

# AFRICAN 14 & UNDER CIRCUITS

## REGULATIONS

### I. THE COMPETITION

#### 1. TITLE

The Competition, an international junior singles and doubles competition shall be called the "African 14 & U Circuits".

#### 2. OWNERSHIP

The Competition shall be owned and managed by the Confederation of African Tennis (CAT).

#### 3. PLAYERS ELIGIBLE

Players who will be 11 years old and players who have not reached the age of 15 years on or before the 31<sup>st</sup> December of the year in which the competition is played may compete in the tournaments.  
i.e.:

Year	Date of Birth
2008	Born between 1 <sup>st</sup> January 1994 & 31 <sup>st</sup> December 1997
2009	Born between 1 <sup>st</sup> January 1995 & 31 <sup>st</sup> December 1998
2010	Born between 1 <sup>st</sup> January 1996 & 31 <sup>st</sup> December 1999
2011	Born between 1 <sup>st</sup> January 1997 & 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2000

### 4. REGULATIONS

- All African 14 & U Circuits tournaments shall have a feed-in system in all singles draws.
- All African 14 & U Circuits tournaments will have a maximum of 32 player main draw and 32 players qualifying draw field.
- The Competition shall take place in accordance with these regulations, the ITF Junior World ranking Code of Conduct, the Rules of ITF and the Rules of Tennis adopted by the ITF.
- In submitting an application, a tournament automatically undertakes to abide by and fulfil all its obligations under the above Regulations.
- In submitting an entry to a tournament sanctioned by CAT as a constituent tournament of the Circuits, a player automatically undertakes to commit him/her to abide by and be bound by the above Regulations.

### 5. RANKINGS

#### a) Tournaments' Ranking

Players will earn a combined ranking of Singles and Doubles points, like the ITF 18 & under tournaments.

#### b) Players' Ranking

A ranking of the players shall be compiled on the basis of points earned in their best five (5) individual singles and doubles events.

The player's Ranking is established on a rollover basis, i.e. taking into consideration the results of the last 52 weeks.

The players' ranking will be used for seeding purposes. The CAT Office will publish regularly the rankings on its website and the Organisers are responsible for obtaining the required rankings.

Non African players participating in the African 14 & U Circuits shall earn points and will be ranked accordingly.

### II. RULES OF THE COMPETITION

#### 1. TOURNAMENT APPLICATION AND APPROVAL

- Applications for inclusion in the Circuit, giving full details of the event, are to be sent by the corresponding National Association to CAT.
- Only tournaments organised by a National Association, or sanctioned by the National Association concerned, will be considered for inclusion when accepted.
- For the first year of the African Circuit, each sub-region in Africa will be allocated a maximum of five (05) events per year organised by different National Associations.  
North Africa (06); East Africa (02); West & Central Africa (02), Southern Africa (03).

The African 14 & Under Championships and African 14 & under Masters will not be counted towards the above allocation.

## **2. TOURNAMENT RESPONSIBILITIES**

- a) All tournaments must be played in accordance with the Rules of Tennis (no rest shall be allowed after the second set in a three-set match) and the Regulations of the African 14 & U Circuits.
- b) The ITF Junior Circuit Code of Conduct and the Medical Condition shall be enforced.
- c) Any tournament not complying with these Regulations may not be accepted in the Circuits the following year.
- d) In order that records can be maintained, the Tournament Directors of all tournaments shall:
  - 1) Prior to the commencement of the tournament; send to the Confederation of African Tennis copies of the following:
    - At least 60 days in advance, the complete fact sheet of the event
    - Tournament entry form
    - Letter of invitation
    - Details of any travel assistance offered
  - 2) On the Monday following the conclusion of the tournament sends to the Confederation of African Tennis by e-mail and fax:
    - Complete draw sheets of main draw singles and doubles events
    - Complete typed list of competitors, showing full forenames, family names, nationalities and full dates of birth.
  - 3) Within five (5) days of the conclusion of the tournament airmail to CAT the following:
    - \* Typed copies of complete draw sheets of events including qualifying, denoting seeds, wild cards, qualifiers and lucky losers.
    - \* Complete typed list of all competitors, giving full forenames and family names, nationalities and full dates of birth for every player.
    - \* Programme and reports of the event including photographs and other relevant tournament Information.
- e) The Referee shall also submit a report, including details of any penalties imposed under the Code of Conduct. A list of any penalties imposed shall be posted during the tournament on the competitor's notice board, and shall be updated on a daily basis.
- f) The tournaments shall display an African Circuits banner on the main court in a good visible position and include the CAT logo on the cover page of their programme (leaflet and/or book) and on the poster. This is valid for all categories.

