



Transition Tour update

July 2018

Why change is necessary



- Extensive ITF research (supported by WTA and ATP) showing poor return on investment for players and nations with integrity risks.
 - 14,000 “professionals”; only 600 “break even”
 - Only 75 out of 210 ITF nations host pro tournaments
 - Emerging talent takes longer to break through
- Reduced ATP points at \$25k tournaments in 2019; no ATP points expected below Challenger level from 2020.
- Interim report of Independent Review Panel (IRP), published April 2018, supports ITF plans for professional tennis and is likely to mandate them.
- New transition tour structure is designed to:
 - Help more players earn a financial living from the game
 - Provide more local playing opportunity at the entry level (transition tour) through reduced costs for tournament organisers
 - Create a strong pathway from Juniors to Pros

Introduction



- All information in this document refers to Singles play only.
- Doubles rules are under construction and require discussion with ATP and WTA. More information will be provided in due course.

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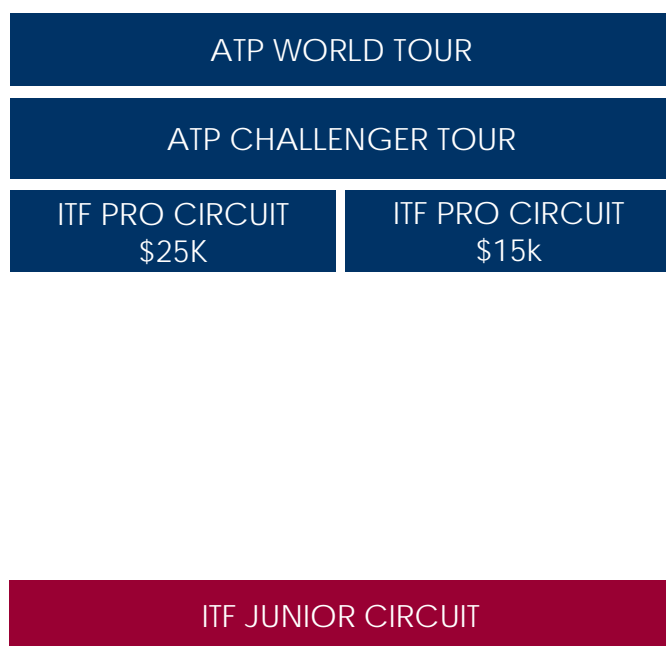


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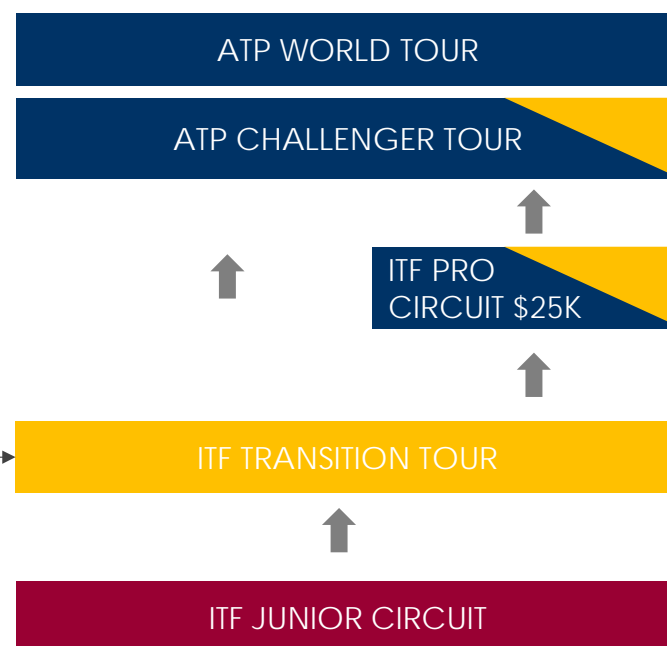
MEN - Tour structure



