



OFFICIAL COMPETITION HANDBOOK

WOMEN'S COMMUNITY
INDOOR PADEL TOURNAMENT

COMPETE. CONNECT. EMPOWER.



CREATED & OWNED BY



HOPATEC
SPORTS SERVICES



Welcome from the Founders

Welcome to the **HER Padel Series UAE 2026**.

HER Padel Series was created from a shared belief that women's sport deserves more than just tournaments—it deserves a community where women can compete, connect and grow together.

Over the years, we have been privileged to work across the UAE sports industry, delivering events, building communities and developing platforms that bring people together through sport. While competitive opportunities continue to grow, we recognised a gap for women seeking professionally organised, community-focused competitions that are welcoming, inclusive and accessible.

HER Padel Series was established to fill that gap.

Our vision is to create the UAE's leading women's community padel competition—one that celebrates participation, encourages personal development and builds lasting friendships through the game. Every event is designed to provide an exceptional player experience, from registration through to the final match, while maintaining the highest standards of organisation, fairness and professionalism.

As founders, we are committed to creating an environment built on respect, sportsmanship and inclusivity. Whether you are entering your first tournament or returning to compete again, we want every player to feel welcome, supported and inspired to continue their journey in the sport.

This handbook has been developed to provide a clear understanding of the competition, its rules and the standards expected from everyone involved. By working together, we can continue to build a community that reflects the values of the **HER Padel Series** and contributes to the continued growth of women's padel in the UAE.

Thank you for being part of this journey. We look forward to welcoming you onto the court.

Compete. Connect. Empower.

Leoné Phillipson

Co-Founder
HER Padel Series
Partner & Manager
Hopatec Sports Services LLC

Tarek Abboud

Co-Founder
HER Padel Series
Founder & Managing Director
Sports Mania

1. Event Ownership, Governance & Competition Authority

Ownership

The **HER PADEL SERIES UAE 2026** is co-created, jointly owned and operated by **Hopatec Sports Services LLC** and **Sports Mania**. All tournament formats, branding, commercial concepts, operational systems, visual identity and associated intellectual property remain the exclusive property of the owners. No part of the event may be copied, replicated or commercially reproduced without the prior written consent of the owners.

Competition Governance

The competition is governed by the Tournament Director, Event Directors and the appointed UAE Padel Association (UAEPA) Technical Director.

Technical Oversight

To ensure fair competition and maintain the integrity of the **HER PADEL SERIES**, the tournament will be overseen by an appointed Technical Director in collaboration with the UAE Padel Association (UAEPA).

The Technical Director and UAEPA representatives have full authority to:

- Monitor player standards throughout the tournament.
- Observe matches at all venues.
- Review player eligibility before or during the competition.
- Request additional player information where necessary.
- Remove individual players or entire teams found to be competing above the permitted tournament level.

Player Level Verification

The **HER PADEL SERIES** is strictly intended for **Category C and D community players**. If the Tournament Director and UAEPA Technical Director determine that a player or team is competing above the permitted level, they may immediately disqualify the player or team, amend results where necessary and refuse future entries. Their decision is final.

2. Competition Philosophy

The **HER Padel Series** is built on four core pillars that guide every event, every match and every participant's experience.

Community

We create a welcoming environment where women can connect, build friendships and enjoy the game together, regardless of experience.

Fair Competition

Designed exclusively for **Category C & D players**, the series promotes balanced competition through the oversight of the UAE Padel Association (UAEPA) and the appointed Technical Director.

Respect

We expect all players, officials, volunteers and spectators to demonstrate respect, sportsmanship and professionalism both on and off the court.

Empowerment

We aim to inspire more women to participate in sport by providing professionally organised competitions that build confidence, encourage personal growth and strengthen the women's padel community.

Our Promise

Compete. Connect. Empower.

3. Tournament Structure

The **HER Padel Series** follows a qualification pathway designed to give community players the opportunity to progress from city qualifiers to the **UAE Finals**, with a long-term vision of expanding into a **GCC Championship**.

