

U EUROPEAN UNDER 21 CHAMPIONSHIPS

U.1 AUTHORITY FOR ORGANISATION

- U.1.1 The championships shall be organised by one member Association appointed by the ETTU Executive Board.
- U.1.2 Application procedure and decision
- U.1.2.1 Any Association wishing to organise the championships shall send a written application to the ETTU Secretary General.
- U.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 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.
- U.1.2.3 The Regulations and the Directives and the directives for presentations can be obtained from the Secretary General, who will also set the date for the presentations.
- U.1.2.4 The Executive Board shall appoint the organising Association, after the evaluation of the presentations held by the applicants.
- U.1.2.5 The championships shall be organised according to the provisions of a contract between ETTU and the organising Association to be signed no later than 8 months before the start of the event. The organising Association shall be responsible for conducting the championships in accordance with the Laws of Table Tennis, the ITTF Regulations for International Competitions and the relevant ETTU Regulations and Directives.

U.2 RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS

- U.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 organising Association.
- U.2.2 All gate receipts belong to the organising Association.

U.3 QUALIFICATION

- U.3.1 The championships shall be open for entry to all invited players from member Associations whose subscriptions are not in arrears.
- U.3.2 The Secretary General shall invite – not later than 12 weeks before the start of the competition – the eligible 48 men and 48 women players and reserve players for each event derived from the last available European Under 21 ranking list. In addition the Secretary General, in cooperation with the Youth Committee and the Ranking Committee, shall grant 8 men and 8 women a wildcard. If a player is not available or withdraws, the player shall be replaced by the remaining highest ranked player.

- U.3.3 If no players qualify from the host Association then the host Association shall nominate one host Association player. Any vacant places, after the deadline fixed by the Secretary General, may be offered to the host Association in accordance with regulation U.7.1.1.
- U.3.4 All players shall be eligible to represent their Associations in accordance with the provisions of article B.10.
- U.3.5 All players must be under 21 on 31st December immediately before the calendar year in which the championships take place.
- U.3.6 The participation of an invited player has to be confirmed by the national Association which this player is eligible to represent, before the deadline fixed by the Secretary General.

U.4 DATE AND DURATION

- U.4.1 The championships shall be held in January or February or March over a period of 5 days.
- U.4.2 The organising Association, in cooperation with the ETTU Competition Manager, shall submit an outline playing schedule to the Chair of the Youth Committee and to the Secretary General for approval no later than 6 months before the championships.

U.5 EVENTS

- U.5.1 The championships shall include men's singles, women's singles, men's doubles, women's doubles and mixed doubles events.

U.6 ENTRY FEES AND LEVIES

- U.6.1 There shall be, payable to the ETTU, a levy of 5.000 € for the championships on the organising Association as well as an entry fee of 50 € for each player of participating Associations.
- U.6.2 The relevant entry fees from the participating players must be paid to the ETTU bank account at the time of the submission of entries. If not, the entries will not be accepted.
- U.6.3 The entry fees and levies as well as other pre-payment will not be refunded if an Association fails to arrive with the number of entered participants at the European Under 21 Championships.

U.7 ENTRIES

U.7.1 Numbers

- U.7.1.1 56 men and 56 women players will be invited with a maximum 4 men and 4 women players from a member Association.

U.7.2 Entry Forms

- U.7.2.1 The Prospectus shall be agreed by the organising Association with the Secretary General and shall be distributed to all invited players and reserve players through their Associations.
- U.7.2.2 Associations have to enter all their participants at the championships through the online entry system determined by the ETTU. The online entry system will include a statement, to be agreed by an official of the nominating Association on behalf of its players, that they understand and accept the conditions of the championships, that they are prepared to compete against all other players and that they

are insured fully against illness and injury for the duration of the championships.

U.7.3 Modification

U.7.3.1 In case of late non-availability of any player after the relating deadline the Secretary General may allow up to the first jury meeting to replace a non-available player by the next/reserve player from the ranking list (maximum 3 players per Association).

U.8 HOSPITALITY

U.8.1 The hospitality shall be paid to the organising Association by the participants' Association.

U.8.2 The organising Association shall provide hospitality packages at 3 and 4 star level hotels from the evening before the championships begin until the morning after they end. The hospitality packages shall include accommodation, 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.

U.8.3 The participants' Association may also choose to make their own hospitality arrangements. In case of 'own arrangements' there will be a participation fee to be paid to the organising Association. This participation fee will only include accreditation. All transport, hotel and meal arrangements shall be organised by the participants' Association.

U.8.4 The organising Association shall provide free hospitality from the evening before the championships begin until the morning after they end for

U.8.4.1 2 Executive Board members, the Youth Committee and Ranking Committee Chairs or their deputies, the Competition Manager and 2 ETTU staff members.

U.8.4.2 all invited foreign referees and umpires.

U.8.5 The organising Association shall provide free hospitality for all referees from the evening before the championships begin until the morning after they end, plus the travel expenses.

U.8.6 The costs of hospitality for persons not entitled to free hospitality, totally or partly, shall be agreed at least 6 months in advance by the Executive Board, and shall be subject to a contract between ETTU and the organising Association.

