

## IV. WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

### 4.01 Nitto ATP Finals - Singles

#### A. Competition Format

The tournament shall be a singles round robin format with eight (8) players. There shall be two (2) groups of four (4) players each with eight (8) seeds to be determined by the Pepperstone ATP Rankings on the Monday after the last ATP Tour tournament of the calendar year. All matches shall be the best of three (3) tie-break sets, including the final. The round robin shall determine the four (4) players for the semifinals with the format thereafter being a single elimination competition.

#### B. Entries

- 1) **Selection List.** The selection list for the event shall be:
  - a) The top seven (7) players in the Pepperstone ATP Rankings as of the Monday after the last ATP Tour tournament of the calendar year, followed by
  - b) Up to two (2) Grand Slam winners of that year, in order of their positions, positioned between eight (8) and twenty (20) in the Pepperstone ATP Rankings as of that Monday; followed by
  - c) Players positioned eight (8) and below in the Pepperstone ATP Rankings as of that Monday.
- 2) **Direct Acceptances.** The top eight (8) players in the selection list shall qualify for the event as direct acceptances. Participation is mandatory, and all qualified players shall be entered. All direct acceptances must be at the tournament site to attend the official pre-tournament media conference and must be available for play through the completion of the round robin competition and the knock-out competition if eligible.
- 3) **Withdrawal.** Any withdrawal, before the official pre-tournament media conference starts, shall be replaced by the next highest positioned player on the selection list, who shall be qualified as a direct acceptance.
- 4) **Alternate(s).**
  - a) The next highest positioned player on the selection list (who is not a direct acceptance at the time of the official pre-tournament media conference) shall be designated as the alternate and shall replace any player who subsequently withdraws. The alternate must appear at the official pre-tournament media conference and remain available through the start of the last scheduled round robin match.
  - b) Additional alternates may be selected by ATP to fill the draw, based on the selection list, upon terms satisfactory to ATP. Participation of such additional alternates is not mandatory.
  - c) The alternate(s) is eligible to play in the single elimination competition and to receive points and prize money if he qualifies.
  - d) If the alternate(s) does not play in the draw, then a fee shall be paid to the alternate(s). If the alternate(s) is inserted for the second or third round robin match, then he shall receive the alternate fee plus any prize money and points won. If the alternate(s) replaces a player that does not compete in his first round robin match, the alternate(s) becomes a direct acceptance and does not receive the alternate fee.

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### C. Failure To Participate in the Nitto ATP Finals

- 1) If a player, qualified for the Nitto ATP Finals as a direct acceptance or designated as the alternate, fails or refuses to participate in this event, except for bona fide injury or other reason which constitutes good cause, the player shall not be in good standing.
- 2) All direct acceptances and the alternate must appear at the site of the event(s) as determined by ATP and participate in the pre-tournament media conference.

Failure to appear shall result in a penalty of five percent (5%) of total ATP prize money earned during the ATP circuit year.

Please also see 1.07 H. 2) b).

### D. Order of Play

#### Round Robin

- 1) The field shall be divided into two (2) groups of four (4) players each. The top-seeded player shall be placed in Group "A" and the second-seeded player shall be placed in Group "B". Players seeded three (3) and four (4), five (5) and six (6), and seven (7) and eight (8), shall then be drawn in pairs with the first drawn placed into Group "A."
- 2) Each player shall play every other player in his group to determine the top two (2) players in each group.
- 3) The final standings of each group shall be determined by the first of the following methods that apply:
  - a) Greatest number of wins.
  - b) Greatest number of matches played.  
Comment: 2-1 won-loss record beats a 2-0 won-loss record; a 1-2 record beats a 1-0 record.
  - c) Head-to-head results if only two (2) players are tied.
  - d) If three (3) players are tied, then:
    - i) If three (3) players each have one (1) win, a player having played less than all three (3) matches is automatically eliminated and the player advancing to the single elimination competition is the winner of the match-up of the two (2) players tied with 1-2 records; or
    - ii) Highest percentage of sets won; or
    - iii) Highest percentage of games won; a player completing less than all three (3) matches is automatically eliminated and the player advancing to the single elimination competition is the winner of the match-up of the two (2) remaining players; or
    - iv) The player positions on the Pepperstone ATP Rankings as of the Monday after the last ATP Tour tournament of the calendar year.
  - v) If (i), (ii), (iii) or (iv) produce one (1) superior player (first place), or one (1) inferior player (third place), and the two (2) remaining players are tied, the tie between those two (2) players shall be broken by head-to-head record.

**Comment 1:** 1 player has 3 wins and the other 3 players have 1 win. Of the 3 players with 1 win, 1 player has only played in 2 matches while the other 2 players have played 3 matches. The player who has only played 2 matches is eliminated and then the 2 remaining players revert back

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to head-to-head results with the winner of their match advancing to the semi-finals.

**Comment 2:** 1 player has 3 wins and the other 3 players have 1 win and they all have played 3 matches. The tie-break for % of sets won has 1 player with a better % than the other two. This player advances to the semi-final round.

**Comment 3:** 3 players have 2 wins and the other player has 0 wins. The player with 0 wins is eliminated. Of the 3 players with 2 wins, they are ordered by their % of sets won. This produces a 1, 2 & 3 order and the players finishing 1 and 2 move to the semi-final round and the player finishing 3 in % of sets won is eliminated. The player with the best % of sets won is the winner of the group.

**Comment 4:** 3 players have 2 wins and the other player has 0 wins. The player with 0 wins is eliminated. Of the 3 players with 2 wins, 1 player's sets won-loss is 5-2 for 71.43%; the other 2 players both have a 4-3 record in sets for 57.14%. In this case there is 1 superior player (71.43%) and the remaining 2 players are tied; it now reverts to the head to head result of the 2 remaining players with the winning player advancing as group runner-up.

**Comment 5:** 3 players have 2 wins and the other player has 0 wins. The player with 0 wins is eliminated. Of the 3 players with 2 wins, 2 have set won-loss records of 5-3 (62.5%) while the other player is 4-3 (57.14%). In this case we have 1 inferior player (57.14%) and he is eliminated. The remaining two players both advance to the semi-finals with the winner of their head-to-head match advancing as the group winner.

**Comment 6:** 3 players have 2 wins and the other player has 0 wins. The player with 0 wins is eliminated. Of the 3 players with 2 wins, all have played 3 matches and all 3 have set won-loss records of 5-4 (55.56%). In this case we move to % of games won. The % of games won breaks down like this: 44-40 for 52.38%, 45-43 for 51.14% and 44-43 for 50.57%. This produces a 1, 2 and 3 order of the group and the number 1 player in % of games won is the group winner while the player finishing 2nd in % of games won advances to the semi-finals as the group runner-up. The player with the 3rd best % of games won is eliminated.

- 4) In applying the tie-breaking procedures, a conduct default or retirement shall count as a straight-set win or loss. However, games won or lost in matches with the defaulting or retiring player shall not be counted in the application of subsection 3.d. (iii) above. A player who retires during the round robin because of illness or injury may continue in the competition if it is approved by the tournament Doctor.

**Comment:** This prevents a scenario where a player knows he only needs to win 1 set to qualify for the semi-finals from retiring once he has won a set.

