

# **FIR – Federation of International Racketlon**



## **Tournament Application Guidelines**

The FIR World Tour Committee (WTC) organises the FIR World Tour each year, consisting of a large number of tournaments divided into the categories below (in order of prestige, tournament quality, World Ranking points, and cost). The World Tour Race tracks the number of Ranking Points won since the start of the calendar year.

- World Championships (singles, doubles, national teams): show-piece tournament of the year
- World Tour Race Finals (WTRF): top-8 women & men of the World Tour Race
- Super World Tour (SWT) events: prestigious Grand-Slam tournaments
- International World Tour (IWT) events
- Challenger (CHA) events
- Satellite events (SAT) (new)

The FIR WTC strives to spread the tournaments as evenly as possible throughout the calendar year and between member nations. In the past, the FIR World Tour was published once a year for the whole of the following calendar year, but since Covid, a more short-term approach is taken, the better to deal with the uncertainties and risks involved.

In general, a Tournament Director (TD) applies for a tournament, authorised by their national Racketlon federation, in line with the requirements stipulated in the FIR Tournament Regulations. The FIR WTC will generally focus on confirming the World Championship events first, so that the calendar available for other tournaments is defined. The FIR WTRF is intended to be the last event of the calendar year.

Assessment of tournament application status will consider, amongst other factors:

- the general performance of the tournament in the past, based on the Delegate report and the Player Survey
  - the details and plans presented by the TD within their tournament application
  - what previous tournaments have been organised by the TD Director or at the proposed sports centre
  - the number of tournaments hosted by that nation in the current year.
- Only in exception cases (e.g. very large nations, or nations also hosting a World Championships) are more than 2 tournaments of the category WC/SWT/IWT allowed. The number of CHA & SAT category tournaments may be restricted if the WTC feels it might lead to an undue bias in the World Rankings or the World Tour Race

The guideline below seeks to assist Tournament Directors (especially those new to organising international Racketlon events) in deciding what category of tournament they should apply for, and how they can expect the FIR WTC to evaluate their application.

## Satellite

### Purpose of Satellite

To grant primarily domestic tournament the opportunity to offer:

- local players the possibility to experience international Racketlon and earn world ranking points
- new venues and TD's the chance to experience FIR standards and processes at international Racketlon events

### What is needed to apply for a Satellite?

- sports venue with a minimum of 1 high-quality court available for all 4 sports
- previous organisation of:
  - a successful local tournament within the last 3 years with a minimum of 30 players at the start of tournament
- readiness to use Tournament Planner software
- readiness to understand and comply with the FIR Rules of Racketlon, Tournament Regulations and Players & Draws Regulations
- readiness to organise the tournament with minimal FIR support
- readiness to actively engage in independent tournament promotion

## Challenger

### Purpose of Challenger

To introduce international Racketlon to:

- new venues
- new or less experienced countries
- new or less experienced Tournament Directors
- to domestic players who, for the moment, seldom travel to FIR events

### What is needed to apply for a Challenger?

- sports venue with a minimum of 2 good-quality courts available for all 4 sports
- previous organisation of
  - a challenger or satellite tournament in the last year with minimum of 30 players at the start of the tournament including a minimum of 10 international players OR
  - a succesful local tournament within the last 3 years with a minimum of 30 players at the start of tournament, and now ready for the next step: taking part in the FIR World Tour
- readiness to use Tournament Planner software
- readiness to understand and comply with the FIR Rules of Raketlon, Tournament Regulations and Players & Draws Regulations
- readiness to engage in tournament promotion, both independently and in support of FIR

## IWT

### Purpose IWT

To allow international Racketlon players to compete in a strong field of both other international Racketlon players and less well-known domestic players and earn FIR World Ranking Points

Allowing successful Challengers to upgrade their status to the next level.

