

EPBF
THE SPORTS REGULATIONS

**The Sports
Regulations**



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Prefix

The EPBF is a European umbrella organization, which is in charge of all pocket billiard disciplines and types of games that are not to be seen as belonging to snooker games.

The EPBF is therefore expressly in charge of the games:

- American Pool with the disciplines 8-Ball, 9-Ball and 14.1 Straight-Pool.
- English Pool (Black Ball)
- Pyramid

The EPBF Sports Regulations are ruling the sporting activities for:

- European Championships (EC)
- Continental events

The Sports Regulations are valid for all national federations that are members of the EPBF and are accepted by them. Only one federation from within one and the same nation can be accepted as a member. Other federations, not belonging to the EPBF, are viewed as outside organizations what pocket billiards within Europe is concerned. Events or matches between EPBF member organizations and their members/players, and outside organizations are not allowed. Exceptions are only possible if based upon an EPBF board decision.

The EPBF is a member of the WPA. This rule is also valid for outside organizations of other federations that are not recognized by the WPA. Hereby the WPA board must accept exceptions to this rule.

The Sports Regulations is in its general part ruling over the framework of the sporting activities of the EPBF and the national federations. The national federations are then determining a sports order for their own sports activities, which is not allowed to include rules that are more restrictive.

In the special part the Sports Regulations is ruling upon details of the sporting activities of the EPBF, and lists all necessary regulations that must be kept in order to ensure proper realization of such.

The Sports Regulations is being prepared, altered and amended by a special Sports Committee, appointed by the EPBF board, and its work is presented to the board for acceptance. Based upon the acceptance of the board the Sports Regulations as well as eventual changes there to be coming into force. In accordance with the constitution the EPBF board appoints the members of the Sports Committee.

1.0 General Guidelines for the sporting activities

1.1 Sports season

The sport season of the EPBF starts January 1 each year and ends on December 31 in the same year. The calendar of events of the national federations is to be adapted to the EPBF Calendar of Events. The EPBF Calendar of Events is being updated the first day of every new month. In order to enable all top athletes participation in the events organized by the EPBF, the national federations are requested to keep such dates free, to avoid collision.

Rescheduling of events already listed in the Calendar of Events releases the national federations from the above responsibility.

1.2 Sports Equipment & Arena

The sports equipment must meet the specifications listed in the EPBF Specification Catalogue, and must be acknowledged by the Sports Director or the appointed representative. Details are to be found in the EPBF Specification Catalogue. In case not officially acknowledged sports equipment will be used, the right to protest is given. A player does not have the right to refuse participating based upon the use of not acknowledged material.

1.3 Behavior of the Athlete

All athletes that are participating in official events, Euro Tour, European- and World Championships, are bound to follow these rules. The athletes (respectively the Team Leader at European Championships) are themselves responsible for abiding and to be aware of all variants or changes of these regulations, which are being made public during the athlete-/team leader meeting prior the event respectively the EC.

The participation at the athlete-/team leader meeting is normally mandatory.

The athletes are expected to behave in such a fashion at all times, that is to be expected of a professional, and that in no way can be seen as negative towards the EPBF/WPA, their member federations, their athletes, officials, representatives or sponsors. Based upon this all athletes are to do their best in order to perform in a way that pays the sport of Pool adherent respect.

A penalty will be imposed upon any athlete that is violating one or more of these rules, or may be disqualified from participation at events organized and/or sanctioned by the EPBF/WPA, limited in time or boundless. Further information is to be found in the Fine & Penalty Catalogue.

1.4 Advertising

When competing, it is in general, permitted to wear advertising on personal equipment or clothing. The commercial rights rest with the EPBF and may as such be passed on to a local host organizer.

An athlete his/her personal advertising is in general permitted, but corresponding contracts are not binding to the EPBF. The right to personal advertisements can therefore be withdrawn only by the EPBF.

