CONFEDERATION OF AFRICAN TENNIS

Rules & Regulations

2025

African 14 Circuit



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RULES & REGULATIONS AFRICAN 14 & U INDIVIDUAL CIRCUIT 2025

1. CIRCUIT STRUCTURE

Grades:

The African Circuit is composed of a series of tournaments reserved for the 14 years and under age's group. In 2025, this Circuit starts in early January and ends by 15th December 2025.

Tournaments are Graded according to the level of the entered players as well as the organizational standards. The African Circuit is divided into the following Grades: A, B, C, 1, 2 and 3, as well as D1 & D2.

Grades are awarded to the various tournaments by the CAT, which is essentially based on the data recorded in a Tournament during the **previous year** and which meets the following criteria at the entry deadline of the current year:

- **Grade A**: 3 events per year:
- The African Junior Championships (AJC) on hard courts and on clay courts (2 events)
- The African 14&U Masters (1 event)
- **Grade B**: Any International event gathering the best African players & invited players from other Continents
- **Grade 1**: African tournaments gathering entered players with a good level including:
- A Minimum of **6** entered players (Boys & Girls together) ranked among the Top 20.
- A Minimum total of **10** entered players (Boys & Girls together) coming from countries other than the host country.

If one or both Criteria are not respected, the Tournament will be downgraded to the lower Grade (Gr.2). The players and the host Federation will be informed by the CAT the day following the withdraw deadline.

- **Grade C**: Teams' competition (AJTC for the 14 years & under African Qualifications for the World Junior Finals), and the Final event of the Team's World Cup (WJTF)
- Grade 2: African tournaments gathering entered players with a good/average level including:
- A Minimum of **6** entered players (Boys & Girls together) ranked among the Top 40.
- A Minimum of totally **8** entered players (Boys & Girls together) coming from countries other than the host country

If one or both Criteria are not respected, the Tournament will be downgraded to the lower Grade (Gr.3). The players and the host nation will be informed by the CAT the day following the withdraw deadline.

- Grade 3: New tournaments and those gathering entered players with average level or including less than 8 entered players (Boys & Girls together) coming from countries other than the host country
- Grade D1: National Championship of the countries of Class (A)
- Grade D2: National Championship of countries of Class (B)
- * A Tournament can move from one Grade to another from one year to another.
- * New Tournaments will be automatically rated Grade (3).
- * The CAT may exceptionally upgrade a tournament from Grade (3) to a higher Grade and inform the organizers and players if, it notices that the Tournament meets at least the criteria imposed for a tournament Grade (2) mentioned above at the deadlines of entries and withdrawals
- * Within the framework of Tennis Development in Africa, the CAT may approve the organization of Invitational Tournaments in collaboration with the ITF Development Department. The Grade of these Tournaments cannot under any circumstances exceed Grade(2)

<u>**NB**</u>: All Tournaments, with the exception of the Masters, planned during the last quarter of the year (October, November & December) will be either of Grade (2) or Grade (3).

For that, the CAT <u>would recommend</u>, the national Federations to enter players who are eligible to play in this Circuit during the following year.

Other Closed Tournaments:

During the 4th Quarter of the year, the Confederation of African Tennis may organize Closed Tournaments falling within the African 14&U Ranking but reserved for players aged 13 and under. These Tournaments (Grade 2 or 3) can be used as talent detection or as selection events for international events to take place at the beginning of the following year.

National Individual Championship:

As in previous years, the CAT will continue to consider the National Individual Championship of 14 years and under of all the National Federations affiliated to the CAT as being a "Closed" **Tournament in Singles only**, which will be included in the CAT ranking of 14 years & under. The Grades of these Tournaments will be either (D1) or (D2) according to a classification of the countries based on the final results and ranking made by their players in the year 2024.

- Class (A): Countries ranked from 1st to 12th position will be awarded the Grade (D1) for their National Championship of 2025
- Class (B): Countries ranked from the 13th to 18th position will be awarded the Grade (D2) for their National Championship of 2025

NB: National Championships for Countries ranked from the 19th position will not be considered.

Criteria of countries' ranking:

The Final Ranking of countries will appear at the end of the last tournament organized in 2024 and will be published on the CAT website.

The classification criteria are based on the cumulative bonus points granted to each country according to the final ranking and the number of boys and girls in each country as follows:

ſ	Nation	# of	Bonus:	# of B &	Bonus:	# of B &	Bonus:	# of B &	Bonus:	# of B &	Bonus:	# of B &	Bonus:	TOTAL
	11441011	B & G	32 points	G	16	G	8 points	G	4points	G	2points /	G	1 point	
		ranked	/	ranked	points	ranked	/ player	ranked	player	ranked	player	ranked	/ player	
		Top 8	player	9 to 16	/player	17 to 32		33 to 64		65 to		129& +		
		_								128				

• This ranking will change at the end of every year. The ranking of 2024 will appear after the last tournament of the Circuit of 2024, that is at the end of December 2024 (See Appendix 2) – 2024 Nations' ranking)

Homologation of the Individual National Championship by the CAT:

In order for the Confederation African Tennis (CAT) to homologate and consider the National Championship of a National Federation in the African 14 & U ranking, this National Federation is required to officially inform the CAT of the date scheduled for its National Championship at least 30 days before the event, by completing a corresponding form.

It is important to note that during these Championships the Feed-in system in Singles is not required (see below the system of points' allocation). Points allocated only on the Single Draw starting on the quarter-finals.