## **3. CONFEDERATION OF AFRICAN TENNIS RESPONSIBILITIES**

- a) All inquiries and entries should be addressed to the CAT office care of:

CAT General Manager  
BP 315 El Menzah 1004 Tunis - Tunisia  
Tel: +216 71 84 77 85  
Fax: +216 71 84 10 45  
Email: [rianihichem@yahoo.fr](mailto:rianihichem@yahoo.fr) & [cat@cattennis.com](mailto:cat@cattennis.com)

- b) CAT is responsible for the overall administration of the African 14 & U Circuits and shall do its utmost to ensure that the calendar is widely published.
- c) The CAT Office will provide the tournament organizers in due time with the African Circuits Banner and the artwork for printed materials.

## **4. NATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS RESPONSIBILITIES**

- a) The National Associations are responsible for entering and withdrawing in time their players in a timely manner.
- b) The National Associations are responsible for the supervision of the tournaments they selected to be part of the African 14 & U Circuits.

## **III- METHOD OF RANKING**

### **1. ALLOCATION OF POINTS**

#### **POINTS TABLE**

## **Individual Tournaments**

Points will be awarded in each singles event as follows

1<sup>st</sup> – 300 2<sup>nd</sup> – 200 3<sup>rd</sup> – 150 4<sup>th</sup> – 120 5<sup>th</sup> – 90 6<sup>th</sup> – 80  
7<sup>th</sup> – 70 8<sup>th</sup> – 60 9<sup>th</sup> – 50 10<sup>th</sup> – 45 11<sup>th</sup> – 40 12<sup>th</sup> – 35  
13<sup>th</sup> – 30 14<sup>th</sup> – 25 15<sup>th</sup> – 20 16<sup>th</sup> – 17 17<sup>th</sup> – 15 18<sup>th</sup> – 14  
19<sup>th</sup> – 13 20<sup>th</sup> – 12 21<sup>st</sup> – 11 22<sup>nd</sup> – 10 23<sup>rd</sup> – 9 24<sup>th</sup> – 8  
25<sup>th</sup> – 7 26<sup>th</sup> – 6 27<sup>th</sup> – 5 28<sup>th</sup> – 4 29<sup>th</sup> – 3 30<sup>th</sup> – 2  
31<sup>st</sup> – 1 32<sup>nd</sup> – 0

Doubles W – 100 RU – 60 SF – 40 QF – 20  
(To each player)

### **African 14 & U Championships:**

1<sup>st</sup> – 600 2<sup>nd</sup> – 400 3<sup>rd</sup> – 300 4<sup>th</sup> – 240 5<sup>th</sup> – 180 6<sup>th</sup> – 160  
7<sup>th</sup> – 140 8<sup>th</sup> – 120 9<sup>th</sup> – 100 10<sup>th</sup> – 90 11<sup>th</sup> – 80 12<sup>th</sup> – 70  
13<sup>th</sup> – 60 14<sup>th</sup> – 50 15<sup>th</sup> – 40 16<sup>th</sup> – 34 17<sup>th</sup> – 30 18<sup>th</sup> – 28  
19<sup>th</sup> – 26 20<sup>th</sup> – 24 21<sup>st</sup> – 22 22<sup>nd</sup> – 20 23<sup>rd</sup> – 18 24<sup>th</sup> – 16  
25<sup>th</sup> – 14 26<sup>th</sup> – 12 27<sup>th</sup> – 10 28<sup>th</sup> – 8 29<sup>th</sup> – 6 30<sup>th</sup> – 4  
31<sup>st</sup> – 2 32<sup>nd</sup> – 0