1.5 Head Referee

On all events organized by the EPBF a certified Head Referee must be appointed. He is responsible for all questions about the rules. He is an assistant to the Tournament Director and is helping with the fulfilling of their tasks.

1.6 Award Ceremony

Athletes placed 1 – 3 are to present themselves in due time and be dressed according to valid dress code for the award ceremony.

1.7 Definitions

Category	= for example Women, Men, Pupils, etc.
Discipline	= Playing rule 8-Ball, and so on.
Race	= predetermined distance at which a match is won.
Game	= single frame of 8-Ball respectively 9-Ball.
Match	= the full distance.
Time-out	= possible break during a match.
Tournament Director (TD)	= the person that is responsible for the running of an event.
Score	= the comparison of the scored points between two opponents.
Double Elimination	= a knockout format with a winner's and a loser's bracket.
Single Elimination	= a knockout format with only a winner's bracket.

1.8 Banning of players internationally

A member who bans a player for whatever reason from National events and wishes that an International ban would be enforced must send all documentation, reason, explanation and the procedure to the EPBF offices. On receipt of this documentation, the EPBF will study the documents and give or revoke the International ban.

2.0 Official events / Classification

All events that are officially made public internationally or inter-continently through the WPA, the EPBF, or one of its national member federations (NF), or its members, and that are carrying a total prize fund of EUR 4.000 or more, are to be considered official tournaments and require sanctioning by the WPA and/or the EPBF.

The EPBF differentiates the official events as follows:

- a) Inter-continental events require to be sanctioned when including participants from two or more continents and carrying a total prize fund of EUR 4.000, whether in form of money or in objects.
- b) Continental events require to be sanctioned when including more than 8 participants or 1/8 of the field representing separate national federations and that carries a total prize fund of at least EUR 4.000, whether in form of money or objects.

2.1 Rules & Regulations

Events sanctioned by the EPBF are governed by the EPBF rules, regulations and constitution.

If it comes to discrepancies with the translation, then the English version of the rules and the sports regulations are the official versions.

A participating federation in an official event for national teams must be a member of the EPBF. Federations from outside Europe will have to present a certificate of sanction from its continental federation.

2.2 Sanctioning Duty

All international and inter-continental and events must be sanctioned (see also 2.1) by the EPBF. The national federations deal with all other sanctions. A sanctioned event is by the EPBF provided with a sanction identification number.

The participation in an event that requires a sanction, but which has not been given such, is forbidden for all athletes. All events that require a sanction and sanctioned events are listed within the EPBF Calendar of Events on the EPBF homepage, and can be promoted by the organizer. Also the results, should they be submitted, may be displayed on the website. There are also announcement sheets printed that through the EPBF will be passed on to the organizer automatically.

2.3 Application for Sanction

Applications for sanctioning of official events and the requested announcement of tournaments that are not by definition official events, must be made on a form provided by the EPBF, and must be sent to the official address of the EPBF.

A member federation, or a member of such a federation, that would like to organize an official event, must apply no later than 6 months ahead of the commencement of the event, and such application must include the position of the concerned national federation.

Whether a sanction will be given or not, based upon decision formed by the EPBF Sports Director, the applicant must be notified within a time limit of 4 weeks following the registered receipt of the application. In case of denial a protest against this decision can be directed to the EPBF board. The board must then notify the protesting party its decision within a time limit of 14 days following the registered receipt of such protest. Against the decision of the EPBF board there is no recourse.

2.4 Sanction fee

The sanction fee for an official event is to be set each year by the EPBF board. The sanction fee is to be paid within 14 days following the registered receipt of the sanctioning.

2.5 Regulations for sanctioned events

The rules, regulations and the constitution of the EPBF are binding for all official tournaments. The organizer/host and the athletes accept these through their announcement.

2.5.1 Equipment

The organizer/host is responsible to make sure that all equipment to be used is meeting the requirements of the EPBF Specification Catalogue.

