

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

- 1.1. The 'Veteran Belgian Padel Tour' is a competition for the highest-level players affiliated to Tennis Vlaanderen or AFT Padel that concern the age categories included in this Regulation (see 3.2).
- 1.2. The Belgian Padel Tour includes tournaments in Flanders and Wallonia.
- 1.3. Players earn ranking points in each tournament. The ranking points contribute to the Veteran Belgian Padel Tour ranking.

2. TOURNAMENT ORGANISATION

- 2.1. Each tournament must organize a MEN and a WOMEN category.
- 2.2. A tournament must have 16 team spots for men and women.
- 2.3. Men/women can only register in their own gender and age category.
- 2.4. The schedule of play must be communicated when registrations open.
- 2.5. There must at least be 4 tournament entries in a category. Otherwise that category (men or women) will be canceled. Padel Belgium can in consultation with the club decide to still proceed with the competition potentially in a different format.
- 2.6. All matches are played without an on-court referee. The organizing club is responsible for the tournament organization and to enter all scores into the system.
- 2.7. All tournaments must be played between Friday and Sunday of the same week.
- 2.8. A tournament is played in an elimination draw starting in main draw in 1/8 final in case of a full number of participants.
- 2.9. The organizing clubs must have at least 6 courts (of which at least 4 covered).
- 2.10. Out-of-court play is only permitted if there is an official out-of-court play safety area* on all courts on which a certain round of the draw is played. For each round (e.g., 1/8 final, 1/4 final, ...), all matches are played with the same out-of-court play rules. Only if all courts on which a certain round is played have out-of-court play safety areas, out-of-court play will be allowed.

*The official out-of-court play safety area is defined based on the FIP regulations: 2m wide, 8m long, 3m high and the access must be protected in its three sides (later, upper, net post) with a product to cushion against player contact.
- 2.11. Padel Belgium provides new balls for each match to the clubs and organizes tournament branding (banners, beachflags, players benched, ...) on 4 courts.
- 2.12. The organizing clubs are responsible for providing a prize table according to the guidelines. If the clubs decides to payout prizemoney they can decide to organize this through a money transfer (preference) or cash envelope (in this case, a club responsible must organize this on the final days). For all amounts above 125 EURO the club is responsible to create a fiche 281.50 for tax purposes.

3. TOURNAMENT ENTRIES

- 3.1. Players need to register online through the system that is used by the organizing club/federation.
- 3.2. The organized categories are the following:
- MEN +35 (born in 1988 and before)
 - MEN +40 (born in 1983 and before)
 - MEN +45 (born in 1978 and before)
 - MEN +50 (born in 1973 and before)
 - MEN +55 (born in 1968 and before)
 - WOMEN +35 (born in 1988 and before)
 - WOMEN +40 (born in 1983 and before)
 - WOMEN +45 (born in 1978 and before)
- 3.3. Tournament registrations cost 20 Euro per player.
- 3.4. Only players with level minimum P400 (male) and P200 (female) are allowed.
- 3.5. If a pair consists of players from different age categories, the pair must play the category of the youngest player of the pair. Attention: players only earn ranking points when participating in their own age category (see 6.3).
- Example: Player A is 47 years old, player B is 56 years old. This pair must participate in the +45 category. The 56 year old will not earn ranking points.
- 3.6. Players are allowed to register for maximum 1 category per tournament.
- 3.7. Tournament registrations open 4 weeks before the start of the tournament and close on Thursday night 23.45 the week before the tournament. The draw is published on Friday the week before the tournament.
- 3.8. Players must be fully available during the entire duration of the tournament (Friday 9AM - Sunday 21PM). The playing schedule is communicated when registrations open. If not available, players may not enter the tournament. Non availability after the closing of the registrations is equal to Forfait (= Walk Over non excusé).
- 3.9. If the maximum number of registrations is reached (taking into account possible wild-cards), the organization will reject registrations based on the lowest sum of 'klassesment / classement' of both players (player A + player B). In case of an ex aequo, the team that has the highest teamranking (position player A + Player B) of the AFT Padel ranking/ Padel Tour ranking Tennis Vlaanderen will be able to participate. If a player has a ranking in both, AFT Padel and TV, the best ranking is taken into account.
- 3.10. A Veteran Belgian Padel Tour counts as an official tournament for the maximum restriction on the number of tournaments per week in the regional federation. Players are responsible to check this for themselves. If the organization is notified of an offense of this rule, the players will receive Forfait (= Walk Over non excusé) in all tournaments of this week.

