

Malta Table Tennis Association

General: Rules

Season 2020/2021

Rules and regulations

Unless stated otherwise all competitive play will be played accordance with ETTU and ITTF rules and regulations.

Only playing equipment authorized by the ITTF, may be used

Link <https://www.ittf.com/handbook>

Player's uniform

1.2 Playing clothing shall consist of a short-sleeved or sleeveless shirt and shorts or skirt or one-part sports outfits, socks and playing shoes; other garments, such as part or all of a track suit, shall not be worn during play except with the permission of the referee The main colour of a shirt, skirt, or shorts, different from that of the ball in use.

Clothing may bear numbers or lettering on the back of the shirt to identify a player, his or her Association or, in club matches, his or her club, and advertisements, if the back of a shirt bears the player's name, this shall be situated just below the collar.

Any markings or trimming on the front or side of a playing garment and any objects such as jewellery worn by a player shall not be so conspicuous or brightly reflecting as to unsightly the opponent. Clothing shall not carry designs or lettering which might cause offence or bring the game into disrepute

Any of the legality or acceptability of the playing clothing shall be decided by the referee or tournament official.

Ball

MTTA official ball in all events organized by the MTTA

1.3The official balls (White 40mm***)

The ball shall be spherical, with a diameter of 40mm.

The ball shall weigh 2.7g.

The ball shall be made of plastics or similar material and shall be white or orange, and matt.

Tables

MTTA official tables in all events organized by the MTTA

1.4 THE TABLE The upper surface of the table, known as the playing surface, shall be rectangular, 2.74m long and 1.525m wide, and shall lie in a horizontal plane 76cm above the floor.

The playing surface shall not include the vertical sides of the tabletop.

The playing surface may be of any material and shall yield a uniform bounce of about 23cm when a standard ball is dropped on to it from a height of 30cm.

The playing surface shall be uniformly dark coloured and matt, but with a white side-line, 2cm wide, along each 2.74m edge and a white end line, 2cm wide, along each 1.525m edge.

The playing surface shall be divided into 2 equal courts by a vertical net running parallel with the end lines and shall be continuous over the whole area of each court.

For doubles, each court shall be divided into 2 equal half-courts by a white centre line, 3mm wide, running parallel with the side lines; the centre line shall be regarded as part of each right half-court.

THE NET ASSEMBLY

1.5 The net assembly shall consist of the net, its suspension, and the supporting posts, including the clamps attaching them to the table. The net shall be suspended by a cord attached at each end to an upright post 15.25cm high, the outside limits of the post being 15.25cm outside the side-line.

The top of the net, along its whole length, shall be 15.25cm above the playing surface.

The bottom of the net, along its whole length, shall be as close as possible to the playing surface and the ends of the net shall be attached to the supporting posts from top to bottom.

THE RACKET

1.6 The racket may be of any size, shape, or weight but the blade shall be flat and rigid.

At least 85% of the blade by thickness shall be of natural wood; an adhesive layer within the blade may be reinforced with fibrous material such as carbon fibre, glass fibre or compressed paper, but shall not be thicker than 7.5% of the total thickness or 0.35mm, whichever is the smaller.

A side of the blade used for striking the ball shall be covered with either ordinary pimped rubber, with pimples outwards having a total thickness including adhesive of not more than 2.0mm, or sandwich rubber, with pimples inwards or outwards, having a total thickness including adhesive of not more than 4.0mm.

Ordinary pimped rubber is a single layer of non-cellular rubber, natural or synthetic, with pimples evenly distributed over its surface at a density of not less than 10 per cm² and not more than 30 per cm².

Sandwich rubber is a single layer of cellular rubber covered with a single outer layer of ordinary pimped rubber, the thickness of the pimped rubber not being more than 2.0mm.

The covering material shall extend up to but not beyond the limits of the blade, except that the part nearest the handle and gripped by the fingers may be left uncovered or covered with any material. The blade, any layer within the blade and any layer of covering material or adhesive on a side used for striking the ball shall be continuous and of even thickness.

The surface of the covering material on a side of the blade, or of a side of the blade if it is left uncovered, shall be matt, bright red on one side and black on the other.

The racket covering shall be used without any physical, chemical, or other treatment.

Slight deviations from continuity of surface or uniformity of colour due to accidental damage or wear may be allowed provided, that they do not significantly change the characteristics of the surface.