### **DOUBLES**

Winner: 200 -Runner Up: 120 -Semi- Finalist: 80 -Quarter- Finalist: 40  
(To each player)

### **African junior 14 & U Masters:**

W: 450 – RU: 300 – 3<sup>rd</sup>:225 – 4<sup>th</sup>:180 – 5<sup>th</sup>:135 – 6<sup>th</sup>:120 – 7<sup>th</sup>:105 – 8<sup>th</sup>:80

### **Warm Up of the African Junior Championships**

Points will be awarded in each singles event as follows

1<sup>st</sup> – 450 2<sup>nd</sup> – 300 3<sup>rd</sup> – 225 4<sup>th</sup> – 180 5<sup>th</sup> – 135 6<sup>th</sup> – 120  
7<sup>th</sup> – 105 8<sup>th</sup> – 80 9<sup>th</sup> – 75 10<sup>th</sup> – 65 11<sup>th</sup> – 60 12<sup>th</sup> – 50  
13<sup>th</sup> – 45 14<sup>th</sup> – 35 15<sup>th</sup> – 30 16<sup>th</sup> – 20 17<sup>th</sup> – 18 18<sup>th</sup> – 16  
19<sup>th</sup> – 15 20<sup>th</sup> – 14 21<sup>st</sup> – 13 22<sup>nd</sup> – 12 23<sup>rd</sup> – 11 24<sup>th</sup> – 10  
25<sup>th</sup> – 9 26<sup>th</sup> – 8 27<sup>th</sup> – 7 28<sup>th</sup> – 6 29<sup>th</sup> – 5 30<sup>th</sup> – 4  
31<sup>st</sup> – 3 32<sup>nd</sup> – 0

Doubles W – 150 RU – 120 SF – 60 QF – 30  
(To each player)

A player's combined ranking shall be compiled on the basis of points earned in their best five (5) individual singles and doubles events within the African 14/U Circuits tournaments and the African 14/U Championships and the Warm Up Tournament of the AJC

Doubles results count towards the best five (5) results of the year and represent maximum 25% of the points achieved.

**The points accumulated from the African14/U Circuits and the African 14/U Championships will determine the final year ranking for those who are eligible to qualify for the African 14/U Circuits Masters Final.**

## **2. SCORING**

All matches will be the best of three sets with a tie-break in all sets.

**Deciding Tie-break Game:** At one-set all, a tie-break game will be used for the 3<sup>rd</sup> set of feed-in consolation matches if required .

**Short Sets:** This can be used if necessary in the event of a shortage of time (i.e. due to rain delay etc.) for feed-in consolation matches only.

**The ITF Junior World Ranking code of conduct will be used.**

**Singles events** will be a maximum 32 draw, if possible, with eight seeded players each receiving a bye into the second round. The singles will be conducted on a feed-in consolation basis whereby each player will play one singles match each day resulting in a ranking of all the players from 1 – 32 at the end of the tournament.

**Doubles event:** The doubles events will be run on a knock-out basis.

#### **IV- TOURNAMENT DRAW:**

##### **1. INVITATION TO AND SELECTION OF COMPETITORS**

- a) Invitations to take part may only be sent by CAT to National Associations. Invitations to Associations shall be open, and not for named players. Under no circumstances may invitations be sent directly to players.
- 1) If a player resides in a country but is not a valid passport holder of that country the National Association of the country where he/she resides may endorse the players' entry only with the prior agreement of the National Association of the country for which he/she holds a valid passport.
  - 2) If a player is a dual passport holder his/her entry may be endorsed by either National Association provided that neither National Association objects.
  - 3) Any National Association wishing to endorse the entry of a foreign player or a dual passport holder is responsible for contacting all relevant National Associations to ensure that the player is in good standing.
- b) Only entries submitted through National Associations shall be accepted. When submitting entries, Associations may give their preferred order of priority for acceptance of their players.

