

SEEDING GUIDELINES NATIONAL OUTDOOR & INDOOR MASTERS TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

Introduction

Seedings are intended to ensure that tournament draws are balanced to the extent possible, by placing players who have obtained exceptional results and rankings in predetermined lines on draws so that they do not confront each other in early rounds. These Guidelines will be considered by the Tournament Committee when making its decisions regarding seedings and all decisions of the Committee are considered final.

Seeding Allocations

Seeds No.1 and No.2 are placed at the top and bottom of the draw respectively, and the position of all other seeds, to the extent applicable, is determined by random allocation. In the event there are more than 3 seeds, the Tournament Committee has the option to seed all remaining seeds as all 3T (3-4), as all 5T (5-8), as all 9T (9-16) or as all 17T (17-32).

The ITF Masters Tennis Guidelines indicate that it is a generally accepted practice to seed 1 player for every 4 players in the draw. The Tournament Committee has the authority to seed fewer players than the ITF Guidelines suggest, or to seed players based on the following numbers:

Knock-out draws:

| <i>For a draw of:</i> | <i>Number of Seeds</i> |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 8 | 2 |
| 16 | 4 |
| 24 and 32 | 8 |
| 48 and 64 | 16 |
| 96 and 128 | 32 |

Round Robins:

| <i>Number of Players</i> | <i>Number of Seeds</i> |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| 3 | 0 |
| 4-6 | 2 |

Exempt Seeds

Players that have had an outstanding record over the course of their career (e.g., Davis Cup, Federation Cup, ATP/WTA) who are returning to competition, as well as players who, after a long absence for personal reasons are returning, will be given due consideration for seeding. **Consideration will be given to players with a high WTN ranking.** Players who are “aging up” (moving to an older age category) may also be considered as an exempt seed. The exempt seeds will be placed accordingly in the group deemed most appropriate by the seeding committee.

The following number of players can be included in the seeding as exempt seeds as indicated below:

| <i>Draw Size</i> | <i>Number of Exempt Seeds</i> |
|------------------|-------------------------------|
| 64 | maximum 4 |
| 48 | maximum 3 |
| 32 | maximum 2 |
| 24 | maximum 2 |
| 16 | maximum 2 |
| 8 | maximum 2 |

Process

The Tournament Committee will consider seedings based on the groupings set out below, in accordance with the seeding allocations, in order of priority starting with Group #1. The Committee will group players accordingly and may make seeding determinations based on the criteria for this group or using any of the criteria below in order of priority when sorting the players, at the time of seeding. **WTN will be used for players that do not have a current playing record.**

Seeding Group #1

Current Year-end, National Bank, and ITF, rankings in the Top 10 and/or exceptional international results.

Seeding Group #2

Any players with a Year-End, National Bank and ITF ranking from 11-25, or with two or more head-to-head results with common players.

Seeding Group #3

Any players with a Year-End, National Bank and ITF Ranking from 25-100.

Note: The above guidelines will be in effect commencing January 1, 2024.