

## Pacific Games and Pacific Mini Games Tennis Event

### TENNIS

1) The following competitions shall be organized:

- a) Singles – two (2) tournaments
  - a. Men's Singles
  - b. Women's Singles

Each Country/Territory may enter a maximum of four (4) players in the Men's Singles and four (4) players in the Women's Singles events.

- b) Doubles – There will be three (3) tournaments
  - a. Men's Doubles
  - b. Women's Doubles
  - c. Mixed Doubles

Each Country/Territory may enter a maximum of 2 teams in the Men's and Women's Doubles above, and a maximum of 4 teams in the Mixed Doubles Event.

- c) Teams Event – There will be two (2) tournaments:
  - a. Men's Team – 1 team per Country/Territory
  - b. Women's Team- 1 team per Country/Territory

Each of these two tournaments will be conducted over round robin in groups followed by direct elimination draw based on the round robin results, and each separate round between two Countries/ Territories will consist of:

- 2 singles matches
- 1 doubles match

Each Country/Territory may select any 2 players of their team to play singles and any 2 players to play doubles provided the singles players play in the ranking order given to the Referee prior to the start of the Teams Event.

2) There will be 7 different tournaments and the following medals will be awarded:

- 7 gold medals
- 7 silver medals
- 7 bronze medals

- 3) The teams shall comprise a maximum of 8 players, with no more than 5 players of the same sex. A Country/Territory may elect to have a reserve as a non-playing member. This player can only play in the case of the original player having to withdraw from an event. This player can take the withdrawn player's position only if the player has not commenced playing in that event. However, this would not restrict such reserve from playing in the next round of a Team's Event. (Please note the intent of this rule is not to provide teams with an additional player, but a replacement player in case of a certified medical injury which rules the player from competing further in the Games with any player replaced not being able to return to the competition under any circumstances).
- 4) All Singles Matches in both the Individual and Teams Event will be the best of 3 Tie-Break Sets. In all Doubles Matches No-Ad scoring shall be used throughout the match and when the score is one set all, one (1) match Tie-Break game (10 Points) shall be played to decide the match. The exception to this will be the Teams Event when all Doubles Matches will be the best of 3 Tie-Break Sets with standard scoring.

In all Doubles Matches where No-Ad scoring is operating, the receiver (s) shall choose whether to receive the service from the right or the left of the court. In Doubles, the players of the receiving team cannot change positions to receive this deciding point. The team who wins the deciding point wins the game.

In Mixed Doubles, the player of the same gender as the server shall receive the deciding point. The players of the receiving team cannot change positions to receive this deciding point.

- 5) The Tournament Committee will decide on the type of tennis ball to be used (ITF approved), the number of balls to be used on court and their change (e.g. for the 3<sup>rd</sup> set, new balls will be used).
- 6) The type of court surface to be used will be decided by the Host Country/ Territory. They will advise the various Countries/Territories accordingly eighteen (18) months before the Opening of the Games.
- 7) The type of ball to be used should be made known to the Countries/Territories at least three (3) months before the Opening of the Games. Two cans of these balls (new or good used) should be given to each team for practice prior to the start of the Games.

8) The Teams' Event shall be played first, followed by the Singles' Event. Once the Singles Event has started, the Doubles and Mixed Doubles Events can begin. If time permits, the Tournament Committee should be encouraged to play Consolation Events for players/teams losing the first match they actually play. There will be no medals for winning such events.

9) Determination of Seeds:

a) For the teams event there will be four seeds. The guidelines that the selections committee should adopt, in no priority order, will be that the four strongest Nations based on the criteria below will be seeded 1 (Group A), 2 (Group B) 3 (Group C) and 4 (Group D).