TOURNAMENT STRUCTURE

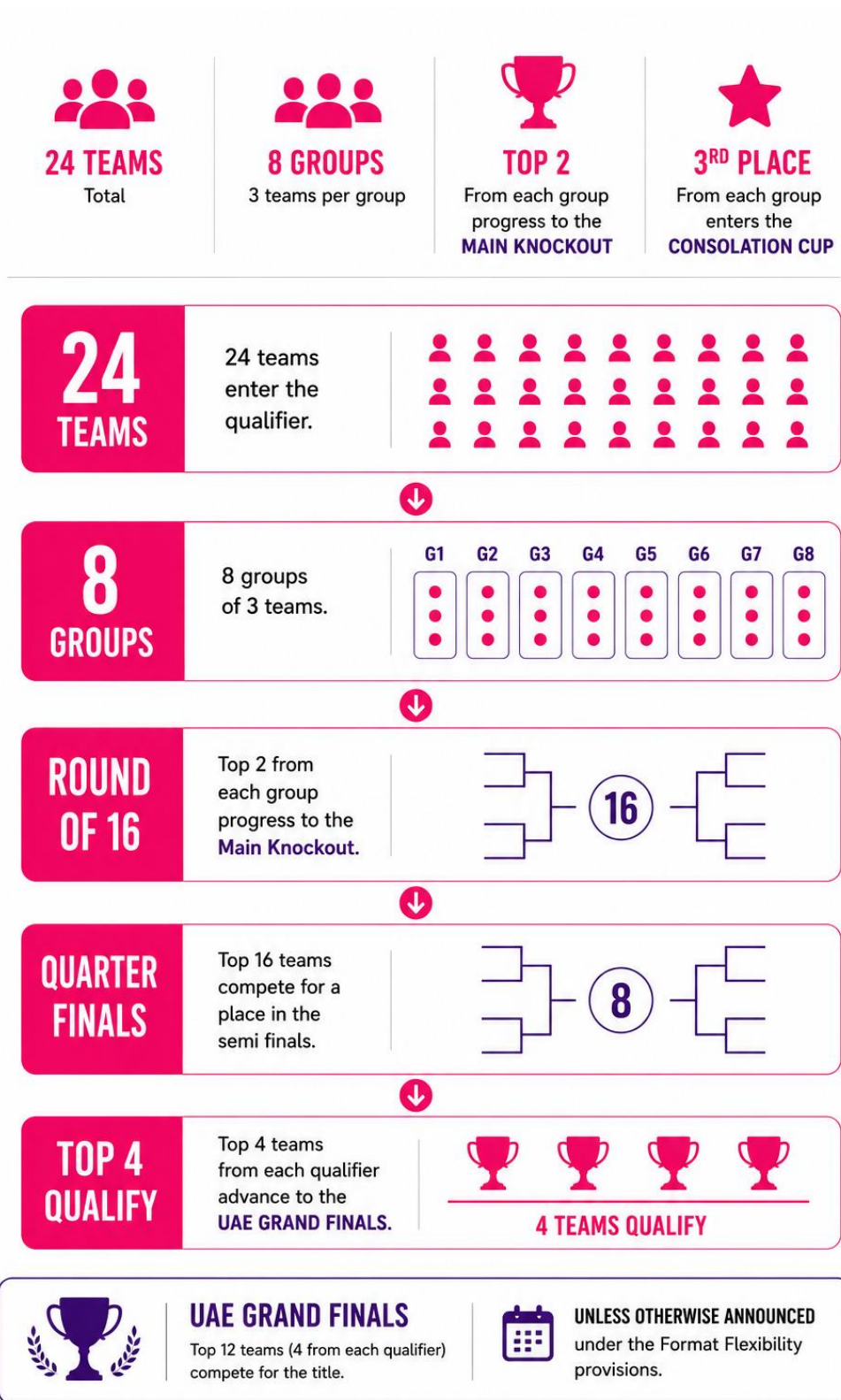


Qualification Pathway

- **Sharjah Qualifier** – Top 4 teams qualify for the UAE Grand Finals.
- **Abu Dhabi Qualifier** – Top 4 teams qualify for the UAE Grand Finals.
- **Dubai Qualifier** – Top 4 teams qualify for the UAE Grand Finals.
- **UAE Grand Finals** – 12 qualified teams compete to crown the HER Padel Series UAE Champions.

Future Vision: As the **HER Padel Series** expands across the GCC, national champions from participating countries will progress to the **HER Padel Series GCC Finals**, creating a regional pathway for women's community padel.

4. Tournament Format





*UNLESS OTHERWISE ANNOUNCED UNDER THE FORMAT FLEXIBILITY PROVISIONS.

4.1 Tournament Format Flexibility

The **HER PADEL SERIES** aims to provide the best possible competition experience while maintaining efficient event operations.

