

PSA Tour Structure Proposal



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1. Introduction

PSA will simplify its tour structure from the 2018-2019 season onwards and establish a split between the top-tier PSA tournaments and the lower-tier PSA tournaments.

In addition, PSA will partner with the World Squash Federation (WSF) to integrate individual regional, national and junior tournaments in the PSA World Rankings.

1.1 Tournament Levels and Ranking Points

Tournament levels will be based on the amount of total compensation. Players will earn PSA World Ranking points based on the tournament level.

- PSA World Tour (World Championships, World Tour Finals, World Tour Platinum, World Tour Gold, World Tour Silver and World Tour Bronze)
- PSA Regional Tour (M30, W30, M20, W20, M10, W10, M5 and W5)
- WSF Nationals Tour (National Championships, Satellite Tournaments)
- WSF Futures Tour (World Junior Championship, Regional Junior Championship, National Junior Open, National Junior Championships)

The minimum divisor will be raised from 10 to 11 tournaments for the men's tour to reflect the increasing number of (top-tier) tournaments and over time rise from 8 to 11 on the women's tour in-line with the increase in the number of tournaments.

The current ranking points structure will be revised to ensure the correct balance between tournament tiers.

In addition, ranking points will be awarded for matches won at the PSA World Tour Finals. These will be a bonus addition for the players and will not count towards the player's ranking divisor.

1.2 Sanctioning Structure

An annual membership fee is payable by all players to join PSA and to hold a position on the PSA World Ranking; this varies by membership type. In addition, PSA members will pay 5% of their earnings on the PSA Tour to PSA through a compulsory player contribution.

All tournaments have to pay an annual sanction fee for their tournament. This fee depends on the level of the tournament and the duration of the agreement. Promoters that sign up for a longer period of time will receive a discount on their sanction fees.

2. PSA World Tour

2.1 Introduction

PSA World Tour tournament levels will comprise of: PSA World Championships, PSA World Tour Finals, PSA World Tour Platinum, PSA World Tour Gold, PSA World Tour Silver and PSA World Tour Bronze.

Minimum prize money levels for PSA World Tour tournaments will increase on an annual basis. For the 2018-2019 season the following base levels will be set for both the men's and women's tours.

Tournament Level	Player Prize Money*	Draw Size**	Wildcards^	PSA Entrants
World Championship	\$300,000	64**	2	62**
World Tour Finals	\$165,000	8	0	8
World Tour Platinum	\$165,000	48	2	46
World Tour Gold	\$100,000	24	1	23
World Tour Silver	\$70,000	24	1	23
World Tour Bronze	\$47,500	24	2	22

**Figures exclude tournament bonuses; the glass court bonus will be obsolete and it will be mandatory for PSA World Tour tournaments to provide accommodation in addition to the above prize money pay-outs.*

***There will be no qualifying competitions for PSA World Tour tournaments with the exception of the PSA World Championships which will feature a main draw of 64 players (46 PSA entrants, 2 wildcards and 16 qualifiers) and a qualifying draw of 64 players (48 PSA entrants, 8 WSF invitees and 8 wildcards).*

^Wildcards must be PSA members at World Tour level. Players are only entitled to one PSA World Tour wildcard in a 12-month rolling period. There will be defined criteria for assigning wildcards for PSA World Tour level tournaments, to be determined by PSA.

PSA will strive to achieve prize money parity for men and women on the PSA World Tour. For each level a maximum number of tournaments will be set:

- 1 PSA World Championships
- 1 PSA World Tour Finals
- 7 PSA World Tour Platinum
- 7 PSA World Tour Gold
- 7 PSA World Tour Silver
- 12 PSA World Tour Bronze

These tournaments will be selected on the following basis:

- Existing PSA World Tour level tournaments (these will be given first refusal)
- Tournaments identified by PSA as capable of moving up to PSA World Tour level (if possible)
- Additional and/or new tournaments selected after a tender process operated by the PSA Board

By the 2022-2023 season the PSA World Tour should feature up to 35 tournaments for men and women.

