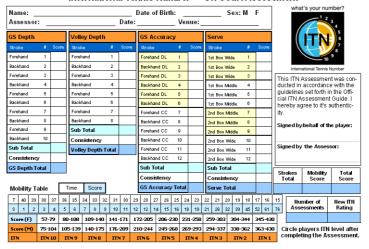


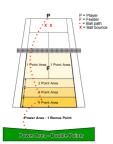
Assessment Guide

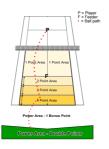


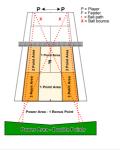
ITN On Court Assessment

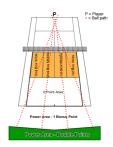
International Tennis Number — On Court Assessment











Groundstroke Depth

Maximum Score: 90 Maximum Score: 72

Volley Depth Groundstroke Accuracy

Maximum Score: 84

Serve

Maximum Score: 108

Mobility Assessment — Ma	aximum Score: 76
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i																										
Time	40	39	38	37	36	35	34	33	32	31	30	29	28	27	26	25	24	23	22	21	20	19	18	17	16	15
Score	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	12	14	15	16	18	19	21	26	32	39	45	52	61	76

Assessment highest possible score = 430 points



Introduction



The ITF International Number or ITN for short was created by the ITF as a tool to help our member nations to increase tennis participation in their countries. We were aware that very few of the ITF member nations had a national rating system in place and it was recognised that countries that had a national rating system in place tended to have high levels of tennis participation.

I was privileged to have been invited by ITF Executive Vice President, Juan Margets, to chair the ITF International Tennis Ratings Taskforce that was established following the Marketing the Game Summit in 2000. The Taskforce met 4 times between June 2001 and February 2003 and the positive attitude displayed by all of the Taskforce members towards this important project for world tennis as well as their hard work between meetings ensured that a great deal was achieved in a short time. The members of the task force were:

The members of the Taskforce were:

- Peter Johnston, Tennis Australia
- Martin Reiter, Tennis Austria
- Allard Elema, Dutch Tennis Federation (KNLTB)
- Jean-Francois Magne, French Tennis Federation (FFT)
- Wolfgang Burkhardt, German Tennis Federation (DTB)
- Martin Rands, Lawn Tennis Association of Great Britain (LTA)
- David Schobel, United States Tennis Association (USTA)
- Dave Miley, ITF
- Frank Couraud, ITF
- Miguel Crespo, ITF

The ITN 1-10 rating system is very simple and easy for tennis players worldwide to understand. The creation of the sub-category for starter players (ITN 10.3, ITN 10.2 and ITN 10.1) has ensured that all players can be included because players whatever their level can have an ITN. The ITN has also been linked with those existing national rating systems in the more developed ITF member nations (such as the NTRP in the USA; the "classement" system in France and the British rating system) through an agreed ITN Conversion Chart which is available from the ITN website

www.internationaltennisnumber.com

The ITN On Court Assessment which is outlined in this document has been developed on a "trial" basis to allow nations to cater more fully to the recreational players that don't play competition on a regular basis. It will act as an objective method of initially rating this level of player. Whilst the ITF recognises some of the limitations of any non competition based assessment in tennis (e.g. the static feeding; only assessing strokes in a closed situation; only certain strokes being assessed etc.) we believe that the ITN On Court Assessment is a powerful tool that can be effectively used in conjunction with the ITN rating system. Not only can the assessment be used as an objective method of initially rating those players that have no history of competition results, but the assessment can also be used as powerful promotional tool at events and as a motivational tool for players of all levels to measure their improvement in relation accuracy and power on their key strokes.

The idea of the ITN On Court Assessments came out of the Taskforce meetings and after a great deal of work they were launched on a one year trial at the ITF AGM in Rio in September 2003. As well as the Taskforce members, I would also like to recognise the contribution of ITF Development team members Frank Couraud, Tori Billington, Miguel Crespo and Brenden Sharp all of whom worked tirelessly on the



Introduction



development of the ITN On Court Assessment. We studied many existing on court assessments which had been published over the past 70 years (see references at back of this booklet) and we had considerable feedback from the ITF Coaches Commission and from pilot assessments conducted in Great Britain, Australia and Finland before agreeing on the "pilot" ITN On Court Assessment outlined in this manual.

I would also like to give special recognition to both Neil Johnson of the US and our ITF Development Officer, Dan O'Connell, both of whom had been working over the past 20 years to develop on court assessments and were very helpful in providing advice on the project. I would also like to recognise the work of Dr J.E. Hewitt who developed on court tests using the 2nd bounce Bonus line, which were published in the mid 1960s.

