

RULES & REGULATIONS

AFRICAN 14 & U INDIVIDUAL CIRCUIT 2017

1. CIRCUIT STRUCTURE

Grades:

Tournaments are rated in Grades according to the level of the previous entered players or having already played in the past as well as the organisational standards.

The African Circuit is divided into six (6) Grades: A, B, C, 1, 2 and 3.

There are five Grades of events:

- Grade A: The Top level event: The African Junior Championships (AJC)
- Grade B: The African 14 years & under Masters + any International event which gather the best African players & invited players from Europe & Asia.
- Grade 1: African tournaments gathering entered players with a good level and including more than 16 Players coming from outside the host country.
- Grade C: Teams' competition (AJTC for the 14 years & under – African Qualifications for the World Junior Finals).
- Grade 2: African tournaments gathering entered players with a good/medium level and including 10 – 15 Players coming from outside the host country.

Player requirements and age eligibility

In entering, signing-in and/or playing in an ITF/CAT African Junior Circuit event, the players agrees to be aware of and to abide by the Rules of Tennis as approved by the International Tennis Federation (ITF), the ITF Code of Conduct and the Regulations of the African circuit

2. AGE RESTRICTIONS AND ELIGIBILITY

14 & Under:

Players are allowed to play in a 14 & Under event from the year they turn 11 years of age, and have reached their 11th birthday on or before the start of the Singles Main Draw until the year the players turns 14 years of age.

That means that for 2017, players who are born between 1st January 2003 and 31st December 2006 (and have reached age of 11).

i.e.:

Year	Date of Birth
2017	Born between 1 st January 2003 & 31 st December 2006 – having effectively reached 11 years old.
2018	Born between 1 st January 2004 & 31 st December 2007 – having effectively reached 11 years old.
2019	Born between 1 st January 2005 & 31 st December 2008 – having effectively reached 11 years old.
2020	Born between 1 st January 2006 & 31 st December 2009 – having effectively reached 11 years old.

3. REGULATION

- a) All African 14 & U tournaments of the ITF/CAT Junior Circuit shall have a feed-in system in all singles draws.
- b) All African 14 & U tournaments will have a maximum of 32 players main draw.
- c) The Competition shall take place in accordance with the ITF Junior competition rules as well as its Code of Conduct.
- d) In submitting an application, a tournament automatically undertakes to abide by and fulfil all its obligations under the above Regulations.

In submitting an entry in one of the tournaments of the Circuits, a player undertakes to commit to abide by and be bound by the above Regulations.

4. RANKING

14 & Under Age category:

a) **Tournaments' Ranking**

Players will earn a combined ranking of Singles and Doubles points, like the ITF Juniors 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 results.**

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

The players' ranking will be used for seeding purposes in a given tournament.

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 tournaments of the African 14 & U Circuit shall earn points and will be ranked accordingly.

Method of Ranking

Allocation of Points:

Point Table: Individual Tournaments for 14 & Under:

Grade A: African 14 & U Junior Championships:

Singles:

1st – 2000 ; 2nd – 1200 ; 3rd – 720 ; 4th – 580 ; 5th – 440 ; 6th – 390 ; 7^{ème} – 350 ; 8th – 320 ; 9th – 220 ; 10th – 200 ; 11th – 180 ; 12th – 160 ; 13th – 140 ; 14th – 120 ; 15th – 100 ; 16th – 90 ; 17th – 60 ; 18th – 55 ; 19th – 50 ; 20th – 45 ; 21st – 40 ; 22^{ème} – 35 ; 23rd – 30 ; 24th – 25 ; 25th – 20 ; 26th – 18 ; 27th – 15 ; 28th – 12 ; 29th – 10 ; 30th – 7 ; 31st – 5 ; 32nd – 0

Doubles:

Winner: 1000 – Runner up: 600 - ½ Finalists: 320 - ¼ Finalists: 200 – (For each player)

Grade B: 14 & U Masters & any other International Tournament gathering invited players from other regions

Singles:

1st – 1500; 2nd – 800; 3rd – 540 ; 4th – 440; 5th – 350 ; 6th – 300; 7th – 270; 8th – 240; 9th – 160; 10th – 140; 11th – 120; 12th – 100; 13th – 90; 14th – 80; 15th – 70; 16th – 60; 17th – 40; 18th – 35; 19th – 30; 20th – 25; 21st – 22; 22nd – 20; 23rd – 18 24th – 15; 25th – 12; 26th – 10; 27th – 7; 28th – 5; 29th – 3; 30th – 2; 31st – 1; 32nd – 0

Doubles :

Winner: 760; Runner up: 460; ½ Finalists: 260; ¼ Finalists: 160 (For each player)

African Masters 14 & Under Masters:

1st : 1500 ; 2nd : 800; 3rd :540 ; 4th : 440; 5th : 350 ; 6th : 300 ; 7th : 270 ; 8th : 240.