2.1.1 Scheduling Principles

The PSA World Tour season will run from 1 August until mid-June the following year. There will be a short break mid-way through the season. PSA will continue to keep certain periods during the season free from PSA World Tour tournaments to ensure that clashes between major WSF and multi-sports competitions are avoided.

Scheduling of PSA World Tour tournaments will take into account tournaments' geographical locations to minimise travel disruption for players.

Two week slots (from a Monday in week one through to Sunday in the following week) will be reserved for the PSA World Championships and PSA World Tour Platinum. One week slots will be reserved for all other PSA World Tour tournaments. It should be noted that PSA World Tour Bronze tournaments **can** take place in the same weeks as PSA World Tour Gold and PSA World Tour Silver tournaments.

PSA will strive to create consistency for fans and followers around the world by encouraging all tournaments to finish on the same day of the week.

PSA World Tour Platinum promoters will need to sign a multi-year agreement with the PSA.

PSA World Tour Gold tournaments have to register with PSA at least 10 months prior to the start of the tournament. PSA World Tour Silver and PSA World Tour Bronze tournaments need to file their paperwork a minimum of 8 and 6 months respectively before the start date of their tournaments.

2.1.2 Delivery

Clear and standardised guidelines will be created for all PSA World Tour tournaments to ensure consistent and high-level delivery, whilst allowing room for creativity in local markets.

PSA will be responsible for organising the PSA World Championships and PSA World Tour Finals, and will actively support the promoters of all other PSA World Tour tournaments.

TV broadcast production will be undertaken by PSA for the PSA World Championships, PSA World Tour Finals and PSA World Tour Platinum tournaments. All other PSA World Tour tournaments played on a full glass court will be broadcast on SQUASHTV. Fees for TV production will be incorporated into the tournament sanction fee.

PSA will aim to send, at its own cost, an Event Director to assist the local promoter and a Press Officer (plus photographer for all glass court tournaments). Referees will continue to be paid by the tournament promoter.

A knock-out format will be used for PSA World Tour tournaments, with matches being best-of-5 games point-a-rally scoring up to 11 points with a tiebreak in each game when the score reaches 10-all (where the winning player must win by 2 clear points).

The exception to this is the PSA World Tour Finals where a round-robin system with two groups of four players per division will be used. Seeding for the tournament will be based on the PSA World Tour Rankings. Group stage ties and the semi-finals of the PSA World Tour Finals will be best-of-3 game matches with point-a-rally scoring up to 11 points with a tiebreak in each game when the score reaches 10-all (where the winning player must win by 2 clear points). The finals of the PSA World Tour Finals will be best-of-5.



2.2 PSA World Championships

- ✓ The PSA World Championships can be a standalone men's or women's tournament, or held jointly, determined by PSA on a year-by-year basis.
- ✓ The minimum prize money level for the PSA World Championships is \$300,000 per division.
- ✓ In addition to the prize money, a pre-determined allowance must be paid by the promoter to all PSA World Championships competitors to compensate them for their accommodation costs. This allowance will be based on the room rate of the official tournament hotel and will be paid to players according to their finishing position. Note: it will not cover each player for the duration of the tournament.
- ✓ Alternatively, the promoter can opt to provide free hotel accommodation (on a twin-room basis) to all players for the full duration of the tournament.
- ✓ The PSA World Championships features a main draw of 64 players comprising of the 46 highest ranked entrants on the PSA World Ranking, 2 wildcards (assigned by PSA) and 16 qualifiers. A 64 draw qualifying competition will be staged to determine the 16 players who make it into the main draw. This qualifying competition features the 48 next highest ranked players on the PSA World Ranking, 8 WSF invitees and 8 wildcards (assigned by the host country).
- ✓ The PSA World Championships takes place over 10 days and must be played on a full glass court, except for qualifying and early round main draw matches. The finalists shall have a minimum of two rest days during the championship including one before or after the quarter-finals.
- ✓ In the PSA World Championships, the top-16 ranked players are seeded and will be placed in the draw randomly within their bracket (3/4, 5/8 and 9/16), with the exception of the top two seeds who will be placed at the top and the bottom of the draw.
- ✓ It is mandatory for the top 16 ranked players to play the PSA World Championships barring injury or other compelling reasons outside the control of the players.

