PLAYING SYSTEM FOR THE TEAM EVENTS

THE TOTAL NUMBER OF TEAMS ENTERED IS HIGHER THAN 36

STAGE I: The teams are divided in 2 levels:

LEVEL 1: 16 teams: 4 groups [A,B,C,D] of 4 teams. The top 15 teams of the final ranking of the previous Championships and the teams having finished in position 17 (winner of Stage III, Level 2).

LEVEL 2: The remaining teams: 6 groups [E,F,G,H,I,J] of 3, 4 or 5 teams, depending on the number of entries. The teams having finished 16, 18 or lower in the final ranking of the previous Championships and all teams not having participated in the previous Championships.

STAGE II: Play off matches:

- 2 play off matches between the 3rds of the STAGE I/LEVEL 1 groups, play-off matches of which the winners play in STAGE II/LEVEL 1 and the losers play a second play-off match against the winners of the STAGE I/LEVEL 2 Groups.
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- 2. 6 play-off matches between the winners of the STAGE I/LEVEL 2 Groups, and the 4ths of the STAGE I/LEVEL 1 Groups and the 3rds of STAGE I/LEVEL 1 Groups who lost the first play-off matches mentioned in point 1. **6**

STAGE III:

LEVEL 1: Final places 1 to 16

Progressive K.O. format for 16 teams being

- the first 2 of each of the 4 STAGE I/LEVEL 1 groups, 8
- the winners of the 2 play-offs matches between the 3rds of the STAGE I/LEVEL 1 groups, 2
- the winners of the 6 play-off matches Nr 2, 6

The last round of the progressive K.O. will only be played if necessary to decide on the level for the following year or for the qualification for other events.

The team finishing in position 16 is relegated to Level 2 in Stage 1 of the following year's Championships.

LEVEL 2: Final places 17 to 28

4 groups [K,L,M,N] of 3 teams and afterwards 1 match between the first, second and third of each group. A second match to determine the final position will only be played if necessary to decide on the level for the following year or for the qualification for other events.

- the losers of the 6 play-off matches Nr 2, 6
- the 2nds of the 6 STAGE 1/LEVEL 2 groups, 6

The team finishing in position 17 is promoted to Level 1 in Stage 1 of the following year's Championships.

LEVEL 3: Final places 29 to xxx

the 3rds and 4ths of the 6 STAGE I/LEVEL 2 groups

With 37 entries: 3 groups [O,P,Q] of 3 and afterwards 3 new groups [R,S, T] of 3 with the 1sts, 2nds and 3rds of the first groups of 3.

With 38 entries: 2 groups of 3 and 1 of 4 [O,P,Q] and afterwards 3 new groups [R,S,T] of 3 with the 1sts, 2nds and 3rds of the first groups of 3.

With 39 entries: 1 groups of 3 and 2 of 4 [O,P,Q] and afterwards 3 new groups [R,S,T] of 3 with the 1sts, 2nds and 3rds of the first groups of 3.

With 40 or more entries: A second match to determine the final position will only be played if necessary to decide on the level for the following year or for the qualification for other events.

With 40 to 44 entries: 4 groups [**O,P,Q,R** first groups of 3 or 4 and afterwards 1 match between the first, second, third and if 42 or more entries also fourth of each group.

With 45 to 48 entries: 4 groups (**O,P,Q,R**) of 4 or 5 and afterwards 1 match between the first, second, third, fourth and if 46 or more entries also fifth of each group.

DRAWS - MORE THAN 36 TEAMS

STAGE I:

Seeding for Under 19 team events shall be based on the current World Rankings for juniors and in addition on the total number of ranking points for the 3 highest ranked players per team. Seeding for Under 15 team events shall be based on the current World Ranking for cadets adding the total number of ranking points for the 2 highest ranked players per team.

LEVEL 1:

- The teams ranked 1, 2, 3 and 4 shall be placed in descending ranking order respectively at the top of Groups A, B, C and D.
- The teams ranked 5 and 6 shall be drawn among Groups C and D.
- The teams ranked 7 and 8 shall be drawn among Groups A and B.
- The teams ranked 9 and 12 shall be drawn among the 4 groups.
- Finally the teams ranked 13, 14, 15 and 16 shall be drawn among the 4 groups.

