

OPEN BOOK TEST 2005

Firstly, we would like to apologise to some officials that had problems with their mailing of rulebooks this year. Unfortunately, some of the packages did not arrive in very good shape. We are looking at ways in improving the way we do our mailing for 2006.

The average score for an International Official this year was **9** and for a White Badge was **8** out of the 10 questions. So, check your answers and see how you did.

Correct answers vs. Your result

- **8 – 10:** Well done! You scored the average (or better) of all officials worldwide
- **6 – 7:** You need to make more phone calls. Either that, or go to bed with your rulebooks a little more often.
- **1 – 5:** Pathetic! You will be hearing from us sometime soon.

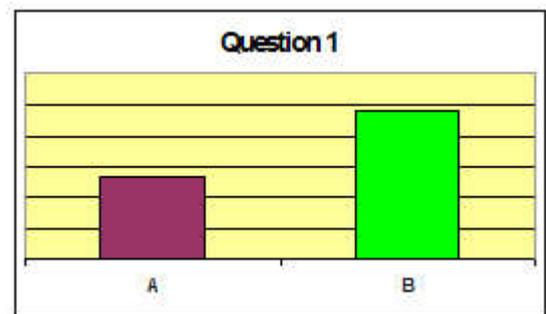
Please find below the answers to the Open Book Test.

*The graphs below show the distribution of answers of each question (web replies only)
Green: Correct answer*

Question 1

A player takes a toilet break at the end of the second set of an ITF Men's Circuit event. At the same time, his opponent is receiving further treatment from the trainer (having received a Medical Time-Out at the end of the previous game). When must this treatment stop?

- **A:** When the player has returned from the toilet break and the Chair Umpire has announced "Time"
- **B:** After 120 seconds



The main point of this question was to emphasise that the time of changeover or set break treatment has to be limited in time. Even if the opponent has left the court for a toilet break, the treatment has to stop within the time of the set break.

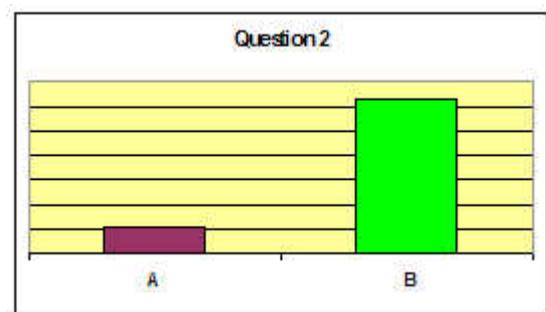
Can you imagine the situation otherwise? If a player takes a toilet break on an outside court at a major event that takes 5 minutes, the treatment for his opponent would be 5 minutes (longer than a Medical Time-Out).

The correct answer is B.

Question 2

In Men's professional tennis, sleeveless shirts can only be worn if the manufacturer has received specific approval from the ITF and ATP.

- **A:** True
- **B:** False



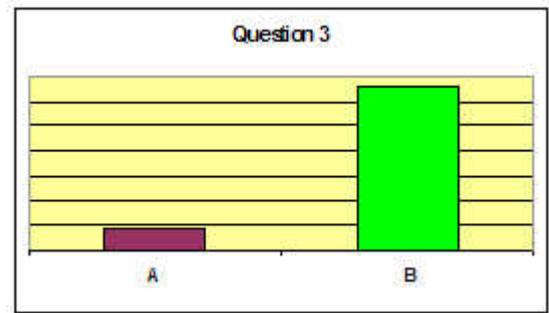
Most officials got this question right – the **correct answer is B**. Only those officials that do not regularly check the ITF Officiating website, www.tennisofficial.com were left embarrassed.

We have now amended the procedure for sleeveless shirts in Men's professional tennis and the manufacturer does not have to seek specific approval from the ITF and ATP. For more information on this question, check the Rules & Regulations page of our website.

Question 3

A Chair Umpire checks a mark on a clay court at Roland Garros. After he checks the mark and signals that the ball was good, one of the players complains that he checked the wrong mark. The Chair Umpire then becomes unsure about whether he checked the correct mark. Can he/she then ask the Line Umpire to show him/her the mark?

- A: Yes
- B: No



Once a Chair Umpire has made his/her decision in a ball mark inspection and signalled the ball good, or out, the Ball Mark Inspection procedures have been completed. Any further protests from the players are considered as “player appeal” – see ITF Duties and Procedures page 9.

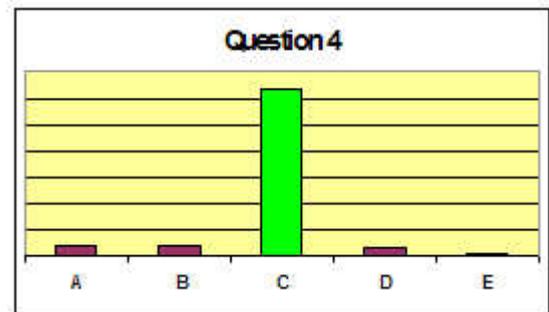
This situation is the same as a Chair Umpire who realises, after a player has complained, that he/she made a bad overrule on a hard court. Once the player has appealed, the Chair Umpire is not allowed to change the decision – however much he/she regrets overruling.