During the trial period we will continue to invite feedback on the "pilot" ITN On Court Assessments from our member nations. I hope that club coaches worldwide will try the assessments particularly with their recreational students and will find them to be a powerful promotional and motivational tool for tennis in their clubs. We hope to finalise the ITN On Court assessment in 2005 and any feedback on how they could be improved should be passed to Brenden Sharp at Brenden.Sharp@itftennis.com

The ITF believe that the ITN will over the next few years change the face of tennis particularly for recreational players. We have a chance through the ITN not only to attract new people to this great game of tennis but also to retain players...to motivate these new players and existing players wherever they might be to play more tennis. We expect that in a very short time most tennis players in the world will hold an ITN and the ITN will be recognised as the common rating language of the tennis world.

Are you ready to try the ITN On Court assessment? Are you ready to rate the tennis world...we start to-day!

THE ITN.....WHATS YOUR NUMBER!!

Dave Miley

Executive Director, Tennis Development

International Tennis Federation

ITN contact details:

Tel: 44 (0) 20 8878 6464 Fax: 44 (0) 20 8392 4742

E-mail: ITN@itftennis.com or Brenden.Sharp@itftennis.com

Web: www.internationaltennisnumber.com



Guide Contents



This guide has been produced to enable both players and assessors to gain a full understanding of the ITN On Court Assessment.

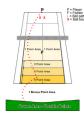
Please read the guide through from front to back

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Assessment Guide





The Assessment is made up of the following tasks.

- 1. Groundstroke Depth Assessment includes a power aspect. (10 alternate forehand and backhand ground strokes)
- 2. Groundstroke Accuracy Assessment includes a power aspect. (6 alternate forehand and backhand down the line & 6 alternate forehand and backhand cross court).
- 3. Volley Depth Assessment includes a power aspect. (8 alternate forehand and backhand volleys)
- 4. Serve Assessment includes a power aspect. (12 serves in total, 3 serves in each target area)
- 5. Mobility assessment measures the time it takes a player to pick up five tennis balls and return them individually to a specified zone.

Scoring Accuracy

Scores are awarded for each shot based on where the ball lands within the singles court.

Scoring Power

1 Bonus point is awarded when the second bounce lands between the baseline and the Bonus Line. Double points are awarded when the second bounce lands beyond the Bonus Line.

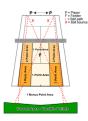
Scoring Consistency

1 extra point is awarded for every shot that is not an error.

Resources and Equipment needed to conduct the Assessment.

The ITN Assessment equipment is contained in the Assessment Kit which contains:

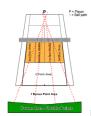
•	2 x 27' (8.23m) Depth lines.	•	1 x Score sheet pad and pen.
•	1 x 48' (14.63m) Bonus line.	•	Stop Watch
•	2 x 39' (11.88m) Accuracy lines.	•	Basket of Balls.



There should be 1 Assessor/Feeder and 1 Scorer. The scorer may be a player waiting for their turn.

Overall rules of the assessment.

- 1. All participants should be fully warmed up and ready to begin.
- 2. Players receive 4 practice shots at the start of each section. (Groundstrokes, volleys and serves)
- 3. The participant has the right to refuse a feed prior to hitting the ball. Once the participant makes contact with the ball the shot must count.
- 4. If the ball lands on a line the higher score is always taken.
- 5. The Assessor/scorer will be the highest authority during the Assessment and will have the final decision on all aspects of the Assessment.
- 6. Assessment scores are to be recorded after each shot and tallied at the completion of each section.
- 7. The Assessment must be signed by the Assessor/scorer and the participant. Participants are to be provided with a copy of the Assessment.



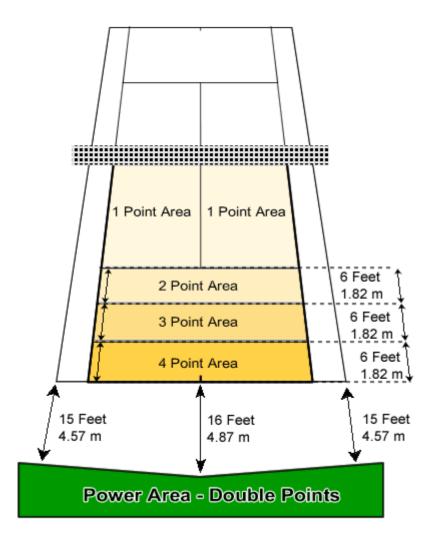
Players receive their ITN upon completing 1 authenticated Assessment.

The ITF recommend that players participate in a total of 3 Assessments in order to receive an accurate indication of their true ITN level. The true ITN level is based on the average score achieved in the last 3 Assessments.



Assessment Set Up 1





Assessment Set Up 1 - The Depth and Volley Assessments require 3 lines to be added to one end of a tennis court as shown in the diagram.

Please allow 10 minutes to set up the court.

Two lines are added within the normal singles playing area of the court and a third (Bonus Line) is added behind the baseline.

Start at the service line. Measure 6 feet (1.82 m) towards the baseline or back of the court. Make a small mark on the court just outside the doubles side line.

