



Press Release 03: Another great European Bowling Tour is born

At an ETBF Presidium meeting, held on 5 July 2008 in Vienna - Austria, the composition of the European Bowling Tour 2008 was decided.

The EBT 2008 consists of 18 tournaments, of which 6 have been granted the EBT Challenger status and 12 have been granted the EBT Major status. The 18 tournaments will be conducted in 14 different countries. The composition of the EBT 2008 is presented at page 2 of this press release. Detailed information of each stop is available at www.etbf.eu.

Of the 18 tournaments to be conducted in the EBT 2007, the organizers of Husqvarna International (Sweden), Malta Open and Norwegian Open has decided not to re-apply for adoption in the EBT 2008, while a similar number of new tournaments (three) is adopted in the EBT 2008, namely the 2nd Maribor Open Strike Tournament (Slovenia), Lahti Open (Finland) and the 7th Qatar International Open Bowling Tournament 2008.

It is the first time a tournament from Slovenia is adopted, it is the first time two tournaments from Finland is adopted and it is indeed the first time a tournament from Qatar is adopted. The adoption of the tournament from Qatar introduces a new era of the European Bowling Tour, since it is the first time we are going outside the traditional European area for a tournament adoption.

The possibility to adopt one or more high class tournaments from outside Europe were published by the introduction of the EBT 2008 Rules on 30 October 2006 and we are very proud and satisfied, already from the first possible year, to be able to present the tournament in Qatar as the first non European tournament in the tour - a tournament which also will be the richest ever in the history of the EBT, since a tremendous prize pool of not less than 120.000 € is offered by the organizer.

The total prize pool (including tour prize money) for the 18 tournaments in the EBT 2007 will be 1.000.000 €, while the total prize pool for the 18 tournaments in the EBT 2008 will be 1.175.000 €. This very visible improvement dose indeed also influence the average prize pool per tournament, which increases from 52.000 € in 2007 to 62.000 € in 2008.

The top 16 women and the top 16 men after the 18 stops in the EBT 2008 will qualify for the EBT Masters 2009, while the top 8 women and the top 8 men in addition will qualify for the WRM 2009.

Kegel is, for the fourth consecutive year, 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 throughout the 2008 season.

Kim Thorsgaard Jensen
EBT Director



Tournaments included in the European Bowling Tour 2008				
Stop	Date	Country	Tournament	Category
01	05.01-13.01	Finland	Brunswick Ballmaster Open	Major
02	30.01-03.02	Luxembourg	Ebonite International Luxembourg Open	Challenger
03	03.02-10.02	Netherlands	Hammer Bronzen Schietspoel Tournament 2008	Major
04	27.02-03.03	Spain	VI Catalonia Open - Trofeu Galasa	Major
05	07.03-16.03	France	Brunswick Euro Challenge	Major
06	07.04-13.04	Turkey	5 th Istanbul Bowling Open	Major
07	19.05-25.05	Denmark	Brunswick Aalborg International 2008	Major
08	24.05-01.06	Belgium	Brunswick Belgian Open	Challenger
09	25.06-29.06	Netherlands	Storm Dutch Open 2008	Major
10	12.07-20.07	San Marino	4 th San Marino Open	Major
11	22.07-27.07	Spain	30 Trofeu Internacional Ciutat de Barcelona	Major
12	06.09-14.09	Slovenia	2 nd Maribor Open Strike Tournament	Challenger
13	13.09-21.09	Turkey	Ankara Open	Major
14	27.09-05.10	Finland	Lahti Open	Challenger
15	14.10-19.10	Austria	6 th Vienna Open	Major
16	15.11-23.11	Italy	5 th Oltremare Columbia 300 Open	Major
17	03.12-07.12	England	Storm English Open	Challenger
18	04.12-13.12	Qatar	7th Qatar International Open 2008	Challenger