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- The teams ranked 17 to 22 shall be placed in descending ranking order respectively at the top of Groups E, F, G, H, I and J.
- The remaining teams shall be drawn 3 by 3 among the 6 groups taking into account the "snake system" procedure.
- If the number of teams is not a multiple of 6 the last remaining teams shall be drawn among the groups taking into account the "snake system" procedure.

STAGE II:

- For the play-off matches Nr 1, there shall be a free draw among the 4 teams having finished 3rd in the STAGE I/LEVEL 1 groups.

For the play-off matches Nr 2

- the losers of play-off matches Nr 1 shall be drawn each against the winner of one of the groups G,H,I or J.
- the 4ths of the STAGE I/LEVEL 1 matches shall be drawn each against a winner of one of the remaining STAGE I/LEVEL 2 Groups.

STAGE III:

LEVEL 1:

- A1 shall be placed in position 1.
- B1 shall be placed in position 16.
- C1 and D1 shall be drawn among positions 8 or 9.
- A2, B2, C2 and D2 shall be drawn among position 4, 5, 12 or 13, but in the opposite half of the first team of their initial group.
- The 2 winners of the STAGE II play-off matches Nr. 1 shall be drawn among positions 3, 6, 11, or 14, but in another quarter than the first two of their initial group.
- The 6 winners of the play-off matches Nr 2 shall be drawn among the remaining places, starting with the teams who played in LEVEL 1 in STAGE I, which teams shall be drawn in a quarter not containing already a team of their initial group. Furthermore when one of those teams is a loser of one of the play-off matches Nr. 1, it shall be drawn as far as possible from the winner of that match.

LEVEL 2:

The 6 losers of the play-off matches Nr 2 shall be drawn freely among the groups K, L, M and N (not more than 2 in a same group).

The 2nds of the STAGE I/LEVEL 2 Groups shall be drawn freely among the remaining places, but not in a group containing already a team of their initial group.

After the groups K,L,M and N are finished, the teams of Group K play against those of Group L and the teams of Group M play against those of Group N.

LEVEL 3:

The 3rds of the 6 STAGE I/LEVEL 1 groups shall be drawn among the Groups O, P and Q (2 in each group) (Or with 40 or more teams among the groups O, P, Q and R).

The 4ths of the 6 STAGE I/LEVEL 1 groups shall be drawn in the remaining places, but not in a group containing already a team of their initial group.

After the groups, with 40 or more teams, the teams of Group O play against those of Group P and those of Group Q against those of Group R.

THE TOTAL NUMBER OF TEAMS ENTERED IS 36 OR LOWER

STAGE I:

LEVEL 1: Same system as in the chapter "THE TOTAL NUMBER OF TEAMS ENTERED IS HIGHER THAN 36".

- 3/4 -

LEVEL 2: The remaining teams.

4 groups [E,F,G,H] of 3, 4 or 5 teams, depending on the number of entries. The team having finished 16, 18 or lower in the final ranking of the previous Championships and all teams not having participated in the previous Championships.

STAGE II: Play-off matches

- 1. 4 play-off matches between the teams finishing 3rd in the STAGE I/LEVEL 1 groups and the teams finishing 2nd in the STAGE I/LEVEL 2 groups, **4**
- 2. 4 play-off matches between the teams finishing 4th in the STAGE I/LEVEL 1 groups and the teams finishing 1st in the STAGE I/LEVEL 2 groups, **4**

STAGE III:

LEVEL 1: Final places 1 to 16

Progressive K.O. format for 16 teams, being

- the first 2 of each of the 4 STAGE I/LEVEL 1 groups, 8
- the winners of the 4 play-off matches between the 3rds of the STAGE I/LEVEL 1 groups and the 2nds of the STAGE I/LEVEL 2 groups, **4**
- the winners of the 4 play-off matches between the 4ths of the STAGE I/LEVEL 1 Groups and the 1sts of the STAGE I/LEVEL 2 Groups, **4**

The last round of the progressive knockout will only be played if necessary to decide on the level for the next year or for the qualification for other events. The team finishing in position 16 is relegated to Level 2 in Stage 1 of the **following year's** Championships.