Now do the same on the other side of the court (same end). When you have both markers you will be able to place the provided line across the court to create the 2 Point Area as show in the diagram.

Now measure another 6 feet (1.82 m) towards the baseline or back of the court. Make a small mark on the court just outside the doubles side line.

Now do the same on the other side of the court (same end). When you have both markers you will be able to place the provided line across the court to create the 3 and 4 Point Area as shown in the diagram.

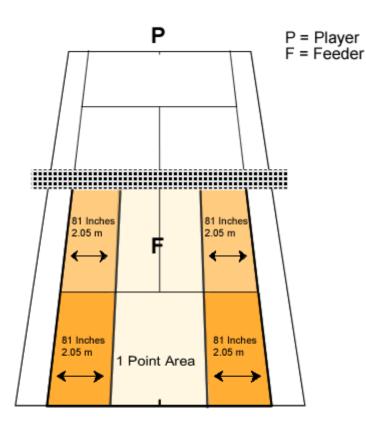
Now start at centre of the baseline and measure 16 feet (4.87m) towards the back fence. Make a small mark on the court just as you did with the other lines. Now measure 15 Feet (4.57m) from the doubles side line towards the back fence at each side and make a small mark on the court. When you have all three markers you will be able to place the provided line across the court to create the Power Area for Double Points as shown in the diagram.

Points are awarded based on where the ball lands on the first and second bounce in all aspects of the assessment.



Assessment Set Up 2





Power Area - 1 Bonus Point

Power Area - Double Points

Assessment Set Up 2 - The Groundstroke Accuracy and Serve Assessments require 2 lines to be added to one end of a tennis court as shown in the diagram.

Please allow 10 minutes to set up the court.

Two lines are added within the normal singles playing area of the court. The Bonus Line will also be used for the Groundstroke Accuracy and Serve portion of the assessment.

Start at the singles side line next to the Net. Measure 81 Inches (2.05 m) towards the centre of the court. Make a small mark on the court just near the net.

Now go to the baseline and measure 81 Inches (2.05 m) from the singles side line towards the centre of the court.

When you have both markers you will be able to place the provided line from the marker near the net to the marker on the baseline as show in the diagram.

Now do the same on the other side of the court (same end). When you have both markers you will be able to place the pro-

vided line from the marker near the net to the marker on the baseline as show in the diagram.

This makes up the different areas needed to assess the Groundstroke Accuracy and Serve portion of the ITN On Court Assessment.

Now start at centre of the baseline and measure 16 feet (4.87m) towards the back fence. Make a small mark on the court just as you did with the other lines. Now measure 15 Feet (4.57m) from the doubles side line towards the back fence at each and make a small mark on the court. When you have all three markers you will be able to place the provided line across the court to create the 2 Power Areas for 1 Bonus Point and Double Points as show in the diagram.

Points are awarded based on where the ball lands on the first and second bounce in all aspects of the assessment.



Feeding Guidelines





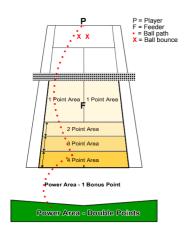
One of the most important aspects of the Assessment is the correct feeding of the balls for the Groundstroke Depth, Volley Depth and Groundstroke Accuracy portions of the Assessment.

Please take special note of the diagrams that clearly indicate where the feeder and the player should stand during the entire Assessment.

The task of the feeder is to deliver a consistent easy feed to all participants of the Assessment regardless of standard.

The feeder should wait until the player is ready before delivering the feed.

NB: Feeds can be rejected by the player or the feeder if they believe the feed did not meet the guidelines set out in this guide.



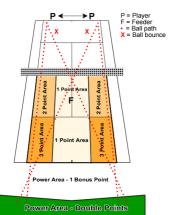
Groundstroke Depth Feeds:

For the Groundstroke Depth portion of the Assessment the player should start just behind the baseline in the middle of the court. The feeder should stand half way between the service line and the net as indicated in the diagram.

Feeding should alternate from forehand to backhand and either by hand or racket with a basket of balls and not rally feeding.

The feeder should endeavor to land the feed half way between the baseline and the service line just off centre as indicated by a red \mathbf{x} on the diagram. This should provide enough space for the player to be able to step towards the ball before making contact.

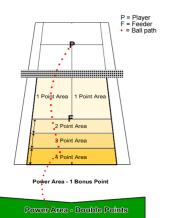
Ideally the player should make contact with the ball between knee and hip height on all ground strokes.



Groundstroke Accuracy Feeds:

For the Groundstroke Accuracy portion of the Assessment the player should start just behind the baseline half way between the middle of the court and the singles sideline as indicated in the diagram. The feeder should stand half way between the service line and the net as indicated in the diagram.