2.5.2 Report of results

The organizer/host must issue a report of all results in writing and pass it on to the EPBF within 14 days following the end of the event. The media must also be informed in a proper fashion.

2.5.3 Order at the venue

The organizer/host is responsible for the order at the venue.

2.5.4 Financial

A federation and its members are carrying their own financial risk whenever participating in events, and are themselves responsible for the covering of their costs, unless otherwise agreed in writing with the organizer. The organizer is responsible for all financial aspects of the event, unless otherwise agreed with the EPBF ahead of the event. The organizer of an event must guarantee at least 75% of the prize fund, also in case of less participation than what was anticipated.

2.5.5 Tournament Leader

The EPBF will send a Tournament Leader (TL); the Organizer is responsible for Hotel and food, EPBF for travel and allowance.

3.0 Protection of dates

Protected dates means that national federations are not allowed the organization of events on their highest level during the same time. The dates of a Euro-Tour event and sanctioned events with a total prize fund of at least EUR 10.000 are always protected.

4.0 Referee System

4.1 Guidelines for Referees

Guidelines for referees are following the acceptance by the Sports Committee and decision by the EPBF Board published by the Chief Referee. These guidelines are valid for all tournaments.

4.2 Head Referee

The Head Referee (HR) is appointed by the EPBF board and is responsible for the creation and leadership of a cadre of referees, as well as the education and bringing into action of the referees when this for various events and championships is required. The HR shall try to find colleagues responsible for questions concerning referees in all member federations. In federations that already have a national HR he/she is to be addressed. The HR has a substitute. The substitute can be entrusted the carrying out of various tasks at the liberty of the HR.

5.0 Penalty Code / Protest Guidelines

5.1 Rules of Conduct

The positive image of the EPBF and its events is a valuable asset and is bringing advantages for all athletes and members of the EPBF. Based upon this, it is the duty of each single individual to refrain from unnecessary attacks on sponsors, other athletes, or the EPBF whenever addressing representatives of the media. Responsible explanations of legitimate and unsatisfying conditions are not forbidden, should however not be made in such a fashion that may cause harm to the EPBF, the financial interests of a sponsor, or the overall image of the sport.

5.2 Imposing of Penalty

Action is taken against all violations of the rules of conduct as soon as they are being detected. The EPBF is to be informed immediately when an athlete in an event is being offered money or presents. Athletes participating in an event are not allowed to enter into any betting with regards to the outcome of it.

5.3 Right to Protest against decision by the referee

All athletes have the right to protest against a decision formed by a referee. Other special directives are to be found in the rules of the various disciplines. A protest is to be handed in immediately following the debated situation and definitely before the next shot has been executed. The referee must suspend the match immediately and inform the TD about the situation. The TD may following the report by the referee decide to also ask for the opinion of one or both athletes.

The protest against a decision formed by a referee is to be delivered verbally to the TD, who after having heard both parties will form a decision. The TD also during a match has the right to penalize an athlete even if the acting referee has not reacted.

5.4 Right to Protest against decision by the Tournament Leader

A protest against a decision formed by the TL must be in writing and accompanied by a protest fee of EUR 50.00, which is to be delivered immediately and in cash to the Tournament Director appointed by the EPBF, usually the sports/youth Director. While this protest will be handled the match remains suspended. Should the protest be approved and the decision by the TL be revoked, the fee will be paid back to the protesting athlete. Should the protest be rejected the fee will be passed on to the EPBF treasury.

5.5 Lodging of Protest

When according to the rules a fee must accompany a protest, but no fee is being submitted, the protest will be seen as not correct and will therefore not be accepted as such.

5.6 Arbitration

Should during the European Championships a protest against a decision formed by a referee be delivered in a formally correct way, and then also against the decision formed by the TD, the final decision will be formed by the EPBF Sports Director / EPBF Youth Director or, should he/she not be present, by the official representative of the EPBF. Against the final decision there is no recourse.