2018 STRUCTURE

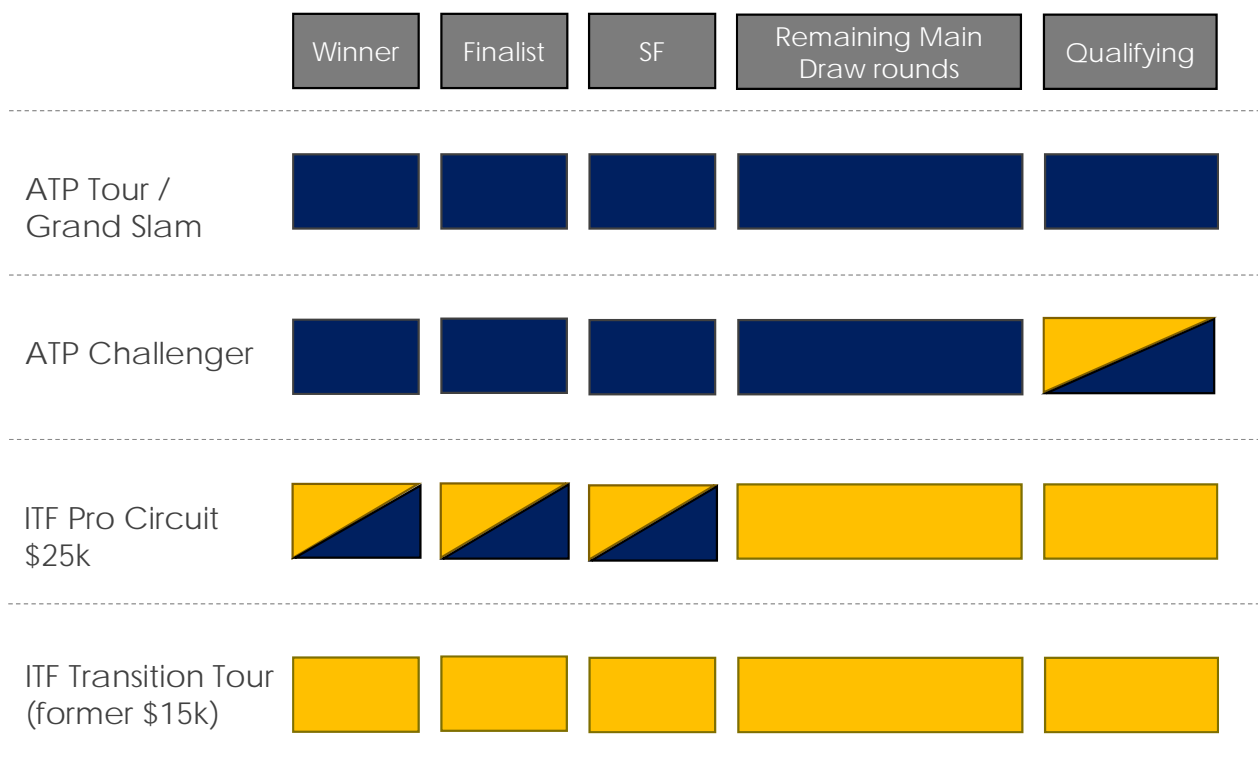


2019 STRUCTURE



■ ATP ranking points ■ ITF World Ranking Points ■ ITF Junior Ranking Points

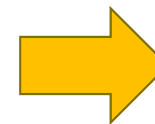
MEN - What type of points will be earned where?



