

The Guide to

The 15th World Soft Tennis Championships, New Delhi, India, 2015

1. Name of Event: The 15th World Soft Tennis Championships
2. Organized by: International Soft Tennis Federation(ISTF)
3. Managed by: Amateur Soft Tennis Federation of India(ASTFI)
4. Support: Ministry of Youth, Affairs & Sports, Govt. of India & Sports Authority of India (SAI)
5. Broadcast: DD Sports, Govt. of India
6. Period: November 16th (Mon)– 22th (Sun), 2015
7. Place: New Delhi, India
8. Competition Venue: **R. K. Khanna Tennis Complex, Africa Avenue, New Delhi.**
(Total 13 Synthetic / Hard courts: 1 Center Court & 12 match court)
9. Accommodation: **HOTEL SAMRAT, Kautilya Marg, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi-110021.**
Tele. No.: +91-11-2611606 Fax No.: +91-11-26887047 website: www.hotelsamrat.co.in
10. Events:
 - (1) Individual Singles for Men and Women
 - (2) Individual Mixed Doubles
 - (3) Individual Doubles for Men and Women
 - (4) Team Competitions for Men and Women
11. Schedule of the event:
 - 16th November (Mon) -Arrival in New Delhi / Registration
 - 17th November (Tue) -Technical Officials' Meeting
 - Managers' Meeting
 - Opening Ceremony
 - 18th November (Wed) -Individual Singles for Men and Women(The first day)
 - 19th November (Thu) -Individual Singles for Men and Women(The Second day)
 - Individual Mixed Doubles
 - Individual Singles, Mixed Doubles Commendation Ceremonies
 - 20th November (Fri) -Individual Doubles for Men and Women
 - Individual Doubles Commendation Ceremonies
 - 21st November (Sat) - Team Competitions for Men and Women
 - Team Event Commendation Ceremonies
 - Closing Ceremony
 - Farewell Party

22nd November (Sun) -Departure

* Schedule is changeable upon broadcast and the number of countries

12. Eligibility:

(1) Participating players shall be those who have been approved by those respective National Soft Tennis Association/Federations which are the member Countries/regions (here in after called "countries") of ISTF, in accordance with the constitution of the IOC, as players belonging to the respective organizations, and are primarily involved in the soft tennis competitions and other activities of the said countries. Also, they must meet the conditions for the participation in the competitions as described in item 17 of this guide.

The players who play in the team events, which are competed on a country basis, shall have the nationality of the countries they will represent.

(2) Participating head of team and coaches shall be those who have been so approved by the respective organizations of the countries they will represent.

13. Entries:

(1) Each country shall comprise its men and women teams with a maximum of six(6) players respectively.

Each country shall be allowed to enter a maximum of two(2) pairs each for individual men's and women's doubles, a maximum of two(2) players each for individual men's and women's singles, a maximum of two(2) pairs for individual mixed doubles, and a minimum of three(3) and a maximum of six(6) players each for men's and women's team competitions.

Each player shall be allowed to concurrently enter more than one event.

(2) The host country of this championships (India) shall be allowed to enter in addition to the entries as described in item 13-(1)above, a maximum of four(4) players each only for the individual men's and women's events.

Two(2) pairs each for men's and women's doubles, two(2) players each for men's and women's singles, and two(2) pairs mixed doubles competitions shall be allowed to enter.

(3) Each country shall be allowed to register, in addition to its players, a maximum of three (3) officials (1 head of team, 1 men's coach and 1women's coach). Only a coach involved in the match in the team event shall be allowed to sit on the team bench.

(4) ① Preliminary Entry(Entry by Number)

The countries planning to participate in this Championship must send the completed Entry by Number forms to ASTFI so that these arrive no later than 24:00(local time) July 01(Wed), 2015 by mail. The entry via fax or e-mail shall also be acceptable. The completed Entry by Number forms must include the number of players or pairs to be entered in each event.

② Final Entry(Entry by Name)

The countries planning to participate in this Championship must send the original of their completed Entry by Name forms to ASTFI such that these arrive no later than 24:00(local time) September 01(Thu), 2015 by mail. Completed Entry by Name forms must be submitted for each players and officials and must include all necessary information, including sex, date of birth and nationality, etc. with photos. Final Entry by fax or e-mail, with photos to be mailed separately, shall be allowed. Countries which plan to enter more than one player in each individual event must list them in the order of ability in their Entry by Name form.

(5) Once the entries have been accepted, they shall not be allowed to change.

