

C EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS (Team and Individual Events)

C.1 AUTHORITY FOR ORGANISATION

C.1.1 The championships shall be organised by **one** member Association appointed by the ETTU.

C.1.2 Application procedure and decision

C.1.2.1 Any Association wishing to organise the championships shall send a written application to the General Secretary.

C.1.2.2 The following conditions have to be acknowledged:

- The closing date for applications shall be specified by the Executive Board and notified to all Associations.
- Applications must be in line with the relevant Regulations as well as the Technical and Economic Directives.
- All details of organisation must be included in the presentation of the venue to the Executive Board, on the basis of the directives for presentations.

C.1.2.3 The Regulations, the Technical and Economic Directives and the directives for presentations can be obtained from the General Secretary, who will also set the date for the presentations.

C.1.2.4 The Executive Board, together with the chairman of the Technical Committee, shall appoint the organising Association, after the evaluation of the presentations held by the applicants.

C.1.2.5 The championships shall be organised according to the provisions of a contract between ETTU and the Host Association to be signed no later than **18 months** before the start of the event.

C.2 RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS

C.2.1 All international TV, Internet, equipment, advertising and marketing rights are vested in the ETTU. The exact distribution of responsibilities in these sectors shall be stated in the Technical and Economic Directives and finally laid down in the contract between ETTU and the organiser.

C.2.2 All gate receipts belong to the Host Association.

C.3 QUALIFICATION

C.3.1 The championships shall be open for entry in team and individual events to all Member Associations whose subscriptions are not in arrears.

C.3.2 Teams not having competed in the previous Championships will be allocated to the Standard Division

C.3.3 All players shall be eligible to represent their Associations in accordance with the provisions of article B.10.

C.4 DATE AND DURATION

- C.4.1 The Championships shall be held every year in September/October over a period of maximum 9 days.
- C.4.2 The organising Association shall submit an outline playing schedule to the Chairman of the Technical Committee for approval no later than 6 months before the Championships.

C.5 EVENTS

- C.5.1 The Championships shall include men's team, women's team, men's singles, women's singles, men's doubles and women's doubles events.
- C.5.2 For the team events a division format will be used, with
- 16 teams in the 1st division (Championships Division)
 - 16 teams in the 2nd division (Challenge Division) and
 - the remaining teams in the 3rd division (Standard Division).
- C.5.3 Individual events shall be played on a knockout basis.

C.6 ENTRY FEES AND LEVIES

- C.6.1 The entry fees paid to the organising Association shall be 35 € for a team, 10 € for an individual entry in singles, 20 € for a doubles pair and 5 € for a consolation event.
- C.6.2 There shall be a levy of 25,000 € on the organising Association and of 1,500 € on a team in the Championships Division, 1,000 € on a team in the Challenge Division and 500 € on a team in the Standard Division.
- C.6.3 The relevant entry fees must be paid to the Organising Committee together with the submission of entries to the European Championships. The relevant levies on the participating teams must be paid to the ETTU bank account at the time of the submission of entries. Otherwise, the entries will not be accepted.
- All teams that fail to arrive at the European Championships without notification in writing to the Organisers and the ETTU prior to the team draw will be fined by the ETTU General Secretary with an amount of up to 5,000 € and entry into the next European Championships will only be accepted if payment for entry fees and hospitality charges are made in full to the organisers at the same time as the entry form.
- C.6.4 The entry fees and levies as well as other pre-payment will not be refunded if an Association fails to arrive at the European Championships.

C.7 ENTRIES

C.7.1 Numbers

- C.7.1.1 An Association may enter only 1 team in each team event.
- C.7.1.2 For the team events each Association shall be entitled to enter up to 5 players in a men's team and up to 5 players in a women's team.
- C.7.1.3 For the individual events the organising Association shall be entitled to enter up to 16 players, consisting of not more than 10 men and not more than 10 women; any other Association shall be entitled to enter up to 10 players, consisting of not more than 6 men and not more than 6 women.
- C.7.1.4 Within these limits different players may be entered for the team events and for the singles and doubles respectively.

C.7.2 Entry Forms

- C.7.2.1 Entry forms shall be agreed with the General Secretary and shall include a statement, to be signed by an official of the nominating Association on behalf of its players and captains, that they understand and accept the conditions of the championships and that they are prepared to compete against all other teams and individuals participating.
- C.7.2.2 Entry forms shall be sent by the Organising Association to all member Associations no later than 3 months before the start of the championships.
- C.7.2.3 Completed entry forms shall be sent to ETTU Secretariat no later than 2 months before the start of the championships.
- C.7.2.4 The General Secretary may accept only entry forms signed by a representative of the nominating Association, which have been received on or before the closing date; under no circumstances may they accept entries other than formal nominations by an eligible Association.