Many players will have 2 rankings and play at both levels



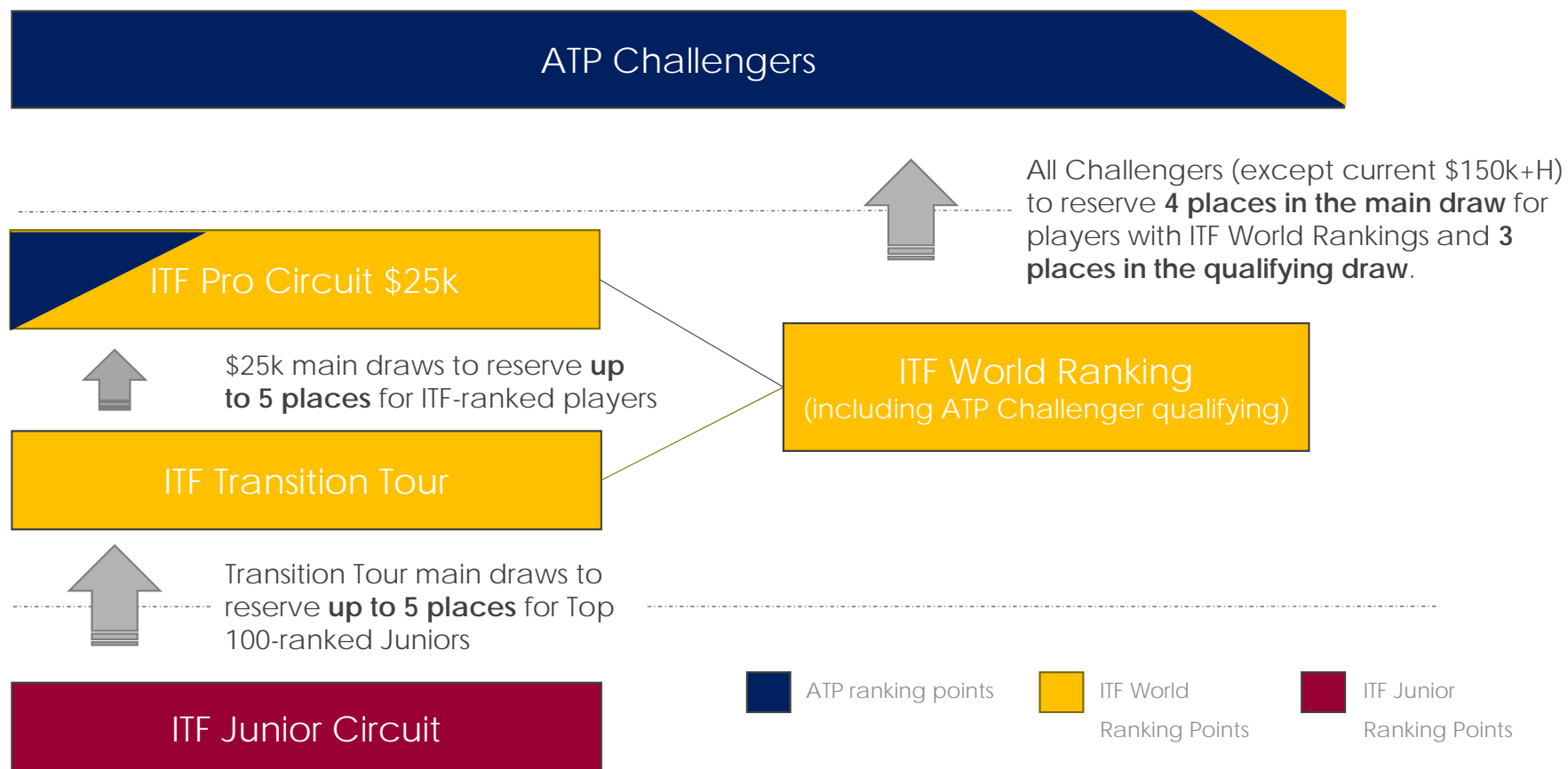
Results in **BLUE** to make up a player's ATP ranking (Best 18 tournaments)



Results in **YELLOW** to make up a player's ITF World Ranking (Best 14 tournaments)



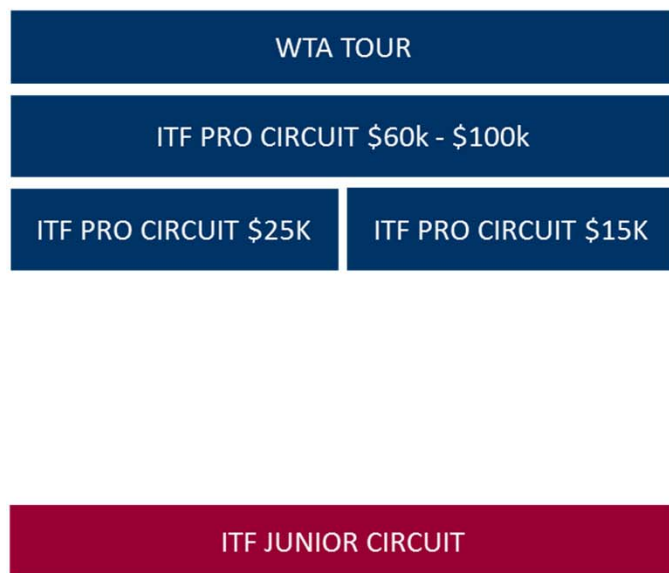
MEN - How do players progress through the system?