Before the start of a match and whenever he or she changes his or her racket during a match a player shall show his or her opponent and the umpire the racket he or she is about to use and shall allow them to examine it.

Any suspected infringement relating to the use of playing equipment should be reported to the MTTA, in writing, which will then decide on what action to take. This action may include, but not be limited to, imposing a fine, deduction of ranking points or expulsion

All league matches and tournaments will be subject to MTTA supervision but any appeals or protests must be sent by registered mail together with a protest fee of €15.00 to the secretarial office of the MTTA at P.O. Box 133, Valletta, followed by an email to the Secretary General and Assistant Secretary. All reports of incidents must be done within 48 hours of the incident in question.

In the event of disputes, the decision of the MTTA board is final.

If a protest has been judged by the committee to be correct, the MTTA will refund the €15.00 protest fee to the player, club, team, or academy voicing the protest.

All international and national events organized by the MTTA are closed events where participating players must be fully paid members.

The MTTA has the right to ban any player, team, club, or academy in any event organized by the MTTA if they have outstanding membership fees.

Or any other outstanding bills (fines, Tournament fee and league fee)

The Ban can be temporary or permanent depending on the case as each case is dealt with individually.

Coaching and Behaviour During Matches

The following behaviour is deemed to be unacceptable.

Players and coaches or other advisers shall refrain from behaviour that may unfairly affect an opponent, offend spectators, or bring the sport into disrepute, such as abusive language, deliberately breaking the ball or hitting it out of the playing area, kicking the table or surrounds and disrespect of match officials.

Any form of aggressive action within the gym, Any form of theft or attempted theft.

If at any time a player, a coach or another adviser commits a serious offence the umpire shall suspend play and report immediately to the MTTA OFFICIAL. For less serious offences the umpire may, on the first occasion, hold up a yellow card and warn the offender that any further offence is liable to incur penalties. ALL UMPIRES TO HAVE RED AND YELLOW CARDS.

The person controlling the game will ask an official of the MTTA or an official umpire of the ITTF to write a report and take a decision on the spot, For the 1st serious offence, a € 50.00 fine will be imposed.

For the 2nd serious offence by the same player within the same season a further fine of €100.00 will be imposed plus the player will be suspended for 2 matches and/or tournaments.

Control and Disciplinary Board

The Association shall have a Disciplinary board which shall be competent to deal and take all necessary disciplinary action against any Member, team, club or academy Affiliated with the Association, any violation of any of the rules, byelaws or regulations of the Association or the Laws of the Game, including incidents reported by referees or the Officer-in-Charge of Matches and any events organized by the MTTA.

The officials are from the MTTA Board or a trusted official by the MTTA board.

Officials or Match officials in connection with matches in competitions organised and managed by the Association and which do not fall under the jurisdiction of any other authority established by this Statute unless such powers are vested in any other body of the Association.

The Board shall consist of a Chairman, and two (2) Deputy Chairmen.

The Chairman and the two (2) Deputy Chairmen shall be neutral.

The three (3) members of the **Disciplinary Board** shall be chosen from amongst the Executive Council.

The Council may also appoint the chairman

The umpire and referee may not be a member of such board.

The quorum of such Board shall consist of the Chairman and two (2) Deputy Chairmen).

The Chairman has both an original and a casting vote.

The Disciplinary board shall be assisted by the General Secretary of the Association or by any other person nominated by the Executive Council to act as Secretary of such Board.

The Member, team, club, or academy whose case is to be dealt with. Shall be notified with the charge, the date, time, and place of the hearing at least four (4) days in advance.

This time-limit may be waived by the party charged.

The charged involved has the right to defended and bring advance to the board (**the Disciplinary Board**)

The Member, team, club, or academy charged has the right to be present at the hearing.

The board has the right to question all involved in the case. Examine the witnesses brought in support of the charge.

A Member, Club team or Academy charged in connection with a match has the right to ask the Secretariat of the Association to summon as witnesses the Match Officials of the match in question, that is any of the referees concerned and the Match official, provided that such request is made at least three (3) days before the date fixed for the hearing. In default of such request or in default of payment of the deposit for each summoned witness the report or reports of the Match Officials shall be proof of their contents and provided that when such a request is made a deposit of twenty-five euro (€25.00) is paid in respect of each such witness summoned. No such witness will be called unless the relative deposit has been paid. Furthermore, the deposit paid with respect to the summoning of a witness will be refunded if on the strength of the evidence of such a witness the party charged is acquitted. In any other case, the Board shall decide whether the deposit shall be refunded or lost.