Grade 1:

Singles:

1st – 1000 ; 2nd – 600 ; 3rd – 360 ; 4th – 290 ; 5th – 220 ; 6th – 200 ; 7th – 180 ; 8th – 160 ; 9th – 120 ; 10th – 110; 11th – 100; 12th – 90; 13th – 80; 14th – 70; 15^{ème} – 60; 16th – 50; 17th – 30; 18th – 25; 19th – 20; 20th – 17; 21st – 15; 22nd – 12; 23rd – 11 24th – 10; 25th – 7; 26th – 6; 27th – 5; 28th – 4; 29th – 3; 30th – 2; 31st – 1; 32nd – 0.

Doubles

Winner: 520; Runner up: 300; ½ Finalists: 180; ¼ Finalists: 80 (For each player)

Grade 2: including the African 14 and under Zonal Championships

Singles:

1st – 500 ; 2nd – 300 ; 3rd – 180 ; 4th – 150 ; 5th – 110 ; 6th – 100 ; 7th – 90 ; 8th – 80 ; 9th – 60 ; 10th – 50 ; 11th – 45 ; 12th – 40 ; 13th – 35 ; 14th – 30 ; 15th – 25 ; 16th – 20 ; 17th – 13 ; 18th – 12 ; 19th – 11 ; 20th – 10 ; 21^{ème} – 9 ; 22^{ème} – 8 ; 23rd – 7 ; 24th – 6; 25th – 5 ; 26th – 4 ; 27th – 3 ; 28th – 2 ; 29th to 31st – 1 ; 32nd – 0.

Doubles

Winner – 280; Runner up – 160; ½ finalists – 80; ¼ Finalists – 40 (For each player).

Grade 3:

Single:

1st – 250 ; 2nd – 150 ; 3rd – 90 ; 4th – 80 ; 5th – 60 ; 6th – 50 ; 7th – 45 ; 8th – 40 ; 9th – 25 ; 10th – 20 ; 11th – 18 ; 12th – 15 ; 13th – 12 ; 14th – 10 ; 15th – 7 ; 16th – 5 ; from 17th to 20nd – 4 ; from 21st to 24th – 3 ; from 25th to 29th – 2 ; 29th to 31st – 1 ; 32nd – 0.

Doubles

Winner – 140; Runner up – 92; ½ finalists – 44; ¼ Finalists – 24 (For each player)

Grade C:

Players selected by their national associations to take part in the Final event of the African Junior Team's Championships (AJTC), a qualifying event to the 14 & U world championship of the current year can benefit of points counting in the 14 and under African ranking. The AJTC would be then considered as a event of ITF/CAT junior circuit.

Points allocated to players in case of victory only:

a) Victories in singles during pool matches:

- players n° 1 : 300 points per match

- players n° 2 : 200 points per match

b) Victories in doubles during pool matches:

- 150 points per match and per player

Important:

The African players selected by the ITF/CAT or by the National Associations to take part in tournaments organized in European countries and managed by Tennis Europe can earn points of the Circuit based on the following scale:

a) Tennis Europe Category 1 tournaments: points earned in the African tournaments of Grade A

b) Tennis Europe Category 2 tournaments: points earned in the African tournaments of Grade B

c) Tennis Europe Category 3 tournaments: points earned in the African tournaments of Grade 1

Bonus points for African players who are ranked in Tennis Europe competitions:

- Ranking among the Top 20 in Tennis Europe : 5000 Bonus points

- Ranking between 21st to 50th in Tennis Europe: 4000 Bonus points

- Ranking between 51st and 100th in Tennis Europe : 3000 Bonus points

- Ranking between 101st and 200th in Tennis Europe : 2000 Bonus points

- Ranking between 201st and 300th in Tennis Europe : 1000 Bonus points

*** The Bonus points will be added to the players at the end of the current year ranking (End of August).**

* In order to facilitate the task of CAT in the procedure of bonus points' allocation to players, the National Federations of the concerned players have to send the participation's details of its players at the different circuits organized in Europe.

* can benefit bonus points only the players having participated in at least one event of the ITF/CAT junior 14 and under circuit.

