

**European Tenpin Bowling Federation**

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The ETBF Website: [www.etbf.dk](http://www.etbf.dk)



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# EUROPEAN BOWLING TOUR



## RULES IN EFFECT FOR 2006



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## European Bowling Tour Rules 2006

### 1 World Ranking System

- 1.1 The World Ranking System (WRS) is a World wide ranking system for tenpin bowling effective as of 1 January 2000.
- 1.2 The WRS is owned by the World Tenpin Bowling Association (WTBA).
- 1.3 The purpose of the WRS is to attract top players, sponsors, television companies and other media to important tournaments and by publishing ranking lists to ensure that media all over the world are continuously familiar with the actual ranking of top players.
- 1.4 The WRS is divided into three different tours, one for each of the three Zones: the American Zone, the Asian Zone and the European Zone.
- 1.5 Both the WRS calendar period and the calendar period for each of the Zone tours are identical to the calendar year.
- 1.6 The World Ranking Masters (WRM), conducted once a year by a host selected by the WTBA Presidium, is the combined final of each of the three Zone tours.
- 1.7 Participants in the WRM are the top 8 women and the top 8 men of the tour standings of each Zone from the past calendar year.
- 1.8 In case of withdrawals from the WRM, replacements may be made by inviting players on position 9 and following positions of the Zone standings of the withdrawn players.

### 2 European Bowling Tour introduction

- 2.1 The name of the yearly tour under the jurisdiction of ETBF is the European Bowling Tour (EBT).
- 2.2 The EBT is owned and governed by ETBF.
- 2.3 Each tournament accepted in the EBT is recognized by its title and by an addition e.g.: EBT 2006 Stop 1.
- 2.4 Tournaments accepted in the EBT are owned by the tournament organisers.
- 2.5 The composition of the EBT is solely decided by the ETBF Presidium.



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## 3 Responsibilities

- 3.1 The ETBF Presidium has the overall responsibility for the EBT.
- 3.2 The EBT is supervised either by a member of the ETBF Presidium, by an administrator appointed by the ETBF Presidium or by a partner recognized by the ETBF Presidium with whom a written agreement exists.
- 3.3 The EBT Rules are maintained by and can only be changed by the ETBF Presidium.

## 4 General rules for tournaments accepted in the EBT

- 4.1 Tournaments accepted in the EBT must be open to all players, who are a member of one of the WTBA member federations and eligible for the following WRM.
- 4.2 Tournaments accepted in the EBT must include at least one individual event, either conducted in separate divisions for women and men or conducted as a combined division for both sexes.
- 4.3 Tournaments without individual events, tournaments where one or more places in the final steps of the tournament are based on positions in other tournaments, youth tournaments, regional championships, invitational tournaments, and tournaments with other limitations (age, geographical etc.) cannot be accepted in the EBT.
- 4.4 Only tournaments approved by the national federation, ETBF and WTBA can be accepted in the EBT.
- 4.5 Tournaments accepted in the EBT are governed by the WTBA Playing Rules and the ETBF Rules Chapter 5: Rules for ETBF Approved International Tournaments.
- 4.6 If a tournament is cancelled, entering players must be compensated in full for any incurred loss or damage, meaning for example that non refundable tickets for air and/or surface transportation must be reimbursed by the organizer upon receipt of proven documentation from the player.
- 4.7 The date of the last day of a tournament accepted in the EBT can only be changed after approval from ETBF and only in situations where the premises of the originally selected period is changed (like clashes with championships which arises at a later stage). If a selected period of a tournament is changed without approval by ETBF, the tournament will be removed from the EBT without reimbursement of the EBT fee.



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## 5 Tournament categories and limitations

- 5.1 There are two categories of tournaments in the EBT; EBT Tournaments and EBT Majors.
- 5.2 A maximum of three tournaments in the EBT from each federation is allowed, of which a maximum of two can be granted the Major status.
- 5.3 The last days of a tournament in the EBT cannot clash with the World Championships, the World Ranking Masters or the European Championships.
- 5.4 Clashes between tournaments accepted in the EBT will in principle be avoided and if clashes is accepted it will only be in situations where the organizers with clashing tournaments agrees, where ETBF approves the clash and in a situation where the clash is evaluated as being for the benefit both for the EBT and for the organizers.

## 6 Definitions of EBT Tournaments and EBT Majors

- 6.1 The Entry value is a ratio used to evaluate the interrelation between the size of the prize money pool and the entry fee. The Entry value is defined as the total prize money of the individual and international part of a tournament divided by the maximum entry fee of the tournament.
- 6.2 Delimitations of EBT Tournaments:
  - a) The total prize money of the international and individual part of the tournament must not be less than €25.000.
  - b) The Entry Value must not be less than 175.
- 6.3 Delimitations of EBT Majors
  - a) The total prize money of the international and individual part of the tournament must not be less than €45.000.
  - b) The Entry Value must not be less than 275.
  - c) The tournament must have been accepted in a previous EBT.