2.3 PSA World Tour Finals

- ✓ The PSA World Tour Finals must feature a men's and women's division with eight players.
- ✓ The minimum prize money level for the PSA World Tour Finals is \$165,000 per division.
- ✓ The promoter must provide all players with a single room for the duration of the tournament.
- ✓ The reigning PSA World Champion and the seven season World Tour Platinum winners will automatically qualify for the PSA World Tour Finals. Any remaining places will be allocated to the next highest ranked player in the PSA World Rankings on June 1st.
- ✓ The PSA World Tour Finals takes place over five or six days depending on the venue. All matches must be played on a full glass court.
- ✓ It is mandatory for all players that qualify to play the PSA World Tour Finals barring injury or other compelling reasons outside the control of the players.



2.4 PSA World Tour Platinum

- ✓ The PSA World Tour Platinum must feature a men's and women's division.
- ✓ The minimum prize money level for the PSA World Tour Platinum tournaments is \$165,000 per division.
- ✓ In addition to the prize money, a pre-determined allowance must be paid by PSA World Tour Platinum promoters to all participants to compensate them for their accommodation costs. This allowance will be based on the room rate of the official tournament hotel and will be paid to players according to their finishing position. Note: it will not cover each player for the duration of the tournament.
- ✓ Alternatively, the promoter can opt to provide free hotel accommodation (on a twin-room basis) to all players for the full duration of the tournament.
- ✓ The PSA World Tour Platinum tournaments shall feature a main draw of 48 players for both divisions (men and women) comprising of the 46 highest ranked entrants on the PSA World Ranking and 2 wildcards.
- ✓ The promoters of the PSA World Tour Platinum tournaments have the right to assign two wildcards, subject to PSA's approval.
- ✓ The PSA World Tour Platinum tournaments take place over 8 or 9 days and must be played on a full glass court, except for early round matches if dictated by the tournament schedule.
- ✓ In the PSA World Tour Platinum tournaments (48 draws) the top-16 players are seeded and receive a bye in the first round. Seeded players will be placed in the draw randomly within their bracket (3/4, 5/8 and 9/16) with the exception of the top-2 seeds who will be placed at the top and the bottom of the draw.
- ✓ It is mandatory for the top-16 ranked players to play the PSA World Tour Platinum tournaments barring injury or other compelling reasons outside the control of the players.

2.5 PSA World Tour Gold, Silver and Bronze

- ✓ These tournaments can feature a men's and/or women's division at the discretion of the promoter.
- ✓ The minimum prize money levels for these tournaments are:
 - PSA World Tour Gold: \$100,000
 - PSA World Tour Silver: \$70,000
 - PSA World Tour Bronze: \$47,500
- ✓ In addition to the prize money, a pre-determined allowance must be paid by promoters to all participants to compensate them for their accommodation costs. This allowance will be based on the room rate of the official tournament hotel and will be paid to players according to their finishing position. Note: it will not cover each player for the duration of the tournament.
- ✓ Alternatively, the promoter can opt to provide free hotel accommodation (on a twin-room basis) to all players for the full duration of the tournament.



- ✓ The PSA World Tour Gold and PSA World Tour Silver tournaments shall feature a main draw of 24 players comprising of the 23 highest ranked entrants on the PSA World Ranking and 1 wildcard.
- ✓ The PSA World Tour Bronze tournaments shall feature a main draw of 24 players comprising of the 22 highest ranked entrants on the PSA World Ranking and 2 wildcards.
- ✓ Promoters of these tournaments have the right to assign wildcards, subject to PSA's approval.
- ✓ In these tournaments (24 draws) the top-8 players are seeded and will receive a bye in the first round. Seeded players will be placed in the draw randomly within their bracket (3/4 and 5/8) with the exception of the top-2 seeds who will be placed at the top and the bottom of the draw.
- ✓ PSA World Tour Gold tournaments take place over five or six days and must be played on a full glass court, except for early round matches if dictated by the tournament schedule.
- ✓ PSA World Tour Silver and Bronze tournaments take place over five or six days and are encouraged to be played on a full glass court.

