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## **ETBF Constitution**

This Constitution consists of a set of statutes, regulations and rules, which govern the mode in which the European Tenpin Bowling Federation (ETBF) is organised and operates. It is divided into the following 8 chapters:

- 1 Statutes
- 2 Regulations
- 3 Common championship rules
- 4 European Championships for men and women
- 5 European Championships for youth
- 6 European Championships for seniors
- 7 European Champions Cup
- 8 Approved international tournaments

### Note

*In the ETBF Constitution, the masculine gender used in relation to any physical person (for example, names such as member, official, participant, competitor, athlete, referee, member of a jury, or pronouns such as he, they, them) shall, unless there is a specific provision to the contrary, be understood as including the feminine gender.*



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## **1. Statutes**

The first World organization for the sport of bowling was founded in Hamburg, Germany on 27 January 1952. The present name of the organization, World Bowling, was decided at a congress in Abu Dhabi, UAE on 15 December 2015.

World Bowling is divided into the following five geographical zones:

- The American Zone, named the Pan-American Bowling Confederation (PABCON)
- The Asian Zone, named the Asian Bowling Federation (ABF)
- The European Zone, named the European Tenpin Bowling Federation (ETBF)
- The African Zone
- The Oceania Zone

The geographical area of ETBF includes the continent of Europe, the British Isles, Israel and the islands of the North Atlantic.

ETBF's member federations are World Bowling's member federations from the geographical area defined above; and in addition temporarily associated World Bowling member federations from the continent of Africa.

ETBF was established in Stockholm, Sweden on 12 July 1965 and the first edition of ETBF's Statutes was decided by a Congress, held in s'Hertogenbosch, The Netherlands on 31 March 1979.

### **1.1 Name and Office**

- 1.1.1 This organisation shall be known as the European Tenpin Bowling Federation, hereinafter referred to as ETBF.
- 1.1.2 Its main office shall be established in the country and city where the President resides unless provided otherwise by its Presidium.
- 1.1.3 The use of the logo of ETBF is allowed by all ETBF member federations, providing they are using the logo according the instructions mentioned in the ETBF Corporate Manual.

### **1.2 Purposes**

- 1.2.1 To encourage the development of tenpin bowling throughout the ETBF geographical area.
- 1.2.2 To establish rules for the ETBF activities and make sure they are not contradictory to World Bowling's regulations.
- 1.2.3 To maintain an efficient communication system within the ETBF organisation.
- 1.2.4 To support and encourage national organisations in their efforts to develop and promote tenpin bowling within the respective countries.



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- 1.2.5 To conduct European tenpin bowling championships for adult and youth members of the ETBF member federations.
  - 1.2.6 To promote international competition in tenpin bowling within the ETBF geographical area, especially those events anticipating entries from different countries.
  - 1.2.7 To establish prerequisite conditions for conducting championships and international tournaments in accordance with the rules established by the ETBF Congress.
  - 1.2.8 To contribute to the development of tenpin bowling worldwide through the ETBF representatives of the Executive Board of World Bowling.
  - 1.2.9 To support the efforts of World Bowling to get tenpin bowling accepted as a fully recognized competition in the Olympic Games.
  - 1.2.10 To maintain a financial structure, guaranteeing the continued existence of the organisation.

### **1.3 Official Language**

- 1.3.1 The official language of the ETBF shall be English. A member federation shall have the right to bring an interpreter to Congresses and meetings at its own cost.

### **1.4 Membership**

- 1.4.1 Eligibility
  - a) ETBF membership shall include all of World Bowling's member federations, within ETBF's geographical area, as defined by World Bowling.
  - b) To be eligible to participate in ETBF activities all fees required by World Bowling and ETBF must have been paid in due time.
- 1.4.2 Rights of the members
  - a) To take part in ETBF Congresses in accordance with the stipulations, propose motions and make election proposals. Each member federation has one vote at the ETBF Congresses.
  - b) To take part in all ETBF activities with equal rights.
  - c) To appeal to the ETBF Presidium in cases of disputes between member federations. If a second appeal is desired, it must be submitted in writing within 30 days to the Executive Board of World Bowling for a final action.
  - d) To receive current information about important proceedings within the ETBF.
- 1.4.3 Obligations of the members
  - a) To adhere to the ETBF Statutes, the decisions taken by the ETBF Congress and any rules and regulations resulting there from.
  - b) To formulate their own statutes in such a way that they are not in contradiction with the ETBF Statutes and to adopt a regulation which subjects each of their individual members to the jurisdiction of ETBF.



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- c) To adhere to recognized sport principles and good sportsmanship at international events.
  - d) To submit immediately the fees, which have been stipulated by the ETBF, in order to be eligible to vote at ETBF Congresses and to participate in ETBF Championships.
  - e) To supply immediately such information as may be required by the ETBF Presidium.
  - f) To have at least one valid e-mail address.

## **1.5 Organisational structure**

1.5.1 The decision-making agencies of the ETBF are in the following order:

- a) The Ordinary Congress
- b) The Extraordinary Congress
- c) The Presidium

1.5.2 Email ballots

- a) In urgent matters, on which a decision cannot wait until the next Congress, the Presidium may circulate the motion to the member federations and ask for an e-mail ballot.
- b) The quorum for an e-mail ballot shall be the same as for a Congress. If any federation fails to vote within the prescribed time limit, they shall be deemed as not being present.
- c) Unless otherwise specified when a motion is presented, simple majority shall determine the decision. An abstention does not count as a vote delivered.
- d) Soonest possible after the deadline has passed, the Secretary General shall advise all members of the outcome of the ballot. The result of e-mail ballots shall be binding to all member federations.

1.5.3 All correspondence within the Presidium, to and from the member federations and with other external sources, will be circulated solely via e-mail.

## **1.6 Congress**

1.6.1 Legislative Authority

- a) The Congress shall be composed of delegates from each of the ETBF member federations and comprise the legislative and policy making body of ETBF.
- b) Its decisions shall be binding on all member federations and can be altered only by the Congress.
- c) The authority of the Congress (and thus that of the ETBF) does not extend to the internal affairs of any member federation.

1.6.2 Member representation, Voting Rights, Delegates

- a) A member federation may be represented at an ETBF Congress by a maximum of three delegates, only one of whom shall have voting rights. The names of the delegates must be submitted in writing, stating the name of the federation they represent and signed by an authorised officer of the federation. The voting delegate shall retain the voting status until the next Congress, or until a successor is duly appointed by the respective federation.



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- b) A member federation, which cannot be represented at the Congress, may give its proxy to another federation. Each federation shall be eligible to vote only one proxy. In all cases, the written proxy authority must be submitted to the President in the presence of the Congress for validation, before the proxy can be exercised. Such proxy must be submitted in writing stating the name of the federation to whom the vote is to be transferred and signed by an authorised officer of the federation.
  - c) A member of the Presidium may vote only if he represents a federation.
  - d) Member federations must be current in their World Bowling and ETBF fees and must not be under suspension to be eligible for voice or vote.
  - e) A quorum shall be at least one third of member federations eligible to vote, including proxy votes.
  - f) Voting at each Congress shall be on the basis of one vote per federation by open voting unless the delegates by simple majority vote request a secret ballot. Where a tie exists the motion shall be rejected. If, however, a tie exists in the case of elections, the chairman shall call for a second vote and if a tie still exists the Congress shall decide the procedure. However, provisional and associate members do not have the right to vote at the ETBF Congress.
  - g) A simple majority shall determine decisions of the Congress except that a two-third (2/3) majority of the votes delivered shall be required for adoption of
    - Debate and voting of proposals not received in due time.
    - Amendments to the Statutes.Note: An abstention does not count as a vote delivered.
  - h) Guests may participate in the proceedings only at the invitation of the President or upon the majority approval by the Congress.

### 1.6.3 Meetings

- a) The Ordinary Congress shall be held every two years.
- b) An Extraordinary Congress shall be convened when called for by
  - The Ordinary Congress
  - The President
  - The Presidium
  - The President on a written request from at least one-third (1/3) of the member federations
- c) The invitation to the Congress shall be sent to the e-mail address of each member federation at least three months prior to the date of the meeting.
- d) Proposals from the federations to be debated and voted upon at the Congress shall be received by the President at least two months prior to the date of the meeting.
- e) The agenda and proposals from the Presidium and federations shall be sent to the member federations at least four clear weeks prior to the date of the meeting.
- f) The agenda for the Ordinary Congress shall include the following:
  - Opening of the Congress
  - Roll call, validation of proxies and determination of voting rights
  - Appointment of chairman and secretary of the Congress
  - Adoption of minutes of the previous Congress and dealing with matters arising there from
  - Presidium's report covering the foregoing two business years
  - Financial report covering the foregoing two business years
  - Auditors' report



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- Dealing with matters arising from the presented reports
  - Release of the Presidium
  - New business
  - Legislative session
  - Elections (where applicable)
    - President
    - Vice President
    - Presidium members
    - Two auditors and one substitute
  - Establishment of fees and budget
  - Plans and dates of coming ETBF championships and meetings
  - Closing the meeting
- g) Only proposals submitted in due time shall be considered unless the Congress decides by a two-third (2/3) majority that others warrant consideration for emergency reasons. At an Extraordinary Congress, however, only matters set out on the agenda shall be considered and voted upon.
- h) Summary minutes of each ETBF Congress shall be prepared by the secretary for review and signed approval for distribution by the President within one month after which they are to be distributed to the member federations and Presidium members.
- i) All amendments adopted and new rules shall become effective as of 1 January of the next business year unless otherwise specified at the time of adoption.

## **1.7 Presidium**

- 1.7.1 The Presidium shall be the executive and management body of the ETBF. It shall consist of six (6) persons as follows
- a) The ETBF President
  - b) The ETBF Vice President
  - c) Four (4) Presidium Members
- 1.7.2 The President and Secretary General of World Bowling may attend meetings of the Presidium in ex-officio capacity with voice but no vote.
- 1.7.3 Guests may participate in the meeting only at the invitation by the ETBF President and upon majority approval by the Presidium.
- 1.7.4 Decisions of the Presidium shall be by simple majority. If a tie exists, the motion shall be rejected.
- 1.7.5 The Presidium should meet at least once every year and more frequently when deemed necessary by the President or at least by three members of the Presidium.
- 1.7.6 A quorum consists of four members of the Presidium provided that either the President or Vice President is present.
- 1.7.7 Email ballots
- a) In urgent matters, an e-mail ballot may replace a formal meeting of the Presidium to decide on a specific matter.



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- b) A quorum, in the case of an e-mail ballot, consists of four members of the Presidium, provided that either the President or Vice President has delivered a vote.
  - c) Decisions shall be by simple majority, and if a tie exists the motion shall be rejected.
  - d) An e-mail ballot may be initiated by any of the Presidium members.
  - e) The result of an e-mail ballot will be confirmed and included in the minutes at the next Presidium meeting.

#### 1.7.8 Members of the Presidium

- a) Should a member of the Presidium become involved in a business related bowling organization, he should declare that immediately to the ETBF Presidium, who will discuss the possibilities of conflict of interest and inform the member federations.
- b) Should a candidate for a position in the ETBF Presidium be involved in a business related bowling organization, he should declare that to the ETBF Congress before the election.

#### 1.7.9 If the President, Vice President, or a Member of the Presidium ceases to be a member of any ETBF member federation, or in the case of death, disabilities, resignation, incapacity etc., the following procedures shall apply

- a) Vacancy in the office of the President shall be filled by the Vice President until the next Ordinary Congress.
- b) Vacancy in the office of the Vice President shall be filled by a Presidium Member as elected by the Presidium until the next Ordinary Congress.
- c) If the total number of Presidium members is less than four, including the President and the Vice President, then an Extraordinary Congress shall be convened for the purpose of election.

## 1.8 Presidium Meetings

1.8.1 The President shall give at least one month's notice for a regular meeting of the Presidium to all members of the Presidium and all member federations. In emergency cases shorter notice may be acceptable.

1.8.2 Such notice shall specify the date, time and place of the proposed Presidium meeting and in addition it shall invite member federations to submit proposals, which they wish to be considered by the Presidium.

1.8.3 A secretary for the meeting shall be appointed by the President. The secretary shall prepare summary minutes for review and signed approval by the President or Chairman of the Day within two weeks after which they are distributed to the Presidium members.

## 1.9 Officers

### 1.9.1 Elections

- a) A person may be elected to the Presidium only if he is a member of an ETBF member federation.



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- b) The President, the Vice President and the four Presidium Members must each belong to different ETBF member federations.
  - c) The election of officers shall be conducted by the Ordinary Congress in open voting. However, if there is more than one nomination for the President or Vice President a secret ballot shall be called for. In this case each member federation may nominate one person in the ballot. Likewise, if there are more nominations for members of the Presidium than the number to be elected a secret ballot shall be called for. In this case each member federation may nominate the number of persons to be elected in the ballot. A relative simple majority shall determine who is elected.
  - d) Elections shall take place at the Ordinary Congress. The President and two of the Presidium Members shall be elected for their term of office at the Congress every fourth year. The Vice President and two of the Presidium Members shall be elected for their term of office at the Congress, which is held in-between the Congresses where election of the President takes place.

