ITF Seniors Circuit - Important Rule Changes 2014

Please find attached a letter from Luca Santilli, ITF Head of Juniors & Seniors tennis, highlighting the major rule changes for the 2014 ITF Seniors Circuit.

General Secretaries / Manager, Seniors Tennis
ITF National Associations
Via Email
27 November 2013
RE: ITF Seniors Circuit - Important Rule Changes 2014

Dear All,
I would like to take this opportunity at the close of the 2013 season to let you know about some important rule changes coming into effect on the ITF Seniors Circuit in 2014:

Prize Money:
Should prize money be awarded, it must be equally distributed by gender and equally distributed across all age groups at the tournament. The amount of prize money for Doubles and Mixed Doubles may differ from the amount of prize money for Singles, but the criteria of equality by gender and across all age groups must be adhered to for Doubles and Mixed Doubles also. If due to low participation figures, a round robin draw is played at an event instead of an elimination draw, then the advertised prize money may be reduced by up to a maximum of 50%.
Player hospitality money may be offered at Grade A, B and 1 - 5 events at the discretion of the organising committee.

Tournament Entry Deadlines:
All ITF Seniors Circuit tournaments shall have the entry deadline Wednesday 19 days before the Monday of the tournament week. There will no longer be Type 2 tournaments (33 days entry deadline).

Officials:
For Grade 1 tournaments, there must be a minimum of one Court Supervisor/Roving Umpire for each five match courts. It is further recommended that for all tournaments with more than 200 participants, irrespective of the grade, an Assistant Referee, fluent in the English language, should also be appointed.

Code of Conduct:
The number of suspension points that a player receives for being a no-show at a tournament and failing to pay his entry fee will increase from 6 to 7 suspension points.
Public Liability Insurance:
Tournaments will be responsible for taking out a suitable insurance policy which is compliant with local laws and regulations and which insures against claims made for damage to property and for death/injury caused to people at the event for which the Applicant is legally liable. “ITF Ltd” and “ITF Licensing (UK) Ltd” must be named in the policy and on the certificate of insurance, and a copy should be provided to the ITF on request.

Good standing:
The definition of a player being “of good standing” has changed. Please see Appendix V of the 2014 ITF Seniors Circuit Regulations for details. I would be grateful if you could ensure that this information is communicated to the Tournament Directors of the ITF Seniors Circuit tournaments hosted in your country in 2014 and communicated to your players as applicable.

If you have any queries or questions relating to the above, please do not hesitate to contact either myself, Isabelle Gemmel (Isabelle.gemmel@itftennis.com) or Hayley Iveson (hayley.iveson@itftennis.com), who coordinate the ITF Seniors Circuit from the ITF office in London.
Yours sincerely
Luca Santilli
Head, Juniors & Seniors Tennis

PS:
Dear All,
It is been brought to our attention that the new ball requirements in the 3rd set has not be applied in accordance with the regulations on all occasions.
Just to confirm that another three new balls shall be provided for any third set at Grade 1 and Grade 2 tournaments. This applies in singles, doubles and mixed doubles.
Regards
HAYLEY IVESON
Development Assistant - Juniors & Seniors
International Tennis Federation

"Der DTB Seniorenreferent informiert"
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