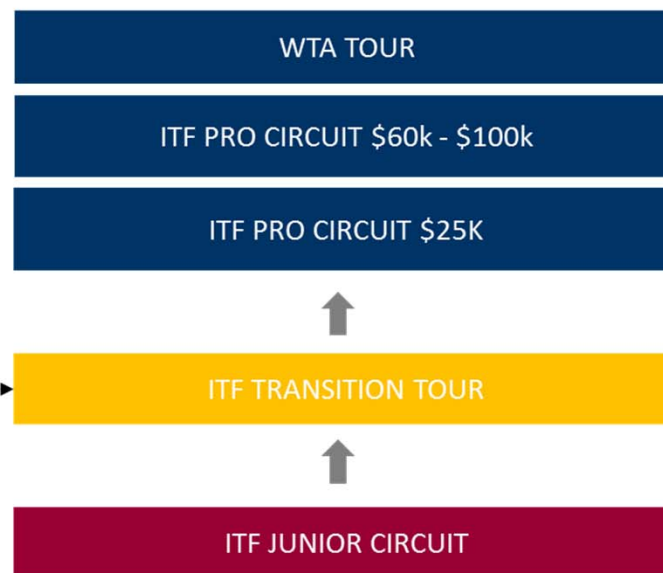
WOMEN - Tour structure



2018 STRUCTURE

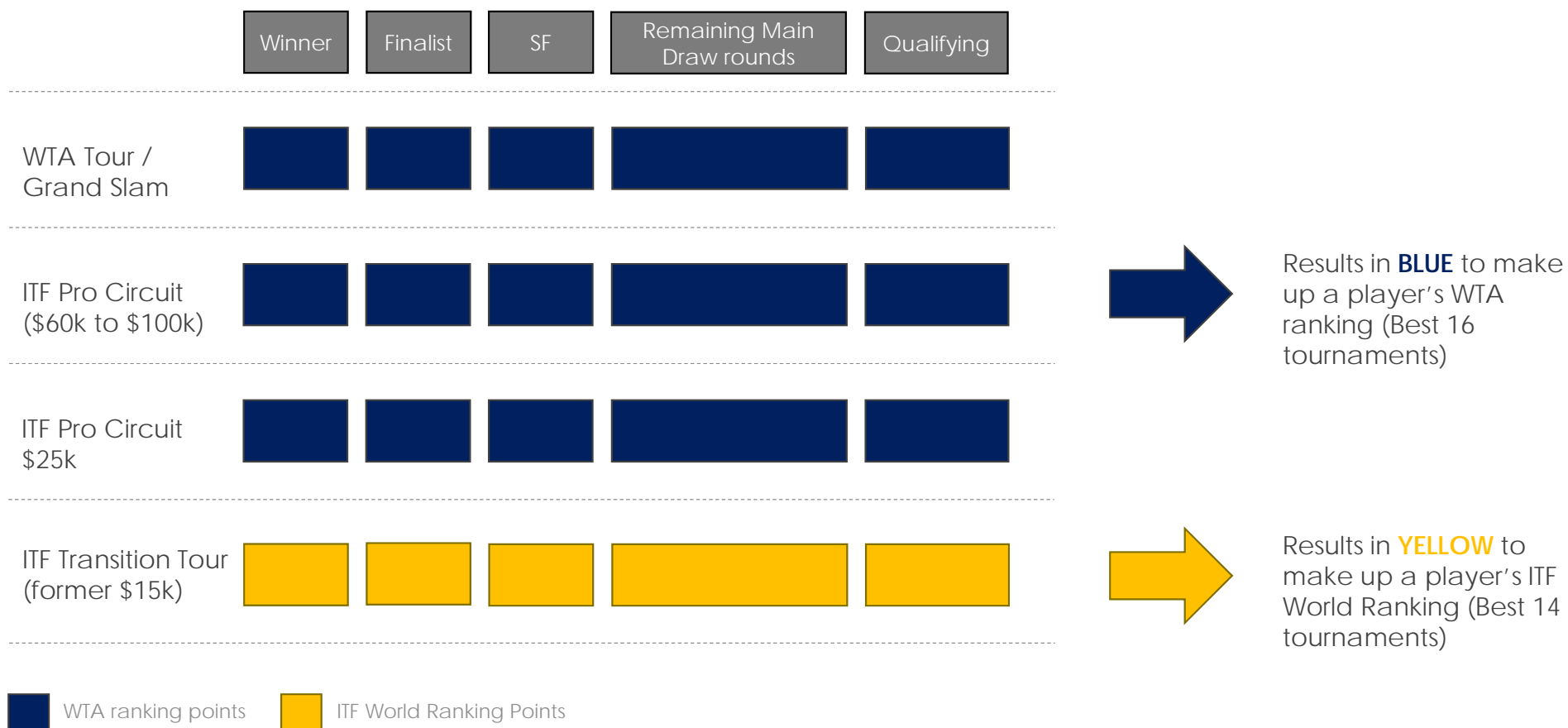


2019 STRUCTURE



 WTA ranking points  ITF World Ranking Points  ITF Junior Ranking Points

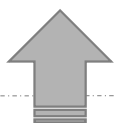
WOMEN - What type of points will be earned where?



WOMEN - How do players progress through the system?