Tournament formats may change depending on:

- Number of registered teams
- Court availability
- Venue operating hours
- Scheduling requirements
- Operational considerations.

The **Event Directors**, together with the **Tournament Director**, reserve the right to amend:

- Number of groups
- Group sizes
- Qualification pathways
- Knockout structures
- Match schedules
- Order of play.

The official format for each qualifier will be announced before the event weekend.

Mocion Management System will generate and manage the official draws, schedules and competition formats following the close of entries. Approved updates will be communicated to all participants before each qualifier weekend.

5. Player Eligibility

5.1 Women Only

The HER PADEL SERIES is strictly a **women-only** competition.

To be eligible to participate, players must:

- Be **18 years of age or older** on the first day of the tournament.
- Identify and compete as female.
- Meet all eligibility and player classification requirements set out in these Regulations.

5.2 Professional Player & Coach Restrictions

To preserve the community-focused nature of the HER PADEL SERIES, the following individuals are **not eligible** to participate:

- Professional players
- Nationally ranked professional players
- Internationally ranked professional players
- Players actively competing on professional circuits
- Players with significant federation or professional ranking points, as determined by the Organiser
- **Professional padel coaches, instructors or academy coaches who actively coach players or conduct paid coaching sessions**

The Organiser and the appointed **Technical Director** reserve the right to:

- Review player profiles and playing history
- Request proof of eligibility where required
- Reject or refuse entries prior to the event
- Disqualify individual players or entire teams found to be in breach of these eligibility requirements at any stage of the competition

The decision of the Organiser and the UAEPA Technical Director shall be **final and binding**.

No refunds will be issued in cases where a player or team is disqualified due to ineligibility.

6. Player Classification

The HER PADEL SERIES is designed exclusively for **Category C and Category D community players**, creating a competitive, enjoyable and inclusive environment for women of intermediate and recreational playing levels.

Category C Players

Category C players are experienced recreational competitors who:

- Have a solid understanding of padel tactics and positioning.
- Demonstrate consistent shot-making and match play.
- Regularly participate in local social leagues, club competitions or amateur tournaments.
- Are competitive community players but are **not** professional or elite-level athletes.

Category D Players

Category D players are recreational and developing competitors who:

- Have a basic understanding of the rules and scoring.
- Are building consistency and confidence in match play.
- Participate primarily in social games, beginner leagues and community tournaments.
- Are relatively new to competitive padel but are comfortable playing full matches.

Ineligible Players

The following individuals are **not eligible** to compete in the HER PADEL SERIES:

- Professional players.
- Nationally or internationally ranked professional players.
- Players actively competing above Category C & D.
- Professional padel coaches, instructors or academy coaches.
- Any player deemed by the Organiser or the appointed UAEPA Technical Director to possess a playing level significantly above the intended competition standard.

The Organiser and the UAEPA Technical Director reserve the right to assess player classifications before and during the competition. Their decision regarding player eligibility and classification shall be **final and binding**.

7. Substitute Player Rules

7.1 Registration of Substitute Players

Each team may register **one (1) substitute player**.

- The substitute player must be declared during the registration process.
 - Substitute players must meet all player eligibility requirements.
 - Unregistered substitute players will not be permitted to participate.
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7.2 Use of Substitute Players

Substitute players are **only permitted during the UAE Grand Finals**.

A registered substitute may replace a player only in the following circumstances:

- Injury or medical unavailability.
- Emergency circumstances approved by Tournament Management.

The substitute player:

- Must satisfy all eligibility requirements.
 - Must not be registered with or represent another team in the competition.
 - May not be added or changed after qualification unless approved by the Organiser.
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7.3 UAE Grand Finals Replacement Rules

Teams qualifying for the **HER PADEL SERIES UAE Grand Finals** are expected to compete with the same two players who qualified.

Where a qualified player is unable to participate:

- The team's registered substitute player may replace the absent player.
- Any request to use a player other than the registered substitute must receive prior written approval from the Organiser.

The Organiser and the appointed **Technical Director** reserve the right to refuse any replacement where they believe it would:

- Compromise the integrity or competitive balance of the competition.

- Involve an ineligible player.
- Provide a significant competitive advantage by materially strengthening the team.

The decision of the Organiser and UAEPA Technical Director shall be **final and binding**.