<u>NB</u>: The points that will be allocated to a local player who has participated in the National Championship approved by the CAT remain valid <u>for a maximum duration of 52 weeks</u>. The points obtained by a player at the National Championships of 2025 will replace those obtained by that player at the Championships of the preceding year (2024).

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

<u>14 & Under:</u> 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 and those who have not reached the age of 15 on 31st December the year in which the competitions are played.

That means that for 2025, players who are born between 1st January 2011 and 31st December 2014 (and have reached the age of 11). i.e.:

Year	Date of Birth
2025	Born between 1 st January 2011 & 31 st December 2014 – having effectively reached 11 years old
2026	Born between 1 st January 2012 & 31 st December 2015 – having effectively reached 11 years old.

Starting on 2025, in any calendar year players must only compete in <u>a maximum of ten individual 14&U African tournaments</u> including the two (2) African 14&U Championships and the Zone's Championship and excluding the Team Events (AJTC 14&U), the 12&U Teams Competitions and the African 14&U Masters.

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 main draw will have a maximum of 32 players (apart from some International Tournaments, which the main draw might have up to 48 players).
- c) The general rules of this competition must be in accordance with the ITF Junior competition rules as well as its Code of Conduct.
- d) In submitting an application to organize a tournament of this circuit, the National Association automatically undertakes to abide by and fulfill all its obligations under the above Regulations.

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

4. RANKING

14 & Under Age category:

a) Tournaments ranking's System

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 <u>best five (5) individual</u> 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 Organizers 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:

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

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

Grade A: African 14&U Masters

 $\overline{1^{\text{st}}: 2000}$; $2^{\text{nd}}: 1200$; $3^{\text{rd}}: 720$; $4^{\text{th}}: 580$; $5^{\text{th}}: 440$; $6^{\text{th}}: 390$; $7^{\text{th}}: 350$; $8^{\text{th}}: 320$.

<u>Grade B:</u> Any other International Tournament gathering invited players from other regions (Continents)

Singles:

Doubles

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

Grade 1:

Singles:

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

Doubles

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

Grade 2: including the African 14 and under Zone's Championships

Doubles

Winner – 280; Runner up – 160; ½ finalists – 80 per player; ¼ Finalists – 40 per player

Grade 3:

Single:

 $1^{st} -300 ; 2^{nd} -200 ; 3^{rd} -120 ; 4^{th} -100 ; 5^{th} -75 ; 6^{th} -65 ; 7^{th} -55 ; 8^{th} -45 ; 9^{th} -30 ; 10^{th} -25 ; 11^{th} -20 ; 12^{th} -18 ; 13^{th} -15 ; 14^{th} -12 ; 15^{th} -10 ; 16^{th} -8 ; from 17^{th} to 19^{th} -5 ; from 20^{th} to 22^{nd} -4 ; from 23^{rd} to 25^{th} -3 ; 26^{th} to 28^{th} -2 ; from 29^{th} to 31^{st} -1 ; 32^{nd} -0.$

Doubles

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

EXCEPTIONAL CASES

In exceptional situations, particularly in the event of bad weather, if the organizers of a Tournament find it impossible to adopt the Feed-in system in all Singles competitions and decide to adopt after the agreement of the CAT the "knock out" system - direct elimination, the distribution of points according to the level of the Tournament (with the exception of the Masters) would be as follows:

Singles

Level of the Tournament	Looser in the 1 st Round	Looser in the 2 nd Round	Looser in the ¼ Final	Looser in the ½ Final	Runner up	Winner
Grade A	0 point	160 points	375 points	650 points	1200 points	2000 points
Brade B	0 point	100 points	290 points	490 points	800 points	1500 points
Grade 1	0 point	85 points	190 points	325 points	600 points	1000 points
Grade 2	0 point	40 points	95 points	165 points	300 points	500 points
Grade 3	0 point	25 points	60 points	110 points	200 points	300 points

NOTE:

In the event of bad weather and the impossibility of completing a Tournament or playing all the ranking matches, the allocation of Singles points to participants would apply as follows:

- If the final has not been played: The 2 finalists will receive the points initially allocated to the Finalist according to ITF rules.
- If the ½ Finals have not been played: The 4 players will receive the points for 4th place
- If only one ½ final has been played, the winner will receive the Finalist's points while the loser and the other two ½ finalists will receive the 4th place points
- In all other ranking matches, if a match could not take place without the will of both players, the points that will be allocated must correspond to the last place in this ranking. Example: 2 players who play for 7th and 8th place will receive the points for 8th place; etc.

Grade C: (1)

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 will benefit of points counting in the 14 and under African ranking. The AJTC would be then considered as an 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 : 250 points per match
- players n° 2: 150 points per match
- b) Victories in doubles during pool matches:
- 100 points per match and per player

Grade C: (2)

Players selected by their national federations to take part at the World Junior Team Final for 14 years & under (WJTF) of the current year will benefit from points counting towards the 14 &U African rankings. The WJTF would therefore be considered as an event of the ITF/CAT junior circuit.

Points allocated to players in case of victory only:

- a) Victories in singles:
- player n° 1: 300 points per match
- player n° 2 : 200 points per match
- b) Victories in doubles:
- 100 points per match and per player

Closed National Tournaments:

The Feed-in system in singles is not required.

Grade D1:

National Championship of the countries of Class (A):

Winner: 200 points; Finalist: 120 points; ½ Finalists: 60 points each; ¼ Finalists: 30 points each.

Grade D2:

National Championship of countries of Class (B):

Winner: 150 points; Finalist: 90 points; ½ Finalists: 45 points each; ¼ Finalists: 20 points each.

