

STANDING RULES
OF THE
MALTA TENNIS FEDERATION

The **MALTA TENNIS FEDERATION (FEDERAZZJONI MALTJA TENNIS)**, hereinafter referred to as the MTF, is hereby adopting the following standing rules that regulate the ordinary administration of the MTF, namely:

1. Team Selection

The MTF shall select players in accordance with the National Rankings with the exception of those situations whereby the National Coach/Technical Director/Team Captain shall submit in writing a request to the Executive justifying why a player is to be selected even though they do not appear in the highest ranked list. The Executive shall discuss the matter and the approval of the President is required to grant such exception.

2. Conduct and Right of Appeal

Any person, *inter alia* any player, coach, parent, official, club official, administrator or supporter, who carries out any act of improper conduct in any tennis event, may be disciplined in the form of a warning, a deduction of points, or a pecuniary fine, or a multitude of the said measures, and suspended, both on a definite and /or and indefinite period, by the Executive of the MTF as the said Executive deems appropriate.

The decision shall take place following a written report being filed with the Secretary General of the MTF by any person, including by a member of the Executive who in such a case shall not be part of such a decision, of an act of improper conduct. The report shall be immediately communicated to the defendant, who shall in turn be allowed a reasonable time to file in writing his version of events. The Executive reserves the right to request an audience with the involved parties.

The decision shall be communicated in writing to the defendant who may send a request in writing to the Secretary General within eight days upon receipt of such decision, demanding an appeal from such decision. The Secretary General shall write to the Appeals Board to summon all the involved parties and hold a hearing to decide the matter and deliver a decision within a further twenty days.

The Appeals Board shall be made up of the three persons, namely a lawyer who shall Chair the Board and another two members. The said Board shall be confirmed each year during the Annual General Meeting. A substitute shall also be nominated.

3. *Rankings*

a. Scope:- The scope of this system shall be the establishment of a merit-based method for the production of up-to-date classification list of players taking part in tournament sanctioned by the Malta Tennis Federation.

b. Ranking Period:- The ranking period shall be the immediate past fifty-two weeks computed as on the previous day of the next tournament draw. Tournament points shall be computed and assigned immediately after a tournament is concluded and the last computation shall be used for each tournament. As each tournament is completed, the points for that tournament in the previous year shall be dropped and replaced by the current year's points.

The above is subject to the fact that, if a particular tournament has been rescheduled and takes place later on the year, provided that the delay does not exceed four weeks, the previous year's points shall remain valid until the current tournament is concluded.

In the event that the above four weeks grace have expired, then the previous year's points shall be removed and shall not be taken into consideration.

c. Ranking Method:- The method by which players shall be awarded points shall be as follows:-

Add each player's points obtained during the ranking period:-

All players who participate in the main draw of any event will merit points. Apart from this clause, no player will merit further points unless he or she has played and won a round; except in the final, i.e. a walkover or bye will not merit additional points.

Bonus points shall be allocated to players who change their age category at the end of the calendar year. The bonus points represent 15% of the points achieved before his/her change of category. These bonus points shall be dropped-off at the end of the following year.

d. Suspension Points:- Fifty penalty points will be deducted for every walk-over given and also for every late withdrawal. This rule can be overruled by the production of a medical certificate by the player. For the purposes of this rule, a late withdrawal shall be a withdrawal received after the holding of the draw.

e. Allocation of Points:-The points listed below will be assigned to the participants of the agreed tournaments:

Players	LEVEL 1 (MALTA OPEN) DRAW				LEVEL 2 DRAW			
	64	32	16	8	64	32	16	8
Winner	380	300	220	180	290	250	150	130
Finalist	220	180	140	100	200	150	130	70
Semi-Finalist	180	120	60	40	150	130	70	25
Quarter-Finalist	120	60	30	8	130	70	25	5
Last sixteen	60	30	8	-	70	25	5	-
Last 32	30	8	-	-	25	5	-	-
Last 64	8				5			

Tournaments played on a league basis

Number of Participants	12	8(a)	8(b)	6	5	4	3
Final Position							
1st	300	220	50	170	142	113	85
2nd	245	170	35	120	100	80	60
3rd	200	120	30	95	79	63	48
4th	165	95	25	75	63	50	-
5th	130	75	20	55	46	-	-
6th	105	55	15	40	-	-	-
7th	80	40	10	-	-	-	-
8th	60	25	5	-	-	-	-
9th	40	-	-	-	-	-	-
10th	20	-	-	-	-	-	-
11th	10	-	-	-	-	-	-
12th	5	-	-	-	-	-	-

For league tournaments, where players finish with equal points, the difference between sets won and lost, followed by, if necessary, the difference between games won and lost, shall determine the final position. In the event that the situation remains one of equality, then the direct encounter shall be taken into consideration.

f. Specified Tournaments :-

The following classes of tournaments will qualify for ranking purposes:-

- i) Open tournaments organized by local clubs for the Federation;
- ii) Open tournaments organized by local clubs and sanctioned by the Federation;
- iii) National Singles Leagues.

4. Officiating

1. All senior open tournaments sanctioned by the MTF must have at least one chair umpire plus one line judge for the final match.
2. All junior open tournaments sanctioned by the MTF must have at least one chair umpire plus one line judge for the final match.
3. These officials must be provided by the MTF and cannot be hired directly. This includes tournament referees.
4. The MTF will ensure that all its officials are updated with refresher courses and certified at least to a national level.
5. A code of conduct will be drafted by the MTF for executive council approval and will form part and parcel of all national tournaments in Malta that wish to be sanctioned by the MTF.

Dr. David Farrugia Sacco
President

Mr. John Sciberras
Secretary General

As approved by the Annual General Meeting held on the 31st January 2019.