

Effective March 2026

Tennis Anti-Doping Programme guidance for suspended individuals

This guide addresses common questions and provides practical advice about suspensions under the Tennis Anti-Doping Programme (TADP). It does not replace or supersede the TADP.

Capitalised terms found in this guide have the meaning given to them under the TADP. The TADP applies the World Anti-Doping Code through tennis' status as an Olympic sport, meaning the rules around suspended persons are slightly different than under the TACP (and, for example, they apply to any sporting activity a suspended tennis player may wish to undertake, not just tennis).

If you are still uncertain about your obligations while suspended, please contact the ITIA immediately by sending an email to cases@itia.tennis.

Question	Answer
Effect of Suspension	
<p>1. What am I not allowed to do while suspended?</p>	<p>While serving a period of Ineligibility, TADP Article 10.14.1 prohibits you from participating in any capacity in (or assisting any player* participating in any capacity in):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • any official Event; • any other Event or Competition or activity authorised or organised by the ITF, the ATP, the WTA, any National Association or member of a National Association, or any WADA Signatory (e.g. another international sports body such as FIFA), WADA Signatory's member organisation (e.g. another sport's national association), or club or member organisation of that Signatory's member organisation (e.g. a local football or golf club); • any Event or Competition authorised or organised by any professional league (e.g. private professional round robin tournaments) or any

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	<p>international or national-level Event or Competition organisation; or</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> any elite or national-level sporting activity funded by a governmental agency. <p>* This includes non-professional players.</p> <p>The only exceptions are where your suspension is longer than four years or you are returning to training in the final part of your sanction (see questions 7 and 8 below).</p> <p>Accordingly, while you are suspended, your name will be included on the Non-Credentials List.</p>
<p>2. What is the Non-Credentials List?</p>	<p>The Non-Credentials List refers to a database maintained by the ITIA and regularly reviewed by the ITF, ATP, WTA, and the Grand Slam organisers, of people who may not be granted accreditation or entry to their events.</p> <p>You will remain on this list until your sanction has concluded, including repayment of forfeited prize money or being up to date with any payment plan in place.</p> <p>The Non-Credentials List policy can be found here.</p>
<p>3. How does this apply to Events or Competitions held at a public venue?</p>	<p>Ineligibility restrictions (see question 1) apply <u>at all times</u> from the start until the end of the Event or Competition (this includes periods where the venue becomes an accreditation/ticket-only zone).</p> <p>Accordingly, you are not permitted to attend, train or coach at any part of the venue (including courts which are not used for the Event/Competition) during this time, even after play has finished for the day.</p>
<p>4. Can I play, coach or officiate tennis while suspended?</p>	<p>You are free to participate in private sporting activities (i.e. outside those prohibited under TADP Article 10.14.1), as long as you do not:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> assist any player participating in any of the events, competitions or activities you are prohibited from participating in (see question 5); or do so with a player or other person subject to the authority of an Anti-Doping Organisation (including a registered athlete in another sport) – who may violate Article 2.10 if they associate with you in a

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	<p>professional or sport-related capacity (see question 10).</p> <p>For example, you may:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • play recreationally or practice at a private tennis court (e.g. at a gym, house or hotel) which is not affiliated to a club or association; or • coach members of the general public (i.e. you may not coach adult or junior professional or club tennis players or registered athletes in any other sport).
<p>5. Can I train with other professional tennis players while suspended?</p>	<p>While suspended, you may not assist any player participating in any of the events referred to a question 1.</p> <p>This means that you cannot train with a player or other athlete when they are participating in such event, competition or activity or in the lead-up period to an event (on the basis that you would be assisting them to participate). The closer in time to the relevant event event, competition or activity, the more likely it is that training together is prohibited.</p> <p>It is therefore better to practise with a player who is taking an extended break from professional tennis (and therefore not preparing for an official Event or Competition), club/national-level players outside of their season or recently retired players.</p>
<p>6. Can I take part in a coaching or officiating course while suspended?</p>	<p>This depends on the type of course. In many cases, this will not be permitted if the course is authorised, organised or sanctioned by the ITF, ATP, WTA, any National Association or member of a National Association, or any WADA Signatory (e.g. another international sports body such as FIFA), Signatory's member organisation (e.g. another sport's national association), or club or member organisation of that Signatory's member organisation (e.g. a local football or golf club).</p>
<p>7. What if my suspension is longer than four years?</p>	<p>After four years, you may participate as a player in local sport events not sanctioned or otherwise under the authority of a WADA Signatory (e.g. ITF or another international sports body such as FIFA) or member of a WADA Signatory (e.g. a national association of tennis or any other sport), but only so long as the local sports events</p>