Other Tournaments:

Tennis Europe 14&U Circuit:

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 Super Category tournaments: Level assimilated to Grade A See details of the Points to be awarded below
- b) Tennis Europe Category 1 tournaments: Level assimilated to Grade B See details of the Points to be awarded below
- c) Tennis Europe Category 2 tournaments: Level assimilated to Grade 1 See details of the Points to be awarded below
- d) Tennis Europe Category 3 tournaments: Level assimilated to Grade 2 See details of the Points to be awarded below In order to facilitate the task of CAT in the procedure of the points' allocation to players who participate in Tennis Europe Tournaments, the concerned players and or their National Federations have to send to CAT all the results obtained in the Tennis Europe Tournaments in which they took part at the latest 30 days after the ending date of the tournament in order to be considered by CAT, by completing an official form (see Annex).
- * The points obtained in tournaments organized by Tennis Europe may only be awarded to players who have participated in at least two (2) events of the ITF / CAT 14 & U circuit during the current year and before the Tennis Europe Tournaments. The maximum number of Tennis Europe 14&U Tournaments to be considered shall not exceed in any case 4 Tournaments per year.

Points to be allocated in Tennis Europe Tournaments

Singles – Draw of 64

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Level of the tournament	Looser in the 1 st Round	Looser in the 2 nd Round	Looser in the 3 rd Round	Looser in the ¼ Final	Looser in the ½ Final	Runner up	Winner
Super Category	0 point	60 points	160 points	375 points	650 points	1200 points	2000 points
Category 1	0 point	40 points	100 points	290 points	490 points	800 points	1500 points

Doubles Super Category – Draw of 32

Winner: 1000 - Finalist: $600 - \frac{1}{2}$ Finalists: $320 - \frac{1}{4}$ Finalists: 200 - Looser on the 2^{nd} Round: 100 (for each player)

Doubles Category 1 – Draw of 32

Winner: 760 - Finalist: 460 - ½ Finalists: 260 - ¼ Finalists: 160 – *Looser on the 2nd Round: 80* (for each player)

Singles - Draw of 32

8								
Niveau of Tournament		the	Looser in the 1 st Round	Looser in the 2 nd Round	Looser in the ¼ Final	Looser in the ½ Final	Runner up	Winner
Categor	y 2		0 point	85 points	190 points	325 points	600 points	1000 points
Categor	y 3		0 point	40 points	95 points	165 points	300 points	500 points

Doubles Category 2 – Draw of 16

Winner: 520 - Finalist: 300 - ½ Finalists: 180 - ¼ Finalists: 80 (for each players)

Doubles Category 3 – Draw of 16

Winner: 280 - Finalist: 160 - ½ Finalists: 80 - ¼ Finalists: 40 (for each player)

5. SCORING

Singles:

All Main Draw singles matches of the Tournaments of the <u>CAT Circuit 14&Under</u> are played best of two sets with application of tie-break at 6 games all. A match Tie-Break (Super Tie-Break) will be used as a decisive set.

Matches of the <u>Individual African Championships 14 and under</u> as well as those of the <u>Masters</u> are played in the best of three sets with application of the tie-break in all sets.

For all ranking matches, short sets shall be used.

Short Sets: In the event of weather problems, the tournament committee will decide when to use the short sets, even in the Main Draw singles matches

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 Tennis Tour 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 to ensure that 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), the Zone's Championships and the African Masters are open for players from all countries affiliated to the CAT & the ITF.

Player CAT ID:

Since September 2019, the CAT introduced an online registration and withdrawal system for all ITF / CAT Tournaments of the 14 and Under Circuit, with the exception of the competitions mentioned above.

Online registration / withdrawal requires that each player has an Identifier, which will be applied by CAT and obtained by the players starting on early 2020, for an annual fee of creation and renewal as for the ITF Junior Circuit Tournaments (IPIN).

Further details on how to obtain the Player ID Account can be found on the CAT website.

National approval

All players entering the Tournaments of the African 14&U Circuit must be a member of their national tennis Association and must be in "good standing"* with their national associations.

Players fulfilling the above criteria may enter themselves to the Tournaments of the African 14&U Circuit without further approval of the National Association, except for the African Junior Championship, where the National Associations submit the entries.

If a player is not in good standing* with the National Association or is temporarily suspended, the

National Association may contact the CAT Office to request to block the player concerned from entering / participating tournaments. Any such request must be accompanied by relevant documentation. The CAT, in conjunction with the ITF investigates the case and may rule to block the player for a limited time or to deny the request. Such suspension will be valid for any CAT Junior event.

Note: The term "Good Standing" in connection with a player shall be defined as follows:

One who:

- (a) Is free from a suspension imposed by his/her National Association, by the Confederation of African Tennis (CAT) or by the ITF, or through the imposition of a suspension under a Code of Conduct accepted and approved by the ITF or accepted and approved by the CAT.
- (b) Is accepted by his/her National Association as being under its jurisdiction while competing in events for which the National Tennis Association has selected him/her.
- (c) Makes himself/ herself available for selection for Official Team Championships and accepts the jurisdiction of his/her National Association while competing in events for which they have selected him/her.
- (d) Respects the spirit of fair play and non-violence at all times.
- (e) Accepts the Conditions of Entry of the events he/she enters, including the conditions of any Code of Conduct adopted for those events.
- (f) Agrees to undergo any medical control, in operation at any event which he/she enters.

NB: Each National Federation will be in possession of an account from the CAT allowing it to control the registrations of its players at the tournaments.

Online Registration and withdrawal:

All registrations and withdrawals at African 14 and Under Circuit Tournaments must be submitted online through the Player CAT ID Online System.