(Address for Entries)

Amateur Soft Tennis Federation of India (ASTFI)

818/33/1, Laxmipura, Nr. Ankur Mills, Gitamandir Road, Nr.Ahmedabad-380022. INDIA

Tel. / Fax No.:+91 79 25328228 Cell (Mobile) No.: +91 93270 50344

E-mail: softtennisindia@yahoo.co.in, softtennisindia@gmail.com, jkkhodadhra@yahoo.com

14. Competition Rules and Related Regulations:

(1) The competitions shall be conducted according to the rules of soft tennis approved by ISTF, based on the constitution and regulations of ISTF.

(2) The official language for this event shall be English.

15. Competition Methods and Decision of Ranking:

The competition methods shall be decided by ISTF depending on the number of entries by event. However, the competitions shall be conducted basically by the methods as follows:

(Individual Events)

(1) A tournament system shall be applied for men's and women's singles mixed doubles, and men's and women's doubles matches.

(2) Classification matches for 3rd-4th places and 5th-6th places is not held in the tournaments system.

(3) A doubles match shall be decided by the best of nine(9) games system a singles match by the best of seven(7) games from quarterfinal.

A doubles match shall be decided by the best of seven(7) games system a singles match by the best of five(5) games before quarterfinal.

However, the number of games shall be alterable, depending on situations.

(4) In the case where a preliminary round robin is held, the participating players/pairs shall be divided into several blocks for a preliminary round robin. The numbers of blocks will be determined by ISTF. Final tournament matches shall compete to determine the overall rankings by the top two(2) players/pairs of each blocks in the preliminary round robin. And classification matches for 3rd-4th places and 5th-6th places is not held.

(5) A consolation match may be played by loser pair(a player) in some cases depending on the number of participants. The details of the consolation match shall be decided by ISTF

(6) In the case where a round robin is held, the decision of ranking shall be made by the methods as follows:

i) Where two(2) players/pairs have the same win ratio, the winner of the competition between the two shall be ranked higher.

ii) Where three(3) or more players/pairs have the same win ratio, their rankings shall be determined by a comparison of the win ratios for the competitions between the three or more players/pairs, and the players/pairs who have gained a higher win ratio shall be ranked higher.

iii) Where the method in ii) above cannot be implemented, rankings shall be determined by a comparison, within the competitions between the players/pairs with the same win ratio, firstly of the number of games won minus the number of games lost, and secondly of the number of points won minus the number of points lost, and the players/pairs who have gained a larger positive differential shall be ranked higher.

iv) Where none of the methods in ii) and iii) above is applicable, rankings shall be determined by a draw.

(Team Events)

(1) Tournament or league shall be decided by ISTF according to the number of man and women pairs. In the case of league, final tournament shall be played after league match. Details of this case shall be designed by ISTF.

(2) A consolation match may be played by loser team in some cases depending on the number of participants. The details of the consolation match shall be decided by ISTF.

(3) In both men and women competitions, a tie shall be competed in the order of (1)double-(2)singles-(3)doubles, totaling three(3) matches. The team, when it has won two(2) matches in a row in a tie, shall be the winner of the tie, and the remaining one match shall not be played.

(4) The matches in a tie shall be played by the players in the order which is to be submitted prior to the competition. A player shall be limited to play only one match in a tie. Accordingly, any team with only three(3) or four(4) players cannot play all of the three matches in a tie, i.e. one match default will inevitably be incurred.

(5) Participating Countries cannot make change the order which is to be submitted prior to the competition. A change of players and/or order of players to compete in a tie shall be allowed for each tie. The substitute players must be those who are registered for the event.

(6) A doubles match shall be decided by the best of nine(9) games and a singles match by the best of seven(7) games.

(7) In the case where a round robin is held, the decision of ranking shall be made by the methods as follows:

i) Where two(2) teams have the same win ratio, the winner of the competition between the two shall be ranked higher.

ii) Where three(3) or more teams have the same win ratio, their rankings shall be determined by a comparison of the win ratios in the competitions between the three or more teams, and the team which has gained a higher win ratio shall be ranked higher.

iii) Where the method in ii) above cannot be implemented, rankings shall be determined by a comparison, within the competitions between the teams with the same win ratio, firstly of the number of matches won minus the number of matches lost, secondly of the number of games won

minus the number of games lost, and thirdly of the number of points won minus the number of points lost, and the team which has gained a larger positive differential shall be ranked higher.

iv) Where none of the methods in ii) and iii) above is applicable, rankings shall be determined by a draw.

16. Draw:

The draw shall be determined by ISTF in accordance with the guidelines as follows:

(Individual Events)

(1) The seed shall be assigned to a country producing pair/a player who ranked 1 through 3 of the last championships.

(2) The draw for the other participating players/pairs shall be determined taking into consideration various factors such as their results of the last championships, areas, countries, etc.

(3) The order of ability of the players/pairs of each country described in their entry form shall be reflected in determining their draw, except for the seeded.

