



EUROPEAN BOWLING TOUR



RULES IN EFFECT FOR 2003



European Bowling Tour Rules

1 Purpose

- 1.1 World Ranking System (WRS) is a World wide ranking system for tenpin bowling effective as of 1 January 2000.
- 1.2 The purpose of WRS is to attract top players, sponsors, television companies and other media to important tournaments and to improve the quality and the strength of tenpin bowling by conducting a World Ranking Masters once a year.
- 1.3 By publishing up to date ranking lists for both women and men WRS ensures that media all over the world continuously are familiar with the actual top names in tenpin bowling.

2 WRS sub-systems

- 2.1 The World Ranking System is divided in three different sub-systems, one for each of the three zones (American Zone, Asian Bowling Federation and European Tenpin Bowling Federation).
- 2.2 Both the WRS calendar period and the calendar period for each of the sub-systems are identical to the calendar year.
- 2.3 These Rules cover - except Article 14 - the WRS sub-system in Europe, named the European Bowling Tour (EBT).

3 Ownership and commitments

- 3.1 The WRS is owned by the World Tenpin Bowling Association (WTBA).
- 3.2 The EBT is owned by the European Tenpin Bowling Federation (ETBF).
- 3.3 Tournaments which are included in the EBT are owned by the organiser of each tournament.
- 3.4 EBT Tournaments are governed by the WTBA Playing Rules and the ETBF Rules Chapter 5, Rules for ETBF Sanctioned Tournaments.
- 3.5 To be eligible to participate in EBT Tournaments, players must be registered as member of a WTBA affiliated federation.



4 Administration and responsibilities

- 4.1 The ETBF Presidium has the overall responsibility for the EBT.
- 4.2 The EBT is operated either by a member of the ETBF Presidium or by an administrator appointed by the ETBF Presidium.
- 4.3 The EBT Rules are maintained by and can be changed by the ETBF Presidium.

5 Definition of EBT Tournaments

- 5.1 EBT Tournaments are tournaments open to all eligible players provided the tournament includes at least one individual event.
- 5.2 The World Championships and the European Championships, in which individuals are the ultimate champions, may be included in the EBT.
- 5.3 Tournaments with team events, youth tournaments, regional championships, invitational tournaments, and tournaments with other limitations (such as age, geographical) can not be accepted as EBT Tournaments.

6 Tournaments in the EBT

- 6.1 Only tournaments sanctioned by the national federation and the ETBF Tournament Committee, as specified in the ETBF Rules Chapter 5, Rules for ETBF Sanctioned Tournaments, can be accepted in the EBT.
- 6.2 Tournaments accepted in the EBT are named "EBT Tournaments".
- 6.3 A number of 10-20 tournaments per year will be adopted in the EBT depending on the way they are spread over the calendar year and the number of tournaments including both women and men (either in separate divisions or in combined divisions).

7 Criteria for selecting EBT Tournaments

- 7.1 EBT Tournaments are, with the exception of World Championships and European Championships, open for all registered individuals of WTBA member federations.
- 7.2 An EBT Tournament must include at least one of the following events:
 - An individual women division and/or
 - An individual men division or
 - A combined individual women and men division.



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- 7.3 The following criteria will be used by the ETBF Presidium when selecting EBT Tournaments:
- Written preliminary TV-transmission contract
 - Stepladder final or finals included in the tournament format
 - The magnitude of the total sum of prize money
 - Previous EBT status
 - Previous observance of the EBT Rules
 - The distribution of tournaments over the calendar year
 - Distribution of tournaments geographically
- 7.4 If the ETBF Presidium has to choose between two tournaments, where the conditions seem equal or close to equal and a stepladder final is included in one of the tournaments only, the tournament with the stepladder final - with regard to the possibilities of TV-transmissions - will be selected.

8 Procedure for the selection of EBT Tournaments

- 8.1 The tournaments in the EBT will be selected once per year in accordance with the procedure as specified in 8.2 - 8.7.
- 8.2 Potential EBT Tournaments are always proposed by the ETBF member federations, not by the tournament hosts. On special occasions the ETBF Presidium may ask an ETBF member federation to propose one or more of their tournaments to be adopted in the EBT in the coming calendar year.
- 8.3 Latest 1 July the ETBF member federations will receive information about the next selection of EBT Tournaments, relevant forms and accompanying letter to potential organisers of EBT Tournaments the coming calendar year.
- 8.4 Latest 1 September the ETBF member federations must submit their applications for EBT Tournaments the coming calendar year to the ETBF Presidium.
- 8.5 The selection of EBT Tournaments for the coming calendar year will be done by the ETBF Presidium in the beginning of September.
- 8.6 Latest 15 September the ETBF member federations, which have submitted applications, will receive answers whether or not one or more of their tournaments are accepted in the EBT in the coming calendar year.
- 8.7 Latest 1 October the calendar of the EBT for the coming calendar year will be available at the ETBF Website.
- 8.8 When adopted in the EBT it is not possible to change the date of the last day of the tournament. If the tournament anyway wants to change the date of the last day, the tournament will be removed from the EBT.