#### 1.9.2 Nominations

- a) All incumbent officers who intend to run for re-election shall so advise the President of their interest at least two months before an elective Congress.
- b) All other nominations shall be submitted to the President at least two months before an elective Congress.
- c) All incumbent and other nominations shall be reported to the member federations at least one month prior to the Congress.
- d) If nominations are received pursuant to the above process, no additional nominations from the floor will be accepted at the Congress.
- e) If less than enough nominations are received pursuant to the above process, then nominations from the floor will be accepted.
- f) All candidates must be members of and authorised by their respective federations to be eligible for election.

#### 1.9.3 Term of Office

- a) The Term of Office of the President, Vice President and Presidium Members shall commence immediately after their election and shall continue until the second biennial Congress following their election (i.e. a term of about four years).

#### 1.9.4 Secretary General

- a) A Secretary General shall, if deemed necessary, be appointed by the President and confirmed by the Presidium for a term of four years following the confirmation.

#### 1.9.5 Duties of Officers

- a) The President shall be the chief executive officer and treasurer. He shall preside at all meetings of the ETBF Congress and Presidium unless he appoints a Chairman of the Day to preside for any part of such meetings.
  - He shall, if deemed necessary, appoint a Secretary General subject to confirmation by the Presidium.
  - He shall appoint any committees he deems necessary. Such appointments shall be subject to approval by the Presidium.
  - He shall, if deemed necessary, appoint any other assistants required for the Presidium to fulfil its duties. Such appointments shall be subject to approval by the Presidium.



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- The President shall also normally represent the ETBF in all legal matters, but should he be unable to do so, the Vice President or another Presidium Member may represent the ETBF.
  - b) The Vice President shall be the President of the ETBF in case of absence, death, disabilities, resignation, and incapacity or for any other reason, which would prevent the President permanently from lawfully discharging his duties under the Statutes.
  - c) The Secretary General shall be the chief administrative officer who handles the membership correspondence and other administrative tasks in co-operation with the President.
  - d) The President and one Member of the Presidium shall represent the interests of the ETBF at meetings in the Executive Board of World Bowling in accordance with World Bowling's Statutes.

#### 1.9.6 Removal from office

- a) An officer elected by the Congress may be removed from office for nonfeasance or other just cause by the Congress, upon due process (notice about the pending action and given an opportunity to be heard) being provided.

### **1.10 Business year**

1.10.1 The business year shall begin on 1 January and end on 31 December.

### **1.11 Financial Procedures**

#### 1.11.1 Fees

- a) The Congress will be empowered to determine the fees to be paid by the member federations. Each federation shall be required to pay the fee as stipulated in the ETBF Regulations. Newly admitted member federations are not obliged to pay membership fees in the calendar year they are admitted.
- b) Each member federation shall be required to pay, latest 31 March each year, the World Bowling and ETBF fees as specified in the annual invoice sent out by the ETBF Presidium.
- c) If a member federation is in arrears with membership fees payments over 30 days as of the 31 March due date, the ETBF Presidium has the right to suspend the federation. The suspension will be revoked immediately when the fees including an annual fine of 20% of the arrears have been paid.
- d) If a member federation is in arrears past the due date of other prescribed fees, the ETBF Presidium has the right to suspend the federation until full payment has been made including eventual fines.
- e) The suspension would be for a maximum of one year, and if the arrears are still not fully paid, the ETBF Presidium will recommend World Bowling to terminate the federation's membership.

#### 1.11.2 Auditors

- a) The Ordinary Congress shall elect two auditors and one substitute for the period up to and including the next Ordinary Congress. The auditors must come from different member federations and must have the necessary qualifications to undertake their duties. In their report they must clearly state the financial situation



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of ETBF and the conduct of the Presidium up to a date, which shall cover the foregoing two business years.

## **1.12 Rules against doping**

1.12.1 When ETBF decides there will be doping control at its championships, all provisions of the World Bowling's Doping Control Manual will apply.

## **1.13 Amendments**

1.13.1 These Statutes may be altered at any ETBF Congress as follows:

- a) Upon written proposals of amendments prepared by the ETBF Presidium.
- b) Upon written proposals of amendments submitted to the President at least two months in advance to the Congress where it is to be considered.
- c) Notice of such proposals is distributed to all member federations at least four clear weeks prior to the Congress.
- d) The proposal is adopted by two-third (2/3) majority vote at the Congress.
- e) When a written notice of a proposal is not given, it may be considered provided the Congress agrees by a two-third (2/3) majority vote to do so. As with other proposals a two-third (2/3) majority vote shall be required for adoption.
- f) No amendment shall be adopted or policy established which would be in conflict with the Statutes of World Bowling.

## **1.14 Amendments**

This Chapter was adopted by the Congress in 2001 and amended by Congresses in 2003, 2005, 2007, 2009, 2011 and 2017.



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## **2 Regulations**

### **2.1 Fees**

#### 2.1.1 Membership fees for federations affiliated to ETBF

- a) The annual membership fee for federations having less than 4.000 members is € 880.
- b) The annual membership fee for federations having 4.000 or more members is € 2.640
- c) The membership fees are included in the invoice sent out by ETBF.
- d) The fees have to be paid to ETBF in total latest 31 March.
- e) If the membership fees have not been paid by 31 March the Secretary General of ETBF will inform the federations concerned that if the fees are not received by 30 April they will be suspended and that they can be re-instated as a member after having paid the fees plus a 20% fine.
- f) New members do not have to pay fees in the year they are admitted.

#### 2.1.2 Tournament approval fees

- a) The fee for ETBF approval of an international tournament is € 100.
- b) The additional fee for a World Bowling approval is specified in World Bowling's Rules, Chapter 3.
- c) Invoices will be sent at regular intervals by the ETBF President to the federations.
- d) Once a tournament has been approved there will be no refund in case the tournament is cancelled.

#### 2.1.3 Application fee for championships

- a) For filing an application to host an ETBF championship the potential host has to pay an application fee as follows:
  - € 2.000 for hosting the European Championships of Champions
  - € 4.000 for hosting the European Women Championships
  - € 6.000 for hosting the European Youth Championships
  - € 6.000 for hosting the European Senior Championships
  - € 8.000 for hosting the European Men Championships
- b) Costs related to inspections done by the three ETBF officials will be paid by ETBF.
- c) Travel and accommodation costs for the attendance of the Championship Director, the Technical Delegate and the IT Delegate at championships will be paid by ETBF.
- d) In case the application will not be accepted the application fee will be reimbursed.
- e) If the host withdraws from organising the championship less than 6 months prior to the start the fee will be forfeited.

#### 2.1.4 Entry fees for championships

- a) The Championship Director shall agree with the host on the entry fee to be paid by each member of the delegation from each federation participating in a championship.
- b) The agreed upon fee shall include € 80 per member of the delegation, which amount shall be forwarded by the host to ETBF.



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- c) The host has the right to ask for a separate fee for the extra persons (supporters and guests) to an amount agreed with the Championship Director.
  - d) If a federation withdraws its team completely from a championship after the entry deadline a cancellation fee of € 500 must be paid to the host.
  - e) The host shall collect all entry fees.

#### 2.1.5 Congress fees

- a) The fee for each Congress delegate is € 50.

## 2.2 Expenses

- #### 2.2.1
- For members of the ETBF Presidium and other persons travelling to carry out their duties on behalf of ETBF, the ETBF will meet their expenses for travel, board and lodging, as well as other justified costs up to a reasonable amount.

## 2.3 Awards

- #### 2.3.1
- The ETBF Presidium is authorised to present the following awards:

- a) **Silver Jubilee Pin**, which can be awarded to officers of the ETBF Presidium after serving for at least 25 consecutive years as a presidium member.
- b) **Gold Pin**, which can be awarded to officers of the ETBF Presidium after serving for at least four years as a presidium member.
- c) **Silver Pin**, which upon recommendation by the National Federation, can be awarded to those officers of ETBF member federations after serving the Presidium of their National Federation for at least 10 years.
- d) **Distinguished Service Award**, which can be awarded to persons on recommendation by the National Federation or as otherwise decided upon by the ETBF Presidium.

## 2.4 Disciplinary actions

#### 2.4.1 Purpose and scope

- a) The purpose of this regulation is to specify the rights of the ETBF Presidium to impose disciplinary actions.
- b) This sub-chapter describes the disciplinary actions that may be taken by the ETBF Presidium. It also gives recommendations about procedures that should be included in the constitution of the national federations, which are members of the ETBF.
- c) With person in this sub-chapter is meant one (national federation, sub-organisation of a national federation, athlete, coach, or official) that is recognized as a member of ETBF and subject to the rights and duties of the ETBF Constitution.

#### 2.4.2 Disciplinary authorities

- a) The ETBF Presidium may deal with disciplinary actions against a national federation.
- b) The ETBF Presidium may deal with disciplinary actions against an individual member only if it is an offence related to an ETBF championship or an ETBF ap-



- proved international tournament. In such a case the offence shall first be reported for action to the national federation to which the individual member belongs.
- c) The ETBF Presidium may deal with disciplinary actions against an individual member if it is a case of an appeal against a decision made by a national federation, and the constitution of the national federation allows an appeal to the ETBF Presidium.
  - d) All other cases shall be dealt with in accordance with the constitution of the national federation to which the individual member belongs.
  - e) Disciplinary actions against a sub-organisation of a national federation shall be dealt with in accordance with the constitution of the national federation to which the sub-organisation belongs.
  - f) A member of the disciplinary authority must not take part in the investigation or trial of a case of which
    - he himself or his organisation is a part, or
    - the result may have an influence on his organisation, or
    - he has previously dealt with in any other disciplinary authority, or
    - he in any other way can be challenged

#### 2.4.3 Offences

- a) A disciplinary action can be inflicted upon a person who has neglected to pay a prescribed fee within the stipulated time, or submit requested reports or information.
- b) A disciplinary action can be inflicted upon a person who has accepted to participate in a competition or exhibition but without valid reason has refused to fulfil the agreement or without valid reason has failed to appear.
- c) A disciplinary action can be inflicted upon a person who has officially announced that in a competition or exhibition certain athlete(s) should participate but has failed to appear, despite the fact that it was known at the time for the announcement that no agreement of participation existed, or that the athlete(s) could not participate.
- d) A disciplinary action can be inflicted upon a person who has participated in competition or exhibition, or has practiced sports activities during the time he was suspended.
- e) A disciplinary action can be inflicted upon a person who has allowed a suspended person to participate in competition or exhibition or to practice sports activities despite the fact that it was known that the person was suspended.
- f) A disciplinary action can be inflicted upon a person who has during or in connection with competition or exhibition demonstrated, behaved insulting or in other ways improperly against a participant, official or audience, or has neglected directions or instructions given by officials.
- g) A disciplinary action can be inflicted upon a person who has in connection with sports activities caused damage, or violence against any person, or threats against persons.
- h) A disciplinary action can be inflicted upon a person who has by untruth or in other ways misled, or tried to mislead, official, other individual or organization in their sports activities.
- i) A disciplinary action can be inflicted upon a person who has contrary to one's knowledge or without plausible reason reported another person for an offence, which would result in a disciplinary action in accordance with these regulations.
- j) A disciplinary action can be inflicted upon a person who has in connection with sports activities provided him-self or another person with undue advantages.



- k) A disciplinary action can be inflicted upon a person who has behaved in a way that the image of the sport has been damaged, or obviously could have been damaged.
- l) A disciplinary action can be inflicted upon a person who has violated the playing rules of World Bowling, ETBF, the national federation, or other tournament organizer.
- m) A disciplinary action can be inflicted upon a person who has violated the established doping control rules.
- n) A disciplinary action can be inflicted upon a person who has in any other way neglected to follow the obligations of the statutes, rules and regulations, which govern the sport of bowling.

#### 2.4.4 Disciplinary actions

- a) The disciplinary actions of offences according to these regulations are reprimand, fines, restriction of rights or suspension.
- b) If the offence will be regarded as insignificant considering the circumstances, then only a reprimand may be imposed. If the offence will be regarded as gross, then suspension shall be imposed of minimum one and maximum two years.
- c) Disciplinary actions related to doping control violations will be dealt with in accordance with special doping control regulations.
- d) Reprimand, which is the lightest disciplinary action that can be imposed on a person, involves a written call of attention of the offence that has been committed and a demand of the offender in the future to obey to the actual statutes, rules and regulations.
- e) Fines involve that the offender is demanded to pay a certain amount of money to the ETBF. The amount to be paid shall be used to cover the costs incurred for investigation of the case and for the further development of the sport within the ETBF. The imposed fine shall be paid within four weeks after the decision has been announced.
- f) Restriction of rights involves that a national federation or its individual members may not, during a limited period of time, participate in certain ETBF activities.
- g) Suspension involves that a national federation or its individual members may not participate in competition, exhibition and/or other activities related to the sport. A suspended national federation does not have the right to vote at the ETBF Congress.
- h) Suspension has to be time limited and can be maximum two years.
- i) A suspension announcement must specify the first and last date of the suspension period of time. The start of the period shall be within one week of the date of the decision. However, if the offender has been suspended during the investigation period of time, then the start of the suspension shall be counted from that date of suspension.

#### 2.4.5 Reporting of offences

- a) A matter of disciplinary action for an offence against these regulations may be dealt with only if the relevant disciplinary authority has received a written report.
- b) The report shall be signed by the informer. It shall include the name of the offender, clear information about the offence together with the immediate circumstances and the evidences related thereto.
- c) If the report is incomplete, then the disciplinary authority may ask the informer to make the report complete within a specified time.



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- d) If the report has been addressed to an instance, which does not have the authority to deal with the matter, then the instance must immediately forward the report to the correct instance.
  - e) If the report has been received by an unauthorized instance, but within the specified time frame, then it must be considered as being received within the correct time, even if the correct authority did not receive it until after the specified time limit.