5. SCORING

Singles:

All singles matches will be played of best of two sets with application of deciding tie-break in all sets. A match Tie-Break (Super Tie-Break) Game will be used as a decisive set.

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.

Doubles :

All doubles match will be played of best of 2 sets with no ad and with the application of a tie break of 6 games all. A match tie-break (super tie-break) will be used as a decisive set.

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

Singles events: A draw of 32 players with 8 seeded players, the single draw will be conducted on a feed-in system whereby each player plays one single match per day and eventually two single matches if necessary, which will allow ranking the players at the end of tournament.

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

6. SINGLES ENTRY AND SELECTION PROCEDURES

Entry procedures and Entry Deadline – ITF/CAT African Junior Circuit:

The African Junior Circuit, except for the African Junior Championships (AJC), and African Masters are open for players from all countries affiliated to the CAT & the ITF.

Invitations and selection of players:

A) To take part in a tournament, the invitations are only sent by CAT to National Associations.

These invitations cannot mention under any circumstances the names of particular players, or sent directly to the players.

If a player resides in a country but he has not a valid passport holder of that country, the National Association of the country where he/she resides may endorse the players' entry.

B) Only entries submitted by a National Association will be accepted. When submitting entries, Associations may give their preferred order of priority for acceptance of their players.

C) the entry fee for all participating players to the Singles and Doubles draws is fixed to **15\$** per tournament.

7. COMPOSITION OF THE DRAW

For 2017 the Tournaments that will take place during the 1st Quarter of the year 2017, players' entry will be OPEN, and the main Draw can go up to 48 players in each Gender.

Starting on April 2017, the Main Draw shall be composed of 32 players in each Gender. The host nation can organise a qualifying draw for its local players and eventually for foreign players who are not accepted at the main draw during the preceding days of the Main Draw. All participating players have to pay for their accommodation during that event.

On that case, the Composition of the Main Draw will be as follow

A) Singles Main Draw: 32

Direct Acceptance	24
Qualifiers (local players only)	4
Wild Cards (Host Nation)	2
Wild Cards (CAT)	2

B) Doubles: 16 teams

Doubles qualifying competition are not permitted. All players who are accepted in the main draws shall play in the doubles draw.

C) Sign – in Deadlines

Singles Qualifying For local players only	All players accepted into the qualifying draw must personally sign-in with the Referee by 6 pm day before Singles Qualifying starts.
Singles Main Draw	All players accepted into the main draw must personally sign in with the Referee by 4 pm, a day before Single Main Draw starts (Exception: In certain circumstances due to essentially travel, signature by calling the referee by phone is accepted)
Doubles Main Draw	Sign-in: 2 pm the first day of the single main draw: Only 1 player may sign-in for the team, the sign in by telephone is only accepted

8. OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

A) Management:

a) The African Junior Circuits shall be managed by the 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 Executive committee on all financial matters.
5. To undertake other duties as laid down in these Regulations.
6. To submit regular reports to the CAT Executive Committee.

7. To present the Regulations for approval to the CAT Board of Directors.

c) The CAT Executive Committee shall carry out the following duties:

1. Approve the Regulations.
2. Decide on any appeals or disputes from National Federations.

B) Hospitality:

Full hospitality (meals and accommodation) is required for main draw players: 04 players per Gender + 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.

C) Practice:

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.

D) Officials required for the African Junior Circuit:

Referee: Recommended White Badge/ Compulsory International Experience

Umpires: Compulsory for all Main Draw Matches

Umpires may be National Officials.

E) Schedule:

a) The referee shall, whenever possible, allow to a player who has competed on the final day of the preceding tournament, a full day of rest for travelling before that player starts his/her first round of the tournament.

b) At the end of each day, the next day's order of play shall be published and displayed at the tournament's site and/or hotels or otherwise made available for competitors and coaches.

F) Duration:

A maximum of four (4) days for the organization of one leg

A maximum of seven (7) days for the organization of two consecutive legs in one country

9. MASTERS OF THE AFRICAN JUNIOR CIRCUIT

Tournament regulations for the African 14 & under Masters:

A) Events:

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

B) Date

The 14 &U Masters of the African Circuit will be played at the end of the scheduled tournament of this circuit.

C) Duration

The duration of the masters is six (6) days: 1 day of Training Camp and 5 days of competition.

D) Eligibility:

14 and under Masters:

The Eight highest ranked African boys and girls in the 14 & U African ranking after completion of the ended year Ranking