

H EUROPE TOP-16 CUP

H.1 AUTHORITY FOR ORGANISATION

H.1.1 The tournament, which shall consist of a men's and a women's event, shall be organised by one member Association appointed by the ETTU Executive Board.

H.1.2 **Application Procedure and Decision**

H.1.2.1 Any Association wishing to organise the event shall send a written application to the ETTU office.

H.1.2.2 The following conditions have to be acknowledged:

- The closing date for applications shall be specified by the ETTU Executive Board and notified to all Associations.

- Applications must be in line with the relevant Regulations and 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.

H.1.2.3 The Regulations and Directives and the directives for presentations are available on the ETTU website.

H.1.2.4 The Executive Board shall appoint the organising Association, after the evaluation of the presentations held by the applicants.

H.1.2.5 The Europe Top-16 Cup shall be organised according to the provisions of a contract between ETTU and the Host Association to be signed no later than 8 months before the start of the event.

H.2 RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS

H.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 Directives and finally laid down in the contract between ETTU and the organiser.

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

H.3 QUALIFICATION

H.3.1 ETTU shall invite – not later than 7 weeks before the start of the competition – the eligible and reserve players for each event derived from the last available European Ranking List (extract of the ITTF World Table Tennis Ranking List for 2024 and ETTU European Ranking List starting 2025).

H.3.2 In each event the following players shall be invited:

a) The current European Champion.

b) The winner of the previous Europe Top 16 Cup.

c) The top 13 players from the last available European Rankings excluding the current European Champion and the winner of the previous Europe Top 16 Cup, or top 14 players if a Host Association player qualifies.

d) If no players qualify from the Host Association then the Host Association shall nominate one Host Association player. There shall be no more than 2 players from an Association.

- H.3.3 The first reserve man and woman player should be present. Substitutions before the entry closing date shall be as per entry regulations.
- a) If the European Champion is not available or withdraws, he/she shall be replaced by the remaining highest ranked player from the European ranking.
- b) If the Host Association player is not available or withdraws, another player nominated by the Host Association shall replace him/her.
- c) If any other player is not available or withdraws, he shall be replaced by the remaining highest ranked player.
- H.3.4 Substitutions after the entry closing date shall be decided by the ETTU. The participation of an invited player has to be confirmed by the national Association which this player is eligible to represent, latest on or before the deadline fixed by the ETTU.

H.4 LEVIES

- H.4.1 The organising Association shall pay the ETTU a levy of 15,000 €.
- H.4.2 There shall be a levy of 250 € per participating player, payable to the ETTU.

H.5 HOSPITALITY and EXPENSES

- H.5.1 The organising Association shall provide free hospitality from lunch of the day before the start of the tournament until breakfast after it ends, for
- H.5.1.1 All invited players;
- H.5.1.2 Members of the Executive Board, the Medical and Press Officials or their deputies, the Chairmen of the Ranking and Technical Committees and 3 ETTU staff members;
- H.5.1.3 All invited foreign referees and umpires.
- H.5.2 The organising Association shall provide free hospitality for the Referee from the evening two days before the event begins until the morning after it ends, plus the travel expenses.
- H.5.3 The organising Association shall provide free hospitality for the ETTU Competition Manager when he inspects the facilities and proposed playing conditions of the tournament.
- H.5.4 Each Association shall pay the travel expenses and hospitality of its officials, but the ETTU shall reimburse to his parent Association the expenses of an invited reserve player who attends but is not required to play.

H.6 SYSTEM OF PLAY AND DRAW

- H.6.1 All matches shall be the best of 7 games.
- H.6.2 The competition is played in a knockout basis and in addition the losers of the semi-finals may play a match to determine places 3 and 4 if required.
- H.6.3 The draw shall take place the day before the start of the tournament and shall be conducted by either the Referee, the ETTU Ranking Committee Chair or the ETTU Competition Manager. It is an obligation for players to attend the draw.

H.7 JURY

- H.7.1 The Jury shall consist of the Competition Manager, the Chairs of the Ranking and Technical Committees or their deputies, a representative of the organising Association, the ETTU Secretary General or representative of the Executive Board and the Referee or deputy.
- H.7.2 The Chair of the Jury shall be the Chair of the Technical Committee. If the chair of the Technical Committee is not available, the ETTU Executive Board will appoint the chair among the Jury members.
- H.7.3 All members of the Jury shall have the right to vote.
- H.7.4 The Jury shall have the judicial power for any matter arising during the tournament. Any protest or appeal which is not under the authority of the Referee shall be submitted to the chair of the Jury.

H.8 REFEREES and UMPIRES

- H.8.1 No later than 5 months before the event, the organising Association shall send to the ETTU Umpires and Referees Committee the proposal for appointing a Referee. No later than 4 months before the event, the ETTU Umpires and Referees Committee shall send to the Secretary General ETTU for the Executive Board’s approval the proposal for appointing the Referee and one Deputy Referee. At least one referee must be from a foreign association. All referees shall be International Referees from ETTU member Associations and shall arrive the day before the start of the event.
- H.8.2 All umpires shall be International Umpires and at least 1/3 of the total of umpires needed shall be from foreign ETTU member Associations. The organising Association shall send to the ETTU Umpires and Referees Committee, no later than 4 months before the event, the proposal for appointing the umpires.
- H.8.3 All invited foreign officials shall receive from the organising Association a daily allowance in accordance with the ETTU directives for Match Officials and as laid down in the Europe Top-16 Cup directives.