U.8.7 The organising Association shall provide free hospitality and reimburse the travel costs for the ETTU Competition Manager when the facilities and proposed playing conditions of the championships are inspected.

U.8.8 Cancellation fees

U.8.8.1 An Association, that has reserved the hospitality package from the organising 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 € per person to the organising Association.

U.8.8.2 An Association cancelling a person of their announced delegation during the last 10 days before the championships or arriving with less persons than announced, has to pay 100 % of the hospitality costs for

every person and for the whole period this person was initially nominated or, not having reserved the hospitality package from the

organising Association, has to pay a cancellation fee of 100 € per person.

U.9 THE DRAW

U.9.1 The draw for singles and doubles events shall take place on the day before the championships begin.

U.9.2 Representatives of Associations participating shall be entitled to attend the draw, which shall be conducted by the Referee in close cooperation with the ETTU Competition Manager.

U.10 JURY

U.10.1 The Jury shall consist of the Chairs of the Ranking and Youth Committees or their deputies, a representative of the organising Association, the ETTU Secretary General or a representative of the Executive Board and the Referee or deputy.

U.10.2 The chair of the Jury shall be the Chair of the Youth Committee.

U.10.3 All members of the Jury shall have the right to speak and vote.

U.10.4 The ETTU Competition Manager may attend the Jury meetings with the right to speak but without the right to vote.

U.10.5 The Jury shall meet on the eve of the championships and at any other time when necessary.

U.11 SYSTEM OF PLAY

U.11.1 In singles events 8 seeded players shall be directly placed in stage 2.

U.11.1.1 Stage 1: the remaining 48 players shall play in a qualification, played in 12 groups. The winner and runner up from each group will qualify for stage 2.

U.11.1.2 Stage 2: the 24 qualifiers from stage 1 and the 8 seeded players shall be drawn into 8 groups. The winner and runner up from each group will qualify for stage 3.

U.11.1.3 Stage 3: the 16 qualifiers from stage 2 will play a direct knockout competition.

U.11.2 All singles matches shall be the best of 7 games.

U.11.3 Doubles events will be played in a direct knockout competition.

U.11.4 All doubles matches shall be the best of 5 games.

U.11.5 Doubles pairs will comprise only players invited to the singles event.

U.11.6 Doubles pairs may be formed by players from different Associations.

U.12 TROPHIES AND AWARDS

U.12.1 Trophies for the winners of the events shall be presented, as follows:

U.13.1.1 Men's Singles

U.13.1.2 Women's Singles

U.13.1.3 Men's Doubles

U.13.1.4 Women's Doubles

U.12.2 The organising Association shall provide new trophies, medals and plaques.

U.12.3 Trophies, medals and plaques shall be presented by representatives of the ETTU and of the organising Association to the winners, runner-up and losing semi-finalists of the singles and doubles events.

U.13 FLAGS AND ANTHEMS

U.13.1 At award ceremonies the national flags of winners, runners-up and losing semi-finalists of individual events shall be raised and the national anthems of the winners of those events shall be played.

U.14 REFEREES AND UMPIRES

U.14.1 Latest 6 months before the event, the ETTU Umpires and Referees Committee shall send to the Secretary General for the Executive Board's approval the proposal for appointing a Referee and, latest 4 months before, for one or more Deputy Referees. All these officials shall be International Referees from an ETTU member Association; if available at least one member of the referee team shall be from the organising Association. All referees shall arrive at the venue two days before the start of the event.

U.14.2 All umpires shall be International Umpires. At least 1/3 of the total of umpires needed shall be from foreign ETTU member Associations. Not later than 5 months before the event, the ETTU Umpires and Referees Committee, after coordination with the organising Association, will post a call for umpires interested to officiate at the event onto the ETTU website, and will send respective invitations to all member Associations. Together with the organising Association, the ETTU URC will set up a list of the appointed number of umpires; such decisions of the ETTU URC are final. No later than 3 months before the event, the ETTU shall inform the member Associations about the selections and post the list onto the ETTU website. For all matches during the championships the umpires shall be from Associations other than those of the players in the match.

U.14.3 All invited foreign officials shall receive from the organising Association a daily allowance in accordance with ITTF Directives for Match Officials.

U.15 PROGRAMME

U.15.1 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 together with the competition time schedule and competition information.

U.16 FACILITIES

U.16.1 The organising Association shall ensure free access to any part of the playing hall for all the players, officials and persons mentioned in C.8.4.1 and shall provide them with preferential seats throughout the championships.

U.16.2 During the period of the championships the organising Association shall make available to the ETTU 2 rooms for the Executive Board and the staff.

- U.16.3 During the championships an area with seats shall be specifically allocated to team doctors and/or physiotherapists close to the playing area.
- U.16.4 The organising Association shall provide first aid care for on-venue illness and injury but will not be liable for costs and expenses relating to medicines, medical care and hospital treatment. Each Association is required to insure fully its players and officials against illness and injury for the duration of the championships.
- U.17 DOPING CONTROL**
- U.17.1 Doping control shall be carried out in accordance with ITTF Anti-Doping rules.
- U.18 ELECTRONIC TOURNAMENT SYSTEM**
- U.18.1 An ETTU approved electronic tournament system must be used in all European Under 21 Championships.