



FIR-Tournament Regulations

January 1, 2015

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INTRODUCTION

In return for the commitment to comply with the requirements in this document, tournaments are offered World Ranking status. The ability of tournaments to comply with these requirements will be monitored by FIR Delegates and will influence the World Ranking status in the coming years.

All FIR Racketlon Tournaments must be played according to the valid “Rules of Racketlon” as can be found on www.racketlon.net. A FIR Delegate and a FIR Co-Delegate from the annually published FIR Delegate list will be nominated by FIR to monitor and assist each World Tour event.

A. FIR TOURNAMENTS

1. TOURNAMENT STRUCTURE AND POINTS

The following Tournaments are organised by the FIR:

- a) FIR Racketlon World Championships (WC)
 - World Championships Singles (WCS)
 - World Championships Doubles (WCD)
 - World Championships National Teams (WCNT)
- b) FIR Racketlon Super World Tour tournaments (SWT), maximum 4 tournaments per year
- c) FIR Racketlon International World Tour tournaments (IWT), no maximum number
- d) FIR Challenger tournaments (CH), no maximum number
- e) FIR Champions League

WC, SWT and IWT tournaments are part of the FIR Racketlon World Tour and count for the World Tour Race.

World Ranking points however are awarded at all tournaments except FIR Champions League. The Council defines the point’s matrix. The exact table can be found on <http://www.racketlon.net/content/fir-ranking-regulations>.

All FIR tournaments are to be held without any national ranking tournaments running at the same time at the same venue. All draws of a FIR tournament must count for the World Rankings and all players must have a valid FIR annual licence and be registered on Tournament Software.

Only players with a permanent residence permit in FIR member countries, who have paid the annual membership fees may participate in tournaments on the FIR World Tour. At Challengers players from non-member countries may also participate. Everyone must in principle have the possibility to participate in FIR tournaments, qualification tournaments are not permitted. Only short exhibitions to promote Racketlon are allowed.

2. TOURNAMENT APPLICATIONS

2.1. General Provisions

Applications for all tournaments must be made to FIR via the electronic application form available on www.racketlon.net and can only be made by FIR member countries, who have paid their annual membership fee. By applying to host a FIR tournament, the applicant confirms that he has read the Tournament Regulations and fully accepts and complies with them.

The application must be made by the tournament director and confirmed (by e-mail) by the national federation’s president.

The proposal for the FIR World Tour is made by the FIR Executive-President and passed by the Council.

The decision about Challenger Tournaments is taken by FIR Executive-President only. Each country can apply for as many tournaments as it wants to hold, but only two tournaments per country per year can be guaranteed by FIR.

2.2. Application Procedure and Deadlines

- a) World Championships: Application only through national federation, application deadline shall be defined by FIR;
- b) Super World Tour: Application only through national federation, application deadline **30th June**;
- c) International World Tour: Application only through national federation, application deadline **30th June**;
- d) Challenger: Application only through national federation, application deadline is **four (4) months** before the tournament starts.

3. TOURNAMENT REQUIREMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1. Prize Money

It is a requirement for all tournaments to distribute defined minimum prize money for some of the Olympic draws.

Olympic draws are defined as Men A – Elite, Women A - Elite, Men A – Elite Doubles, Women A – Elite Doubles, Mixed A – Elite Doubles.

For all tournaments more prize money than the minimum is always allowed, thus a Challenger may also offer prize money.

a) World Championships: World Championships Singles:

Minimum 5000 € prize money, licence fee, pull out & no show in all Olympic draws means payment of entry fee or suspension:

Men:	2000 €	(1 st : 800 €, 2 nd : 500 €, 3 rd : 300 €, 4 th : 200 €, 5 th -8 th : 50 € each);
Women:	1000 €	(1 st : 450 €, 2 nd : 250 €, 3 rd : 150 €, 4 th : 50 €, 5 th -8 th : 25 € each);
Seniors (+45):	500 €	(1 st : 300 €, 2 nd : 150 €, 3 rd : 50 €.)

The remaining 1500 € is reserved for the participation of players from developing countries and distributed by FIR. These countries need to apply with FIR.

World Championships Teams and Doubles:

Minimum 3500 € prize money, licence fee, pull out & no show in all Olympic draws means payment of entry fee or suspension:

Teams:	1000 €	(1 st : 500 €, 2 nd : 300 €, 3 rd : 200 €);
Men's Doubles:	1250 €	(1 st : 600 €, 2 nd : 400 €, 3 rd : 250 €);
Women's Doubles:	500 €	(1 st : 300 €, 2 nd : 150 €, 3 rd : 50 €);
Mixed Doubles:	750 €	(1 st : 350 €, 2 nd : 250 €, 3 rd : 150 €).

b) Super World Tour: Minimum 5000 € prize money, licence fee, pull out & no show in all Olympic draws means payment of entry fee or suspension:

Men:	1650 €	(1 st : 650 €, 2 nd : 400 €, 3 rd : 250 €, 4 th : 150 €, 5 th -8 th : 50 € each);
Women:	850 €	(1 st : 400 €, 2 nd : 200 €, 3 rd : 100 €, 4 th : 50 €, 5 th -8 th : 25 € each);
Men's Doubles:	500 €	(1 st : 250 €, 2 nd : 150 €, 3 rd : 100 €);
Women's Doubles:	200 €	(1 st : 100 €, 2 nd : 70 €, 3 rd : 30 €);
Mixed Doubles:	300 €	(1 st : 150 €, 2 nd : 100 €, 3 rd : 50 €).

The remaining 1500 € can be allocated by Tournament Director in the Elite draws in accordance with FIR.

c) International World Tour: Minimum 1000 € prize money, licence fee, pull out & no show in all Olympic draws means payment of entry fee or suspension;

Men:	650 €	(1 st : 300 €, 2 nd : 200 €, 3 rd : 100 €, 4 th : 50 €);
Women:	350 €	(1 st : 200 €, 2 nd : 100 €, 3 rd : 50 €).

d) Challenger: No minimum prize money, licence fee.

