

## **Frequently Asked Questions for the Tennis Europe Junior Tour 12, 14 & 16 & Under**

- **What is Tennis Europe?**

Tennis Europe (by constitution European Tennis Federation) is the non-profit organising body of European tennis, based in Basel, Switzerland. The Federation is comprised of 49 member nations and maintains excellent relationships with the sports' governing bodies - the International Tennis Federation, ATP and WTA. Tennis Europe sanctions, manages and supports approximately 1000 international tennis tournaments a year across the continent.

- **What is the Tennis Europe Junior Tour 12, 14 and 16 & under?**

Created in 1990, the Tennis Europe Junior Tour has long been the platform of choice for the launch of a successful career, and in recent years has heralded the arrival of such top players as Justine Henin-Hardenne, Roger Federer, Amelie Mauresmo, Marat Safin, Richard Gasquet, Marcos Baghdatis and Maria Sharapova, to name but a few.

The Tennis Europe Junior Tour is the leading pan-European competitive forum for junior talent in any major sport. It has around 270 Tournaments throughout Europe. Non-European players can also participate in the Tennis Europe Junior Tour (except for the European Championships, Masters and official team events) and earn ranking points. In 2006 players came from almost 100 countries to participate.

Over a quarter of a million spectators filed through the gates in 2006 to see competitions that would be reported in over 780 periodicals worldwide and gather over 12,000 minutes of TV and radio airtime. In 2006 around 10,000 junior players participated in the Tennis Europe Junior Tour.

- **What sorts of events are there on the Tennis Europe Junior Tour?**

### **12 & Under Boys and Girls:**

#### **Tournaments**

The 12 & Under Tour exists to give an opportunity for international playing experience to promising youngsters from all over the world, whilst taking care to ensure that players are not exposed to excess pressures. Therefore, no rankings are produced for this age category, nor are there any European Junior Championships or Junior Masters events.

#### **Tennis Europe Team Event**

An official 12 & Under team event is scheduled to take place in 2007 for the first time. This competition is limited to European players only and the National Federations will make the final selection of the players.

### **14 /16 & Under Boys and Girls:**

#### **Tournaments**

Established in 1990, these tournaments, for players from all over the world, are played at three levels, ranging from the elite Category 1 events, which attract the strongest players, to the more numerous and accessible Category 2 and 3 events. Events for boys and girls (in singles and doubles) are held at all tournaments, with some offering additional consolation tournaments for early losers, in order to reduce the pressure to perform whilst providing additional playing opportunities.

### **European Junior Championships**

An exclusive event held over three age categories (Under 14, 16 and 18) for the top players of each of the 49 European nations, the European Junior Championships is the most prestigious event on the Tennis Europe Junior Tour. This competition is restricted to European players and the National Federations make the final selection of players. Each National Federation can send 2 boys and 2 girls except for the host country, which is allowed 4 boys and 4 girls.

Nine former world number #1s feature amongst the previous winners, including the likes of Martina Hingis, Steffi Graf, Justine Henin-Hardenne, Stefan Edberg, Carlos Moya and Ivan Lendl.

### **Tennis Europe Junior Masters**

The Tennis Europe Junior Masters is an elite season-ending event for the top eight ranked European players, and provides the last opportunity of the year for the Tour's biggest talents to compete against each other in a major championship, and to earn vital ranking points before the final rankings of the year are announced.

### **Team Events**

The Tennis Europe Winter Cups by HEAD (indoor) and the European Summer Cups (outdoor, the best teams qualifying for the ITF worldwide competitions), are team events which form some of the highlights of the Junior Tour, providing youngsters with an early opportunity to compete for their countries. These competitions are for European players only and their National Federations make the final selection of players.

### **Player of the Year Awards**

The top three ranked European players at the end of the year (after the Tennis Europe Junior Masters) 14/16 are designated "Player of the year". They receive medals and diplomas.

