty (20) seconds, they shall be penalized with a Code of Conduct violation (in accordance with the penalty schedule).
- (f) At the end of the MTO, the Doctor/Physiotherapist shall leave the court. The player may receive treatment in two (2) subsequent changeovers with rest for each MTO performed.
- (g) After the match, the player shall meet with the Tournament Doctor for evaluation and assessment of the injury or illness.

vi. Consecutive treatments

The Supervisor or the Chair Umpire may allow up to a total of two (2) consecutive MTOs in special circumstances where the Doctor/Physiotherapist determines that the player has developed at least two (2) distinct treatable medical conditions at the same time.

(a) Circumstances allowing consecutive MTOs

Such circumstances may include:

- (I) One (1) illness together with a musculoskeletal injury; or
- (II) Two (2) or more distinct musculoskeletal injuries.

(b) Process and timing

In such cases, the Doctor/Physiotherapist shall conduct a medical evaluation of the two (2) or more treatable conditions during a single evaluation, and may then determine that two (2) consecutive MTOs are required, informing the Chair Umpire accordingly.

The Chair Umpire shall count the MTOs separately, making the appropriate announcements for the beginning of each MTO (for example, "*Player X is taking a second Medical Time-Out*").

d. Resumption of play and penalties for rule violations

After the completion of an MTO or medical treatment, any delay in resuming play shall be penalized as a Code of Conduct violation for Delay of Play.

Any abuse by a player of this Medical Rule shall be penalized in accordance with the Unsportsmanlike Conduct section of the Code of Conduct.

When a player informs the Chair Umpire that they need medical treatment at the next changeover, the Chair Umpire must immediately communicate with the Physiotherapist using the internal communication device to ensure that the Physiotherapist is on court at the start of the changeover.

During a medical time-out, the remaining players may rest on the benches, drink or eat at their benches, and/or receive coaching advice on court.

e. Other Procedures

i. Hazardous biological materials

The Chair Umpire shall suspend play and call the Doctor/Physiotherapist when hazardous biological materials (blood and vomit) are present on court. Play shall be suspended until appropriate Tournament personnel clean the court and properly dispose of the hazardous biological materials using spill kits provided by the Tournament.

(a) Bleeding

If a player is bleeding, the Chair Umpire must stop play as soon as possible and call the Doctor/Physiotherapist to the court for evaluation and treatment. The Doctor/Physiotherapist, if

applicable, shall evaluate the source of the bleeding and request an MTO for treatment, if necessary.

If requested by the Doctor/Physiotherapist, the Supervisor or the Chair Umpire may extend the MTO and allow up to a total of fifteen (15) minutes to ensure control of the bleeding.

If within fifteen (15) minutes the bleeding is not controlled, the Doctor/Physiotherapist may advise that continuing play is detrimental to the player's health. In such case, the Supervisor/Referee may remove the player from the match.

If blood has been spilled on the court or its surroundings, play shall not resume until the spilled blood has been properly cleaned.

(b) Vomiting

If a player vomits, the Chair Umpire must stop play if the vomit has spilled on the court or if the player requests a medical evaluation.

If the player requests a medical evaluation, then the Doctor/Physiotherapist shall determine whether the player has a treatable medical condition.

If vomiting is continuous, the Doctor/Physiotherapist may advise that continuing play is detrimental to the player's health. In such case, the Supervisor/Referee may remove the player from the match.

If vomit has spilled on the court, play shall not resume until the vomit has been properly cleaned.

ii. Blisters

Blisters shall not be considered an acute condition, and each player shall be entitled to one treatment per match for blisters during a changeover with rest or at the end of a set.

The Doctor/Physiotherapist may, after evaluating the blister, determine that treatment should be performed at the next changeover to ensure sufficient time to treat the blisters properly.

iii. Physical Incapacity

During the match, if a medical emergency occurs and the player involved is unable to request a Doctor/Physiotherapist, the Chair Umpire shall immediately call the Doctor/Physiotherapist to assist the player.

Before or during a match, if a player is deemed physically incapacitated to compete, or poses a serious risk to the health of players, Officials, or Tournament Staff, the Doctor/Physiotherapist shall inform the Supervisor and recommend that the player be declared incapacitated to compete in the upcoming match, or be withdrawn from the match in progress.

The Supervisor/Referee shall act with great discretion before taking this measure and shall base their decision on the best interest of the player's health, taking into account all medical advice and any other information.