### What is needed to apply for an IWT?

- sports venue with a minimum of 2 high-quality courts available for all 4 sports
- organized a succesful local Racketlon tournament in the last year with a minimum of 40 players at the start of tournament
- some members of the tournament organisation team are experienced international Racketlon players who understand what is required for an IWT tournament
- previous organisation of
  - a succesful Challenger in the last year with a minimum of 40 players at the start of the tournament, with minimum of 15 international players OR
  - a succesful IWT/SWT or WC in the last 5 years
- good understanding and use of Tournament Planner software
- good understanding of, and compliance with the FIR Rules of Raketlon, Tournament Regulations and Players & Draws Regulations
- readiness to actively engage in tournament promotion, both independently and in support of FIR

## SWT

### Purpose SWT

An SWT aspires, with the excellent sports conditions and tournament organisation, and the award of increased World Ranking points, to attract the majority of the top-ranked players in all classes (MA, WA, Seniors and Juniors), as well as a large number of players in general.

Allowing successful and popular IWT's to upgrade their status to the next level.

### What is needed to apply for a SWT?

- sports venue with a minimum of 3 high-quality courts available for all 4 sports
- good quality off court facilities for players (catering, changing rooms, wifi etc)
- active use of live-streaming, live-scoring, referees and line-judges
- special feature which distinguishes it from other tournaments e.g. venue location, court features (such as all-glass squash courts, grass tennis courts etc), organisation professionalism, event atmosphere etc.
- able to get tournament media exposure (online, blogs, press/newspapers etc)
- previous organisation of
  - a succesful IWT in the last year with minimum of 60 players at the start of the tournament, and a minimum of 35 international players OR
  - a succesful SWT or WC in the last 5 years
- excellent understanding and use of Tournament Planner software
- excellent understanding and compliance with the FIR Rules of Raketlon, Tournament Regulations and Players & Draws Regulations
- readiness to actively engage in enhanced tournament promotion, both independently and in support of FIR

## World Championships

### Purpose WC

A WC is the top-event and show-piece tournament of the year. It aspires, with the excellent sports conditions and tournament organisation, and the award of increased World Ranking points, to attract most of the top-ranked players in all classes (MA, WA, Seniors and Juniors), as well as a large number of players in general.

### What is needed to apply for a WC?

- sportvenue with a minimum of 5 excellent quality courts (for WC teams/singles) and 3 high-quality courts (for WC doubles) available for all 4 sports
- excellent quality off court facilities for players (catering, changing rooms, wifi etc)
- excellent use of live-streaming, live-scoring, referees and line-judges
- excellent tournament media exposure (online, blogs, press/newspapers etc)
- previous organisation of
  - a succesful IWT in the last year with minimum of 75 players at the start of the tournament, and a minimum of 35 international players OR
  - a succesful SWT or WC in the last 5 years
- excellent understanding and use of Tournament Planner software
- excellent understanding and compliance with the FIR Rules of Raketlon, Tournament Regulations and Players & Draws Regulations
- readiness to actively engage in enhanced tournament promotion, both independently and in support of FIR

### General remarks for a WC

- A WC will only host one or two of the following events: teams, singles, doubles.
- Any WC including the team event will be hosted for a minimum of 4 days.
- In case a WC will host one event, it can be combined by another IWT/SWT event (doubles or singles)

## World Tour Race Finals

### Purpose WTRF

The World Tour Race measures who has been the most successful players during the current calendar year by virtue of the total number of World Ranking points won for each tournament (WC/SWT/IWT/CHA/SAT) played.

The World Tour Race Finals is the culmination of the WTR, when FIR invites the top 8 Elite men and women to compete against each other in a 2-day showcase event at the end of the calendar year, after the World Tour Race has been completed. It is considered as the second most important tournament on the FIR calendar after the World Championships, and so demands a top-quality venue and organisation.

### What is needed to apply for a WTRF?

- sports venue with excellent quality Centre Court facilities for all 4 sports
- excellent quality off court facilities for players (catering, changing rooms, wifi etc)
- excellent use of live-streaming, live-scoring, referees and line-judges
- excellent track record of tournament organisation
- guarantee of prize money
- player VIP treatment (accommodation, catering at the venue, shuttle service between airport/venue/accommodation at no cost to the players)
- provision of event atmosphere (sufficient spectators, photographer, PA system etc)

## Deadlines for tournament applications

- **Satellite:** latest 2 months before the tournament
- **Challenger:** latest 3 months before the tournament
- **IWT/SWT/Champions League:** first wave (for tournaments in the first half of the following year): latest by 30<sup>th</sup> June. Second wave (tournaments in the 2nd half of the year): latest by 31<sup>st</sup> December (whereby priority given to tournament applications in the first wave)
- **WC:** as early as possible, latest by 30<sup>th</sup> June of the previous year
- **WTRF:** as early as possible, latest by 31<sup>st</sup> December of the previous year

