



EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

DIRECTIVES STAGE 1 A GROUPS

January 2020

The European Championships, hereinafter referred to as “the Event”, shall be organised according to the ETTU Regulations applicable for the Event i.e. Chapter “CT” of the ETTU Handbook.

In addition to these Regulations, the following requirements must be respected and fulfilled.

1. PARTIES INVOLVED

ETTU – European Table Tennis Union (Secretary General (ETTU/SG),
The ETTU Member Associations, participating in the Event,

2. FIXTURES AND PLAYING SCHEDULE

Home Associations shall notify the Secretary General and the visiting Associations of the venues of matches no later than 6 weeks before the dates of matches. Home Associations shall inform at the same time the visiting Association of the brands and colours of floor, tables and nets which will be used in the match concerned.

Matches shall be played according to the agreed ETTU playing schedule and the start time of the match shall be notified by the home Association.

The match may be played on another day, preferably during the same week, of the ETTU playing schedule if both Associations agree to change the date. Such a change needs to be communicated to the ETTU Secretariat without delay and no later than 4 weeks before the agreed date, which shall be binding for both Associations.

Matches shall not be played before the previous scheduled round and not after the next scheduled round.

The home Association may arrange a men’s and a women’s match at a playing hall on the same date, with different start times or with the same start time.

3. SYSTEM OF PLAY

In each group teams will play each other in 2 matches (home and away) in order to determine a final ranking order for each group.

The order of play for A groups will be as follows:1-3, 2-1, 3-2, 3-1, 1-2, 2-3.

The 6 group A winners and the 6 group A runners-up will proceed directly to the final stage of the Championships.

The group A position 3 teams will proceed to stage 2 to compete for the remaining places in the final stage.

4. SPORT FACILITIES

There shall be a playing hall, with a seating capacity of minimum 500 persons and which is large enough to accommodate 1 playing court (table), or 2 playing courts if men’s and women’s matches are played together, in a playing area preferably 18m x 9m and 5m high but not less than 14m x 7m x 5m.

It is recommended the playing court set-up shall be:

36 A-boards (12 on each long side, 6 on each short side) + 4 corner boards

The home Association has to put on disposal to their visiting Association a bench or chairs behind the playing court for 6 persons. Neither team can have more than 6 persons present.

The lighting level shall preferably be 1000 LUX but at least 800 LUX over the table. The lighting sources have to be fixed at least 5 m above the floor, vertically above the playing area.

Daylight coming in through windows or other openings or apertures has to be covered.

All matches shall be played on an ITTF approved floor.

Floor advertisements shall comply with ITTF Regulations for International Competitions.

The temperature in all playing areas shall be no less than 18 degrees Celsius.

There shall be changing rooms (at least 3, 1 for each of the teams and 1 for the referee/umpires) of good standard, with enough showers and toilets and preferably with lockers for clothing.

A suitable speaker service shall be provided in the playing hall, during the whole duration of the match.

5. RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS

The official ball to be used for all matches shall be the Nittaku Premium 40+*** white.

All equipment rights (except the adopted Nittaku ball) belong to the home Association of each match.

The home Association must use only playing equipment provided by one or more ETTU Suppliers Pool member companies.

Each Association has to provide necessary conditions for electronic transmission of each home match by a live scoring system made available by the ETTU.

Instructions will be made available in due time.

6. PRACTICE

Practice (at least 2 hours) shall be arranged for the visiting team the evening before the match is to be played as well as during the day of the match under the same conditions as for the home team.

7. MATCH PROCEDURE

A team shall consist of maximum 4 players.

A match shall consist of up to 5 singles and shall be played on 1 table.

In all matches the home team shall be A1, A2, A3 and the visiting team B1, B2, B3. After the second singles in a team match, player N° 4 may replace player A1 or player A2 (home team) or player B1 or B2 (away team). Such a substitution of a player must be announced by the respective team captain to the Referee at the latest before the start of the third singles match.

The order of play shall be A1 v B2, A2 v B1, A3 v B3, A1 v B1, A2 v B2 and the team match shall end when one team has won 3 individual matches, each the best of 5 games.

There shall be only one interval of not more than 15 minutes after the second individual match. The home Association shall inform the visiting Association and the Referee, latest before the start of the first individual match, of the arrangements of the interval.

8. DRESS/COLOURS

The home Association shall notify the visiting Association, no later than 14 days before the date of the match, of its playing colours and the visiting team shall wear different colours. If the home Association fails to do so and the colours are not sufficiently different, the home Association shall change.

