



2023 AUSTRALIAN MASTERS TEAM SELECTION POLICY

FOR SELECTION TO REPRESENT AUSTRALIA IN THE INTERNATIONAL TENNIS FEDERATION (ITF) WORLD TENNIS MASTERS TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

Purpose Statement: *Anyone who is selected to represent Australia must be in a position to be competitive for the team and event they are selected for.*

1. Nomination

Players who nominate for selection must:

- (a) Nominate by the date specified by Tennis Australia (TA) and Tennis Seniors Australia (TSA) as no late nominations will be accepted,
- (b) Complete all the fields of the Nomination Form by the due date unless otherwise advised by TA/TSA,
- (c) Nominate for one age group within any ITF World Tennis Masters Team Championships however are only allowed to represent in one team each calendar year.
- (d) Certify in the Nomination Form that they:
 - (i) Are eligible to represent Australia in accordance with the ITF regulations, are of good standing with TA/TSA, hold a current valid Australian passport, and have not nominated to represent any other country for which they may hold dual citizenship in the past 36 months,
 - (ii) Are a registered financial member of a State/Territory Division of TSA (including overseas players),
 - (iii) Have reached or will have reached the minimum age limit by 31st December of the year in which the ITF World Tennis Masters Team Championships is conducted,
 - (iv) Have an ITF International Player Identification Number (IPIN), and
 - (v) Have fully considered all matters such as physical fitness and health, family and business responsibilities, leave from work, financial costs or any other personal reason which might affect their availability at the time of the Team Championships.
- (e) Agree in the Nomination Form to:
 - (i) Complete and return all forms, and provide all additional information requested



by TA/TSA within required timeframes,

- (ii) Satisfy any reasonable conditions imposed by the Selectors,
 - (iii) Notify TA/TSA as soon as possible of any circumstance that might prevent them from taking their place in the team,
 - (iv) Arrive in time (the preceding Friday at the latest) before the event to practice with the team and attend the opening ceremony,
 - (v) Wear the team playing uniform in all matches and use official team clothing provided/additional purchases for personal use only,
 - (vi) Help to boost morale by supporting the team and attending any bonding session,
 - (vii) Comply with the reasonable directions of the Team Captain,
 - (viii) Handle any personality conflicts if they arise in a mature manner with the Captain, and if they cannot be resolved at that level, then with the Group Coordinator, and
 - (ix) Display a positive attitude to my team and to other teams in the Championship and foster good sportsmanship with my fellow players.
- (f) Selectors will source player results, head-to-head matches, ratings and world rankings from the ITF website. Players are encouraged to submit any other supporting information with their nomination that may assist their selection or explain their non-participation (clause 3(b)).

2. Team Composition

- (a) The standard team composition is up to four players deserving of Australian representation. The Selectors have discretion to select the team they think is most suitably balanced to play the match format of singles and doubles rubbers. Doubles only players may be considered for selection in the fourth position in the team but players with a proven record in singles and doubles may be preferred. One player will be appointed as Team Captain.
- (b) If there is an insufficient number of players for any age group to form the standard team, the Selectors may recommend to TA/TSA either:
 - (i) A non-standard team of no less than three players, or
 - (ii) To bring players down from an older age group (subject to the consent of the player), or
 - (iii) Extend the nomination date for that team and invite further nominations



before the final team selections are made, or

- (iv) To elect not to send a team for that age group.

- (c) Where considered appropriate, Selectors may choose to select one or more reserve players. Older group players may be named as a reserve for a younger group (subject to the consent of the player) or, if appropriate, be a reserve for both age groups. Any reserve player/s will not be team members until they are invited by TA/TSA to fill a vacancy in the team.

- (d) In the event there are vacancies created in a team due to withdrawals after selection, and reserves have already been called on, TA/TSA may at their discretion approach other players, who may or may not have nominated, to fill such vacancies.

3. Selection Criteria

- (a) No player may represent Australia in more than one ITF World Tennis Masters Team Championships in any calendar year.

- (b) Players must compete in at least two (2) MT700 or MT1000 events held in Australia over the 12 months preceding the respective nomination deadline they are seeking selection unless there are exceptional circumstances (i.e. work, family, injury). MT1000 events will hold greater weight when nominations are being considered. Overseas based players may play equivalent tournaments in their location and are required to achieve significant results to be preferred ahead of Australian based players.

- (c) Selectors will take many factors into consideration when selecting players for each team and their order of merit, including but not limited to:
 - (i) The ITF rule that the Order of Merit submitted by National Associations must reflect the standard of the players and ensure that the best player is included at No 1 regardless of National and/or ITF rankings.
 - (ii) Overall singles and doubles results over the previous 2 years with emphasis on results in the last 12 months,
 - (iii) Head-to-head results, predominantly over the previous 2 years,
 - (iv) Singles and doubles ranking and rating, and
 - (v) Overall suitability to represent Australia, having regard to past conduct and sportsmanship both on and off the court.

4. Appeals

- (a) A player may appeal a decision of their non-selection, but no appeal lies in respect of a decision by TA/TSA to not send a team in any age group.



- (b) The sole grounds for any appeal are that:
 - (i) the Selectors have selected a player who has not lodged a valid nomination under clause 1 of the Policy, or
 - (ii) having regard to the selection criteria set out in clause 3 of the Policy, the Selectors have made a decision which no reasonable selection committee could have made.
- (c) A player:
 - (i) does not have any other rights of appeal other than as set out in this Policy, and
 - (ii) must not institute or maintain proceedings in any court or tribunal in respect to matters which are covered by this Policy.

5. Administration

- (a) TA will appoint three (3) representatives for the Men's and Women's Selection Committee.
- (b) TSA will appoint three (3) representatives for the Men's and Women's Selection Committee and will appoint the Australian Teams Administrator.
- (c) TA and TSA will appoint the Selection Coordinator, Team Captains, Group Coordinators and Appeal Tribunal.

6. Changes

This selection policy supersedes and replaces any previous versions of this policy. This policy may be amended, replaced or revoked by TA/TSA at any time.

As approved by the TA/TSA Executive on 24 October 2022 to apply to team nominations from 2023.