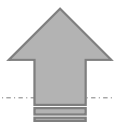


ITF Pro Circuit \$25k tournaments



- 1) \$25k tournament main draws to reserve **up to 5 places** for best ITF Entry Point-ranked players
- 2) Additional direct acceptance for ITF Entry Point-ranked players

ITF Transition Tour



Transition Tour main draws to reserve **up to 5 places** for Top 100-ranked Juniors

ITF Junior Circuit



WTA ranking points



ITF World Ranking Points



ITF Junior Ranking Points

ITF World Ranking Points table 2019 - CONFIRMED



Tournament Level	Tour	Winner	Finalist	SF	QF	R16	R32	R48	Qualifier	Q2
ATP Challengers		Men								
\$150k+H		[...]	[...]	[...]	[...]	[...]	[...]	[...]	[...]	[...]
\$125k+H		[...]	[...]	[...]	[...]	[...]	[...]	[...]	[...]	[...] / 30*
\$100k+H		[...]	[...]	[...]	[...]	[...]	[...]	[...]	[...]	[...] / 30*
\$75k+H		[...]	[...]	[...]	[...]	[...]	[...]	[...]	[...]	[...] / 30*
\$50k+H		[...]	[...]	[...]	[...]	[...]	[...]	[...]	[...]	[...] / 30*
\$25k+H	Men	5 / 225	3 / 135	1 / 67	27	9	0		4	1
\$25k	Men	3 / 150	1 / 90	45	18	6	0		3	1
Transition Tour (\$15k+H)	Men / Women	150	90	45	18	6	0		3	1
Transition Tour (\$15k)	Men / Women	100	60	30	12	4	0		2	1

[...] 2019 ATP points table not yet released, except ATP points at \$25k/\$25k+H level (**5, 3, 1**). In 2019, the vast majority of ATP Challengers will be a 48 Main Draw (6 rounds), 4 Qualifying Draw (1 round); all 2019 ITF tournaments to be 32 Main Draw (5 rounds) and 24 Qualifying Draw (2 rounds).

* ATP Challenger qualifying draws have at least 2 rounds in 2018. For the purposes of the shadow ranking, a player will carry forward 30 ITF World Ranking points each time he qualifies for a Challenger in 2018, and 12 ITF World Ranking points each time he reaches the final qualifying round (having won at least one match).

Tournament format



- All tournaments below ATP and WTA main tour level to be 7 days in duration
 - ITF Transition Tour (men/women); \$25k (men/women); \$60k, \$80k; \$100k (women)
 - ATP Challengers
- All ITF tournaments to have a 32 Main Draw and 24 Qualifying Draw
- All ITF tournaments to run from Monday to Sunday, including qualifying.
- All ITF tournaments (men and women) match format in qualifying to be best of 3 sets, with 2 tie-break sets and a match tie-break. Ad-scoring remains.
- No changes to match format in Main Draw (best of 3 tie-break sets)

Player acceptance into tournaments (1)



- ITF tournaments (transition tour, \$25k, \$60k, \$80k, \$100k) will have the following 4 types of places:

DA

Direct Acceptance

Typically 36-42 places in each ITF tournament will be taken up by DAs. The number varies according to the number of wild cards and whether the tournament has specific reserved places (see next slide)

The order of acceptance ("Systems of Merit") is:

1. ATP/WTA ranking
2. ITF World Ranking
3. National Rankings
4. Unranked (if necessary)

(Special Exempts and Junior Exempts, if required, are taken from the DA allocation.
ITF Junior ranking cannot be used for DA entry.)

Player acceptance into tournaments (2)



R

Reserved places

5 places at Transition Tour and \$25k level (men and women) to reward performance at a lower level with guaranteed opportunity at a higher level.

Transition Tour (men / women) Each tournament will reserve up to 5 places in the Main Draw for **Top 100 Juniors** (see slide 17)

\$25k (men / women) Each tournament will reserve up to 5 places in the Main Draw for the **best ITF World Ranked players** who apply.

ATP Challenger (men) Each Challenger tournament (below the current \$150k+H level) will reserve 4 main draw places for the **best ITF World Ranked players** who apply and 3 places in the qualifying draw.

ITF \$60k to \$100k (women) **No reserved places** in 2019.

Player acceptance into tournaments (3)



WC

Wild Cards

4 places in each Main Draw. Typically 4 places in each Qualifying Draw, with the exception of 5 at Transition Tour tournaments (to increase opportunities for local players).

Q

Qualifiers

6 places in each Main Draw for the qualifiers winning 2 rounds in the 24 Qualifying Draw.

Principles of Player acceptance (1)



1. Most players outside of the Top 300 men and women will have 2 rankings (e.g. ATP and ITF World ranking) and may even have an ITF Junior ranking as well. A player will not have to choose which ranking to enter with, the entry system will take into account a player's rankings and calculate which ranking accepts you into your best position in a tournament (unless the player has stated a preference).
2. The Reserved places will only be taken up by players who cannot already be accepted through the Direct Acceptance route. For example, if I am an ITF Junior, ranked 3, but my ATP ranking is good enough to have me accepted into a transition tour tournament, I will be accepted via Direct Acceptance and not through the Reserved places.
3. The entry system will always prioritise a player into the main draw over qualifying draw. For example, a player's WTA ranking gets them into \$25k qualifying draw but their ITF World Ranking gets them into a Reserved main draw place, the main draw place will have priority.
4. In the event that there are Reserved places not taken up by those with ITF World rankings (\$25k) or ITF Junior rankings (transition tour), those places will go to Direct Acceptances.