- 5) Any player who is defaulted pursuant to the ATP Code during the round robin competition shall be defaulted from all other matches in the Championship and ATP default provisions shall apply, except for the following circumstances:
- a) The loss of physical condition; or
  - b) Dress and Equipment.
- 6) Any player who withdraws from any round robin match after the first round shall not be eligible for the single elimination competition.

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### E. Single Elimination Competition

- 1) The winner of each group shall be placed in separate semi-final brackets. The runner-up of each group shall be placed in the semi-final bracket with the winner of the opposite group.
- 2) The event shall be completed with a single elimination competition for the semi-finals and final.
- 3) There shall be no playoff for the third and fourth place positions.

### F. Prize Money and Points

Final standings at the end of the tournament shall determine the prize money and Pepperstone ATP Rankings points earned.

## 4.02 Nitto ATP Finals - Doubles

### A. Competition Format

The tournament shall be a doubles round robin format with eight (8) teams. There shall be two (2) groups of four (4) teams each with eight (8) seeds to be determined by the 2024 Pepperstone ATP Doubles Team Rankings on the Monday after the last ATP Tour tournament of the calendar year. All matches shall be two (2) tie-break sets with a deciding Match Tie-break (10 point) at one (1) set all. The round robin shall determine the four (4) teams for the semi-finals with the format thereafter being a single elimination competition.

### B. Entries

- 1) **Selection List.** The selection list for the event shall be:
  - a) The top 7 teams in the 2024 Pepperstone ATP Doubles Team Rankings as of the Monday after the last ATP Tour tournament of the calendar year; followed by
  - b) Up to two (2) Grand Slam winners of that year, in order of their positions, positioned between eight (8) and twenty (20) in the 2024 Pepperstone ATP Doubles Team Rankings as of that Monday; followed by
  - c) Teams positioned eight (8) and below in the 2024 Pepperstone ATP Doubles Team Rankings as of that Monday.

- 2) **Direct Acceptances.** The top eight (8) teams in the selection list shall qualify for the event as direct acceptances. Participation is mandatory, and all qualified teams shall be entered. All direct acceptances must be at the tournament site to attend the official pre-tournament media conference and must be available for play through the completion of the round robin competition and the knock-out competition if eligible.

A player who qualifies as a direct acceptance on two (2) or more teams may choose the team with which he participates. Any player with whom he does not choose to participate is ineligible to be a direct acceptance unless such player qualifies with another partner.

- 3) **Withdrawal.** All eligible teams shall be entered by ATP; however, teams may withdraw through the Monday following the last ATP Tour tournament of the year. Any withdrawal, before the official pre-tournament media conference starts, shall

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be replaced by the next highest positioned team on the selection list, who shall be qualified as a direct acceptance.

### 4) Alternate(s).

- a) On the Monday following the last ATP Tour tournament of the year, the next highest positioned team shall be asked to confirm its status as the alternate team. Alternate team(s) may be selected by ATP to fill the draw upon terms satisfactory to ATP. Any withdrawal after the official pre-tournament media conference through the start of the last scheduled round robin match shall be filled with the alternate team(s). The alternate team must appear at the official pre-tournament media conference and remain available through the start of the last scheduled round robin match.
- b) Additional alternate teams may be selected by ATP to fill the draw, based on the selection list, upon terms satisfactory to ATP. Participation of such additional alternate teams is not mandatory.
- c) The alternate team(s) is eligible to play in the single elimination competition and to receive points and prize money if they qualify.
- d) If the alternate team(s) does not play in the draw, then a fee shall be paid to the alternate team(s). If the alternate team(s) is inserted for the second or third round robin match, then they shall receive the alternate fee plus any prize money and points won. If the alternate team(s) replaces a team that does not compete in their first round robin match, the alternate team(s) becomes a direct acceptance and does not receive the alternate fee.

### C. Order of Play

#### Round Robin

- 1) The field shall be divided into two (2) groups of four (4) teams each. The top-seeded team shall be placed in Group "A" and the second-seeded team shall be placed in Group "B". Teams seeded three and four, five and six, and seven and eight, shall then be drawn in pairs with the first drawn placed into Group "A".
- 2) Each team shall play every other team in their group to determine the top two (2) teams in each group.
- 3) The final standings of each group shall be determined by the first of the following methods that apply:
  - a) Greatest number of wins.
  - b) Greatest number of matches played.  
**Comment:** 2-1 won-loss record beats a 2-0 won-loss record; a 1-2 record beats a 1-0 record.
  - c) Head-to-head results if only two (2) teams are tied.
  - d) If three (3) teams are tied, then:
    - i) If three (3) teams each have one (1) win, a team having played less than all three (3) matches is automatically eliminated and the team advancing to the single elimination competition is the winner of the match-up of the two (2) teams tied with 1-2 records; or
    - ii) Highest percentage of sets won; (Winning the MTB counts as one (1) set won); or
    - iii) Highest percentage of games won. (Winning the MTB counts as one (1) game won); a team completing less than all three (3) matches is automatically eliminated and the team advancing to the single elimination competition is the winner of the match-up of the two (2) remaining teams; or

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iv) The team positions on the 2024 Pepperstone ATP Doubles Team Rankings as of the Monday after the last ATP Tour tournament of the calendar year.

v) If (i), (ii), (iii) or (iv) produce one (1) superior team (first place), or one (1) inferior team (third place), and the two (2) remaining teams are tied, the tie between those two (2) teams shall be broken by head-to-head record

**Comment 1:** 1 team has 3 wins and the other 3 teams have 1 win. Of the 3 teams with 1 win, 1 team has only played in 2 matches while the other 2 teams have played 3 matches. The team who has only played 2 matches is eliminated and then the 2 remaining teams revert back to head-to-head results with the winner of their match advancing to the semi-finals.

**Comment 2:** 1 team has 3 wins and the other 3 teams have 1 win and they all have played 3 matches. The tie-break for % of sets won has 1 team with a better % than the other two. This team advances to the semi-final round.

**Comment 3:** 3 teams have 2 wins and the other team has 0 wins. The team with 0 wins is eliminated. Of the 3 teams with 2 wins, they are ordered by their % of sets won. This produces a 1, 2 & 3 order and the teams finishing 1 and 2 move to the semi-final round and the team finishing 3 in % of sets won is eliminated. The team with the best % of sets won is the winner of the group.

**Comment 4:** 3 teams have 2 wins and the other team has 0 wins. The team with 0 wins is eliminated. Of the 3 teams with 2 wins, 1 team's sets won-loss is 5-2 for 71.43%; the other 2 teams both have a 4-3 record in sets for 57.14%. In this case there is 1 superior team (71.43%) and the remaining 2 teams are tied; it now reverts to the head to head result of the 2 remaining teams with the winning team advancing as group runner-up.

**Comment 5:** 3 teams have 2 wins and the other team has 0 wins. The team with 0 wins is eliminated. Of the 3 teams with 2 wins, 2 have set won-loss records of 5-3 (62.5%) while the other team is 4-3 (57.14%). In this case we have 1 inferior team (57.14%) and this team is eliminated. The remaining two teams both advance to the semi-finals with the winner of their head-to-head match advancing as the group winner.

**Comment 6:** 3 teams have 2 wins and the other team has 0 wins. The team with 0 wins is eliminated. Of the 3 teams with 2 wins, all have played 3 matches and all 3 have set won-loss records of 5-4 (55.56%). In this case we move to % of games won. The % of games won breaks down like this: 44-40 for 52.38%, 45-43 for 51.14% and 44-43 for 50.57%. This produces a 1, 2 and 3 order of the group and the number 1 team in % of games won is the group winner while the team finishing 2nd in % of games won advances to the semi-finals as the group runner-up. The team with the 3rd best % of games won is eliminated.