If a player needs to withdraw from a tournament after winning a previous match, the player must be examined by the Doctor/Physiotherapist, who is responsible for determining that the player cannot compete.

iv. Medically Justified Change of Clothing

If during an on-court evaluation or MTO the Doctor/Physiotherapist considers it medically justified for the player to change clothing, the Doctor/Physiotherapist may include this during the MTO (conducted off court in the nearest/private location); otherwise, a change of clothing may only be taken at the end of a set.

v. Simultaneous On-Court Calls

In the event of simultaneous on-court calls, when a second Doctor/Physiotherapist is not covering the Tournament, the Doctor/Physiotherapist shall attend the first request, unless otherwise directed due to a medical emergency.

If there are two (2) simultaneous requests on the same court, the following procedure shall apply:

- (a) The Doctor/Physiotherapist shall attend the first request or medical emergency, conduct a full evaluation and MTO if indicated;
- (b) Proceed to the second request and conduct a full evaluation and MTO if indicated; and
- (c) The Doctor/Physiotherapist shall rotate the order of treatments during changeovers, if necessary, beginning with the player who made the first request, until the process is completed.

If the Physiotherapist determines that both on-court calls were due to muscle cramps, the Physiotherapist shall treat the player who made the first request for forty-five (45) seconds (timed by the Chair Umpire) and then treat the second player for the remaining forty-five (45) seconds of the ninety (90) second changeover, or treat each player for sixty (60) seconds during a set break.

vi. Warm-Up Period

For the purposes of the Medical Rule, the match includes both the warm-up and play; therefore, any medical condition occurring during the warm-up shall be considered a medical condition during the match.

If a player suffers an acute treatable medical condition during the warm-up that prevents them from starting the match as scheduled, the player may receive an MTO or a ninety (90) second treatment period at the end of the warm-up before the start of the match.

If the MTO is taken during the warm-up, the five (5) minute warm-up shall be suspended until the conclusion of the MTO. If it is clear that the player is not physically fit to compete after receiving treatment, then the match shall not begin.

vii. Unusual Circumstances

If during the match any unusual circumstance occurs, such as an involuntary fall of a player, a ball striking a player during play, among others, that affects the player's ability to immediately continue play, the Chair Umpire has the authority to allow the player to recover from the incident within a reasonable time, not to exceed five (5) minutes.

If the player requires the presence of the Doctor/Physiotherapist:

- (III) Immediately and before the first minute of this recovery period has elapsed, the Doctor/Physiotherapist shall have five (5) minutes to assist the player.
- (IV) After the first minute has elapsed but before the second minute, the Chair Umpire shall stop the clock, call the Doctor/Physiotherapist, and restart the clock once the Physiotherapist arrives and is ready. The Doctor/Physiotherapist shall have five (5) minutes on the Chair Umpire's clock, unless the Physiotherapist finishes earlier and the player can resume play.
- (V) Once the second minute of the reasonable recovery time has elapsed, the Doctor/Physiotherapist shall be called to the court, but the clock shall not be stopped and the reasonable recovery time shall conclude once the clock reaches the five (5) minute mark, or otherwise, once the player has recovered and is ready to play before the five (5) minutes have elapsed.

## 12.7 Extreme Weather Conditions

### a. Definitions

#### i. Measurement methods

Extreme Weather Conditions shall be defined when the Wet Bulb Globe Temperature (WBGT) Index reaches or exceeds the levels indicated below for Extreme Weather Conditions – Modification of Play and Extreme Weather Conditions – Suspension of Play. If a WBGT device is not available to measure the WBGT Index, the Heat Index (Apparent Temperature) shall be calculated based on the following table.

A WBGT device is a measurement tool that uses ambient temperature, relative humidity, wind, and solar radiation to obtain a measure that can be used to monitor environmental conditions.

Temperature (°C)	Humidity %															
	25	30	35	40	45	50	55	60	65	70	75	80	85	90	95	100
28	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	42	41	42	43
29	29	30	31	32	33	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	45	46
30	30	32	33	34	35	36	37	39	40	41	42	43	45	46	47	48
31	32	33	34	35	37	38	39	40	42	43	44	45	47	48	49	50
32	33	34	36	37	38	40	41	42	44	45	46	48	49	50	52	53

33	34	36	37	39	40	41	43	44	46	47	48	50	51	53	54	55
34	36	37	39	40	42	43	45	46	48	49	51	52	54	55	57	
35	37	39	40	42	44	45	47	48	50	51	53	54	56	58		
36	39	40	42	44	45	47	49	50	52	54	56	57	59			
37	40	42	44	45	47	49	51	52	54	56	58	59				
38	42	44	45	47	49	51	53	55	56	58	60					
39	43	45	47	49	51	53	55	57	59	61						
40	45	47	49	51	53	55	57	59	61							
41	46	48	51	53	55	57	59	61								
42	48	50	52	55	57	59	62									
Extreme Heat Conditions – Increased Hydration																
Extreme Heat Conditions – Modification of Play																
Extreme Heat Conditions – Suspension of Play																

ii. Increased Hydration

Extreme Weather Conditions – Increased Hydration shall be understood when the WBGT Index reaches or exceeds values between 44–47 as indicated in the table above.