The board may proceed with the case in the absence of the party charged. When permitted if reasonable cause is not shown for absence, the board may nevertheless proceed with the case and may also impose a fine not exceeding fifty euro (€50) on the party charged for his absence.

The party charged will file a declaration with the General Secretary of the Association admitting the charge.

In the case of such declaration, it must be signed by both the President and the Secretary of a (club or academy) in the case of a team the declaration must be signed by the team captain. In the case of an individual the declaration must be signed by another member affiliated with the Association. The board is empowered to regulate its own procedure provided that the rules of the Association are observed. If the charge is proved, the board shall issue the penalty which is in accordance with the rules of the Association.

The Disciplinary Board is also empowered to make those recommendations to the Executive Council.

The Disciplinary board will follow the guidelines of the MTTA regulations as penalty when the charged is found guilty.

The General Secretary of the Association shall inform the party charged of the decision as soon as the decision had been taken, not later than 48hours.

The General Secretary shall inform the Executive Council of any recommendations made by the Disciplinary board.

In the case of an acting secretary of the Disciplinary board, the secretary of this board will prepare a report and will send it to the General secretary of the MTTA. The General Secretary will send the reports to all people involved not later than 48hours keeping in copy the Board of directors of the MTTA

Appeals

The Executive Council shall appoint an "Appeals Board" for each case, which shall be composed of three (3) neutral persons elected by the MTTA Board

Such Appeals Board shall be independent of any organs of the Association,

The directors of the appeal board will be (3) three directors affiliated with any other sport with the Malta Olympic Committee or SportMalta.

The secretary general of the MTTA will inform the three (3) directors of the appeal board with all the information of the case, and the rules and regulation plus the statute of the MTTA

During the hearing, all parties will be heard, an allocated time will be given to each (equal to all parties)

The appointed board of directors will decide the same evening of the hearing is done.

A report from the Appeals board will be sent to the Secretary General.

The report will be signed by the 3 directors of the appeal Board.

The secretary General will inform all parties involved with the outcome of the of the hearing and what actions have been decided.

The secretary General will send the report to the MTTA Board.

The appeal will not to be contested.

The cost to appeal is €100.00. if the appeal is won by the charged this will be refunded.

League Rules for the Malta National Table Tennis League

A single team can register to play without being affiliated to a club or table tennis academy However the listed owner of a team is responsible for the payment of all fees and possible fines that are incurred by any team that he/she has committed to enter and to also ensure that the team/s and their players abide by MTTA, ETTU and ITTF rules and regulations.

Clubs or table tennis Academies may consist of one or more teams. Clubs/table tennis academies with several teams must name those teams with a unique name after their club/Table tennis academies name, although the names of the individual teams can also incorporate the name of the same or different sponsors.

Clubs/Table Tennis Academies or teams may register as many players as they like for each team, but there must be a minimum of three (3) players registered per team. The appropriate registration forms of the season concerned are to be filled in and signed by all concerned. All players must be registered at least seventy-two (72) hours prior to their first league match.

To be eligible to play for a team in the league a player must in all cases be a fully paid-up individual member of the MTTA (please see 2.6.). Non-Maltese Nationals can play in the Malta National League. The registration must be done at least 72 hours prior to the commencement of the 2nd round of the division the team is playing in.

Any player may transfer from one team to another within the same academy only if the player has not played in any league match of that season and prior to the commencement of the 2nd round. Transfers within the same academy MUST be affected from lower to higher or in same division.

Transfers from one academy to another can only be affected prior to the commencement of the second round. If a player presenting the request for a transfer, an Independent Transfers Board will be appointed at a cost of 200 euros. The transfer fee of the player may vary from free to the sum of 400 euros, according to the genuineness of the case which will be heard and determined through the said board.

Only one transfer per season is allowed per player.

Such registrations must be completed by the 2nd/ 3rd round of the league before he/she can play for the new team.

In the case of the 3rd and 4th division New members can be registered.
In the case of the 3rd and 4th division the date of birth of the new registration must 2003. For the season 2020/21.

