

Temperamental Australian Nick Kyrgios was fined \$10,000 and lost another \$21,085 in prize money on Wednesday after storming off midway through his first-round match at the Shanghai Masters.



Nick Kyrgios fined for storming off court in Shanghai Masters. — AFP Photo

SHANGHAI — Temperamental Australian Nick Kyrgios was fined US\$10,000 and lost another \$21,085 in prize money on Wednesday after storming off midway through his first-round match at the Shanghai Masters.

Roger Federer meanwhile struggled past Argentine Diego Schwartzman.

But it was the 22-year-old Kyrgios who was again in the spotlight following what was just his latest controversy on Tuesday.

The ATP said it had fined Kyrgios for unsportsmanlike conduct and he will not collect his prize money because he failed to get signed off for a medical after retiring from his match against Steve Johnson.

Kyrgios's time at the Shanghai Masters is over after he also pulled out of his scheduled

doubles match with Frenchman Lucas Pouille on Wednesday.

He apologised after walking off court on Tuesday, having lost the first-set tie break.

In a statement posted on Twitter a few hours later he said that he had a "stomach bug" and had hurt his shoulder.

It was a nasty case of *deja vu* for the world number 21 -- a year ago he argued with spectators and was accused of giving away points in a defeat in Shanghai.

The talented but fiery Kyrgios was consequently fined and suspended.

His immediate future in tennis is again under threat following Tuesday's incident, when he hastily exited the court with jeers and boos ringing in his ears.

It came after he complained about the umpire and spectators in the arena, and was docked a point penalty for the second match running because of his conduct, which included blasting a ball out of the court in a flash of rage.

Swiss legend Federer was far from his best against Schwartzman and next faces another potential banana skin in Ukrainian qualifier Alexandr Dolgoplov.

There were 24 places in the rankings between number two Federer and Schwartzman and a significant height difference -- Federer towering over the 170cm Argentine.

But Schwartzman cut the 185cm Federer down to size and an unusually error-strewn performance from Federer was summed up when he squandered an easy backhand volley at the net to go to the first-set tie break, which the Swiss eventually won 7/4.

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Still Schwartzman refused to go quietly in the second set, before Federer went through 7-6, 6-4. — **AFP**

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