WORLD TENNIS NEW WAVE 2026
RULES & REGULATIONS

Updated: 30/10/2026

1. **Acceptance Method**
   Players will be accepted as per the following criteria applicable to players on the 18U rankings and players with a professional ranking, provided the players are 17 years old (18U) and 17 to 20 years old (Professional ranking) born 2006 – 2009.

   Acceptance of the 8 male and female teams will be as follows:

   18U Boys & Girls – 4 per gender
   - U18 World Champions
   - U18 World Championships Finalists
   - 2 remaining teams selected based on the combined U18 Junior rankings as per 19 October 2026.

   Players with Professional Ranking – 4 per gender:
   - 4 teams selected from players aged 17–20, based on the combined Professional rankings of 19 October.

   Note:
   In both 18U and Professional rankings, the combined ranking of both players will be used to set the acceptance order. Same procedure as regular tournaments.

2. **Invitation Acceptance Deadline**
   Invitations to be sent to players by Friday 23 October 2026.

   Two Alternate teams will be listed for each of the 18U/Professional Boys/male and Girls/female acceptances in the event of a team withdrawing.

3. **Withdrawals**
   Withdrawal of a Team must be in writing to the WT Beach Tennis department (beach@world.tennis) as soon as possible to allow Alternates to be notified and necessary arrangements to be made.

   Individual substitutions and re-pairing of players will not be permitted.

4. **Mentors**
   Two (2) mentors, a male and female current or former top player will be appointed to manage and work closely with the players during the competition, including practice days.

5. **Seeding**
   Due to the combined acceptance comprising of 18U rankings and Professional rankings, the Junior Project Group, Player Council and appointed mentors will be consulted on finalizing the seeding order.

6. Draw Size and Format

The competition will comprise of two (2) phases. Phase 1 – Round Robin, Phase 2 – Knock Out competition (Semi Finals and Finals).

The draw will be conducted on Friday 27 November in conjunction with the Sand Series Tour Finals Draw as stated on the New Wave factsheet.

Phase 1 – Round Robin Competition:

- The 8 boys/men's and girls/women's teams will be drawn into two (2) Round Robin groups of four (4) teams.
- Groups will be scheduled to play on alternative days allowing a day off between round robin matches.
- Seed 1 will be placed in Group A, seed 2 in Group B
- The remaining six (6) teams will be drawn or placed in pairs of two (2) as per their final ranking order between Group A and B to ensure a fair distribution and balance between the 18U and Professional teams. Each Group will comprise of 2x 18U and 2x Professional teams:
  - 3 & 4 – drawn by lot. 1st team drawn to Group A, 2nd team drawn to Group B
  - 5 & 6 – drawn by lot. 1st team drawn to Group A, 2nd team drawn to Group B
  - 7 & 8 – drawn by lot. 1st team drawn to Group A, 2nd team drawn to Group B

  Drawn as required or placed.

All matches within the Round Robin phase must be completed.

Round Robin schedule of play:

Round 1: 1 vs. 3 & 2 vs. 4
Round 2: Winning Team vs. Winning Team & Losing Team vs. Losing Team
Round 3: Remaining matches to be played within the Group

Phase 2 – Semi Finals, Final:

- The top two (2) teams at the completion of the Round Robin phase in Group A and Group B will qualify for the knock-out semifinal phase of the competition.
- Winning team from Group A will play against 2nd positioned team in Group B.
- Winning Team from Group B will play against 2nd positioned team in Group A.
- The winning team from each semifinal will proceed to the Final and will compete for the 2026 World Tennis New Wave Title.

7. Playing Days

The tournament will be played over eight (8) competition days:
28 November – 5 December 2026:

- Days 1 – 6: Round Robin competition
- Day 7: Semi Finals
- Day 8: Finals
- One (1) match per day, with Round Robin Groups alternating between the initial six (6) days of competition.

In an unlikely situation where players may be required to play more than one (1) match on a day due to unforeseen circumstances, suitable rest will be considered between matches.

