



## 2019 ITTF CHALLENGE | Additional Changes for 2019

### 1. **Introduction of new tiers 2019 ITTF Challenge**

- a. ITTF Challenge Plus, minimum prize money **US\$ 60,000**
  - Streaming production and commentator costs provided by ITTF
- b. ITTF Challenge, minimum prize money **US\$ 30.000**

### 2. **Cancellation of the event**

- a. At any time after the bid was confirmed by ITTF and before the ITTF calendar is officially published, the host association will be fined with US\$ 1.500 (ITTF Challenge) & fined with US\$ 3.000 (ITTF Challenge Plus).
- b. At any time between the times the ITTF Calendar is officially published and earlier than 4 months before the event start date, the host association will be fined with US\$ 5.000 (ITTF Challenge) & fined with US\$ 10.000 (ITTF Challenge Plus) and not be entrusted an ITTF World Tour or ITTF Challenge event for the next calendar year.
- c. In case the LOC makes changes:  
After the calendar is published, on dates, cities and other details affecting the calendar details, the LOC is subject to a fine of up to US\$ 1000 fee. Any changes are subject to the ITTF approval from ITTF and ITTF has the right to decline.

### 3. **Events (categories)**

#### a. **Mandatory:**

- Men's and Women's Singles
- Men's and Women's Doubles
- Mixed Doubles
- Under 21 Men's Singles and U21 Women's Singles events (born in **1998** or later)

### 4. **Playing System**

#### a. **General implementation:**

Numbers of seeded players and Main Draw, are defined according to the number of entries, at the final entries deadline, as follows (the CM can amend the playing system if necessary):

Doubles number of pairs	Seeded pairs	Main Draw of
maximum 72 Doubles	8	16
maximum 32 Mixed Doubles	-	32

U21 Singles	Seeded players	Main Draw of
15 or less	0	16
16 to 20	4	16
21 to 40	8	16
40 to 63	16	32
maximum 64 Entries	32	64

**b. Men's and Women's Singles:**

- Matches in first stage will be played best of 5 games

**c. Men's and Women's Doubles:**

- The first stage event will be played with a maximum of 64 Doubles
- Maximum 2 pairs or 4 players per NA.
- All additional Doubles pairing will go to the Waiting List. Pairs on the waiting list will be accepted according to the Doubles World Ranking list.

**d. Mixed Doubles:**

- Main Draw of 32 played in knock out
- Maximum of 2 pair per NA. The host association will get 1 pair secured in the Main draw.
- No "mixed" pairs composed of players from different associations can be entered.
- All matches are played best of **5 games**, in all stages of the competition.
- A special Mixed Doubles seeding will be done and the best 32 ranked Mixed Doubles can participate
- All additional Mixed Doubles will go to the Waiting List

**e. U21 Singles Events:**

- The Maximum number of entries for U21 will be 64 Players, if 64 players are reached
  - A straight Knock out Main draw will be played
  - The best ranked 64 players can participate
  - All additional players will need to go on the Waiting List

**5. General Schedule**

Below are the recommended tables for ITTF Challenge Plus and ITTF Challenge, indicating the maximum number of entries that can be accepted according to the number of tables:

- If an organizer is unable to reach the minimum number of recommended tables but still wish to be considered as a host for the Challenge Series, the ITTF will consider the conditions on a case by case basis.

**ITTF Challenge Plus**

- Including Mixed Doubles and Groups Qualification

Number of tables	Maximum entries
8 tables	130
10 tables	150
12 tables	170
14 tables	200
16 tables	230

- Including Mixed Doubles and K.O Qualification

Number of tables	Maximum entries
8 tables	190
10 tables	220
12 tables	240
14 tables	270
16 tables	280

## ITTF Challenge

- Including Mixed Doubles and Groups Qualification

Number of tables	Maximum entries
8 tables	150
10 tables	170
12 tables	190
14 tables	220
16 tables	250

- Including Mixed Doubles and K.O Qualification

Number of tables	Maximum entries
8 tables	210
10 tables	240
12 tables	260
14 tables	290
16 tables	300

## 6. Specific Time Schedule

- Earliest start of matches is **09:30 am** during all days of the main events and **08:30 am** on the first stages days.

## PLAYING FACILITIES/EQUIPMENT

### 7. Main event facilities

- Recommended** eight (8) courts must be used from the Main Draw on.
  - If an organizer is unable to reach the minimum number of recommended tables but still wish to be considered as a host for the Challenge Series, the ITTF will consider the conditions on a case by case basis
- The set-up of 1 Show-court is **obligatory for the last 1 day of the event** for the ITTF Challenge Plus. From two (2) to four (4) show-courts have to be installed at particular events based on case-by-case agreement with ITTF at the ITTF Challenge Series.
- The set-up of 4 courts is **obligatory for the second last day of the event** (for ITTF Challenge Plus)

## OTHER FACILITIES

### 8. VIP Facilities

- VIP Lounge is **mandatory at least for the last 2 days for ITTF Challenge Plus** and the following should be offered:
  - At least snacks and refreshment service for sponsors and guests.

### 9. Hotels

- For the ITTF Challenge Plus it is recommended that the OC should provide special service to the TOP seeded players (see file "**Players' Service**").

### 10. Hospitality of ITTF Officials

The LOC has to provide:

- Free hospitality to the streaming production team and commentator (for ITTF Challenge Plus)



## TRANSPORTATION

### 11. Arrival Service

a. For the ITTF Challenge Plus it is recommended that the OC should provide special service to the TOP seeded players (see file "**Players' Service**").

### 12. Departure Service

a. For the ITTF Challenge Plus it is recommended that the OC should provide special service to the TOP seeded players (see file "**Players' Service**").

### 13. Shuttle service (Hotels/Venue)

a. For the ITTF Challenge Plus it is recommended that the LOC should provide special service to the TOP seeded players (see file "**Players' Service**").

### 14. Staff and Volunteers

a. The OC must employ the right number of employees and engage sufficient number of volunteers for a smooth preparation and implementation of the event.

### 15. TV PRODUCTION/itTV STREAMING

The OC is responsible to make arrangements for:

- a. Assisting the **Streaming Production** team (provided by the ITTF), for the last day of competition for ITTF Challenge Plus (including Awarding Ceremonies). ITTF will cover the
- b. **itTV Streaming** (as decided by ITTF, commentator to be provided by ITTF for ITTF Challenge Plus)