These rules are only to be applied during the table tennis season of the said year. A player can transfer freely when the season is finished and prior to the commencement of a new season.

All league matches shall be played either Monday or Friday evenings, unless otherwise instructed by the MTTA.

The venue for league matches shall be The University Gymnasium, Maria Teresa Spinelli Street, Gzira or any premises approved by the MTTA.

Three (3) points will be awarded for a league win, one (1) point for a loss (A team walkover being when not even one (1) player of a team attends to play just one (1) opponent for one (1) point)

Promotion, relegation, honors will be decided by the number of league points scored. In the case of a tie the direct encounters will be used to separate, if there is still a tie a play-off match will be played.

Teams/Clubs cannot postpone matches under any circumstances. By a majority vote of the MTTA executive committee the MTTA can postpone matches in the unlikely event that matches have clashed with a players' MTTA, MOC, Special Olympics, ITTF, or ETTU participation. In order for the MTTA executive committee to vote on such a postponement it is the responsibility of the players/officials/teams concerned to write to the MTTA asking for the postponement. This should be done at least three (3) weeks in advance allowing time for a decision to be made. If the player has been notified less than the 3 weeks the committee will allow his/her notification.

A team that gives three walkovers will be scratched from the league.

Division 1 is comprised of 10 teams. The teams finishing in the last two (2) positions will be relegated to Division 2.

Division 2 is comprised of 12 teams the teams finishing in the first (1) positions will be promoted to division 1 whilst the last one (1) position will be relegated to Division 3. This division will be played on 3 rounds

Division 3 and 4 composed of 27 promotion and relegation to be posted on a later date

Match Rules (Malta National T.T. League)

Matches will be played with the following system:

Each match shall consist of scheduled six (6) singles sets. The three nominated singles players of one team will all play the three nominated players of the other team. making the total of six (6) singles sets. In the case of a draw (3-3) A doubles match will be played so the results will read 4-3. In the case of a win 5-1 Or 4-2 No doubles match will be played. The doubles pair can be any of the 3 players or any players registered with the same team.

If both teams will agree to end the match with a draw (3-3) the match will be considered as **Null and Void**.

In any league match, a team shall normally consist of three (3) players but can contain a minimum of one (1) player. Teams that 'field' less than the normal three (3) will forfeit the sets and points not played by the absent player/players.

The sets will comprise of the best of five (5) games. Using the ITTF 11point system.

The order of play shall be as follows:

1st match should read A vs Y

2nd Match should read B vs X

3rd match should read C vs Z

4th match should read A vs X

IN CASE OF RESULTS ENDING 3-3

7TH MATCH WILL BE DOUBLES

A. With the agreement of both teams,

B. PRIOR to the commencement of the match.

C. Only when the three single players of a team asking for any change have been nominated. It is not permissible for a team to make prior arrangements with their opponents for a different schedule of play whilst keeping their players anonymous.

The gym shall be available from 19:00 for the setting up of tables and matches are

scheduled to commence at 19:30 which includes the usual fifteen (15) minutes 'grace' period. However, at 19:30 (absolute latest) at least one player from a team must be present in the playing court where his team match is to be played and ready to commence play. If it is in fact the case that only one player from a team is present at 19:30, then he/she must be scheduled to play A or X so that the match may start. Should a team fail to have at least one player in the appropriate court by 19:30, the opposing side can claim a walkover. Both teams detailing the players must complete the score sheet for the match involved in the encounter and the order of play, PRIOR to the commencement of the match. Once players have been scheduled on the score sheet, the score sheet may not be altered without the full agreement of both teams.

Any match where play has not commenced by 19:30 will be deemed either (A) as a walkover to one of the teams concerned, supported by a completed score sheet or (B) to be NULL and VOID. It is not permissible for the two teams to agree to start later than 19:30. MTTA committee members will make sure that this rule is adhered to.

After the end of the initial grace period (19:30) all players must be ready to play his/her, her set, when it is scheduled. There are no further 'grace' periods. Should the late player/s miss their turn in the schedule of play, the set is awarded as a walkover to the opponent. The match then proceeds to the next scheduled encounter. A late player may play any sets that he/she is still in time to play, but once a set has been awarded to an opponent as a walkover, it may NOT be rescheduled. Should both players in an encounter not be present, the set is to be marked on the score sheet as Null and Void. The match then continues, where it can, following the order of play.

