

ITF Seniors Tournament Structure Changes 2021

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## 2021 ITF Seniors Tournament Structure, Grading and Rankings Changes



Dear Dawn,

The ITF are pleased to announce a series of improvements to the ITF Seniors Circuit for 2021.

Today's announcement extends from the publication of the [2019-2021 ITF Seniors Strategic Plan in January 2019](#) and the ITF's [announcement of 2020 circuit changes in October 2019](#). These changes have been made in consultation with the ITF Seniors Player Advisory Panel and ITF Seniors Tournament Director and Referee Panel over the past 12 months.

More than 27,500 players between the ages of 35 and 97 compete on the ITF Seniors Circuit on an annual

basis. For the first time in the circuit's history, more than 500 tournaments were staged in 2019.

Among the most important changes that will be introduced in 2021 is a new, refined and simplified tournament structure. The previous Grade A to Grade 4 naming will be replaced by numeric figures which represent the points available to the winning player(s) in each event.

The 2021 structure will also introduce a new grade (ITF Seniors 1000) where a small number of global tournaments will offer a greater value of ranking points, relative to the points available at the World Championships. Only four further grades will exist to help provide an appropriate tournament experience to players of different standards.

### [View the 2021 ITF Seniors Tournament Structure & Changes](#)

#### **Summary of key changes for 2021:**

- The ITF Seniors Committee will assign all existing tournaments with a new grade in 2021 in line with the grading criteria outlined. Tournaments that take place between January-June will be informed of their grade by 31 July 2020. Tournaments from July-December 2021 will be informed by 31 January 2021.

- [Updated ranking point tables for 2021 to reflect the new tournament structure.](#)

- The ITF will introduce a Tournament Recognition Scheme in 2021 where tournaments that receive the very best player satisfaction feedback will be recognised on the ITF website and ITF Seniors tournament calendar. This feature will help new and existing players identify the tournaments that are providing the very best levels of player satisfaction, to motivate and reward tournament organisers who are delivering an exceptional tournament experience.

- The ITF recognise the importance to players of a great tournament and match experience which offers value for money. Doubles events and consolation events shall be strongly encouraged for 2021 onward to help improve the player experience and enrichment at ITF Seniors tournaments.

- The ITF wish to work with national associations and tournament organisers on an initiative for younger age groups (up to 45 and over) to adapt the tournament experience to make it more relevant for this large playing group. This will include the use of adapted scoring formats, the ability for players to compete in up to 2 singles matches a day and to shorten the length of tournaments.

Kind regards,  
ITF Seniors Department

If you have any questions, please contact [seniors@itftennis.com](mailto:seniors@itftennis.com)

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Strategic Plan

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