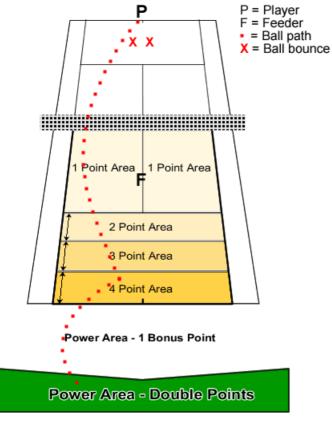
The feeder should endeavor to land the feed half way between the baseline and the service line and half way between the centre of the court and the singles sideline as indicated by a red \mathbf{x} on the diagram. The player should make contact near the singles sideline. This should provide enough space for the player to be able to step towards the ball before making contact.



Volley Depth Feeds:

For the Volley Depth portion of the Assessment the player should start on the service line in the middle of the court as indicated in the diagram. The feeder should stand in the same position at the other end. Players should be able to step into each volley and make contact between hip and shoulder height.





Maximum Possible = 90 Points

Start by making sure all participants are fully warmed up and ready to begin.

The Groundstroke Depth Assessment has been designed to enable players to test their control, depth and power. Players will receive Double Points if the second bounce is beyond the Bonus Line.

Players only receive points for hitting balls into the singles playing area of a tennis court.

The player hits 10 balls that are fed to alternate sides, one Forehand, one Backhand, one Backhand, etc, etc, etc.

Points are awarded based on where the ball lands on the first and second bounce.

The feeder should make the ball land half way between the service line and the baseline as indicated in the diagram. The player or the feeder have the option to reject any feeds that have not landed in the correct area.

Accuracy Points are awarded as follows:

- **1 Point** When a ball lands anywhere in the service box area.
- **2 Points** When a ball lands in the front section of the back court area.
- **3 Points** When a ball lands in the middle section of the back court area.
- **4 Points** When a ball lands in the last section of the back court area.

Power Points are awarded as follows:

Power Area = 1 Bonus Point - When a ball lands anywhere within the singles court area and the second bounce lands between the baseline and Bonus line, 1 Bonus point is awarded.

Power Area = Double Points - When a ball lands anywhere within the singles court area and the second bounce lands beyond the Bonus line, double points are awarded.

Examples: 5 Points are awarded when the first bounce lands in the 4 Point Area and the second bounce lands beyond the baseline. 8 Points are awarded when the first bounce lands in the 4 Point Area and the second bounce lands beyond the Bonus line.

O Points - When a ball's first bounce lands anywhere outside the normal singles playing area.

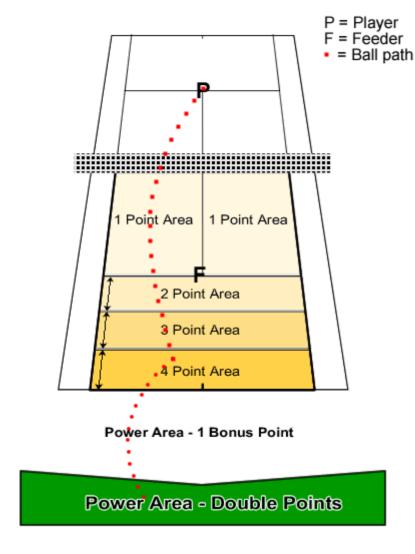
Consistency: 1 extra point is awarded for every shot that is not an error.

The points are added up to achieve the total number of points scored in the Groundstroke Depth Assessment Section.



Volley Depth





Maximum Possible = 72 Points

Start by making sure all participants are fully warmed up and ready to go.

The Volley Assessment - The player should hit 8 balls that are fed to alternate sides, one Forehand, one Backhand, one Forehand, one Backhand, etc, etc.

Points are awarded based on where the ball lands on the first and second bounce.

The feeder should feed the ball to the player at between hip and shoulder height. The player or the feeder have the option to reject any feeds that are not at the correct height.

Accuracy Points are awarded as follows:

- **1 Point** When a ball lands anywhere in the service box area.
- **2 Points** When a ball lands in the front section of the back court area.
- **3 Points** When a ball lands in the middle section of the back court area.
- **4 Points** When a ball lands in the last section of the back court area.

Power Points are awarded as follows:

Power Area = 1 Bonus Point - When a ball lands anywhere within the singles court area and the second bounce lands between the Baseline and Bonus line, 1 bonus point is awarded.

Power Area = Double Points - When a ball lands anywhere within the singles court area and the second bounce lands beyond the Bonus line, double points are awarded.

Examples: 5 Points are awarded when the first bounce lands in the 4 Point Area and the second bounce lands beyond the baseline. 8 Points are awarded when the first bounce lands in the 4 Point Area and the second bounce lands beyond the Bonus line.