### **Tennis Europe Junior Tour 16 & Under – ITF Junior Circuit 18 & Under: Feed Up System**

In 2007, a new 16 & Under Feed Up System project begins. Under this system, tournament 'Feed Up Exempt Positions' will be offered to the top 7 European players of the year-end 16 & Under ranking, in order to enable them to play in ITF Junior Circuit (Under 18) events the following year.

Boys & Girls Tennis Europe U16 Year-End Ranking	#/Type of ITF Junior Circuit U18 events
No.1	2 x Grade 1
No.2	1 x Grade 1 1 x Grade 2
No.3	2 x Grade 2
No.4 - 7	2 x Grade 3

- **How do I enter/withdraw from the Tennis Europe Junior Tour Tournaments?**

All entries and withdrawals from Tennis Europe Junior Tour Tournaments must be sanctioned (approved/signed) by your National Tennis Federation; using the electronic forms that Tennis Europe provides them with. National Federations deal with entries and withdrawals in various ways, some will send you the entry or withdrawal form and ask you to complete it and send it back to them to sign, others will complete the entry or withdrawal form on your behalf. You should contact your National Federation to find out how their system works.

**Important Information:** Any player who enters/participates in the Tennis Europe Junior Tour shall be bound to and must comply with the Rules and Regulations of Tennis Europe, the ITF Code of Conduct and the ITF Anti Doping Programme.

- **What are the entry and withdrawal deadlines for a Tennis Europe Junior Tour Tournament?**

**Entry deadline:**

Category 1 and 2 Tournaments - Monday 4 weeks before the start of the Main Draw

Category 3 Tournaments - Monday 3 weeks before the start of the Main Draw

**Withdrawal deadline:**

Category 1 and 2 Tournaments - Monday 2 weeks before the start of the Main Draw

Category 3 Tournaments - Monday 1 week before the start of the Main Draw

- **Are late withdrawals and ‘no-shows’ penalised?**

Late withdrawals and ‘no-shows’ without justified explanations (if there is a medical certificate, it must be sent to the Tournament concerned) are punished with penalty points deducted from the Tennis Europe ranking. All withdrawals must be made in writing.

**POINTS PENALTIES**

	<b>EURO CHAMPS</b>	<b>CAT 1</b>	<b>CAT 2</b>	<b>CAT 3</b>	<b>MASTERS</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> OFFENCE</b>					
Late WD	20	15	10	5	20
No-show	25	20	15	10	25
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> OFFENCE</b>					
Late WD	25	20	15	10	25
No-show	30	25	20	15	30
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> OFFENCE</b>					
Late WD	30	25	20	15	30
No-Show	35	30	25	20	35

4<sup>th</sup> Offence: Suspension of the player for 4 weeks

**MEDICAL EXCUSE**

A player may withdraw through injury or illness not more than twice each calendar year without incurring automatic penalty, providing an independent medical certificate is submitted to the appropriate entry authority and/or Tennis Europe stating that the player concerned is unable to play in the tournament due to a specified injury or illness.

- **Where can I find the Tennis Europe Junior Tour Calendar?**

By clicking on the following links:

**12 & U:** [http://www.tenniseurope.org/JuniorTennis/Jun\\_Te\\_-European-12-Under-Tour\\_Calendar.aspx](http://www.tenniseurope.org/JuniorTennis/Jun_Te_-European-12-Under-Tour_Calendar.aspx)

**14 & U:** [http://www.tenniseurope.org/JuniorTennis/Jun\\_Te\\_Calendar\\_U14.aspx](http://www.tenniseurope.org/JuniorTennis/Jun_Te_Calendar_U14.aspx)

**16 & U:** [http://www.tenniseurope.org/JuniorTennis/Jun\\_Te\\_Calendar\\_U16.aspx](http://www.tenniseurope.org/JuniorTennis/Jun_Te_Calendar_U16.aspx)

- **Where can I see my results when I have played at a Tennis Europe Junior Tour Tournament?**

Results from the biggest events (Category 1, European Championships and Team events) are published daily at the Junior Tennis section of [www.TennisEurope.org](http://www.TennisEurope.org). Results from Category 2 and 3, and Under 12 events, are published each week following the conclusion of the tournaments.