C.7.3 Modification

- C.7.3.1 The General Secretary may accept modified entries only if notified by a representative of the nominating Associations and only up to the dead-line fixed in the prospectus (usually 4 days before the start of the championships) with the possibility to complete, up to the first jury meeting, the team in case of illness or injury.

- C.7.3.3 A player entered in a team event may be allowed to enter the appropriate singles event, priority being given to any player concerned in a change of which notice had been given in due time.
- C.7.3.4 A player included in a team or individual event may be allowed to pair with the partner of an absent, ill or injured player in a doubles event, provided he is not already entered in that event with a partner who is present and fit to play.

C.8 HOSPITALITY

- C.8.1 The organising Association shall cover 50% of the cost of hospitality from the evening before the championships begin until the morning after they end for
 - C.8.1.1 up to 6 players and 2 coaches of an Association that has 2 teams participating in the competition proper;
 - C.8.1.2 up to 3 players and 1 coach of an Association that has 1 team participating in the competition proper;
 - C.8.1.3 up to 2 men players, 2 women players and 1 coach of an Association participating only in the individual events.
- C.8.2 The organising Association shall provide free hospitality from the evening before the championships begin until the morning after they end for
 - C.8.2.1 1 delegate from each Association;
 - C.8.2.2 the Executive Board members, the ETTU Sub-Committee Chairmen, the Club Competitions, Press and Medical Officials or their deputies, the Competition Manager, the Honorary members and 8 ETTU staff members;
 - C.8.2.3 all invited foreign referees and umpires.
- C.8.3 The organising Association shall provide free hospitality for all referees from the evening two days before the championships begin until the morning after they end, plus the travel expenses.
- C.8.4 The costs of hospitality for persons not entitled to free hospitality, totally or partly, shall be agreed at least one year in advance by the Executive Board, and shall be subject to a contract between ETTU and the organising member Association.
- C.8.5 The participating Associations have to use the accommodation provided by the organiser. The hospitality costs include: accommodation in a high level hotel (checked by ETTU), all meals of a high quality, the return transportation from the nearest international airport/railway station to the hotel and venue, the shuttle bus transportation during the competition hall/hotel, the accreditation to the competition with guaranteed seats for the final matches.

C.8.6 The organising Association shall provide free hospitality and reimburse the travel costs for the Chairman of the Technical Committee or the ETTU Technical Delegate when he inspects the facilities and proposed playing conditions of the championships and when he conducts the draw for team events.

C.8.7 Cancellation fees

C.8.7.1 An Association cancelling a person of their announced delegation after the deadline of the final entries up to 10 days before the Championships starts has to pay a cancellation fee of 100 E per person.

C.8.7.2 An Association cancelling a person of their announced delegation during the last 10 days before the championships or arriving with less persons than announced, have to pay 50 % of the hospitality costs for every person and for the whole period this (these) person(s) was (were) initially nominated.

C.9 THE DRAW

C.9.1 The draw for team events shall take place at least 30 days before the start of the championships and its outcome shall be circulated to all participants not later than 10 days after it has taken place.

C.9.2 For team events and individual events, no entry will be accepted after the dead-line fixed in the prospectus.

C.9.3 All teams not present which did not inform the Organising Committee of their arrival time (in case of air or train) or expected arrival time in case of road transportation will be automatically removed from the draw 12 hours before the Jury Meeting.

C.9.4 The draw for individual events shall take place during the playing of the team events.

C.9.5 Representatives of Associations participating shall be entitled to attend the draw, which shall be conducted by the Chairman of the Technical Committee.

C.9.6 Seeding for team events shall be made on the basis of the final positions in the previous European Championships.

C.9.7 Seeding for individual events shall be done on the basis of the last European Ranking List published before the championships. Seeding for doubles events shall be done on the basis of a seeding list prepared by the Ranking Committee.

C.10 JURY

C.10.1 The Jury shall consist of the Chairmen of the Ranking, Referees and Umpires, and Technical Committees, (or their deputies), a representative of the organising Association and the Referee or his deputy.

C.10.2 The chairman of the Jury shall be the Chairman of the Technical Committee.