0 Points - When a ball's first bounce lands anywhere outside the normal singles playing area.

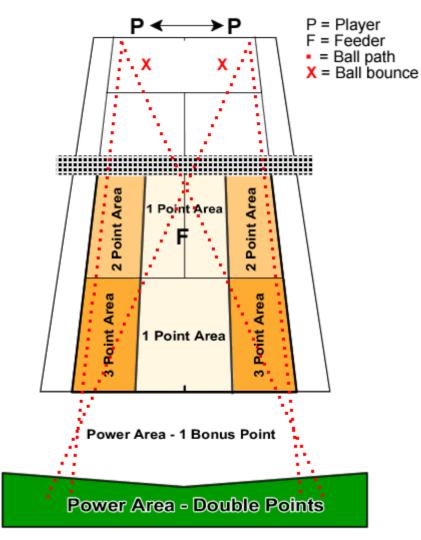
Consistency: 1 extra point is awarded for every shot that is not an error.

The points are added up to achieve the total number of points scored in the Volley Depth Assessment Section.



Groundstroke Accuracy





Maximum Possible = 84 Points

The Groundstroke Accuracy Assessment - 6 balls are fed to alternate sides, (one forehand, one backhand, one forehand, one backhand) etc... The player should hit each ball down the line.

6 more balls are fed to alternate sides, (one forehand, one backhand, one forehand, one backhand) etc... The player should hit each ball cross court.

Points are awarded based on where the ball lands on the first and second bounce.

The feeder should make the ball land half way between the service line and the baseline as indicated in the diagram. The player or the feeder have the option to reject any feeds that have not landed in the correct area.

Accuracy Points are awarded as follows:

- **1 Point** When a ball lands anywhere in the center area outside the target areas.
- **2 Points** When a ball lands within the Groundstroke Accuracy target area before the service line.

3 Points - When a ball lands within the Groundstroke Accuracy target area inside the back section of the singles court.

Power Points are awarded as follows:

Power Area = 1 Bonus Point - When a ball lands anywhere within the singles court area and the second bounce lands between the baseline and Bonus line, 1 Bonus point is awarded.

Power Area = Double Points - When a ball lands anywhere within the singles court area and the second bounce lands beyond the Bonus line, double points are awarded.

Examples: 4 Points are awarded when the first bounce lands in the 3 Point Area and the second bounce lands beyond the baseline. 6 Points are awarded when the first bounce lands in the 3 Point Area and the second bounce lands beyond the Bonus line.

O Points - When a ball's first bounce lands anywhere outside the normal singles playing area.

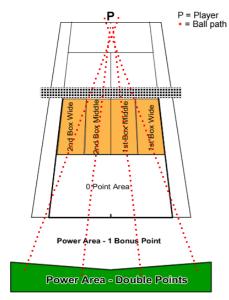
Consistency: 1 extra point is awarded for every shot that is not an error.

The points are added up to achieve the total number of points scored in the Groundstroke Accuracy Assessment Section.



Serve Assessment





Maximum Possible = 108 Points

The Serve Assessment - The player hits 12 Serves. 3 Serves to the wide area of the first service box, 3 Serves to the middle area of the first service box, 3 Serves to the middle area of the second service box and 3 Serves to the wide area of the second service box.

Points are awarded based on where the ball lands on the first and second bounce. If the first serve lands anywhere in the correct service box, no second serve is required. If the serve is a let, the serve is replayed.

Accuracy Points are awarded as follows:

First Serve

- **2 Points** When a ball lands in the correct service box area.
- **4 Points** When a ball lands in the target area of the correct service box.

Second Serve

- **1 Point** When a ball lands in the correct service box area.
- **2 Points** When a ball lands in the target area of the correct service box.

Power Points are awarded as follows:

Power Area = 1 Bonus Point - When a ball lands in the correct service box area and the second bounce lands between the baseline and the Bonus line, 1 Bonus point is awarded.

Power Area = Double Points - When a ball lands in the correct service box and the second bounce lands beyond the Bonus line, double points are awarded.

0 Points - When a ball's first bounce lands anywhere outside the correct service box.

Consistency: 1 extra point is awarded for every serve that lands in the correct service box. (First or second serve).

The points are added up to achieve the total number of points scored in the Service Assessment Section.

Serve Scoring Table:

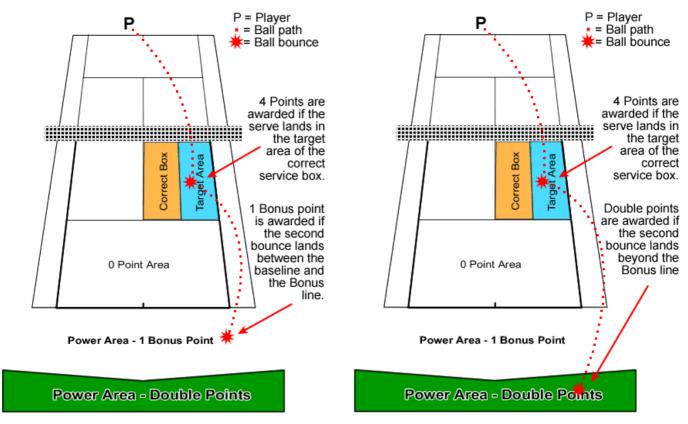
	First	Bounce	Second	Bounce	
Serve	Target Area	Correct Service Box	Power Area 1 Bonus Point	Power Area Double Points	Total Score
	4			4	8
First Serve	4		1		5
		2		2	4
		2	1		3
	2			2	4
Second Serve	2		1		3
Second Serve		1		1	2
		1	1		2