A player may register in one (1) but not more than two (2) African 14 and Under Circuit tournaments scheduled during the same week, and must indicate a priority at the time of entry. If no priority is indicated, the CAT will assign a priority. A player cannot register in a 14 and under tournament of the African 14 & U Circuit if he/she is registered and committed in another tournament during this period.

Entry Deadline:

For all tournaments of the 14 and under African Circuit, all entries are submitted to the rules and conditions of entry to the tournament which is 15 days prior to the start of the tournament.

Withdrawal, No Show/Defaults & suspension of points:

Any withdrawal must be made at the latest 7 days prior to the start of the tournament.

All withdrawals must be submitted online through the Player CAT ID (even after the withdrawal deadline)

A player wishing to withdraw after the withdrawal deadline must send an email to the Referee of the tournament and copying CAT

A player who appears in one or many alternative list(s) can withdraw until he/she passes to the main draw or to the acceptance list, in which he/she will be automatically withdrawn from all other acceptance lists.

Any player accepted in the Main Draw who does not connect to the tournament and who does not withdraw officially will be subject to penalties for the No Show.

Players are allowed up to two (2) withdrawals after the withdrawal date by calendar year, which cannot be considered as late withdrawal. It is not necessary to submit a medical certificate in case of late withdrawal.

Once a player has used his/her two (2) "free" late withdrawals in a calendar year, any subsequent withdrawal will be penalized by a 20 point drawdown of his points in the African 14 and Under Ranking.

Table of Sanctions / Suspension of Points:

Suspension points shall be recorded against a player for the following

1	Late withdrawal (after using the two "free" late withdrawals)	20 points
2	No Show	40 points
3	Default after the following (For warning + point penalty + 1st game penalty + 2 nd game penalty)	30 points
4	Any Default for a single violation of the Code (Immediate Default)	40 points
5	Any Default for punctuality	25 points
6	Leaving the Tournament	35 points

NB: CAT supervisor shall make such investigation as is reasonable to determine the facts regarding all onsite offences and upon determining that a violation has occurred shall specify the punishment, other than under the point penalty schedule, and give written notice thereof to the player.

Selection's criteria of players:

A) The Calendar of African 14 & U Circuit's Tournaments will appear at the CAT Website.

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

- B) Only entries made online by a National Federation or by the players will be accepted The National Federation shall include the order of merit of its players who do not have a CAT Ranking before the start of the tournament.
- C) Entry fees for all players entered in the Singles and Doubles are 20\$ per tournament.
- D) Criteria of Players' selection:

Criteria of acceptance are made as follows:

In Singles:

To determine the acceptance of players to the main and qualification draws, the following method of acceptance will be used:

- a) African 14 and Under Ranking from Monday preceding the entry deadline.
- b) The World Tennis Number (WTN) from Monday preceding the entry deadline

In a situation where two or more players are equally ranked, the order of acceptance will be chosen by lot. For non ranked entered players, the following method of acceptance should be followed first for vacant spot in the main draw, if applicable, then for vacant spot in the qualifications draw and in the alternate list:

- i) If this is the Main Draw, 1st priority will go to the unranked players from countries other than the host country. The remaining places will be filled by players from the host country or residents of that country.
- ii) In the case of the Qualifying Draw which must not exceed 16 players, at least 10 places will be reserved for players from the host country or resident in that country according to the national ranking (order of priority) submitted to CAT by the host National Federation; and the remaining places may be awarded to players from countries other than the host country in accordance with the following priorities:
- 1- Players from or residing in countries bordering the country where the tournament is held. The country will be drawn as above.
- 2- Players from or residing in other countries in the zone where the tournament is held. The country will be drawn as above
- 3- Players from or residing outside the zone where the tournament is held. The country will be drawn as above.

7. COMPOSITION OF THE DRAW

The Main Draw shall be composed of 32 players in each Gender. The host nation can organize a qualifying draw for its local players and eventually for foreign players who are not accepted at the main draw. This qualifying draw, which must not exceed 16 players, must be organized during the day preceding the Main Draw. All participating players have to pay for their accommodation during that event.

In this case, the Composition of the Main Draw will be as follows:

Draws' Composition

A) Singles Main Draw: 32

 Direct Acceptance: based on the CAT Ranking at the date of the entry deadline. The host nation can use up to 16 of this direct acceptance spots even if it has a larger number of higher ranked players than those coming from other nation (unless there are no players from other nations who entered). The 8 other spots will be allocated to entered ranked players from other nations. 			
Qualifiers			
Wild Cards (Host Nation)			
Wild Cards (CAT)	2		

B) Doubles: 16 pairs

The Doubles shall consist of 16 pairs. There shall be no Doubles Qualifying competition.

Direct Acceptance	14
Wild Cards (Host Nation)	1
Wild Cards (CAT)	1

^{*} NB: Direct Acceptances for Doubles are selected according to the same acceptance method used for the World Junior Tennis Tour (See rules on page 20 & 21 of the WTT Junior Regulations)

C) Sign – in Deadlines

Singles Qualifying for local	All players accepted into the qualifying draw must personally sign-in with					
players and for foreigner players	the Referee by 6 pm the day before Singles Qualifying starts.					
not accepted in the Main Draw						
	All players accepted into the main draw are not obliged to sign-in with the					
Singles Main Draw	Referee. In the event of "No Show", Lucky Losers in the Qualifying					
	Draw would enter the Main Draw					
Doubles Main Draw	Sign-in: 12:00 on the first day of the single main draw: Only 1 player may					
Doubles Maili Draw	sign-in for the team, the sign in by telephone is also accepted					

8. OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

A) Management:

- a) The African Junior Circuits shall be managed by the CAT 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 reports regularly to the CAT Executive Committee.
- 7. To present the Regulations for approval to the CAT Development Committee.
- 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. If a country is represented by more than 4 players per gender, the priority for the hospitality of players will go to the highest 4 ranked players. Additional visiting players, even accepted to play in the main Draw have to pay for their accommodation. To be considered for hospitality, Coaches must have been nominated by the national association.