##### **2. COMPOSITION OF THE DRAWS:**

A) Singles - 32 Draw

Direct Acceptance	20
Qualifiers	4
Wild Cards (Host Nation)	4
Wild Cards (CAT)	4

B) Doubles

Doubles draw shall be half of Singles Main Draw  
Doubles qualifying competition are not permitted.  
All Main Draw Singles player shall play Doubles.

C) SIGN- IN DEADLINES

Singles Qualifying	All players accepted into the qualifying draw must personally sign-in with the Referee by 6 pm day before Singles Qualifying starts (exception: Travelling to site/Ref to Ref and/or Telephone sign-in are allowed)
Singles Main Draw	All players accepted into the main draw must personally sign-in with the Referee by 4 pm day before Singles Main Draw starts (exception: Travelling to site/Ref to Ref And/or Telephone sign in are allowed)
Doubles Main Draw	2 pm first day of singles main draw: 1 player may sign-in for the team Telephone sign-in is accepted

##### **3. MAKING A DRAW:**

All draws shall be conducted in public with at least two players present, one of whom shall be of a different nationality to that of the host country.

a) **Guidelines for conducting a draw at African 14 & U Circuits:**

If there are two players from the same National Association competing they shall be drawn in opposite halves of the draw.

If there are three or four players from the same National Association competing, the first and second ranked shall be drawn as above and the third and fourth ranked players shall be drawn into the remaining quarters which do not already contain one of that National Association's players.

The selection of the top four players from any one country shall be determined by the African 14 & U Junior Rankings, the ITF Junior Ranking if it exists, or in its absence, the order of merit supplied by the appropriate National Association.

#### **b) Method for conducting a draw**

1. Prepare a master player sheet listing all nations represented. The order of nations is based on the number of players of that nation (i.e. the nation with the highest number of players should be listed first).

Then detail the players representing each nation as follows:

- \* First listed should be those players nominated by their National Association as their top players (maximum four) in order of ranking.
  - \* If no ranking is available, or if no order of merit is supplied by the National Association, the top players (maximum four) should be ranked by their coach/captain. If he is not able to rank them, players should be ranked by the tournament organisers.
  - \* Once players have been listed, all remaining players from each nation who have been accepted for the main draw should be listed in ranking order, if appropriate, or in order of acceptance.
2. Proceed with the draw of seeded players, bearing in mind that if two or more seeded players are from the same nation, their position in the draw must be placed rather than drawn by lot, in order to ensure that they are in a different half or quarter to the other top player(s) from their nation.

Note: seeded players names should be checked off the master sheet as they are drawn / placed for position in the draw.

3. Proceed with the draw of the remaining top players (maximum four) from each nation, where appropriate, into the vacant half or quarters of the draw.
4. Once the top players (maximum four) from each nation have been drawn into an appropriate half/quarter and placed on a line, all remaining players should be numbered and drawn for position in the usual manner, i.e. drawn to the first vacant position at the top of the draw and so on.

The same procedure described from points 1 to 4 applies to the qualifying draw bearing in mind that the qualifying draw refers to sections rather than to quarters.

This means that if a Nation has five players in the Qualifying draw the first four must go in different sections and the fifth will be drawn anywhere.

On the other hand if a nation has a total of four players (two in the main draw and two in the qualifying draw) the two in the main draw must go in different halves of the main draw and the two of the qualifying draw must go in two different sections.

**Note: This procedure does not apply to Doubles Main Draw.**

#### **4. SEEDINGS OFFICIAL - WITHDRAWAL AND REPLACEMENT OF SEEDS**

Seeding will not be official until the final draw is made. The latest available rankings shall be used. If the players do not have African 14 & U ranking, the tournament Committee may take into account all relevant information to determine seeding.