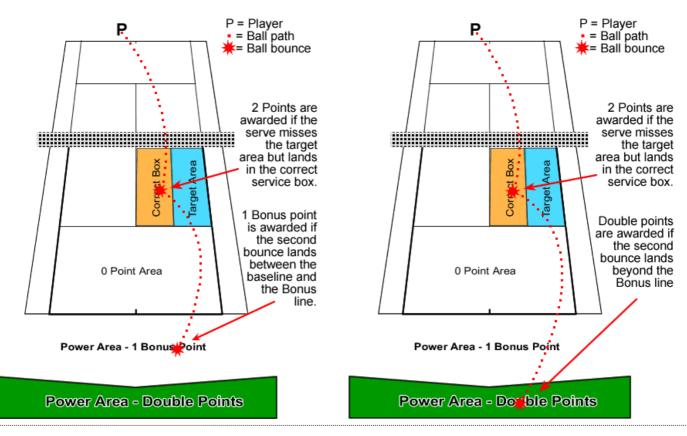
First Serve Scoring



If the first serve lands in the target area of the correct service box.

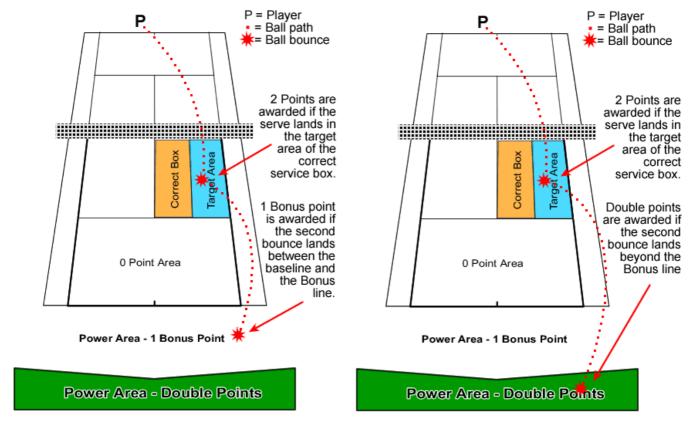


If the first serve lands in the correct service box but misses the target area.

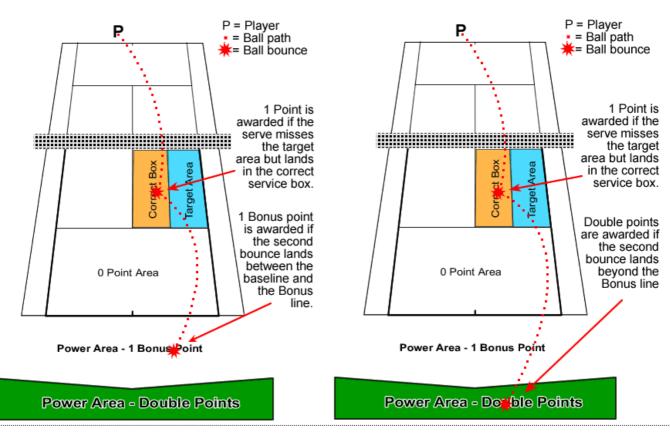




If the second serve lands in the target area of the correct service box.



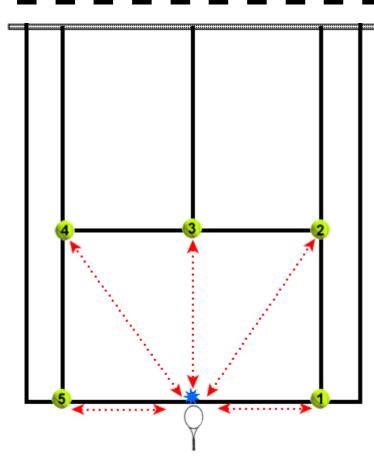
If the second serve lands in the correct service box but misses the target area.





Mobility





Maximum Possible = 76 Points

The Mobility Assessment - This assessment measures the time it takes a player to pick up five tennis balls and return them individually to a specified zone.

The score is recorded in seconds.

Points are awarded based on the time it takes to complete this task.

The faster a player completes the task the more points are awarded.

Procedure:

Place a tennis racquet with the head of the racquet just behind the centre mark in the middle of the baseline. The handle of the racquet is pointed towards the back fence as shown in the diagram.