iii. Modification of Play

Extreme Weather Conditions – Modification of Play shall be understood when the WBGT Index reaches or exceeds values between 48–53 as indicated in the table above.

iv. Suspension of Play

Extreme Weather Conditions – Suspension of Play shall be understood when the WBGT Index reaches or exceeds the value of 54 as indicated in the table above.

b. Measurement/control procedures for extreme weather conditions

The Doctor/Physiotherapist shall measure the WBGT Index or Apparent Temperature a minimum of three (3) times, and a maximum of five (5) times, per day. The readings shall be determined by the Doctor/Physiotherapist and the Supervisor before the start of play and shall be posted in the Supervisor's office. Measurements shall be taken every two (2) hours, but at least three (3) readings shall be taken at the following times:

- ii. Half an hour before the start of matches;
- iii. Midway through the scheduled day; and
- iv. Just before the start of the last match of the day, or before the start of the first afternoon match.

The WBGT Index or Apparent Temperature.

The Apparent Temperature shall also be measured in the following circumstances:

- i. After any suspension of play; and
- ii. At the discretion of the Supervisor, in consultation with the Doctor/Physiotherapist.

c. Modification of match schedule and change in weather conditions

When the Extreme Weather Conditions Rule comes into effect before the start of a match, the procedures set out in the following subsections shall be followed.

In the event that during the day a change in weather conditions is determined by this periodic monitoring, the Extreme Weather Conditions Rule may come into effect at any time on all courts, including matches already in progress. Once notified that the Extreme Weather Conditions Rule is in effect, the Chair Umpire must inform the players as soon as possible, no later than the next changeover.

If a sudden change in weather conditions occurs and the rule is lifted, matches already in progress shall continue under the Extreme Weather Conditions Rule. In the event of rain or interruption of play, the Supervisor and the Doctor/Physiotherapist may reassess the Extreme Weather Conditions Rule.

d. Increased Hydration Procedure

The intake of fluids is authorized at the end of each game, including the sum of even-numbered games, within the permitted times. The Chair Umpire may extend the permitted time, at their discretion, within reasonable limits.

e. Modification of Play Procedure

Between the first and second set, there shall be a mandatory five (5) minute break regardless of whether the players request it.

Between the second set and the Match Tie-Break there shall be no additional break beyond that authorized by the regulations at the end of a set.

The Supervisor, in consultation with the Doctor/Physiotherapist, may also decide to delay the start time of matches until the Modification of Play due to Extreme Weather Conditions is no longer in effect.

i. During the five (5) minute break the following shall apply:

(a) Players may leave the court to change clothing or go to the bathroom, and this shall not count as one of the permitted clothing or bathroom breaks.

(b) Medical evaluations, MTOs, or medical treatments shall not be permitted, unless approved by the Supervisor/Referee before leaving the court or before the end of the second set, in which case treatment may be conducted off court.

Nevertheless, a player may be permitted to receive an adjustment of medical equipment (including new bandaging), medical equipment, and/or medical advice from the Doctor/Physiotherapist.

- ii. Immediately after the five (5) minute break:
  - (a) Any delay in resuming play shall subject a player to a Code of Conduct violation for Delay of Play.
  - (b) Re-warm-up shall not be permitted. (This rule also applies to any bathroom or clothing change breaks permitted during the match).
  - (c) A player may not receive medical evaluations, MTOs, or medical treatments unless approved by the Supervisor/Referee before leaving the court.

- iii. Consecutive breaks

The five (5) minute break for extreme weather conditions and the bathroom or clothing change break may not be taken consecutively.

- f. Suspension of Play Procedures

When play is suspended due to extreme weather conditions, the Supervisor, in consultation with the Tournament Doctor/Physiotherapist and the Tournament Director, may suspend play in accordance with the suspension policy in effect at that time, until the temperature falls below the suspension criteria.

## **13. VAR SYSTEM – REVIEW**

### **13.1 Description**

The use of an electronic system approved by FIP for the review of plays ("VAR System") is authorized in the FIP Promises Continental Tour and FIP Promises World Tour tournaments. Each Tournament Promoter may decide whether to use the VAR System in their tournament.

### **13.2 Points Subject to Review**

A review request by a player (or pair) shall only be permitted after a definitive shot or when a player (or pair) stops play while disputing a point (returns are allowed, but then the player must stop play immediately).

