OPENBENJAMINS GRADIGNAN 2026

TENNIS EUROPE TOURNAMENT & NATIONAL TROPHY

TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS

General Provisions

- Single draws for girls and boys under 13, with matches played as best of two winning sets (see rules concerning officiating).
- Age categories: the tournament is reserved for players born in 2014, 2015 and 2016, with a national ranking/level, licensed by the French Tennis Federation or any other foreign national federation.

1. National Qualifying Draws

- The draws will be limited to 32 girls and 32 boys, reserved exclusively for French player(s) with a minimum ranking of 15/4 (October 2026 ranking).
- Qualifying matches will be played from 21 to 23 October.
- The 4 girls and 4 boys who qualify will receive wild cards (WC) for the Tennis Europe qualifying draws.
- Participants must report to the referee's desk at least 30 minutes before their match is called.
- Match format: best of 2 sets, first to 6 games, with a deciding-point system in each set; if a third set is required, a 10-point deciding match tie-break will be played; "No Let" rule applies.
- Entry fee: €40.

2. Tennis Europe International Qualifying Draws

- The draws will be limited to 32 girls and 32 boys. They will include French and foreign players selected by their respective national federations.
- After entries close on 29 September, the Acceptance List will be established according to Tennis Europe rules.
- By the French Tennis Federation's National Technical Department: 12 French boys and 12 French girls.
- By the tournament organizing committee: 16 foreign boys and 16 foreign girls recommended by their national federations.
- Wild cards will be awarded exclusively to the 4 girls and 4 boys coming from the national qualifying draws, played from 21 to 23 October.
- Participants must check in with the referee on Friday 23 October, no later than 6:00 p.m.
- Presentation of an identity document and mandatory IPIN code.
- Qualifying matches will be played on 24 and 25 October.
- The qualifiers — 8 girls and 8 boys — will receive wild cards into the main draws.
- Match format: best of 2 sets, first to 6 games, with a deciding point in each game; if a third set is required, a 10-point deciding match tie-break; "No Let" rule applies.
- Entry fee: €90.

3. Tennis Europe Main Draws

- The draws will be limited to 48 girls and 48 boys and will include French and foreign players selected by their respective federations.
- After entries close on 29 September, the Acceptance List will be established according to Tennis Europe rules.
- By the French Tennis Federation's National Technical Department: 14 French boys and 14 French girls.
- By the tournament organizing committee: 18 foreign boys and 18 foreign girls recommended by their national federations.
- The 8 girls and 8 boys coming through the international qualifying draws will be included.
- The 6 wild cards (WC) will be awarded by the tournament organizing committee.
- Participants must check in with the referee on Sunday 25 October, strictly before 6:00 p.m.
- Presentation of an identity document and IPIN code is mandatory.
- The main draws will be played from 26 October to 31 October.
- Match format: best of 3 sets, first to 6 games, with a deciding point in each game; "No Let" rule applies.
- Entry fee: €120.

4. Doubles Draws

- The doubles draws will be limited to 24 girls' teams and 24 boys' teams.
- Only players participating in the main draws will be accepted (and potentially players participating in the Tennis Europe qualifying draws).

- Entries must be submitted before 12:00 noon on Monday 26 October.
- The doubles draws may begin the same day from 3:00 p.m.
- Match format: matches will be played as best of 2 sets. If the score is tied, a deciding third-set match tie-break will be played. NO-AD scoring will apply in every game in case of a tie, together with the “No Let” rule.

5. Consolation Draws

- Players eliminated in their first match of the main draw may enter the consolation draw, provided they register with the referee before leaving the tournament.
- Match format: best of 3 winning sets to 4 games, with a 2-game advantage. NO-AD scoring will apply in every game, together with the “No Let” rule.
- In the event of force majeure, the match format may be shortened, or the competition may simply be cancelled.

6. Schedule / Progression

- The competition will be played as a single-elimination tournament over 11 days: 3 days for the national qualifying draws; 2 days for the international qualifying draws; 6 days for the main draws.
- Matches will begin every day at 9:00 a.m., with subsequent matches following.

7. Playing Surface

- The Tennis Europe international qualifying and main draws will be played on covered or outdoor clay courts, or on other surfaces depending on weather conditions.

8. Balls

- Balls for all surfaces: Tecnifibre Club.

9. Officiating

- Tournament Referee (official badge): Hakim FATEH.
- Deputy Referee: Michel Totaro.
- Referees for the national qualifying draws: Philippe Beauté, Christian Labesse.
- Supervising chair umpires will be present at each tournament site: Philippe Pagnot, Jean Pierre Bilhere, Georges Esnaut, Franck Villemiane, Christian Labesse.
- Matches will be officiated from the quarter-finals of the main draw onwards.
- Players must report to the reception desk of the Loustalot hall in Gradignan to confirm their participation in the tournament.

10. Tournament Committee

- Philippe BEAUTE, Daniel DUCASSE, Jean Marie NATOLI, Robert Lombardo, Christian Labesse.

11. Rules Concerning Sporting Organization

- Application of the French Tennis Federation Code of Conduct, Article 117 of the administrative regulations.
- The only official match times are those displayed on the draws posted at the tournament committee’s office. Main-draw matches will be followed.
- Coaching from outside the court is permitted during matches.
- One or two designated chair umpires will be present on each site.
- Players must be available to the referee 30 minutes before the start of each match.
- Only matches in the main draws will be officiated by young chair umpires.
- International qualifying draw: Friday 23 October at 6:30 p.m.
- Main draw: Sunday 25 October at 6:30 p.m., on the central court of the Loustalot hall.
- All questions concerning the sporting organization of the competition shall be handled by the referee or, in their absence, by the assistant referees.
- If necessary, the tournament organizing committee, following a proposal from the referee, reserves the right to modify the organization of matches or exceptionally schedule certain matches on courts with different playing surfaces.

2026 UPDATE

It is now permitted to schedule a player for 2 singles matches and 1 doubles match on the same day (unlike the 2025 rule), with mandatory rest periods.
In this situation, matches may be played either best of 2 sets to 6 games, with a 10-point deciding match tie-break as the third set, or best of three (3) short sets.