4) In applying the tie-breaking procedures, a conduct default or retirement shall count as a straight-set win or loss. However, games won or lost in matches with the defaulting or retiring team shall not be counted in the application of subsection 3.d. (iii) above. A team who retires during the round robin because of illness or injury may continue in the competition if it is approved by the tournament Doctor.

**Comment:** this prevents a scenario where a team knows he only needs to win 1 set to qualify for the semi-finals from retiring once he has won a set.

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- 5) Any team who is defaulted pursuant to ATP Code during the round robin competition shall be defaulted from all other matches in the Championship and ATP default provisions shall apply, except for the following circumstances:
  - a) The loss of physical condition; or
  - b) Dress and Equipment.
- 6) Any team who withdraws from any round robin match after the first round shall not be eligible for the single elimination competition.

### D. Single Elimination Competition

- 1) The winner of each group shall be placed in separate semi-final brackets. The runner-up of each group shall be placed in the semi-final bracket with the winner of the opposite group.
- 2) The event shall be completed with a single elimination competition for the semi-finals and final.
- 3) There shall be no playoff for the third and fourth-place positions.

### E. Prize Money and Points

Final standings at the end of the tournament shall determine the prize-money and Pepperstone ATP Doubles Rankings points earned.

## 4.03 United Cup

The United Cup is an annual country vs country mixed team competition. Eighteen (18) countries will participate, with a minimum of two ATP and two WTA players per country.

### A. Round Robin Competition

- 1) The United Cup is a competition for eighteen (18) teams, each team composed of a minimum of two (2) ATP and two (2) WTA players and a maximum of three (3) ATP/WTA players from the same country. The team criteria shall be:
  - a) The two (2) highest ranked singles ATP/WTA players; then
  - b) Teams may include a 3rd ATP and WTA player, whose entry will be accepted based on being the highest of singles ranking (up to maximum 500) or doubles ranking (up to maximum 250).
  - c) A junior player, meeting the criteria stated below, may be included as a country's 3rd respective Tour player.

The junior player must,

- i) Be born in 2005 or later, and
- ii) Be ranked 500 or better in Singles rankings as of the Rankings Deadline, or
- iii) Be ranked 50 or better in the ITF Junior World Rankings as of the Rankings Deadline
- iv) Have entered the event

Only one (1) junior player may be included per gender, per team (maximum 1 male, 1 female)

- d) All players except an approved junior player must have an ATP Ranking (singles or doubles).

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- 2) A player's nationality as of the entry date shall be used to determine team entry. All player nationality determinations are subject to ATP approval.
- 3) The competition shall be a Round Robin format with six (6) groups of three (3) teams each. All singles matches shall be the best of three (3) tie-break sets. All mixed doubles matches shall be two (2) tie-break sets with a deciding Match Tie-Break (10 point) at one (1) set all.
- 4) Each team shall play each other in its group to determine the top team in each group. Group winners will advance to the Quarterfinals. One Quarterfinal spot in each city will be awarded to the best runner up in that City. Winners will advance to the Semi-Finals, to be hosted in the Finals City.

### B. Player Nationality / Change of Nationality

A player's nationality as of the entry date shall be used to determine team entry. All player nationality determinations are subject to ATP/WTA approval.

- 1) **Nationality.** A player's nationality on the date of that country's acceptance to the United Cup shall determine the player's eligibility to compete for that country.
- 2) **Change of Nationality.**
  - a) A player may only represent one (1) country in the United Cup during their career, unless
    - a. The player change their nationality in the ATP/WTA database AND
    - b. Any of the following apply:
      - i. The player competed under such nationality in the BJK Cup, Davis Cup, or Olympic Tennis Event, or
      - ii. The player competed under such nationality in professional tennis tournaments during the Tour Year immediately preceding the United Cup,
      - iii. ATP/WTA determines the full circumstances of the player's situation demonstrate the player has a sufficient, genuine connection to the nation that the player wishes to represent, or
      - iv. In exceptional circumstances as determined by ATP/WTA.
  - b) All requests to change a player's nationality are subject to ATP/WTA approval.

### C. Teams Qualifications

- 1) **Entry.** The teams shall be selected and entered in the following manner:
  - a) A team shall be entered based upon the ATP/WTA Ranking (singles) of the country's Number 1 singles player.
  - b) All players must confirm in writing they will be playing the event to confirm entry.
  - c) There shall be one (1) wild card allocated for the host country in case their team does not otherwise qualify. If no Wild Card is necessary, then that position shall revert to an additional Direct Acceptance.

If the Wild Card is needed for the host country, then the Wild Card team will be placed randomly into one of the six (6) groups.

### 2) **Entry – Deadline and Acceptance**

- a) **Entry deadline.** Tuesday 17 October 2023, 5pm Florida Time (Wednesday 18 October 2023, 8am Sydney Time). The top fifteen (15) Direct Acceptance



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countries that qualify using the 16 October 2023 ATP/WTA Ranking must confirm their acceptance to the competition by this deadline.

**b) At Second Qualification Date:**

The Second Qualification Date is designed to account for results and changes in ranking within the Top ATP and WTA eligible singles players since the Entry Deadline. The next highest ranked ATP and WTA eligible and entered players not already accepted into the competition determine the remaining 1 x ATP and 1 x WTA qualifying teams, as long as the teams meet the minimum number of players required.

**Note:** Players will only be eligible to qualify at second qualification date if they have entered at the entry deadline.

**3) Qualification.** In order to qualify for the competition, a team that has accepted entry must comply with the following requirements:

At this entry deadline, the Top 5 WTA qualified countries, Top 5 ATP qualified countries and Top 6 combined entry countries (inclusive of host country as Direct in or by wildcard) will be admitted to the competition, with the final two remaining entrants to be admitted to the competition on Monday 20 November 2023, 12 noon Florida time (Tuesday, 21 November 4 am Sydney time) based on the 20 November 2023 rankings.

Players must enter the event to be eligible (i.e., no automatic entries)

- a) The team is composed of the two (2) highest positioned and eligible players based on the ATP/WTA Ranking (Singles) as of 17 October 2023 (ATP/WTA Ranking (Singles) as of 20 November for the two teams qualifying at the second qualification deadline).
- b) A third player may be named, if eligible, at the time of the deadline. The No. 3 players will be chosen based on their highest ATP/WTA Ranking (Singles or Doubles) as of 17 October 2023 (ATP/WTA Ranking (Singles or Doubles) as of 20 November for the two teams qualifying at the second qualification deadline).
- c) In the case of illness, injury or unforeseen circumstances, and the team number falls below two (2) members, the Supervisor and the Steering Committee may allow the team Captain to nominate a substitute player during the competition, although the team may continue with only one (1) member per gender.
- d) The Steering Committee may use discretion if a team includes a Top 20 ATP/WTA player and does not wholly meet the qualification criteria pertaining to the ATP or WTA second player.

**4) Ties – Team Entry**

The 6 Highest ranked ATP and 6 highest ranked WTA players determine the first 12 teams. If players of the same nationality qualify a team in both ATP and WTA or within either ATP or WTA Top 6, the next ranked players outside of the Top 6 will qualify their country until 12 teams are qualified (6 from ATP top ranked players and 6 from WTA top ranked players).