#### 2.4.6 Prescription period

- a) A disciplinary action for an offence can be imposed on someone, only if the offence has been reported for disciplinary action latest within two months from the time when the offence was committed or became known.
- b) A disciplinary action must not be imposed when two years have passed since the day of the offence.

#### 2.4.7 Investigation

- a) The disciplinary authority must give the reported person an opportunity to express his views on the report. The parties shall be provided with all documents and other quoted material belonging to the case.
- b) A solicitor, who in such a case must provide evidence of power given, may represent a party.
- c) The disciplinary authority may take the initiative by itself to start a complete investigation.
- d) The disciplinary authority may decide on an oral interrogation. The parties concerned shall be called to such an interrogation.
- e) Oral interrogation shall be held on request of a party. However, if it is obvious that such an interrogation does not benefit the investigation, then the disciplinary authority may deny the request.
- f) Each party is responsible for covering its own expenses for dealing with the case. It is the responsibility of the disciplinary authority to cover expenses that are related to substantiation of evidence or other investigation initiated by the disciplinary authority.
- g) All dealing with a case must be documented in minutes.
- h) A disciplinary action must be promptly dealt with and the decision announced immediately.

#### 2.4.8 Suspension during investigation

- a) If it is an obvious fact that the reported offence will lead to suspension, then the disciplinary authority, without hearing the offender, may decide that he until further notice and until the case has been finally decided upon may not participate in competition or exhibition.
- b) The offender must be informed immediately and latest within one week of a decision about suspension during the investigation.
- c) If the final decision will be a suspension, then the time of suspension during investigation shall be included in the total time of suspension.

#### 2.4.9 Deliberation

- a) Decision about disciplinary action may not concern other offence than the explicitly reported. Furthermore a decision may not be based on a statement or proof of which the offender has not been given the opportunity to comment on.
- b) In doubtful cases the offender shall be given the benefit of the doubt.



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- c) The decision about disciplinary action shall be taken by majority vote. If a tie exists, then the opinion that means a verdict of not guilty or the least severe disciplinary action, shall apply.

#### 2.4.10 Announcement of decision

- a) The announcement of a decision shall be made immediately and latest within one week to the persons concerned.
- b) The announcement of a decision must be in the written form, irrespective of it being a verdict of not guilty or guilty. The announcement shall include the names of the persons participating in the decision.
- c) If the verdict is guilty, then the announcement shall include information about the kind of offence, the regulation applied, and the disciplinary action.
- d) If the disciplinary action consists of fines, then the announcement shall specify to which organisation the fines shall be paid.
- e) The announcement shall also include a statement about to which higher authority an appeal of the decision may be submitted, as well as the last day when an appeal must be received, and also what the party has to observe in other respects. In case the decision cannot be appealed, this must be clearly stated in the announcement.
- f) The disciplinary authority must keep a register of all disciplinary actions that have been decided upon. Also eventual amendments or remission must be registered.
- g) The decision about disciplinary action shall be in effect even if it has been appealed to a higher authority. However, the higher authority may decide that the original decision shall not be in effect pending the final dealing of the appeal. Such a decision may not be appealed.

#### 2.4.11 First appeal

- a) Unless otherwise specified, the reporting as well as the sentenced party may appeal to a higher discipline authority.
- b) The relevant authority must receive such an appeal no later than 30 days after the announcement of the original decision.
- c) If the appeal has been lodged with an instance, which does not have the authority to deal with the matter, then the instance must immediately forward the appeal to the correct instance.
- d) If the appeal has been lodged with an unauthorized instance, but within the specified time frame, then it must be considered as being received within the correct time, even if the correct authority did not receive it until after the specified time limit.
- e) If the complaining party can provide proof that the stipulated time frame could not be maintained, then the appeal shall be dealt with despite the fact that it was not received until after the specified date.
- f) An appealed decision may not be changed unless the opponent has been given the opportunity to comment on the appeal. However, if a major procedural error has been made when the case was dealt with by the original instance, then the higher discipline authority may set aside the original decision without hearing the opponent.
- g) In principle the same procedure and announcement of decision apply to the dealing with an appeal as with a reported offence.



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2.4.12 Further appeals

- a) After a decision on an appeal has been announced, a further appeal may be granted if:
- Circumstances or evidence, not previously presented, can be referred to and its presentation likely should have led to a lesser degree of disciplinary action or a not guilty verdict.
  - A major procedural error has been made in dealing with the appeal.
  - The decision has been made on juridical principles, which obviously are in conflict with the established constitution.
- b) A request of further appeal, which may be made by the person on which a disciplinary action has been imposed, shall be submitted in writing to a higher authority not less than 30 days after the announcement of the decision on the appeal.

- 2.4.13 The ETBF national member federations are recommended to include in their constitution a suitable clause, which governs the handling of disciplinary actions including the procedure of appeals against a decision.

## **2.5 Amendments**

This Chapter was adopted by the Congress in 2001 and amended by congresses in 2003, 2005, 2007, 2009, 2011, 2013, 2015, 2017 and 2019.



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### **3. Common championship rules**

#### **3.1 ETBF Championships**

3.1.1 The official ETBF Championships are as follows:

- a) European Men Championships (EMC)
- b) European Women Championships (EWC)
- c) European Youth Championships (EYC)
- d) European Senior Championships (ESC)
- e) European Championships of Champions (ECC)

3.1.2 The specific rules, which apply to each championship, are specified in Chapters 4, 5, 6, and 7 respectively.

3.1.3 The applicable universal playing rules are found in Chapter 2 of World Bowling's Statutes and Playing Rules. The equipment specifications are found in chapters 9-11 of World Bowling's Statutes and Playing Rules.

#### **3.2 Championship bids**

3.2.1 Four times per year, preferably early each quarter, a bid round will be initiated by the ETBF Presidium.

3.2.2 Each bid round will include championships to be conducted in the actual year plus the following three years, where no hosts have been appointed yet.

3.2.3 Applications to host one of ETBF's championships can always be submitted by member federations and in addition by bowling centres, public entities, public organizations or companies as decided by the ETBF Presidium from bid round to bid round.

3.2.4 If the ETBF Presidium prefers to award the hosting of a championship to another entity, than a national member federation, the member federation in which jurisdiction the championship might be held, must approve the selection before the final awarding takes place.

3.2.5 In cases where a member federation objects to the selection made by the ETBF Presidium, the member federation must motivate the objection.

#### **3.3 Applications to host championships**

3.3.1 In order to be considered for selection the application must meet all requirements specified in the current issue of the Championship Application.

3.3.2 The required fee for filing an application, as specified in 2.1.3, shall be transferred to the ETBF bank account when the application is submitted.



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- 3.3.3 When the deadline for submitting applications is passed, the ETBF Presidium will evaluate the championship application and, in case additional information is needed, the applicants will be requested to submit such information. In some cases the ETBF Presidium might decide to perform an evaluation visit to collect more details about the organisation, the bowling centre, the hotel(s), and any other relevant matters of concern before the selection of the host can be made. Applications not meeting the requirements will be rejected and the application fee will be reimbursed.
- 3.3.4 The ETBF Presidium decides, in agreement with the host, on the dates for the championship. The dates shall be chosen in a way that they, as far as possible, do not interfere with the dates of other important international events. The Presidium's decision cannot be appealed.

### **3.4 Financial commitments of the host**

- 3.4.1 Transportation expenses for participating teams and ETBF officials
- Airport pick-up and return
  - Transportation between designated hotels and the bowling centre as of the last day of arrival and up to the day of departure
  - Pre-arranged schedules must be prepared for the transportation
  - If a participating member federation chooses to stay at a hotel other than that/those reserved by the host, the host has no obligation to cover the expenses for transportation to and from such a hotel
- 3.4.2 Bowling expenses
- Lane fees for the official practice
  - Lane fees for all events of the championships
- 3.4.3 Expenses related to ceremonies
- Opening ceremony
  - Medal presentations
  - Farewell banquet (optional)
- 3.4.4 Expenses for meeting facilities
- Team Managers meeting
  - ETBF Congress (if any)
  - ETBF Presidium and Committee meetings (if any)
- 3.4.5 Expenses for media facilities
- A comfortable room for accredited media representatives
  - Sufficient space, a table and a chair for each accredited media representative
  - A fast speed line for Internet connections to be shared between the media representatives
  - At least one printer
  - Other equipment as decided by the host
- 3.4.6 Other expenses
- Championship administration costs
  - Designing and producing a championship logo
  - Badges of accreditation



- d) Medical personnel on call
- e) Security personnel

3.4.7 It is the obligation of the host to transfer fees to be paid to ETBF latest one week after the conclusion of the championships.

### **3.5 Agreement**

3.5.1 Following the selection of a host, the Secretary General will initiate a written agreement with duly authorised officials of the host and any other necessary parties.

3.5.2 The agreement will be prepared in accordance with the standard form shown in the current issue of the Championship Agreement. Any additional commitments shall be shown in appendices to the agreement.

3.5.3 Failure to sign the agreement within a reasonable time will be the cause for the ETBF Presidium to consider the selection of another host.

3.5.4 After the agreement has been signed, the ETBF Presidium can select another host should this become necessary due to force majeure (e.g. risk of war or terrorist attacks, elemental catastrophe, etc.) or in case of circumstances that do not provide sufficient sportsmanlike conditions. If the host disagrees, the ETBF President can call for a meeting where officials of the host can participate at their own cost to present their case.

### **3.6 Championship Director's inspection**

3.6.1 Championship Director's inspection is a methodical examination and review of the prerequisites and preparations for the hosting of a championship. It should take place approximately one year prior to the start of the championship. However, this time may be shortened if the host has previous experience of organising championships in a satisfactory way.

3.6.2 The objective is to identify eventual areas that need improvement and to verify that all necessary steps will be taken to guarantee a successful championship, which meets the expectations of athletes, coaches, officials, media representatives, spectators, and other interested persons.

3.6.3 The Championship Director will soonest possible after the selection of the host for a championship, and after co-ordination with the Technical Delegate and the IT Delegate, contact the host to agree on suitable dates for the inspection, if possible/preferably coordinated with inspections of the delegates.

3.6.4 The current issue of the document "Championship Inspection" shall form the basis for the inspection.

3.6.5 The inspection report shall be presented to the host and to the ETBF Presidium. It is the responsibility of the Championship Director to follow up on any and all corrective action agreed upon with the host.



- 3.6.6 The expenses for the Championship Director to do the inspection will be paid by ETBF. However, should it be necessary to repeat the inspection the host will bear the cost for such a visit.

### **3.7 Bowling centre inspection**

- 3.7.1 At least half a year prior to the championship, the appointed Technical Delegate will visit the championship venue to perform or supervise a complete technical inspection of the bowling centre.
- 3.7.2 It is the responsibility of the Championship Director to co-ordinate the dates for the inspection.
- 3.7.3 All equipment, which is to be used during the championship, must meet the requirements specified by World Bowling. The inspection will at a minimum include lanes, pinsetters, pins, foul detection system, score keeping system, etc.
- 3.7.4 New pins or pins of not more than 300 games shall be used for the championship. Two sets of pins shall be used in each pin setting machine.
- 3.7.5 At the end of the inspection the Technical Delegate shall agree with the host on eventually necessary corrective actions, and if necessary also on dates for a follow up inspection.
- 3.7.6 Within one week of the inspection, the Technical Delegate shall issue a complete inspection report to the host, bowling centre management, and the ETBF Presidium.
- 3.7.7 It is the responsibility of the Technical Delegate to follow up on any and all corrective actions agreed upon with the host.
- 3.7.8 When all specification requirements are met, the Technical Delegate will accept the bowling centre to be used for the actual championship.
- 3.7.9 The expenses for the Technical Delegate to perform the inspection will be paid by ETBF. However, should it be necessary to repeat the inspection, the host will bear the cost for the visit.

### **3.8 IT inspection**

- 3.8.1 At least half a year prior to the championship, the IT Delegate will visit the championship venue to perform an IT inspection of the bowling centre.
- 3.8.2 It is the responsibility of the Championship Director to co-ordinate the dates for the IT inspection.
- 3.8.3 The IT inspection will as a minimum include:
- a) Guiding and advising the host when it comes to line requirements
  - b) Guiding and advising the host when it comes to network requirements



- c) Guiding and advising the host when it comes to requirements for IT equipment
- d) The score system
- e) On-line scoring in use
- f) List of needed adjustments and requirements for the host and the centre

3.8.4 The expenses for the IT Delegate to perform the inspection will be paid by ETBF. However, should it be necessary to repeat the inspection, the host will bear the cost for the visit.

### **3.9 Information Bulletin**

3.9.1 The host shall prepare one information bulletin to be published approximately six months prior to the championships. Before publishing, the bulletin must be approved by the Championship Director.

3.9.2 The bulletin must be circulated to all member federations and published on a website related to the championships.

### **3.10 Participants**

3.10.1 The official delegation of each participating federation includes athletes and officials appointed by the federation to serve their team.

3.10.2 In addition to the official delegation a national federation may list other individuals on the entry forms. They are considered as guests and are offered championship services such as transportation, entry to the bowling centre, etc. They fall under the jurisdiction of the respective national federation that has submitted their names on the entry form.

3.10.3 The entry fee for members of the official delegation and the entry fee for guests shall be agreed upon between the host and the Championship Director.