The correct answer is B.

Question 4

At a Men’s Challenger, a player asks to see the trainer at the end of the second set because he is cramping. The trainer decides to treat the player on the set break only and no Medical Time-Out is required. How much more treatment is that player allowed for cramping during the match?

- A: No further treatment allowed
- B: A Medical Time-Out, plus two changeovers
- C: A Medical Time-Out, plus one changeover
- D: A Medical Time-Out only
- E: One changeover only



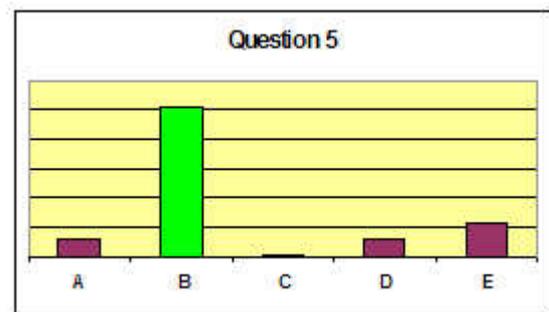
A player can receive a total of one Medical Time-Out and two changeovers (or set breaks) for cramps during a match. This treatment can be received in any order. For example, the Medical Time-Out can be taken on the first occasion, or saved for later in the match. What is important is that the total amount of treatment for cramps should be limited to one Medical Time-Out and two changeovers.

The correct answer is C.

Question 5

In a doubles match, Player A serves a first serve fault and then walks to speak to his partner Player B (who is standing near the net). They talk for a few seconds and then Player A walks back to the base line to hit his second serve. This is the first time this has happened. What should the Chair Umpire do?

- A: Soft warning at the next changeover. If this continues, assess a Code Violation
- B: Soft warning at the next changeover. If this continues, assess a Time Violation
- C: Assess a Code Violation immediately
- D: Assess a Time Violation immediately
- E: Nothing



The correct answer is B. We have been experiencing some problems, particularly in Men’s professional tennis, with players taking too long between points and between serves to discuss strategy with their partner.

Since the second serve should be hit “without delay” (see Rules of Tennis, Rule 20) we

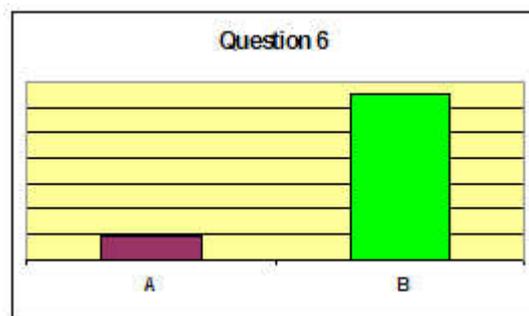
would consider any conversation by the serving team to be over the time allowed. Like many potential Time Violation situations, it is normally best to give a soft warning first so that the players are aware of the problem.

A Code Violation for Delay of Game can only be issued if the player refuses to play, has left the court on his/her own time, or is late because of a treated or non-treatable medical condition.

Question 6

At an ATP event, before a player is allowed to retire from the match the Chair Umpire must call for the trainer.

- A: True
- B: False



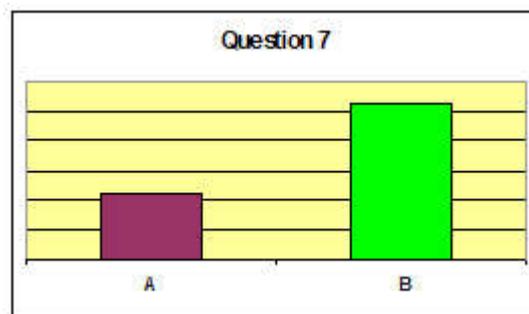
The correct answer is B. In previous years, the ATP did require the trainer to be called in retirement situations but this procedure has now been changed.

However, the retiring player does have to submit to an on-site medical by the Tournament Doctor before the end of play on the day of his retirement (see ATP 2005 Official Rulebook page 119).

Question 7

During a Grand Slam match where there are 7 Line Umpires on court, the Chair Umpire calls the score after Player A serves an ace, since no Line Umpire called a "fault". However, Player B (the receiver) complains that the ball was wide and that there is no Line Umpire standing on that line. The Chair Umpire then notices that one of the Line Umpires forgot to move across to the centre service line for that serve. The Chair Umpire is not sure whether the ball was wide or not. What is the correct decision?