Position 5 balls on the court as shown in the diagram.

Starting at the middle of the baseline, each ball has to be retrieved and placed on the strings of the racquet, one ball at a time in a counter clockwise direc-

The time will be recorded using a stopwatch after the command "Ready-set-go" is given.

As soon as the last ball is placed on the strings of the racquet, the time is stopped.

Points are awarded as follows:

tion.

The top row contain a table of time increments equaling 1 second intervals.

The bottom row represents the amount of points allocated for each time increment.

Mol	oility	Tab	le	Ti	ime	Sc	core																			
Т	40	39	38	37	36	35	34	33	32	31	30	29	28	27	26	25	24	23	22	21	20	19	18	17	16	15
S	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	12	14	15	16	18	19	21	26	32	39	45	52	61	76

The faster the time, the more points are allocated.

In the above example the player completed the mobility assessment in 22 seconds and received 21 points.



How to Score



The Assessment Score Sheet can be broken down into 3 areas.

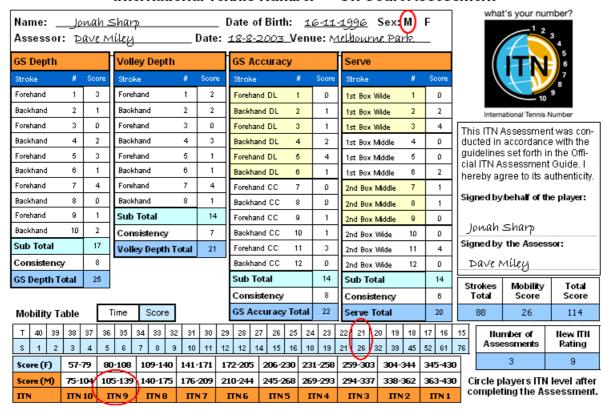
- 1. **Player, Assessor and Assessment details** This is the section at the top of the score sheet. The scorer fills out the first portion of the score sheet which includes details on the Assessor and the player.
- 2. **The main score recording area** This is the area where the scorer enters all the results from the different shots and totals up the overall ITN Assessment score.

Once the Assessment starts every shot should be recorded in the areas provided. The Assessor should deliver the score of every shot in a loud and clear voice so both the scorer and the participant can hear. If an error is made the scorer enters a 0 in the appropriate box on the score sheet.

At the end of each section the scorer counts all of the shots together and enters the result in to the Section Sub Total Box. Then he counts the number of shots that recorded a score >0 and enters the results in to the Consistency Box. Example: If a player hits 6 shots that land in the singles area of the court they would receive a score of 6 in the Consistency Box.

- The scorer then adds the Consistency score to the Section Sub Total Score to achieve the Section Total Score.
- Each Section Total Score is added together to achieve the Strokes Total Score.
- The players Mobility score is placed in the Mobility Score box.
- The Strokes Total score and the Mobility score are added together to achieve the Total Score.
- The Assessor circles the appropriate box to indicate the players correct ITN level.
- The Assessor places a number in Assessment # Box to indicate the number of Assessments completed by the player.
- 3. **Score sheet authentication**—Player and Assessor sign the score sheet to authenticate the Assessment and the scores recorded.

International Tennis Number — On Court Assessment

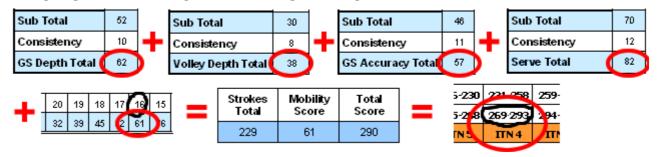




What's my ITN?



The players ITN is produced by a simple calculation as follows.



Once the Assessment starts every shot must be recorded in the areas provided on the Official Score Sheet.

The scorer tallies up all of the shots that have landed in the singles area and have received a score and places the result in the Section Sub Total Score.

The Consistency score is added to the Section Sub Total Score to achieve the Section Total Score.

All Section Totals scores are added together to achieve the Strokes Total Score.

The Mobility Score is then added to the Strokes Total Score in order to achieve the Total Assessment Score.

This player has achieved a total score of 290 which makes this players an ITN 4.

ITN Correlation Table

Because it is recognised that the level of an ITN rated man is different to that of a similarly rated female player, there are separate male and female ITN scales.

Score (F)	57-79	80-108	109-140	141-171	172-205	206-230	231-258	259-303	304-344	345-430
Score (M)	75-104	105-139	140-175	176-209	210-244	245-268	269-293	294-337	338-362	363-430
ITN	ITN 10	ITN 9	ITN 8	ITN 7	ITN 6	ITN 5	ITN 4	ITN 3	ITN 2	ITN 1

The players ITN is calculated based on their Total Assessment Score as displayed in the ITN Correlation Table.

Please Note:

In order to get a true evaluation of a players correct ITN, a player should complete the On Court Assessment 3 times.