Any extra prize money can always be added to any of the classes or distributed in other categories. Notice must be given to FIR for the website www.racketlon.net latest one week before tournament start.

No prize money is allowed by law in any of the Junior Classes.

If any of the draws are not played due to too few entries or the draw is not filled (e.g. Super World Tour Women only 4 participants), the prize money must be distributed in other classes, so that the total prize money is always fully paid.

All prize money winners have to be present at the official prize giving ceremony otherwise the prize money cannot be paid to them. If prize money is not paid by the tournament director, because of the absence of players it is to be paid to FIR and used for developing countries.

3.2. Entry Fees

3.2.1. Entry Fees Restriction

The entry fee for World Ranking events in singles is restricted to a maximum of 70 € for World Championships, to 60 € for Super World Tour events and to 55 € for International World Tour events. The entry fee for an additional Singles class is restricted to 40 €. In addition a maximum of 20 € per player can be asked for a doubles class and an additional doubles class.

For World Championships Doubles the entry fee is restricted to 35 € per player.

The entry fee must include a valuable welcome present worth around 10 € (e.g. a T-Shirt) and a proper meal at the players dinner worth around 10 €. Only one welcome present must be given to a player, even if a player enrolls in several classes.

For Challengers, organisers may not ask for more than 45 € per person (35 € for second and more Single classes), including a meal or a present. In addition a maximum of 15 € per player can be asked for a doubles event.

The entry fee for Elite national teams in the World Championships and club teams in the Champions League is restricted to 150 € per team. For Juniors national teams the entry fee is restricted to 75 € and for Seniors national teams to 120 €.

3.2.2. Dues

Tournaments may require prepayment over the internet with the restricted amounts until the day of the entry deadline. They can add a surcharge of maximum 10 € per entry and class for payments in cash on site.

All players who pull out of a World Championships or a World Tour tournament after the entry deadline or don't show up are liable to pay the full entry fee (if they have not already done so) no matter what the reason for pulling out or not showing up was. FIR can suspend Elite players (players participating in all five Olympic draws) from any International Racketlon tournaments until they have paid the entry fee and possible penalty fees for pulling out of a FIR tournament without medical proof. All other players can only be suspended by the tournament organisers for their own next tournament.

As long as players don't pay their debts they can't register for any other tournaments.

3.2.3. No Entry Fees for Council Members

As a thank you for their commitment and time contribution all Council Members don't have to pay any entry fees at all FIR World Ranking events¹. Tournaments don't have to pay the FIR fee per player to FIR for the council members though.

3.3. Internet – Tournament Information

The tournament directors must ensure that tournament information as well as hotel recommendations are available on the internet.

a) World Championships: 6 months prior to the tournament incl. 3 hotel recommendations;

¹ As decided by the AGM 2007. In force as of January 1st, 2008.

- b) Super World Tour: 6 months prior to the tournament incl. 3 hotel recommendations;
- c) International World Tour: 3 months prior to the tournament incl. 2 hotel recommendations;
- d) Challenger: 3 months prior to the tournament incl. 2 hotel recommendations.

Further the Guaranteed Earliest Start Time (GEST) as well as the Guaranteed Latest End Time (GLET) together with a preliminary time schedule for the tournament must be published on the tournament homepage six resp. three months prior to the tournament, in order to facilitate the booking of flights in advance. At least three resp. two accommodation recommendations (at least one high budget and one low budget) must be given on the internet with **clear** description how far the hotels are from the site and how they can be reached.

3.4. Tournament Status Fee

Each World Ranking event is required to pay a tournament status fee per entry which actually takes part in the tournament and whose result is used for the World Rankings. The tournament status fee per entry is:

- a) World Championships: 8 € per Entry Singles, 6 € per Entry Doubles pair;
- b) Super World Tour: 5 € per Entry Singles, 4 € per Entry Doubles;
- c) International World Tour: 3 € per Entry Singles, 2 € per Entry Doubles;
- d) Challenger: 2 € per Entry Singles, 1.50 € per Entry Doubles.

The tournament director must at the same time download the payment specification form from www.racketlon.net/content/tournament-support fill it out and mail it to the FIR-Treasurer. Payments shall be made to:

- Bank address: Swedbank, Box 52 12121 Johanneshov, Sweden
- Account nr.: 832799030810973
- BIC/Swift address: Swedsses
- Ibanr: SE8380000832799030810973

If banks charge excessive bank charges check that the receiving bank takes the costs. The FIR host bank charges maximum 1 € for any such transaction and the individual sender bank shouldn't charge anything.

If the money does not reach FIR account latest three weeks after end of the tournament or arranged otherwise with the FIR Treasurer, a penalty of 50€ shall be charged per month.

3.5. Classes

Depending on the status of each tournament, the following classes need to be offered. More are always allowed.

3.5.1. Available classes

- a) World Championships Singles: Men A – Elite, Men B – Advanced, Men C – Amateur, Men D – Beginner; Men E - First Timer, Women A – Elite , Women B – Amateur , Seniors +45, Seniors +50, Seniors +55, Seniors +60, Seniors +65; Women Seniors +45; Women Seniors +50, Juniors u13, Juniors u16, Juniors u21; Girls u16, Girls u21.
- b) WC Doubles: Men A – Elite Doubles, Men B – Amateur Doubles, Women A – Elite Doubles, Mixed A – Elite Doubles, Mixed B – Amateur Doubles, Seniors (45+) Doubles, Seniors (55+) Doubles, Seniors Women (+45) Doubles, Seniors Mixed (+45) Doubles, Juniors (u13) Doubles, Juniors (u16) Doubles, Juniors (u21) Doubles, Girls (u16) Doubles, Girls (u21) Doubles, Juniors Mixed (u21) Doubles;
- c) WC National Teams: National Teams Elite, National Teams Amateur, National Teams Juniors (u21), National Teams Juniors (u16), National Teams Seniors (+45), National Teams Seniors (+55).
- d) Super World Tour: Men A - Elite, Men B - Advanced, Men C - Amateur, Women A - Elite, Women B - Amateur, Seniors +45, Seniors +55, Seniors +60, Women Seniors +45, Seniors +45 Doubles, Juniors u13, Juniors u16, Juniors

- u21, Girls u21, Men A – Elite Doubles, Women A - Elite Doubles, Mixed A – Elite Doubles,
- e) International World Tour: Men A - Elite, Men B - Advanced, Men C - Amateur, Women A - Elite, Seniors +45, Seniors +55, Boys u21, Men A – Elite Doubles, Mixed A – Elite Doubles, Women A – Elite Doubles, Seniors +45 Doubles
- f) Challenger: Men A - Elite, Women A - Elite.