It is the responsibility of the Team captains to ensure that the match score sheet is completed properly and signed by both team captains. This can then be forwarded to the League Organizer or placed in the letter box which has been installed in the area where the table tennis tables are stored. The League Organizer may be contacted via email.

In the event of a walkover the team claiming the walkover must still complete the score sheet. If for some reason a score sheet is missing, the League Organizer will contact team captain the home team concerned and then, in the event that the score sheet cannot be found within 5 days, the match will be marked as NULL AND VOID for both league and ranking purposes.

While any league match is being played, only the 4 registered players and the team captain can sit on the bench a total of 5 persons.

All supporters and non-members of the MTTA may sit and support clubs and teammates from the stands.

Player Ranking

As in previous seasons a player ranking system will be in force.

To take part in the ranking events a player must be a MTTA member, therefore any player who is not a MTTA member will not be part of these ranking systems.

The starting positions of the ranking list will be based on the positions of the Final Ranking List of the previous season. Any Non-MTTA members may be removed.

All National League matches and any play-off matches will count towards player ranking.

Ranking points

Before a new season starts, long-term inactive players are removed, and new players are added in order of application (newcomers start with a total of **100 points**).

The ranking is then normalized (see 12 below).

The winner is awarded **10%** of the opponent's points if the opponent is **better** ranked, and **5%** if the opponent is **not**. If the opponent has an **equal** amount of points, **10%** are awarded.

In the plate event, points are awarded **5%** and **2.5%** of opponent's total, respectively.

If the opponent gives a **walkover**, the winner is awarded **5%** of the opponent's total.

Players who give a walkover without a satisfactory explanation are deducted **5%** of their total points.

All encounters are based on the latest update of the ranking list.

Points won in the league also add up to the seniors ranking; **10%** and **5%** for games won in the first division, and **8%** and **4%** for games won in lower divisions.

Normalization

The ranking is normalized as follows:

All the points from the end of the previous season are reduced by 100 points.

The points are then divided by a factor which shrinks the first player's points to 400.

The obtained values are increased by 100 points resulting in the first player with 500 points and the last player with 100 points.

This method does not affect the majority of the players since the points are divided by a common factor, however it does give a slight advantage to newcomers.

The normalization is done to reduce the gap between the first and last place, and to ensure that this gap is always 400 points (or less) at the start of the season.

Tournaments

Various tournaments will be held throughout the season. There will be at least three ranking tournaments, which will be run as per ranking regulations. Others will be conducted as per terms and regulations specified at the time of invitation.

The ranking tournaments organized for this season: seniors, juniors (under19) cadets (under15) and mini champs (under 11) and doubles events

All events are mixed female and male players may be drawn in the same ballot

Nationals

As last year senior and junior national championships are planned to be run separately. In All events females and males are drawn separate category
All events are subject to the number of entries.
If the number of entries is less than four the MTTA may decide to scratch the event.

Seniors, (youths under 21) juniors (under18) cadets (under15) kids and mini champs (under 11) all doubles events in every category

Seeding Seniors

The Top **16 players** are seeded (if only 14 of the first 16 players enter, the 17th and 18th player are drawn as the 15th and 16th seed).

Seedings are done in accordance to International standards (i.e. 1st and 2nd seed, 3-4, 5-8 and 9-16 drawn by ballot).

The rest of the players are placed in a **qualifier round** and drawn at **random**.

The 2nd round (i.e. a qualifying winner against a seeded player) is also drawn by ballot.

Seeding Juniors

The Top **4 players** are seeded (if only 3 of the first 4 players enter, the 5th player is drawn as the 4th seed). If the tournament has 24 or more entries, **8 players** are seeded.

Seedings are done in accordance to International standards (i.e. 1st and 2nd seed, 3-4 and 5-8 drawn by ballot).

The rest of the players are placed in a **qualifier round** and drawn at **random**.

An exception for the Under 11 categories where the tournament has a **group stage** instead of a qualifier round if tournament includes **less than 16 players**.

The 2nd round (i.e. a qualifying winner against a seeded player) is also drawn by ballot.

Anti- doping

Anti-doping rule in the individual sport in connection with an in-competition test automatically leads Disqualification of the results obtained in that Competition with all resulting consequences, including forfeiture of any titles, medals, and ranking points.