### **13.3 Request to the Chair Umpire**

The appealing player must do so in such a way that play is stopped or the Chair Umpire stops play. If an appeal is presented to the Chair Umpire, the Chair Umpire must first determine that the appeal procedure has been correctly followed. If it was not correct, or if it was made too late, then the Chair Umpire may determine that the opposing pair was deliberately hindered, in which case the appealing pair loses the point.

The Chair Umpire should decide to use the review when there is doubt about the accuracy of the call. However, the Chair Umpire may reject the electronic review if they believe the player's request is unreasonable or was made too late.

Players may not leave the court or receive instructions during the review process.

#### **13.4 Number of requests permitted**

- i. Each pair shall have two (2) incorrect requests per set in each match.
- ii. If the requesting pair is unsuccessful in their request, one of their requests shall be deducted.
- iii. If the requesting pair is successful in their request, no deduction shall be made.
- iv. If a play is not available for review, it shall not count as a request for either pair.

#### **13.5 Clear Communication to the Chair Umpire of the Intention to Request**

To make a request, the player must show the Chair Umpire immediate interest in making a challenge and must do so at the appropriate time. The player must make their intention known to the Chair Umpire verbally or visually (for example, using their racket, arm, or hand). The Chair Umpire shall:

- a. Reconfirm with the player their intention to challenge;
- b. Confirm that the player has remaining requests; and
- c. Proceed with the review.

#### **13.6 Review decision not available**

The original call of the Chair Umpire shall always stand if the review is unable, for any reason, to make a decision on the play. In this case, the number of challenges available to the pair shall not be reduced. If the Chair Umpire is unable, for any reason, to make a decision on the play, they shall call a "Let."

#### **13.7 Chair Umpire review request**

The Chair Umpire has the right, if necessary, to request the review of the last point played, when during that point an unusual or exceptional circumstance has occurred. The point shall be reviewed from its beginning to its end. The count of requests for either pair shall not be affected by the outcome of this review initiated by the Chair Umpire.

The Review Official (if applicable) may use the video review system to monitor in real time that during the service the serving player did not violate any regulation (such as a foot fault); however, the review of the height of the ball during the service shall only be verified if the player requests a review in accordance with all applicable rules.

### 13.8 Final Decision

Once the review of the play has been conducted, the Chair Umpire shall confirm or rectify their initial call; the decision of the review is final and not subject to appeal.

In the event that the written decision (IN/OUT) on the video board differs from the graphic displayed (digital images of the ball mark), then the images of the ball mark shall determine whether the ball is IN or OUT, not the written decision. However, the Chair Umpire shall contact the Review Official to obtain the final confirmation of the decision.

The Chair Umpire shall then announce the score, and if play does not resume within 10 seconds, the Code of Conduct may be applied to the player or players who are not ready to do so.

### 13.9 Review Official

A certified Referee, approved by FIP, shall act as the Review Official, whose duties shall include, among others:

- i. Determining which play shall be reviewed by the system.
- ii. Supervising the system to ensure its proper functioning.
- iii. Notifying the Chair Umpire immediately in the event of a system failure or any other condition that prohibits or casts doubt on the system's ability to review a challenged decision. In such case, the Chair Umpire shall immediately notify both players that the review is unavailable until further notice.
- iv. Acting as the final authority on the number of requests remaining for each pair. Communicating with the Chair Umpire, at the earliest possible opportunity, when one (1) request remains, and confirming the requests remaining.

The Review Official and supporting technical staff shall preferably be located within the venue/club or stadium, in a secure area with a clear view of the court. If this is not feasible, the Tournament Promoter shall contact FIP for approval of an alternative location.

Regardless of location, the Tournament Promoter must provide a secure and separate communication channel between the Chair Umpire and the Review Official, or between the Chair Umpire and the broadcast production offices and the review system booth.

### 13.10 Video Board

For the court using a review system, there shall be a minimum of one (1) video board, of sufficient size, located in a position where the Chair Umpire, players, and spectators can view the results of the request.

### 13.11 Review Booth

The following specifications are recommended for the video review system booth:

- i. The booth must be located in direct line of sight with the court, to provide an unobstructed view of the court. Preferably it should be at the back (north or south end) of the court when possible.
- ii. The Review Official must have a complete view of the entire court.
- iii. The booth must have direct audio from the Chair Umpire's microphone (not from the television signal).
- iv. The Review Official should be able to hear the Chair Umpire's requests from the court.
- v. The booth must have space for three (3) people plus equipment (minimum of 20 square meters).
- vi. The booth must have full air conditioning for equipment and personnel, unless technically impossible to do so, and approved by FIP.
- vii. Access to the booth must be reasonably easy and secure.
- viii. Adequate communication must be available with the Supervisor, the Chair Umpire, and the Video Operator (if not in the same room).
- ix. Tables, chairs, and high stools must be provided as requested by the Supervisor.

