



Press Release 03: EBT 2007 Composed

The composition of the 8th European Bowling Tour - the European Bowling Tour 2007 - has been decided by the ETBF Presidium.

The EBT 2007 consists of 22 tournaments, of which 9 have been granted the EBT Challenger status and 13 have been granted the EBT Major status. The 22 tournaments will be conducted in 16 different countries in Europe. The 22 tournaments are presented at page 2 of this press release. Detailed information of each stop is available at www.etbf.dk.

The EBT 2006 represented a record breaking year, since we for the first time passed 1 million € in total prize fund in the tour. For the EBT 2007 we can present another fantastic record, since we will pass 1.2 million € in the total tour prize fund. At the moment the total prize fund for 2007 is 1.232.000 € including tour prize money and some tournaments are in addition supposed to increase their prize funds later on.

From the 20 tournament field in 2006, the organizer of the Irish Open Championships has decided not to join the tour in 2007. The traditional tournament in Dublin will anyhow continue to exist with its well known format and still be conducted in January.

We are adding three new tournaments to the European Bowling Tour in 2007, namely Ankara Open in Turkey, Storm English Open in England and the 2nd Paraske Cup in Belgium. This is the first time a Belgian Tournament joins the European Bowling Tour.

ETBF also introduces another innovation in 2007, since the Hammer Bronzen Schietspoel Tournament 2007 (Tilburg, The Netherlands) will be conducted with a real dual lane condition which is the left lane of a pair dressed with long oil and the right lane of a pair dressed with short oil throughout the whole tournament. We are excited to see how this will be met by the players and by the media.

As a consequence of the effort of the organizers in Tilburg and because of their willingness to try this out in a tour tournament, the ETBF Presidium has defined the tournament as a test event and double ranking points will be awarded to the players, even the status of the tournament is Challenger. There is no intention to introduce double points for test events in general in the future.

All 22 tournaments in the EBT 2007 are approved by both ETBF and WTBA and all 22 tournaments are open for professionals. The EBT 2007 is therefore a 100 % open tour for all bowlers in the World and all bowlers can be awarded points no matter their nationality.

The 8 highest ranked women and the 8 highest ranked men after the 22 stops in the EBT 2007 will qualify for the World Ranking Masters 2008, to be conducted 28 April - 4 May 2008 in Lake Wales, Florida - USA, also known as Kegels place, who will host the WRM for the third time.



Kegel is also, for the third year in a row, appointed as the official lane maintenance partner for ETBF, meaning that Kegel staff will be at the sites and Kegel equipment will be in use in a number of stops in 2007.

Kim Thorsgaard Jensen
EBT Director



Tournaments included in the European Bowling Tour 2007				
Stop	Date	Country	Tournament	Category
01	06.01-14.01	Finland	Brunswick Ballmaster Open	Major
02	07.02-11.02	Netherlands	Hammer Bronzen Schietspoel Tournament*	Challenger
03	21.02-25.02	Luxembourg	Ebonite International Luxembourg Open	Challenger
04	28.02-04.03	Spain	V Catalonia Open - Trofeu Galasa	Major
05	09.03-18.03	Greece	Brunswick Euro Challenge	Challenger
06	02.04-08.04	Sweden	Husqvarna International	Major
07	23.04-29.04	Turkey	4 th Istanbul Bowling Open	Major
08	12.05-20.05	Belgium	2 nd Paraske Cup	Challenger
09	21.05-27.05	Denmark	Brunswick Aalborg International 2007	Major
10	06.06-10.06	Netherlands	Storm Dutch Open 2007	Major
11	20.06-24.06	Malta	Eden Leisure's Malta Open Championships	Challenger
12	13.07-22.07	San Marino	3 rd San Marino Open	Major
13	24.07-29.07	Spain	29 Trofeu Internacional Ciutat de Barcelona	Major
14	03.08-12.08	Denmark	Danish Masters Classic	Major
15	13.08-19.08	Sweden	Olympia Tournament	Major
16	08.09-16.09	Germany	3 rd Gutperle Viernheim Open 2007	Major
17	15.09-23.09	Turkey	Ankara Open	Challenger
18	29.09-07.10	Norway	Norwegian Open 2007	Challenger
19	16.10-21.10	Austria	Vienna Open	Major
20	12.11-18.11	Italy	4 th Oltremare Championships	Major
21	05.12-09.12	England	Storm English Open	Challenger
22	09.12-16.12	Sweden	Kungsbacka International Tournament	Challenger

*) Test event because of real dual lane condition / Challenger, but double points like a Major