8. Practice Days

Official practice will commence two (2) days prior to the start of the competition. Match and practice courts will be available for players to book courts/sessions (26/27 November).

9. Key Activities – Mandatory attendance

- 26 November – Arrival / Practice & Welcome dinner
- 27 November – Practice & Draw Ceremony / Photo Shoot
- 28 November – Matches commence
- 6 December - Departure

10. Scoring Format

All matches (Round Robin, Knock-out and Play-Off) will consist of **two (2) sets and a 10point Match Tie Break as per the general U18 and tour format**.

Each match won during the Round Robin phase will result in the winning Team being awarded one (1) point.

During the round robin phase of the competition if a team retires during a match the score will be recorded as per the following example:

Team A leads **Team B 6-4 1-2** when a member of Team B must retire. The final score for media releases will be recorded as 6-4 1-2 (Ret.), but for the purpose of the Round Robin competition the score will be recorded as **Team A 6-4 6-2** with the **remaining games of the set being awarded to Team A**. This is for possible three (3) way ties within the Group at the completion of the Round Robin phase.

11. Determining Final Positions in the Round Robin Groups

The standings calculation will only include the results of matches played amongst the players/teams who completed all matches in the round robin group. Retired matches count as completed for this purpose.

All matches for a team that concedes one (1) or more walkovers shall not be included for the purpose of the final standings' calculation. A walkover is not a retirement. A walkover is defined as where a team is either late due to punctuality or players have not taken to the court and the match commenced.

The final positions within a Group will be determined by:

- Highest number of points. A Team is awarded one (1) point per match won.
- If the number of points is equal for two (2) Teams, the head-to-head result will be used i.e. Team A and Team B are tied for 2nd position. Team B defeated Team A. Team B will be positioned 2nd, with Team A finishing 3rd.

- If the number of points is equal for three (3) or more Teams, for these Teams only:
    - The percentage of sets won from sets played against all Teams within the Group (including the 4th Team not part of the tie) will be calculated.
    - If, after the calculation, only two (2) Teams remain tied, the head-to-head result between the two (2) Teams will be used to break the tie.
    - If, after the calculation of percentage sets, a three-way tie still exists, the percentage of games won from games played against all Teams within the Group

(including the 4th Team not part of the tie) will be calculated.
- If, after the calculation, only two (2) Teams remain tied, the head-to-head result between the two (2) Teams will be used to break the tie.
- If, after the above, a three-way tie remains, the final standing will be drawn by lot.

12. Retirement & Substitution

If a team is forced to retire due to injury or illness during a Round Robin match, the score will be recorded as per rule 7 above – Scoring Format. The team may continue to compete in any remaining matches within the Round Robin competition provided the necessary medical clearance is given by the Tournament Physiotherapist and/or Doctor to the ill or injured player.

All matches for a team that concedes one (1) or more walkovers shall not be included for the purpose of the standing's calculation.

If a player Team is to withdraw from the Round Robin phase, an Alternate team may be considered as follows:

1. Next available team as per the Alternate list.

In the event of an Alternate team substitution results will be considered as follows:

1. All results recorded against the original team will count.
2. The new Team's results will only be considered for any remaining matches as the new team.

Alternates may not substitute for a retirement during a match that is in progress.

No substitutions will be permitted in the knockout phase. If a player or team is forced to withdraw a walkover will be awarded to the opposing team.

In the case of a walkover during the semi-final or finals, the winning team may be required to play an exhibition match as determined by the organisers and World Tennis.

13. Tennis Balls

Practice Balls:

- Each Team will receive six (6) new balls, commencing two (2) days prior to the start of the tournament. Thereafter practice balls can be exchanged for better used balls on a daily basis once matches have commenced.
- Teams qualifying for the semi-final and final will be allocated 4 new balls for practice on the day.

Match Balls:

- Four (4) new balls will be used in all matches, with balls being changed after the 1st 9 games and every 11 games thereafter (9/11).