Principles of Player acceptance (2)



5. If a player accepted into a Reserved place withdraws before the Freeze deadline, he or she can be replaced by another player who has entered and who has an ITF World Ranking (\$25k) or ITF Top 100 Junior ranking (transition tour).
6. Any withdrawals from the Main Draw reserved places after the Freeze deadline will be filled by the highest-ranked players accepted into qualifying.
7. Players enter transition tour and ITF Pro Circuit tournaments via IPIN, as currently.

Juniors acceptance into Transition Tour tournaments



- Transition Tour tournaments will reserve up to 5 places for Top 100 Juniors. This can be achieved in 2 ways:
 1. The player is a current Top 100 Junior as at the entry deadline of the transition tour tournament.
 2. A player who has finished their last year competing on the ITF Junior Circuit can carry over their year-end Junior ranking only for the purposes of entering into transition tour tournaments and only until the player reaches the age of 19.
- As a reminder, if the player can be accepted into the Main Draw of a transition tour tournament through their ATP/WTA or ITF World Ranking then that is how they will be accepted.
- The Junior Exempt programme, which rewards Juniors who finish in the Junior year-end Top 20, will remain in place for 2019 (replacing \$15k exemptions with transition tour exemptions). Junior Exempts will continue to be part of the Direct Acceptance allocation.
- The application of Age Eligibility Rules to boys and girls will be announced later in 2018.

Draw composition - Transition tour (MEN/WOMEN)



MAIN DRAW

32

DA 1	DA 2	DA 3	DA 4	J 1	J 2	J 3	WC 1	WC 2	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3
DA 5	DA 6	DA 7	DA 8	J 4	J 5		WC 3	WC 4	Q 4	Q 5	Q 6
DA 9	DA 10	DA 11	DA 12								
DA 13	DA 14	DA 15	DA 16								
DA 17											

QUALIFYING
DRAW

24

DA 18	DA 19	DA 20	DA 21	WC 1	WC 2
DA 22	DA 23	DA 24	DA 25	WC 3	WC 4
DA 26	DA 27	DA 28	DA 29	WC 5	
DA 30	DA 31	DA 32	DA 33		
DA 34	DA 35	DA 36			

J Up to 5 main draw places reserved for Top 100 Juniors
x

Draw composition – Pro Circuit \$25k (MEN/WOMEN)



MAIN DRAW

32

DA 1	DA 2	DA 3	DA 4	ITF 1	ITF 2	ITF 3	WC 1	WC 2	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3
DA 5	DA 6	DA 7	DA 8	ITF 4	ITF 5		WC 3	WC 4	Q 4	Q 5	Q 6
DA 9	DA 10	DA 11	DA 12								
DA 13	DA 14	DA 15	DA 16								
DA 17											

QUALIFYING DRAW

24

DA 18	DA 19	DA 20	DA 21	WC 1	WC 2
DA 22	DA 23	DA 24	DA 25	WC 3	WC 4
DA 26	DA 27	DA 28	DA 29		
DA 30	DA 31	DA 32	DA 33		
DA 34	DA 35	DA 36	DA 37		

ITF
x Up to 5 main draw places reserved for players with ITF World Rankings

Draw composition – ATP Challengers (MEN)



MAIN DRAW
48

DA 1	DA 2	DA 3	DA 4	DA 5	DA 6	ITF 1	ITF 2	WC 1	WC 2	Q 1	Q 2
DA 7	DA 8	DA 9	DA 10	DA 11	DA 12	ITF 3	ITF 4	WC 3	WC 4		
DA 13	DA 14	DA 15	DA 16	DA 17	DA 18			WC 5			
DA 19	DA 20	DA 21	DA 22	DA 23	DA 24						
DA 25	DA 26	DA 27	DA 28	DA 29	DA 30						
DA 31	DA 32	DA 33	DA 34	DA 35	DA 36						
DA 37											

QUALIFYING
DRAW
4

ITF 5	ITF 6	WC 1
ITF 7		

ITF x	4 places reserved in the Main Draw 3 places reserved in the Qualifying Draw
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Draw composition – ATP Challengers (MEN)