6.0 Fine & Penalty Catalogue

<u>Infraction</u>	<u>1st Abuse</u>	<u>2nd Abuse</u>	<u>Decision</u>
Forfeiture of a match during an EC:	up-to € 150.00	Disqualification	EPBF Official
Denouncing participation when the EC has started:	up-to € 100.00		EPBF Official
Alcohol or drug taking:	Disqualification From the match	Disqualification from the event	TL
Forfeiture during an event or conceding during a match without valid reason:	up-to € 200.00	up-to € 300.00	TL
Doping violation based upon WADA (IOC) guidelines:	Disqualification	Disqualification	TL
Arriving too late for award ceremony:	€ 50.00	€ 100.00	TL
Athlete bringing the EPBF into disrepute:	up-to € 125.00	up-to € 250.00	EPBF Official
Official bringing the EPBF into disrepute:	€ 250.00	€ 500.00	EPBF-Board
Organizer failing to meet the requirements of the Specification Catalogue:	Up to € 500.00	Up to € 2000.00	EPBF-Board
Alcohol or drug taking during the Youth EC and Participating in any form of Gambling	Disqualification From the event		TL
Unsportsmanlike behavior	up to disqualification From the event		TL
Any of the above infractions following EC victory:	Forfeit from participation At the next WC		EPBF Board

7.0 European Championships

7.1 Scheduling

The EPBF board is responsible for the fixing of dates for the EC events. Such dates should be fixed for two years ahead of time.

7.2 Place / Awarding of event

Applications can be submitted by:

- National Federations (NF)
- Regional federations with NF approval
- Third parties
- The EPBF, represented by its partner IBPF will undertake all negotiations with such requests.

7.4 Participation Eligibility

An athlete is only eligible to participate as a representative of the nation for which he has a valid citizenship/passport. Athletes representing nations in which there is no national federation may apply to the EPBF for a one-time ruling.

If a player possesses several nationalities and if he/she has already participated at an EC, a period of three years must pass since participating before he/she can represent another country at an EC

For the participation in Youth-European Championships, the following exceptions are valid:

Adolescents, who have the citizenship of a European country, but who have had their main residence in another European country for a minimum two years, may either start for that country of which their citizenship is or for the country in which they have their main residence; this decision is binding on all future Youth European Championships.

Adolescents, who do not have the citizenship of an European country and who have had their main residence in another European country for a minimum of two years, are only allowed to participate in an Youth European Championship for that country, if the official evidence, that the citizenship for this country has been applied for, will be brought forward.

Youth athletes are in one and the same year allowed to participate both at the Youth EC and the EC for Men and Women. In the year to follow they are again allowed to participate in the Youth EC.

7.5 Age limits for adults

For the European Championships the following age limits are valid:

Women / Men: Must turn 14 in the year in which the event takes place

7.5 Age limits for adults (continuation)

Seniors: An athlete must have their 40th birthday in the EC year

7.6 Age limits for youth

Juniors: An athlete must have their 17th or 18th birthday in the EC year

Pupils: An athlete can have up to/including their 16th birthday in the EC year

Girls: An athlete can have up to/including their 18th birthday in the EC year

7.7 Fields

Men	8-ball	max. 128	Women	8-ball	max. 96
Men	9-ball	max. 128	Women	9-ball	max. 96
Men	14/1	max. 128	Women	14/1	max. 48
Men	Team	max. 48	Women	Team	max. 48
Senior's	8-ball	max. 96	Ladies	8-ball	max. 48
Senior's	9-ball	max. 96	Ladies	9-ball	max. 48
Senior's	14/1	max. 64			
Seniors	Team	max. 48			
Pupil's	8-ball	max.48	junior's	8-ball	max.48
Pupil's	9-ball	max.48	junior's	9-ball	max.48
Pupils	14/1	max.32	juniors	14/1	max.32
Pupils	Team	max.32	Juniors	Team	max.32
Girl's	8-ball	max.32			
Girl's	9-ball	max.32			
Girls	14.1	max.32			

