

CT EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS (TEAM EVENTS)

CT 1 INTRODUCTION

CT 1.1 The European Championships (Team Events) shall be played over a period of 1 year in odd-numbered years. It will consist of two stages, the Stage 1 and the Final Stage.

CT 1.2 The Championships shall include men's and women's team events.

CT 2 STAGE 1 AND FINAL STAGE

CT 2.1 Organisation

Each stage i.e. Stage 1 and Final Stage, shall be organised by one member Association appointed by the ETTU Executive Board.

Stage 1 shall be played at 1 location over a period of 6 days and the Final Stage shall be played at 1 location over a period of 7 days.

CT 2.2 Application Procedure and Decision

CT 2.2.1 Any Association wishing to organise either stage shall send a written application to the Secretary General.

CT 2.2.2 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 the organisation must be included in the presentation of the venue to the Executive Board.

CT 2.2.3 The Regulations and the Directives are available on the ETTU website.

CT 2.2.4 The Executive Board shall appoint the organising Association(s) for each stage, after the evaluation of the presentations held by the applicants.

CT 2.2.5 Each stage shall be organised according to the provisions of a contract between ETTU and the organising Association to be signed no later than 6 months before the start of the event. The organising Association(s) shall be responsible for conducting the competition(s) in accordance with the Laws of Table Tennis, the ITTF Regulations for International Competitions and the relevant ETTU Regulations and Directives.

CT 2.3. Rights and Obligations

CT 2.3.1 All international TV, Internet, equipment, advertising and marketing rights are vested in the ETTU. The exact distribution of responsibilities in these matters shall be stated in the Directives and finally laid down in the contract between ETTU and the organising Association(s).

CT 3 ENTRY FEES AND LEVIES

CT 3.1 There shall be an entry fee of 1,000 € per registered team into Stage 1. For team(s) qualified through Stage 1 to the Final Stage, there shall be an additional entry fee of 1,000 € per registered team into Final Stage. For team(s) directly qualified to the Final Stage, there shall be an entry fee of 2,000 € per registered team into the Final Stage.

CT 3.2 There shall be a Stage 1 organisation levy of 5,000 €, payable by the Organising Association to the ETTU.

CT 3.3 There shall be a Final Stage organisation levy of 20,000 €, payable by the Organising Association to the ETTU.

CT 3.4 The relevant entry fees from the participating teams must be paid to the ETTU bank account, otherwise, the entries will not be accepted. Registered teams that fail to arrive at either stage without notification in writing to the organising Association and the ETTU will be fined by the Executive Board with an amount of up to 5,000 €. 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.

CT 3.5 The entry fees as well as other pre-payment will not be refunded if an entered Association fails to arrive at either stage of the Championships.

CT 4 ENTRIES

CT 4.1 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.

CT 4.2 Entries to Stage 1

CT 4.2.2 Each member Association whose subscriptions are not in arrears and whose team is not qualified to the final stage may enter 1 team in the Men's and/or 1 team in the Women's event.

CT 4.2.3. The closing date of entries for Stage 1 shall be specified by the Executive Board.

CT 4.3 Entry to the Final Stage

CT 4.3.1 The Final Stage shall be open for entry to 24 teams for both men's and women's events:

- 18 teams directly qualified from the previous European Championships,
- The host association team in case it is not among the 18 teams qualified and
- 5 or 6 teams which have to qualify through Stage 1.

CT 4.3.2 If a team will not be able to participate the Executive Board shall have the right to fill the vacant place in the Final Stage.

CT 4.4 Entry Forms

CT.4.4.1 The prospectus shall be agreed by the organising Association(s) and ETTU.

CT 4.4.2 Associations have to enter all their participants to each stage 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 and captains they understand and accept the conditions of the European Championships, confirming they are prepared to compete against all other teams participating, that each registered person agrees to the ETTU privacy policy and that they are insured fully against illness and injury.

CT 4.5 Modification

CT 4.5.1 Associations are allowed to modify their online entries (no additional entries are allowed) only up to the relating deadline announced in the prospectus (principally 5 working days before the start of the final stage). In case of late non-availability of any player after the relating deadline the Secretary General may allow up to the first jury meeting Associations to replace a non-available player by another player.

CT 4.6 Eligibility

CT 4.6.1 All players shall be eligible to represent their Associations in accordance with the provisions of article B.1.

CT 5 SYSTEM OF PLAY

CT 5.1 Stage 1

CT 5.1.2 The teams qualified to the round of 16 of the previous European Championships (Team Events) Final Stage and the 2 winners of the playoff matches will not take part in Stage 1 and will proceed directly to the Final Stage of the Championships. If the team of the host Association is not among the 18 teams directly qualified it will also proceed directly to the Final Stage in addition to the 18 teams qualified.

CT 5.1.3 Stage 1 will include

- a qualification in groups,
- a main event in groups and
- position matches.