## 14. COACHES

Whenever the following rules and procedures are respected, coaching on court during the match shall be permitted. The coach must be approved by FIP.

In the U12 and U14 events of the FIP Promises Continental Tour, the presence of coaches on court shall not be permitted. Coaches of players in these categories must occupy a seat in the stands or elsewhere around the court, but under no circumstances may they occupy the position of on-court coach. Consequently, they may not give instructions to the players. In case of violation of this rule, the players of such coaches may be sanctioned under the Code of Conduct.

In the U16 and U18 events of the FIP Promises Continental Tour and the FIP Promises World Tour, the presence of one registered coach per pair on court shall be permitted. The registered coach may provide instructions and support to their players within the parameters established by this rule.

### 14.1 Registration of Coaches

- I. Players are required to register their coaches through the registration platform. Such registration shall be carried out together with the Tournament entry and shall have the same deadline (Entry Deadline).
- II. Each pair may include a maximum of four (4) coaches per tournament:

- 1 Main Coach
- 3 Assistant Coaches

- III. Once the registration deadline (Entry Deadline) has passed, no changes to the pair's Main Coach shall be admitted under any circumstances.
- IV. During the Tournament, the pair may request on site from the Supervisor which coach will assist them in each match. It must be one of the coaches registered by the pair in that Tournament.
- V. A registered coach may not be an active player.

#### **14.2 During the match**

- I. During authorized breaks in matches, players may receive instructions or technical advice related to play from their coach. The coach must present themselves to the Chair Umpire or, failing that, to the Supervisor/Referee before the start of the match. They shall remain in a fixed position outside the court, next to the players' chairs.
- II. The coach may only maintain verbal contact with the players during breaks, not during changeovers without rest.
- III. In matches, only one coach may sit with the accredited pair. Under no circumstances may the coach be changed in the middle of a match.
- IV. If a coach has two pairs playing simultaneously, they may begin a match with one pair and finish the match of another pair, provided that the Supervisor/Chief Referee of the Tournament is notified at least one hour before the start of both matches. In this case, the coach may not return to a match they have left; they must inform the Referee during a break or changeover of their intention to leave the match, and at the next break or changeover they must leave the court.
- V. The coach who may access the court to coach the players must be previously registered with the pair as a coach for the Tournament, and must be designated for this function before the Tournament Supervisor.
- VI. If during the match the Referee sees evidence of external communication via messaging, the pair shall be sanctioned under the Code of Conduct.

#### **14.3 Regulations and restrictions for on-court coaching**

- i. The Tournament Supervisor shall provide the Chair Umpire with the names of the coaches designated during the match. No other person may enter the court to perform the functions of on-court coach except these designated coaches.
- ii. Coaches shall enter the court through the entrance officially announced by the Tournament Promoter for this purpose, and only once all four players have completed the walk-on and entered the court for the pre-match meeting with the Chair Umpire.

- iii. If they need to leave the court at any time during the match, they shall be permitted to exit and return only through the same entrance previously used for coaches, and only during players' rest periods, unless the Chair Umpire authorizes otherwise in exceptional circumstances.
- iv. Coaches may not carry any sports equipment onto the court when performing their coaching duties (racket/bag, etc.). The coach may only carry a notebook and pen to the coach's seat.
- v. The on-court coach (as well as the players) may not use mobile phones or any other electronic device that can be used to send or receive information/data on court.
- vi. Coaches must exhibit professional behavior during their presence on court.
- vii. Coaches may only speak to players once they reach the bench during changeovers (except at the end of the first game of each set and during changeovers in any Tie-Break), and at the end of each set, and during a medical time-out.
- viii. During play, coaches may not stand up from their seat, speak, or shout to their players.
- ix. When play is interrupted due to injury and an MTO is authorized, coaches must wait until the Chair Umpire authorizes the start of medical attention before speaking to their players.
- x. Coaches may not speak to the Chair Umpire or lodge complaints on behalf of players, discuss a decision, or for any other purpose during the match, except to inform them that they must leave the court to go to the bathroom or similar.
- xi. The on-court coach is subject to the same provisions as the players with respect to the Code of Conduct.

#### **14.4 Code of Conduct for Coaches**

- i. Violations of the Code of Conduct on court shall result in the following penalty schedule.
- ii. The Chair Umpire must provide after the match a detailed description of each Code of Conduct violation, including all relevant elements that may be considered during the evaluation of each violation.
- iii. The penalty schedule for coaches to be applied during a match in case of Code violations shall be as follows:

<b>1st Violation</b>	Warning
<b>2nd Violation</b>	Removal from the match

- iv. In the case of a very serious violation (very serious physical or verbal aggression), the Supervisor/Referee may determine the immediate disqualification of the coach who committed the offense.