Players and only players are responsible for what goes in their body (the “strict liability” principle)!

<https://www.ittf.com/antidopping/inadvertent-doping/>

ITTF ANTI-HARASSMENT POLICY AND PROCEDURES

As an international and national body, the ITTF /MTTA brings together members from different cultures, backgrounds, and experiences. Harassment is perceived differently in different cultures. However, the ITTF/MTTA is committed to providing a safe and supportive environment based on respect and members must be sensitive to the different cultures and behavioral norms that make up the ITTF/MTTA community. The ITTF/MTTA recognizes that not all persons experiencing harassment will make a formal complaint, but this does not reduce the need to create a supportive environment in which all can achieve their full potential. The term “complainant” refers to the person who experiences harassment. The term “respondent” refers to the person against whom a complaint is made.

7.1 POLICY STATEMENT

7.1.1 The ITTF/MTTA is committed to providing an environment in which all individuals are treated with respect and dignity. Each individual has the right to participate and work in an environment which promotes equal opportunities and prohibits discriminatory practices. The ITTF/MTTA hereby restates its commitment to the Olympic Charter and in particular its Fundamental Principles.

7.1.1.1 Harassment is a form of discrimination. Harassment is prohibited by human rights legislation and is considered unlawful in many States of the world.

7.1.1.2 The ITTF/MTTA is committed to providing a sport environment free of harassment on any basis without exception.

7.2 APPLICATION OF THE POLICY

7.2.1 This policy applies to all members (Associations and continental federations) as well as all officials, players, players’ entourage, and persons involved in the ITTF’s/MTTA operations.

7.2.2 This policy applies to harassment which may occur during the course of all ITTF/MTTA business, activities, and events. It also applies to harassment between individuals associated with the ITTF/MTTA but outside the ITTF/MTTA business, activities, and events when such harassment adversely affects relationships within the ITTF/MTTA work and sport environment.

7.2.3 Notwithstanding this policy, every person who experiences harassment has the right to pursue legal recourse, even when steps are being taken under this policy.

7.3 DEFINITIONS

7.3.1 Psychological and/or physical harassment takes many forms but can generally be defined as, persistent comment, conduct, or gesture directed toward an individual or group of individuals, which is insulting, intimidating, humiliating, malicious, degrading, offensive or abusive. Such conduct has the purpose or effect of interfering with an individual’s performance, damaging his or her reputation, dignity and morale and can create an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment.

7.3.2 For the purposes of this policy, any form of harassment is defined as unwelcome, often persistent, attention. It may include particularly, but not limited to, discrimination or harassment on the basis of gender, religious background, race:

7.3.2.1 Written or verbal abuse or threats **7.3.2.2** Inappropriately oriented comments
7.3.2.3 Jokes, lewd comments or innuendoes **7.3.2.4** Taunts about body, dress, marital status or sexuality **7.3.2.5** Shouting and/or bullying **7.3.2.6** Ridiculing or undermining performance or self-respect **7.3.2.7** Sexual, homophobic, racial or other discriminatory graffiti **7.3.2.8** Practical jokes **7.3.2.9** Intimidating remarks, invitations or familiarity **7.3.2.10** Physical contact, fondling, pinching or kissing **7.3.2.11** Vandalism **7.3.2.12** Offensive phone calls or photos