- A: Server wins the point
- B: Replay the point



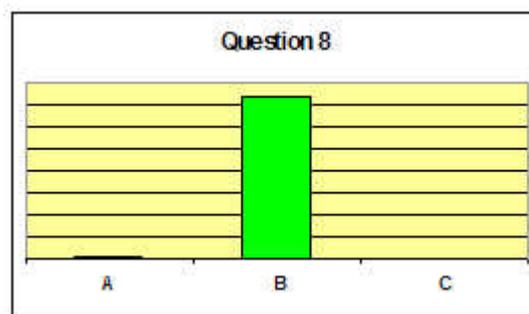
The correct answer is B. Unfortunately, neither the Chair Umpire nor the Line Umpire is in a position to confirm that the ball was good, or out. Since the Line Umpire was not in the correct position and the Chair Umpire was not sure if the ball was good or not, the point has to be replayed.

Some players think that if there is no "out" call, that the ball should be assumed to be good. Obviously this is not correct, as one of the officials on-court must confirm that the ball was good (either the relevant Line Umpire or Chair Umpire).

Question 8

At an ITF Men's Circuit event, a match is stopped (but not suspended) for 16 minutes. What re-warm-up is allowed?

- A: None
- B: 3 minutes
- C: 5 minutes

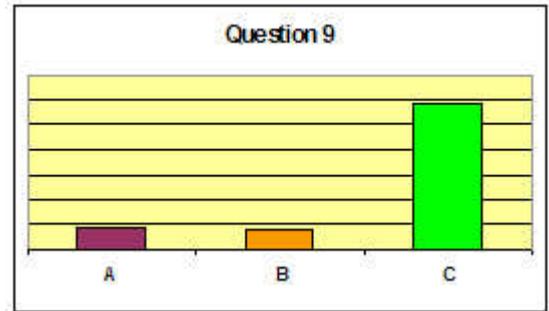


The correct answer is B. As stated in the Duties and Procedures book (page 12), "in the case of a stopped, suspended or postponed match" the re-warm-up periods apply. Therefore, matches that are stopped are handled in the same manner as suspended matches

Question 9

After the second set tie-break an error is made and Player A (instead of his opponent Player B) starts serving in the first game of the final set. This error is not discovered by the Chair Umpire until after the second game of the final set. Assuming the ball change is 7/9, when should the balls be changed next?

- **A:** As originally scheduled
- **B:** One game earlier than originally scheduled
- **C:** One game later than originally scheduled



Green: Correct answer

Orange: Also accepted for the test

This question certainly got us talking! Everywhere that our staff went, officials were casually bringing this issue into conversation. This is understandable, as we have never outlined the procedure for handling this situation before and it is not covered by the Rules of Tennis. The correct answer is C, although we did also accept the answer of B.

Since the order of service has been altered, the ball change needs to be adjusted to ensure that the new balls alternate during the match between the two players/teams. Although there are merits in the arguments for both B and C, the problem with answer B is that it will not work in some situations.

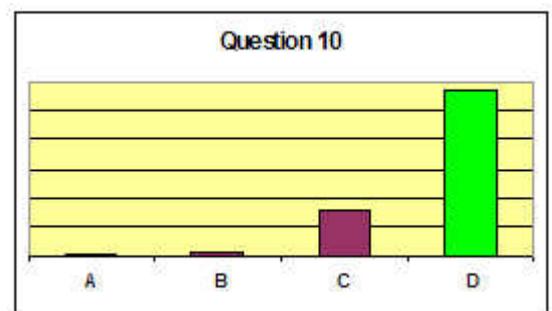
For example, if the ball change was due at the end of the first game of the final set and the error in serving was also discovered at the end of the first game of the final set, it would not be possible to change the balls "one game earlier than originally scheduled" as this game had already been played!

Luckily, most officials answered C, so we appear to have some consensus on our new procedure.

Question 10

At an ITF Men's Circuit event, Player A asks to take an additional toilet break while his opponent Player B is receiving a Medical Time-Out on a changeover (Player A took his one toilet break earlier in the match). When does Player A have to be back on court and ready to play?

- **A:** Within 4½ minutes
- **B:** Within 3 minutes
- **C:** Within 90 seconds
- **D:** Within 30 seconds of the Chair Umpire announcing "Time" after the Medical Time-Out has been completed



The correct answer is D. No extra time can be given for an additional toilet break and it must be made very clear to the Player A before he leaves the court that he needs to get back to the court as quickly as he can, because there is no guarantee that the Medical Time-Out will take the full 3 minutes.

However, so long as he is back on court and ready to play within the time allowed (which, in all changeovers and set breaks, is 30 seconds after the Chair Umpire announces "Time") there is no delay to play. Obviously, the shortest time he could have would be 90 seconds, but it is very likely to be more than 90 seconds if a Medical Time-Out is taking place.