



Racket Control – LARC Update

Prepared By: Equipment Department

Last Updated: 22.05.2026

1. Additional Information on Racket Coverings

The List of Approved Racket Coverings (LARC) has been updated as of February 2026 to include additional information regarding approved sponge colours and the availability of OX versions. Please refer to the illustrative example below.



| | | | |
|---------------|----------|----------------|-----|
| Product | Panamera | Brand | Air |
| Approval Code | 106-002 | Pimple Type | Out |
| Expires On | - | Sustainability | - |

Colors

| Image | Approval Code | Top sheet color | Sponge Color | Expires On | Ox Version |
|-------|---------------|-----------------|--------------|------------|------------|
| -- | 106-002 | Red | cream/red | - | Yes |
| -- | 106-002 | Black | cream/red | - | Yes |

This update confirms that only racket coverings displaying the sponge colours listed in the LARC are deemed legally compliant for use in ITTF and WTT sanctioned events.

As illustrated in the example above, the Panamera rubber is listed with two approved sponge colours — cream and red — applicable to both the red and black topsheet variants. In addition, an OX (no sponge) version is officially approved for each topsheet colour, as indicated by “Yes” in the OX version column. It follows that only these specified configurations are legally compliant for use in ITTF and WTT sanctioned events. Any Panamera rubber assembled with a sponge of a colour other than those explicitly listed — including, but not limited to, blue, orange, or any other unlisted colour — will be deemed non-compliant and is therefore strictly prohibited in competition.

2. DIY Sponge Assemblies

During recent racket control inspections, a number of instances were identified in which Players had affixed their own sponge to an approved OX rubber. The ITTF Equipment



Department wishes to remind all Players that this practice is strictly prohibited under ITTF regulations. Any racket assembled in such a manner will be deemed non-compliant and therefore illegal for use in competition.

3. Athlete Responsibility

All Players should be reminded that the responsibility for ensuring personal equipment is fully compliant with ITTF regulations rests solely with the individual athlete. Players are strongly encouraged to verify the compliance of their equipment prior to the commencement of any competition.

Each failed racket test is recorded and treated as an independent infringement. Accordingly, a single player may incur multiple infringements within the course of a single match should their equipment fail more than one inspection.

In accordance with ITTF Statutes, Article 3.2.4.3:

“Following 4 accumulated failures on any aspect of racket testing in a period of four years, the player may complete the event, but subsequently the Executive Board will suspend the offending player for 12 months.”

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Ivan Chen'.

Ivan Chen

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