CT 5.1.4 **Qualification groups**

There will be 4, 5 or 6 groups of 5 or 6 teams at each group, depending on the number of entered teams. The matches will be played in a round-robin system. The detailed playing system for the qualification groups will be published as soon as the number of entered teams is known. 16 teams will proceed to the main event of the Stage 1 Championships.

CT 5.1.5 **Main event**

there will be 4 groups of 4 teams. The matches will be played in a round-robin system and the winner of each group will qualify to the Final Stage of the European Championships. The runners-up will play the position matches for 2 more spots at the Final Stage or one more spot in case the host Association is not among the 18 teams qualified from the previous Final Stage of the European Championships.

CT 5.1.6 **Position matches**

All the teams who do not qualify for the main event will play the position matches. The matches will be played in a progressive knock-out system and the matches for all positions shall be played.

CT 5.2 Final Stage

CT 5.2.1 The 24 teams qualified to the Final Stage are entitled to play for the title of European Team Champion.

CT 5.2.2 **Group stage**

There will be 8 groups of 3 teams each. The Ranking Committee will provide the seeding list according to Teams European Ranking.

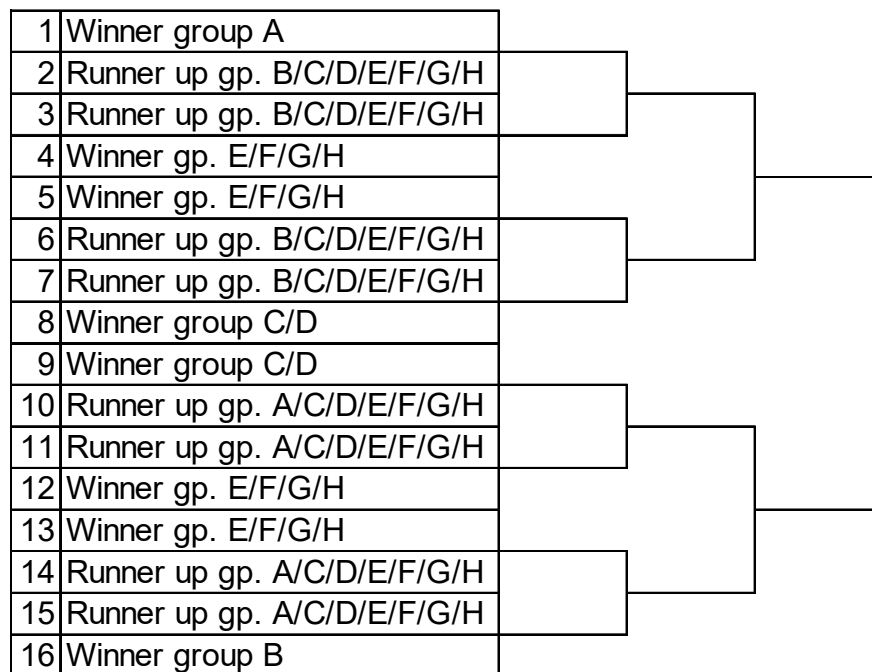
The draw will be conducted by placing the top 8 teams as No. 1 in groups A, B, C, D, E, F, G and H, respectively. Seeded teams 9-16 will be drawn 4 by 4 to position No2 in the group. Seeded teams 17-24 will be freely drawn to position No 3 in the group.

Each group shall play in a round-robin system (2 matches per team).

CT 5.2.3 **Knockout stage**

CT 5.2.3.1 Group winners and runners-up proceed to the round of 16. From the round of 16, the knockout system will be used. The winner of group A goes to position 1, the winner of group B goes to position 16, the winners of groups C and D shall be drawn between positions 8 and 9. The winners of groups E, F, G and H shall be drawn by lot into the places 4, 5, 12 and 13. The group

runners-up shall be drawn by lot into the remaining places in the opposite half from the winner of their group.



CT 5.2.3.2 Teams finishing in 3rd positions in the groups will proceed to the playoff matches using the knockout system for the remaining 2 available spots in the Final Stage of the next European Championships.

CT 5.2.4 Representatives of Associations participating shall be entitled to attend the draw, which will be conducted by either the Referee, the ETTU Ranking Committee Chair or the ETTU Competition Manager, in close co-operation with each other.

CT 5.2.5 The winner of the knockout stage becomes European Champion.

CT 5.3 Match Procedure

CT 5.3.1 A men or women team line up shall consist of a maximum 3 players.

CT 5.3.2 Each team shall appoint a playing/non-playing captain or a deputy, who shall be present throughout a match.

CT 5.3.3 A match shall consist of up to 5 singles and shall be played on 1 table.

CT 5.3.4 One team is considered to be composed of the players A1, A2, A3, and the other team is composed of the players B1, B2, B3.

Before the match, the captains shall decide by lot the right to choose A1-A2-A3 or B1-B2-B3.

CT 5.3.5 The order of play shall be A1 v B1, A2 v B2, A3 v B3, A1 v B2, A2 v B1 and the team match shall end when one team has won 3 individual matches, each the best of 5 games.