8. Registration

Entry Fee

AED 400 per team (*excluding 5% VAT*)

Registration Deadlines

Qualifier	Registration Closes
Sharjah	2 September 2026
Abu Dhabi	16 September 2026
Dubai	23 September 2026

All registrations, waiting lists and event updates are managed through:

www.hopasports.com

Your Entry Includes

- ✓ Entry into **one City Qualifier**
 - ✓ **Minimum of two guaranteed matches**
 - ✓ Official **Tournament Goodie Bag & Player Experience**
 - ✓ **One optional substitute player** (*subject to the Substitute Player Rule*)
 - ✓ Opportunity to qualify for the **HER Padel Series UAE Grand Finals**
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Refund Policy

- Entry fees are **non-refundable** unless the event is cancelled by the Organiser.
- Approved refunds are subject to a **10% administration fee**.
- Waiting lists will be managed through the official registration platform where applicable.

9. Consolation Cup

Objective

The Consolation Cup provides teams that finish **third in their respective groups** with an additional opportunity to compete after the group stage. It is designed to maximise playing time, encourage continued participation, and ensure every team enjoys a rewarding tournament experience.

The competition is conducted as a fast-paced knockout tournament and is completed on **Saturday**, without affecting the schedule of the Main Cup competition.

Eligibility

The Consolation Cup is open to:

- The **eight (8) teams** that finish **third** in their respective groups.
- Teams qualify automatically based on the final group standings.

Teams finishing below third place are eliminated from the tournament following the completion of the group stage.

Competition Format

The Consolation Cup consists of an **8-team single-elimination** knockout tournament comprising:

- Quarter-finals
- Semi-finals
- Final

There is **no third-place playoff**.

Match Format

All Consolation Cup matches will be played using the following format:

- **One (1) Fast Set to four (4) games**
- **Golden Point** at deuce

- **Tiebreak at 3-3** (first to seven points, win by two)
- Approximate match duration: **25-30 minutes**

The Organiser reserves the right to adjust match timings where necessary to ensure the efficient running of the tournament.

10. Multiple Event Entry

Objective

The HER PADEL SERIES provides teams with more than one opportunity to qualify for the **UAE Grand Finals** by allowing participation in multiple City Qualifiers.

Eligibility

Teams that do not qualify for the UAE Grand Finals at a City Qualifier may:

- Register for another City Qualifier.
- Pay the applicable entry fee for each additional event entered.
- Compete for qualification at each subsequent qualifier.

There is no limit to the number of City Qualifiers a team may enter, provided registration remains open and places are available.

Qualification Rules

- A team may qualify for the **UAE Grand Finals only once**.
- Once a team has secured qualification, it is no longer eligible to earn an additional qualifying position at another City Qualifier.
- If a previously qualified team finishes in a qualifying position at a subsequent City Qualifier, that qualification place will automatically be awarded to the **next highest-placed eligible team**.
- Teams that have already qualified may continue to compete in additional City Qualifiers for match experience, but their results will not prevent another eligible team from qualifying for the UAE Grand Finals.

The Organiser reserves the right to verify team eligibility and apply the qualification roll-down process where required to ensure fair representation at the UAE Grand Finals.

11. Match Rules

Unless otherwise amended by these Regulations, all matches shall be played in accordance with the **Official International Padel Federation (FIP) Rules of Padel**. Where any provision of these Regulations differs from the Official FIP Rules, these Regulations shall prevail for the **HER PADEL SERIES**.

11.1 Official Rules

All matches shall be conducted in accordance with the Official FIP Rules of Padel, except where specific competition formats or procedures have been modified by the Organiser for the **HER PADEL SERIES**.

11.2 Match Format & Scoring

All Main Draw matches will be played using the following format:

- **One (1) set to six (6) games**
- **Golden Point** will be played at deuce (no advantage scoring)
- At **6–6**, a standard **tiebreak to seven (7) points** will be played, with a minimum two-point advantage required to win the set.

Where applicable, alternative match formats (such as the Consolation Cup) will be played in accordance with the specific rules outlined in these Regulations.

11.3 Warm-Up

Players will be permitted a maximum **five (5) minute** on-court warm-up immediately before the start of their scheduled match.

The warm-up period includes serving and rallying and may be shortened at the discretion of the Tournament Director to maintain the event schedule.

11.4 Match Check-In & Start Times

Players are required to:

- Check in with Tournament Officials upon arrival.
- Be present at the designated court **at least 15 minutes before** their scheduled match time.
- Be ready to play immediately when called by the Tournament Officials.

A short grace period may be granted at the discretion of the Tournament Director; however, late arrival may result in:

- Game penalties;
- Default of the match; or
- Disqualification from the competition.

