

2004 ITF WOMEN'S CIRCUIT SUMMARY OF RULE CHANGES

ENTRY DEFINITIONS

e) Main Draw Only - \$50,000/\$75,000 Tournaments

A player who enters the Singles or Doubles of a tournament but only wishes to play Main Draw. The option to enter as "Main Draw Only" is restricted to \$50,000 and \$75,000 tournaments only. A player may not change her status after the entry deadline. Should a player move into the Main Draw and not show up she will be penalised accordingly. Players who have entered as "Main Draw Only" and who withdraw before being accepted into the Main Draw may sign in as an On-Site Alternate. Main Draw Only status expires at the Freeze Deadline (see Withdrawal Procedures).

COMPOSITION OF THE DRAWS

Singles Qualifying – 32 Draw

Direct Acceptances - 26.

Wild Cards - 6.

Singles Main Draw

The number of Wild Cards at all tournaments will be increased from 3 to 4 and the number of Direct Acceptances will be reduced accordingly.

Doubles Main Draw

The number of Wild Cards at all tournaments will be increased from 2 to 3 and the number of Direct Acceptances will be reduced accordingly.

SIGN-IN / REGISTRATION

Main Draw – Doubles

Entries and sign-in shall be made with the Referee on-site no later than 12.00 noon on the day preceding the first scheduled day of the Singles Main Draw. Telephone sign-ins shall be accepted. One player may sign-in for the team. All doubles team entries must be in writing and received by the ITF Supervisor/Referee by 12.00 noon local time on the day before the Main Draw in singles is scheduled to commence. For tournaments which do not organise a doubles qualifying, the entry deadline shall be 12.00 noon local time on the day of the scheduled start of the singles Main Draw. The doubles sign-in record must be posted at a reasonable time prior to the announced sign-in deadline. One member of a doubles team may sign in for the team. The ITF Supervisor/Referee reserves the right to accept telephone entries received by the sign-in deadline. Players who fail to sign-in shall not be included in the doubles draw.

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CATEGORIES OF TOURNAMENTS

All National Associations/Women's Circuit tournament organisers should note that from 1 January 2004 the following Categories of event will no longer exist:-

ITF WOMEN'S CIRCUIT \$20,000 CIRCUIT

A circuit of 3 tournaments, each of \$5,000 prize money, plus a Masters tournament with a minimum of \$5,000 prize money for the most successful players (i.e total available prize money is a minimum of \$20,000).

ITF WOMEN'S CIRCUIT \$40,000 CIRCUIT

A circuit of 3 tournaments, each of \$10,000 prize money, plus a Masters tournament of a minimum of \$10,000 for the most successful players (i.e. total available prize money is a minimum of \$40,000).

REMINDER

The Rule shown below was incorporated into the 2003 Regulations and is highlighted to remind players of their commitment once accepted into an ITF Women's Circuit tournament:

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LATE WITHDRAWALS / PLAYING ANOTHER EVENT

Playing Another Event

A player who has entered and been accepted into an ITF Women's Circuit tournament shall not play in any other tennis event during the period of such tournament unless she receives authorisation from the ITF. Violation of this Section shall result in a fine up to \$ 1,000 in addition to any other fines provided in the Code.

In circumstances that are flagrant and particularly injurious to the success of an ITF Women's Circuit tournament, or are singularly egregious, a single violation of this Section shall also constitute the Major Offence of "Aggravated Behaviour".