7.4 CONFIDENTIALITY

7.4.1 The ITTF/MTTA understands that it can be

difficult to come forward with a complaint of harassment and that it can be equally difficult to be wrongly accused or convicted of harassment. The ITTF/MTTA recognizes the interests of all parties concerned in keeping the matter confidential. 7.4.2 Therefore, the ITTF/MTTA shall not disclose to outside parties the name of the complainant, the circumstances giving rise to a complaint, or the name of the respondent unless such disclosure is required by a disciplinary, legal or other remedial process. 7.5 PANEL OF HARASSMENT OFFICERS 7.5.1 The ITTF/MTTA shall appoint at least two persons, who are themselves officials or employees of the organization, to serve as harassment officers under this policy, provided that no member of the Executive Committee is appointed. 7.5.2 The role of harassment officers is to serve in a neutral, unbiased, independent capacity and to receive complaints, assist in informal resolution of complaints, maintain records and investigate and advise on the steps to be taken in case of formal written complaints. In carrying out their duties under this policy, harassment officers shall be directly responsible to the Executive Committee. ITTF/MTTA Anti-Harassment Policy and Procedures Page 3 7.5.3 The ITTF/MTTA shall ensure that harassment officers receive appropriate training and support for carrying out their responsibilities under this policy. 7.6 COMPLAINT PROCEDURE 7.6.1 A person who experiences harassment is encouraged to seek the initial advice of the competition manager or a harassment officer. 7.6.2 The competition manager or harassment officer, as the case may be, shall inform the complainant of: 7.6.2.1 the options for pursuing an informal resolution of his or her complaint which are: 7.6.2.1.1 mediation where the harassment officer (or officers) will deal directly with the respondent in order to find a suitable solution. 7.6.2.1.2 arbitration where the harassment officer (or officers) will hear the complainant and the respondent and facilitate a suitable solution. 7.6.2.1.3 the right to lay a formal written complaint under this policy when an informal resolution is inappropriate or not possible. 7.6.3 If a formal complaint is laid, the harassment officer (officers), within 15 days of receiving the formal written complaint, shall submit a report to the Executive Committee with the recommendation of further action/s to be taken. 7.7 DISCIPLINARY ACTION 7.7.1 Any person against whom a complaint of harassment is substantiated may be severely disciplined based on the findings and recommendations made by the harassment officers. 7.7.2 For the purposes of this policy, retaliation against an individual will not be tolerated for having: 7.7.2.1 filed a complaint under this policy; or 7.7.2.2 participated in any procedure under this policy; or 7.7.2.3 been associated with a person who filed a complaint or participated in any procedure under this policy. 7.7.3 False accusations will be viewed very seriously, and disciplinary action will be recommended against individuals who bring such false charges. 7.7.4 The Executive Committee can impose appropriate disciplinary sanctions from warnings, to fines, to suspension and expulsion when a complaint of harassment has been substantiated. The same disciplinary sanctions can be imposed if a false accusation has been substantiated. 7.8 APPEALS 7.8.1 Both the complainant and respondent shall have the right to appeal the decision. A notice of intention to appeal, along with grounds for the appeal, must be provided to the Executive Committee within 14 days of the complainant or respondent receiving the formal notification of the outcome of the case. 7.8.2 The Executive Committee shall forward the appeal to the Court of Arbitration of Sport. 7.9 REPORTING TO HARASSMENT OFFICERS 7.9.1 Every member of the ITTF has a responsibility to play a part in ensuring that the sport environment is free from harassment. 7.9.2 The ITTF encourages all incidents of harassment to be reported, regardless of who the offender may be. ITTF/MTTA Anti-Harassment Policy and Procedures Page 4 7.10 RESPONSIBILITY 7.10.1 The Executive Committee is responsible for the implementation of

this policy. In addition, the Executive Committee is responsible for: 7.10.1.1 discouraging and preventing harassment within the ITTF/MTTA; 7.10.1.2 investigating formal complaints of harassment in a sensitive, responsible, and timely manner; 7.10.1.3 imposing appropriate disciplinary or corrective measures when a complaint of harassment has been substantiated based on the findings of the harassment officers, regardless of the position or authority of the offender; 7.10.1.4 providing advice to persons who experience harassment; 7.10.1.5 doing its utmost to support and assist any employee or member of the ITTF/MTTA who experiences harassment by someone who is not an employee or member of the ITTF/MTTA; 7.10.1.6 making all individuals involved in the ITTF/MTTA aware of the problem of all forms of harassment, and of the procedures contained in this policy; 7.10.1.7 informing both complainants and respondents of the procedures contained in this policy and of their rights under this policy and the law; 7.10.1.8 regularly reviewing the terms of this policy to ensure that they adequately meet the organization's legal obligations and public policy objectives; 7.10.1.9 appointing officers and providing the training and resources they need to fulfil their responsibilities under this policy; 7.10.1.10 rehabilitate publicly, persons who have been victims of harassment or who have been victims of a false accusation.

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Social Media

The social media platform is owned by the MTTA.

Members of the MTTA may comment on the sport on the activity shared by the MTTA.

Members of the MTTA may not comment on an individual

May not Use foul language.

May not Mock the activities organized by the MTTA, MOC and Sport Malta or any other organization.

May not advertise any academy, club, team or individual it's the MTTA rights to share the success of any member that the MTTA may find fit.