7.8. Quotas, Claims for spots:

Each nation has the fixed quotas:

Men	8-Ball, 9-Ball, 14.1:	3	Women	8-Ball, 9-Ball:	3	Women 14.1:	1
Men	Team:	1	Women	Team:	1		
Senior's	8-Ball, 9-Ball:	3	Ladies	8-Ball, 9-Ball:	3		
Seniors	14.1:	2					
Seniors	Team:	1					
Pupils	8-Ball, 9-Ball, 14.1:	1	Juniors	8-Ball, 9-Ball, 14.1:	1		
Pupils	Team:	1	Juniors	Team:	1		
Girl's	8-Ball, 9-Ball, 14.1:	1					

In all single disciplines one (1) wild card will be used by the EPBF.

In all single disciplines one (1) wild card will be used by the organizer.

In all single disciplines the defending Champion has the right to a spot (where applicable), this is not transferable.

The remaining spots will be awarded according to the wish list and taking into account the previous years results (rankings) beginning with 1st place. A maximum of 5 spots per division is allowed, not including wild cards or defending champion.

If at the last minute some spots become available, then these can be filled continuing from the above. In this case the nations who wished for spots and were denied, take priority. However many spots are available, it is not to exceed the maximum of 5 per nation. Exception for the Seniors: because of the fact that in the moment only a few nations announce athletes, the following regulation is valid: Will be all spots awarded according the wish lists of all nations and if then are further free spots, it is permitted that free spots will be awarded to nations which have already four athletes announced.

In the Youth there is same criteria as above but adjusted to the fields as follows, 32 field the maximum of three (3) per nation, 48 field the maximum is (4) per nation.

7.9 Announcement of Participants to the EC / Entry fees

Four months ahead of the EC the EPBF will request the national federations to submit a list of the spots they would like to have (distribution of the wish-lists). Two months ahead of the EC the nations must announce the names of their athletes according to the quota that has been decided by the EPBF (including four reserves each and the directly qualified athletes from last year) in writing.

In all categories (Women, Men, seniors, Ladies, juniors, Pupils Girls and wheelchair) an entry fee of € 110.00 per athlete will have to be paid. All entry fees for the EC's announced athletes must be transferred to the EPBF account no later than two weeks prior to the EC. The payment can also, based upon prior agreement with the EPBF, be paid in cash and in Euro only during the accreditation. If payment has not been made ahead of time, and also is not taken care of during the accreditation, the whole team will not be given permission to enter the event.

The wish for spots as submitted by the nations is with regards to the quantity of the announcements legally binding, i.e. the nations must pay for all athletes they have announced and for which the EPBF reserved a spot no matter if these spots will be used, or not. A reduction of the quantity of allocated spots is not possible following the EPBF allocation.

7.10 Announcement Schedule for EC

- Receiving of wish-lists from the EPBF if possible 4 months ahead
- Returning of wish-lists to the EPBF if possible 3 months ahead
- Distribution of quotas/invoices from the EPBF 2 months ahead
- Announcement of athletes by name to the EPBF 6 weeks ahead

7.11 Accreditation / Early Departure

The closing of the accreditation will be determined according to the schedule and athletes that are arriving after the closing of the official accreditation will forfeit their right to participate at the EC. The EPBF may allow for late arrival based upon special circumstances. Application in writing must be in the hands of the EPBF before the end of the official accreditation time, or must be announced in writing or by phone at least 2 days ahead of the official accreditation time to an EPBF representative at the location of the event. The EPBF representative will decide if such application is to be seen as within reason.

The team leaders announced through the nations will be responsible for the accreditation. All athletes are to be accredited by means of their valid passports/identity card. Eventual free spots in the Ladies and the Senior's Divisions can following the end of the official accreditation time be sold to eligible and interested athletes, but only if they can submit an allowance from their national federation to participate at the EC.

