



# SQUASH COURT PRODUCT ACCREDITATION & REGISTRATION

Updated: January 2021

**WORLD  
SQUASH**

**WSF**



## THE WORLD SQUASH FEDERATION

### SQUASH COURT ACCREDITATION & REGISTRATION

#### 1. ACCREDITATION

##### (a) WHAT IS WSF ACCREDITATION?

The World Squash Federation (WSF) is the world governing body for the sport of Squash, recognised by the IOC. The Federation sets the rules of the game, which contain specifications for courts, rackets, balls and clothing.

The Federation also sets Accreditation standards for the components and materials used in the construction of Squash courts, notably plaster, panel systems, glass walls, doors, floors and lighting.

##### (b) WHY ACCREDITATION?

**For manufacturers:** Accreditation of court components and materials enables the manufacturer to give customers an assurance of quality and standard which comes from an independent authority, known and respected throughout the world. It reassures the architect or specifier of courts that the components and materials meet his requirements.

Products bearing the WSF Accreditation mark have an immediate advantage over their competitors. Non-Accredited products may be perfectly good quality and meet the specification, but can they easily prove it?

**For constructors:** All those involved commercially in selling Squash components and materials need to be assured that the product they are handling meets the specifications and standards set for the sport. They may not be experts in the rules and regulations covering the products but they can rely on the fact that the appropriate world authority has endorsed them as meeting the required specifications and standards.

**For the sport:** The Accreditation scheme is a means by which the WSF exercises control over the development of court components and materials to ensure that the needs of the sport are served in the best possible way. As a non-profit making body the sole concern of the WSF is the wellbeing and development of Squash and its Accreditation ensures that undesirable or unsafe products can be identified by all those within the sport.

**The WSF actively encourages all its Members Associations to support those products which are WSF Accredited (for courts) and/or Approved (for balls).**

### **(c) WSF ACCREDITED PRODUCTS**

Manufacturers of Squash court components and materials may apply to the WSF to have their products inspected and, if they meet certain criteria, confirmed as *WSF Accredited Products*. All such products may then carry the WSF Accreditation logo on their promotional materials and be used in product promotion.

### **(d) ACCREDITATION CRITERIA**

The WSF carries out inspection and in-use assessment or arranges testing to ensure that products meet the set specifications and technical standards. Where testing is required the WSF will advise on the appropriate measures and the manufacturer is then responsible for providing the necessary evidence of performance or quality.

#### **To have products endorsed as "WSF Accredited" manufacturers of court components and materials must:**

- i. Demonstrate that the products meet the appropriate WSF specification for:
  - Fitness for purpose
  - Safety in use
  - Durability
- ii. Provide evidence that they have been installed for a minimum period, to be advised by the WSF on application.
- iii. Maintain and provide the WSF a list of all installations to allow for regular inspection.
- iv. Provide a guarantee to their customers of not less than 12 months from installation.
- v. Produce evidence that they carry appropriate product liability insurance and be prepared for the interest of the WSF to be noted on the policy.
- vi. Maintain an appropriate after-sales service.
- vii. Advise the WSF of any changes to the products as they occur.

Court components are classified as wall surfacing materials, wall systems, glass walls, floors and others. No single application may comprise more than one category of product unless it is for an indivisible combination of components.

The WSF reserves the right to Accredit or not Accredit products at its sole discretion.

### **(e) GRANTING ACCREDITATION**

On application to the WSF, manufacturers will be given full details of the procedure necessary to obtain Accreditation. This is likely to involve undertakings to:

- i. Arrange for the testing of the products at nil cost to the WSF, usually through an independent testing authority or by a specialist recommended by the WSF.
- ii. Pay for the pre-agreed costs of an inspection by a member of the WSF Courts & Equipment Commission.
- iii. Not use the results of any such testing or offers of Accreditation without payment of the appropriate fees.

After inspection the WSF will then make a formal offer of Accreditation, which will be granted on an annual basis on payment of the appropriate fee. These are currently:

	<b>2021 Annual Fee</b>
Major court components and materials	£3,550
Minor court components and materials	£360

Where a court component manufacturer is applying for WSF Accreditation for more than one major component (Note: walls, floors and lighting are *major*), a discount scheme applies:

	<b>2021 Annual Fee</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> Accreditation	£3,550
2 <sup>nd</sup> Accreditation	£2,230
3 <sup>rd</sup> Accreditation	£1,110
4 <sup>th</sup> Accreditation	£715
5 <sup>th</sup> Accreditation	£360

Note: For applications granted during a year the fee will be reduced pro-rata for the number of months remaining down to a minimum of 50% of the applicable fee, which is only applicable where the following full year is paid at the same time at the current rate.

#### **(f) WSF ACCREDITED COMPANIES**

Any company that can demonstrate relevant experience and expertise in providing squash courts - using only WSF Accredited Products - is eligible to apply to become a WSF Accredited Company.

WSF Accredited Companies will be required to undertake to abide by terms including the following:

- a. Provide a five-year guarantee that covers both materials and workmanship.
- b. Undertake to notify the WSF of any changes to the composition or specifications of an Accredited Product; paying for re-inspection where necessary when this occurs.
- c. Ensure that they have and maintain the capability to provide complete courts using only Accredited Products.
- d. Undertake to notify the WSF of all courts that they have built, together with confirmation of the Accredited Products and non-accredited products used.
- e. If courts are constructed using Accredited Products at the time of construction then they will be considered compliant and the Accredited Company will be given the right to register that court for competition play.
- f. Accredited Companies are encouraged to use only Accredited Products, though this is not compulsory unless Court Registration is required.
- g. The fee for WSF Accredited Companies, which includes all of their own-branded Product Accreditations is £7,6250. (Companies may also include products that are independently Accredited in their listing at no additional cost)

#### **(g) COURT REGISTRATION**

WSF Court Registration is offered where the essential components of the complete court i.e. four walls, floor, tin and lighting, are separately or collectively Accredited at the time of construction.

Courts built by a WSF Accredited Company may be registered by the company or the court owners at any time before, during or after the building process. Courts using WSF Accredited Products but not built by an Accredited Company can be Registered,

with the WSF reserving the right to inspect if deemed necessary. Registration is optional; there is no fee payable.

Only WSF Registered courts may be used for hosting WSF World, Regional, World Junior Circuit PSA and other recognised events and these courts will be published in the WSF Worldwide Registered Court Directory.

*(This specification is not applicable for courts in existence before 2013, where normal adherence to WSF specifications will apply).*

## **2. BENEFITS OF ACCREDITATION**

After Accreditation all products, packaging, promotional materials and advertising may carry the WSF Accreditation logo, which will be provided by the WSF.

A full list of WSF Accredited companies and their products is maintained and distributed regularly to WSF Member Nations and also sent out in response to enquiries by architects and planners.

The WSF will forward all enquiries received regarding suitable products for constructing squash courts to all relevant Accredited companies.

All Accredited companies and their products are listed on the WSF website ([www.worldsquash.org](http://www.worldsquash.org)).

## **3. APPLICATIONS & INFORMATION:**

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