

Advancement of 2nd Placed Teams from the Round Robin Stage in 17-23 Draw Format

The following outlines the procedure in place for the advancement of 2nd placed teams for draw sizes of between 17-23 teams in the ITF Masters World Team Championships. The method is determined by the ITF Masters Committee, who last reviewed the procedure in October 2024.

Each group winner shall qualify for the Quarter Finals of the main draw knock-out.

Any vacant positions in the main draw Quarter Finals will be filled by 'lucky loser' teams in line with the following process:

- All teams that finish in 2nd place in the final group standings will be ranked in order of their two (2) highest ranked players based on the latest ITF Masters Singles Rankings within the same age category.
- Not all 2nd placed teams will be included in the lucky loser draw process. The number of second-placed teams considered for the lucky loser draw process will depend on the number of vacancies:
 - If there is one (1) vacancy in the main draw quarter finals, this shall be drawn amongst the (2) highest-ranked teams finishing in 2nd place in their round robin group.
 - If there are two (2) vacancies in the main draw quarter finals, this shall be drawn amongst the three (3) highest-ranked teams finishing in 2nd place in their round robin group.
 - If there are three (3) vacancies in the main draw quarter finals, this shall be drawn amongst the four (4) highest-ranked teams finishing in 2nd place in their round robin group.

For example, the 18 team draw format shall advance six (6) group winners, with two (2) vacant places filled by "lucky losers". The three (3) highest-ranked teams finishing in 2nd place will be included in a draw to determine which two (2) teams will receive a place in the main draw quarter finals.

- Vacant positions in the Quarter Finals shall firstly be allocated to the opponent of Line 1 (expected #1 seed), followed by Line 2 (expected #2 seed), and so on.
- Except for draw formats where only one (1) "lucky loser" is drawn, a "lucky loser" shall not be drawn to play the winner of their own round-robin group.
- Teams that are not drawn shall be included in the playoff stages for position 9th onwards.

Notes:

- The principle of the approach aligns with ITF individual tournaments, whereby losers in the final round of qualifying events fill vacancies in the Main Draw by way of a "lucky loser".
- The principle of drawing lucky losers from amongst the highest ranked players/teams only is in place at other tennis competitions; for example, Grand Slams who draw Lucky Losers from amongst the four (4) highest ranked players who lose in the final round of qualifying (16 players). This ensures that lower ranked players do not advance ahead of more highly ranked players, whilst maintaining a draw element.
- ITF Rankings of the 2 highest ranked players shall be considered. ITF Masters regulations permit teams to compete with teams of 3 players. The two (2) highest ranked players within a team may not necessarily be the Number 1 and Number 2 player in the Order of Merit.
- The playoff stage draw will take place on Tuesday afternoon. At the time of the playoff stage draw, the most recent ITF Rankings will be used. For example, the ITF Masters Rankings as of 18 November 2024 will be used for the 45+ World Team Championships draw on Tuesday 19 November 2024.
- Draw Formats of 6 and 12-16 teams will advance group winners and 2nd placed teams to Quarter Finals.
- Draw Formats of 17-23 teams will advance to Quarter Finals with group winners and one (1), two (2), or three (3) lucky losers, depending on the format.
- Draw Formats of 24 or more teams will advance group winners only to Quarter Finals.