9. REFEREES AND UMPIRES

The ETTU Secretary General, in coordination with the Umpires and Referees Committee, shall arrange for a neutral International Umpire to fulfil the duties of the Referee. The home Association shall provide 2 International Umpires to perform the duties of umpire and assistant umpire.

The home Association shall provide a qualified umpire to carry out the ETTU live scoring.

The visiting International Umpire appointed by the ETTU shall receive from the home Association a daily allowance (January 2020: US\$30 or the equivalent Euros) in accordance with ITTF Directives for Match Officials; the travel expenses, agreed in advance by ETTU, (by economy class train or flight, or by car at 30 eurocents per km, and visa costs) shall be reimbursed by the home Association either by bank transfer before the match or latest in cash upon arrival. ETTU shall reimburse the home Association 50% of the neutral International Umpire's travel expenses (excluding the daily allowance).

Immediately after a match the Referee shall complete an official report form and send it together with the official score sheet to result@ettu.org by email.

10. HOSPITALITY / ACCOMMODATION / TRANSPORTATION

The home Association shall propose to the visiting Association a hotel of good standard (minimum 3 stars) and inform them about the room rates and the hotel's website link without delay and no later than 6 weeks before the dates of matches. If the visiting Association does not agree on the proposal, the visiting Association is free to choose another hotel. Booking and payment of the hotel is the obligation of the visiting Association. The transport from and to the local airport or from and to the railway station (home Association to decide if transport from and to the airport or from and to the railway station) to the hotel and to the playing hall and back must be provided free of charge by the home Association. If the visiting Association chooses another hotel than the one proposed by the home Association, transportation must be only taken over by the home Association if the distance to the playing hall is not more than 10 km further away than the proposed hotel from the playing hall.

Lunch and dinner must be provided free of charge by the home Association on the day when a match is played.

Meal times shall be flexible and co-ordinated with the duration of the match in order to allow the players to have a meal after the match.

The maximum number of persons of the visiting Association entitled for free transportation and meals as written above shall be 6 persons.

11. TV AND IPTV RIGHTS

ETTU holds the following rights for every team match within the European Championships:

- The International TV rights
- The exclusive rights for Internet TV and Internet Live Streaming for the matches produced by ETTU's Media Partner (ETTU has given this right to its Media Partner)
- The non-exclusive rights for Internet TV and Internet Live Streaming for the matches produced by the home Association
- The non-exclusive rights for Data and Scoring

Domestic TV rights, advertising rights and gate receipts belong to the home Association of each match. A home Association deciding to produce a TV signal shall also make the signal available free of charges to the ETTU Media Partner (either via European Standard Satellite or online stream).

The home Association may produce an internet livestream for each match and shall provide the signal free of charges to the ETTU Media Partner.

In case the ETTU Media Partner decides to produce an internet livestream, the home Association needs to provide the following technical requirements at its own charge:

- an appropriate internet connectivity with a minimum UPLOAD bandwidth of three megabit/sec to ensure the event's live and/or delayed transmissions, accomplishing all the ETTU Media Partner's technical requests
- ETTU Media Partner's staff with the accreditations required for getting access to all necessary locations
- adequate spaces and working areas for ETTU and its Media Partner's staff

*ETTU grants the home Associations the permission to produce and broadcast a signal for internet live streaming but the home Association has to guarantee a geo-block (if technically possible) of the streaming on its national territory and has to provide the ETTU Media Partner with the signal free of charge.

Technical instructions for internet live streaming will follow in due time.

12. PRESS AND MEDIA

All the Associations taking part in the event are kindly invited to cooperate with the ETTU Press Officer (press@ettu.org) and provide with all information concerning their national teams, their home matches, photographs and any other useful information.

Media persons shall be provided with all necessary services, including special seats near the playing court and direct access to internet.

It is recommended the home Association to issue a programme leaflet for every home match. This programme leaflet and any other promotional material (electronic and print) shall include the ETTU logo, the ITTF-Europe logo and the Nittaku logo.

13. VIP CARE

There shall be a special VIP-room, where drinks and snacks are served to honorary guests, sponsors, suppliers and officials, free of charge.

If requested, the home Association shall provide ETTU with 2 VIP entry tickets free of charge.

14. FLAGS

The following flags shall be hoisted in the playing hall

- the flag of the home Association
- the flag of the visiting Association

15. PENALTIES

Associations may be fined for any contravention to the provision of these Directives.