3. PSA Regional Tour

3.1 Introduction

PSA Regional Tour levels will be: PSA Regional Tour 30, PSA Regional Tour 20, PSA Regional Tour 10 and PSA Regional Tour 5.

The regions will reflect the Regional Federations that are affiliated with the World Squash Federation:

- PSA Asian Tour
- PSA European Tour
- PSA Pan American Tour
- PSA Oceanian Tour
- PSA African Tour

PSA Regional Tour tournaments can feature a men's and/or women's division at the discretion of the promoter and need to be played on accredited club courts.

There will be no fixed maximum of tournaments for each level on the PSA Regional Tour. Prize money levels for each level will remain as below in the first three years.

Tournament Level	Prize Money	Draw Size*	Wildcards^	PSA Entrants
Regional Tour 30	\$30,000	24	Up to 2	24 (including 2 wildcards)
Regional Tour 20	\$20,000	24	Up to 2	24 (including 2 wildcards)
Regional Tour 10	\$12,000	24	Up to 3 (incl. 1 non-PSA)	23 (including 2 wildcards)
		16	Up to 1	16 (including 1 wildcard)
Regional Tour 5	\$6,000	16 (round robin)	Up to 2 (incl. 1 non-PSA)	15 (including 1 wildcard)
		24 (knock out)	Up to 4 (incl. 2 non-PSA)	22 (including 2 wildcards)
		16 (knock out)	0	0

**There will be no qualifying competition for PSA Regional Tour tournaments.*

^Non-PSA wildcards will not be eligible to earn prize money; this prize money will go to the PSA Foundation. PSA players may only have up to two wildcards per 12-rolling month period, a maximum of one of which can be used on the PSA World Tour

It is not mandatory to provide accommodation for players for tournaments on the PSA Regional Tour. Tournaments that do offer billeting or hotel to the players benefit from an accommodation bonus and are therefore required to pay less prize money within their band. For reference, the values of the accommodation bonuses are as follows:

Regional Tour 30	\$3,000 hotel bonus / \$1,500 billeting bonus
Regional Tour 20 and 10	\$2,000 hotel bonus / \$1,000 billeting bonus
Regional Tour 5	\$1,000 hotel bonus / \$500 billeting bonus

3.1.2 Scheduling Principles

The PSA Regional Tour season will run year-long with a short break mid-way through the season. PSA will continue to hold certain periods during the season free from PSA Regional Tour 30 and PSA Regional Tour 20 tournaments to ensure clashes between major WSF and multi-sports competitions are avoided.

There will be no limitations on the number of PSA Regional Tour tournaments that can be scheduled at one time.

PSA will make every effort to cluster tournaments together in the same geographical area to ease travel-commitments for the players.

PSA Regional Tour 30, PSA Regional Tour 20 and PSA Regional Tour 10 tournaments can play only one round per day. PSA Regional Tour 5 tournaments may play up to two rounds per day of the tournament.

PSA Regional Tour 30 and PSA Regional Tour 20 tournaments have to register with PSA at least four months prior to the start of the tournament. PSA Regional Tour 10 and PSA Regional Tour 5 tournaments need to file their paperwork a minimum of ten weeks before the start date of their tournaments.

3.1.3 Delivery

Clear and standardised guidelines will be created for all PSA Regional Tour tournaments to ensure consistent delivery across the board.

All PSA Regional Tour tournaments are run by independent promoters. PSA will provide administrative and (basic) promotional support to all PSA Regional Tour tournaments.

All matches will be played as best-of-5 games point-a-rally scoring up to 11 points with a tiebreak in each game when the score reaches 10-all (where the winning player must win by 2 clear points).

