



Editorial

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Welcome to issue 87 of the ITF Coaching and Sport Science Review. This issue is the second one of 2022. It is available in the ITF Academy as well as in the new page of the journal, which can be accessed here.

This issue is dedicated to tennis management at club and local facility levels. These organisations play a crucial role in the context of promoting tennis participation as well as tennis variations (ie. padel tennis, beach tennis, pickle-ball, etc.) at all levels of the game. Articles in this issue cover topics related to their governance, specific legal aspects, management and marketing strategies, economic and financial features, human resources, staff training and member engagement initiatives, service quality planning, assessment and control, communication tools, as well as the efficient delivery of programmes, services and products to all the relevant stakeholders, among other interesting themes on this topic. This content will be supporting a Club Management Course that will be launched in the ITF Academy during 2023.

Since the last edition of the ITF CSSR, the ITF Academy, the educational platform of the ITF has seen some considerable progress. The registered users have increased by 9,000 to over 51,000 while the anonymous users increased by 6% up to 187,000 users, to reach a total user base of over 238,770. Content is updated regularly to the Library (former iCoach), with more than 1,650 items currently available, all content from the 2021 World Coaches Conference is available in 5 languages. A total of 182 online courses are currently published available in 11 languages with Slovak added in June 2022. Since January 2022, over 175 blended learning programmes were scheduled and delivered through the platform by the ITF and more than 80 Nations with ITF Academy National Membership Plans. Parent Education Workshops, including the new Competition Parenting Workshop, are live and being delivered across all regions for both levels. In August the new ITF Physical Literacy Course focused on 10 & Under was launched, this 3-hour online programme is available to all registered users.

Furthermore, the ITF eBooks app moved to a new home in August and users can now access the new eBooks app through the Progressive Web App hosted in the ITF Academy. Users of the existing App will receive notifications over the coming weeks with details on how to migrate their current titles to the new platform. Currently all ITF course manuals are available in the new eBooks app as we continue to migrate all content. The ITF Advanced Coaches Manual is available for free, can be accessed and downloaded from the new app.



As per the ITF Recognition of Coach Education Systems programme, its goal is to assist ITF member nations in becoming self-sufficient in delivering their coach education, by achieving several criteria for quality standards set by the ITF Coaches Commission. There are currently over 65 Nations recognised across the four different levels of White, Bronze, Silver, and Gold. The goal is to have at least 80 Nations recognised at the end of 2022.

Three ITF Regional Coaches Conferences will be hosted in 2022, with bespoke three-day schedules and speakers catering for English, French and Spanish-speaking audiences. The details are as follows: English Speaking RCC: Bali, Indonesia – 27 to 29 October 2022, Spanish Speaking RCC: Bogota, Colombia – 1 to 3 November 2022, French Speaking RCC: virtual – 20 and 21 October 2022. The recordings of the presentations will be also included in the ITF Academy. Further information, including booking process and confirmed speakers, can be found on the ITF Academy and website.

The fourth edition of the ITF World Participation Conference, which was held virtually and hosted by renowned sports presenter Karthi Gnanasegaram, fuelled and advanced the conversation around increasing participation in tennis, sport and physical activity. Across three days of presentations and discussion, 50 speakers shared their experiences, expert knowledge and up-to-date information across 12 different topics and sessions, reflecting the conference's theme of 'maximising play and enjoyment to drive participation'.

Numerous member nations, international sport organisations, academic institutions, ITF partners and staff contributed to and enriched the largest ITF World Participation Conference to date, with over 400 registered attendees from 145 different countries.

There was also a raft of keynote presentations from esteemed current and ex-players including Puerto Rico's Olympic champion Monica Puig, Brazilian three-time Grand Slam winner Gustavo Kuerten and former world No. 8 Cypriot Marcos Baghdatis.