LEVEL 2: Final places 17 to 24

Progressive K.O. format for 8 teams, being

- the losers of the 4 play-off matches between the 3rds of the STAGE I/LEVEL 1 groups and the 2nds of the STAGE I/LEVEL 2 groups, **4**
- the losers of the 4 play-off matches between the 4ths of the STAGE I/LEVEL 1 groups and the 1sts of the STAGE I/LEVEL 2 groups, **4**

The last round of the progressive knockout will only be played if necessary to decide on the level for the following year or for the qualification for other events. The team finishing in position 17 is promoted to Level 1 in Stage I of the **following year's** Championships.

LEVEL 3: Final places 25 to xxx

- the 3rds, 4ths and 5ths of the STAGE I/LEVEL 2 groups

With 35 or 36 entries: after the groups, a second match to determine the final position will only be played if necessary to decide on the level for the following year or for the qualification for other events.

With 36 entries: 4 groups of 3 [**O,P,Q,R**] and afterwards 1 match between the 1sts, the 2nds and the 3rds of the first groups.

With 35 entries: 3 groups of 3 and 1 group of 2 [**O,P,Q,R**] and afterwards 1 match between the 1sts, 2nds and 3rds of the first groups.

With 34 entries: 2 groups of 5 [O,P].

With 33 entries: 1 group of 5 and 1 group of 4 [O,P].

With 32 entries: 2 groups of 4 [O,P].

With 31 entries: 1 group of 4 and 1 group of 3 [O,P].

With 30 entries: 1 group of 6 teams [O].

With 29 entries: 1 group of 5 teams [O].

With 28 entries: 1 group of 4 teams [O].

DRAWS - 36 TEAMS OR LESS

<u>Stage I</u>
Seeding for Under 15 team events shall be based on the current World Ranking for cadets adding the total number of ranking points for the 2 highest ranked players per team in this Ranking. Seeding for Under 19 team events shall be based on the current World Rankings for juniors and in addition on the total number of ranking points for the 3 highest ranked players per team.

LEVEL 1

- The teams ranked 1, 2, 3 and 4 shall be placed in descending ranking order respectively at the top of Groups A, B, C and D.
- The teams ranked 5 and 6 shall be drawn among Groups C and D.
- The teams ranked 7 and 8 shall be drawn among Groups A and B.
- The 8 remaining teams (ranked 9 to 16) shall be drawn 4 by 4 among the 4 groups.

LEVEL 2

- The teams ranked 17 to 20 shall be placed in descending ranking order respectively at the top of Groups E, F, G and H.
- The remaining teams shall be drawn 2 by 2 among the 4 groups taking into account the "snake system" procedure.

STAGE II:

- For the play-off matches Nr 1, each team having finished 2nd in STAGE 1/LEVEL 2 shall be drawn against one of the teams having finished 3rd in STAGE 1/LEVEL 1.
- For the play-off matches Nr 2, each team having finished 1st in STAGE 1/LEVEL 2 shall be drawn against one of the teams having finished 4th in STAGE 1/LEVEL 1.

STAGE III:

LEVEL 1

- A1 shall be placed in position 1.
- B1 shall be placed in position 16.
- C1 and D1 shall be drawn among positions 8 or 9.
- A2, B2, C2 and D2 shall be drawn among positions 4, 5, 12 or 13, but in the opposite half of the first team of their initial group.
- The winners of the STAGE II play-off matches shall be drawn among positions 2, 3, 6, 7, 10, 11, 14 or 15 but, when relevant, in another quarter than the first two of their initial group.

LEVEL 2

- The losers of the play off matches Nr 2 shall be drawn among positions 1, 4, 5 and 8.
- The losers of the play off matches Nr 1 shall be drawn among the remaining places, but, when relevant, in another half than the other team of their initial group.

LEVEL 3

- With 35 or 36 teams, the 3rds of the 4 STAGE 1/LEVEL 2 groups shall be drawn among Groups O, P, Q and R; with 31, 32, 33 or 34 teams they shall be drawn among Groups O and P.
- With 35 or 36 teams, the 4ths of the 4 STAGE 1/LEVEL 2 groups shall be drawn among Groups O, P, Q and R; with 32, 33 or 34 teams they shall be drawn among Groups O and P, but when relevant, in another group than the other team of their initial group.
- With 35 or 36 teams, the 5ths of the STAGE 1/LEVEL 2 groups shall be drawn among Groups O, P, Q and R; with 33 or 34 teams they shall be drawn among Groups O and P, but when relevant, in another group than the other team of their initial group.
- After the group matches, when there are 4 groups the teams of Group O play against those of Group P and those of Group Q against those of Group R.