

QUALIFICATION RULES

HOW PLAYERS QUALIFY FOR
2028 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

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2025, 2026 & 2027 SPORT SEASON

Each 2025, 2026 & 2027 Sport Season starts on **January 1st** and ends on **December 31st**.

QUALIFICATION PROCESS

Players can qualify for the World Championships in the following ways:

1. through the ITSF World Rankings
2. by winning a competition at the previous World Championships
3. by winning World Series events
4. through National Federation
5. by winning 750 events (750 tournaments can receive qualification spots upon request to Sport Commission)

1. ITSF SINGLES RANKINGS

2025, 2026 & 2027 World Singles Rankings:

Top 16 men, Top 8 Women, Top 3 Juniors U19 and Top 3 Seniors O50

! TP: These players are entitled to a travel package (see Travel Package section), if their federation is a full accepted ITSF Member and in good standing with ITSF's regulations.

! There can be no substitute players for these qualified players.

2. ITSF DOUBLES AND CLASSIC DOUBLES RANKINGS

2025, 2026 & 2027 World Doubles Rankings:

Top 16 men, Top 8 Women, Top 3 Juniors U19 and Top 3 Seniors O50

! TP: These players are **NOT** entitled to a travel package.

! TP: These players have to choose a double partner who has the same nationality

NEW **Coming soon:** Qualification through World Rankings for Top 3 in Junior U13, U16 and Senior O63 and TBD for Mixed Doubles

3. WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS TITLEHOLDERS

All titleholders (in Singles and Doubles) from the previous World Championships edition are automatically qualified. Juniors titleholders qualify in their new age category, in all events.

! TP: These players are **NOT** entitled to a travel package.

! There can be no substitute players for these qualified players (neither in Singles nor Doubles; it must be the identical team).

4. WORLD SERIES (WS) AND OTHER QUALIFYING EVENTS

- **2025, 2026 & 2027 World Series Singles categories:**

Top 3 Men, Top 3 Women, Top 1 Junior U19, U16, U13, Girls U19 and Top 1 Senior O50, O63, Women O50

! TP: These players are entitled to a travel package (See Travel Package section) if their federation is a full accepted ITSF Member and in good standing with ITSF's regulations.

- **2025, 2026 & 2027 World Series Doubles categories:**

Top 3 Men, Top 1 Women, Top 1 Junior U19, U16, U13, Girls U19 and Top 1 Senior O50, O63, Women O50

! TP: These players are **NOT** entitled to a travel package.

- **World Series Classic Doubles categories:**

World Series events do not grant qualifying spots

World Series points are reduced by 50% in the World Rankings

World Series winners do not receive travel package

- **2025, 2026 & 2027 World Series Mixed Doubles categories:**

Top 1 Open Mixed Doubles, Top 1 Junior Mixed Doubles, top 1 Senior Mixed Doubles

! TP: Top 1 Open Mixed Doubles is entitled to a travel package (See Travel Package section) if their federation is a full accepted ITSF Member and in good standing with ITSF's regulations.

TP: Junior Mixed Double and Senior Mixed Doubles are **NOT** entitled to a travel package.

- **2025, 2026 & 2027 other qualifying tournaments:**

Players qualify depending of the status of each single tournament (see tournament files)

! TP: Players entitled to a Travel Package (see tournament file) benefit from it depending on their federation status.

! There can be no substitute players for these qualified players and no substitute in a qualified double.

! Players and teams qualify from WS and 750 events only if that category was played.

For example: if there is no U13 category at a World Series, there will be no players qualified.

! Doubles and Mixed Doubles are qualified **ONLY** if the two players of a team are of the same nationality.

! If a player qualifies to World Championship because of results in several World Series with different partners of his country, he has to decide between them.

! TP: Travel packages are allocated only if 24 players/teams have attended the category.

Senior Over 50: The total number of attending players is calculated by combining players from both Senior O50 and Senior O63 categories. If the combined number reaches 24 or more, travel packages will be allocated.