4. TOURNAMENT FORMAT

- 4.1. All matches are played to 2 winning sets first to 6, with a match tiebreak to 10 in case of a third set.
- 4.2. On one day maximum two matches can be scheduled. Players can request a break of maximum 30 min between two matches.
- 4.3. All matches are played with Golden Point.
- 4.4. Coaching is allowed according to the following rules:
- 4.4.1. During the changeover between games/sets. Exception, coaching is not allowed during tie-breaks.
 - 4.4.2. The coach must be seated on the bench next to the court during the complete duration of the match. When a coach leaves this seat, he/she is not allowed to coach during that match anymore.
 - 4.4.3. Only 1 coach per match is allowed to coach a team.
 - 4.4.4. Players that participate to the tournament are not allowed to coach other players. Exception, a male player may coach a female player and the other way around.

5. COMPOSITION OF THE MAIN DRAW

- 5.1. The supervisor representing Padel Belgium will make the main draw in connection with the club tournament director.
- 5.2. Depending on the number of registrations, there will be 1 seed per 4 registrations placed on the main draw. These seeds are determined by the best sum of Veteran Padel Belgium ranking points (as defined in 6.5). The 2 teams with the highest sum of Veteran Padel Belgium ranking points* (Veteran Padel Belgium ranking points player 1 + ranking points player 2) will be respectively 1st and 2nd seed and placed at opposite sides of the table. The other seeds, are placed as below. In case all teams do not have Veteran Padel Belgium ranking points, seeds are determined by the team that has the highest teamranking (position player A + Player B) of the AFT Padel ranking/ Padel Tour ranking Tennis Vlaanderen. If a player has a ranking in both, AFT Padel and TV, the best ranking is taken into account. In case of an ex aequo, toss will decide.
- Draw with 4 seeds (draw 1/8 final)
 - Seed 1 top of the draw
 - Seed 2 bottom of the draw
 - Seed 3 and 4 are placed by draw and can only play seeds 1 and 2 in ½ finals
- 5.3. After the draw is published, the following must be applied:
- A team (both players) that is not available on the planned moment can:
- Unregister from the tournament, this will result in a forfait (non excusé) or a walk-over (excusé) depending on the reason.
 - Be replaced by a reserve team (only if it does not disturb the seeds)
- A team in which only 1 player is available can:
- Replace 1 player (only with a medical certificate and by approval of the referee and the federation organizing).
- The following is not allowed:
- 2 teams may not split up and form new teams
 - Teams cannot be switched in the draw

6. VETERAN PADEL BELGIUM RANKING

- 6.1. The Veteran Belgian Padel Tour tournaments count towards the ‘Veteran Padel Belgium Ranking’. There is 1 ranking for male and 1 ranking for female players.
- 6.2. After each tournament, the rankings will be updated and published.
- 6.3. Ranking points will be awarded to the Veteran Padel Belgium Ranking according to the stage reached in the competition. Ranking points can only be earned for the category the team is registered in the tournament. These points do not count for AFT Padel and TV.

VETERAN BELGIAN PADEL TOUR RANKING	4-8 teams	9-16 teams
Winner	1500	2000
Runner-up	1000	1600
1/2 final	500	800
1/4 final	0	400
1/8 final main draw	NVT	0

- 6.4. Ranking points will only be given to a team when they have won at least one match during that tournament. If a team Forfaits after having won at least one match, those players do not receive ranking points for the Veteran Belgian Padel Tour. When a team gives a Walk Over (legitimized/excusé) after having won at least one match, ranking points are given. Walk Over matches are thus counted as a “Win” for the final ranking.
- 6.5. The ‘**Veteran Padel Belgium Ranking**’ takes into account all tournaments (Veteran Belgian Padel Tour tournaments and the Veteran Belgian Championship) that took place over the past 52 weeks.
- A weighted average of the best 3 tournament results is used based on the number of played tournaments:
- 3 tournaments: average of the best 3 tournaments
 - 2 tournaments: 80% of the average of the best 2 tournaments
 - 1 tournament: 70% of the ranking points

6.6. Padel Belgium may sanction (will not receive any ranking points for this week) players who participate in more than 2 tournaments (and maximum 4 series within these 2 tournaments) in the same week (date of the final determines the week number).

7. SELECTIONS FOR EUROPEAN AND WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

7.1. Selections for a World or European Veteran Championship shall be made according to the following rules:

- Players who pursue a selection have to play in their own age category.
- If players in the year of selection change age categories in the last 52 weeks before the selection, the sum of ranking points of both age categories will count.
- All tournaments taken place before the European or World championship will be taken into account. Padel Belgium aims for a selection 8-10 weeks prior to the event. Padel Belgium reserves the right to change this timing depending on when the date of the event is known.
- The player who is highest in the Veteran Padel Belgium Ranking in his age category will be selected for the team and may choose a partner. This partner needs to be approved by Padel Belgium. The player who is ranked second, is the reserve player and may choose a partner. The first ranked team will have priority over the second team to play matches. The second team will become the first team in case the first team cannot participate.

7.2. When a player does not accept his/her selection the next ranked player is selected.

7.3. In case of ex aequo in the final ranking before a selection for a European or World Championship, the sum of 'klassement' / 'classement' of both players of a team will be decisive. If there is still an ex aequo, toss will decide.