3.5.2. *Minimum 4 players/pairs per class*

For all Classes it is a requirement to use the official naming of the FIR otherwise no World Ranking points can be awarded. All classes in the requirement list must be on the application form. Classes can only and MUST be played with a minimum of four participants registered and three players taking part in order to count for the World Rankings. If less than 4 players enter for a class, classes can be grouped together. The requirements for World Ranking events are just the minimum, if tournament organisers want to have additional classes played, they may of course. If a tournament wants to play new and other classes than given above, it can do so even with less than 4 participants, but this will not award World Ranking points.

3.5.3. *Two classes possible*

Players cannot play two classes in one category, e.g. Men A and Men B. Women can also enter Men B, Men C or Men D, but must at least also play one Woman's competition. All players must be allowed to play at least two classes per tournament. Which ones these are, can be defined by the tournament director according to the time schedule. For Elite player it must be possible to play in at least two Olympic draws. It shall not be possible for a player to enter more than two doubles events at any tournament.

3.6. **Equipment and Facilities**

All balls used for Olympic draws have to be on the FIR Approved Balls List, which is published each year on www.racketlon.net/content/tournament-support.

3.6.1. *Table Tennis balls*

Orange or white table tennis balls are a requirement on World Ranking events according to the FIR Approved Balls list and must have 3 stars. The tournament can decide which colour of balls to use, but these must not have a similar colour as the background walls or banners. In case a player is wearing the same colour T-Shirt as the ball he can be asked to change the T-Shirt or the tournament can provide a different colour ball.

3.6.2. *Badminton shuttles*

It is a requirement at all world ranking events, that feather shuttles are used in all classes for Badminton. For all draws the feather shuttles must be on the FIR Approved Balls list.

3.6.3. *Squash Balls*

Double yellow dot squash balls are a requirement in all classes except Juniors (they shall play with same colour balls as in international Junior Squash events) for all World Ranking events according to the FIR Approved Balls list.

3.6.4. *Tennis Balls*

ITF-approved tennis balls are required in all classes for all World Ranking events, according to FIR Approved Balls list

3.6.5. *Protective Glasses*

It is a recommendation (as stated in the FIR rules) that organisers require protective glasses to be worn in squash, for all Juniors classes.

3.6.6. *Courts*

A minimum of three match courts in each sport must be available in order to start three matches parallel (two every 15 min, one every 20 min) for all SWT events and World Championships Doubles and teams. At World

Championships Singles a minimum of six match courts is required. For International World Tour events two match courts in each sport must be available, but three are strongly recommended and for Challengers two match courts must be available.

Elite Classes should be played on centre courts (one in each sport including referees) at all WC, SWT and IWT events with starting times at least every 20 minutes to make sure that the time rules for breaks between the sets can be kept to. Three minutes between each set and three minutes warm up before each set.

If there are any problems with this availability, organisers can ask FIR for exceptions. In case of summer events with tennis played outdoors at least two tennis courts must be available indoor in case of rain for all events at least offsite. The light must be reasonable on all courts; the nets must be on original height in table tennis, badminton and tennis and held by weights in badminton. Single Posts must be used on the tennis courts for all single matches. The space around the table tennis tables must be reasonable; the matches can't take place in a small low ceiling room.

The net height for Table Tennis, Badminton and Tennis is according their respective official regulations, i.e. for Table Tennis the net must have a height of 15.24 cm (6 inch), the Badminton net must have a height of 1.524 m (5 ft) in the centre and one of 1.55 m (5 ft 1 inch) on the edges and for Tennis the net must have a height of 0.914 m (3 ft) in the centre and a height of 1.067 m (3.5 ft) on the edges.

3.6.7. Practice Courts

It is a requirement that organisers provide two practice courts in each sport for World Championships and Super World Tour Events at least from 5 p.m. the evening before the tournament starts.

On match days at all WC, SWT and IWT tournaments the same number of practice courts as match courts must be available from two hours before tournament start. During the tournament the only compulsory warm up court is a Tabletennis table where Elite players must have the possibility to warm up 15 min before their match start.

At Challengers no practice courts are compulsory, but Elite players must have the possibility to warm up with Table Tennis at least 15 minutes before the start of their match, which is compulsory for all tournaments.

3.6.8. Shuttle Service

World Championships and Super World Tour Events must offer shuttle service at least for the Elite players from the major airports to the sports centre or the tournament hotel or cover the costs for public transport.

International World Tour Events are recommended to offer shuttles for the Elite players at least twice a day from and to the tournament hotels.

3.6.9. Scoreboard

Scoreboards are to be used on all centre courts, if no live scoring on monitors is used.

3.7. Draws and Seeding

3.7.1. Minimum 3 matches

It is a requirement for all World Ranking events to guarantee at least three rounds for all players in each Single draw and two matches in each Doubles draw. If the draw has byes in the first round then the minimum rounds must be increased by one. For Olympic draws four rounds have to be guaranteed except if only an 8-player draw is being played.

3.7.2. Size of draws

The official sizes of all FIR draws are: 4, 8, 12, 16, 24, 32, 48, 64, 96 and 128. FIR decides on the size of all draws. All other draws in e.g. Men B, Men C shall be filled up to a number according to these draw sizes. Only in the last draw of a class e.g. Men D, places can be left open for byes.

3.7.3. Entry Deadline

The entry deadline for WC, SWT, IWT and CH tournaments is Monday 11:59 a.m. of the week before tournament start. If a draw is not full, FIR can decide to accept further entries via email until publishing the draw. In case a draw is already complete, players shall be placed on a waiting list.