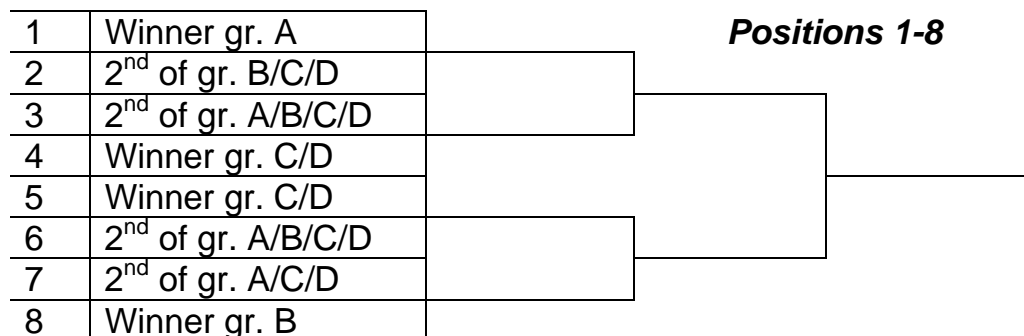
- C.10.3 All members of the Jury shall have the right to speak and vote.
- C.10.4 The Jury shall meet on the eve of the championships and at any other time when necessary.

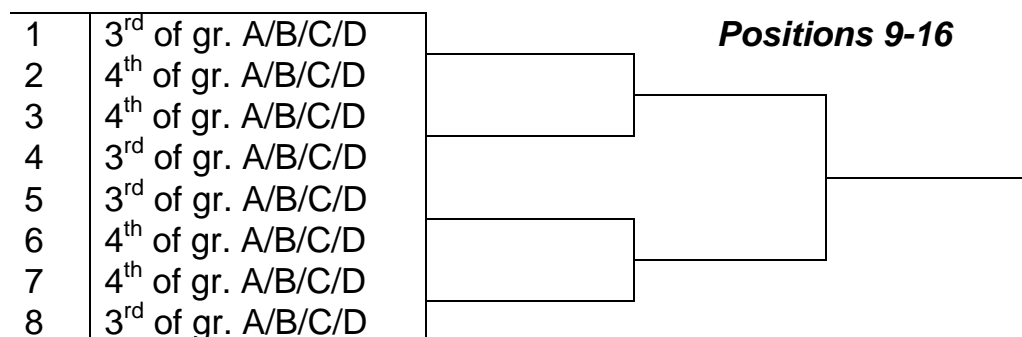
C.11 TEAM EVENTS – SYSTEM OF PLAY

C.11.1. Championships Division:

- C.11.1.1 The qualified teams are entitled to play for positions 1 – 16 of the Championships
- C.11.1.2 There will be 4 groups of 4 teams each. Every group shall play a complete round robin in stage 1 (3 matches per team). The seeding list will be provided by the Ranking Committee on the basis of the final positions from the team events in the previous European Championships. The draw will be conducted by placing the top 4 teams as No. 1 in groups A, B, C and D respectively, followed by drawing the remaining teams 2 by 2 according to the snake system into the 4 groups.
- C.11.1.3 In stage 2 the progressive knockout system will be used in order to determine the final position for every team, with the exception of a match for position 3 and 4. The top 2 teams from every group in stage 1 move to the quarterfinals, teams finishing 3 and 4 play for positions 9 to 16 (see diagram, which also shows the method for seeding and drawing).

The winner of group A goes to position 1, the winner of group B goes to position 8, the winners of group C and D shall be drawn between positions 4 and 5. The teams finishing in position 2 of the first stage groups shall be drawn by lot into the remaining places but in the opposite half to the winners of their initial groups. The teams finishing in position 3 of the first stage groups shall be drawn by lot between positions 1, 4, 5 and 8. The teams finishing in position 4 of the first stage groups shall be drawn by lot into the remaining places but in the opposite half to the teams ranked in position 3 of their initial groups.