Any vacancy created by the withdrawal of a seed shall be filled by the next highest ranked player in the main draw eligible to be seeded. The position vacated by that next highest ranked player shall then be filled by the next player on the original acceptance list if prior to the commencement of qualifying or by the eligible lucky loser if after commencement of qualifying. Any vacancy created by the withdrawal of a seed which occurs after the release of the Order of Play on the day preceding commencement of play in the main draw shall be filled by a Lucky Loser.

#### **5. QUALIFYING**

##### **a) Sections and Seeds**

The qualifying draw shall be made in sections, and the winner of each section shall be given a place in the main draw. If four (4) qualifiers are required, there shall be four (4) sections; six (6) qualifiers, six (6) sections; and so on. The draw shall be seeded and the selection of seeds shall be consistent with the criteria used for the main draw. Each section shall have two seeded players/teams. The first seed shall be placed at the top of each section; the second seed shall be placed at the top of the second section and

so on until all sections have (1) seed on the top line of each section. The remaining seeds shall be drawn as one group. The first drawn shall be placed on the bottom line of the first section, the second drawn shall be placed on the bottom line of the section and so on until all sections have (1) seed on the bottom line of each section.

b) Acceptance of Qualifiers into Main Draw

Once the qualifying competition has begun, only those players who ultimately qualify and lucky losers may be accepted into the main draw. The qualifying competition commences when the first ball of the first qualifying match is struck.

c) Drawing of Qualifiers

At the conclusion of the qualifying competition, the name of one qualifier shall be drawn for each qualifying place in the main draw. There shall be no prior designation of qualifying sections to qualifying places in the main draw. Likewise, when more than one lucky loser is to be inserted into the main draw, their position in the main draw shall be determined by drawing. Vacancies occurring before the qualifying are completed to be filled by lucky losers shall be drawn in conjunction with those players that qualified.

## 6. WAIVER OF CLAIMS

All players entering any African 14 & U Circuits tournaments agree, as a condition of their entry, that no claims are brought against CAT, the tournament organisers, and the national association sanctioning such events, with respect to any injuries, however caused, or any losses incurred, while travelling to and from, or participating in any CAT circuit. **It is therefore recommended that all players have adequate medical insurance cover.**

## V. OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

### 1. MANAGEMENT:

- a) The African 14 & U Circuits shall be managed by CAT General Manager and his Staff.
- b) The duties and powers of CAT shall be:
  - 1) To manage the day to day administration of the Circuits.
  - 2) To ensure uniform application of, and compliance with, the Rules, Regulations and Code of Conduct
  - 3) To administer the funds of the Circuits within the financial framework of the Federation.
  - 4) To report to the Board of Directors on all financial matters.
  - 5) To undertake other duties as laid down in these Regulations.
  - 6) To submit regular reports to the Board of Directors.
  - 7) To present the Regulations for approval to the CAT Board of Directors.
- c) The CAT Board of Directors shall carry out the following duties:
  - 1) Approve the Regulations.
  - 2) Decide on any appeals or disputes from National Federations.

### 2. HOSPITALITY

Full hospitality (meals and accommodation) is required for main draw players: 04 Players (singles and doubles) and 1 official coach per visiting country for the duration of the tournament. Additional visiting players, even accepted to play in the main Draw have to pay for their accommodation.

Coaches must have been nominated by the national association when submitting player entries. No other coaches shall be guaranteed hospitality.

### 3. PRACTICE & FACILITIES

Practice facilities shall be provided. Practice courts shall preferably be of the same surface as the match courts, but this is not obligatory. Practice facilities need not be in the same stadium, but transport shall be provided. Players shall have the opportunity to reserve practice courts, and the referee shall ensure that satisfactory arrangements are made.