Only at the EC's for Senior's and Youth:

The EC participants are required to be present at the closing ceremony/banquet. In case athletes would like to depart ahead of time, the departure time and the names of the respective athletes are to be announced at the time for the announcement of the athletes by their names. Otherwise a penalty fee of € 250.00 is to be paid.

8.0 Guidelines for Sports Activities at EC

8.1 Dress Codes at the European Championships

The clothing must meet the level of the competition and be in a clean, proper and in good condition.

On the polo shirt (T-Shirts without collar are not allowed) an emblem in form of the national banner, or the official emblem of the nation or the name of the nation must be displayed; shirts must be inside the trousers. Black Dress pants that are clean and in good condition are to be used, denim/blue jeans are forbidden. The shoes must be clean and a dark color and the upper part be made out leather. For women also a black skirt or divided skirt is allowed and shirts are to be inside the trousers.

In team events all athletes of one and the same team must wear their shirts which are identical both with color and design.

Whenever questioned, an EPBF representative will decide about if participation will be allowed.

With regards to participation at World Championships and similar events by female athletes representing the EPBF, the athletes will be informed about dress code guidelines in proper time before such event.

8.2 Disciplines

The disciplines 8-Ball, 9-Ball and 14.1 (Straight-Pool) will be played on 9-foot tables. In 8-Ball and 9-Ball it will be played with alternate break.

8.3 Categories

The categories Women, Men, Ladies, seniors, juniors, Pupils and Girls will be played. In all categories except Ladies and Girls also team competitions will be organized, in which one match per discipline will be played.

8.4 Races

Category	8-Ball	9-Ball	Straight-Pool (14.1)
Men	8 (All the way through)	9 (All the way through)	125 (All the way through)
Women	6 (-"-)	7 (-"-)	75 (-"-)
Ladies	5 (-"-)	6 (-"-)	----
Senior's	7 (-"-)	9 (-"-)	100 (All the way through)
Junior's	7 (-"-)	8 (-"-)	100 (-"-)
Pupil's	6 (-"-)	7 (-"-)	75 (-"-)
Girl's	5 (-"-)	6 (-"-)	50 (All the way through)
Wheelchair driver	5 (-"-)	7 (-"-)	

8.5 Time limit

In order to better control the schedule of an event each match can be given a certain time limit. Should after 50% of the announced duration of a match less than 50% of the points has been scored, a shot clock will be implemented. The time for each shot is 35 seconds (with a warning after 25 seconds). Should an athlete not have performed a shot within the 35 seconds, the referee will call a (time-) foul. For each new frame of 8-Ball, 9-Ball and 14.1 each one of the players do have the right to once demand extended time, in which case another 25 seconds will be added.

The Tournament Leader decides if a shot clock shall be implemented.

8.6 Time-Out Regulation

If a time-out is permitted in an event, the following rule is in force;

1 (one) time-out for each player is allowed per match, the time-out is a maximum five (5) minutes.

The time out can only be taken during the re-racking of the balls (both players have the right to take the time-out), the player not using the time-out must sit at his/her chair (only 8-Ball and 9-Ball). If both players leave at the same time, it is deemed that the time-out has been used by both players.

In 14.1 also both players can take the time-out. If the sitting player uses his/her time-out, the playing player can continue their game.

During the time out, it is forbidden to smoke. Other unsportsmanlike conduct is also forbidden during a time out. A player is not permitted to leave the table at any other time except for his/her time-out period.

Penalties for such violations are as follows; in 14/1, fifteen (15) points are awarded to the opponent and the three (3) consecutive foul rule comes into force. In 8 & 9 ball, a game/frame (current or next) is awarded to the opponent.

Should an athlete violate this rule a second time, the athlete will be disqualified for the event.

Other reasons for an imposed penalty are; Smoking during the time-out, the mobile phone of an athlete rings or he/she uses it, late return after a time-out.