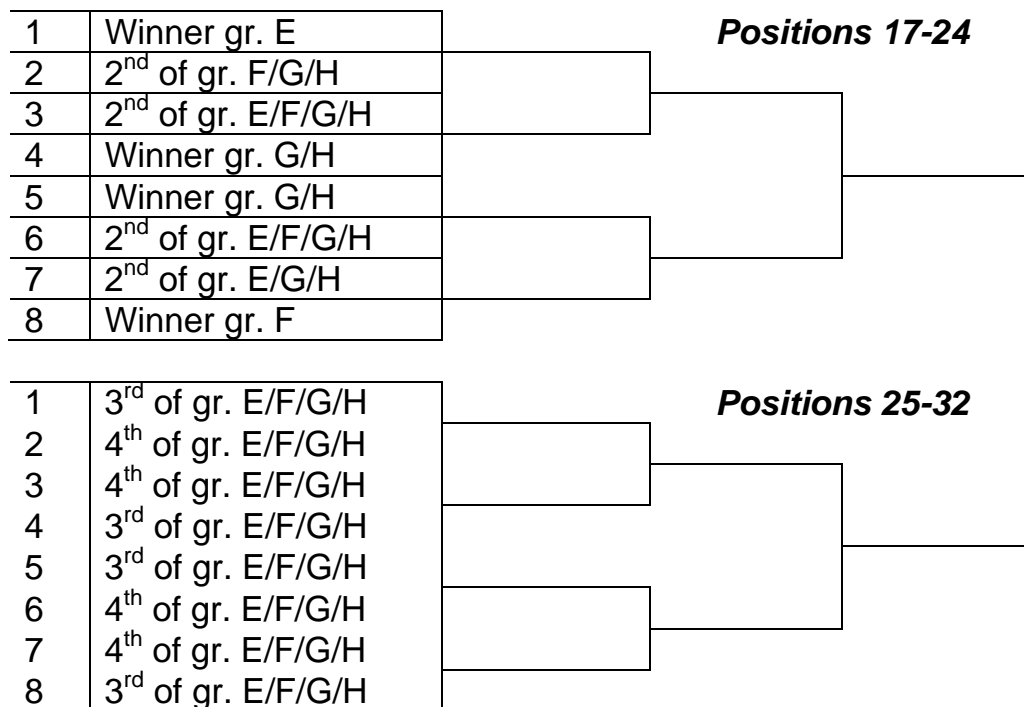




- C.11.1.4 The winner of the second stage is the European Champion.
- C.11.1.5 The teams finishing in positions 14, 15 and 16 are relegated to the Challenge Division of the next European Championships.

C.11.2 Challenge Division:

- C.11.2.1 The qualified teams are entitled to play for positions 17 to 32 of the Championships.
- C.11.2.2 There will be 4 groups with 4 teams each. Every group shall play a complete round robin in stage 1 (3 matches per team). The seeding list will be provided by the Ranking Committee on the basis of the final positions from the team events of the previous European Championships. The draw will be conducted by placing the top 4 teams as No. 1 in group E, F, G and H respectively, followed by drawing the remaining teams 2 by 2 according to the snake system into the 4 groups.
- C.11.2.3 In stage 2 the progressive knockout system will be used in order to determine the final position for every team. The top 2 teams from every group in stage 1 play for positions 17 to 24, teams finishing 3 and 4 play for positions 25 to 32 (see diagram, which also shows the method for seeding and drawing).
 The winner of group E goes to position 1, the winner of group F goes to position 8, the winners of group G and H shall be drawn between positions 4 and 5. The teams finishing in position 2 of the first stage groups shall be drawn by lot into the remaining places but in the opposite half to the winners of their initial groups. The teams finishing in position 3 of the first stage groups shall be drawn by lot between positions 1, 4, 5 and 8. The teams finishing in position 4 of the first stage groups shall be drawn by lot into the remaining places but in the opposite half to the teams ranked in position 3 of their initial groups.



- C.11.2.4 The winner of the second stage is the winner of the European Championships – Challenge Division
- C.11.2.5 The teams finishing in position 17, 18 and 19 are promoted to the Championships Division of the next European Championships.
- C.11.2.6 The teams finishing in positions 30, 31 and 32 are relegated to the Standard Division of the next European Championships.

C.11.3 Standard Division

- C.11.3.1 The qualified teams are entitled to play for the remaining places in the Championships.
- C.11.3.2 Depending on the number of entries the playing format will be developed by the Technical Committee in close contact with the Ranking Committee. It is intended to use the same or a similar format as in the Championships and Challenge Divisions, with 2 stages and the understanding that every team plays as many matches as possible.
- C.11.3.3 Seeding and drawing for both stages will be conducted by using the same principles as for the Championships and Challenge Divisions.
- C.11.3.4 The winner of the draw is the winner of the European Championships – Standard Division.
- C.11.3.5 The teams finishing in positions 33, 34 and 35 are promoted to the Challenge Division of the next European Championships.