- v. When a coach commits a violation that is particularly serious or flagrant, the coach may be suspended for a period of between one (1) and twelve (12) months.
- vi. If a coach is sanctioned with a suspension period, they must be informed in writing of the start date of the suspension.
- vii. Once the suspension period has been served, the coach shall be informed in writing by FIP that they may resume their functions as a coach in FIP tournaments.

#### **14.5 Coaches' Attire**

- i. Coaches must wear appropriate sports attire, similar to that required for a player, or non-sports attire of professional appearance.
- ii. Attire may not display logos or any other identification from another padel circuit.
- iii. In case of non-compliance with the above, the coach shall be requested to change attire. Failure to do so shall result in denial of the coach's presence on court for the pair during the match in question, until the coach can present themselves in appropriate professional attire in accordance with the regulations of this section.
- iv. Quantity and dimensions of commercial identifications. See Appendix D.

### **15. CODE OF CONDUCT FOR OFFICIALS**

As a member of the Certification Program, FIP requires a high level of professionalism from all Certified Officials and all other staff working at FIP tournaments and events.

All members of the team of Officials are automatically bound and must comply with this Code of Conduct ("Code").

#### **15.1 Required Standards**

Unless otherwise specified, the following rules shall apply (a) while a Referee is acting, or is reasonably considered to be acting, in their capacity as a Referee, and (b) at any other time when their conduct may harm any governing body or otherwise undermine the integrity or reputation of the sport, including, but not limited to, the following cases:

- ii. When present at the official facilities of a tournament, including the venue and facilities, hotel, transportation, and other places related to the event;
- iii. When interacting with players, player support staff, other Officials, event staff, spectators, and governing body staff either at or during the event;
- iv. When performing any task set out in the Rules of Padel, the FIP Rules, the FIP Promises Tour Rules, or the Duties and Procedures for Referees.

1. Referees must be in satisfactory physical condition to perform their duties.

2. Referees must have natural or corrected 20-20 vision and normal hearing. In addition, International Chair Umpires shall submit annually to the FIP Officiating Department a completed eye test form, and all other Referees shall submit a completed eye test form every three years to the FIP Officiating Department.
3. Referees must be punctual for all matches assigned to them.
4. Referees shall know, understand, comply with, and, as appropriate, enforce the Rules of Padel, the Duties and Procedures for Referees, the relevant FIP Promises Tour Rules for the tournaments they are officiating, the Padel Anti-Corruption Program, the Padel Anti-Doping Program, and all other policies applicable to Referees that may be introduced by the Governing Bodies from time to time (including, but not limited to, the Mobile Phone/Smartwatch Ban Policy).
5. Referees shall behave respectfully towards others when acting in their capacity as Referee.
6. Referees shall maintain a high level of personal hygiene and a professional appearance when acting in their capacity as such.
7. Referees shall not drink alcohol or consume any other substance that may impair their judgment within 12 hours prior to any match they officiate, and at all times while acting in their capacity as Referees.
8. Referees shall maintain complete impartiality with respect to all players and player support staff, and shall avoid any real or apparent conflict of interest. Specifically, Referees shall not (a) officiate in any match in which they have a real or perceived conflict of interest; or (b) socialize or become intimate with players, or engage in any relationship (commercial, personal, or otherwise) or take any action on or off court that may call into question their impartiality as Referee. For the avoidance of doubt, and notwithstanding the above, Referees may attend social events at which players are present and may stay in the same hotels as players, but shall not share a hotel room with any player of any age. Referees must declare all potential, perceived, or actual conflicts of interest to their corresponding Referee Representative.

Note: Examples of conflicts of interest include, but are not limited to, being: a player currently competing in FIP Promises Tour events; a friend, relative, or support staff of a player currently competing in the FIP Promises Tour; a Director/Promoter of FIP Promises Tour tournaments; or an employee, consultant, contractor, or partner/business associate of a company with commercial interests in FIP Promises Tour events.

9. Referees shall not discuss at any time decisions made by themselves or by other Officials with anyone, except directly with those Referees, the Supervisor/Referee, or the FIP Officiating Department.
10. Referees shall at all times comply with applicable criminal laws. For the avoidance of doubt, and without limiting the foregoing, this obligation is breached if a Referee is convicted of, pleads guilty to, or does not contest a criminal charge or indictment for any criminal offense in any jurisdiction.
11. Referees shall complete any integrity program required by FIP or a Governing Body. Referees shall not be endorsed, employed, sponsored, or otherwise engaged by any entity that offers and/or directly accepts bets in relation to the outcome or any other aspect of any Padel event or any other Padel competition, including, without limitation, betting houses and any person or entity operating websites,

applications, retail, credit, telephone, online and/or mobile Padel betting services; casinos operating sportsbooks with Padel betting; and lotteries operating sportsbooks with Padel betting.