The relevant world ranking for the tournament is the one valid at the date of the entry deadline.

3.7.4. *Publishing of Draws*

All draws for the World Championships and the Racketlon World Tour events must be published online together with the time schedules on the Monday of the week of the first day of the tournament on fir.tournamentsoftware.com.

3.8. **Tournament Software**

3.8.1. *Requirements overview*

- a) World Championships: Draws, Entries
- b) Super World Tour: Draws, Entries
- c) International World Tour Draws, Entries
- d) Challenger: Draws, Entries

3.8.2. *Obligation to use Tournament Software*

In order to be able to build up the Racketlon database and to be able to update the World Rankings, all WC, SWT, IWT and Challenger events are obliged to use Tournament Software for draws, entries and results reporting. It is the responsibility of the tournament director that all participants have registered their players profile on Tournament Software otherwise all the results of the tournament cannot be processed for the World Rankings.

It is not permitted to use any other draws parallel at any World Ranking events

3.8.3. *Costs of Tournament Software, Collection of Annual Licence Fees*

The costs per country for a licence of Tournament Software, to run all Racketlon tournaments in that country is around 120 €per year and needs to be paid to FIR together with the annual membership fee

3.8.4. *Matters concerning Tournament Software*

The FIR Tournament Software Officer and the FIR Delegate are in charge of communicating with the tournament organisers and players for all matters concerning Tournament Software.

3.9. **Media - Reporting Results**

3.9.1. *Requirements overview*

- a) World Championships: Media officer, Tournament Software, Internet, Live-scoring, one report one week before tournament and one report one day after, draws and results displayed in sports centre, National TV coverage, Internet TV coverage, national print media cooperation.
- b) Super World Tour: Media officer, Tournament Software, Internet, Live-scoring, one report one week before tournament and one report one day after, draws and results displayed in sports centre, National or local TV coverage, Internet TV coverage, national print media cooperation.
- c) International World Tour: Media officer, Tournament Software, Internet, one report one week before tournament and one report one day after, draws and results displayed in sports centre, Internet TV coverage, local print media cooperation.
- d) Challenger: Tournaments Software, Internet, one report one week before tournament, e-mail draws and report one day after tournament draws and results displayed in the sports centre.

3.9.2. *Media Officer*

It is a requirement for World Championships and Racketlon World Ranking organisers to appoint a Media Officer for the tournament who is responsible for all points below and the use of Tournament Software.

3.9.3. *Tournament Software - Internet*

FIR Tournament Software is required for all International Racketlon events. Internet must therefore be available for the Media Officer at all tournaments. Results should be permanently updated at least every 15 minutes. They must be completed and online and available on fir.tournamentsoftware.com immediately after the tournament is over on the same day. In addition a short paragraph of 5 sentences shall be sent per e-mail to FIR Head Office office@racketlon.net to make clear who won the Olympic classes with prize money.

3.9.4. *Live Scoring*

All World Championships and Super World Tour Events must use the online live-scoring system of Tournament Software for the Olympic draws involving four extra laptops and screens at each centre court of each sport as soon as the application is available for Racketlon and approved by FIR.

It is a recommendation for any other World Tour event to use the system too if possible.

3.9.5. *Reports and pictures on the internet*

The media officer is responsible to deliver one short report plus one picture of the tournament latest one week before the first day of play once the draws are published. When matches have finished on each day of the tournament the media officer must produce a general text of what has happened on the day especially in Olympic draws to publish on www.racketlon.net daily. At the end of the tournament a long report about all draws is to be written and published including pictures on www.racketlon.net. These requirements are in the interest of the tournament to help with the promotion.

3.9.6. *Draws, results and rules displayed in sports centre*

All draws must be displayed in the sports centre either on paper or on monitors. The results should be updated permanently so that spectators can follow the tournament. The “Rules of Racketlon” must be displayed in the sports centre with the most important ones highlighted.

3.9.7. *TV and Internet Coverage*

WC tournaments must guarantee TV coverage on national TV as well as Internet TV coverage. SWT tournaments must guarantee local or national TV coverage in addition to Internet coverage. IWT and Challengers should do their best to make at least Internet coverage possible. All TV or Internet spots on DVDs must be given personally to the FIR president or sent per post to the FIR Head Office.

3.9.8. *Print Media*

WC and SWT tournaments are required to sign a media cooperation with national print media in order to promote the event. World Tour events should aim for regional and local print media. All print media articles must be given personally to the FIR president or scanned and sent per email to office@racketlon.net or sent per post to FIR Head Office.

3.10. **Referees**

All tournaments must appoint a Head Referee who is familiar with the rules of Racketlon, who takes all final decisions together with the FIR Delegate according to Rules and Regulations of FIR - Fédération Internationale de Racketlon he is aware of. In cases which are not provided for in the Rules and Regulations of FIR, the head referee may take a final decision on his own responsibility according to ideas and ethics of Racketlon and after consultation of the responsible FIR Delegate, who is present at all World Championships and Racketlon World Tour tournaments.

On all World Tour events, at least one official referee in each sport with a national referee education must be on site to be able to referee all Olympic Draws matches played in the Olympic draws. This counts for all main draw matches from the first round, except for the losers’ pool.

For all other draws and for Challenger tournaments referees must be provided if any of the players ask for one. Challenger tournaments are required to provide referees for Elite matches from semi finals on. If no Head Referees are appointed at challengers, the tournament director automatically acts as head referee. Referees can be any of the players taking part in the tournament, because by entering an international Racketlon tournament all players agree to referee in at least one of the four sports.

3.11. Other Requirements

3.11.1. World Tour Race Trophies

It is a requirement on the last World Tour Race tournament of the year to provide trophies for the players who finished among the top 3 in the Seniors, Men A - Elite and Women A - Elite and to organise a prize giving ceremony. The trophies are paid by FIR and should not cost more than 300 €.

3.11.2. Prize Giving Ceremony

At all FIR Tournaments it is required to hold an official prize giving ceremony at the end of the tournament where at least the top 3 players or double pairs in all classes are awarded with medals or trophies. If specific draws are finished on an earlier day, then at least one additional prize giving ceremony at the end of this day is compulsory.