Senior Over 63: Only the players within the Senior Over 63 category count. If this category alone has 24 or more players, travel packages will be allocated.

Juniors: All junior categories (Junior U13, Junior U16, and Junior U19) are counted together. If the total number of attending junior players across all three categories reaches 24 or more, travel packages will be allocated.

5. NATIONAL FEDERATION

All member federations of ITSF with a minimum number of registered competition members are entitled to send minimum 2 players of each category.

Qualification path	Details
Federation Wild Cards	Each ITSF member federation: 2 Wild Cards per category
Additional Wild Cards (AIMS federations only) For federations that fulfill the AIMS criterias	
Men	TOP 10 countries in Men's World Ranking (in any Qualifying Year): 1 Wild Card for all Men categories (Singles, Doubles, Classic Doubles)
Women	TOP 10 countries in Women's World Ranking (in any Qualifying Year): 1 Wild Card for all Women categories (Singles, Doubles, Classic Doubles) + Mixed Doubles
Juniors	TOP 5 countries in Junior's World Ranking (in any Qualifying Year): 1 Wild Card for all Juniors categories (Singles, Doubles, Classic Doubles) + Junior Mixed
Seniors	TOP 5 countries in Senior's World Ranking (in any Qualifying Year): 1 Wild Card for all Seniors categories (Singles, Doubles, Classic Doubles) + Senior Mixed
Participation-based additional Wild Cards (AIMS federations only) (For federations that fulfill the AIMS criterias, based on number of CORAL registered players, per federation, who took part in a sanctioned tournament in any of the Qualifying Years)	
Men	TBD* players = 1 Wild Card TBD* = 2 Wild Cards TBD* = 3 Wild Cards
Women	TBD* = 1 Wild Card + Open Mixed TBD* = 2 Wild Cards + Open Mixed TBD* = 3 Wild Cards + Open Mixed
Juniors	TBD* = 1 Wild Card + Junior U19 Mixed TBD* = 2 Wild Cards + Junior U19 Mixed TBD* = 3 Wild Cards + Junior U19 Mixed
Seniors	TBD* = 1 Wild Card + Senior O50 Mixed TBD* = 2 Wild Cards + Senior O50 Mixed TBD* = 3 Wild Cards + Senior O50 Mixed

*Numbers will be updated at the start of the 2026 season with an accurate number of player based on Coral data

! Each National Federation should determine their qualifications system according the number of qualified players listed above.

Each National federation must publish their qualification system and conditions to all its members. Sport Commission may approve additional wild cards in a category upon request from a federation.

! TP: There is no travel package for National Federations qualification and additional Wild Card.

! If a player automatically qualifies to go to the World Championships

- because of his/her rank in the ITSF World Rankings or
- he/she is a World Championships titleholder or
- he/she has qualified at World Series or 750 events (where applicable)

that country can send respectively other Wild Card players to the World Championships in that category.

TRAVEL PACKAGES

QUALIFIED PLAYERS ENTITLED TO TRAVEL PACKAGES

	World ranking 2025, 2026, 2027	World Series 2025, 2026, 2027
Men Singles	TOP 16	TOP 3
Women Singles	TOP 8	TOP 3
Junior U19 Singles	TOP 3	TOP 1
Junior U16 Singles		TOP 1
Junior U13 Singles		TOP 1
Senior 050 Singles	TOP 3	TOP 1
Senior 063 Singles		TOP 1
Mixed Doubles		TOP 1

Players from other qualifying events might be entitled with travel packages. (See [Qualified Players file](#))

! Travel packages are available for these players ONLY and only if their federation is a full accepted ITSF Member and in good standing with ITSF's regulations.

! Each player can have **ONE** package **ONLY**

EACH PACKAGE AMOUNTS TO € 250 TO € 800*
DEPENDING ON COUNTRY OF ORIGIN

CONTINENTS	PACKAGES
EUROPE	€ 250
AFRICA	€ 500
NORTH AMERICA	€ 700
ASIA / CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA / OCEANIA	€ 800

! The travel packages will be given on site during the World Championships.