- a) For the top singles spot to determine team entry, entry is based on the ATP/WTA Ranking (Singles):
  - i) If tied a current singles ranking beats a Protected Ranking/Special Ranking.

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- ii) If tied between two current rankings or two Protected Rankings/Special Rankings, the ranking of the highest number 2 players will break the tie. If still tied, we move on to the number 3 player, etc.

The final 6 teams will be determined by the highest combined ranking of the Top ATP and Top WTA ranked players who have not yet qualified their country. Where a combined ranking is equal between two teams, the team with the highest ranked singles player (ATP or WTA) will take priority. If still equal, the team with the highest ranked second singles player will take priority.

### 5) Ties – Individual Entry

- a) For spots 1-2 where entry is based on the ATP/WTA Ranking (Singles).
  - i) If tied.
    - A current ranking beats a Protected Ranking/Special Ranking.
    - If still tied, the most total points from the Grand Slams, mandatory ATP Tour Masters 1000, WTA 1000 tournaments and Nitto ATP Finals/WTA Finals main draws, and if still tied, then,
    - If still tied, the fewest events played, counting all missed Grand Slams, ATP Tour Masters 1000 tournaments/WTA 1000 events they could have played (as described under A. above) as if played, and if still tied, then,
    - If still tied, coin toss
- b) For spot 3 where entry is based on the best-of ATP/WTA Ranking (Singles or Doubles).
  - i) If tied.
    - If best-of ranking is the same, the player with the highest ATP/WTA Singles Ranking wins the tie. Ties between singles rankings are broken as per point a) above.
    - If both ATP/WTA Doubles Rankings are the same, the player with the highest ATP/WTA Ranking (Singles) wins the tie. Ties between doubles rankings are broken as per the ATP/WTA tie breaking rules.
    - A current ranking beats a Protected Ranking/Special Ranking.
    - If still tied, coin toss

### 6) Withdrawal of entry

- a) The deadline for withdrawal of entry for a player / team shall be as follows:
  - i) For those players/teams confirming entry on the entry deadline, any withdrawal after 5:00pm Eastern US on Tuesday, 17 October 2023 will be considered as a Late Withdrawal.
  - ii) WTA - A player's withdrawal from United Cup is subject to all applicable withdrawal requirements and penalties in Section IV of the WTA Rules.
- b) Violation of this Section shall be penalized consistent with the Player Code of Conduct. Late Withdrawal Fines shall apply and be based upon the player's ranking at the date of acceptance. Any player withdrawing after accepting entry shall not be permitted to participate in any other event, including exhibitions, during the United Cup Competition. Any players accepted as the #3 player, may withdraw from the team without penalty to play another event during United Cup if she/he withdraws prior to the applicable entry deadlines for that tournament.
- c) Players have the right to an Appeal of the Late Withdrawal Fine which must be submitted to the ATP Appeals Tribunal/WTA, which consideration is limited to the fine only.

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### 7) Late Withdrawals / Substitutions

- a) Number 1 player withdraws after the deadline, 17 October 2023.
  - i) The team remains in the competition as long as there is a minimum of two (2) ATP/WTA Ranked players on the team, which must have an ATP/WTA Ranking (Singles), unless otherwise approved by ATP/WTA or, an Alternate is inserted as approved by ATP/WTA. This can include a replacement player. The team must also have at least 1 ATP or WTA member of the team ranked 250 or better in singles to remain in the competition. Number 1 and 2 players to be reclassified if required (e.g. #2 becomes #1 and the replacement player becomes the new #2).
  - ii) The next highest ranked singles player from that country may be added to the team, unless otherwise approved by ATP/WTA. Non-entered substitute/alternate players may only be considered if the team does not have a minimum of 2 entered players meeting the criteria.
- b) The number 2 singles player withdraws prior to 10:00 am local time in Sydney, the day prior to the start of the competition.
  - i) The next highest ranked singles player from that country may be added to the team, unless otherwise approved by the ATP/WTA. That player may either be a player not already accepted to a Week 1 Tour event, or a player who by approval of ATP/WTA may be able to withdraw from main draw and qualifying of a week 1 without penalty (For ATP, Challenger Tour only. For WTA 125, only if for main draw withdrawal before the main draw is made.), prior to the start of the qualifying event without penalty.
- c) All substitutions are subject to ATP/WTA approval.
- d) If through the withdrawal of the number 1 player or the numbers 1 and 2 players between the deadline (17 October 2023) and 10:00 am local time in Perth/Sydney, the day prior to the start of competition, a team may be withdrawn and replaced by an alternate team if they do not have at least one member of the team ranked 250 or better in singles.

### 8) Alternate Team Selection

- a) The Alternate Team will be the first team out of the final selection.
- b) If needed, the individual players may be granted a release from any other ATP/WTA Tour Qualifying event they are entered in during the period of the United Cup Competition, pending ATP/WTA approval, or from any ATP Challenger Tour event.
- c) The Alternate Team may be selected for participation until 10:00 am local time in Perth/Sydney, the day prior to the start of competition.

### 9) Withdrawals after Start of the Competition

- a) Any team that through withdrawals of team members has only one (1) player from each Tour remaining may continue in the competition as long as those players have an ATP/WTA Ranking, unless otherwise approved by ATP/WTA. This player must play singles and be available for the mixed doubles.
- b) If a team does not have at least one (1) eligible ATP and one (1) WTA player, the team will lose by Walkover and no matches will be played, unless if approved by the Steering Committee the team may remain in competition and the matches for the missing player are lost by Walkover. No points are awarded for Walkovers.
- c) A team may add an alternate player after the competition has begun as long as the player is not violating ATP/WTA rules for "No Play after Withdrawal" or "One Tournament per Week", or as approved by ATP/WTA. In no case may

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a player compete in two events offering ATP/WTA Ranking points which are held in the same ranking week.

### 10) Seeding

Seeding for the event will be based off the combined regular ranking (no protected ranking/special ranking) of the top ATP and top WTA ranked player regardless of their qualification into the event. As per the entry order priority rule, where a combined ranking is equal between two teams, the team with the highest ranked singles player (ATP or WTA) will become the higher seed. If still equal, the team with the highest ranked second singles player will be the higher seed.

### D. Competition Format

#### Host Cities

Sydney and Perth will host Countries for the Group Stages and Quarterfinals. Sydney will host the Semi Finals and Final.

At the Official Draw, Sydney and Perth will be drawn as host of one of 2 combinations of seeds –

- #1 (Group A), #3 (Group C), and #5 (Group E)
- #2 (Group B), #4 (Group D), and #6 (Group F)

Which City hosts which combination of seeds to be determined at the Official Draw.

### 1) Round Robin – The Groups

#### The Draw-Teams 1-18

- a) The official draw for the placement of teams 1-18 shall take place, on Monday 23 October 2023.
- b) The teams shall be positioned from 1 to 18 in accordance with the best combined ATP/WTA Ranking (Singles) as of 23 October 2023, of the number 1 players of each team accepted at the 17 October 2023 deadline. Two team positions 1 ATP Qualified position and 1 WTA position will be reserved. The final two remaining entrants to be admitted to the competition on Monday 20 November 2023 based on the November 20 rankings.
- c) The top six (6) teams shall be placed in separate groups.
- d) The next six (6) teams in rank order (7-12) shall be drawn at random into the six (6) groups.
- e) The next six (6) teams (13-18) shall be drawn at random for each of the six (6) groups.
- f) The final two (2) teams selected at the second deadline shall be drawn at random for each of the two (2) incomplete groups.