C) Practice:

Practice courts shall be provided. Practice courts shall preferably be of the same surface as the match courts and on the same site. The referee shall ensure that satisfactory arrangements are made.

D) Officials

ITF/CAT African Junior Circuit:

Referee: Recommended minimum White Badge/ International Experience required for Grade (A), (B) & (1). Experimented National certified Referee can be accepted to officiate at Grade (2) & (3) Tournaments.

Chair Umpires: Required for all Main Draw Matches for Tournaments of Grade (A), (B) and (1), for lower Grades, matches shall be umpired by Chair Umpires starting from the ¼ Finals. The 1st and 2nd Rounds will be played under the supervision of "off-court umpires". Umpires may be National Officials.

E) Schedule:

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 minimum of seven (7) days and a maximum of eight (8) days for the organization of two consecutive legs in one country

(The duration of the 2 Legs will be announced by the CAT 21 days before the start of the 1st Tournament)

Practical Recommendations:

One (1) Tournament - 4 Days

Recommended Schedule of the competition:

Day (0): Qualifications for Boys & Girls & Making the Main Draw **Day** (1):

- Round of 32 in Single (16 matches for Boys & 16 matches for Girls): Total: 32 Matches
- Round of 16 in Doubles (8 matches for Boys & 8 matches for Girls): Total: 16 Matches Day (2):
- Round of 16 in Single (8 matches for Boys & 8 matches for Girls): Total: 16 Matches
- ¼ Finals in Single (4 matches for Boys & 4 matches for Girls): Total: 8 Matches
- Ranking Matches (position 17 to 32): 16 matches

Day (3):

- ½ Finals in Single (2 matches for Boys & 2 matches for Girls): Total: 4 Matches
- ¼ Finals in Doubles (4 matches for Boys & Girls): Total: 8 Matches
- ½ Finals in Doubles (4 matches for Boys & Girls): Total: 4 Matches
- Ranking Matches (position 9 to 32): 24 matches

Day (4):

- Finals in Singles (1 match for Boys & Girls): Total: 2 Matches
- Finals in Doubles (1 matches for Boys & Girls): Total: 2 Matches
- Ranking Matches (position 3 to 32): 28 matches

Two (2) Tournaments – 7 Days

Recommended Schedule of the competition:

FIRST TOURNAMENT:

Day (0): Qualifications for Boys & Girls – Making the Main Draw **Day** (1):

- Round of 32 in Single (16 matches for Boys & 16 matches for Girls): Total: 32 Matches
- Round of 16 in Doubles (8 matches for Boys & 8 matches for Girls): Total: 16 Matches Day (2):
- Round of 16 in Single (8 matches for Boys & 8 matches for Girls): Total: 16 Matches
- ¼ Finals in Single (4 matches for Boys & 4 matches for Girls): Total: 8 Matches
- Ranking Matches (position 17 to 32): 16 matches

Day (3):

- ½ Finals in Single (2 matches for Boys & 2 matches for Girls): Total: 4 Matches
- ¼ Finals in Doubles (4 matches for Boys & Girls): Total: 8 Matches
- ½ Finals in Doubles (4 matches for Boys & Girls): Total: 4 Matches
- Ranking Matches (position 9 to 32): 24 matches
- Afternoon: 1st Round of the Oualifications of the 2nd Tournament.

Day (4):

- Finals in Singles (1 match for Boys & Girls): Total: 2 Matches
- Finals in Doubles (1 matches for Boys & Girls): Total: 2 Matches
- Ranking Matches (position 3 to 32): 28 matches
- Morning: 2nd Round of the Qualifications of the 2nd Tournament.

SECOND TOURNAMENT:

- Afternoon: 1st Round in Singles of the **2nd Leg** / 1st Part (8 matches for Boys + 8 matches for girls) **Day (5)**:
- 1st Round in Singles of the 2nd Leg / 2nd Part (8 matches for Boys + 8 matches for girls)
- Round of 16 in Single (8 matches for Boys & 8 matches for Girls): Total: 16 Matches
- Round of 16 in Doubles (8 matches for Boys & 8 matches for Girls): Total: 16 Matches

Day (6):

- ¼ Finals in Single (4 matches for Boys & 4 matches for Girls): Total: 8 Matches
- ¼ Finals in Doubles (4 matches for Boys & Girls): Total: 8 Matches
- ½ Finals in Doubles (4 matches for Boys & Girls): Total: 4 Matches
- Ranking Matches (position 17 to 32): 16 matches

Day (7):

- ½ Finals in Single (2 matches for Boys & 2 matches for Girls): Total: 4 Matches
- Finals in Singles (1 match for Boys & Girls): Total: 2 Matches
- Finals in Doubles (1 matches for Boys & Girls): Total: 2 Matches
- Ranking Matches (position 3 to 32): 24 matches

Two (2) Tournaments - 8 Days

Recommended Schedule of the competition:

FIRST TOURNAMENT:

Day (0): Qualifications for Boys & Girls – Making the Main Draw **Day** (1):