8.7 Walkover

If an athlete is not present within 15 minutes following the official announcement of his/her match, this match will be deemed forfeited. Should this happen in the winner's bracket of a double elimination system, he/she will be placed in the loser's bracket. Otherwise such athlete is disqualified. Should both athletes in one and the same match in the winner's bracket arrive too late, both of them will be disqualified since both of them cannot use the one and only existing spot in the loser's bracket.

Following the draw an athlete can only then be replaced, should he/she turn ill. Such replacement is only allowed to take place before the first round of the event, and the right to announce a substitute will first be given to the concerned national federation. Should the concerned national federation not make use of this possibility, the Sports Director will, based on upon the ranking list from last year before, give this spot to the nation next on the list for free spots. In the case that all spots from the ranking list from last year before are considered, the Sports Director draws all free spots between the nations which provide a move up. However, only accredited athletes can be announced.

8.8 Team (seniors, juniors, pupils)

In team competition the races that are valid for individual competition will be used. It is allowed to enter a match with only 2 athletes; the team will fill the protocol as usual with the missing player's match forfeited. As soon as a team has won two from the three individual matches, the match is deemed to be completed and the ongoing third match will be stopped. Whoever is leading when such a match is stopped, will be deemed to have won this match. Should such match be tied at the time for the break, one more frame in 8- or 9-Ball will be played, or in 14.1 will be allowed one more innings each.

In a senior's team a lady can be entered. A male wheelchair athlete can be nominated in the men's team. A female wheelchair athlete can be nominated in the women's team, and so on. A nation is allowed to announce any amount of athletes for the team competition, however only accredited athletes are allowed to play. Only five medals will be awarded at the winner ceremony. The rules for the team competition men/women see 9.0

8.9 Final result / Ranking lists / Criteria

The ranking list will be based upon the format. Should two or more athletes lose in the same round, their quota will be used in order to determine their final ranking, and i.e. all won matches will be divided with all lost matches. The athlete with the highest result (quota) will be placed first. In 14.1 the higher general average (all pocketed balls divided with the amount of innings used, including safety shots) will decide. A walkover will be evaluated as a victory with a secondary evaluation of 0:0.

8.10 Scheduling of Matches

The scheduling of the matches will have to be made according to a model provided by the EPBF, and which will display all of the matches including the final. All EC events are being started in a double elimination format, and will be turned into a single elimination format at a certain stage according to the following:

65-128, participants'	Single elimination from last 32
33-64, participants'	Single elimination from last 16
17-32 participants'	Single elimination from the Quarterfinals.
9-16, participants'	Single elimination from the Semifinals.
8 participants or less	Single elimination in the final (i.e. only 1 match will be played)

8.11 Seeding / Draw

In all EC events, only the athletes placed 1 to 4 from the previous year will be seeded.....

Should one of the seeded athletes not participate, the remaining three athletes to be seeded will then be positioned as 1 thru 4 (No other players are brought forward to replace a non-participating seeded player). The bronze medalist with the better average is seeded 3rd, (in the team competition, 3rd seed will go to the team who lost against the European Champions). Walkovers will be distributed in the flowchart wherever applicable before the draw of that particular discipline,

Before the single elimination format will start, the qualified athletes from the loser's bracket will be drawn against the athletes that are still in the winner's bracket. When performing this draw, an athlete that lost his/her match in the last round of the winner's bracket cannot be drawn against the same opponent again in the first round of the single elimination format.

The official EPBF representative or the Tournament Director will fill in the flow chart with seeded athletes, walkovers and perform the draw. Not later than 15 minutes before the actual draw, all athletes must be made aware of this via microphone. The draw for the very first discipline to be played at the EC will be made during the team leader meeting at the end of the accreditation time.

All the other draws will be performed after the accreditation with due notice given.