- Vast majority of ATP Challengers to be a 48 Main Draw / 4 Qualifying Draw in 2019 (56 Main Draw applications possible but need to meet criteria)
- Reserved places for players with ITF World Ranking in all Challenger tournaments EXCEPT the current \$150k+H level.
 - Main Draw: 4 places
 - Qualifying Draw: 3 places
- ATP points awarded for Main Draw wins; 30 ITF World Ranking points awarded for Qualifying Draw wins; ATP points structure for 2018 not yet released
- Principle approved by ITF/ATP Men's Committee to relax commitment rule to allow players accepted into a transition tour or \$25,000 tournament to maintain their eligibility as an alternate at a Challenger tournament. If a place becomes available the player could, without penalty, withdraw from the ITF tournament and "play up" at the Challenger event.

Draw composition – Pro Circuit \$60k-\$100k (WOMEN)



MAIN DRAW
32

DA 1	DA 2	DA 3	DA 4	DA 5	WC 1	WC 2	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3
DA 6	DA 7	DA 8	DA 9	DA 10	WC 3	WC 4	Q 4	Q 5	Q 6
DA 11	DA 12	DA 13	DA 14	DA 15					
DA 16	DA 17	DA 18	DA 19	DA 20					
DA 21	DA 22								

QUALIFYING DRAW
24

DA 23	DA 24	DA 25	DA 26	WC 1	WC 2
DA 27	DA 28	DA 29	DA 30	WC 3	WC 4
DA 31	DA 32	DA 33	DA 34		
DA 35	DA 36	DA 37	DA 38		
DA 39	DA 40	DA 41	DA 42		

Ranking conversion/introduction (1)



- 31 December 2018
 - Official conversion of ATP and WTA rankings; official introduction of ITF World Ranking
 - 2018 performance gets converted into what it would look like under the 2019 points structure (see slide 10).
 - ATP ranking – Best 18 tournaments; WTA ranking – Best 16
 - ITF World Ranking – Best 14 (men and women)
 - Many players outside the Top 300 will have both an ATP/WTA and an ITF World ranking
 - ATP/WTA/ITF “shadow” rankings available on IPIN / PlayerZone from June / July.
 - Videos explaining rankings, ranking conversion and tournament entry to be released
- MEN
 - Performance at ATP Tour, ATP Challengers and later rounds of \$25,000 tournaments retained as ATP points (Best 18 tournaments), although the ATP has not yet announced its ATP points structure for 2019
 - Performance at \$15,000, \$25,000 and qualifying rounds in ATP Challengers converted into ITF World Ranking points (Best 14 tournaments)

Ranking conversion/introduction (2)



- WOMEN
 - Performance at \$25,000 level and above retained as WTA ranking points (Best 16 tournaments). 2019 WTA ranking point structure not yet published.
 - Performance at \$15,000 level converted into ITF World Ranking points (Best 14 tournaments)
- All ranking points will count for 52 weeks, including any conversion.
 - *Example: I earn 18 ATP points for winning a \$15,000 tournament in June 2018. On 31 December 2018, those ATP points are formally converted into 100 ITF World Ranking Points. The ITF points will “drop off” my ranking in June 2019.*
- Tournament entry
 - 2018 tournaments, 2018 entry process, 2018 points.
 - 2019 tournaments, 2019 entry process, 2019 points
 - Shadow rankings will be used for acceptance into tournaments in the first 3 weeks of the 2019 season (the entry deadline will fall in 2018)

Ranking conversion/introduction (3) (WOMEN)



Year	Tournament Level	Winner	Finalist	SF	QF	R16	R32	Qualifier	Final round qual.
2018	ITF Pro Circuit \$15,000 +H	25	15	9	5	1	0	0	0
2019	Transition Tour (\$15k +H)	150	90	45	18	6	0	3	1
2018	ITF Pro Circuit \$15,000	12	7	4	2	1	0	0	0
2019	Transition Tour (\$15k)	100	60	30	12	4	0	2	1

WTA ranking points
 ITF World Ranking points

Ranking conversion/introduction (4) (MEN)



Year	Tournament Level	Winner	Finalist	SF	QF	R16	R32	Qualifier	Final round qual.
2018	ATP Challengers (except \$150k+H)							[...]	0
2019	ATP Challengers (except \$150k+H)							[...] / 30	12
2018	ITF Pro Circuit \$25,000 (+H)	35	20	10	4	1	0	0	0
2019	ITF Pro Circuit \$25,000 (+H)	5 / 225	3 / 135	1 / 67	27	9	0	4	1
2018	ITF Pro Circuit \$25,000	27	15	8	3	1	0	0	0
2019	ITF Pro Circuit \$25,000	3 / 150	1 / 90	45	18	6	0	3	1
2018	ITF Pro Circuit \$15,000 +H	27	15	8	3	1	0	0	0
2019	Transition Tour (\$15k +H)	150	90	45	18	6	0	3	1
2018	ITF Pro Circuit \$15,000	18	10	6	2	1	0	0	0
2019	Transition Tour (\$15k)	100	60	30	12	4	0	2	1