This prize giving ceremonies should take place on a podium. All players who don't attend, shall not receive any medals, prizes or prize money.

3.11.3. Massage, Physiotherapist, Doctor

At World Championships and Super World Tour tournaments a massage should be possible on site, a doctor and a physiotherapist on standby in cases of injury (players have to pay themselves).

At International World Tour and at Challenger events a doctor, Physiotherapist and a masseur should at least be on standby.

3.11.4. World Tour Banner, Flags and National Anthems

At World Championships and Super World Tour event prize giving ceremonies the national anthems should be played for the winners of all Olympic classes. National anthems can be played for the winners of other classes at the discretion of the Tournament Director. At Team World Championships the national anthem of each participating nation should be played at least once, either at the opening ceremony or before each team's first match.

All flags of the participating nations should be put up in the sports centre at all WC, SWT and IWT events together with the FIR World Tour banner FIR has a set of 50 flags to rent out.

3.11.5. Stringing Service

At World Championships and Super World Tour events a stringing service at the player's own cost should be on site. At International World Tour and Challenger events such service should at least be on standby.

3.11.6. Time Schedules

To avoid problems with the time schedule it is strongly recommended that all Doubles matches except finals should start and be played on Friday. Normally women and men the Elite singles finals must be the last matches of any tournament, but shall never take place at the same time, except World Championships Doubles and National teams or changes of schedule due to TV or Internet Livestream.

It is a requirement to allow at least 15 minutes between the start of the matches on all side courts and at least 20 minutes on the centre courts for Elite matches. 15 minutes rest is allowed for all players in all draws no matter how many they play. All Players have the right of at least 1 hour rest from the end of their match to the beginning of the next match in the same singles draw. In doubles a 15 minute break must be granted.

3.11.7. Elite Time Schedules

It is a requirement that the time schedule is built around the Elite matches. At all WC and WT events all Elite matches of the main draw must be played on so called Centre Courts (at least one court per sport, maximum 2 courts per sport) with starting times of no less than 20 minutes intervals. Some empty spaces should ensure that in the Elite main draw players never have to wait for courts and the time rule 3 minutes between the sets is kept upright. Elite Players have the right of at least 1 hour rest from the end of their match to the beginning of the next match in the same draw. In the Olympic singles draws no more than 3 matches per full day of 12 hours or 2 matches per short day of 8 hours are allowed.

3.11.8. *Volunteer and Team Recommendations*

A team of 20 or more is a recommendation for WC and SWT tournaments, 10 for Int. World Tour and 5 for Challengers. At WC and SWT tournaments the official T-shirts in the same colour are compulsory for the Volunteer team. Structurally the FIR would also like to make the following recommendations for positions on tournament committees; this list also covers the main tasks in organising an event.

Compulsory for all WC and SWT events:

- Tournament Director
- Head Referee
- Referees in all sports for Olympic main draws TT, BA, SQ, TE
- Media Officer

Recommended for all tournaments:

- Tournament Co/Vice Director
- Results Secretary
- Sports Centre Liaising Officer
- Marketing Officer
- Webpage Officer
- Result Reporter Officer
- Rankings Officer
- 3 Desk Helpers
- 4 Score keepers for centre courts
- 4 Court Co-ordinators, one in each sport
- Referees from domestic sporting federations – TT, BA, SQ, TE
- Equipment Officer
- Sponsorship Officer
- Finance Director - Payments Officer / Financial Advisor / Debt Collector / Budget Officer

3.11.9. *Tournament Program*

All Super World Tour and Champions League events must publish a short program on the tournament. All World Champs events must publish and print (1000 pieces) together with FIR a proper high quality A4 magazine as programme using the annual FIR template and splitting the costs 50:50

3.11.10. *Tournament Banner*

All Super World Tour, World Champs and Champions League events must produce an own big Tournament Banner (approx. 6 x 1m) as background on the main centre court and for the prize giving ceremony.

The FIR Banner World Tour or World Champs must be on one of the centre courts or outside the building of all World Tour events.

3.12. **Tournament and FIR Sponsors**

3.12.1. *General principles*

All WC and WT tournaments must comply with the new FIR General Sponsorship Guidelines. This shall not affect the individual tournament sponsors, but will mean some more obligations in regards to the FIR sponsors of WT, especially SWT and WC tournaments. All Title, Presenting and Ball Sponsors must be named to FIR together with the tournament application, so FIR can check a conflict of interest with existing or potential FIR Sponsors. The following points are taken out of version 1 of the FIR General Sponsorship Guidelines and can be amended slightly before and during the World Tour.

The FIR General Sponsorship Guidelines are published on the official FIR website and may be amended by the FIR from time to time.

3.12.2. *FIR Logos Usage (pdf Document)*

The official FIR logos must be used on all printed material in connection with all WT and Challenger tournaments as well as the official tournament websites. Each tournament has its individual World Tour Tournament logo, which is created by FIR and to be used as well as the FIR Logo according to the document FIR Logos Usage

3.12.3. *Rights of Tournament Sponsors*

- Title sponsor with name in the title of tournament, e.g. XYZ Austrian Open
- Other Sponsors
- Ball Sponsor

3.12.4. *Rights World Championships Sponsors*

- Presenting Sponsor of FIR Championships, e.g. World Championships presented by XYZ
- Other Sponsors
- Ball Sponsor

3.12.5. *Tournament obligations towards FIR World Tour title Sponsor (only one) e.g. Novomatic Austrian Open on the xxx World Tour*