## What will FIR do for you?

- Award players with world ranking points (except at WTRF)
- Publish the tournament on the FIR World Tour calendar
- Publish the tournament on [fir.tournamentsoftware.com](http://fir.tournamentsoftware.com)
- Marketing and advertising of tournament across all FIR social media channels and on [racketlon.net](http://racketlon.net)
- Reporting and reviews from the tournament across all FIR social media channels and [racketlon.net](http://racketlon.net)
- Provide software and hardware to enable live streaming of important matches
- Provide the software licence at cost to enable the use of Tournament Software (to accept entries, make draws and time schedule, capture and publish results etc)
- Provide a FIR Delegate (WC/SWT/IWT) to support long in advance with the tournament organization, compliance with FIR regulations and quality standards and to assist before, during and after the tournament

## What are the costs?

Costs are dependent on tournament size and category and are segregated across tournaments according to the table below. Details can be found in the FIR Tournament Regulations.

Topic	TR Reg.	WC	WTRF	SWT	IWT	CHA	SAT
Revenue							
Max entry fee:	3.4.1						
(singles)		75	free	65	55	45	35
(doubles)		35 (juniors 20)	n/a	20	20	15	15



Topic	TR Reg.	WC	WTRF	SWT	IWT	CHA	SAT
(u21 /u16 /65+)		40/30/ red. by 10	n/a	40/30/ red. by 10	40/30/ red. by 10	40/30/ red. by 10	40/30/ red. by 10
Council Member max. reg. fee	3.4.2	50	n/a	50	50	50	-
<b>Expenses</b>							
Prize money	3.2	EUR1750 for WC singles	Min. EUR 5'000	no	no	no	no
FIR MCF fees	3.3	10% / 1750 / 1250 (dbls) / 500 (teams)	no	7.5% / 1000	5% / 250	zero	zero
FIR TSF fees	3.6	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	no (for introductory 12 months)
Referees for Elite main round matches (singles and doubles) in all 4 sports	3.12	yes (as per individual sports rules)	yes	yes	yes	yes (from semi-finals, plus also on request)	no
Line judges for Elite main round matches (singles)	3.12	yes (as per individual sports rules)	yes (far tram-line for BA/TE)	yes (far tram-line for BA/TE, from semi-finals)	no	no	no
Live-scoring	3.8.9 3.11.4	yes	yes	yes	no	no	no
Live-streaming	3.8.6	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	no
Scoreboards	3.8.9	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no
Elite shuttle service	3.8.8	Airport to hotel/venue recommended	Yes (hotel-venue-airport/station)	Airport to hotel/venue recommended	Hotel to venue (recommended)	no	no
Player meal	3.4.1	charged	free	charged	charged	charged	charged
Trophies/ medals	3.13.2	yes	FIR	yes	yes	recommended	-

Topic	TR Reg.	WC	WTRF	SWT	IWT	CHA	SAT
Tourn. program	3.13.9	yes	FIR	no	no	no	-
Photographer		yes	yes	yes	yes	no	-
Doctor or trained first-aid staff	3.13.3	on-site	standby	on-site	standby	standby	-
services							
Min. # courts	3.8.6	6	2	3	2	2	1
World Ranking Points	1	See World Ranking Matrix	none	75% of WC	75% of SWT	75% of IWT	75% of CHA
FIR Player licence	1	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no
application deadline	2.3	June of preceding year	Dec. of preceding year	June of preceding year	June/Dec. of preceding year	3 months prior to tournament	2 months prior to tournament
VIP area (players/ sponsor/ press etc)		yes	yes	no	no	no	-
Media/ Reporting	3.11	Large	Large	Medium	Small	Less	Less
physio/ massage	3.13.3	on-site	standby	on-site	standby	standby	-
Banner/ Flags	3.13.4	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	-
Stringing service	3.13.5	yes	yes	yes	standby	standby	-
Volunteers, crew-Tshirts	3.13.8	15, yes	yes	10, yes	5, no	2, no	-

### Final note

This document contains the guidelines for tournament applications. Final decisions are made by the World Tour Committee.