8.12 Referees

The host organizer must at all times have at least 1 Head referee added to at least 1 referee per 4 tables present in the venue. The referees are responsible for 4 tables each at all times. The athletes will be taking care of the racking themselves, and the winner is responsible for the official match protocol. The official referee will only be asked to perform whenever there is a conflict. When 14.1 is being played the host organizer must have one writer for each table.

9.0 EPBF Nations Cup (European Championships for national teams)

9.1 General information

Starting from 2006 the EC for Women, Men and Wheelchair drivers will take place without the team competition. Instead the EPBF will organize from 2007 at a separate venue and separate date a European Championship for national teams (Nations-Cup).

The Nations-Cup will take place only each two years and will be organized by the International Billiard Promotion (I.B.P).

9.2 Composition of the teams / Disciplines

A team consists of three men and two women. Women play 8 & 9 ball with the men playing 8, 9 and Straight pool/continuous.

9.3 System, entry fee, prize money

These details will be compiled by the EPBF and the IBP. The information from the EPBF will be sent if possible, six months before the date of the event.

10.0 World Championships

10.1 General

The WPA organizes every year World Championships in the discipline 9-Ball. Each one of the continental federations that are members of the WPA receives for the categories Men, Women and Junior's a certain quota of spots. The following regulations will determine the nominations for these spots.

10.2 Distribution of spots based upon EPBF quota

The allocation of the spots will be determined according to the following priority:

The EC and the Euro-Tour will be used as nomination criteria. Based upon an existing contract between the WPA and the local host, the company "Matchroom", certain rules must be honored. If possible the spots will be allocated in the following priority order:

10.3 WC 9-Ball Men

European Championships 9-Ball:	8 spots
European Championships 14.1:	1 spot
Euro-Tour: Winner and runner up of all tournaments (01.05. – 30.04. For that year)	14 spots
Euro-Tour: The top 28 players of the ranking list	28 spots
Euro-Tour: The following 5 players of the ranking list between place 29 – 50 from 5 different nations	5 spots

10.4 WC 8-Ball Men

European Championships 8-Ball:	8 spots
European Championships 14.1: Silver medalist	1 spot
Euro-Tour: The top four players of the ranking list	4 spots

In 10.3 & 10.4, the straight pool winner and 2nd place, at present go to 8 & 9 ball WC. If there is a WC for Straight pool then the spots for 8 and 9 ball will go to the Euro tour rankings. The EC winner and runner up in the straight pool will then go to the straight pool WC.

10.5 Women (based upon 8 spots)

1. European Champion in 9-Ball, 8-Ball and 14.1	3 spots
2. Euro-Tour	3 spots
3. Wild-Card (Assignment by the EPBF President)	2 spots

If double allocations, then the spots goes to the EC 9-Ball

10.6 Youth (based upon 8 spots)

All European Champions in the categories, juniors, Pupils and Girls will receive one spot. Should one athlete be the champion in more than one discipline, and the quota of 8 be received, the runner-up in juniors 9-Ball will be nominated in that order.

Should less than 8 spots be allocated, the following European Champions are not qualified in said order:

1. Girl's 8-Ball
2. Pupil's 8-Ball
3. Pupil's 14.1

10.7 Nomination to other World events

Mosconi Cup

The Euro-Tour ranking list will be basis for nomination. Based upon the wish by the host organizer (the company Matchroom)

World Pool Masters

The euro-Tour ranking list will be basis for nomination.

World Pool League

European 9-ball champion

11.0 EPBF Sports Regulations, Alterations & Amendments

In case of special circumstances and situations that have not been possible to foresee, the EPBF Sports Director is after consultation with the EPBF Board, allowed to make necessary changes or amendments to these regulations, should this be required for the carrying out of an event.

12.0 Items subject to changes due to promoters wishes

The following points could be subject to change due to the ever changing requests brought to the EPBF by the respective promoters.

Points; 10.3, 10.4, 10.5, 10.6, 10.7,