! *Please note that package amounts above are valid for World Championships taking place in Europe.

JUNIOR AGE GROUPS

	YEAR 2025	YEAR 2026	YEAR 2027	WORLD CUP 2028
JUNIOR U19	born in 2007 or after	born in 2008 or after	born in 2009 or after	born in 2008 or after
GIRLS U19	born in 2007 or after	born in 2008 or after	born in 2009 or after	born in 2008 or after
JUNIOR U16	born in 2010 or after	born in 2011 or after	born in 2012 or after	born in 2011 or after
JUNIOR U13	born in 2013 or after	born in 2014 or after	born in 2015 or after	born in 2014 or after

Junior U19 and Girls U19 category champions who exceed the age eligibility can transition to compete in the corresponding Men's or Women's categories.

SENIOR AGE GROUP

	YEAR 2025	YEAR 2026	YEAR 2027	WORLD CUP 2028
SENIOR 050	born in 1974 or before	born in 1975 or before	born in 1976 or before	born in 1976 or before
WOMEN 050	born in 1974 or before	born in 1975 or before	born in 1976 or before	born in 1976 or before
SENIOR 063	born in 1961 or before	born in 1962 or before	born in 1963 or before	born in 1964 or before

41 DISCIPLINES

GENERAL PRINCIPLE:

With 41 unique disciplines with categories including Men, Women, Senior, Juniors, Mixed, and Wheelchair, the ITSF World offers something for everyone.

This year, the tournament introduces a new discipline: Women's Wheelchair. This addition highlights the commitment of the ITSF to promoting inclusivity and diversity within the sport.

	Singles	Doubles	Mixed	Classic-Doubles	Nations
Men	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Women	✓	✓		✓	✓
U19-Men	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
U19-Women	✓	✓		✓	
U16	✓	✓		✓	
U13	✓	✓		✓	
O50-Men	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
O50-Women	✓	✓		✓	
O63	✓	✓		✓	
Wheelchair	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Women wheelchair	✓	✓			

AGE CATEGORIES & DISCIPLINES

GENERAL PRINCIPLE:

- Each player is supposed to play in the age category he/she qualified for the World Championships.
- A player is allowed to play in only 1 age category for each discipline: 1 Single, 1 Double, 1 Classic Double, 1 Mixed Double
- **Players are not allowed to play in the upper age category.** Exceptions to this rule are listed below.

EXCEPTIONS:

- **Junior U19**
U19 Men are allowed to play in Men disciplines
U19 Women are allowed to play in Women disciplines
- **Junior U16**
U16 Men are allowed to play in U19 Men disciplines
U16 Women are allowed to play in U19 Women & U19 Men Doubles disciplines
Junior U16: U16 players are permitted to compete in all World Championship categories, including Junior and Open categories.

- **Junior U13**
U13 Men are allowed to play in U16 Men disciplines
U13 Women are allowed to play in U19 Women & U16 disciplines
Junior U13: U13 players are allowed to compete in all Junior categories (U13, U16, U19).
U13 players are strictly prohibited from entering Men's or Women's competitions.

Girls can choose between Junior and Girls category

Junior U13 and U16: Cannot compete in Men's National Team but can request an exception from the Sport Commission

	U19-Men	U19-Women	U16-Men	U16-Women	U13-Men	U13-Women
Men Singles	✓					
Men Doubles & Classic Doubles	✓					
Women Singles		✓				
Women Doubles & Classic Doubles		✓				
U19 Singles	✓		✓			
U19 Doubles & Classic Doubles	✓	✓	✓	✓		
U19 Singles - Women		✓		✓		✓
U19 Doubles & Classic Doubles-Women		✓		✓		✓
U16 Singles			✓	✓	✓	✓
U16 Doubles & Classic Doubles			✓	✓	✓	✓
U13 Singles					✓	✓
U13 Doubles & Classic Doubles					✓	✓
Junior Mixed Doubles	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