### 4. OFFICIALS

#### African 14 & Under Circuits:

Referee: Recommended White Badge/ Compulsory International Experience

Umpires: Compulsory for all Main Draw Matches

Umpires may be National Officials.

### 5. SCHEDULE

- a) The referee shall, whenever possible, allow a player who has competed on the final day of the preceding tournament, a full day for travelling and rest before that player is obliged to play the first round of the succeeding tournament.

- b) Every evening, the programme for the following day's play shall be published and displayed in the stadium and/or hotels or otherwise made available for competitors and coaches.

**6. Duration:**

A maximum five (05) days for each tournament.

**7. FACILITIES**

- a) There shall be a tournament desk staffed starting one hour before the beginning of the matches until one hour after the end.
- b) Adequate change rooms shall be available.
- c) Physiotherapist / Doctor:  
All Tournaments – It is compulsory for a physiotherapist to be always on site.  
A Doctor is available on site.

**8. PRIZE MONEY / POCKET MONEY**

No prize money or pocket money in any form shall be paid at any junior tournament, either to the players or to their National Associations. Any infringement to this rule will be penalized by a fine and can be subject to the expulsion of the tournament from the Circuits.

**9. GIFTS**

The value of a gift to the winner of a tournament may not exceed the value of US\$ 250-

**10. TOURNAMENT/ ENTRY FORMS**

Full details of the tournament are to be set out in the entry forms - conditions of play, arrangements for players etc.

**11. FACT SHEET**

- a) All relevant information on arrangements for the event should be made available to the players and National Associations in the form of a fact sheet. The form will be sent by CAT together with the Tournament Package and only this common form will be accepted. This form must include the following details:
- 1) Name, telephone and facsimile numbers of the Tournament Director
  - 2) Tournament site (address, telephone and facsimile numbers)
  - 3) Court surface
  - 4) Make of ball
  - 5) Official hotel (including rates, if appropriate, and contact details)
  - 6) Transportation information
  - 7) Any other relevant details e.g. name of Referee, social functions planned, whether sign-in will be held, etc.
- b) Fact sheets must be sent to all relevant Associations as soon as the acceptance list is completed. A fact sheet must also be forwarded to CAT by fax or e-mail at least four weeks before the event concerned.

**12. ENTRY FEES**

For all tournaments, no entry fees

**13. INSURANCE**

It is required that all players have adequate medical insurance cover, which cannot be provided by either CAT, the host National Association or the local organiser.

Neither the CAT nor National Association sanctioning such events or local organisers can accept any responsibility for providing players with such insurance coverage.

**14. BALLS**

- a) Main Draw/Qualifying

In Main Draw and Qualifying there shall be a minimum of three new balls for each match; another three new balls shall be provided for any third set in semi-finals and finals only, although organizers are encouraged to provide ball change for the final set in all matches

- b) Practice:

Balls shall be provided for practice, but it is not obligatory to give new balls for this purpose.

**VI. TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS FOR THE AFRICAN CIRCUITS 14 & U MASTERS:**

**1. EVENTS:**

- a) Boys 14 & Under Singles  
b) Girls 14 & Under Singles

**2. DATE**

The African Circuits 14 & U Masters has to be played after the last tournament of the African Circuits 14 & U and will take place in November in the Country hosting the African Nations' Cup.

### **3. DURATION**

Minimum four days.

### **4. ELIGIBILITY**

- a) The Sixth highest ranked African boys and girls 14 & under on the African Junior Ranking after completion of the African Circuits 14 & U of the current year, in addition of the Winner and the Runner up of the AJC of the current year whose are also required to play at least 02 additional tournaments of the 14 & U Circuit excepting the AJC.
- b) In case of equality in the ranking, the category of tournaments in which the results were made will be considered.
- c) In case of unavailability of one of the first eight, the African player ranked next on the 14 & U Junior ranking will be eligible.

### **5. HOSPITALITY**

Full accommodation and meals shall be provided for competitors and for a maximum of one coach per nation.