### **3.11 Eligibility of athletes**

3.11.1 The ETBF championships are open for ETBF member federations only.

3.11.2 To be eligible to enter athletes in ETBF championships, member federations must be current with their fees.

3.11.3 Any athlete in the ETBF championships must be a national of the country of the ETBF member federation, which is entering him (subject to the exceptions below).

3.11.4 Exceptions

- a) An athlete, who is a national of two or more countries at the same time, may represent the federation in either one of them, as he may elect. However, after having represented one federation in World, continental or regional games or in World or Zone Championships, he may not represent another federation in ETBF championships, unless at least three years have passed since he last represent-



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ed his former federation. This period may be reduced or even cancelled by the ETBF Presidium, with the agreement of the national federations concerned, taking the circumstances of each case into account.

- b) An athlete, who has represented one federation in World, continental or regional games or in World or Zone championships, and who has changed his nationality or acquired a new nationality, may participate in ETBF Championships to represent his new federation provided that at least three years have passed since the athlete last represented his former federation. This period may be reduced or even cancelled by the ETBF Presidium, with the agreement of the national bowling federations concerned, taking the circumstances of each case into account.
- c) In the following circumstances, the three year period does not apply, and an athlete may choose to represent, in ETBF Championships, the federation to which he belonged or his new federation if one exists. Such a choice may be made only once.
  - If an associated state, province or overseas department, a country or colony acquires independence.
  - If a country becomes incorporated within another country by reason of a change of border.
  - If a country merges with another country.
- d) If an athlete has the nationality of a union consisting of two or more countries, which have their own national bowling federations, he may choose to represent, in ETBF Championships, either one of the federations concerned. When such a choice has been made, he may not represent another federation in ETBF Championships unless at least three years have passed since he last represented his former federation.
- e) If an athlete has the nationality of a country, where World Bowling has granted membership to more than one national bowling federation, he may then chose to represent, in ETBF Championships, either one of the federations concerned. When such a choice has been made, he may not represent another federation in ETBF Championships, unless at least three years have passed since he last represented his former federation.

3.11.5 In all cases, in which an athlete would be eligible to participate in ETBF Championships, either by representing a federation of another country than his, or by having the choice of the federation which he intends to represent, the ETBF Presidium may take all decisions of a general or individual nature, with regard to issues resulting from nationality, citizenship, domicile or residence of any athlete, including the duration of any waiting period.

### **3.12 Entry deadlines**

- 3.12.1 It is the obligation of the host to agree with the Championship Director on deadlines for the entry forms to be received and to publish the deadlines to all member federations.
- 3.12.2 Federations not meeting the deadlines specified for hotel forms, arrival & departure forms, and media accreditation forms cannot expect to be provided with the full championship service, for instance accommodation at the official hotels.



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3.12.3 The entry deadline

- a) The entry deadline, which is specified in the entry form, is the last date the entry form must be received by the host. It will not be possible for federations to enter a championship if they fail to meet the entry deadline.
- b) In case a federation is increasing the number of athletes of a team after the entry deadline, the federation must pay a double entry fee for each added athlete.
- c) In cases where one or more athletes are withdrawn after the entry deadline without being replaced by another athlete, the federation must pay a penalty for each withdrawn athlete equal to the double entry fee.
- d) In case a federation is completely cancelling their participation after the entry deadline, the federation must pay in addition to the withdrawal penalty for each athlete a cancellation fee as specified in Chapter 2 of the current issue of this Constitution.

### **3.13 Championship management**

3.13.1 Organising Committee

- a) The host shall select a Tournament Manager, who together with designated key persons shall supervise and perform the activities directly related to the operation of the championship

3.13.2 Championship Committee

- a) For each championship a Championship Committee shall be established. It shall consist of:
  - Championship Director
  - Technical Delegate
  - Host Tournament Manager
- b) The Championship Director and the Technical Delegate shall be appointed by the ETBF President. Both of them must come from another federation than the federation of the host
- c) The Championship Committee shall act as an advisory body to the Organising Committee with regard to the operation of the championship
- d) It is the responsibility of the Championship Committee to handle appeals against decisions taken by referees or by the Organising Committee. All appeal decisions by the Championship Committee shall be presented in writing to the parties involved, and written documentation of all such cases shall be included in the Championship Director's final report of the championship

3.13.3 Duties of the Championship Director

- a) The Championship Director will assist the host in preparing bulletins and other relevant documents related to the championships, and will approve the bulletins prior to the publishing
- b) The Championship Director will be present in due time before and during the championships to assist the Championship Organising Committee
- c) The Championship Director is the Chairman of the Championship Committee and is especially responsible for matters related to the playing rules
- d) Within two weeks of the conclusion of the championship it is the Championship Director's responsibility to issue a summary report of the Championship Committee actions taken during the championship. The report shall be presented to the ETBF Presidium and to the members of the Championship Committee



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3.13.4 Duties of the Technical Delegate

- a) The Technical Delegate is, together with the external lane maintenance partner of ETBF, responsible for the design of the one oil-pattern to be used at the championship
- b) It is the responsibility of the Technical Delegate to make sure that the bowling ball registration preceding the championship follows established rules and procedures
- c) During the championship it is the responsibility of the Technical Delegate to make sure that the established technical procedures are followed, and that eventual necessary corrections are made.
- d) The Technical Delegate is especially responsible for all matters related to the lanes, machines, ball inspection etc.
- e) Within two weeks of the conclusion of the championship it is the Technical Delegate's responsibility to issue a summary report of the technical related actions taken during the championship. The report shall be presented to the ETBF Presidium and the members of the Championship Committee.

3.13.5 Duties of the Host Tournament Manager

- a) The Host Tournament Manager is responsible for all matters related to the operation of the championship.
- b) The Host Tournament Manager is responsible for the communication with the local championship staff.
- c) Other duties of the Host Tournament Manager are as specified by the host

3.13.6 Duties of the IT Delegate

- a) For each ETBF championship an IT Delegate will be appointed according to an external agreement made between ETBF and an external company providing IT services and manpower for the function.
- b) The IT Delegate is especially responsible for
  - Guiding and advising the host when it comes to line requirements, network requirements and requirements for IT equipment
  - Knowledge of the score system in use
  - Knowledge of eventually on-line scoring in use
  - Delivering the necessary result software
  - Delivering web pages to present lane assignments, results and standings
  - Operating the score system (if needed)
  - Operating the software for results and standings

3.13.7 Jury of Appeal

- a) For each ETBF championship the ETBF President shall appoint a Jury of Appeal, consisting of three members. Three different federations must be represented on this body
- b) It is the responsibility of the Jury of Appeal to handle appeals against decisions taken by the Championship Committee
- c) The Jury of Appeal may decide on an issue after all material involved has been studied by the members of the jury, either at a regular meeting, or by an e-mail vote, or by a telephone conference
- d) Minutes of all meetings of the Jury of Appeal shall be kept, and shall be forwarded to the ETBF Presidium soonest possible after a decision has been made



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- e) All decisions of the Jury of Appeal shall be presented in writing
  - f) The fee for an appeal shall be forwarded to the ETBF President for inclusion in the ETBF financials

### **3.14 Assignments to squads and lanes**

- 3.14.1 When all participants are known, it is the responsibility of the Championship Committee to establish an impartial draw for the squad assignment for each squad in the championships. The squad assignment remains an internal document in the Championships Committee.
- 3.14.2 Singles pairs, Doubles and Trios respectively, from the same national federation shall be assigned to different squads.
- 3.14.3 Athletes not joined with other team members in an event are considered as extra athletes, who nevertheless will play in each event to be able to play the same number of games like all other athletes in the All Event competition of the championships.
- 3.14.4 Extra athletes from different federations are combined and assigned to squads in a number either equal to or one lower than the number of athletes per lane in the event, in which they are playing in a combined single pair, double, trio or team.
- 3.14.5 Eventually incomplete single pairs, doubles, trios or teams are distributed over as many squads as possible of the event.
- 3.14.6 When the registration of all teams in a championship is concluded, after which the final number of athletes attending is known, the IT Delegate will perform a draw of the lane assignments, squad by squad and event by event, together with two officials from different federations attending the championships.
- 3.14.7 Athletes assigned to commence bowling on odd numbered lanes will move left and athletes assigned to commence bowling on even numbered lanes will move right for each successive game. The Championship Committee will determine the number of lanes to be moved after each game of the squad.
- 3.14.8 The lane assignment and the lane movement procedures are presented either at the Team Managers' meeting, or soonest possible after, when the assignment draws have been made by the IT Delegate.

### **3.15 Pacers**

- 3.15.1 A pacer is an athlete taking part in a squad of an event without a counting pin fall.
- 3.15.2 A pacer must, to the highest possible degree, have bowling skills as close as possible to the athletes in the squad.
- 3.15.3 The gender of a pacer must be the same as the athletes in the squad.
- 3.15.4 An athlete from one of the participating national teams cannot be a pacer.



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3.15.5 Pacers are only used, when the final number of athletes attending makes it impossible to meet the policies for incomplete combined single pairs, doubles, trios or teams, as specified in Articles 3.14.3-5.

3.15.6 In case of a withdrawal during a squad, no pacer will be added.

### **3.16 Team Managers meeting**

3.16.1 Prior to the start of the official practice, a meeting shall be held to provide all necessary information about the competition and related activities, and to answer questions.

3.16.2 The Championship Director, the Technical Delegate, the IT Delegate and the Host Tournament Manager shall attend the meeting.

3.16.3 From the participating federations only team managers and coaches may attend the meeting.

### **3.17 Ceremonies**

3.17.1 An opening ceremony and medal presentations are mandatory. The farewell banquet is optional.

3.17.2 Opening ceremony

- a) The Opening Ceremony shall, at a minimum, include an athletes parade with flag display and appropriate remarks by representatives of the host and ETBF
- b) The program is subject to the approval of the Championship Director

3.17.3 Medal presentations

- a) The medal presentations should be conducted after each event and preferably before the commencement of the next event
- b) National anthems shall be played for the winners
- c) Medal presentations shall follow a plan established by the host and approved by the Championship Director

### **3.18 Bowling ball procedure**

3.18.1 Only bowling balls that are included in the USBC Approved Bowling Ball list may be used in competition. The official list of approved bowling balls is published on the Internet website [www.bowl.com](http://www.bowl.com).

3.18.2 Cleaning of the surface of the bowling ball is permissible prior to any delivery during a game. Any cloth product that is non-abrasive, and contains no chemical additives that would modify the surface finish of the ball, would be acceptable to use. Cleaners, which are products meant to clean the ball surface without changing the surface roughness, may be used, and provided they are on the list of approved products.



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- 3.18.3 Adjusting of the surface of the bowling ball by means of scrub sponges, scoring pads, and polish that are on the list of approved products may be done only during any practice session and between any block of games, as well as between semi-finals and finals of an event, provided it is done outside of the athletes' area.
- 3.18.4 Altering the surface of the bowling ball by means of bonded or coated abrasives may only be done in a designated area and only during any practice session, and between any block of games, as well as between semi-finals and finals of an event.
- 3.18.5 The list of approved as well as not acceptable products for cleaning and adjusting of the surface of bowling balls can be found on the website [www.bowl.com](http://www.bowl.com).
- 3.18.6 Prior to the start of the Official Practice the bowling balls to be used during competition shall be inspected and registered. The inspection shall be limited to
- Eligibility of the ball as specified in the list of approved bowling balls
  - Serial number
  - Visual inspection with regard to material, surface, plugs, etc.
- 3.18.7 Immediately following the Official Practice the ball registration list for each athlete shall be modified only to include the bowling balls to be used during the championship events. Each athlete will be permitted to have maximum 6 bowling balls registered. No replacements or additions will be allowed once the first event has started, and no modifications of a bowling ball shall be permitted apart from the altering of the surface as described above. In very special circumstances the Championship Committee may allow a replacement of a registered bowling ball once the first event has started.
- 3.18.8 Random checks of the identity of the bowling balls used in competition will be performed during the squads at the discretion of the Championship Committee.
- 3.18.9 The penalty for violation of the rule is disqualification and all scores null and void.

### **3.19 Lane dressing procedures**

- 3.19.1 The general goal for the lane maintenance shall be to achieve a fair and equitable scoring condition, which places a premium on athlete versatility, accuracy and consistency.
- 3.19.2 Only one oil-pattern will be in use during the entire period of the championship.
- 3.19.3 Latest 2 months prior to the first day of the championships, the host will, at the championship website and in an email circulated to all member federations, publish the expected length of the oil-pattern.
- 3.19.4 The final selected oil-pattern will be announced at the Team Managers meeting.
- 3.19.5 The length of the final selected oil-pattern might vary with a maximum of +/- one foot from the originally published length.



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### **3.20 Playing uniform**

- 3.20.1 Athletes shall wear a standard uniform approved by their member federation. In a team event (doubles, trios, team) athletes of the same team must wear uniforms of the same colour and type.
- 3.20.2 The name of the member federation, which the athlete represents, must appear on the uniform.
- 3.20.3 The following may appear on the uniform
- Name of the athlete
  - Logo of the member federation, which the athlete represents
  - Advertisements
- 3.20.4 Coaches in the athlete's area must wear a uniform specified by the member federation, including bowling (or sport) shoes.
- 3.20.5 At medal ceremonies, all medallists (athletes and coaches) must wear a uniform specified by the member federation, including bowling (or sport) shoes.