Groups will be assigned as follows:

#### Group A

#1 seeded country, plus one randomly selected team from each of the following bands –

- Seeded countries 7 – 12
- Seeded countries 13 – 18 inclusive of the final 2 countries to be included in the competition

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### Group B

#2 seeded country, plus one randomly selected team from each of the following bands –

- Seeded countries 7 – 12
- Seeded countries 13 – 18 inclusive of the final 2 countries to be included in the competition

### Group C

#3 seeded country, plus one randomly selected team from each of the following bands –

- Seeded countries 7 – 12
- Seeded countries 13 – 18 inclusive of the final 2 countries to be included in the competition

### Group D

#4 seeded country, plus one randomly selected team from each of the following bands –

- Seeded countries 7 – 12
- Seeded countries 13 – 18 inclusive of the final 2 countries to be included in the competition

### Group E

#5 seeded country, plus one randomly selected team from each of the following bands –

- Seeded countries 7 – 12
- Seeded countries 13 – 18 inclusive of the final 2 countries to be included in the competition

### Group F

#6 seeded country, plus one randomly selected team from each of the following bands –

- Seeded countries 7 – 12
- Seeded countries 13 – 18 inclusive of the final 2 countries to be included in the competition

## 2) Daily Order of Play - The Tie

- a) A tie consists of two (2) singles matches and one (1) mixed doubles match.
- b) Each team Captain shall submit to the ATP/WTA Supervisor, in writing, the name of the two (2) singles players and the mixed doubles team selected to compete in the Tie. The singles players shall be the top two (2) ranked ATP/WTA players (including protected ranking/special ranking) as of the date of the entry deadline unless there is a medically supported substitution.
- c) The deadline to submit the names of the competing players (singles/doubles) is 3:00pm local time, the day prior to the scheduled Tie.
- d) For each Tie, the highest-positioned (hereafter, number ones) singles players named from each team shall compete against each other. The order of matches shall be as follows unless otherwise decided by the Steering Committee:
  - i) Number 1 ATP/WTA Singles followed by
  - ii) Number 1 ATP/WTA Singles followed by
  - iii) Mixed Doubles

**Note:** "Not Before" times may be assigned as determined by the organizers in consultation with the ATP Supervisor.
- e) Upon the completion of the mixed doubles match, the winner of the tie shall be the team that wins at least two (2) of the three (3) matches.

## IV. WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

- f) The mixed doubles match must be played regardless of the results of the two singles matches. \*

\*For the Final, if the tie is decided following the singles matches, the mixed doubles match will not be played (unless mutually agreed by both Countries), and the money will be split evenly amongst the members of both teams.

### 3) Format and Competition

#### a) Groups

There will be six Groups comprising of three countries in each group. Each city will host three groups (nine countries) for the Group stages, which will consist of round robin ties where each country will play both other countries in their group.

### 4) Determination of Group Winners

#### a) Number of ties won

#### b) Number of Ties Played

Comment: 2-1 win-loss beats 2-0 win-loss. A 1-2 win-loss beats a 1-1 or 1-0 record. A team winning by walkover shall have the tie count in its results as a tie played. The team causing the walkover shall not have the tie counted as a tie played.

#### c) In a tie between three (3) teams, the following shall apply:

- i) If three (3) teams have the same number of wins, then the team having played fewer total matches (singles & mixed doubles) will be eliminated and the winner of the head-to-head matchup between the two remaining teams advance, if still tied then,  
Comment: 5-1 win-loss beats 5-0 win-loss.

ii) The team with the most match wins (singles & doubles), if still tied then,

iii) The team with the highest percentage of matches won, if still tied then,

iv) The team that has the highest percentage of sets won, if still tied then,

v) The team with the highest percentage of games won,

#### d) If ii), iii), iv) or v) produce one superior team (first place), then the tie is broken, or

#### e) If ii), iii), iv) or v) produce one inferior team then that team is eliminated and the winner of the match between the two (2) remaining teams is the winner of the group.

**Notes:** In all tie-break situations, the following shall apply.

- Unplayed matches shall be scored as completed for purposes of matches played.
- Defaulted and retired singles or doubles matches shall be scored as completed for purposes of matches played and will count as a straight set win or loss. However, games won or lost in matches with defaulting or retiring player shall not be counted for percentage of games won.
- Teams advancing from a tie via a team walkover (i.e. no alternate) will count as a tie won but this does not count towards total matches won, percentage of sets or percentage of games won.
- Any team that withdraws from any round robin tie after the first-round robin tie shall not be eligible for the Quarterfinals.
- The Match Tie-Break (doubles) counts as a set won and for games won counts as 1-0

### 5) Quarterfinals

Group winners will advance to the Quarterfinals. One Quarterfinal spot in each city will be awarded to the best runner up in that City. Winners will advance to the

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Semi-Finals, to be hosted in the Finals City.

### 6) Determination of Best Runner up Quarterfinal spot

- a) Number of ties won
- b) Number of Ties Played  
**Comment:** 2-1 win-loss beats 2-0 win-loss. A 1-2 win-loss beats a 1-1 or 1-0 record. A team winning by walkover shall have the tie count in its results as a tie played. The team causing the walkover shall not have the tie counted as a tie played.
- c) In a tie between three (3) teams, the following shall apply:
  - i) If teams have the same number of wins, then the team having played fewer total matches (singles & mixed doubles) will be eliminated and, if still tied then,  
**Comment:** 5-1 win-loss beats 5-0 win-loss.
  - ii) The team with the most match wins (singles & doubles), if still tied then,
  - iii) The team with the highest percentage of matches won, if still tied then,
  - iv) The team that has the highest percentage of sets won, if still tied then,
  - v) The team with the highest percentage of games won,
- d) If ii), iii), iv) or v) produce one superior team (first place), then the tie is broken, or

**Notes:** In all tie-break situations, the following shall apply.

- Unplayed matches shall be scored as completed for purposes of matches played.
- Defaulted and retired singles or doubles matches shall be scored as completed for purposes of matches played and will count as a straight set win or loss. However, games won or lost in matches with defaulting or retiring player shall not be counted for percentage of games won.
- Teams advancing from a tie via a team walkover (i.e. no alternate) will count as a tie won but this does not count towards total matches won, percentage of sets or percentage of games won.
- Any team that withdraws from any round robin tie after the first-round robin tie shall not be eligible for the Quarterfinals.

### 6) Quarter finals

- a) The eight (8) teams advancing to the knock-out rounds shall be placed in the draw as follows:

#### Sydney:

- The winner of Group 1 will play the best runner-up\* from the remaining groups from the city
- The winner of Group 3 will play the winner of Group 5\*

#### Perth:

- The winner of Group 2 will play the best runner-up\* from the remaining groups from the city
- The winner of Group 4 will play the winner of Group 6\*

\*No runner-up teams will play versus the winner of their groups before the Final of the competition.

To avoid that the runner-up teams in the quarter finals will swap position with the winner of the lowest ranked group in the specific city.

### 7) Semi-Finals

The four winners of the quarterfinals will qualify for the Semi Finals in Sydney.

