



RACKET CONTROLS INFORMATION

2010 ITTF Para-Table Tennis World Championships

25 October – 3 November 2010

Dear Players, Coaches and Delegates,
Please read carefully the information below regarding racket controls:

General information:

- Racket Control tests will be carried out after matches at random. However from the quarter-finals on, Racket control tests will be before the match for selected matches of individual events and randomly selected individual matches in team matches. The Referee may, at any time, choose any other matches to be tested.
- The player, whose racket is being tested, and/or his/her delegate / coach may attend the checking of the racket inside the Racket Control Room. Inside the test area no spectators or other persons are allowed. The test results will be signed by the tester. A member of the racket control panel may check relevant rackets during intervals between games.
- For all player it is obligatorily that after the match they leave their racket on the table (similar to between games), until the umpire gives it back.

Voluntary Controls

- Each player is entitled to have a maximum of 2 voluntary tests (ONLY two rackets for one racket control test each or have the same racket tested twice) during the tournament.
- Voluntary tests will have to wait in case official tests are conducted at the same time.

Compulsory Controls

For after-match tests:

- Rackets will be collected, by the umpires of the match, immediately after the last point.
- If any player had to change his/her racket during the match, both rackets (damaged and spare one used) have to be tested; therefore the umpires will collect the damaged racket before the player replaces it.
- The players can collect their rackets some minutes later from the Racket Control room.

For before-match tests:

- For a before-match test, players will be informed and it is their own responsibility to present their rackets at least 20 minutes before the scheduled match time, at the Racket Control Room.
- If a player does not bring his/her racket to the Racket Control Room, within the deadline of 20 minutes before the scheduled time of the match, then the racket will be tested after the match.
- After the testing and if the racket passed all the tests, it will be sent to the umpires of the match, who will then give the racket to the player at the playing area, just before the practice/warm up.
- If the racket was found to be illegal then the racket will be sent and stay in the possession of the Referee until the end of that match. The player will then have to play that match with another racket, which will be tested after the end of the match.
- The Referee will take the decision on the output of the match in case an illegal racket was used, according to the Directives.

Schedule of Racket Controls

Voluntary Racket Control Session:

Voluntary racket control (without consequences) will be carried out in the racket control room on **Tuesday, October 26** from **10:30 to 16:00 HOURS**.

As mentioned above voluntary controls will also be offered during the tournament, but in such a way they do not interrupt compulsory racket controls.

Compulsory Racket Control Sessions:

From **Wednesday, October 27** to **Tuesday, November 2** compulsory racket control sessions will be carried out, after-match at random.

But all selected matches of Quarter Finals, Semi Finals and Finals will be tested before the match.

Disciplinary action for rackets found to be not acceptable:

- Any irregularity found in a racket, before or after a match, will be reported by the Racket Control Panel to the Referee of the competition, who shall decide any disciplinary action to be taken, according to the Directives.
- No disciplinary action may be taken for irregularities found during voluntary tests. But, the Racket Control panel will report players about these irregularities and they shall sign a form, to make sure that they have been informed.

Consequences of failing compulsory racket testing:**Before the match**

- In case of a failure of a compulsory racket test before the match, the referee will decide that the racket can not be used and must be replaced by another one, which also will be tested after the match.

After the match

- If the player who forfeited a match of a round robin competition, this player shall gain 0 points instead of 1 point for a loss in a match played with a failed racket.

Repeated failures and penalties applying after each racket control failure**Failure regarding VOC:**

- Disqualification from the individual match for any first failure in an after-match test.
- Disqualification from **the individual or** the team match where a player fails two times at any time.
- Disqualification from the tournament where a player fails three times at any time.

Any other Failure (thickness, flatness, etc.):

- Disqualification from the individual match for any first failure in an after-match test.
- Disqualification from the individual match where a player fails two times at any time.
- Disqualification from the team match where a player fails three times.
- Disqualification from the tournament where a player fails four times.

Accumulation:

- VOC infraction is accumulated with other types of failures.

In the case when a player fails in compulsory racket control, the ITTF shall register the player's name on ITTF website and inform the player's association with an official letter.

General policy on accumulated failures

Following 4 accumulated failures on any aspect of compulsory racket testing over a 48-month period, a player shall be suspended for 12 months from participating in ITTF events, according to the Regulation 3.05.02.11.

Caution

- All players and captains are reminded that brand-new coverings should be aired for at least 72 hours before a match. It is not sufficient just to cut or to open the plastic cover: the plastic cover sheet must be removed and the rubber must be kept outside any type of bag so that the rubber / sponge is completely uncovered on both sides and then can release the remaining banned solvents.
- Manufacturers have been asked to extract all traces of such solvents, but not all do that, and the player will be held responsible if a test indicates that they remain at an unacceptable level.
- Some VOC's can be detected a long time after they have been used. If any player suspects that his/her racket may be contaminated, he/she is recommended to submit the racket concerned for voluntary testing without fear of penalisation.

We request the co-operation of all participants in helping to provide an efficient and reliable racket control service, which does not disturb your preparation for your matches.

With best wishes for a successful tournament,