ATP ranking points
 ITF World Ranking points

- Many players, coaches and administrators believe that a player needs to be in the Top 750 at the end of the year to be a “professional” in 2019, or compete at certain tournament levels. This is not correct.
- Please distribute the following messages widely:
 - The number of ATP or WTA ranked players at the start of 2019 may be more or less than 750 but will depend entirely on how many players in 2018 earned ATP or WTA points at the tournament levels and rounds that will award those points in 2019.
 - In addition, a player does not have to be within the ATP or WTA Top 750 to enter tournaments awarding ATP or WTA points in 2019.
 - Players within the Top 750 will be able to play on the transition tour (existing play-down rules will remain).
- The reason for the confusion among players, coaches, administrators is the ITF’s analysis that the professional game can support approximately 750 male and 750 female players. But this is a concept not a ranking “cut-off” .

Organisational requirements



- CONFIRMED FOR 2019
 - No requirement for 3 consecutive weeks of transition tour tournaments (men/women)
 - No requirement for 2 consecutive weeks of \$25k tournaments (men/women)
 - Countries will continue to host consecutive weeks where it makes sense for their players but regional cooperation among nations to introduce local circuits is encouraged.
 - 7 day tournaments (not 9 or 10), Monday to Sunday including qualifying
 - Introduction of Main Draw entry fees for men (USD 40, USD 20 for doubles only)
 - Reduced women's hospitality requirements at \$25k / transition tour level to be consistent with men's requirements at the same level (twin rooms, 3 nights accommodation, safeguarding requirement)
 - Transition tour prize money of \$15,000 per tournament
- OUTSTANDING
 - Reduction in officiating requirements at transition tour level only
 - Expected: White Badge supervisor if Gold/Silver supervisor not available in-country; 1 White Badge chair umpire not 2.

Example match schedule (ITF tournaments)

1 day of qualifying



	QR1 / QFR	R32	R32	R16	QF	SF	F
Singles	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Court 1	3 / 2	3	3	3	3	2	1
Court 2	3 / 2	3	3	3	1		
Court 3	3 / 1	2	2	2			
Court 4	3 / 1						

		R16	R16	QF	SF	F	
Doubles	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Court 1		1	1	1	1	1	
Court 2		1	1	1	1		
Court 3		2	2	2			
Court 4							

Key: **Singles qualifying**
Singles main draw
Doubles

Example match schedule (ITF tournaments) 2 days of qualifying



	QR1 / QFR	R32	R32	R16	QF	SF	F
Singles	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Court 1	4	2 + 2	4	3	3	2	1
Court 2	4	2 + 2	3	3	1		
Court 3	4	2 + 2	3	2			
Court 4							

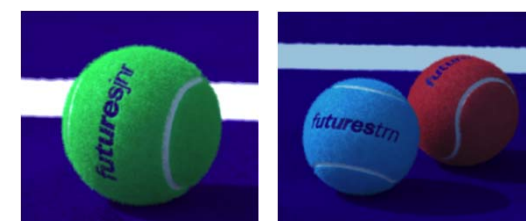
		R16	R16	QF	SF	F	
Doubles	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Court 1				1	1	1	
Court 2		1	1	1	1		
Court 3		1	1	2			
Court 4		2	3				

Key: **Singles qualifying**
Singles main draw
Doubles

Branding



- “Transition Tour”
 - Descriptive and functional
 - Does not convey aspiration or importance
 - Design agency tasked with a new name designed to link all 3 parts of the Player Pathway – Junior, transition, Pro (existing samples, see right)
 - Name of transition tour to be announced later in 2018
- ITF World Ranking Points / ITF World Ranking
 - More stature and easier to say than “ITF Entry Point” / “ITF Entry Point standing”



Important dates / timeline



June	DONE DONE	Women's shadow rankings published Women's player video published
July	DONE DONE	Men's shadow rankings published Men's player video published Tournament application process open
1 September		Deadline for tournament applications for Week 1, 2019
September		Tournaments open for player entry
13 December		ITF entry deadline for Week 1, 2019 tournaments
20 December		ITF entry deadline for Week 2, 2019 tournaments
27 December		ITF entry deadline for Week 3, 2019 tournaments
31 December		Official rankings conversion Day 1 of the 2019 season