Super World Tour (SWT) Tournaments guarantee

- Sponsor name and logo on the title page of the official webpage of all SWT tournaments
- Sponsor name and logo on all SWT posters, flyers, and other printed materials in connection with the SWT tournaments.
- Sponsor name and logo in the SWT tournament programs
- Sponsor name and logo on at least one event banner at all SWT tournaments
- Space for a minimum of 6 sponsor Banners (max. 6x1sq) on the 4 Centre Courts and in the Sports centre at all SWT tournaments
- Sponsor name and logo in E-mail newsletters to all players of all SWT tournaments
- Sponsor name or logo on tournament or organisation T-Shirts or any other players gift of all SWT tournaments
- Sponsor name or logo on the prize giving podium of all SWT tournaments
- Sponsor name through the microphone at Opening and/or Closing Ceremony and match calls of SWT tournaments
- National or local TV coverage of SWT tournaments
- Sponsor name and logo on interview walls of SWT tournaments with TV coverage
- Internet coverage of all SWT tournaments
- Print media cooperation at all SWT tournaments
- Sponsor name and logo on all press texts of SWT tournaments

International World Tour (IWT) Tournaments guarantee

- Sponsor name and logo on the title page of the official webpage of all IWT tournaments
- Sponsor name and logo on all IWT posters, flyers, and other printed materials in connection with the IWT tournaments.
- Space for a maximum of 4 sponsor Banners (max. 6x1sq) on the 4 Centre Courts and in the Sports centre at all IWT tournaments
- Sponsor name and logo in E-mail newsletters to all players of all IWT tournaments
- Sponsor name or logo on tournament or organisation T-Shirts or any other player's gift of all IWT tournaments
- Sponsor name through the microphone at Closing Ceremony at IWT tournaments
- At least one local or regional Print media cooperation
- Sponsor name and logo on all press texts of IWT tournaments

Further Sponsor activities on request

- Possibility of a sales and marketing area at all WT tournaments
- Possibility for sponsor representative to speak at Opening or Prize Giving Ceremony of all WT tournaments

- Possibility to put up a Blow Up in the sports centre (if space available) or outdoors in front of the sports centre at WT tournaments
- Possibility to invite VIP Costumers at sponsors costs to SWT tournaments and arrange a Meet and Greet with World Class Racketlon players together with a gala dinner
- Possibility to invite 4 customers or employees to take part in WT tournaments without having to pay the entry fees
- Possibility of any other needs of the sponsor if ratified by FIR

3.12.6. Tournament obligations towards FIR Pool Sponsors (max.4)

Super World Tour (SWT) Tournaments guarantee

- Sponsor name and Logo in the SWT tournament programs
- Sponsor name and logo on at least one event banner at all SWT tournaments
- Space for a maximum of 2 sponsor Banners (max. 6x1sq) in the Sports centre at all SWT tournaments
- Sponsor name through the microphone at Opening and/or Closing Ceremony of SWT events
- National or local TV coverage of SWT tournaments
- Sponsor name and logo on interview walls of SWT tournaments with TV coverage
- Internet coverage of all SWT tournaments
- Print media cooperation at all SWT tournaments

International World Tour (IWT) Tournaments guarantee

- Space for a maximum of 1 sponsor banner (max. 6x1sq) in the Sports centre at all IWT tournaments
- Sponsor name through the microphone at Closing Ceremony at IWT tournaments
- Internet coverage of selected IWT tournaments
- Print media cooperation at selected IWT tournaments

Further Sponsor activities on request

- Possibility of a sales and marketing area at all SWT tournaments
- Possibility for sponsor representative to speak at Opening or Prize Giving Ceremony of all WT tournaments
- Possibility to invite VIP Costumers at sponsors costs to SWT tournaments and arrange a Meet and Greet with World Class Racketlon players together with a gala dinner
- Possibility to invite 2 customers or employees to take part in WT tournaments without having to pay the entry fees
- Possibility of any other needs of the sponsor if ratified by FIR

3.12.7. Obligations FIR World Championships Sponsor (1 per WC)

Racketlon World Championships (WC) tournaments guarantee

- Sponsor name and logo on the title page of the official webpage of all WC tournaments
- Sponsor name and logo on all WC posters, flyers, and other printed materials in connection with the WC tournaments.
- Sponsor name and logo in the WC tournament programs
- Sponsor name and logo on at least one event banner at all WC tournaments
- Space for a minimum of 8 sponsor Banners (max. 6x1sq) on the 4 Centre Courts and in the Sports centre at the WC tournaments
- Sponsor name and logo in E-mail newsletters to all players of all WC tournaments
- Sponsor name or logo on tournament or organisation T-Shirts or any other players gift of all WC tournaments
- Sponsor name or logo on the prize giving podium of all WC tournaments
- Sponsor name through the microphone at Opening and/or Closing Ceremony and match calls of WC tournaments

- TV coverage of WC tournaments
- Sponsor name and logo on interview walls of WC tournaments
- Internet coverage of all WC tournaments
- Print media cooperation of all WC tournaments
- Sponsor name and logo on all press texts of WC tournaments

Further Sponsor possibilities on request

- Possibility of a sales and marketing area WC tournaments
- Possibility for sponsor representative to speak at Opening or Prize Giving Ceremony at WC tournaments
- Possibility to put up a Blow Up in the sports centre (if space available) or outdoors in front of the sports centre at WC tournaments
- Possibility to invite VIP Customers at sponsors costs to WC tournaments and arrange a Meet and Greet with World Class Racketlon players together with a gala dinner
- Possibility to invite 2 customers or employees to take part in WC tournaments without having to pay the entry fees
- Possibility of any other needs of the sponsor if ratified by FIR

3.12.8. Liability of FIR Sponsor Rights

The tournament directors of all WT and WC tournaments are responsible towards FIR that the Rights of FIR Sponsors are fulfilled as stated in these FIR General Sponsorship Guidelines. FIR and the FIR Delegate will assist and monitor all WT and WC tournaments in regards to fulfil the FIR Sponsors rights in the best possible way.

3.13. Licence Fee collection and Commitment Statement

3.13.1. Annual players Licence Fee

If tournament directors enter any players themselves who have not paid the annual licence fee via Tournament Software, they are responsible to collect licence fees on site and transfer to FIR.

3.13.2. Tournament commitment statement and contract

By filling out the electronic application form to FIR for any FIR World Ranking events, tournament directors automatically confirm the requirements given in this document. The application has to be confirmed by the national federation's president, who accepts that the highest person taking all final decisions at a FIR World Ranking event is the FIR Delegate. The application form is a CLEAR and FINAL COMMITMENT STATEMENT. Each national federation together with the tournament director has to sign a contract with FIR accepting all the rules, regulations, fines and liabilities defined in this document.