### **3.21 Using alcohol**

- 3.21.1 Athletes and coaches must not consume alcohol or be under the influence of alcohol while in competition; i.e. during the entire period of a block of games.
- 3.21.2 If an athlete or a coach is in breach of this rule, the athlete or the coach in question will be excluded from the rest of the championship by the Championship Committee.

### **3.22 Smoking and using tobacco products**

- 3.22.1 Athletes and coaches must not smoke, use tobacco products or use any kind of synthetic cigarettes or e-cigarettes while in competition; i.e. during the entire period of a block of games.
- 3.22.2 For the first offence by an athlete, the penalty will be either zero pins in the game, where the offence happens, or zero pins in the succeeding game, if the offence happens in between two games in a block.
- 3.22.3 For the second offence by the same athlete, the athlete will be excluded from the rest of the championships by the Championship Committee.
- 3.22.4 For the first offence by a coach, the coach will be excluded from the block of games.
- 3.22.5 For the second offence by the same coach, the coach will be excluded from the rest of the championships by the Championship Committee.



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### **3.23 Anti-doping rules**

- 3.23.1 Anti-doping regulations as appearing in World Bowling's Doping Control Manual will be applicable for the ETBF championships when so decided by the ETBF Presidium.
- 3.23.2 Doping control tests may also be conducted at the discretion of the national doping control agency of the country of the host.

### **3.24 Competition area**

- 3.24.1 The competition area shall be clearly defined and be separated from the spectator's area, either by already existing tables or barriers, or by temporary installations for the championship ensuring the separation.
- 3.24.2 Restrictions in the competition area
- It is not permitted to bring in or consume food in the competition area. This does not include candy bars or fruit.
  - Non-alcoholic beverages may be consumed in the competition area provided they are kept in a way, which eliminates the risk of contaminating the competition area, approaches or lanes.
  - The use of any other liquids, such as bowling ball cleaners, must be controlled in a way that would eliminate the risk of contamination of the competition area.
- 3.24.3 Athletes in the competition area
- Only athletes in competition are permitted in the area.
- 3.24.4 Coaches in the competition area
- Only one coach per single pair, double, trio, team or masters qualified will be permitted in the competition area.
  - A coach must be positioned in the immediate vicinity of the pair of lanes on which the athletes he is coaching are competing.
  - The name of each coach must be mentioned at the entry form of the discipline to be able to coach during a block of games.
  - A coach cannot be exchanged during a block of games.
  - A coach must be certified as an ETBF Level II coach or equivalent by one of the national or international programs approved/recognized by ETBF and or World Bowling to be able to coach in ETBF's Championships. \*)
  - The relevant digital copy of the certificate must preferably be sent to the organizer when the name list is submitted or latest to the organizer upon registration at the site of a championship. \*)

\*) Article 3.24.4.e-g will be in effect as of 1. January 2021.

### **3.25 Practice**

- 3.25.2 The athletes of each federation shall be nominated prior to the start of the Official Practice.



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- 3.25.3 Each federation will have one session of Official Practise prior to the start of the first event. Minimum one hour practice is required for each federation.
- 3.25.4 If the centre during a period, where it hosts a championship, is open for open bowling outside the competition periods, it is permitted for the teams or tournament officials to order lanes for additional practise, or for the promotion of the sport, through the centre and for lanes fees as requested by the centre in out of competition periods.
- 3.25.5 Practice immediately before events in each block of games will be 10 minutes, except in the Team event, where the practise will be 15 minutes.

### **3.26 Slow bowling**

- 3.26.1 Athletes preparing to step on the approach and deliver a ball shall have the following obligations and rights
- Athletes shall be ready to bowl when it is their turn and shall not delay the start of their approach or delivery if the lane immediately adjacent to them on both the right and left is clear
  - They may claim right of way only over an athlete moving to the approach or preparing to bowl on the lane immediately to their left.
  - They shall yield to an athlete moving to the approach or preparing to bowl on the lane immediately to their right.
- 3.26.2 If an athlete/team does not observe the procedures outlined above, it shall be construed as slow bowling. An athlete or a team failing to observe these procedures shall be warned by an authorized tournament official as follows
- A verbal warning for the first offence
  - A yellow card for the second offence
  - A red card for the third and each succeeding offence in any block of games in an event. The penalty shall be a zero pin fall for the frame
- 3.26.3 Whenever there is any question concerning the enforcement of the rule, or lack thereof, in a Masters event or Finals, the Championship Director, notwithstanding the reference to the referees, shall make the final decision.

### **3.27 Re-racks**

- 3.27.1 An athlete is allowed a maximum of two re-racks per game without asking a referee for permission.
- 3.27.2 Unless permission for additional re-racks in the same game is granted by a referee, the re-rack is illegal.
- 3.27.3 A referee can only accept additional re-racks, when it is obvious that the pin setting is clearly off spot.
- 3.27.4 If an athlete violates this rule, the frame following the illegal re-rack, or the remaining part of frame 10, if the violation happens in frame 10, will be set to zero.



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### **3.28 Style of play**

- 3.28.1 In dual lane style of play competing individual athletes or teams shall successively and in regular order bowl one frame on one lane of a pair of lanes, and for the next frame alternate and use the other lane of the pair until five frames are bowled on each lane of the pair. For the next game the athletes move to another pair of lanes.
- 3.28.2 In single lane style of play competing individual athletes or teams shall successively and in regular order bowl one frame at a time on the same lane until 10 frames are bowled on that lane. For the next game the athletes move to another lane.
- 3.28.3 Unless otherwise specified for any event the dual lane style of play shall be used.

### **3.29 Tardy athletes**

- 3.29.1 Any athlete or team arriving late shall begin play with the score count beginning with the frame then being bowled on the lane or lanes to which they are assigned.
- 3.29.2 If they are scheduled alone, they will start in the earliest frame then being bowled on the squad.

### **3.30 Interrupted game**

- 3.30.1 The tournament officials may authorize the completion of a game and block of games on another pair of lanes when equipment failure on the starting lanes would delay the normal progress of the block.

### **3.31 Tie breaking**

- 3.31.1 Definition of a game score
- Actual pin fall in the game for an individual athlete
  - Actual pin fall for any size of team in a game for the athletes of the team
- 3.31.2 The following will apply to all events except in head-to-head matches
- In case of a tie for position 1 or 4 after the qualification in Singles, Doubles, Trios or Team, for a medal position in All Event or for position 8 or position 24 in All Event, a 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> frame roll off will be played, repeated until the tie is broken. The roll off shots will be played by each athlete involved.
  - In all other tie situations, the highest positioned will be the athlete/team with the highest last game score, then the highest second last game score etc.
- 3.31.3 The following will apply to head-to-head matches
- In case of a tie in a game a one ball roll off on a full set of pins will be played, repeated until the tie is broken
  - In the case of dual lane style of play the athletes will for the first roll off delivery be positioned on the lanes where they ended the game. The highest ranked ath-



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lete after the qualification will chose the order of play. For a second roll off delivery the athletes will switch lanes and the order of deliveries will be opposite to the first one and so on

- c) In the case of single lane style of play all roll off deliveries will be played on the same lane as the tie occurred. The highest ranked athlete after the qualification will choose the order of play. For a second roll off delivery the order of play will be the opposite of the first one, and so on

3.31.4 The following will apply to the Semi Finals and finals of the Doubles, Trios, and Team events:

- a) In case of a tie in a match, each team member will bowl a one ball roll off on a full set of pins. After all athletes of both teams have completed their roll offs, the total pin fall is counted to break the tie
- b) For the first roll off delivery the teams will be positioned on the lanes where they ended the game. The athletes of each team will make the roll off deliveries in the same order as the line-up for the whole match. The highest ranked team after the qualification will chose which of the teams to start
- c) When the first athlete of the team chosen to start the roll off has made his delivery, the first athlete of the other team makes his delivery, followed by the second athlete of the starting team and the second athlete of the other team, and so on until all athletes of both teams have made their deliveries
- d) When both teams have made their deliveries and there is still a tie, the teams switch lanes and the order of the team to begin will be reversed. The line up of each team will remain the same as for the previous round of roll offs. This procedure will continue until the tie is broken

### **3.32 Penalties**

3.32.1 Unless otherwise specifically stated in a rule, the penalties for rule violations shall be as follows.

3.32.2 An athlete/team failing to observe a rule shall be warned by an authorized tournament official with a yellow card for the first offence.

3.32.3 For a second offence in the same championship, the athlete/team will be disqualified from the championship, and will not be allowed to participate in ETBF approved tournaments and ETBF championships for 90 days.

3.32.4 All offences shall immediately be reported by the Tournament Manager to the ETBF Secretary General, who will report to all member federations.

### **3.33 Protests**

3.33.1 Protests involving eligibility or general playing rules must be confirmed in writing to a tournament official not later than 24 hours after the game in which the infraction occurred or before the medal presentation, whichever is the sooner.

3.33.2 When a protest involving a foul or the legality of pin fall is entered, an official representative of the federations involved may be present when evidence is taken relative to the protest.



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- 3.33.3 If no written protest is entered prior to the expiration period as stated, the game or games shall stand as bowled.
- 3.33.4 Each rule under this rule shall not be construed to cover a similar or previous violation.

### **3.34 Appeals**

- 3.34.1 All matters, which cannot be settled by the referee, shall be heard and reviewed by the Championship Committee. The decision of the Championship Committee is final unless there is an appeal to the Jury of Appeal within 24 hours after the decision is announced, or before the medal presentation, whichever is the sooner.
- 3.34.2 Protests on eligibility arising after the conclusion of the championships shall be filed directly with the Jury of Appeal within 30 days.
- 3.34.3 All appeals from the Championship Committee's decisions must be filed in writing with a member of the Jury of Appeal, or with the Secretary General of ETBF. Each appeal must be specific and include a fee of € 100. If the Jury of Appeal does not uphold the appeal, the fee will be forfeited to the ETBF. The foregoing also applies to protests filed directly with the Jury of Appeal.
- 3.34.4 The Jury of Appeal shall be empowered to cite before it all documents and persons involved in the appeal at a regularly scheduled meeting or if deemed appropriate, the Jury of Appeal may decide an issue by a mail vote after all material involved in the matter has been studied by each of its members.

### **3.35 Medals**

- 3.35.1 The medals to be awarded will be the same for all events in all championships.
- 3.35.2 The medals will be provided by ETBF.
- 3.35.3 The medals to be presented will be the following
- a) Gold medal(s) will be presented to the highest positioned in an event
  - b) Silver medal(s) will be presented to the second highest positioned in an event
  - c) Bronze medal(s) will be presented to the third highest positioned in an event. In events with semi-finals, bronze medals will be presented to both losers of the semi-finals
- 3.35.4 Medals will be presented to the athlete(s), to the coach and to the federation.

### **3.36 Amendments**

This Chapter was adopted by the Congress in 2005 and was amended by Congresses in 2007, 2009, 2011, 2013, 2015, 2017 and 2019.



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## **4. European Championships for men and women**

### **4.1. Championship periods**

- 4.1.1. European Men Championships (EMC) will be conducted in 2019 and 2020 and again in 2023 and 2024 etc., in odd years preferably in June during weeks 23 and 24, in even years preferably in August during weeks 33 and 34.
- 4.1.2. European Women Championships (EWC) will be conducted in 2018 and 2020 and again in 2022 and 2024 etc., preferably in June during weeks 23 and 24.

### **4.2. Age limitations**

- 4.2.1. There is no age limitation for the EMC and the EWC.

### **4.3. Participants**

- 4.3.1. Each ETBF member federation may enter maximum six athletes in each of the championships.