- Round of 32 in Single (16 matches for Boys & 16 matches for Girls): Total: 32 Matches
- Round of 16 in Doubles (8 matches for Boys & 8 matches for Girls): Total: 16 Matches **Day (2)**:
- Round of 16 in Single (8 matches for Boys & 8 matches for Girls): Total: 16 Matches
- ¼ Finals in Single (4 matches for Boys & 4 matches for Girls): Total: 8 Matches
- Ranking Matches (position 17 to 32): 16 matches

Day (3):

- ½ Finals in Single (2 matches for Boys & 2 matches for Girls): Total: 4 Matches
- ¼ Finals in Doubles (4 matches for Boys & Girls): Total: 8 Matches
- ½ Finals in Doubles (4 matches for Boys & Girls): Total: 4 Matches
- Ranking Matches (position 9 to 32): 24 matches

Day (4):

- Finals in Singles (1 match for Boys & Girls): Total: 2 Matches
- Finals in Doubles (1 matches for Boys & Girls): Total: 2 Matches
- Ranking Matches (position 3 to 32): 28 matches

SECOND TOURNAMENT:

- Morning: 1st Round of the Qualifications of the 2nd Tournament
- Afternoon: 2nd Round of the Qualifications of the 2nd Tournament.
- 6:00 PM: Making the Draw of the 2nd Tournament

Day (5):

- Round of 32 in Single (16 matches for Boys & 16 matches for Girls): Total: 32 Matches
- Round of 16 in Doubles (8 matches for Boys & 8 matches for Girls): Total: 16 Matches **Day (6)**:
- Round of 16 in Single (8 matches for Boys & 8 matches for Girls): Total: 16 Matches
- ¼ Finals in Single (4 matches for Boys & 4 matches for Girls): Total: 8 Matches
- Ranking Matches (position 17 to 32): 16 matches

Day (7)

- ½ Finals in Single (2 matches for Boys & 2 matches for Girls): Total: 4 Matches
- ¼ Finals in Doubles (4 matches for Boys & Girls): Total: 8 Matches
- ½ Finals in Doubles (4 matches for Boys & Girls): Total: 4 Matches
- Ranking Matches (position 9 to 32): 24 matches

Day (8):

- Finals in Singles (1 match for Boys & Girls): Total: 2 Matches
- Finals in Doubles (1 matches for Boys & Girls): Total: 2 Matches
- Ranking Matches (position 3 to 32): 28 matches

9. MASTERS OF THE AFRICAN JUNIOR CIRCUIT

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 held between the 37th and the end of the 40th week of the year or any other date that will be announced at least 2 months before it is held.

C) Duration

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

D) Eligibility:

The Eight highest ranked African boys and girls in the 14 & U African ranking that will appear at the end of the 2nd African 14 & U Championship to be held early in September of the current year. Substitutes will also be selected if there are any withdrawals.

Scheduling of the Masters:

General Program:

Day	Event
Day(0)	Day of Arrivals of players & coaches + practice
Day(1)	Practice day + Draw & Pools composition
Day(2)	Pools Matches – Phase I
Day(3)	Pools Matches – Phase I
Day(4)	Pools Matches – Phase I
Day(5)	Ranking from 1 to 4 and from 5 to 8
Day(6)	Ranking from 1 to 4 and from 5 to 8
Day(7)	Departure of players & coaches

Pools' Composition: 2 Pools

* If there are 2 players from the same country, arrange to place them in different pools.

	POOL A	POOL B
1	Player Ranked N°1	Player Ranked N°2
2	Player N°3 or N°4 by lot, the 1 st tossed to be placed	Player N°4 or N°3 by lot, the 1 st tossed to be placed
	on Pool A and 2 nd tossed to be placed on Pool B.	on Pool A and 2 nd tossed to be placed on Pool B.
3	Player N°5 or N°6 by lot, the 1 st tossed to be placed	Player N°6 or N°5 by lot, the 1 st tossed to be placed
3	on Pool A and 2 nd tossed to be placed on Pool B.	on Pool A and 2 nd tossed to be placed on Pool B.
4	Player N°7 or N°8 by lot, the 1 st tossed to be placed	Player N°8 or N°7 by lot, the 1 st tossed to be placed
4	on Pool A and 2 nd tossed to be placed on Pool B.	on Pool A and 2 nd tossed to be placed on Pool B.

RULES OF THE COMPETITION:

1st Phase:

- Day (2), (3) and (4): Pool matches on Round Robin.
 - 2 Pools of 4 players each.
 - Each player will compete with the other players of his (her) Pool during 3 days that makes one match per

2nd Phase:

Day (5) and (6):

At the end of the first Phase, the players ranked 1^{st} and 2^{nd} in each Pool will qualify for the $\frac{1}{2}$ finals – crossovers:

1st Pool (A) Vs 2nd Pool (B)

1st Pool (B) Vs 2nd Pool (A)

The winners will play for 1st place and the losers will play for 3rd place.

For the 5th to the 8th

The same format will be used for the players ranked 3rd and 4th in each Pool:

3rd Pool (A) Vs 4th Pool (B) 3rd Pool (B) Vs 4th Pool (A)

Winners will play for 5th place and losers will play for 7th place

Scoring:

All matches of the Masters will be played in best of 3 sets with a tie break in all sets, with the exception of the matches for the 5th to 8th position when matches will be played in two sets with a Match tie break as 3rd Set.

RULES OF THE ROUND ROBIN:

The following rules apply:

- Players are awarded one (1) point for winning a match

The standings in the group are determined by:

- Highest number of points

If the number of points is equal for

- Two (2) players: the head to head result of the match played between the two players will be used to break the tie.