3.13.3. Exceptions of Requirements possible

In case certain requirements cannot be met and the tournament director knows this beforehand he can ask FIR for exceptions. The important part again is a beforehand notice together with the tournament application to FIR office@racketlon.net. In case some requirements are not met without advance notice, the Council can speak out a warning, fine the tournament especially if FIR Sponsor Rights are not fulfilled, lower the level of a tournament i.e. from World Tour to Challenger status or even cancel the tournament for the next or one of the future years.

3.14. Fines

3.14.1. Pull-out and no show

In case a Player pulls out after the entry deadline from an Olympic draw, a fine of 100€ in addition to the normal entry fee must be paid for each tournament the Player has pulled out of and if he has given notice to the tournament. This is unless he can provide evidence that he by no fault could not participate (e.g. with medical proof or cancelled/postponed flight etc.). In case a Player does not show up at an Olympic draw without any notice to the tournament director, a fine of 100€ must be paid regardless of the reasons for not showing up.

The tournament director may decide whether above rule shall apply for all other draws too.

3.14.2. *Tournament Regulations*

In case certain points of the Tournament Regulations are not fulfilled by the tournament, a fine of 50€ per point shall be paid. Fines are based on the evaluation report of the FIR-Delegate and FIR Co-Delegate.

3.14.3. *Tournament Changes and Cancellations*

If a FIR tournament is cancelled a fine of 1000€ is to be paid to FIR and the organisers may not participate in any FIR events until this fine is paid. If a FIR tournament changes its date or its place after the application deadline a fine of 500€ plus the costs for reprinting World Tour posters and flyers (in case they have already been printed) of around 700€, need to be paid. If players can prove they have paid flights, this also needs to be reimbursed. The national federation exists in the respective country it is liable to be charged. FIR can also decide further sanctions such as the cancellation of the tournament in the following year.

3.14.4. *FIR-Tournament Delegate*

A FIR Tournament Delegate and a Co-Delegate are nominated by FIR for each WT and Challenger event as assistance for the tournament organisation. FIR Delegates are nominated by FIR and published annually. They are obliged to visit at least one FIR Delegate workshop per year. The FIR Delegate list published annually and found on www.racketlon.net/content/tournament-support.

The Tournament Delegate and Co-Delegate should be on site the night before the tournament starts at around 17:00 and stay until one hour after the tournament ends and check the tournament regulations with the tournament organiser. A technical meeting is to be held with the tournament organiser and some of his most important team members like head referee and media officer the evening before tournament start.

The FIR Tournament Delegate and Co-Delegate are also responsible to be in contact with the tournament organiser and FIR before the tournament concerning draws and time schedule.

The Tournament Director accepts that the FIR-Delegate and Co-Delegate are the highest officials at all World Tour events and takes all final decisions around the tournament for the best of international Racketlon.

In return for their help the tournament organisation must offer them during the entire tournament free accommodation in a hotel double room including breakfast and one warm meal per day and no entry fee. This is valid from one day before tournament start (room and evening meal) until latest one day after tournament (room and breakfast) start if they cannot travel home the same day the tournament ends.

B. FIR NATIONAL TEAM COMPETITIONS

1. THE TEAM

1.1. Designation of Team members

Each Elite national team consists of a minimum of 5 players (4 men and 1 woman) and a maximum of 8 players (6 men and 2 women) and must have a team captain. The team captain can be one of the players or another non-playing person. The first team of a country is ALWAYS the Elite national team. The second and third team are amateur teams, where the same rules apply..

A Juniors (u21) national team consists of a minimum of 3 players (at least one girl) 2 boys and 1 girl and a maximum of 6 players (at least one girl).

A Juniors (u16) national team consists of a minimum of 2 players (boys or girls) and a maximum of 4 players.

A Seniors (+45) national team consists of a minimum of 4 men and a maximum of 6 men plus a minimum of 1 woman and a maximum of 2 women.

A Seniors (+55) national team consists of a minimum of 4 men and a maximum of 6 men.

All members of the National Team have to be citizens of the country that they represent and allowed to play for their country according to the Players and Draws Regulations.

The team members must be designated at entry deadline of the tournament. One single man or one woman of the team may be changed until the team captains meeting on the evening before the team event starts.

It is compulsory that the team captain or at least one player of the team comes to the team captains meeting, which is organized by FIR on the evening before tournament start.

Players may be in on the squad of more than one team, but the time schedule will not be adjusted for any of such players e.g. a Player in the Juniors u21 national team or Seniors +45 national team may also play on the Elite team, but if both teams play at the same time no adjustment of the schedule will be made. This does not apply for amateur teams. Players playing in amateur teams may not be on any other squads.

1.2. Line-up commitment

Before a team match begins each team shall commit to their line-up; i.e. to all team members who will be active in it and in what positions. Teams may chose who plays singles and doubles, regardless of the players' world rankings.

The order of the national players within the team is determined by the FIR world ranking, i.e. the player with the highest ranking plays on position one etc. and players without world ranking play at the end. In case of several players without world ranking, the team may choose their seeding. The FIR Seniors world ranking shall be used for the seeding of the senior national teams, and the FIR Juniors world rankings shall be used for junior national teams.

For the doubles line up the player named first in the pair shall start in Squash.

Each of the teams has the right to hide their line-up from their opponents until their opponents have committed to their line-up.

The team captain is responsible to pass the Line-up to the tournament organizer 20 minutes before the beginning of the match.

All national team players must be ready in their country shirts for the national anthem and a team picture 10 minutes before the very first match of each team. All subsequent games should at least be started wearing their country national shirts.

Once a match has started, the line-up is confirmed, even if it is subsequently noticed to be incorrect, and the match will be played with this line-up to completion. Following matches shall use the corrected line-up.

1.3. Reserves Deployment

Reserves may be deployed during a tournament but never during a team match. If a player needs to interrupt a match due to injury he may not be replaced and loses the remaining points.