9 EBT Fee

- 9.1 The fee for an EBT Tournament is €8.00 per participant.
- 9.2 The EBT Tournament fee will be charged to the tournament organiser by the ETBF member federation and afterwards transferred to the account of the ETBF.
- 9.3 The EBT Tournament fee will be administered by the ETBF President.
- 9.4 The EBT fee will be used per year as follows
- To pay the fee of the ETBF to the World Ranking Masters
 - To cover the administration expenses of the EBT
 - To pay a prize for the first ranked female and the first ranked male player at the end of a ranking year (see Article 12)
 - To (partially) pay the expenses of the European players participating in the World Ranking Masters, if possible.

10 Ranking Points in EBT Tournament

- 10.1 EBT points will be awarded to players who are member of one of the ETBF member federations. Players from other zones can not earn points in an EBT Tournament.
- 10.2 EBT points will be awarded to both women and men regardless of tournament divisions (individual or combined).
- 10.3 If there is a combined division for women and men, the women and men will be awarded points in relation to their final position relative to the other players of the same sex.
- 10.4 If one or more players without membership of one of the ETBF member federations are ranked in top 32, players with membership of ETBF member federations will be awarded points related to their final position relative to the other players with membership of ETBF member federations.
- 10.5 Ranking is decided based on all games played, i.e. in the following order
- Position after stepladder finals
 - Position after eventual semi- and quarterfinals etc.
 - Position after qualifying games, if necessary.
- 10.6 Ranking points will be awarded to the 32 top players of each sex as follows
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|---------|-----------|
| - No. 1 | 30 points |
| - No. 2 | 21 points |
| - No. 3 | 18 points |
| - No. 4 | 15 points |

European Tenpin Bowling Federation

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-	No. 5	12 points
-	No. 6	10 points
-	No. 7 - 9	6 points
-	No. 10-12	5 points
-	No. 13-17	4 points
-	No. 18-22	3 points
-	No. 23- 27	2 points
-	No. 28-32	1 point

- 10.7 In case of a tie for the EBT top 8 standing the player with the higher position is the one
- with the highest number of played EBT Tournaments in the current EBT calendar period
 - with the highest average (presented with two digits) of all played EBT Tournament games in the current EBT calendar period.
 - with the highest positions (based on a total in placements) in the same tournament(s) as the other player(s) with the same number of ranking points in the current EBT calendar period.

11 EBT standings

- 11.1 The same day of the completion of an EBT Tournament the organiser must submit the names of the players and the awarded points in an Excel-document attached to an e-mail addressed to the EBT administrator and with a copy to the national federation. It is not allowed to send the information by other means.
- 11.2 Reports of results of an EBT Tournament to the EBT administrator must include the full name of the player (in the format of family name followed by the given name), name of the country of the player and the points awarded.
- 11.3 The EBT administrator will update the EBT standings based on the information received from the tournament organiser.
- 11.4 As soon as possible after the conclusion of the changed EBT standings they will be published on the ETBF Website.

12 Prize money

- 12.1 The first ranked woman and the first ranked man at the end of a European Bowling Tour (counting points in one calendar year) is awarded €2.000 each. In case of tie between two or more players at the first position the prize money will be split between players with the same points.
- 12.2 Prize money in each of the tour stops is decided by each tournament organizer as announced in tournament posters, Websites and other tournament information.



12.3 Prize money for the World Ranking Masters will be decided by the WTBA Presidium.

13 Number of players per pair of lanes and lane movements

13.1 All EBT Tournaments must follow the rules for the number of players per pair of lanes and lane movements.

13.2 It is the obligation of each tournament organizer to decide the number of players per pair of lanes in each qualifying squad.

13.3 The number of players per pair of lanes may vary from one to another qualifying squad. However, within the same squad no variation is permitted.

13.4 All players in a qualifying squad must change the pair of lanes either after each game or after each second game.

13.5 Players who have already played on one pair of lanes may not return to the same pair of lanes in the same qualifying squad. However, this may be permitted when lane pairs are changed after each game and the number of lane pairs in the bowling centre is less than the number of games of the qualifying squad.

13.6 It is the obligation of each tournament organizer to decide whether all players are moving to the right pair of lanes, whether the players at the left lane are moving left and the players at the right lane are moving right or the players are moving more than one pair of lanes left, right or all in the same direction.

13.7 Once decided the same method of lane movement must be in effect in all qualifying squads.

13.8 It's the obligation of the organizer in posters and at their Websites to announce the number of possible players per pair of lanes in qualifying squads, whether the number of players per pair of lanes might differ from squad to squad and to announce the methods of lane movements.

14 World Ranking Masters

14.1 The World Ranking Masters will be organised once a year during the first half year.

14.2 Participants of the World Ranking Masters are the top 8 women and the top 8 men of the ranking standings of each zone which are published in January, i.e. counting points from the past calendar year.

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14.3 In case of withdrawals, replacements may be made up to one month before the start of the World Ranking Masters. As replacements will be invited players on the 9th and following places of the January ranking standings of each zone.