3.2 PSA Regional Tour 30, 20 and 10

- ✓ The PSA Regional Tour 30 and 20 tournaments shall feature a main draw of 24 players.
- ✓ PSA Regional Tour 30 tournaments will be comprised of the 22 highest ranked entrants on the PSA World Ranking and up to 2 wildcards subject to the discretion of the promoter.
- ✓ PSA Regional Tour 20 tournaments will be comprised of the 22 highest ranked entrants on the PSA World Ranking and up to two wildcards subject to the discretion of the promoter.
- ✓ The PSA Regional Tour 10 tournaments can feature either a main draw of 24 players, with up to three wildcards subject to the discretion of the promoter, or a main draw of 16 players comprised of the 15 highest ranked entrants on the PSA World Ranking and 1 wildcard.
- ✓ The knock-out format will be used for PSA Regional Tour 30, PSA Regional Tour 20 and PSA Regional Tour 10 tournaments with all matches being best-of-5 games point-a-rally scoring up to 11 points with a tiebreak in each game when the score reaches 10-all (where the winning player must win by 2 clear points).
- ✓ In all 24 draw tournaments, the top-8 players are seeded and will receive a bye in the first round. Seeded players will be placed in the draw randomly within their bracket (3/4 and 5/8) with the exception of the top-2 seeds who will be placed at the top and the bottom of the draw.

- ✓ In 16 draw tournaments, the top-8 players are seeded and placed in the draw randomly within their bracket (3/4 and 5/8) with the exception of the top-2 seeds who will be placed at the top and the bottom of the draw.
- ✓ PSA Regional Tour 30 and PSA Regional Tour 20 tournaments take place over a minimum of five and a maximum of six days.
- ✓ PSA Regional Tour 10 tournaments take place over five days.

3.3 PSA Regional Tour 5

The PSA Regional Tour 5 tournaments can feature either:

- A main draw of 16 or 24 players, played in knock-out format
Or
- A main draw of 16 players, played in the round robin format

3.3.1 Knock-Out Format

- ✓ PSA Regional Tour 5 tournaments which opt for a 24-player knock-out draw will be comprised of the 20 highest ranked entrants on the PSA World Ranking and up to 4 wildcards subject to the discretion of the promoter. Tournaments that opt for a main draw of 16 players will be comprised of the 16 highest ranked entrants on the PSA World Ranking and no wildcard.
- ✓ The top-8 players are seeded and will receive a bye in the first round in 24-player draws. Seeded players will be placed in the draw randomly within their bracket (3/4 and 5/8) with the exception of the top-2 seeds who will be placed at the top and the bottom of the draw.
- ✓ The knock-out format will be used for these tournaments.
- ✓ The PSA Regional Tour 5 knock-out tournaments take place over a minimum of three and a maximum of five days.

3.3.2 Round Robin Format

- ✓ PSA Regional Tour 5 tournaments which opt for a 16-player draw will utilise the round robin system with four groups comprising of four players in each. The winners of each group will progress to the semi-finals.
- ✓ The 14 highest ranked entrants on the PSA World Ranking automatically qualify to participate at a PSA Regional Tour 5 tournament. The promoter has the right to assign two wildcards.
- ✓ In PSA Regional Tour 5 tournaments, the numbers 1, 2, 3 and 4 are placed at the top of each of the groups and the numbers 5 through 8 will be drawn in one of the 4 groups. All other players will be randomly placed in the groups.
- ✓ The PSA Regional Tour 5 round robin tournaments take place over a minimum of three and a maximum of five days.

4 WSF Nationals Tour & WSF Futures Tour

4.1 Introduction

In partnership, the PSA and WSF are integrating sanctioned World, Regional, National and Junior tournaments into the PSA World Rankings to create a pathway for young, up-and-coming players to the professional tours. To achieve this both organisations will launch the WSF Nationals Tour and WSF Futures Tour.

WSF Nationals Tour levels will be: WSF National Championships, WSF Satellite Tournaments

WSF Futures Tour levels will be: WSF World and WSF Regional Junior Championships, WSF National Junior Opens, WSF National-Junior Championships

WSF Nationals Tour tournaments and WSF Futures Tour tournaments may feature a men's and/or women's division and must be played on courts built to WSF specifications. For courts built after 2012 they must be WSF Registered as having been constructed using WSF Accredited Products to assure standards (there is no charge for Registration).

Results from all WSF Nationals Tour tournaments and WSF Futures Tour tournaments will count towards the PSA World Rankings.