### **4.4. Events**

- 4.4.1 The following events are included in the EMC and EWC
- Singles, 6 games
  - Doubles, 6 games
  - Trios, 6 games
  - Team, 6 games
  - All Event, consisting of the above 24 games.
  - Masters as specified in 4.4.6 and 4.4.7
- 4.4.2 Specifications for the Singles event
- The Singles event will be played in one block of six games
  - The four highest positioned in the event qualification are qualified for the Semi Finals, seeded as 1-4 according to the final standing of the event qualification
  - The athletes in the Semi Finals will be matched as the 1<sup>st</sup> seeded athlete vs. the 4<sup>th</sup> seeded athlete and the 2<sup>nd</sup> seeded athlete vs. the 3<sup>rd</sup> seeded athlete
  - The Semi Finals are one game matches. The two highest seeded athletes will decide on which lane (left or right) to begin
  - The winners of the Semi Finals are qualified for the Final, while the highest seeded of the losing athletes will be positioned 3 in the results list and the lowest seeded of the losing athletes will be positioned 4 in the results list
  - The Final is a one game match. The highest seeded athlete will decide on which lane (left or right) to begin
- 4.4.3 Specifications for the Doubles event
- The Doubles event qualification will be played in one block of six games



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- b) Change of athletes in a double is not permitted during the event
  - c) Line-up changes are not permitted during a block
  - d) The four highest positioned in the event qualification are qualified for the Semi Finals, seeded as 1-4 according to the final standing of the event qualification
  - e) The doubles in the Semi Finals will be matched as the 1<sup>st</sup> seeded double vs. the 4<sup>th</sup> seeded double and the 2<sup>nd</sup> seeded double vs. the 3<sup>rd</sup> seeded double
  - f) The Semi Finals are one game matches. The two highest seeded doubles will decide on which lane (left or right) to begin
  - g) The winners of the Semi Finals are qualified for the Final, while the highest seeded of the losing doubles will be positioned 3 in the results list and the lowest seeded of the losing doubles will be positioned 4 in the results list
  - h) The Final is a one game match. The highest seeded double will decide on which lane (left or right) to begin

#### 4.4.4 Specifications for the Trios event

- a) The Trios event qualification will be played in two blocks of three games
- b) Change of athletes in a trio is not permitted during the event
- c) Line-up changes are not permitted during a block
- d) The four highest positioned in the event qualification are qualified for the Semi Finals, seeded as 1-4 according to the final standing of the event qualification
- e) The teams in the Semi Finals will be matched as the 1<sup>st</sup> seeded trio vs. the 4<sup>th</sup> seeded trio and the 2<sup>nd</sup> seeded trio vs. the 3<sup>rd</sup> seeded trio
- f) The Semi Finals are one game matches. The two highest seeded trios will decide on which lane (left or right) to begin
- g) The winners of the Semi Finals are qualified for the Final, while the highest seeded of the losing teams will be positioned 3 in the results list and the lowest seeded of the losing teams will be positioned 4 in the results list
- h) The Final is a one game match. The highest seeded team will decide on which lane (left or right) to begin

#### 4.4.5 Specifications for the Team event

- a) The Team event qualification will be played in two blocks of three games
- b) In the team event a team may change one athlete at the start of the second block
- c) Line-up changes are not permitted during a block
- d) The four highest positioned in the Team event qualification are qualified for the Semi Finals, seeded as 1-4 according to the final standing of the Team event qualification
- e) The teams in the Semi Finals will be matched as the 1<sup>st</sup> seeded team vs. the 4<sup>th</sup> seeded team and the 2<sup>nd</sup> seeded team vs. the 3<sup>rd</sup> seeded team
- f) The Semi Finals are one game matches. The two highest seeded teams will decide on which lane (left or right) to begin
- g) The winners of the Semi Finals are qualified for the Final, while the highest seeded of the losing teams will be positioned 3 in the results list and the lowest seeded of the losing teams will be positioned 4 in the results list
- h) Prior to the start of the final the teams are allowed to change one athlete. Earliest at the beginning of the 9<sup>th</sup> frame of the Semi Finals, the 6<sup>th</sup> athlete of the teams may start practising on the lanes specially allocated for practice
- i) The Final is a one game match. The highest seeded team will decide on which lane (left or right) to begin



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- 4.4.6 Specifications for the matches of the Masters event
- a) The 24 highest positioned athletes in the final all event standing are qualified for the masters event, seeded as 1-24 in all steps of the masters event according to their position in the final all event standing
  - b) In all steps of the masters event there will head to head matches, where the highest seeded athletes will be matched against the lowest seeded athlete
  - c) Each match will consist of 2 or 3 games. If the same athlete is the winner of the first two games, the 3<sup>rd</sup> game will not be played
  - d) Each match will be played on one pair of lanes
  - e) Each game in a match will be played with the dual lane style of play
  - f) In each match the highest seeded athlete is deciding whether he wants to begin the first game on the left or right lane. In the second game the order of athletes will be opposite to the first game and in a possible third game the order of athletes will be the same as in the first game
  - g) In case of withdrawals from any match in the masters event, the athlete without opponent will be declared the winner of the match
- 4.4.7 The steps of the Masters event
- a) There will be 8 matches in the Masters event Step 1, including the athletes seeded 9-24. The winners of the 8 matches will continue to the Masters event Step 2
  - b) There will be 8 matches in the Masters event Step 2, including the athletes seeded 1-8 plus the 8 winners of the Masters event Step 1. The winners of the 8 matches will continue to the Masters event Step 3
  - c) There will be 4 matches in the Masters event Step 3, including the 8 winners of the Masters event Step 2. The winners of the 4 matches will continue to the Masters event Step 4
  - d) There will be 2 matches in the Masters event Step 4, including the 4 winners of the Masters event Step 3. The winners of the 2 matches will continue to the Masters event Step 5
  - e) There will be 1 match in the Masters event Step 5, including the 2 winners of the Masters event Step 4. The winner of the match is the European Masters Champion
- 4.4.8 The final positioning
- a) The winner of the match in the Masters event Step 5 will be positioned as number 1 and the loser of this match as number 2
  - b) The losers of the matches in the Masters event Step 4 will be positioned in the interval 3-4 according to their seeding before the Masters event
  - c) The losers of the matches in the Masters event Step 3 will be positioned in the interval 5-8 according to their seeding before the Masters event
  - d) The losers of the matches in the Masters event Step 2 will be positioned in the interval 9-16 according to their seeding before the Masters event
  - e) The losers of the matches in the Masters event Step 1 will be positioned in the interval 17-24 according to their seeding before the Masters event
  - f) The remaining athletes will be positioned 25-NN according to their scores in the All Event standing
- 4.4.9 Lane assignments in the Masters event
- a) Lanes are dressed before Step 1 and before Step 3 of the Masters event
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- b) When the same pair of lanes, for TV purposes are in use for both Semi Finals and the Final (Masters Step 4 and Step 5), the lanes will be redressed before each match
- c) The Championship Committee will perform an impartial draw for matches to be assigned to lanes in Step 1 of the Masters event
- d) In Step 2 of the Masters event, the winners of the matches in Step 1 will move two pair of lanes to the right inside the same 8 pair of lanes in use
- e) Unless the same pair of lanes is in use for more than one match, there will be seven different pair of lanes in use for Step 3, Step 4 and Step 5 of the Masters event
- f) The Championship Committee will, to avoid situations where athletes are playing at the same pair of lanes in following steps, decide the lane assignment of matches in Step 3, Step 4 and Step 5 of the Masters event

#### **4.5. Qualification for World Championships**

- 4.5.1 A point system will be in use, when a ranking of federations, taking part in European Championships, is used as qualification basis for World Championships.
- 4.5.2 European Championships for women and European Championships for men, conducted in the year before the World Championships, will be used for the qualification.
- 4.5.3 The following standard point list is valid for positions in European Championships:
  - Position 1: 100 points
  - Position 2: 90 points
  - Position 3: 80 points
  - Position 4: 70 points
  - Position 5: 50 points
  - Position 6: 46 points
  - Position 7: 42 points
  - Position 8: 38 points
  - Position 9: 34 points
  - Position 10: 30 points
  - Position 11: 27 points
  - Position 12: 24 points
  - Position 13: 21 points
  - Position 14: 18 points
  - Position 15: 15 points
  - Position 16: 13 points
  - Position 17: 11 points
  - Position 18: 9 points
  - Position 19: 7 points
  - Position 20: 5 points
  - Position 21: 4 points
  - Position 22: 3 points
  - Position 23: 2 points
  - Position 24: 1 point
- 4.5.4 For each event, points in the standard point list will be multiplied with the number of athletes in the event (1, 2, 3 or 5).



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- 4.5.5 Positions points will be given for all six events included in European Championships.
  - 4.5.6 Points given in each event will be summarized for a final ranking of federations in the championships counting for qualification.
  - 4.5.7 In case of a tie in the ranking of federations, the positions in the team event will decide the order of federations.
  - 4.5.8 A federation must confirm participating with at least 5 athletes in a team to be able to take part in the World Championships.

#### **4.6. World Games qualification**

- 4.6.1 The World Games will be held every fourth year (2017, 2021 etc.).
- 4.6.2 Five federations, each sending two women and 5 federations each sending two men, will qualify from each Zone. In addition the federation, in which country the World Games takes place, will send two women and two men.
- 4.6.3 The European Zone qualification for participation in the World Games is determined by the All Event standings of the nearest foregoing EWC for the women's division and the nearest foregoing EMC for the men's division.
- 4.6.4 The position numbers for the two highest ranked athletes from each federation in the All Event standing, excluding the World Games host federation, if the World Games is held in Europe, are added together, forming a World Games qualification list sorted by the lowest vs. highest principle.
- 4.6.5 Ties in position points are broken by positioning the federation highest, which have the highest position of their third highest ranked athlete in the All Event standing.
- 4.6.6 If one of the top 5 federations in a division will withdraw from participation in the World Games, then the number 6 qualifier will be offered the opportunity to participate, then the number 7, and so on.

#### **4.7. Amendments**

This Chapter was adopted by the Congress in 2005 and amended by Congresses in 2007, 2009, 2011, 2013 and 2015.



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## **5. European Championships for youth**

### **5.1 Championship period**

- 5.1.1. European Youth Championships (EYC) will be conducted each year, preferably in the period up to and during the Easter week.

### **5.2 Age limitations**

- 5.2.1. Athletes must not reach the age of 19 years in the season in which the championships takes place. With season is meant 1 September until 31 August the following year.

### **5.3 Participants**

- 5.3.1. The EYC consists of separate divisions for boys and girls.
- 5.3.2. Each ETBF member federation may enter maximum four athletes of each gender in the championships.

### **5.4 Events**

- 5.4.1. The following events exist
- Singles, 6 games
  - Doubles, 6 games
  - Team of Four, 6 games
  - All Event, consisting of the above 18 games
  - Masters as specified in 5.4.5 and 5.4.6
- 5.4.2. Specification for the Singles event
- The singles event will be played in one block of six games
  - The four highest positioned in the event qualification are qualified for the Semi Finals, seeded as 1-4 according to the final standing of the event qualification
  - The athletes in the Semi Finals will be matched as the 1<sup>st</sup> seeded athlete vs. the 4<sup>th</sup> seeded athlete and the 2<sup>nd</sup> seeded athlete vs. the 3<sup>rd</sup> seeded athlete
  - The Semi Finals are one game matches. The two highest seeded athletes will decide on which lane (left or right) to begin
  - The winners of the Semi Finals are qualified for the final, while the highest seeded of the losing athletes will be positioned 3 in the results list and the lowest seeded of the losing athletes will be positioned 4 in the results list
  - The final is a one game match. The highest seeded athlete will decide on which lane (left or right) to begin
- 5.4.3. Specification for the Doubles event
- The doubles event qualification will be played in one block of six games
  - Change of athletes in a double is not permitted during the event
  - Line-up changes are not permitted during a block



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- d) The four highest positioned in the event qualification are qualified for the Semi Finals, seeded as 1-4 according to the final standing of the event qualification
  - e) The doubles in the Semi Finals will be matched as the 1<sup>st</sup> seeded double vs. the 4<sup>th</sup> seeded double and the 2<sup>nd</sup> seeded double vs. the 3<sup>rd</sup> seeded double
  - f) The Semi Finals are one game matches. The two highest seeded doubles will decide on which lane (left or right) to begin
  - g) The winners of the Semi Finals are qualified for the final, while the highest seeded of the losing doubles will be positioned 3 in the results list and the lowest seeded of the losing doubles will be positioned 4 in the results list
  - h) The final is a one game match. The highest seeded double will decide on which lane (left or right) to begin

5.4.4. Specification for the Team event

- a) The team event qualification will be played in two blocks of three games
- b) Line-up changes are not permitted during a block
- c) The four highest positioned in the team event qualification are qualified for the Semi Finals, seeded as 1-4 according to the final standing of the team event qualification
- d) The teams in the Semi Finals will be matched as the 1<sup>st</sup> seeded team vs. the 4<sup>th</sup> seeded team and the 2<sup>nd</sup> seeded team vs. the 3<sup>rd</sup> seeded team
- e) The Semi Finals are one game matches. The two highest seeded teams will decide on which lane (left or right) to begin
- f) The winners of the Semi Finals are qualified for the final, while the highest seeded of the losing teams will be positioned 3 in the results list and the lowest seeded of the losing teams will be positioned 4 in the results list
- g) The final is a one game match. The highest seeded team will decide on which lane (left or right) to begin

5.4.5. Specifications for the matches of the Masters event

- a) The 24 highest positioned athletes in the final all event standing are qualified for the masters event, seeded as 1-24 in all steps of the masters event according to their position in the final all event standing
- b) In all steps of the masters event there will head to head matches, where the highest seeded athletes will be matched against the lowest seeded athlete
- c) Each match will consist of 2 or 3 games. If the same athlete is the winner of the first two games, the 3<sup>rd</sup> game will not be played
- d) Each match will be played on one pair of lanes
- e) Each game in a match will be played with the dual lane style of play
- f) In each match the highest seeded athlete is deciding whether he wants to begin the first game on the left or right lane. In the second game the order of athletes will be opposite to the first game and in an eventually third game the order of athletes will be the same as in the first game
- g) In case of withdrawals from any match in the masters event, the athlete without opponent will be declared the winner of the match

5.4.6. The steps of the Masters event

- a) There will be 8 matches in the master's event Step 1, including the athletes seeded 9-24. The winners of the 8 matches will continue to the masters event Step 2



- b) There will be 8 matches in the masters event Step 2, including the athletes seeded 1-8 plus the 8 winners of the master's event Step 1. The winners of the 8 matches will continue to the masters event Step 3
- c) There will be 4 matches in the master's event Step 3, including the 8 winners of the master's event Step 2. The winners of the 4 matches will continue to the masters event Step 4
- d) There will be 2 matches in the master's event Step 4, including the 4 winners of the master's event Step 3. The winners of the 2 matches will continue to the masters event Step 5
- e) There will be 1 match in the master's event Step 5, including the 2 winners of the master's event Step 4. The winner of the match is the European Masters Youth Champion

5.4.7. The final positioning

- a) The winner of the match in the masters event Step 5 will be positioned as number 1 and the loser of this match as number 2
- b) The losers of the matches in the masters event Step 4 will be positioned in the interval 3-4 according to their seeding before the masters event
- c) The losers of the matches in the masters event Step 3 will be positioned in the interval 5-8 according to their seeding before the masters event
- d) The losers of the matches in the masters event Step 2 will be positioned in the interval 9-16 according to their seeding before the masters event
- e) The losers of the matches in the masters event Step 1 will be positioned in the interval 17-24 according to their seeding before the masters event
- f) The remaining athletes will be positioned 25-NN according to their scores in the All Event standing

5.4.8. Lane assignments in the Masters event

- a) Lanes are dressed before Step 1 and before Step 3 of the Masters event
- b) When the same pair of lanes, for TV purposes are in use for both Semi Finals and the Final (Masters Step 4 and Step 5), the lanes will be redressed before each match
- c) The Championship Committee will perform an impartial draw for matches to be assigned to lanes in Step 1 of the Masters event
- d) In Step 2 of the Masters event, the winners of the matches in Step 1 will move two pair of lanes to the right inside the same 8 pair of lanes in use
- e) Unless the same pair of lanes is in use for more than one match, there will be seven different pair of lanes in use for Step 3, Step 4 and Step 5 of the Masters event
- f) The Championship Committee will, to avoid situations where athletes are playing at the same pair of lanes in following steps, decide the lane assignment of matches in Step 3, Step 4 and Step 5 of the Masters event

## 5.5 Amendments

This Chapter was adopted by the Congress in 2005 and amended by Congresses in 2011 and 2015.



