



SENIOR BELGIAN PADEL TOUR REGULATION 2023-2024



1. GENERAL INFORMATION

- 1.1. The 'Senior 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 Senior Belgian Padel Tour includes tournaments in Flanders and Wallonia.
- 1.3. Players earn ranking points in each tournament. The ranking points contribute to the Senior 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.
- 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. In case a category is cancelled, players of this category get the choice to participate to 1 age category younger which is not cancelled.
- 2.6. All matches are played without an umpire. 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 Monday and Sunday of the same week. Depending on the number of registrations per category the first rounds will be played during a weekday. The final rounds are played during the weekend.
- 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. 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 +40 (born in 1984 and before)
 - MEN +45 (born in 1979 and before)
 - MEN +50 (born in 1974 and before)
 - MEN +55 (born in 1969 and before)
 - MEN +60 (born 1964 and before)

- WOMEN +40 (born in 1984 and before)
- WOMEN +45 (born in 1979 and before)
- WOMEN +50 (born in 1974 and before)
- WOMEN +55 (born in 1969 and before)
- WOMEN +60 (born 1964 and before)

* for tournaments that take place in 2023, but that count for season 2023-2024, players can participate for their age category of 2024

3.3. Tournament registrations cost 20 Euro per player.

3.4. Only players with level minimum P400 (male) and P200 (female) are allowed. Exceptions:

- Men +55 and 60+ minimum level P300

3.5. Players are allowed to register for maximum 2 categories per tournament (only with different partners).

3.6. Players are not allowed to play in an age category older than their own age category.

3.7. If a pair consists of players from different age categories, the pair shall play the category of the youngest player of the pair or any other younger age category. Example: Player A is 47 years old, player B is 56 years old. This pair can participate in the +45 category (or younger).

3.8. The player is responsible for avoiding overlap in case he/she registers for 2 categories in coordination with the referee and according to the rules in 3.10 of this Regulation.

3.9. Tournament registrations open 4 weeks before the start of the tournament and close on Monday night 23.45 the week before the tournament. No exceptions are allowed after the closing of the registrations. Padel Belgium reserves the right to change the closing date due to unforeseen circumstances. The draw is published on Tuesday the week before the tournament.

3.10. Players must be available during the indicated playing moments of the category they sign in. The indicative 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). Exceptions are only allowed according to point 3.10 of the Regulation.

3.11. Exceptions to the playing schedule can only be made in coordination with the referee according to the following rules:

- The indicative playing day is the official playing date.
- If a player/team cannot play on that date, they must get agreement from their opponents AND from the referee to reschedule the match.
- Matches can only be rescheduled if there are courts available on the new arranged playing date. The referee must check availability before agreeing to the rescheduling.
- In case no agreement is reached, the player that is not available to play on the initial playing date receives a Forfait (= Walk Over non excusé).

3.12. If the maximum number of registrations is reached, the organization will reject registrations based on the lowest sum of 'klassement / 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 Padel Vlaanderen will be able to participate. If a player has a ranking in both, AFT Padel and PVL, the best ranking is taken into account.

3.13. A Senior 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. The tournament planning does not take into account that players register for two categories. If a player decides to register for two categories he/she agrees that a maximum of four matches per day may be played.

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 Senior Padel Belgium ranking points (as defined in 6.5). The 2 teams with the highest sum of Senior Padel Belgium ranking points* (Senior 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 teams do not have Senior Padel Belgium ranking points, seeds are determined by the sum of 'klassement/classement' of both players (player A + players B). In case there is an ex aequo, the team that has the highest teamranking (position player A + Player B) of the AFT Padel ranking/ Padel Tour ranking Padel Vlaanderen will be the seed. If a player has a ranking in both, AFT Padel and PLV, the best ranking is taken into account. In case there is still 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 the sum of "klassement/classement" is not higher than the team being replaced)
- Reschedule the match according to 3.10 in this Regulation

A team in which only 1 player is available can:

- Replace 1 player
 - The "klassement/classement" can never be higher than the player being replaced

The following is not allowed:

- 2 teams may not split up and form new teams
- Teams cannot be switched in the draw

6. SENIOR PADEL BELGIUM RANKING

6.1. The Senior Belgian Padel Tour tournaments count towards the 'Senior 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 Senior Padel Belgium Ranking according to the stage reached in the competition. When participating in two categories, the highest stage reached in both categories will determine the points allocated. These points do not count for AFT Padel and Padel Vlaanderen.

SENIOR BELGIAN PADEL TOUR RANKING	4-8 teams	9-16 teams
Winner	1500	2000
Runner-up	900	1200
1/2 final	540	720
1/4 final	0	360

- 6.4. In case the tournament is played with less than 4 pairs, there are no ranking points given.
- 6.5. 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 Senior 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/Forfait matches are counted as a "Win" for the final ranking. A BYE does not count as a win.
- 6.6. The '**Senior Padel Belgium Ranking**' takes the last 4 tournaments into account (Senior Belgian Padel Tour tournaments and the Senior Belgian Championship).
A weighted average of the best 2 tournament results is used based on the number of played tournaments:
- 2 tournaments or more: average of the best 2 tournaments
 - 1 tournament: 85% of the ranking points
- 6.7. 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 Senior Championship shall be made according to the following rules:
- 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 Senior 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.
 - In case 2 players are the first in the Senior Padel Belgium Ranking and these players form a pair (based on the tournaments played), they are selected as a pair.
 - The selection committee* will propose a selection of the strongest possible teams/player per age category for spot 3 and (if needed) 4 to Padel Belgium. It is possible to propose older players for age categories younger in case these player(s) compose the best team. Padel Belgium has the authority to approve or reject the proposal of the selection committee.
 - In case proposals are rejected, the selection committee will issue a new proposal until an agreement for a selection is reached.

Padel Belgium reserves the right to change the above mentioned procedure due to unforeseen circumstances that happen outside of the control of Padel Belgium.

*A selection committee of 3 members is established and will be reviewed once a year.

- 7.2. When a player does not accept his/her selection the selection committee will review the selection proposal until a full team is reached and accepted by Padel Belgium.
- 7.3. During a championship a team of Team Captains is created amongst all selected players for that specific championship. The number of Team Captains will depend on the playing format created by FIP. They have the following authority:
- Decide on the pair line-up for every match day
 - Practical organization during the tournament
 - Communication with players/FIP
 - Central point of contact for players & Padel Belgium
 - Other tasks assigned/communicated by Padel Belgium