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	are not at a level that could otherwise qualify you directly or indirectly to compete in (or accumulate points towards) a national championship or International Event, and does not involve working in any capacity with Protected Persons.
8. When can I return to training?	In the last two months or one-quarter of your suspension (whichever is shorter), you may use the facilities of a club or other member organisation of a National Association or of a WADA Signatory's member organisation, except when there are matches or tournaments on at the facility (TADP Article 10.14.5.2).
9. Can I be tested while suspended?	While suspended, you remain subject to testing and must provide whereabouts information for that purpose upon demand by the ITIA (TADP Article 10.14.4).
Prohibited Association	
10. Are there rules about associating with a player while suspended under the TADP?	Yes – and note they are slightly different to the TACP. A player (or other Person subject to the authority of an Anti-Doping Organisation in any sport) is not permitted to knowingly associate, in a professional or sport-related capacity, with a Player Support Person who is suspended (TADP Article 2.10).
11. Am I a Player Support Person?	You are considered a Player Support Person if you are a player's coach, trainer, manager, agent, team staff, official, nutritionist, medical or paramedical personnel, parent or any other person working with, treating or assisting a player who is participating in or preparing for sports competition. Because the rule includes 'working with...or assisting a player who is...preparing for sports competition', this includes the lead-up period to that competition and would cover being a practise partner, gym training partner, hitting partner or advisor. The closer in time to the relevant sports competition, that you work with or assist a player, the more likely it is that you are a Player Support Person.
12. What is meant by 'sport-related' association?	This includes attending, playing, practising, coaching or preparing for tennis (or any other sport) together at any time or place, even if not professional in nature.

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	<p>For example, this includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • being a hitting or training partner; • supplying tennis equipment (including racquet restringing); and • advising on training, strategy, technique, and nutrition.
13. Are social interactions permitted?	<p>Yes. Association of a strictly social or personal nature is permitted, as long as this is not related to sport.</p> <p>For example, you may meet and eat a meal together as long as you do not do so at an event.</p>
Change to Period of Suspension	
14. Can my suspension be reduced?	No. Once your period of ineligibility is finalised, no further reductions are available.
15. What happens if I breach my sanction?	Your sanction may be extended and results disqualified (including forfeiture of any medals, titles, ranking points and prize money) if you violate the prohibition against participation (TADP Article 10.14.7).
End of Suspension	
16. What must I do to return to tennis?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comply in full with your suspension until the end date (including being available for testing for a period equal to the length of your suspension). • Repay any forfeited prizemoney in full or make payments on time in accordance with an agreed payment plan. • Complete all education advised to you by the ITIA (in the final 25% of your period of suspension).
17. What happens if I cannot afford to repay prize money in full immediately?	The ITIA has discretion to establish an instalment plan for repayment of forfeited prize money (TADP Article 10.16.5). We can agree on a reasonable amount within your means to be paid periodically (generally quarterly, i.e. every 3 months).

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	<p>Should a payment plan extend beyond the end of your sanction, you will be eligible to return to tennis at this time, so long as you have been meeting your payments up to that date. However, any default in payment thereafter shall automatically trigger a return to the Non-Credentials List until your payments are up-to-date.</p>
<p>18. Do I need to apply for reinstatement?</p>	<p>No. As long as you have met all three requirements above, you will be automatically removed from the Non-Credentials List and eligible to participate in official Events from the day after your period of Ineligibility ends (Article 10.16.3).</p>
<p>19. While suspended, can I register to play in a tournament which begins after my suspension ends?</p>	<p>If the entry deadline falls during the period of suspension, you may submit an application even if you are still ineligible at that particular time (TADP Article 10.14.3)</p> <p>However, you may not be able to register for tournaments in the usual way due to restrictions around your International Player Identification Number (IPIN).</p> <p>The registration process and protocols for players returning from suspension are managed by each tour under their rules. Please contact the relevant organisation for the tournament you wish to participate in (e.g. ITF, WTA or ATP).</p>
<p>20. What happens to my suspension if I retire?</p>	<p>There is a specific process under the TADP for players to retire and stop being subject to anti-doping testing. You must provide formal written notice of retirement to both the ITF and the ITIA.</p> <p>Your suspension remains in place even if you retire. After you have retired, you may not return to compete in a Covered Event or national-level event unless you have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • given six months' written notice (or notice equivalent to the remaining period of Ineligibility at the date you retired, if more than six months) to the ITF, ITIA and your NADO of your intent to return to competition; and • made yourself available for Testing (including, if requested, by providing whereabouts information) for that notice period (TADP Article 1.4.5)

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