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## **6. European Championships for seniors**

### **6.1. Championship periods**

6.1.1. European Senior Championships (ESC) will be conducted in 2020, 2022 and 2024 etc., preferably in January-February during weeks 4 and 5.

### **6.2. Age limitations**

6.2.1. Athletes must be 50 years of age or older in the year of an ESC.

### **6.3. Participants**

6.3.1. The ESC consists of separate divisions for men and women.

6.3.2. Each ETBF member federation may enter maximum four athletes of each gender in the championships.

### **6.4. Events**

6.4.1. The following events exist

- a) Singles, 6 games
- b) Doubles, 6 games
- c) Team of Four, 6 games
- d) All Event, consisting of the above 18 games
- e) Masters as specified in 6.4.5 and 6.4.6

6.4.2. Specification for the Singles event

- a) The singles event will be played in one block of six games
- b) The four highest positioned in the event qualification are qualified for the Semi Finals, seeded as 1-4 according to the final standing of the event qualification
- c) The athletes in the Semi Finals will be matched as the 1<sup>st</sup> seeded athlete vs. the 4<sup>th</sup> seeded athlete and the 2<sup>nd</sup> seeded athlete vs. the 3<sup>rd</sup> seeded athlete
- d) The Semi Finals are one game matches. The two highest seeded athletes will decide on which lane (left or right) to begin
- e) The winners of the Semi Finals are qualified for the final, while the highest seeded of the losing athletes will be positioned 3 in the results list and the lowest seeded of the losing athletes will be positioned 4 in the results list
- f) The final is a one game match. The highest seeded athlete will decide on which lane (left or right) to begin

6.4.3. Specification for the Doubles event

- a) The doubles event qualification will be played in one block of six games
- b) Change of athletes in a double is not permitted during the event
- c) Line-up changes are not permitted during a block



- d) The four highest positioned in the event qualification are qualified for the Semi Finals, seeded as 1-4 according to the final standing of the event qualification
- e) The doubles in the Semi Finals will be matched as the 1<sup>st</sup> seeded double vs. the 4<sup>th</sup> seeded double and the 2<sup>nd</sup> seeded double vs. the 3<sup>rd</sup> seeded double
- f) The Semi Finals are one game matches. The two highest seeded doubles will decide on which lane (left or right) to begin
- g) The winners of the Semi Finals are qualified for the final, while the highest seeded of the losing doubles will be positioned 3 in the results list and the lowest seeded of the losing doubles will be positioned 4 in the results list
- h) The final is a one game match. The highest seeded double will decide on which lane (left or right) to begin

6.4.4. Specification for the Team event

- a) The team event qualification will be played in two blocks of three games
- b) Line-up changes are not permitted during a block
- c) The four highest positioned in the team event qualification are qualified for the Semi Finals, seeded as 1-4 according to the final standing of the team event qualification
- d) The teams in the Semi Finals will be matched as the 1<sup>st</sup> seeded team vs. the 4<sup>th</sup> seeded team and the 2<sup>nd</sup> seeded team vs. the 3<sup>rd</sup> seeded team
- e) The Semi Finals are one game matches. The two highest seeded teams will decide on which lane (left or right) to begin
- f) The winners of the Semi Finals are qualified for the final, while the highest seeded of the losing teams will be positioned 3 in the results list and the lowest seeded of the losing teams will be positioned 4 in the results list
- g) The final is a one game match. The highest seeded team will decide on which lane (left or right) to begin

6.4.5. Specifications for the matches of the Masters event

- a) The 24 highest positioned athletes in the final all event standing are qualified for the masters event, seeded as 1-24 in all steps of the masters event according to their position in the final all event standing
- b) In all steps of the masters event there will head to head matches, where the highest seeded athletes will be matched against the lowest seeded athlete
- c) Each match will consist of 2 or 3 games. If the same athlete is the winner of the first two games, the 3<sup>rd</sup> game will not be played
- d) Each match will be played on one pair of lanes
- e) Each game in a match will be played with the dual lane style of play
- f) In each match the highest seeded athlete is deciding whether he wants to begin the first game on the left or right lane. In the second game the order of athletes will be opposite to the first game and in an eventually third game the order of athletes will be the same as in the first game
- g) In case of withdrawals from any match in the masters event, the athlete without opponent will be declared the winner of the match

6.4.6. The steps of the Masters event

- a) There will be 8 matches in the master's event Step 1, including the athletes seeded 9-24. The winners of the 8 matches will continue to the masters event Step 2



- b) There will be 8 matches in the masters event Step 2, including the athletes seeded 1-8 plus the 8 winners of the master's event Step 1. The winners of the 8 matches will continue to the masters event Step 3
- c) There will be 4 matches in the master's event Step 3, including the 8 winners of the master's event Step 2. The winners of the 4 matches will continue to the masters event Step 4
- d) There will be 2 matches in the master's event Step 4, including the 4 winners of the master's event Step 3. The winners of the 2 matches will continue to the masters event Step 5
- e) There will be 1 match in the master's event Step 5, including the 2 winners of the master's event Step 4. The winner of the match is the European Masters Youth Champion

6.4.7. The final positioning

- a) The winner of the match in the masters event Step 5 will be positioned as number 1 and the loser of this match as number 2
- b) The losers of the matches in the masters event Step 4 will be positioned in the interval 3-4 according to their seeding before the masters event
- c) The losers of the matches in the masters event Step 3 will be positioned in the interval 5-8 according to their seeding before the masters event
- d) The losers of the matches in the masters event Step 2 will be positioned in the interval 9-16 according to their seeding before the masters event
- e) The losers of the matches in the masters event Step 1 will be positioned in the interval 17-24 according to their seeding before the masters event
- f) The remaining athletes will be positioned 25-NN according to their scores in the All Event standing

6.4.8. Lane assignments in the Masters event

- a) Lanes are dressed before Step 1 and before Step 3 of the Masters event
- b) When the same pair of lanes, for TV purposes are in use for both Semi Finals and the Final (Masters Step 4 and Step 5), the lanes will be redressed before each match
- c) The Championship Committee will perform an impartial draw for matches to be assigned to lanes in Step 1 of the Masters event
- d) In Step 2 of the Masters event, the winners of the matches in Step 1 will move two pair of lanes to the right inside the same 8 pair of lanes in use
- e) Unless the same pair of lanes is in use for more than one match, there will be seven different pair of lanes in use for Step 3, Step 4 and Step 5 of the Masters event
- f) The Championship Committee will, to avoid situations where athletes are playing at the same pair of lanes in following steps, decide the lane assignment of matches in Step 3, Step 4 and Step 5 of the Masters event

## 6.5. Amendments

This Chapter was adopted by the Congress in 2017.



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## **7. European Championships of Champions (ECC)**

### **7.1 Championship period**

- 7.1.1. European Championships of Champions will be conducted each year, preferably in October during week 43.

### **7.2 Age limitations**

- 7.2.1. There is no age limitation for the ECC.

### **7.3 Participants**

- 7.3.1. The ECC consists of separate divisions for men and women.
- 7.3.2. Each ETBF member federation may enter the reigning national woman and man champion. Each federation shall define who the reigning national champion is.
- 7.3.3. If a reigning national champion is not able to participate it is allowed for the federation to send no. 2 from their championships (or no. 3 or 4 etc.).
- 7.3.4. The ECC champions of last year are automatically qualified for participation to defend their titles.

### **7.4 Qualification**

- 7.4.1. 16 games per athlete, divided in 2 squads of 8 games.
- 7.4.2. Top 16 after the 16 qualifying games are qualified for the Final Step 1.

### **7.5 Final steps**

- 7.5.1. In Step 1 of the final, 16 athletes will play 8 games with the pin fall from the preceding 16 games carried forward. Top 8 are qualified for the Final Step 2.
- 7.5.2. In Step 2 of the final, 8 athletes will play 4 games with the pin fall from the preceding 24 games carried forward. Top 4 are qualified for the Final Step 3, seeded 1-4.
- 7.5.3. There will be 2 matches in the Final Step 3; the athletes seeded 1 vs. the athlete seeded 4 and the athlete seeded 2 vs. the athlete seeded 3. The winners of the 2 matches will continue to the Final Step 4.
- 7.5.4. There will be 1 match in the Final Step 4 between the 2 winners of the Final Step 3.



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- 7.5.5. Matches in the Final Step 3 and Step 4 will consist of 2 or 3 games. If the same athlete is the winner of the first two games, the 3<sup>rd</sup> game will not be played.
  - 7.5.6. Each game in a match will be played on one pair of lanes.
  - 7.5.7. Each game in a match will be played with the dual lane style of play.
  - 7.5.8. In each match, the highest seeded athlete is deciding whether he wants to begin the first game on the left or right lane. In the second game the order of athletes will be opposite to the first game and in an eventual third game, the order of athletes will be the same as in the first game.
  - 7.5.9. In case of withdrawal from any match, the athlete without opponent will be declared the winner of the match.

## **7.6 Positioning**

- 7.6.1. The winner of the match in the Final Step 4 will be positioned as number 1 and the loser of the match as number 2.
- 7.6.2. The losers of the matches in the Final Step 3 will be positioned as number 3 and 4 according to their seeding before the step.
- 7.6.3. The non-qualified athletes from the Final Step 2 will be positioned 5-8 according to their positions in the Final Step 2.
- 7.6.4. The non-qualified athletes from the Final Step 1 will be positioned 9-16 according to their positions in the Final Step 1.
- 7.6.5. The remaining athletes will be positioned 17-NN according to their positions in the qualification.

## **7.7 Amendments**

This Chapter was adopted by the Congress in 2005 and amended by Congresses in 2009, 2011, 2013, 2015 and 2019.



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## **8. Approved International tournaments**

### **8.1 Introduction**

- 8.1.1. This chapter includes requirements and procedures that shall apply to tournaments approved or recognized by ETBF.
- 8.1.2. ETBF approval of a tournament means that it is open for participation by athletes who are individual members of ETBF member federations.
- 8.1.3. Approval shall not be granted to any tournament, which implies by its title that the winners shall be designated as World Champions, World Tenpin Champions, World Amateur Bowling Champions, European Champions, European Tenpin Champions or European Amateur Bowling Champions. A member federation shall not permit its members to participate in tournaments using such titles.
- 8.1.4. The only exception from rule 8.1.3 is the European Senior Bowling Championships, organized by the ESBC organization.
- 8.1.5. Approval shall not be granted to any tournament, which is included in a series of tournaments, where the word "European", or a combination of the words "European" and "Tour", is part of the name of the series of tournaments, or is used for official promotion or information about such a series of tournaments.
- 8.1.6. If an ETBF approved tournament joins a tour or series of tournaments, which is in conflict with rule 8.1.5, the ETBF Presidium has the right to withdraw the original approval of the tournament.
- 8.1.7. In order for a tournament to be approved, the Eligibility requirements and Approval requirements as specified in World Bowling's Playing Rules Articles 3.3 and 3.5 respectively, must be met.