1.4. Seeding of the National Teams

For Elite national teams, the sum of the Elite ranking positions of the best three men and the best woman of the respective team at the close of team registrations shall determine the seeding. For Seniors national teams, the sum of the Seniors ranking positions of the best 3 seniors shall be decisive. For Juniors (u21) national teams, the sum of the Juniors ranking positions of the best two boys and the best girl shall be decisive. For Juniors (u16) national teams, the sum of the Juniors ranking positions for the best ranked two players shall be decisive. In last instance FIR Council decides!

The teams with the worst positioning need to play preliminary round(s) to qualify for the main draw.

2. ORDER OF PLAY

An Elite and Amateur team match consists of four individual Racketlon matches – 2 Men's Singles, 1 Women's Singles and 1 Men's Doubles – and is played in the following order:

AM1 (best man in Team A) vs. BM1 (best man in Team B);
AW (woman of Team A) vs. BW (woman of Team B);
AMD (Men's Doubles Team A) vs. BMD (Men's Doubles Team B);
AM2 (second best man in Team A) vs. BM2 (second best man in Team B).

All sets in the main draw of a team competition must be played following each other. This means all players must play Table Tennis, then move on to Badminton, then to Squash and finally to Tennis. The players must be on the court immediately after the set before them is finished. The warm up time before the next set is limited to one minute. The same ruling applies to any Amateur national teams.

The Seniors (+45) competition is played in the same manner as an Elite team match.

The Seniors (+55) competition consists of three Racketlon matches – 2 Men's Singles and 1 Men's Doubles – and is played in the following pairs: Best Seniors, Doubles, Second Best Seniors.

The Juniors (u21) competition consists of 3 individual Racketlon matches in singles in the order of play: boy1, girl, boy2.

The Juniors (u16) competition consists of 2 individual Racketlon matches in singles in the order of play: boy1, boy2, and one doubles with the same players.

3. SCORING AND GUMMIARM RULE

In line with the fundamental principle of "each rally counts" the winner of the team match is not the team that wins most individual matches but the team that wins most points in total.

The individual matches in national team competitions are played to 11 points. If the score is 10-10 the serve switches hand for every point until the set is decided by a two point margin.

There is no Gummiarm point played in Tennis if the score is equal in one match. A Gummiarm is only played, if the score of the two teams is equal after all 4 matches. In this case, the tennis set of the last match is extended for one single point according the ordinary Gummiarm rules. This point shall determine the winner of the team match.

A team can also start and play a team match if at least two encounters can be played. The missing players encounter is then scored with 0:44.

A woman can play instead of a man in all national team competitions if not enough men are present.

If a player gets injured during the match the achieved points are frozen and all remaining points go to his opponent.

C. FIR CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

1. RIGHT TO PARTICIPATE

Countries organising national league competitions may select two teams participating in the FIR Champions League whereas countries without national league competitions may only select one team. In general, the best two teams from the previous year's national league competitions shall be selected; however, the national federation may select other team(s) if appropriate.

1.1. Players

Players may not compete for a different club team in the main Champions League draw other than the one they played for in qualification unless it is a club in a different country. They cannot change clubs within the same country but they can play in more than one country at the same time.

1.2. Club teams

- Two best club teams of national league
- One club team from countries without a national league
- All club teams are confirmed and selected by the national federation, who may also select third, fourth and so forth club team of the national league if one of the top two don't participate

2. THE TEAM

2.1. Players eligible to play

Each Champions League team consists of a minimum of 5 players (4 men and 1 woman) and a maximum of 10 players (7 men and 3 women). Each team must designate a team captain, it being regardless though, whether he is a playing or a non-playing team member.

The team members must be designated at the entry deadline of the tournament. Maximum two players of the team may be changed until one day prior to the start of the Champions League competition.

- Minimum of 5 players on the squad: 4 men and 1 woman
- Maximum of 10 players on the squad: 7 men and 3 women
- Playing or non-playing captain needs to be nominated
- Gentlemen's Agreement: At least 50% of the players on the line-up of each match must be Racketlon players from the country of the respective club team

2.2. Line-up commitment

Before a team match begins each team shall commit to their line-up; i.e. to which 5 team members will be active in it and in what positions. Teams may chose who plays singles and doubles, regardless of the players' world rankings.

The order of the players within the team is determined by the Elite world ranking, i.e. the player with the highest ranking plays on position one etc. and players without world ranking play at the end. In case of several players without world ranking, the team may choose their seeding.

For the Men's doubles line up the player named first in the pair shall start in Squash. For the Mixed doubles, the Women shall start in Squash.

The team captain is responsible to pass the Line-up to the tournament organizer 30 minutes before the beginning of the match.

3. ORDER OF PLAY

A Champions League team match consists of 4 individual Racketlon matches – 2 Men's Singles, 1 Women's Singles and 1 Doubles – and is played in the following order:

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----|----------------------------------|
| AM1 (best man in Team A) | vs. | BM1 (best man in Team B); |
| AW (woman of Team A) | vs. | BW (woman of Team B); |
| AMD (Men's Doubles Team A) | vs. | BMD (Men's Doubles Team B); |
| AM2 (second best man in Team A) | vs. | BM2 (second best man in Team B); |

All sets in the main draw of a team competition must be played following each other. This means all players must play Table Tennis, then move on to Badminton, then to Squash and finally to Tennis. The players must be on the court immediately after the set before them is finished. The warm up time before the next set is limited to one minute.

4. SCORING AND GUMMIARM RULE

The Scoring and Gummiarm Rule as described in chapter C clause 3 (National Team) is applicable to the FIR Champions League with the following exceptions.

In case the two teams are equal after all 4 matches, a Gummiarm point is played in the last match: 2nd Men Singles.

D. FINAL PROVISIONS

1. COMING INTO FORCE

These Tournament Regulations were passed at the Council's Meeting of the FIR and shall be valid as from January 1, 2015.

2. AMENDMENTS AND MODIFICATIONS

The Tournament Regulations can only be amended and modified by the Council of the FIR.

FIR – Fédération Internationale de Racketlon

Marcel Weigl Graham King

President Rules Officer