12. Referees shall not speak with or engage in conversations with spectators while officiating a match, except as necessary during the ordinary course of the match.
13. Referees shall not participate at any time in interviews or meetings with the media from which their statements related to Padel officiating may be printed, broadcast, published on social media, or otherwise publicly disseminated, without the approval of the corresponding Supervisor/Referee if during a Padel event, and at any other time, without the approval of the FIP Officiating Department.
14. Referees shall not at any time make, authorize, or endorse public comments, including posting anything on any social media channel, that unjustifiably attack or disparage a Padel event, a player, player support staff, another Referee, Padel event staff, or governing body staff, and which the Referee knows, or reasonably should know, will harm the reputation or financial interests of the Padel event, the player, another Referee, the event staff, or the governing body staff, as applicable. Without prejudice to other provisions of this Code, the responsible and measured expression of a legitimate opinion shall not constitute a breach of this provision.
15. Referees shall not at any time engage in unfair, unprofessional, discriminatory, or unethical conduct, including, but not limited to, attempts to injure or intentionally interfere with other Referees, players, Tournament staff, player support staff, governing body staff, and spectators, as well as reckless or negligent conduct that may cause such injury or interference. Furthermore, all Referees shall set a good example of conduct for other Referees.
16. Referees shall not at any time engage in abusive conduct, whether physical or verbal, or in threatening conduct or language towards other Referees, players, player support staff, Tournament staff, governing body staff, spectators, or members of the media.
17. Referees shall not at any time abuse their position of authority or control, nor harm or endanger, or attempt to harm or endanger, the psychological, physical, or emotional well-being of other Referees, players, Tournament staff, player support staff, or governing body staff.
18. Sexual innuendo or sexual harassment or abuse of any kind towards other Referees, players, player support staff, Tournament staff, spectators, governing body staff, or members of the press or media shall not be tolerated.
19. Referees shall make all tournament-related requests to the Chief Supervisor/Referee.
20. Referees shall commit to work at an event until the Supervisor/Referee grants them permission to leave. If a Referee has accepted an assignment to officiate at a tournament, they may not withdraw from such assignment before being authorized to do so by the Supervisor/Referee.
21. All Referees have a continuing obligation to report to FIP any actual, alleged, or suspected breach of the Code of which they become aware, whether their own or that of another Referee. Failure to comply with this obligation constitutes a breach of the Code.
22. Referees shall act with honesty at all times.
23. Referees shall fully cooperate with any investigation and/or proceeding (a) under this Code (whether relating to their conduct or that of another Official), and (b) under the rules of the governing body of Padel in which they act as Referees, the Padel Anti-Doping Program and/or the Padel Anti-Corruption

Program. Furthermore, Officials shall not (i) provide any inaccurate information, (ii) omit any relevant information requested of them, or (iii) deliberately mislead or attempt to mislead such bodies, their staff, or other Referees.

## APPENDIX A

### FIP CONTACT INFORMATION

#### INTERNATIONAL PADEL FEDERATION

##### **Switzerland Headquarters**

MAISON DU SPORT INTERNATIONAL  
Av. De Rhodanie 54  
1007 Lausanne  
Switzerland

##### **Spain Headquarters**

Movistar Arena  
Avda. de Felipe II, s/n  
Planta 1  
28009 Madrid  
España

##### **Italy Headquarters**

Via Barberini, 95  
00187 Rome

## APPENDIX B

### ROOF POLICY

#### General Conditions:

- FIP Promises Continental Tour and FIP Promises World Tour tournaments played outdoors may have one (1) or more courts with retractable roofs, allowing play to continue or resume even when adverse weather conditions affect the proper development of matches.
- Tournaments with retractable roofs shall remain primarily outdoor events. Whenever possible, the conditions on courts with retractable roofs shall be the same as on all other courts.

#### Rain:

- In the event of rain before the scheduled start of play, the roof shall remain closed for the entire match.
- If the rain stops or the weather forecast is favorable, the roof may be opened once the current match has finished. Decisions regarding reopening the roof shall be taken match by match depending on current conditions and the weather forecast.
- If a match begins with the roof closed, the roof shall remain closed for the remainder of the match. A decision may be taken to open the roof for subsequent scheduled matches.
- If a match begins with the roof open, the decision will normally be to close the roof after the match has been stopped due to rain, although if other factors justify closing the roof before stopping the match, the Supervisor shall make that decision.
- In general, the roof shall not be closed due to the threat of rain.
- If strong winds are reasonably forecast with sufficient capacity to damage the retractable roof, the roof may be closed before the start of the match. The opposite applies when the roof is closed and strong winds or other conditions require, for safety reasons, that the roof be reopened.
- Changes in the order of play may be authorized, including the completion of an unfinished match on a different court from the one on which it began, in exceptional circumstances in order to complete a tournament on time.