(Team Events)

(1) Top four(4) countries in the last championships shall be seeded according to their rankings of the last championships. In the case where any of the top four(4) countries in the last championships do not participate, the vacant seed(s) shall be designated to the countries which were to otherwise be seeded next to the absentee(s). The resulting remaining vacant seeding shall be determined taking into consideration the results of the last championships.

(2) The draw for the other teams shall be determined taking into consideration various factors such as the results of the last championships, areas, etc.

17. Conditions for Participation:

The participants of each country shall meet, in addition to the qualifications described in item 12 of this guidelines, the conditions as follows:

(1) Each participant shall adhere to the IOC constitutions and the rules and regulations of ISTF and shall behave in an orderly manner based on sportsmanship.

(2) Each participant shall follow the instructions issued by ASTFI during the term of this event, i.e. from the time participants from abroad have entered into to the time they have left Delhi and India.

In case any of them needs to behave otherwise than specified as above, one shall be obliged to submit the detailed information on ones intended travel or else, such as its purpose, place and schedule, etc. to ASTFI and obtain its permission beforehand.

(3) Each player shall wear a uniform, shoes and other kinds of attire which have been approved by the participating national organization which the participant belongs to.

(4) Each player shall use a racket which conforms to the specifications of ISTF rules of soft tennis.

(5) Either of professional or amateur players shall be allowed to participate. Commercial displays on uniforms, etc. shall be allowed on condition that they have been permitted by the participating national organizations. However, a back number, possibly with an advertisement attached, which is to be designated by ASTFI shall be worn in preference. Manufactures company marks and/or logos on uniforms, shoes and rackets, etc. shall not be considered as advertisement.

18. Competition Officials: Competition officials shall be organized by ISTF.

19. Referees and Umpires:

(1) Referees shall guide umpires in conducting fair umpiring. Also, referees shall rule the questionable issues arisen in relation to the competition rules and regulations. Referees shall be five(5) in number, one each from India, China, C.Taipei, Korea and Japan. One of the referees, i.e. a Indian referee, shall be designated as a Technical Delegate, who is responsible for supervising the Technical officials.

(2) Umpires shall be organized by ISTF among international umpires and umpires selected by ASTFI.

20. Balls and Other Equipment/Facilities:

(1) Balls to be used for this event shall be selected and decided by ISTF.

(2) Nets, net posts and other required equipment/facilities for competition which conform to the standards specified by ISTF shall be used.

21. Doping Control:

(1) Doping Control during the 15th World Soft Tennis Championships will be conducted in accordance with ISTF Anti-Doping Rules applicable to the World Soft Tennis Championships and will follow the standards and procedures under the World Anti-Doping programme.

(2) If an athlete may have an illness or condition that requires a particular medication, the athlete must request Therapeutic Use Exemptions(TUE)

22. Commendations:

(1) In each individual event, the prizes shall be awarded to the first, second, third and fifth place winners. The matches for deciding the third and fifth place winners shall not be played, i.e. there shall be two(2) third and four(4) fifth place winners.

However, in the case where a round robin is played by all the participants, thus no finalist-deciding tournament is held, only one player/pair shall be awarded the third place prize and fourth and fifth place winners shall not be awarded the fourth and fifth place prize in each individual event.

In the case of consolation match, it shall be awarded in the same manner.

(2) In each team event, top four(4), six(6) or eight(8) teams shall be awarded the prizes depending on the number of participating countries and competition methods.

In the case of consolation match, it shall be awarded in the same manner.

(3) As the prizes for the individual events, a diploma and a gold-gilt medal shall be awarded to each of the first place winners, a diploma and a silver medal to each of the second place winners, a diploma and a bronze medal to each of the third place winners, and a diploma to each of the fifth place winners by ISTF.

For the team events, each of the first place winners shall be awarded a returnable championship cup and a diploma for the team and gold-gilt medals for its players; each of the second place winners a diploma for the team and silver medals for its players; each of the third place winners a diploma for the team and bronze medals for its players; and each of the fourth to eighth place winners a diploma.

23. World Ranking Point:

The World Ranking System shall be applicable to this events individual singles, individual doubles and mixed doubles.

24. Expenses:

(1) Each participating country shall be responsible for round trip air fares to/from Delhi, India for their participants.

(2) ASTFI shall be responsible for airport pick up between New Delhi Airport and the official hotel, domestic transportation and sojourn expenses for the period from November 16 to November 22, 2015. Expenses before and / or after the said period shall be borne by each participating countries. Also, private charges at hotel, such as telephone, fax, laundry, etc. shall be for participant countries own account.

25. Manager's Meeting:

A meeting for head of team and coaches from all participating countries will be held on 17th(Tue) November, 2015 when competition details will be disclosed.

The maximum number of representatives per country allowed to attend shall be three(3).

26. Security:

To realize a smooth management and security of the event, ID cards shall be issued as identified.