The decision of the Tournament Director regarding late arrivals shall be **final and binding**.

12. Health & Safety

The health, safety and wellbeing of all participants, officials and spectators are of paramount importance throughout the **HER PADEL SERIES**.

Participation in the competition is entirely at the player's own risk. By completing the online registration through www.hopasports.com, all participants acknowledge and accept the Event Waiver, Release of Liability and these Competition Regulations.

12.1 Organiser Responsibilities

The Organiser will make reasonable efforts to provide:

- Basic on-site first aid and medical support.
 - Venue safety management and risk oversight.
 - Emergency response coordination where required.
 - Safe playing conditions in accordance with venue standards.
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12.2 Player Responsibilities

All participants are responsible for:

- Ensuring they are medically fit to compete.
- Maintaining appropriate personal medical and travel insurance where applicable.
- Managing any pre-existing medical conditions or injuries.
- Immediately reporting any illness or injury to Tournament Officials.

Players should not participate if doing so could place themselves or others at risk.

12.3 Medical Decisions & Event Safety

The Organiser, Tournament Director and appointed medical personnel reserve the right to:

- Remove or withdraw an injured or unfit player from the competition.
- Suspend or stop a match where player safety is at risk.

- Delay, postpone, relocate or cancel matches due to adverse weather, unsafe court conditions, venue issues or any emergency beyond the Organiser's control.

All decisions relating to player safety and event operations shall be **final and binding**.

13. Player Conduct & Sportsmanship

The **HER PADEL SERIES** is built on the values of **respect, integrity, fairness and community**. All participants are expected to conduct themselves in a professional and respectful manner both on and off the court.

13.1 Code of Conduct

All players, coaches, team representatives, guests and spectators must:

- Respect Tournament Officials, referees and the UAEPA Technical Director.
- Respect opponents and fellow competitors.
- Respect volunteers, event staff and venue personnel.
- Respect all venues, facilities and tournament equipment.
- Demonstrate good sportsmanship, fairness and integrity at all times.
- Comply with all instructions issued by Tournament Officials and the Organiser.

The following behaviour is strictly prohibited:

- Verbal or physical abuse of officials, opponents, spectators or staff.
 - Aggressive, threatening or intimidating behaviour.
 - Harassment, bullying or discrimination of any kind.
 - Unsportsmanlike conduct, including intentional gamesmanship or cheating.
 - Damage to courts, venue facilities or tournament equipment.
 - Dangerous or reckless behaviour that places others at risk.
 - Excessive or offensive foul language.
 - Any conduct that brings the HER PADEL SERIES, its partners or the sport of padel into disrepute.
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13.2 Disciplinary Action

Tournament Officials may impose disciplinary action where a participant breaches the Code of Conduct. Penalties may include:

- Verbal warning.
- Official warning.
- Point or game penalties.
- Match forfeiture.
- Disqualification from the tournament.
- Removal from the venue.

For serious or repeated misconduct, the Organiser reserves the right to impose additional sanctions, including:

- Suspension from future HER PADEL SERIES events.
- Permanent exclusion from competitions organised by Hopatec Sports Services LLC and Sports Mania.
- Notification of the incident to the UAE Padel Association (UAEPA) or other relevant governing bodies where appropriate.

The decision of the Tournament Director, the Organiser and the appointed UAEPA Technical Director in all disciplinary matters shall be **final and binding**.

14. Dress Code

All participants are expected to present themselves in appropriate sporting attire that reflects the professional and community values of the HER PADEL SERIES.

14.1 Player Attire

Players must wear:

- Appropriate padel or sports clothing suitable for competitive play.
- Non-marking sports shoes designed for padel or similar court sports.
- Clothing that allows safe and unrestricted movement throughout the match.

Clothing displaying offensive, discriminatory, political or otherwise inappropriate words, images or branding is strictly prohibited.

14.2 Cultural & Religious Attire

The HER PADEL SERIES welcomes participants from all cultural and religious backgrounds.

Players may wear modest or religious sportswear, including hijabs and sports garments designed for athletic performance, provided they are safe and suitable for competitive play.

Traditional garments, including **abayas**, may **not** be worn during matches, as they are not considered appropriate sporting attire and may present a safety risk. Players choosing to cover for cultural or religious reasons must wear suitable sports apparel specifically designed for physical activity.

14.3 Organiser Authority

The Organiser reserves the right to:

- Require a player to change clothing or footwear that does not comply with these Regulations.
- Refuse participation until appropriate attire is worn.