### **8.2 Definition of Tournaments**

- 8.2.1. World Bowling Tournament
  - a) A tournament approved by World Bowling is open for athletes from two or more Zones
  - b) A tournament cannot be open for athletes from other than ETBF member federations, unless an approval from World Bowling is given
  - c) To achieve an approval from World Bowling, the tournament needs to be approved first by both the national federation where the tournament takes place and ETBF. See 8.2.3 for exceptions related to tournaments adopted in the European Bowling Tour.
- 8.2.2. ETBF Tournament
  - a) An ETBF Approved Tournament is open for athletes from ETBF member federations



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- b) To achieve ETBF approval the tournament needs to be approved first by the national federation where the tournament takes place. See 8.2.3 for exceptions related to tournaments adopted in the European Bowling Tour.
  - c) An ETBF Approved Tournament can be either with free entries (Open) or limited to specific federations, groups or individuals invited (Invitational)
  - d) The prize fund of an ETBF Approved tournament can be either fixed or conditional. If the prize fund is conditional, at least two possible prize lists must be provided and criteria for any size of a possible prize fund must clearly be stipulated.
  - e) An ETBF Approved Tournament can be accepted as a member of other tours or series of tournaments as long as the rules of the tours or series of tournaments are not in conflict with the ETBF Rules and World Bowling's Playing Rules

#### 8.2.3. Tournaments adopted in the European Bowling Tour

- a) The organizer of a tournament adopted in the European Bowling Tour can be a federation, a club or any other organization related to the federation, in whose jurisdiction the tournament takes place. In addition a tournament in the European Bowling Tour can be organized by a bowling centre or any other legal company, registered in the country, where the tournament is conducted.
- b) International tournaments must, before they can be adopted in the European Bowling Tour, be approved by ETBF.
- c) It is optional for each federation to decide, whether they, for tournaments in the European Bowling Tour conducted under their jurisdiction, want to add a national approval.
- d) If a national approval for a tournament adopted in the European Bowling Tour is required in addition to the ETBF approval, the national approval cannot include any premises, which are in contradiction with the ETBF Constitution or the EBT Rules.
- e) Federations, in whose jurisdiction tournaments will be adopted in the European Bowling Tour, will, at least one year prior to the beginning of the tour, be informed about the conduction periods of such tournaments.
- f) In case of later changes in already informed conduction periods, the new conduction period will be discussed both with the organizer and with the national federation, in whose jurisdiction the tournament will be conducted.
- g) It is the obligation of ETBF to ensure, that already known outstanding issues between a federation and an organizer of a tournament with a later adoption in the European Bowling Tour, are discussed both with the organizer and with the national federation, and resolved before the tournament is adopted.
- h) It is the obligation of a federation to inform ETBF in case of occurred irregularities related to a tournament or the conduction of a tournament in their jurisdiction, for tournaments already adopted in the European Bowling Tour. ETBF will then investigate the raised issues and find a solution, where possible proven irregularities are solved or, as the most far-reaching solution, that the tournament is removed from the European Bowling Tour.

#### 8.2.4. National Open Tournament

- a) A National Open Tournament is open for athletes from the federation where the tournament takes place and in addition athletes from three ETBF member federations
- b) If the tournament is open for athletes from more than four ETBF member federations, ETBF approval is mandatory



- c) The tournament needs approval from the federation, where the tournament takes place

#### 8.2.5. National Tournament

- a) A National Tournament is only open for athletes from the federation where the tournament takes place
- b) The tournament needs approval from the federation where the tournament takes place

#### 8.2.6. ETBF Recognized Tournaments

- a) In addition to ETBF approval of tournaments, ETBF can recognize other tournaments with participation of athletes, who are members of ETBF member federations, such as multisport games and tournaments organized for a certain group of athletes
- b) Already recognized tournaments are:
  - The European Senior Bowling Championships (ESBC), conducted annually
  - The Mediterranean Bowling Championships (MBC), conducted annually
  - The Small Nations Cup (SNC), conducted biennially
- c) In order for a tournament to be ETBF recognized all rules specified in the World Bowling's Rules Chapters 2, 3, 4, 10, 11 and 12 shall apply.

#### 8.2.7. Affinity Tournaments

- a) Other tournaments organized for specific groups of people, such as events for persons belonging to a trade union, an organization for disabled persons, etc.
- b) If such tournaments have not been approved or recognized by ETBF it is the responsibility of the national federation to decide whether their members are allowed to participate or not. In that case ETBF has no responsibility to protect the rights of athletes participating or to accept any appeals related to such tournaments

#### 8.2.8. Unapproved tournaments

- a) Any tournament, which does not fall under the categories specified above, is classified as an Unapproved Tournament.
- b) Individual members of an ETBF member federation are not allowed to participate in unapproved tournaments unless the national federation or the ETBF Presidium gives specific permission.
- c) If an individual member, without specific permission, participates in an unapproved tournament, the national federation or the ETBF Presidium may deny him the privilege of competing in future approved tournaments or championships. Such denial should be time limited.

### **8.3 Official sources of approved tournaments**

8.3.1. Tournaments approved by World Bowling and conducted in one of the other Zones, will appear on the Website of the respective Zone.

8.3.2. Tournaments approved by World Bowling, and conducted in an ETBF member federation, and tournaments approved only by ETBF, will appear in the Tournament Calendar published on the ETBF Website.



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- 8.3.3. National Open Tournaments must be listed on the Website of the ETBF member federation approving the tournament.

## **8.4 Approval fees**

- 8.4.1. National approvals
- National approval fees for tournaments, not adopted in the European Bowling Tour, are solely decided by each federation
  - National approval fees for tournaments, adopted in the European Bowling Tour, cannot exceed more than a maximum of € 200 per approval
- 8.4.2. ETBF Approved Tournaments
- The fee of receiving ETBF approval is € 100 in addition to the fee for receiving approvals at the national level
  - Invoices will be sent by ETBF to the federations at regular intervals
  - Once a tournament has been approved by ETBF there will be no refund in case the tournament is cancelled
- 8.4.3. Tournaments approved by World Bowling
- World Bowling's approval fee is USD 100 in addition to fees for receiving approvals at the national and the ETBF level
  - The fee will be invoiced by ETBF together with the fee of the ETBF approval
  - Once a tournament has been approved by World Bowling there will be no refund in case the tournament is cancelled

## **8.5 Approval procedures**

- 8.5.1. The organizer must fill in the form "ETBF Tournament Application" and, for tournaments not to be adopted in the European Bowling Tour, send it by email to the office of the national federation or, for tournaments to be adopted in the European Bowling Tour, send it by email to the Chairman of the ETBF Tournament Committee.
- 8.5.2. The tournament organizer shall in the form indicate if he, in addition to ETBF approval, wants approval from World Bowling as well.
- 8.5.3. The ETBF Tournament Application will only be accepted, if it is send to ETBF electronically by email.
- 8.5.4. When the ETBF approval has been given, an approving letter will be send by email to the tournament organizer and the national federation. Furthermore the content of the application will be published in the Tournament Calendar on the ETBF Website and the tournament will be classified as an ETBF Tournament.
- 8.5.5. A tournament, where the application is received later than two weeks before the first day of the tournament, might not be approved.
- 8.5.6. If the organizer wants approval from World Bowling in addition to the ETBF approval, the application will be forwarded by ETBF to World Bowling.



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- 8.5.7. ETBF approval can be granted for tournaments organized during the current year and/or the following two years. All approved tournaments will be listed in the ETBF Tournament Calendar.
- 8.5.8. Tournaments adopted in other series than the EBT
- If a tournament is adopted in a series of tournaments, the name of the series, the period of the series (year or season), the number of the tournament in the series and the website of the series must appear in the application form.
  - The source of the rules of the series must also be mentioned in the form.
  - In case of specific restrictions, limitations or special requirements for individuals (athletes, coaches or officials) taking part in a tournament adopted in a series, they must be specified and defined in the format section of the form.
  - The rules of the series must, for each edition of the series, be finalized in due time and published by the management of the series before the entry registration is opened for the first tournament in a season of the series.

## **8.6 Obligations and liabilities**

- 8.6.1. The athletes
- Before entering in a tournament make sure that it has been duly approved
  - Be aware of the penalties, which apply when entering in an unapproved tournament (see 8.2.7)
  - According to ETBF's alcohol rules, it is not allowed to consume alcohol or be under influence of alcohol while in competition; i.e. during the entire period of a squad or final stage.
  - According to ETBF's smoking and tobacco rules, it is not allowed to smoke, use tobacco products or use any kind of synthetic cigarettes or e-cigarettes while in competition; i.e. during the entire period of a squad or final stage.
  - The athletes must be able to show identity evidence, either in the form of a valid license card or a certification letter issued by the national federation
- 8.6.2. The organizers
- The ETBF Tournament Application must be filled in a proper way
  - It is not allowed to publish any information about the tournament before the tournament has been approved by ETBF
  - The eligibility requirements must be met
  - The identity of all athletes entering the tournament must be checked
  - Provision of possibilities for proper medical care and first aid treatment on call must be provided
  - A complete results list must be published latest one week after the conclusion of the tournament
- 8.6.3. The national federation
- Process the ETBF Tournament Application
  - Make sure that all requirements will be met
  - Make sure that the Tournament Management has sufficient knowledge about the rules and obligations
  - Guarantee that the World Bowling's Rules as well as the ETBF Rules will be enforced during the tournament
  - Act as communication link between the ETBF and the Tournament Organizer
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- f) A written report to ETBF, explaining the problem and actions taken, must be submitted in case of problems related to the tournament

#### 8.6.4. ETBF

- a) Process any ETBF Tournament Application within two weeks after it has been received from the national federation
- b) Update the Tournament Calendar on the ETBF Website at the moment of approval
- c) Keep the Tournament Calendar on the ETBF Website up to date when corrections of tournament information are received from national federations and organizers of tournaments adopted in the European Bowling Tour.
- d) Advise the national federations to inform their athletes not to take part in tournaments where it is known that the organiser fails to follow the requirements for an approved tournament
- e) ETBF has the right to refuse approval of a tournament if the organizer has previously failed to meet the requirements
- f) An ETBF or a World Bowling approval of a tournament does not mean that ETBF or World Bowling can be made liable for any financial disputes or claims, which may occur

#### 8.6.5. Liabilities in case of a cancellation, changed prize funds or a changed period

- a) Article 8.6.5.c applies to a tournament, if one or more of the following situations occurs after the registration for the tournament has opened:
  - If a tournament is cancelled
  - If the entry fee or re-entry fee for one or more squads and/or fees for competitions like a desperado squads or a turbo competition is increased
  - If a fixed prize fund is reduced
  - If the prize fund status of a tournament is changed from fixed to conditional
  - If a tournament with a conditional prize fund changes the criteria for the prize fund calculations in a way, where reduced prize funds will be awarded
  - If the period of a tournament is changed, other than adding days to the beginning of the tournament
- b) Article 8.6.5.c applies to an athlete meeting the following three requirements:
  - The athlete is signed up for a cancelled tournament or the athlete decides not to play a tournament, in cases where other changes, as listed in 8.6.5.a, occur
  - The athlete is able to provide the necessary documentation for lost money
  - The athlete is able to provide the necessary documentation for confirmed entries
- c) An organizer, taking one or more of the actions listed in 8.6.5.a, is liable to compensate athletes meeting all requirements listed in 8.6.5.b. A compensation must cover the total amount of the following expenses for the athlete:
  - Non-refundable flight ticket expenses
  - Other non-refundable travel expenses
  - Non-refundable accommodation expenses
  - Other expenses occurred as a consequence of the situation
- d) Latest the day after one of the situations in 8.6.5.a have occurred, and related changes have been published at the ETBF Website, the organizer must contact all athletes with confirmed entries in the tournament, and announce the changed situation. In the information provided, all such athletes must be offered to send



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the requested documentation latest two weeks after they have been contacted. Latest two weeks after the deadline for athletes to reply, any valid compensation must have been received by the athletes.

## **8.7 Protests**

- 8.7.1. Protests involving eligibility or World Bowling's Rules Chapter 2 must be confirmed in writing to a responsible tournament official not later than 24 hours after the game in which the infraction occurred or before the prize presentation, whichever is the sooner.
- 8.7.2. When a protest involving a foul or the legality of pin fall is entered, an official representative of the parties involved may be present when evidence is taken relative to the protest.

## **8.8 Penalties**

- 8.8.1. If an athlete is in breach of 8.6.1.c, referring to ETBF's alcohol rules, the athlete will be excluded from the rest of the tournament by the Tournament Management.
- 8.8.2. If an athlete is in breach of 8.6.1.d, referring to ETBF's smoking and tobacco rules, the penalty for the first offence will be either zero pins in the game, where the offence happens, or zero pins in the succeeding game, if the offence happens in between two games in a squad or final stage. For a second offence by the same athlete, the penalty will be an exclusion of the athlete from the rest of the tournament by the Tournament Management.
- 8.8.3. Unless otherwise specifically stated in the tournament rules, the penalties for other rule violations during the tournament shall be as follows.
  - a) An athlete failing to observe the rules shall be warned by an authorized tournament official with a yellow card for first offence (no penalty).
  - b) For a second offence in the same tournament, the athlete shall be disqualified from the tournament, and will not be allowed to participate in ETBF and World Bowling tournaments / championships for 90 days.
  - c) All penalties issued by the tournament management shall immediately be reported to the ETBF Secretary General for further action.
- 8.8.4. Athletes participating in unapproved tournaments, which require approval, as described herein, may be subject to penalty (for instance denial to participate in tournaments for a stated period) given by the national federation of the athlete, ETBF or World Bowling.

## **8.9 Appeal procedures**

- 8.9.1. Unless otherwise specifically stated in the tournament rules, the appeal procedures shall be as follows.



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- 8.9.2. Any appeal from the decision of tournament management shall, within one week, be directed to the national federation within whose jurisdiction the tournament was conducted.
- 8.9.3. The national federation shall, within two weeks, review the appeal and make its decision. Copies of the decision shall be sent to the appellant and to the ETBF Secretary General.
- 8.9.4. An appeal of that decision may be directed to the ETBF Presidium within two weeks. The appellant and the national federation will be notified by the ETBF Presidium of the decision within 30 days.
- 8.9.5. An appeal of that decision may be directed to the Executive Board of World Bowling within two weeks, and its decision shall be final. The appellant, the national federation and the ETBF Presidium will be notified by the Executive Board of World Bowling of the decision within 30 days.

## **8.10 Amendments**

This Chapter was adopted in 2005 and amended by Congresses in 2009, 2013, 2015 and 2019.