

# **IRF JUNIOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP FORMAT**

## **TEAM COMPETITION**

Two singles players and one doubles team per country will be fielded to earn points in each division. These designated national team members will play off in two championship *team* competitions:

### **Junior World Cup:**

The most points earned in the boys and girls **14, 16, and 18-and-under** World Cup divisions (by designated national team members) will determine the World Cup (team) winner. Prior to single elimination play, round robin preliminaries will seed the players.

### **Junior Esprit Cup:**

The most points earned in the boys and girls **8, 10, and 12-and-under** Esprit divisions (only by the designated national team members) will determine the Esprit Cup (team) winner. This event is played in single-elimination rounds, with satellite (Olympic format) blue, red and white consolation draws.

## **INDIVIDUAL COMPETITION**

Individual world titles will be awarded in all divisions, with medals to first and second place finishers, plus third place medals to both semi-finalists. There will be no playoff for third place.

### **World Champions:** (Junior World Cup & Junior Esprit Cup)

Through competition for the Junior World Cup [see format below], the two designated singles players and one designated doubles team will compete for individual world titles in the **14/16/18-** divisions. No satellite divisions will be played.

Through competition in the single-elimination Junior Esprit Cup (including non-designated team players), the winners of the **6/8/10/12-** age groups will be recognized as Junior World Champions, and may – or may not – be national team members. These age groups will be played in the satellite format, with blue, red and white consolation divisions.

### **Friendship Cup Champions:**

Additional competitors in the 14-, 16-, and 18- and Esprit divisions (all players not officially designated as a team member for the purpose of earning points toward the World Cup or Esprit Cup can represent their country) will compete for Friendship medals in gold, blue, red and white divisions.

## **FORMAT & SCORING**

### **Junior World Cup Competition – [14/16/18- National Team Members]**

#### **Rosters:**

Each national federation must submit its official roster of all designated competitors in the 14/16/18- World Cup divisions at least 72 hours prior to the first scheduled match.

#### **Format:**

The competition will be played in two parts

- 1) a round robin preliminary for seeding
- 2) a second, single-elimination draw, seeded on the basis of previous round robin results.

### **Part One – Round Robin Preliminaries [Junior World Cup]**

#### **Number:**

In the round robin, groups must have a minimum of three players.

#### **Seeding:**

Players will be seeded in the round robin according to their country's finish in the previous year's Junior World Championships in that age group. To establish the position of players from countries not ranked, the Tournament Director will take into consideration the player's past international and/or national record. **The tournament director's decision is final.** Players from the same country should not compete in the same round robin group.

#### **Tiebreaking Procedure:**

Ties in round robin play are decided by:

- a) Head to head;
- b) The difference in games won and games lost between players that have tied;
- c) The difference in total points won and total points lost between players that have tied.

#### **Scoring: (to decide finish order of each round-robin)**

- Winners will earn two (2) points
- Losers will earn one (1) point
- Losers by forfeit will earn no (0) points

#### **Team Point Earnings:**

Round robin finishers will earn points toward overall World Cup team scoring in the following values:

- First place finisher will earn three (3) points toward team earnings
- Second place will earn two (2) points
- Third place will earn one (1) point

## **Part Two – Single Elimination Medal Rounds [Junior World Cup]**

### **Roster Changes:**

Only players who competed in the round robin play may compete in the single elimination medal round. The only changes allowed in the new line-up are:

- a) If a doubles team member is injured (TD must be notified in advance of single elimination roster being submitted), he/she may be replaced by a singles player who participated in the singles round robin.
- b) If a singles player is injured (TD must be notified in advance of single elimination roster being submitted) he/she may be replaced by a doubles player who participated in the doubles round robin.

The TD will automatically enter round robin participants in the medal round competition unless a request for a change due to injury is submitted. All injury requests must be submitted no later than the conclusion of the last match of the round robin preliminaries.

### **Team Point Earnings:**

Points toward the World Cup team standings will be earned by the 18/16/14- players in medal rounds, according to their final positions, as follows [plus any points earned from preceding round robin finishes]:

Finish	Draw of 4	Draw of 8	Draw of 16
First	20	20	20
Second	15	15	15
Semifinalists	10	10	10
5-8	--	--	5

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RR First*	+3
RR Second	+2
RR Third	+1

\* Player points earned in "Part One"(round robin) will be added to points earned in "Part Two" (single elimination) competition.

#### **Example:**

A round robin winner who – later - only makes the quarterfinal in a round of 16 will earn 5 points for that finish, plus 3 points for their previous round robin win = 8 team points. A winner of *both* the round robin (3 point) and single elimination (20 point) draws will earn 23 points, total.

### **Forfeits:**

If a player forfeits a match for any reason other than a medically certified injury, three (3) points will be deducted from his/her teams' total score.

### **Tiebreaking Procedure:** (Single Elimination Medal Rounds)

If there is a tie for total team points the order below will be followed.

- a. The teams' #1 players who score the most points determines the team championship.
- b. If #1's are tied, the #2 players will determine team titles
- c. If #2's are tied, the doubles teams will determine the team championship winner.

If the combined total team (boys and girls) is tied, the winner will be determined by the accumulated points of both #1 boys and girls singles, then #2 boys and girls and finally boys and girls doubles accumulated scores.

### **Junior Esprit Cup Format – [8/10/12- National Team Members]**

#### **Eligibility:**

Only designated team players in the 8/10/12- divisions may earn points for their countries toward the Esprit Cup.

However, **any junior may participate** in the Esprit Cup competition (except those designated as team members already competing in the separate 14/16/18- World Cup playoffs).

#### **Titles:**

Players may earn;

World Championship titles in 6/8/10/12-

**OR**

non-championship Friendship medals in 14/16/18- divisions.

#### **Draw type:**

The satellite format will be used to determine winners in the main draw (gold), and consolation blue, red and white divisions.

#### **Point Earnings:**

Only the designated players from national teams will earn points toward the Esprit Cup. Team points will be earned from gold, blue, red and white division advances, in the following values:

Gold division win	12 points per win
Blue division	3 points per win
Red division	2 points per win
White division	1 point per win

## **PLAYER DIVISION ENTRY CLARIFICATION – WORLD JUNIORS**

World Cup players and the 2 designated players in the Esprit Cup are referred to below as the National Team players.

A National Team SINGLES player can not play Friendship SINGLES in any age category but can play Friendship DOUBLES

A National Team DOUBLES player can not play Friendship DOUBLES in any age but can play Friendship SINGLES

Everyone (National Team or Friendship players) can play MIXED DOUBLES

A National Team Singles or Doubles player can also play National Team (World Cup or Esprit) Singles or Doubles in an older age category

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