- **How are the 14/16 & Under rankings calculated, and where can I find them?**

The player's ranking is established on a rollover basis, taking into consideration results from the last 52 weeks.

The five best singles results, plus the two best doubles results and the best (one) team competition result count towards a players' ranking.

Separate rankings are produced for each category. However, the 16 & under rankings include all 14 & under players who have participated in 14 & under and/or 16 & under events. Bonus points are allocated to the players aged 14 & under appearing on the 16 & under ranking lists, as well as to the players who changed age category at the end of the previous calendar year, according to the 14 & under tournaments that they played. The bonus points represent 15% of the points achieved at 14 & under tournaments and will drop-off after a period of 52 weeks (rollover)

The rankings are published each Thursday at [www.TennisEurope.org](http://www.TennisEurope.org), and can be found in alphabetical and numerical formats, as well as in printable versions.

**Tournament Points Table:**

	<u>Europ. Champ</u>	<u>Cat. 1</u>	<u>Cat. 2</u>	<u>Cat. 3</u>	<u>Tennis Europe Junior Masters</u>
<b>MAIN DRAW</b>					
Winner	250	120	80	60	W 100
Runner up	180	100	65	50	RU 90
1/2 Finalist	120	75	50	30	3 <sup>rd</sup> 80
1/4 Finalist	80	50	30	20	4 <sup>th</sup> 60
Losers in last 16	50	30	20	15	5 <sup>th</sup> 50
Losers in last 32	30	20	15	10	6 <sup>th</sup> 30
Losers in last 48	25	14	-	-	-
Losers in last 64	20	10	-	-	7 <sup>th</sup> 20
Losers in last 128	-	-	-	-	8 <sup>th</sup> 10
<b>CONSOLATION</b> (Only for 1 <sup>st</sup> round Main Draw losers)					
Winner	10	8	4	3	-
Runner Up	7	5	3	2	-
1/2 Finalist	6	4	2	1	-
1/4 Finalist	4	3	1	-	-
<b>DOUBLES</b> (to each player)					
Winner	35	30	20	10	-
Runner Up	25	20	10	5	-
1/2 Finalist	15	10	5	2	-
<b>QUALIFYING</b>					
Winner	-	5	-	-	-

A first round loser in a category 2 & 3 event will not get any points for the Ranking.

Category 1 Tournaments: Qualifiers will receive 5 points. Qualifiers losing in the first round of the main draw will receive 5 points in addition to the points for the first round losers.

**Team competitions**

	<b>No 1 singles Win.</b>	<b>No 2 player Win.</b>	<b>No 3 player Win.</b>
Winner	110	90	60
Runner Up	90	70	50
1/2 Final	80	60	40
1/4 Final	60	40	20

- **How many tournaments can I enter per week?**

Players may not enter or compete in more than one tournament per week. Players may not participate in qualifying for an event at the same time they are participating in another tournament in either singles or doubles.

- **Where can I find the Tennis Europe Junior Tour Rules and Regulations?**

The Rules and Regulations can be found at the following link:

[http://www.tenniseurope.org/JuniorTennis/Jun\\_Te\\_-\\_Rules-and-Regulations.aspx](http://www.tenniseurope.org/JuniorTennis/Jun_Te_-_Rules-and-Regulations.aspx)

- **Where can I find the detailed Frequently Asked Questions about the Tennis Europe Junior Tour?**

These can be found at:

<http://www.tenniseurope.org/JuniorTennis/faq.aspx>

- **Where can I find photographs taken at Tennis Europe Junior Tour events?**

The photo gallery can be found at the following link: <http://gallery.tenniseurope.org/gallery.aspx>

- **Where can I find specific information about tournaments, such as fact sheets and acceptance lists?**

Tournament fact sheets are published at the Tennis Europe website and can be found on the calendars. Acceptance lists are published by the tournament organisers prior to events. Links to the tournament websites can be found on the Tennis Europe Junior Tour calendars.

- **Where can I find any additional information?**

Additional information can be obtained at [www.TennisEurope.org](http://www.TennisEurope.org)

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