#### Darkness:

- If the roof must be partially closed for the lights to function properly, then the roof must be partially closed before the start of the match. The Supervisor shall determine the exact time of day from which the roof shall be closed for this purpose.

#### Cold:

- In the event that the temperature is below 50°F/10°C before the start of a match, to improve the fan experience, the roof may be closed as directed by the Supervisor. Decisions on whether to close the roof due to cold shall be taken match by match.

## APPENDIX C

### PLAYER SANCTIONS

Category	Sanctions	
Late Withdrawal	<b>Tournament Category</b>	<b>Main Draw</b>
	<b>FIP Promises World Tour Finals</b>	200 points
	<b>FIP Promises World Tour</b>	100 points
	<b>FIP Promises Continental Finals</b>	150 points
	<b>FIP Promises Continental Tour</b>	50 points
Main Draw Not Show	Sanction 50% higher than the sanction applied for Late Withdrawal	

Category	Sanctions
<b>On-court Violations</b>	
Audible Obscenity	Up to 250 points Up to 150 points
Verbal Abuse	Up to 250 points
Physical Abuse	Up to 1.500 points
Ball Abuse	Up to 250 points
Racket Abuse	Up to 250 points
Continuos Play	Up to 50 points
Coaching	Up to 250 points
Unsportsmanlike Conduct	Up to 500 points
Best Efforts	Up to 250 points
Leaving the Court	Up to 150 points
Failure to Complete a Match	Up to 250 points
Punctuality	Up to 100 points
Others	Up to 150 points

## APPENDIX D

### PLAYER, COACH AND SUPPORT TEAM SANCTIONS

Dishonorable or Unprofessional Conduct	Up to 250 points
Aggravated Behavior	Up to 500 points

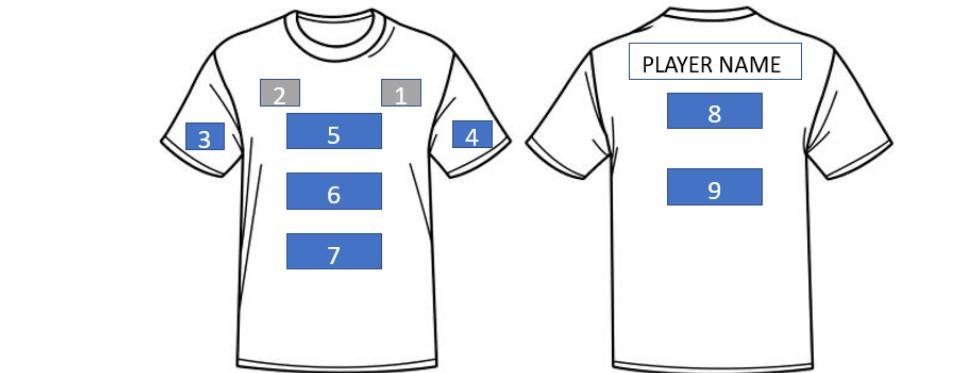
## APPENDIX E

### CLOTHING & COMMERCIAL IDs

#### INDICATIVE POSITIONS FOR PLAYER SPONSOR LOGOS: 2025



LOGOS	SIZES
Positions 1 to 4 / 10 to 12	5 cm vertical x 6,5 cm horizontal
Positions 5 to 9 with 3 (front) / 2 (back)	5 cm vertical x 20 cm horizontal
Positions 5 to 9 with 2 (front) / 1 (back)	5 cm vertical x 20 cm horizontal 1 Logo / 13 cm vertical x 20 cm horizontal 1 Logo



LOGOS	SIZES
Positions 1 to 4 / 10 to 14	5 cm vertical x 6,5 cm horizontal
Positions 5 to 9 with 3 (front) / 2 (back)	5 cm vertical x 20 cm horizontal
Positions 5 to 9 with 2 (front) / 1 (back)	5 cm vertical x 20 cm horizontal 1 Logo / 13 cm vertical x 20 cm horizontal 1 Logo

**INDICATIVE POSITIONS FOR COACHES SPONSOR LOGOS:**


LOGOS 2025	SIZES
Positions 1 to 4 / 7 to 8	5 cm vertical x 6,5 cm horizontal
Positions 5 to 6 with 1 (front) / 1 (back)	5 cm vertical x 20 cm horizontal
LOGOS 2026	
Logo 6 will be removed	