C.11.4 Match Procedure

- C.11.4.1 A men's or women's team shall consist of 3 players.
- C.11.4.2 Each team shall appoint a playing or non-playing captain and he, or a responsible deputy, shall be present throughout a match.
- C.11.4.3 A match shall consist of up to 5 singles and shall be played on 1 table.
- C.11.4.4 Before the match the captains shall decide by lot the right to choose A, B, C or X, Y, Z and shall nominate their players to the referee or his representative, assigning a letter to each player.
- C.11.4.5 The order of play shall be A v X, B v Y, C v Z, A v Y, B v X, and the match shall end when a team has won 3 individual matches, each the best of 5 games.

C.11.5 Default

- C.11.5.1 An Association whose team is entered in the draw but which fails to compete in the event without adequate justification may be subject to disciplinary action by the ETTU General Secretary.
- C.11.5.2 A team may begin, continue and complete a team match only with a full complement of players, except that the referee may, at his discretion, allow a team to play with one player absent or an individual match to be omitted from the sequence where he is satisfied that the absence is due to accident, illness, injury or other circumstances outside the control of the player or the Association concerned, including disqualification by the referee in accordance with his authority.
- C.11.5.3 An Association whose team begins to play in the event but which fails to complete its schedule of matches shall be liable to forfeit its entitlement to hospitality for its representatives at the championships; appeal against such forfeit may be made to the Jury, whose decision shall be final.

- C.11.6** In case a team does not participate but had originally qualified for the Championships or Challenge Divisions by its result in the previous Championships, the best team relegated to the lower Division will be upgraded again.

C.12 INDIVIDUAL EVENTS

- C.12.1 Matches in individual events will be determined by the best of 7 games, except doubles events up to the quarter-finals, which will be played by best of 5 games.

- C.12.2 There shall be not more than 128 places in the 1st round proper of singles events and not more than 64 places in the 1st round proper of men's and women's doubles events.
- C.12.3 Qualification shall be in groups of 3 to 8 players (knock-out system).
- C.12.4 A consolation event shall be organised among the losers of the qualification and the losers of the 1st round proper of the singles events with matches determined by the best of 5 games.

C.13 TROPHIES AND AWARDS

- C.13.1 Trophies for the winners of team and individual events shall be presented, as follows:
 - CB.13.1.1 Men's Team
 - CB.13.1.2 Women's Team
 - CB.13.1.3 Men's Singles
 - CB.13.1.4 Women's Singles
 - CB.13.1.5 Men's Doubles
 - CB.13.1.6 Women's Doubles
- C.13.2 The organising Association shall provide new trophies for each Championship.
- C.13.3 Trophy, medals and plaques shall be presented by representatives of the ETTU and of the organising Association to the members including non-playing captains, of teams finishing 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th in team events Championships Division, to the 1st and 2nd in team events Challenge- and Standard Divisions. To the winners, runner-up and losing semi-finalists of the individual events and to the winner and runner-up in the consolation event.

C.14 FLAGS AND ANTHEMS

- C.14.1 At award ceremonies the national flags of winners, runners-up and losing semi-finalists of team events and of individual events shall be raised and the national anthems of the winners of those events shall be played.

C.15 REFEREES AND UMPIRES

- C.15.1 The ETTU Umpires and Referees Committee shall send to the General Secretary for the Executive Committee's approval the proposal for appointing a Referee and one or more Deputy Referees; all these officials shall be International Referees from a European Member Association and at least one from the Organising Association. All referees shall arrive at the venue two days before the Championships begin.

C.15.2 All umpires shall be International Umpires from a European Member Association and at least 1/3 of the total from foreign Associations. The organising Association shall send to the General Secretary for the ETTU Umpires and Referees Committee's approval, a list of the invited umpires no later than 4 month before the event. For any matches the umpires shall be from Associations other than those of the players in the match.

C.15.3 All invited foreign officials shall receive a daily allowance equivalent to 15 €.

C.16 PROGRAMME

C.16.1 The official programme shall specify that the championships are held under the auspices of the ETTU and shall include, on an early page, the names of all Executive Board members.

C.17 FACILITIES

C.17.1 The organising Association shall ensure free access to any part of the playing hall for all persons mentioned in C.8.1.2.2 and shall provide them with preferential seats throughout the championships.

C.17.2 During the period of the championships the organising Association shall make available to the ETTU rooms and facilities for the General Meeting and committee meetings, including interpreters where necessary.

C.17.3 During the Championships an area with seats shall be specifically allocated to team doctors and/or physiotherapists close to the playing area.

C.17.4 The organiser shall provide to the medical teams one or several safety lockers in the sport hall.