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### 8) The Final

- Final – Winner Semi Final 1 v Winner Semi Final 2

- a) The Champion Team shall be decided by the result of a straight knock-out competition

### E. Protected Ranking/Special Ranking\*

The following applies to any player with a Protected Ranking ("PR")/Special Ranking ("SR") that has been used in any manner during the competition or to qualify a country for entry.

- 1) The PR must be valid at the entry deadline and remain valid through to the start of the competition.
- 2) Can be used for team entry.
- 3) Will count for position in the singles lineup.
- 4) Will count for Ranking points.
- 5) Will not count for team seeding.
- 6) **For WTA players** - Will count as Special Ranking used for the player(s).
- 7) **For ATP players** - Will not count as Protected Ranking used for the player(s).
- 8) May only be used at one (1) United Cup event.

### F. Schedule of Play

The following is the schedule of play unless otherwise determined by the Tournament Committee and Supervisor:

- 1) The eighteen (18) teams shall play Round Robin matches over the first days to determine the six (6) winners of the Round Robin groups and the two best runner ups (one for each city) qualifying for the Quarterfinals.
- 2) Following the draw, the daily ties (country v country) for the round robin sessions will be scheduled and announced.
- 3) All players and Captains must be available for play on the first day of the event.
- 4) Once the Captain has named the two (2) players competing in the singles, the pairings for the Tie shall be made automatic as determined by the ATP/WTA Ranking.
- 5) Protected Ranking/Special Ranking (singles) will be used for a player's position on the team but cannot be used for team seeding.
- 6) A travel day for the Quarterfinal winners from Perth will take place on the 7th day (Thursday) of the Tournament.
- 7) The Semi-Finals will be held on the 9th day of the tournament.
- 8) The Final will be held on the 10th day of the tournament.
- 9) The ATP/WTA Supervisors reserve the right to change the schedule of play, alter starting times and make other changes deemed necessary for the smooth running of the competition.



## IV. WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

### G. Team Captain / Team Coaches

#### 1) Designation of Captain

- a) The number one player on each team (the highest ATP/WTA singles ranked player) is by default the Team Captain, however each team can elect another player or person as Team Captain, provided such person is of the same nationality as the team they are representing. The No 1 player has the overall authority on the position of team captain. If the No 1 player decides to appoint a team captain instead of fulfilling the role, the chosen person must be either an ATP / WTA player, former player or coach. Exceptions to this are subject to approval by the Event Steering Committee. The Team Captain must be confirmed and submitted to the ATP/WTA no later than December 1.

The Team Captain is responsible for attending all meetings, submitting the team's line up and acting as the official representative for the team.

Coaching is allowed, and the Team Captain will have the option to sit on the court throughout matches.

- b) The Captain must be communicated to ATP/WTA no later than December 1, 2023.
- c) In the event the Captain is not on-site or not available, the number one (1) player shall assume the role of Captain or designate a non-playing team member as Captain.
- d) The Captain must be on-site for the duration of that team's participation in the competition. The Captain shall be subject to all provisions of the Player Code of Conduct, including those pertaining to Dress and Equipment.

#### 2) Duties of the Captain. The duties of the Captain are as follows:

- a) Designate the team's lineup, after consultation with the team members;
- b) Act as official representative for their respective team;
- c) Attend all team meetings; and
- d) The designated Captain may sit on court during the match and may coach during changeovers, set-breaks and during play as long as it does not interrupt play.
- e) The Captain may speak to the Chair Umpire, however only the Player may initiate Challenges to line calls.

#### 3) Individual Coaches\*

- a) Each player may have his personal coach be the designated coach for his matches.

\*Individual coaches with multiple players can coach their players even if they are competing for different countries. If a coach has one player on each competing team, then the coach may only be on court for one country in that tie. This does not apply if the individual coach is also the Captain of a team. A Captain may only sit on court and coach for the team he is captaining.

#### 4) Duties of the Coach. The duties of the coach are as follows:

- a) During each match the player involved may use his personal coach to assist him during the match.
- b) The coach will sit in the designated area assigned for the coach of that match.
- c) The coach may sit on court during the match and may coach during changeovers, set-breaks and during play as long as it does not interrupt play.
- d) Official team members/coaches may also communicate with the player during changeovers and set-breaks.

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- e) All team members, Captain and coaches, when courtside, must sit in the area designated for the teams participating in that Tie.
- f) The coach must adhere to the ATP Code of Conduct, including logo restrictions on attire.

### 5) Player Designations

- a) Each team Captain shall submit to the ATP/WTA Supervisor, in writing, the name of the two (2) singles players and the mixed doubles team selected to compete in the Tie. The singles players shall be the top ATP/WTA ranked players (including protected ranking/special ranking) as of the date of the entry deadline, unless there is a medically supported substitution, or otherwise approved by the Supervisor.

- b) Change may be allowed for medical conditions or for unforeseen circumstances approved by the ATP/ WTA Supervisor.

- c) The team Captains must give in writing the names of the two (2) singles players and the mixed doubles team to the Supervisor no later than 3:00pm on the day prior to the scheduled Tie. The mixed doubles team may be chosen from any ATP/WTA players named to the team.

For the Tournament Final, the team Captain must give in writing the names of the two (2) singles players and the mixed doubles team to the Supervisor within fifteen minutes after the completion of the second tie determining the teams for the upcoming Final.

- d) Following the conclusion of the second singles match, any change in the mixed doubles team must be communicated to the ATP/WTA Supervisor, in writing, within 10 minutes of the conclusion of the fourth singles match. The Supervisors shall notify the opposing Captain and all other relevant staff once both Captains have submitted their doubles teams.

- e) There shall be a maximum of twenty-five (25) minutes between the end of the last singles match and the start of the mixed doubles match if one or more of the doubles players competed in the last singles match. If none of the players designated for the mixed doubles has competed in the last singles match, the mixed doubles shall be scheduled as "followed by" with the exact time determined by the Supervisor. Fifteen minutes is recommended following the conclusion of the last singles match, however mixed doubles players who competed in the last singles match can elect to start after fifteen (15) minutes or after twenty-five (25) minutes.

- f) The Captain must name the mixed doubles team one hour before the start of the day's play if his team has no singles matches on that day (rain or other cause of delay).

- g) The team Captain may, whenever necessary, replace a singles player in the case of illness, injury or unforeseen circumstances approved by the ATP/WTA Supervisor.

- i) A player who withdraws from the singles shall be eligible for mixed doubles on that same day.

- h) In the event of a conduct default, the Supervisor may decide to remove the offending player(s) for the remainder of the tie or event.

## H. Medical

### 1) Tournament Doctor

- a) An official Tournament Doctor is required to be present at all times during play and a reasonable time before play begins.
- b) The tournament doctor shall be available for court calls as necessary.

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### 2) ATP Physiotherapist/WTA Primary Health Care Provider (PHCP)

- a) Each venue will have an ATP Physiotherapist(s)/WTA PHCP(s) assigned to the event.
- b) Only the ATP Physiotherapist/WTA PHCP will be allowed on court during the match.

### I. Code of Conduct

#### 1) **Players.** All players are subject to the ATP/WTA Code of Conduct.

##### a) **Dress and Equipment.**

- i) All team members must dress in similar attire that identifies them with the country they are representing.
- ii) Team attire must be submitted to and approved by ATP/WTA in advance of the event.