The conveyor belt of playing talent kept on coming as former Australian number one Casey Dellacqua and Doubles Grand Slam Champion Vania King, British 20-time Grand Slam champion Alfie Hewett, South Africa's Kgothatso Montjane and Angella Okutoyi of Kenya also offered valuable insight.

Whatever the topic – components of fun which underpin participation, the ITF World Tennis Number with case studies from nations that have launched the global ratings system, the ITF's Advantage All strategy or barriers to participation – it was discussed and analysed.

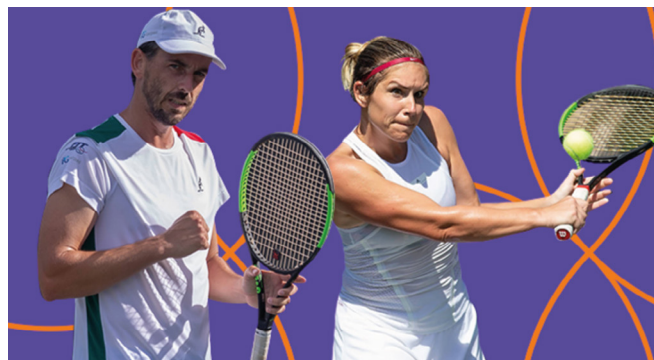
Indeed, the ITF World Participation Conference continues to grow in terms of scope and reach, and across its four editions there have been more than 1200 attendees and 130 speakers, all of which have helped drive the participation debate. Future conferences promise to advance discussions even further, although for now there is much to consider and reflect upon following a stimulating three days which have really shaped and informed the global participation narrative.

The streams for each day of the Conference are available in English, French and Spanish and can be accessed through the ITF Academy, the ITF online education platform which allows access to a range of courses and a host of educational resources and content.

A new look ITF World Tennis Masters Tour has been officially launched, providing players aged 30 years and above the chance to take part in over 500 competitive tournaments across more than 70 nations globally.

Formerly known as the ITF Seniors Tour, the ITF World Tennis Masters Tour includes individual and team singles, doubles, and mixed doubles events across various grade levels for each five-year age increment from 30+ to 90+. Approximately 27,500 players worldwide aged 30+, all the way through to 98, compete in Masters Tour tournaments and events each year.

The launch of the rebrand comes ahead of the ITF World Tennis Masters Tour 30-45 World Team and Individual Championships, which will take place in Lisbon, Portugal from Sunday 31 July to Saturday 13 August 2022. The event will see over 700 players from all parts of the world vying for championship status at the 30, 35, 40 and 45 age brackets.



To enter ITF World Tennis Masters Tour events, players need to sign-up to receive their unique ITF IPIN (International Player Identification Number). There's no upfront cost to sign-up, players only pay a fee for the tournaments they enter. Players without an international ranking will gain one simply by registering for a tournament and playing. More information about the ITF World Tennis Masters Tour, including information on how to register is available at itftennis.com/masters.

ITF World Tennis Number continues to be rolled out across the world. 145 nations have been formally signed to take part in the project plus all 6 Regional Associations. ITF is working with each nation individually to securely share match data and to analyse and create numbers for each Federation tennis player

As of July, 1.2 million players, across 9 countries are able to access to their live ITF World Tennis Number are now being used as the secondary acceptance criteria in ITF World Tennis Tour and ITF Masters tournaments. All ITF Juniors and ITF Masters players have been allocated numbers. USTA launched ITF World Tennis Numbers to their players in June. This has been backed up with an extensive programme of communications to educate and engage coaches, players, providers and consumers. To find out more about ITF World Tennis Number please visit www.worldtennisnumber.com

We would also like to encourage new submissions to the ITF CSSR through the new platform. Finally, we would like to thank all the authors for their contributions, as well as all of those who sent in proposals. Full guidelines for acceptance and publication of articles can be found in the most recent issue page on the ITF Academy. We hope that you enjoy reading the 87th edition of the ITF Coaching and Sport Science Review.

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RECOMMENDED ITF TENNIS ACADEMY CONTENT (CLICK BELOW)