- Finishing position at the immediately previous Games (Mini or Main Pacific Games)
- Strength of these three teams as compared to previous Games
- Strength of the fourth team (losing Bronze Medal Play-Off) from the previous Games
- The Host Country is no longer automatically seeded 4<sup>th</sup> and this position would be taken by the next strongest nation after the evaluation of the above criteria by the selections committee.

b) Seedings for the individuals/doubles events should be done on the latest available rankings and actual match results rather than simply on historical results from previous Pacific Games. The following guidelines, in no priority order, should be used to determine the final seedings:

- 1) WTA/ATP Rankings
- 2) Head to Head from the just completed Team's event.
- 3) Regional Tournament results
- 4) Davis and Fed Cup selection tournament results
- 5) Davis and Fed Cup competition results
- 6) Results of fixtures between Pacific Nations
- 7) Historical results from previous Pacific Games, both Maxi and Mini Games.

c) The Number of Seeds for the individual and doubles events will be:

- 4 for a 16 draw
- 8 for a 32 draw
- 16 for a 64 draw

10) Construction of the Draws:

(a) Teams Event - regulations used at ITF teams competitions shall apply

(i) Round Robin – teams will be drawn into groups of four with one seed in each group for a 16 nation competition. With 8 or less nations there will be two groups and with 9-12 nations there will be three groups.

(ii) On completion of the round robin the four group winners shall contest the main draw semi-final and final. The Winner of Group A will play the Winner of Group D and the Winner of Group B will play the winner of Group C.

If there are three groups, the three winners and the best performed second placed nation will contest the semifinals. The above format will apply with the best performed second placed Nation playing the Winner of Group A.

For two groups the first and second placed nations in each group will contest the semifinals with the Winners playing the 2<sup>nd</sup> placed team in the opposite group in the semi-finals.

(iii) If time permits and the tournament committee agree then the remaining teams may contest placement ties.

(b) Singles and Doubles events - the regulations used at Olympic Games shall apply.

(i) Seedings – determined by the committee as outlined in Rule 9(b) and drawn in accordance with normal regulations and the separation outlined below.

(ii) Separation of Players from the same Nation  
Where there are four (4) or three (3) players from the same Country/Territory, they are to be drawn in separate quarters of the draw with those seeded in separate halves where possible. Where there are two (2) players from the same Country/Territory, they should be drawn in opposite halves of the draw. In making such draw, the priority for drawing such players (after the seeds have been drawn/placed) should be Countries/Territories with 4 players, then 3 players, then 2 players and finally 1 player. Likewise in Doubles, countries with 4 teams, followed by those with 3 teams, 2 teams and finally 1 team.

11) The latest ITF Rules of Tennis and Code of Conduct will apply.

12) a) In the Teams Event, the team captain must give to the Referee the names of the singles players in order of merit prior to the start of the event and the draw being made.

- b) Thereafter, no change may be made to the order of merit with the exception that a non-playing reserve may take the lowest place on the team in the event of a withdrawal by a player, with all other players moving up one place.
- c) Team managers must notify the Referee of the names of the two Singles players for each round at least thirty (30) minutes before the start of the team's match in that round. Different members may be selected to play in any round. If a Country/Territory fails to submit names of the two players within the time allowed, then the Referee will take the names of the two (2) Singles players used by that Country/Territory in the last round.
- d) If the number 1 player is not selected for any round, the number 2 player will automatically take its number 1 place for that round and the number 3 player shall move into the second position for that round. If the number 1 player is thereafter selected, he/she shall resume the number 1 position.
- e) Any two (2) members of the team may play in any of the Doubles matches. The nominations should be on the original selection sheet given to the referee prior to the start of that round. This selection may be changed within thirty (30) minutes of the completion of the number 1 singles match.
- f) The order of play in the Teams Event will be: number 2 singles, number 1 Singles; then the Doubles. There will be an appropriate break between the #1 Singles and Doubles.

13) A Team Manager/Coach may sit on court as team captain during a team's event. This person may be changed from round to round and a player could be designated as the captain for any round. The ITF Rules relative to coaching will apply.