#### 2) **Team Captain / Coaches.** All Team Captains and Coaches are subject to the provisions specified in the ATP/WTA Code of Conduct regarding Dress and Equipment and conduct on-site during the event.

During matches, official functions and media appearances, all Team Captains shall wear tournament provided unbranded clothing (polo shirt / jacket/ hat) with the United Cup logo provided by the event whilst sat on the team bench and performing all captains' duties both on and off court; for example but not limited to official functions, walk-ons, ceremonies, photo opportunities, media appearances etc.

Captains with ongoing personal clothing sponsorship, will be permitted to wear a different shirt to the unbranded United Cup polo shirt, provided it is in the team colour or similar and is approved prior to the event.

Captains wearing a personal shirt they will still be expected to wear the United Cup unbranded jacket for official functions, walk-ons, ceremonies, photo opportunities, media appearances etc.

If captains have other ongoing personal sponsorships (patch deals etc.) and wish to wear a shirt complying with the above provision during the event with sponsor logos on the shirt, all such sponsor logos must comply with ATP/WTA tour sizing guidelines and must be approved prior to the event.

Coaches / other team members – if they are wearing shirts with sponsor logos in accordance with ATP/WTA tour sizing rules, they may sit on the team benches. Those not complying with this requirement will need to sit in the allocated team area in the stands.

In addition, any violation occurring during the match shall be penalized with a "Coaches Warning". The first violation results in a Warning and a second violation during the match will result in the coach being removed from the court for the remainder of that Tie.

#### 3) **Fines.** Any fines issued during the Tie will be levied against the individual.

### J. Prize Money (All figures in U.S. dollars)

Total Prize Money: USD\$10,000,000 (USD\$5,000,000 each for ATP and WTA)

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### Per Individual Wins:

	#1 Singles Win	Doubles Win (per player)
<b>Final Win</b>	\$251,000	\$47,255*
<b>Semi-Final Win</b>	\$132,000	\$24,750
<b>Quarterfinal Win</b>	\$69,500	\$13,000
<b>Group Win</b>	\$38,325	\$7,200

\*If the Tie is decided following the singles matches, the doubles match may not be played, and the money will be split evenly amongst the members of both teams.

### Per Team Wins:

Team Wins	
<b>Final Win</b>	\$23,155
<b>Semi-Final Win</b>	\$13,650
<b>Quarterfinal Win</b>	\$8,025
<b>Group Tie Win</b>	\$5,000

All players on the team (whether the player plays a match or not) earn the same amount for a team win.

### Participation Fee:

No. 1 Player	
Singles Ranking	\$/player
<b>1-10</b>	\$200,000
<b>11-20</b>	\$100,000
<b>21-30</b>	\$60,000
<b>31-50</b>	\$40,000
<b>51-100</b>	\$30,000
<b>101-250</b>	\$25,000
<b>251+</b>	\$20,000

No. 2 Player	
Singles Ranking	\$/player
<b>1-10</b>	\$200,000
<b>11-20</b>	\$100,000

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No. 2 Player	
21-30	\$50,000
31-50	\$30,000
51-100	\$20,000
101-250	\$15,000
251+	\$10,000

No. 3 Player	
Singles Ranking	\$/player
1-30	\$30,000
31-100	\$15,000
101-250	\$7,500
251+	\$6,000

Ranking as of 16 October 2023 or 20 November 2023, for the teams accepted at the second qualification date.

### Participation Fee Notes

- Players may only receive a participation fee in one category. Players will receive a fee for singles or mixed doubles, whichever was used for their entry.
- Participation fee for any team substitutions following the 17 October 2023 entry order shall be based upon the entry ranking team order and player ranking.
- A number 1 singles player will receive 100% of the participation fee if they compete in all Group stage singles matches. Pro-Rata schedule for players number 1 competing in less than all Group stage singles matches is listed below including Pro-Rata schedule for mixed doubles matches participated in.
- Players number 2-3 will receive 100% participation fee regardless of whether they compete in any of the Group state matches.

2024 Participation Fee Pro-Rata Schedule			
For #1 Player	Promotional %	Per Singles Match %	Per Doubles Match %
	40%	30%	15%

- Max of 30% per tie
- Playing Singles and Doubles in same tie = 30%
- Applies to Group stage matches and ties only
- This applies to all #1 players including players competing with Protected Ranking (PR)/Special Ranking
- Promotional % = minimum participation fee

\*15 % maximum per all mixed doubles matches, regardless of if a player plays 1 or 2 mixed doubles during the group stage. Players competing in singles and mixed doubles in a Tie will receive the Promotional fee plus 30 % per the singles match.

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A #1 Player only playing 2 mixed doubles during the group stage will receive 40 % Promotional + 15 % total for both mixed doubles matches (55 % overall). Examples in the table below.

Scenario	Group Tie 1		Group Tie 2		Fee Collected
	Singles	Doubles	Singles	Doubles	
A	x		x		100%
B	x			x	85%
C	x	x			70%
D	x				70%
E		x		x	55%
F		x			55%
G					40%

## K. ATP/WTA Ranking Points

### Singles

Opponent's Ranking on Monday, December 25, 2023	1-10	11-20	21-30	31-50	51-100	101-250	251+
Final Win	180	140	120	90	60	40	35
Semifinal Win	130	105	90	60	40	35	25
Quarterfinal-Win	80	65	55	40	35	25	20
Group Win	55	45	40	35	25	20	15
Max Points	500	400	345	260	185	140	110

*Maximum 500 points for undefeated player*

**WTA Only:** WTA player who wins all 5 matches to receive 500 points. WTA player who wins 4 of 5 matches to receive a minimum of 325 points or points per the table above whichever is higher.

## L. Walkovers

- 1) No points are awarded if no matches of the tie are played
- 2) An individual match in the tie is won by a Walkover, points are awarded based upon the lowest ranking category (251+).

## M. Media / STARS Obligations

- 1) All teams are requested to arrive in Australia on time for any pre-event media / STARS commitments, to be arranged.
- 2) Normal post-match interview protocol will be followed with the exception being a player competing in the 4th singles match who is also competing in the mixed doubles may postpone his media commitment until after the mixed doubles match. However, the ATP/WTA PR Manager may approach the player follow-

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ing the singles match to obtain a few quotes to give to media, if requested.N.  
Jurisdiction Governing the competition

### N. Jurisdiction Governing the competition

- 1) The Competition is sanctioned and recognized by ATP Tour, Inc. and WTA Tour.
- 2) All players who enter and compete in the competition agree to be subject to the Rules and Regulations of the ATP/WTA, including, but not limited to, the Code of Conduct, the Tennis Anti-Corruption Program and the Tennis Anti-Doping Program.
- 3) The ATP/WTA Supervisor, in consultation with the SVP, Rules & Competition and WTA Senior Vice President Competition & On-Site Operations, shall determine and resolve all questions not considered in these Rules and Regulations.

### 4.04 Next Gen ATP Finals

#### A. Competition Format

The tournament shall be a round robin format with eight (8) players. There shall be two (2) groups of four (4) players each with eight (8) seeds to be determined by their position on the most recent Pepperstone ATP Singles Rankings. All matches shall be the best of five (5) tie-break sets. Each set shall be the first to four (4) games with a margin of two (2) with a tie-break played at three (3) games all. Games shall be decided using the No-Ad scoring method. The round robin shall determine the four (4) players for the semi-finals with the format thereafter being a single elimination competition.