14. Officials

The following Officials will be appointed:

- Referee – minimum WT Silver badge certification.
- Chair Umpires – all matches will have a chair umpire that is Nationally certified.
- Line Umpires – minimum of two (2) line umpire for all matches.
- Ball retrievers – minimum of three (3) ball retrievers for all matches.

15. Prize Money

No prize money will be available for the tournament.

16. Hospitality

All Teams will receive full hospitality commencing two (2) days prior to the competition (start of official practice) until the **morning after the completion of the tournament (10 nights)**.

Full hospitality is defined as:

- Accommodation (twin room per team - sharing) + breakfast at the official hotel.
- Lunch (as determined by organisers and approved by World Tennis).
- Dinner (as determined by organisers and approved by World Tennis).

Each player will receive a travel allowance capped at a maximum of $300 or $500, to be paid to players following completion of the competition, as follows:

- Players based in Brazil will need to provide proof of travel expenses to the organisers and will be re-imbursed the actual travel costs (up to $300).
- Players from outside of Brazil will need to provide proof of travel from abroad to Brazil and will be re-imbursed the full $500.

17. Code of Conduct

The general Code of Conduct as per the Beach Tennis Tour Regulations will be in effect.

Ceremonies, Press Conferences and Player Activities:
Players are obliged to attend all requested ceremonies and press conferences. In addition, participating in player activities as determined by World Tennis to be reasonable. Failure to attend mandatory ceremonies, press conferences and player activities may result in travel allowance and hospitality by the team/player being forfeited.

New Wave players will participate in all tournament activities alongside the Tour Finals players.

Mandatory Ceremonies, Press Conferences and Player Activities are but not limited to:

- Player welcome reception.
- Draw function.
- Draw press conference and media activation.
- Pre and Post match interviews.
- Post match press conferences (where required) in media center.
- Other media activities as requested.
- Prize giving ceremony (Finalists + Winners).
- **All sponsor-related activities/clinics and events to promote the tournament and beach tennis as agreed between WT and the organisers within reason.**
- Activations/Clinics to be attended by the teams during the non-match days (days not scheduled to play) during the round robin phase.

All information will be circulated to players ahead of time.

18. Rankings

No World Tennis Beach Tennis World Ranking points will be awarded for this event.

19. General

The New Wave event encompasses the beach tennis strategy while focusing on the junior/youth beach tennis player pathway.

While the event is based on a tournament format, the general concept of the New Wave is a Beach Tennis Camp covering the following:

- Mentoring from appointed mentors which will cover:
    - General advice
    - Post match analysis
    - Group discussions
    - Approach to training and matches
    - Tactical elements
    - Interaction with parents / coaches / support team
    - Topics as determined applicable by mentors
- Competitive match play – All matches throughout the tournament
- Mandatory attendance of all functions (Welcome & Draw)
- Mandatory attendance and participation in tournament sponsor / clinic activities with Tour Finals players
- Following schedule as determined in conjunction with Mentors / World Tennis / Organisers

Note:
The mentors will not and should not be expected to engage in any off-court coaching or offering advice during matches in progress.

Player's coaches or support team members may attend the event at their cost. No Off Court Coaching will be permitted during the New Wave competition.

If a coach or support staff member fails to comply with the competition or BT regulations, their coaching privileges and general access to the venue and functions/activities may be revoked.

Mentors will engage in offering general advice and post-match discussions (tactical etc.) with players individually, within groups which may include coaches / support team members.

Mentors may engage with coaches and support team members separately at times. This will be up to the discretion of the mentors.

No individual coaching will be offered by the mentors.

20. Video Review – Trial

Video Review will be available during all matches played on Centre Court during the Tour Finals.

The Final procedures will be circulated prior to the commencement of the Finals once agreed and approved by WT and the production company.

Calls / Decisions to be reviewed:

- Foot Faults

- Line Calls
- Foul shots / Touch
- Hindrance