

VII. THE COMPETITION

F. Rain

If because of rain, etc., a tournament cannot be completed within the tournament week, then, at the option of the tournament, one (1) extra day shall be allowed. The Supervisor shall approve the commencement times for matches on the extra day, which shall then be scheduled during the morning or early afternoon. No further extension of the tournament shall be permitted without the approval of ATP.

Case: *A tournament with an approved and announced Saturday final is interrupted by weather so that the final is scheduled for Sunday. If adverse weather on Sunday prevents the match from being played, may the tournament be extended to Monday at the option of the tournament?*

Decision: *No. For a tournament with a Saturday final the tournament week would end on Saturday and the one (1) extra day allowed at the option of the tournament would be Sunday. It must be noted however that if play cannot be completed on Sunday then ATP would consider approving Monday play only in the case where all parties (tournament & all players) request to finish on Monday.*

G. Rest Periods - Minimums and Guidelines

1) **Between Main Draw and Prior Week's Tournament(s).** Before scheduling matches for the first day of play, the Supervisor must contact the Supervisor(s), Referee(s) or Tour Manager(s) of the preceding week's tournament(s) to determine to what extent players still competing may have difficulties in arriving for play. To the extent possible, and providing it does not jeopardize the fairness of scheduling and the completion of his tournament, matches should be scheduled so that each player with reasonable difficulties can be accommodated. The Supervisor shall whenever possible give the player one full day's rest between his last match played in a previous week's tournament or event and the player's first match in the succeeding tournament, unless weather or unavoidable circumstances have caused a schedule disruption or the player was a finalist in a Monday or other delayed final. There shall be no first-round singles matches scheduled to start on Wednesday in 32 draw outdoor tournaments without the approval of ATP or on-site Supervisor. The on-site Supervisor shall consider approving Wednesday starts only in the following circumstances:

- a) If a player is competing on the Sunday in a Grand Slam, ATP Tour, ATP Challenger Tour, Davis Cup or ITF M 25 tournament, and the following week's tournament is on a different continent; or in a Monday Final on the same continent. Davis Cup Ties on the same continent which are delayed until Monday may also be considered. For the purposes of this rule the world is divided into 7 distinct continents. They are Europe, Asia, Antarctica, Australia, Africa, North America (including Central America) and South America. In such cases, the match must be scheduled early Wednesday and if the player enters doubles, then he shall be required to play as determined by the Supervisor.

The criteria listed in a) above shall not apply in the case where a tournament has been approved for a Saturday final.

Case: *A player competes in a Grand Slam Junior match on the final Sunday. Is he eligible for a Wednesday start if his next tournament is the following week and on a different continent?*

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Decision: *No. The Wednesday start provisions indicated in the ATP Rulebook only apply to Main Draw Singles, Main Draw Doubles and Mixed Doubles.*

2) **Main Draw and Qualifying.** Other than in exceptional circumstances, no player shall be required to play his first-round match in the singles main draw until at least twelve (12) hours after the completion of his final qualifying match. The following should also be considered:

- a) If a player plays two (2) rounds of singles qualifying on the first day of qualifying, then the scheduled start time of his final round of qualifying shall be no earlier than eighteen (18) hours from the start time of his second qualifying match.
- b) If a player plays in two (2) singles qualifying matches on Sunday, then he shall not be scheduled to play in a singles main draw match on Monday. However, the player may be scheduled to play, if necessary, a doubles match on Monday.
- c) If a player plays in two (2) doubles qualifying matches on Sunday, then he can be scheduled to play in either one (1) singles or one (1) doubles main draw match on Monday.
- d) If a player plays in one (1) singles qualifying and two (2) doubles qualifying matches on Sunday, then he shall not be scheduled to play on Monday.
- e) If a player plays in one (1) singles qualifying and one (1) doubles qualifying match on Sunday, then he can be scheduled to play in one (1) singles main draw match on Monday. The singles match is to be scheduled early if that player is also playing in a doubles qualifying match (final) on that Monday.
- f) If the final doubles qualifying match is scheduled for Monday, the main draw doubles matches shall be scheduled no earlier than three (3) hours after the final qualifying match. If the main draw doubles match should be scheduled earlier, then it is understood that if a doubles lucky loser is required, the match shall be re-scheduled with that lucky loser inserted.
- g) Any player who becomes a lucky loser may be scheduled to play on Monday regardless of the number of matches that he has competed in on Sunday. Except, however, a player who played in three (3) matches on Sunday may only play one (1) match (singles) on Monday. If the player is to be required to be a doubles lucky loser or is scheduled to play a main draw doubles match, the doubles match would be rescheduled when his team is inserted into the draw unless the Supervisor determines the schedule shall be adversely affected.

Case: *Due to weather or other unforeseen circumstances, a player played two singles qualifying matches on Monday in an outdoor tournament. May he be scheduled for a main draw singles match on Tuesday?*

Decision: *Yes. The provision of not playing on Monday after playing two qualifying matches on Sunday does not apply as there are no Wednesday starts permitted.*

3) **Between Main Draw Matches.**

- a) Players shall not be scheduled to play in a match within twelve (12) hours after completing his last match the preceding day.
- b) Players shall not be scheduled for more than one (1) singles and one (1) doubles match per day, unless weather or other unavoidable circumstances have caused schedule disruptions. Completion of a match in progress shall count as one (1) match.