- Prohibit any clothing or equipment deemed unsafe, offensive or unsuitable for competition.

The decision of the Tournament Director regarding player attire shall be **final and binding**.

15. Media & Content Rights

By registering for and participating in the **HER PADEL SERIES**, all participants grant the Organiser permission to capture, use and distribute photographs, video recordings and other media featuring their participation in the event.

This permission is granted without the need for further notice or approval.

15.1 Media Usage

The Organiser, its partners and authorised media representatives may capture and use event content for promotional, editorial and commercial purposes, including but not limited to:

- Photography
 - Video recordings
 - Live streaming
 - Interviews
 - Social media content
 - Marketing and advertising campaigns
 - Press releases and media publications
 - Official websites and digital platforms
 - Sponsor and partner promotional activities
-

15.2 Player Likeness

Participants consent to the use of their:

- Name
- Image
- Likeness
- Voice
- Match footage
- Interviews and testimonials

for the promotion of the **HER PADEL SERIES**, future events and associated commercial activities.

15.3 Compensation

Participants acknowledge that no payment, royalty or other compensation shall be payable for the use of any photographs, video footage or other media captured during the event.

All media and content produced during the HER PADEL SERIES shall remain the property of the Organiser or its authorised media partners, unless otherwise agreed in writing.

16. Liability Waiver & Force Majeure

By registering for and participating in the **HER PADEL SERIES**, all participants acknowledge that they have read, understood and accepted the Event Waiver, Release of Liability and these Competition Regulations.

Participation in the competition is entirely voluntary and at the participant's own risk.

16.1 Assumption of Risk

Participants acknowledge and accept that:

- Padel is a physical sport involving inherent risks, including the risk of injury.
- They are medically fit and physically capable of participating.
- They assume full responsibility for their own health, safety and personal belongings throughout the event.

The Organiser accepts no responsibility for any injury, illness, loss, theft or damage suffered by participants except where liability cannot be excluded under applicable law.

16.2 Release of Liability

To the fullest extent permitted by law, participants release and hold harmless:

- Hopatec Sports Services LLC
- Sports Mania
- Venue owners and venue partners
- Sponsors and commercial partners
- Tournament Officials
- Event staff
- Contractors
- Volunteers
- Any person or organisation acting on behalf of the **HER PADEL SERIES**

from any claims, demands, liabilities, damages, costs or expenses arising from participation in the event, except where such liability cannot legally be excluded.

16.3 Force Majeure

The Organiser shall not be liable for any cancellation, postponement, suspension, interruption or modification of the event resulting from circumstances beyond its reasonable control, including but not limited to:

- Government directives or regulatory restrictions
- Venue unavailability or operational issues
- Extreme weather conditions
- Natural disasters
- Public health emergencies or pandemics
- Civil unrest, strikes or security incidents
- Power outages or technical failures
- Any other unforeseen event beyond the reasonable control of the Organiser

In such circumstances, the Organiser reserves the right to cancel, postpone, reschedule or amend the competition format or schedule without liability.

All decisions made by the Organiser relating to Force Majeure circumstances shall be **final and binding**.

17. Final Authority

The Tournament Director, Organising Committee and the appointed Technical Director shall have full authority over the administration and operation of the HER PADEL SERIES.

This authority includes, but is not limited to:

- Tournament scheduling and court allocations.
- Match assignments and order of play.
- Interpretation and application of these Competition Regulations.
- Player eligibility and classification.
- Competition format adjustments where required.
- Venue operations and event management.
- Health and safety matters.
- Disciplinary actions and Code of Conduct enforcement.
- Any matter not specifically addressed within these Regulations.

Where circumstances arise that are not covered by these Competition Regulations, the Organiser reserves the right to make any decision considered necessary to ensure the fair, safe and efficient conduct of the competition.

All decisions made by the Tournament Director, the Organising Committee and the appointed Technical Director shall be final and binding, and no correspondence or appeals will be entered into unless otherwise determined by the Organiser.

18. Contact Information

Thank you for being part of the **HER PADEL SERIES UAE**.

We look forward to welcoming you to a community built around competition, connection and the growth of women's padel.

Official Website

www.herpadelseries.com

Created & Owned By



Tournament Enquiries

General Enquiries & Registration

✉ leo@hopatec.com

Tournament Operations & Technical Enquiries

✉ tarek@sportsmania.me

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Compete. Connect. Empower.