The 3 scores are then averaged out to produce the players true ITN level.

Example: A player achieves the scores of **162 164 171** in the 3 Assessments the players average score **= 165.67**

For a male the players true ITN level is ITN 8.

For a female the players true ITN level is **ITN 7.**

As the player continues to complete additional On Court Assessments the calculation is based on their last 3 Assessment scores.



Completed Score Sheet



International Tennis Number — On Court Assessment

This is a completed score sheet for Jonah Sharp. Based on this Assessment

Jonah is an ITN 9.

Date of Birth: 16-11-1996 Sex(M) louigh Ahara

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International Tennis Number — On Court Assessment

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Score (F)	57-79		80-108 109-140 1	141-171	172-205	05 206-230	231-258	259-303 304-344	345-430		
Score (M) 7	75-104		105-139 140-175 1	176-209	210-244	44 245-268	269-293	294-337 338-362	363-430	Circle players ITN level after	evel after
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Conducting an ITN Rating Clinic



The ITN On Court Assessment has been developed to assist National Associations to cater more fully to the recreational players that don't play competition on a regular basis. Whilst the ITF recognises some of the limitations of any non competition based assessment in tennis (e.g. the static feeding; only assessing strokes in a closed situation; only certain strokes being assessed etc.) we believe that the ITN On Court assessment is a powerful tool that can be used in conjunction with the ITN rating system and to complement competition particularly for the recreational players. Not only can the assessment be used as an objective method of initially rating those players that have no history of competition results but the assessment can also be used as powerful promotional tool at events and as a means for players of all levels to measure their improvements in certain aspects related to tennis play.

The ITN On Court Assessment has been designed to be easily integrated into normal coaching programmes and is an ideal tool to use at club/tennis centre "Come and Try" and Open days. You may even like to provide some prizes to players who achieve the highest score for their age group etc. If the players have already completed an On Court Assessment at an earlier time you may provide prizes based on the biggest improvement in score and even break it down to the biggest improvement in different sections on the assessment. For example: The most improved score for Groundstroke Depth, Volley, Groundstroke Accuracy, Serve and even Mobility.

One of the key objectives when developing the ITN On Court Assessment was to keep the overall time to complete the assessment down to less than 10 minutes per player. For the assessment to keep to this timeframe several things should be kept in mind.

- 1. All players should be warmed up and ready to go when their turn arrives.
- 2. There should be at least 1 and preferably 2 players picking up tennis balls at all times.
- 3. All players should be competent at scoring the On Court Assessment or 1 external person should be used to score all assessments (e.g a parent or spectator).
- 4. Players should rotate / change roles after each completed assessment. For example, the scorer should change so that all players learn how to complete the score sheet.

As you will discover, upon completing the ITN On Court Assessment the players are always very eager to start to analyse their ITN Scoresheet. If you conduct the assessment in a group situation the players will immediately start to make comparisons with other players in the group.

The first time you conduct an ITN On Court Assessment with a player or group of players it will undoubtedly take a little longer as the assessor needs to explain the points involved in each aspect of the assessment. You should therefore encourage other players and parents to watch you conduct the ITN On Court Assessment with other players. Players and spectators will pickup the scoring very quickly if you follow a few simple guidelines.

- 1. Always shout out the scores in a loud and clear voice so the player, scorer and spectators can hear.
- 2. Always deliver the score in 3 separate parts for each stroke. In this example the assessor would shout out the score as follows. "3 and 3 equals 6".
 - A. The first part of the score is the score for where the ball lands in the singles playing area. E.g. "3"
 - B. The second part of the score is for if the second bounce lands beyond the baseline or the Bonus Line. E.g. "3"
 - C. The third and final score is the first part and second part added together. In this example the assessor would shout out "equals 6".



Conducting an ITN Rating Clinic



Try to organise the ITN On Court Assessment so that players are kept busy at all times and not left standing or sitting around with no activity. If there are more than 6 players we recommend that an additional court be used as a warm up/practice court to enable players to be ready when their turn arrives.

Based on the above considerations, we estimate that you can comfortably conduct the ITN On Court Assessment to the following number of players in the allocated timeframe as per the table below.

These figures are for 1 assessor on 1 court. If you set up additional courts then the time will be divided by the number of courts that are set up for conducting assessments.

No of Players	Total time needed to complete all the assessments	No of Players	Total time needed to complete all the assessments
1 Player	10 minutes.	7 Players	50 minutes.
2 Players	18 minutes.	8 Players	56 minutes.
3 Players	26 minutes.	9 Players	62 minutes.
4 Players	32 minutes.	10 Players	68 minutes.
5 Players	38 minutes.	11 Players	74 minutes.
6 Players	44 minutes.	12 Players	80 minutes.



Court Set Up









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The ITF would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the following systems already in place which have been used as a reference in developing the ITN On Court Assessment.

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