If the number of points is equal for three (3) or more players, for these players only:

- The percentage of sets won of sets played against all players in the group
- * If, after this calculation, only two players remain tied, the result is head-to-head match played between the two players will be used to break the tie
- The percentage of games won of games played against all players in the group
- * If, after this calculation, only two players remain tied, the result in the head-to-head match played between the two players will be used to break the tie.
- If, after this, there are still players that remain tied, then the CAT ranking will be used to break the tie.
- If, after this, there are still players that remain tied, then drawn by lot.

APPENDIX (1) WELFARE POLICY

The Confederation of African Tennis (CAT) fully endorses the ITF Player Welfare Policy, and will for the CAT 14&U Circuit in the capacity of an ITF Regional Organization fully cooperate with the ITF in such matters.

Any coach, trainer, manager, agent, medical or para - medical personnel and/or family member, tournament guest, or other similar associate of any player (together "Player Support Team Member"), any player and any tournament personnel, such as an official, tournament director, staff, volunteer, sponsor, health care provider, CAT staff member and members of the media (together "Credentialed Person") shall conduct himself/herself in a professional manner at all times and in accordance with this CAT Welfare Policy. In this CAT Welfare Policy Player Support Team Members, players and Credentialed Persons shall be defined as "Covered Persons".

ELEMENTS OF THE WELFARE POLICY Application

- Covered Persons shall be familiar with, and must abide by, this CAT Welfare Policy. **Unfair and/or Discriminatory Conduct**
- Covered Persons shall not engage in unfair or unethical conduct including any attempt to injure, disable or intentionally interfere with the preparation or competition of any player.
- Covered Persons shall not discriminate in the provision of services on the basis of race, ethnicity, gender, national origin, religion, age or sexual orientation.

Abuse of Authority; Abusive Conduct

- Covered Persons shall not abuse his or her position of authority or control, and shall not attempt to or compromise the psychological, physical or emotional wellbeing of any player.
- Covered Persons shall not engage in abusive conduct, either physical or verbal, or threatening conduct or language directed toward any Covered Person, tournament official, CAT staff member, on-court official, coach, parent, spectator or member of the press/media.
- Covered Persons shall not exploit any player relationship to further personal, political or business interests at the expense of the best interests of the player.

Sexual Conduct

In order to prevent sexual abuse and the negative consequences resulting from the imbalance of a dual relationship, sexual conduct of any kind between any player and his/her Player Support Team Members and/or Credentialed Persons is discouraged.

- In addition, the following conduct is specifically prohibited:
 Covered Persons shall not make sexual advances towards, or have any sexual contact with, any players who is under the age of legal majority in the jurisdiction where the conduct takes place or where the player
- Covered Persons shall not sexually abuse a player of any age. Sexual abuse is defined as the forcing of sexual activity by one person on another person
- (i) Of diminished mental capacity; or
- (ii) By the use of physical force, threats, coercion, intimidation or undue influence.
- Covered Persons shall not engage in sexual harassment for example, by making unwelcome advances, requests for sexual favours or other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature where such conduct may create an intimidating, hostile or offensive environment.
- Player Support Team Members and Credentialed Persons shall not share a hotel room with a player who is under the age of legal majority in the jurisdiction where the hotel is located or where the player resides, unless such Player Support Team Member or Credentialed Person is the player's parent or is related to the and authorized in writing by the player's Penalties will apply to any underage player who is found to have violated this Hotel Room Policy. These penalties can include: forfeiture of points from the tournament(s) where the violation occurred and/or monetary fines equal to the amount of the hotel room rates and/or forfeiture of hotel per diem rates as tournament(s) where the violation Such penalty shall be in addition to any penalties that may be imposed on the Player Support Team Member

Criminal Conduct

Credentialed

Person

Covered Persons shall comply with all relevant criminal laws. For greater certainty and without limiting the foregoing, this obligation is violated if a Covered Person has been convicted of or entered a plea of guilty or no contest to a criminal charge or indictment involving

to

sub - Section

pursuant

below.

- i. An offence involving use, possession, distribution or intent to distribute illegal drugs or substances, ii. An offence involving sexual misconduct, harassment or abuse, or,
- iii. An offence involving child abuse. Further, this obligation may be violated if a Covered Person has been convicted of or entered a plea of guilty or no contest to an offence that is a violation of any law specifically designed to protect minors.

Anti-Doping Activity

Covered Persons shall not commit any offence under the terms of the ITF's Anti - Doping Programme or aid, abet, counsel or procure in any way any person's offence under that Programme.

Conduct in General

Covered Persons shall not conduct himself or herself in a manner that will reflect unfavourably on the CAT, any tournament, event or tour owned or sanctioned by the ITF & CAT (ITF Tournaments & "CAT 14&U Circuit"), any player, official or the game of tennis.

Credentialed Persons

No person who has been given a credential by a Tournament, including members of the media, may at any time during the Tournament engage in abusive conduct directed towards any player, official, spectator or ITF/CAT staff.

Violations/Procedures

CAT

• Any individual who believes that any Covered Person has failed to meet his or her obligations under this Welfare Policy may file a written complaint with the CAT 14&U Circuit Director in which the complainant participates.