#### B. Entries

- 1) **Age Eligibility.** All players must be 21 years or under throughout the 2024 calendar year.
- 2) **Selection List.** The selection list for the event shall be:
  - a) The top seven (7) players in the Pepperstone ATP Race to Jeddah standings as of Monday (20 November) following the Nitto ATP Finals event; followed by
  - b) One (1) Wild Card designated by the ATP. The Wild Card selection must meet the age restriction as specified in B. 1) above.
- 3) **Direct Acceptances.** The top seven (7) players in the selection list shall qualify for the event as direct acceptances. Participation is mandatory, and all qualified players shall be entered. The exception to this is that any player(s) who are qualified for the Nitto ATP Finals as a Direct Acceptance or as a designated Alternate are excluded from mandatory participation. All direct acceptances must be at the tournament site to attend the official pre-tournament media events scheduled Sunday night and Monday and must be available for play through the completion of the round robin competition and the knock-out competition if eligible.
- 4) **Withdrawal.** Any withdrawal, before the official pre-tournament media conference starts, shall be replaced by the next highest positioned player on the selection list, who shall be qualified as a direct acceptance.

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### 5) Alternate(s).

- a) Alternate(s) (who are not a direct acceptance at the time of the official pre-tournament media conference) shall be designated as determined by ATP. The alternate shall replace any player who subsequently withdraws. The alternate must appear at the official pre-tournament media conference and remain available through the start of the last scheduled round robin match. Participation of the Alternate is not mandatory.
- b) Additional alternates may be selected by ATP to fill the draw, based upon terms satisfactory to ATP. Participation of such additional alternates is not mandatory.
- c) The alternate(s) is eligible to play in the single elimination competition and to receive prize money if he qualifies.
- d) If the alternate(s) does not play in the draw, then a fee shall be paid to the alternate(s). If the alternate(s) is inserted for the second or third round robin match, then he shall receive the alternate fee plus any prize money won. If the alternate(s) replaces a player that does not compete in his first round robin match, the alternate(s) becomes a direct acceptance and does not receive the alternate fee.

### C. Appearance at Event

All direct acceptances and the alternate must appear at the site of the event(s) as determined by ATP and participate in the pre-tournament media events scheduled on Sunday night and Monday.

### D. Failure to Participate

If a player, qualified for the Next Gen ATP Finals as a direct acceptance fails or refuses to participate in this event, except for bona fide injury or other reason which constitutes good cause, the player shall receive a fine in the amount of \$25,000.

### E. Order of Play

#### Round Robin

- 1) The field shall be divided into two (2) groups of four (4) players each. The top-seeded player shall be placed in Group "A" and the second-seeded player shall be placed in Group "B". Players seeded three (3) and four (4), five (5) and six (6), and seven (7) and eight (8), shall then be drawn in pairs with the first drawn placed into Group "A."
- 2) Each player shall play every other player in his group to determine the top two (2) players in each group.
- 3) The final standings of each group shall be determined by the first of the following methods that apply:
  - a) Greatest number of wins.
  - b) Greatest number of matches played.  
**Comment:** 2-1 won-loss record beats a 2-0 won-loss record; a 1-2 record beats a 1-0 record.
  - c) Head-to-head results if only two (2) players are tied.
  - d) If three (3) players are tied, then:
    - i) If three (3) players each have one (1) win, a player having played less than all three (3) matches is automatically eliminated and the player ad-



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vancing to the single elimination competition is the winner of the match-up of the two (2) players tied with 1-2 records; or

- ii) Highest percentage of sets won; or
- iii) Highest percentage of games won; or
- iv) The player positions on the most recent Pepperstone ATP Rankings.
- v) If (i), (ii), (iii) or (iv) produce one (1) superior player (first place), or one (1) inferior player (third place), and the two (2) remaining players are tied, the tie between those two (2) players shall be broken by head-to-head record.

**Comment 1:** 1 player has 3 wins and the other 3 players have 1 win. Of the 3 players with 1 win, 1 player has only played in 2 matches while the other 2 players have played 3 matches. The player who has only played 2 matches is eliminated and then the 2 remaining players revert to head-to-head results with the winner of their match advancing to the semi-finals.

**Comment 2:** 1 player has 3 wins and the other 3 players have 1 win and they all have played 3 matches. The tie-break for % of sets won has 1 player with a better % than the other two. This player advances to the semi-final round.

**Comment 3:** 3 players have 2 wins and the other player has 0 wins. The player with 0 wins is eliminated. Of the 3 players with 2 wins, they are ordered by their % of sets won. This produces a 1, 2 & 3 order and the players finishing 1 and 2 move to the semi-final round and the player finishing 3 in % of sets won is eliminated. The player with the best % of sets won is the winner of the group.

**Comment 4:** 3 players have 2 wins and the other player has 0 wins. The player with 0 wins is eliminated. Of the 3 players with 2 wins, 1 player's sets won-loss is 5-2 for 71.43%; the other 2 players both have a 4-3 record in sets for 57.14%. In this case there is 1 superior player (71.43%) and the remaining 2 players are tied; it now reverts to the head to head result of the 2 remaining players with the winning player advancing as group runner-up.

**Comment 5:** 3 players have 2 wins and the other player has 0 wins. The player with 0 wins is eliminated. Of the 3 players with 2 wins, 2 have set won-loss records of 5-3 (62.5%) while the other player is 4-3 (57.14%). In this case, we have 1 inferior player (57.14%) and he is eliminated. The remaining two players both advance to the semi-finals with the winner of their head-to-head match advancing as the group winner.

**Comment 6:** 3 players have 2 wins and the other player has 0 wins. The player with 0 wins is eliminated. Of the 3 players with 2 wins, all have played 3 matches and all 3 have set won-loss records of 5-4 (55.56%). In this case, we move to % of games won. The % of games won breaks down like this: 44-40 for 52.38%, 45-43 for 51.14% and 44-43 for 50.57%. This produces a 1, 2 and 3 order of the group and the number 1 player in % of games won is the group winner while the player finishing 2nd in % of games won advances to the semi-finals as the group runner-up. The player with the 3rd best % of games won is eliminated.

- e) In applying the tie-breaking procedures, a conduct default or retirement shall count as a straight-set win or loss. However, games won or lost in matches with the defaulting or retiring player shall not be counted in the percentage of games won. A player who retires during the round robin because of illness or injury may continue in the competition if it is approved by the tournament Doctor.

## IV. WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

**Comment:** This prevents a scenario where a player knows he only needs to win 1 set to qualify for the semi-finals from retiring once he has won a set.

- f) Any player who is defaulted pursuant to the ATP Code during the round robin competition shall be defaulted from all other matches in the Championship and ATP default provisions shall apply, except for the following circumstances:
  - i) The loss of physical condition; or
  - ii) Dress and Equipment.
- g) Any player who withdraws from any round robin match after the first round shall not be eligible for the single elimination competition.

### F. Single Elimination Competition

- 1) The winner of each group shall be placed in separate semi-final brackets. The runner-up of each group shall be placed in the semi-final bracket with the winner of the opposite group.
- 2) The event shall be completed with a single elimination competition for the semi-finals and final.

### G. Prize Money

Final standings at the end of the tournament shall determine the prize money earned.