4.1.1 Sanctioning Structure and Scheduling Principles

The WSF Nationals Tour tournaments and WSF Futures Tour tournaments will run throughout each calendar year. There are no specific breaks within the season.

There will be no limitations on the number of WSF National Championships, WSF Satellite Tournaments or WSF Futures Tour tournaments that can be scheduled in any given week. However, only one National Junior Open and one National Junior Championship per WSF Member may be registered per calendar year, per division (this excludes regional tournaments run by WSF Regional Federations).

All men's and women's WSF Regional and National Championships are encouraged to use the designated protected dates outlined by WSF and PSA in their corresponding calendars.

WSF Nationals Tour and WSF Futures Tour tournaments must be registered with PSA at least four weeks prior to the start of the tournament.

4.1.2 Delivery

All WSF Nationals Tour and WSF Futures Tour tournaments are run by WSF Members or sanctioned independent promoters.

The PSA will provide administrative support to all tournaments to ensure that the tournaments will count towards the PSA World Ranking.

There are no requirements or restrictions for WSF Members or sanctioned promoters with regards to draw size, tournament format, seeding, etc. for any WSF Nationals Tour or WSF Futures Tour tournament.

4.1.3 Eligibility to Play

Both PSA members and non-members can compete in all WSF Nationals Tour and WSF Futures Tour tournaments.

To earn points for the PSA World Rankings, players will have to join the PSA as a member. PSA will offer a specific low-cost membership to allow players just to compete at WSF

Nationals Tour and WSF Futures Tour tournaments, with the option to upgrade to full membership later if they wish.

All players competing in all WSF Nationals Tour and WSF Futures Tour tournaments must have a WSF SPIN membership irrespective of category competed in, i.e. including non-registered categories within the tournaments.

4.2 WSF Nationals Tour

The two WSF Nationals Tour categories are:

4.2.1 WSF National Championships

All WSF National Championships tournaments will be automatically registered with PSA free of charge.

PSA and WSF will accept registration of WSF Full or Associate National Federation (termed *WSF Member* in these rules) men's and/or women's 'Closed' Championships as a WSF National Championship tournament. The entry into these men's and women's tournaments must be open to any citizen or resident of the country, as allowed by the eligibility rules of the host WSF Member.

There is no minimum prize money requirement for WSF National Championships.

Note: WSF National Championships men and women's divisions may be registered separately if not held together, and it is not a requirement that both divisions are held and registered.

4.2.2 WSF Satellite Tournaments

PSA and WSF will accept registration of tournaments other than WSF National Championships that feature a minimum prize money of \$1,000 for men's tournaments and/or \$500 for women's tournaments as a WSF Satellite Tournament at the published registration fee cost.

These tournaments must be managed by the WSF Member itself or a promoter that has been recognised as being in good standing by the WSF Member, PSA and/or WSF. PSA and/or WSF reserve the right to refuse or remove sanctioning of a WSF Satellite Tournament at their discretion.

4.3 WSF Futures Tour

There will be WSF World Junior Rankings at Under 19 and U17 level, separated out of the PSA World Rankings using results from all the PSA World Tour, PSA Regional Tour, WSF Nationals Tour and WSF Futures Tour tournaments. These will be published monthly.

The WSF Futures Tour comprises Under 19 and Under 17 age group singles tournaments in the following categories:

4.3.1 WSF World and WSF Regional Junior Championships

WSF World and Regional Junior Championships will be registered free of charge as WSF Futures Tour tournaments (U19 and U17) e.g. European Junior Championships, Asian Junior Championships etc. Other age groups may be run too but only these age categories may be registered.

4.3.2 WSF National Junior Opens

PSA and WSF will accept free of charge registration of a WSF Member National Junior Open tournament as a WSF Futures Tour tournament (U19 and U17).



4.3.3 WSF National Junior Championships

PSA and WSF will accept free of charge registration of a WSF Member National Junior Championship as a WSF Futures Tour tournament (U19 and U17).

Note: U19 and U17 events may be registered separately if not held together, and it is not a requirement that both age groups are held and registered.