That complaint shall identify the complainant and state specifically the nature of the alleged misconduct. Upon receipt of such a complaint, the CAT 14&U Circuit Director shall promptly initiate a review of the matter. Such review shall be carried out by the relevant CAT Manager or CAT Legal Committee with responsibility for the CAT 14&U Circuit in which the complainant Upon request by the CAT Manager or the CAT Legal Committee shall have authority to issue a provisional suspension of the accused individual, pending the completion of the investigation and issuance of a final on the

- Upon review of the complaint and, where appropriate, additional investigation, the CAT 14&U Circuit Director determine that the complaint does not If the CAT 14&U Circuit Director determines that the complaint does merit further action, after notifying the accused individual of the charge(s) and giving the accused individual the opportunity to present his or her views to the CAT Manager and CAT Legal Committee, either in person or in writing, at the CAT Legal Committee's discretion; this latter may impose appropriate sanctions including (a) denial of privileges or exclusion of the person in question from any or all CAT 14&U Circuit or (b) such other sanctions including monetary sanctions the **CAT** 14&U Circuit Director deem appropriate. may
- The CAT Legal Committee reserves the right to extend to any or all CAT 14&U Circuit a suspension or other disciplinary action taken against a Covered Person by a National or Regional Association or other tennis organization such as the Women's Tennis Association and Association of Tennis Professionals or a conviction or plea of guilty or no contest to a criminal charge or indictment as set out in Section above.
- The CAT Manager and CAT Legal Committee reserve the right to share information concerning a complaint with and/or conduct an investigation in conjunction with any tennis organization as specified above. They may also refer the complaint and/or any information received during the course of investigating an allegation or prosecuting a charge to any authorities it considers appropriate. The CAT shall have the absolute discretion, where it deems appropriate, to stay its own investigation pending the outcome of investigations being conducted by other tennis organizations as specified above and/or relevant authorities.
- The notice of appeal must include a statement of the reasons and arguments why the decision was incorrect and include supporting evidence and make any application for a stay of execution.

In either circumstance, the appellate body shall decide whether to review the appeal based solely on the CAT Legal Committee's investigation or whether to hold a full hearing in which the Covered Person will be given the opportunity to present his/her case directly to the appellate body, in which case the appellate body shall issue directions for the efficient conduct of the appeal. The decision of the CAT Legal Committee or CAT Executive Committee shall be final and binding. Any decision of the CAT Legal Committee decided on the basis of a conviction or plea of guilty or no contest to a criminal charge or indictment as set out in Section above shall be final and binding. Any decision of the CAT Legal Committee or CAT Executive Committee pursuant to this Welfare Policy may be communicated to those Member National Associations, other tennis organizations and CAT 14&U Circuit organizers deemed necessary by the CAT 14&U Circuit and/or the CAT Legal Committee and/or the

Executive

Committee.

APPENDIX (2) 2024 NATIONS' RANKING

14 & U - African Country's Ranking based on the individual results registered during the Year 2024

Divisions allocated to National Championships	#	Nat.	# B&G ranked Top 8	Bonus 32 points / player	# B&G ranked 9-16	Bonus 16 points / player	# B&G ranked	Bonus 8 points / player	# B&G ranked 33-64	Bonus 4 points / player	# B&G ranked 65-128	Bonus 2 points / player	# B&G ranked 129 & +	Bonus : 1 point / player	Total
	1	MAR	5	160	1	16	5	40	6	24	17	34	25	25	299
D1 Grade	2	TUN	4	128	3	48	3	24	8	32	17	34	27	27	293
	3	EGY	3	96	2	32	3	24	1	4	1	2	4	4	162
	4	KEN		0	3	48	4	32	6	24	10	20	19	19	143
	5	MAD		0	1	16	2	16	5	20	9	18	3	3	73
	6	BOT		0	•	0	1	8	5	20	11	22	12	12	62
	7	NGR	1	32		0	•	0	3	12	3	6	1	1	51
	8	ALG	1	32		0	1	8	1	4	1	2	2	2	48
	9	MOZ	•	0		0	1	8	1	4	13	26	2	2	40
	10	LBA	1	32		0		0	1	4	_	0	_	0	36
	11	UGA	-	0	1	16		0	2	8	4	8	3	3	35
	12	BDI		0		0	2	16	2	8	3	6	5	5	35
D2 Grade	13	CAM		0		0	2	16	4	16	1	2		0	34
	14	NAM		0	1	16		0	3	12	2	4	2	2	34
	15	RSA		0		0	1	8	4	16	3	6		0	30
	16	TOG		0		0	1	8	2	8	5	10	4	4	30
	17	BEN		0		0	1	8	2	8	2	4	1	1	21
	18	GHA		0		0		0	2	8	4	8		0	16
No Grade allocated	19	CGO		0		0		0		0	6	12	2	2	14
	20	MLI		0		0	1	8	1	4		0	1	1	13
	21	ZIM		0		0		0		0	3	6	6	6	12
	22	TAN		0		0		0		0	3	6	3	3	9
	23	ANG		0		0		0		0	2	4	4	4	8
	24	RWA		0		0		0		0	1	2	6	6	8
	25	MRI		0		0		0		0	3	6	1	1	7
	26	BUR		0		0		0		0	2	4	3	3	7
	27	ETH		0		0		0		0	2	4	3	3	7
	28	LES		0		0		0		0	1	2	4	4	6
	29	SWA		0		0		0		0		0	3	3	3
	30	CIV		0		0		0		0	1	2	_	0	2
	31	DJI		0		0		0		0		0	2	2	2
	32	SEY		0		0		0		0		0	2	2	2
	33	COM		0		0		0		0		0	1	1	1
	34	GEQ		0		0		0		0		0		0	0
	35	GUI		0		0		0		0		0		0	0
	36	MAW		0		0		0		0		0		0	0