



Dear Sir/Madam,

## **Re: Introduction of ITF World Tennis Number (WTN) System for Open Tournaments in Munster - Doubles**

Following on from the Webinar held by Tennis Ireland in January, and the concerns raised with respect to Doubles, Tennis Munster are introducing the following system on an interim basis for Doubles Tournaments, as we transfer to the WTN system.

1. The Directory will be maintained in parallel FOR INFORMATION only. This is intended to allow Tournament Directors and Players assess the WTN band that they should enter in an open competition. However, there will be no Directory points awarded for Open Tournaments this year.
2. As per TI rules the WTN band for a doubles pairing is based on the average of their doubles WTN. However, to ensure fairness where there is a large disparity between players the following rules will also apply:
  - a. Where 2 players have different Grades within the Munster Directory as of 15<sup>th</sup> January 2026 or following any upgrades from the Winter League finals, the lowest band they can play is the Highest Player's Grade plus 2.

For Example:

A Grade 2 player playing with a Grade 4 player can only enter Band 4 or above

A Grade 1 player playing with a Grade 4 player can only enter Band 3 or above.

- b. Where 2 players have the same Grades within the Munster Directory the lowest band they can play is the Grade plus 1.

For Example:

A Grade 3 player is playing with a Grade 3 player, they must enter Band 4 or above.

3. All other regulations are in accordance with the TI competition rules for WTN.



4. Munster Tennis will review the WTN results against the Directory on a monthly basis so that we can advise clubs on WTN accuracy. A bulletin will be issued on a monthly basis.
5. It is intended that the Directory will be retired at the end of 2026, however this will be reviewed throughout the year. Munster Tennis will maintain the Directory in parallel until the WTN is fully established.
6. Munster Tennis officers and referees are available to provide assistance to clubs with their schedule and draw if required. Munster Tennis will also supply Tournament Directors with Munster Grades for each player entered in a tournament. Please make any requests via [Munster.Directory@TennisIreland.ie](mailto:Munster.Directory@TennisIreland.ie)

For reference, the Bands currently in use and the corresponding grades are as follows:

Munster Grade	Lowest WTN Band Allowed	WTN Range				
		MS	WS	MD	WD	XD
Premier	1	Championship	Championship	Championship	Championship	Championship
1	2	18 – 40	18 – 40	18 – 40	18 – 40	19 – 40
2	3	22 – 40	25 – 40	22 – 40	25 – 40	23 – 40
3	4	25 – 40	27 – 40	25 – 40	27 – 40	26 – 40
4	5	27 – 40	29 – 40	27 – 40	29 – 40	28 – 40
5	6	29 – 40	31 – 40	29 – 40	31 – 40	30 – 40
6	7	32 – 40	34 – 40	32 – 40	34 – 40	33 – 40

Best Regards

**Áine Dunne**

**President Tennis Munster: Uachtarán Leadóige na Mumhan**



## Overview of the ITF World Tennis Number (WTN)

The ITF World Tennis Number (WTN) is a global rating system for tennis players, designed to provide a standardized measure of skill level. It operates on a scale from 40 (beginner) to 1 (elite professional). This system is applicable to all players, regardless of age, gender, or ability, and includes separate ratings for singles and doubles.

### How WTN is Calculated:

- a. Match Results and Algorithm
- b. The WTN is calculated using match results from 2016 onwards.
- c. An algorithm analyzes the pre-match ratings of players to predict match outcomes.
- d. Players' WTNs are updated based on actual match scores compared to predictions.
- e. The system considers individual sets as separate results, impacting the WTN based on set wins and losses.

### Confidence Level:

The Confidence Level indicates how reliable a player's WTN is, based on the amount and recency of match data.

A high Confidence Level ( $\geq 70\%$ ) is marked with a blue checkmark, while a lower level ( $\leq 70\%$ ) is indicated by a grey checkmark.

Regular play and diverse opponents enhance the Confidence Level, leading to more stable WTNs.

### Benefits of WTN:

**Matchmaking:** Helps players find opponents of similar skill levels for more competitive matches.

**Player Development:** Provides statistics to track progress and improve skills.



Global Standard: Facilitates participation in international tournaments and events.

### **Updates and Maintenance:**

The WTN is updated weekly, allowing players to see their progress in real-time.

**Players are encouraged to participate regularly to maintain and improve their ratings.**