CT 5.4 Default

CT 5.4.1 An Association whose team is entered in the draw, for each stage, but fails to compete in the event without adequate justification may be subject to disciplinary action by the ETTU Executive Board.

CT 5.4.2 A team may begin, continue and complete a team match only with a full complement of players. However, the Referee may, at his/her discretion, allow a team to play with one player absent or an individual match to be omitted from the sequence where he/she is satisfied that the absence is due to

accident, illness, injury or other circumstances outside the control of the player or the Association concerned. This includes disqualification by the Referee in accordance with his/her authority.

CT 6. DRAW

CT 6.1 The draw for the Stage 1 qualification groups and Final Stage groups shall take place at least 20 days before the start of each stage and its outcome shall be published on the day of the draw.

CT 6.2 Representatives of Associations participating shall be entitled to attend the draw, which will be conducted by either the Referee, the ETTU Ranking Committee Chair or the ETTU Competition Manager, in close co-operation with each other.

CT 7. REFEREES AND UMPIRES

CT 7.1 Latest 6 months before each 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 at the 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.

CT 7.2 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 on the ETTU website a call for umpires interested in officiating at the event. The respective invitations will then be sent to all member Associations. Together with the organising Association, the ETTU Umpires and Referees Committee will formulate a list of the appointed umpires. The decisions of the ETTU URC are final. No later than three months before the event, the ETTU shall inform the Associations about the selections and post the list on the ETTU website. For all matches the umpires shall be from Associations other than those playing in the match.

CT 7.3 All invited foreign match officials shall receive from the organising Association a daily allowance in accordance with the ETTU Match Officials directives.

CT 8. HOSPITALITY

CT 8.1 All Associations shall cover 100% of their own hospitality costs for all participants, including players and coaches for each stage.

CT 8.2 The organising Association(s) at each stage 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.

CT 8.3 The costs of hospitality for persons not entitled to free hospitality, at each stage, shall be agreed upon at least 6 months in advance by the Executive Board, and shall be subject to a contract between ETTU and the organising Association(s).

CT 8.4 The participating Associations at each stage must use the accommodation provided by the organising Association. The hospitality costs include:
- accommodation in a high-level hotel (checked by ETTU),
- all meals of 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.

CT 8.5 The organising Association at each stage shall provide free hospitality for the ETTU Competition Manager for the inspection visit and when the draw is conducted.

CT 8.6 The organising Association of Stage 1 shall provide free hospitality from the evening before Stage 1 begins until the morning after the event finishes; for the following:

- Executive Board members,
- 2 ETTU Sub-Committee Chairs,
- Press and Medical Officials or their deputies,
- Competition Manager,
- 6 ETTU staff members
- 10 persons providing different services for ETTU and LOC
- all invited foreign umpires.

CT 8.7 The organising Association of the Final stage shall provide free hospitality from the evening before the ETTU Congress until the morning after the ETTU Congress for 1 delegate from each Association attending the ETTU Congress during the Championships. A delegate, nominated by an Association to attend the ETTU Congress and receiving free hospitality, not attending the ETTU Congress shall be required to reimburse the organising Association.

CT 8.8 The organising Association of the Final stage shall provide free hospitality from the evening before the final stage begins until the morning after the event finishes; for the following:

- Executive Board members,
- ETTU Sub-Committee Chairs,
- Club Competitions Official,
- Press and Medical Officials or their deputies,
- Competition Manager,
- Honorary Members,
- 6 ETTU staff members
- 10 persons providing different services for ETTU and LOC
- 3 members of the Swaythling Club International (SCI)
- 5 ETTU Guests
- ETTU sponsors according to the directives
- all invited foreign umpires.

CT 8.9 Cancellation fees

CT 8.9.1 An Association cancelling a person from their registered delegation, at each stage, after the final entries and up to 15 days before the tournament starts shall pay a cancellation fee of 100 € per person to the organising Association.

CT 8.9.2 An Association cancelling a person from their registered delegation, for each stage, during the last 14 days before the Championships or arriving with less persons than registered, has to pay 100 % of the hospitality costs for every person and for the whole period this person was initially registered.

CT 9 JURY

CT 9.1 The Jury at each stage shall consist of the Competition Manager, the Chairs of the Ranking, Umpires and Referees, and the Technical Committee or their deputies. In addition, there shall be a representative of the organising Association, the ETTU Secretary General or a representative of the Executive Board and the Referee or deputy.

CT 9.2 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.

CT 9.3 The Jury shall meet on the eve of the start of each stage and at any other time when necessary.

CT 9.4 The Jury shall have the judicial power for any matter arising during each stage of the Championship. Any protest or appeal which is not under the authority of the Referee shall be submitted to the chair of the Jury.

CT 10 Doping Control

CT 10.1 Doping control shall be carried out in accordance with ITTF Anti-Doping rules.