## 7 Selection of tournaments to be accepted in the EBT

- 7.1 While selecting the tournaments for an EBT, the ETBF Presidium will evaluate the previous observance of the EBT Rules of each tournament, the distribution of tournaments over the calendar year and the distribution of tournaments geographically.
- 7.2 Furthermore the ETBF Presidium will evaluate the previously provided standard in result presentations at the Internet, other types of result presentations and media service in general. Failures to provide up-to-date services of such kinds might lead to a rejection of acceptance in coming tours.



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- 7.3 Tournaments to be accepted in the EBT are always proposed by an ETBF member federation, not by a tournament organiser.
- 7.4 On special occasions the ETBF Presidium may ask an ETBF member federation to propose one or more of their tournaments to be adopted in the EBT.
- 7.5 The tournaments in the EBT will be selected once a year, basically in accordance with the following procedure (deadlines to be announced by the ETBF Presidium):
- c) The ETBF member federations will receive an invitation for the coming EBT
  - d) Applications for the coming EBT, including the rules of the tournament, will be submitted by the ETBF member federations to the ETBF Presidium
  - e) Based on the incoming applications the ETBF Presidium will decide the composition of the coming EBT
  - f) ETBF member federations and tournament organizers, whom have submitted applications, will receive an answer whether or not their tournaments are accepted in the coming EBT
  - g) The composition of the EBT will be published on the ETBF Website

## 8 EBT fees

- 8.1 The fee for an EBT Major is €3.000.
- 8.2 The fee for an EBT Tournament is €2.000.
- 8.3 Latest 6 months prior to the start of the tournament, the ETBF Presidium will invoice the tournament organiser through the ETBF member federation.
- 8.4 Once an EBT fee has been collected there will be no refund in case of a later cancellation of the tournament.
- 8.5 The EBT fee will be distributed as follows:
- a) To pay the fee of the ETBF to the WRM
  - b) To cover the administration expenses of the EBT
  - c) To cover expenses related to the EBT consultancy service
  - d) To pay an EBT prize money as decided from year to year
  - e) To (partially) pay the expenses of the European players participating in the WRM

## 9 EBT ranking points

- 9.1 EBT ranking points will be awarded to both women and men.
- 9.2 If there is a combined division, the women and men will be awarded points in relation to their final position relative to the other players of the same sex.



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- 9.3 The method for EBT ranking points to be awarded and tie rules covering all tie situations shall occur in the application of each tournament.
- 9.4 Ranking points in EBT Tournaments will be awarded to the top 50 of each sex according to the presented list in 9.6.
- 9.5 Ranking points in EBT Majors will be awarded to the top 50 of each sex according to the presented list in 9.6 times two.
- 9.6 EBT points table
- |             |           |
|-------------|-----------|
| - No. 1     | 50 points |
| - No. 2     | 40 points |
| - No. 3     | 35 points |
| - No. 4     | 30 points |
| - No. 5     | 25 points |
| - No. 6     | 24 points |
| - No. 7     | 23 points |
| - No. 8     | 22 points |
| - No. 9     | 21 points |
| - No. 10    | 20 points |
| - No. 11-12 | 15 points |
| - No. 13-14 | 14 points |
| - No. 15-16 | 13 points |
| - No. 17-18 | 12 points |
| - No. 19-20 | 11 points |
| - No. 21-25 | 8 points  |
| - No. 26-30 | 6 points  |
| - No. 31-35 | 4 points  |
| - No. 36-40 | 3 points  |
| - No. 41-45 | 2 points  |
| - No. 46-50 | 1 point   |

## 10 EBT standings

- 10.1 On the day of the completion of a tournament, the organiser shall submit the women's top 50 and the men's top 50 to the EBT Administrator.
- 10.2 Forms to be filled in by the tournament organiser will be distributed in due time to the organiser by the EBT Administrator.
- 10.3 Based on the filled in form, the EBT Administrator will update the EBT women standing and the EBT men standing.
- 10.4 The EBT standings will be published on the ETBF Website.



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- 10.5 If a tie needs to be broken, either for position 8 after the last EBT Stop or for one of the EBT prize money positions, the player in the highest position is the one with the highest number of maximum points awarded in all tournaments, then the player with the highest number of second highest maximum points awarded in all tournaments etc.

## 11 Prize money

- 11.1 The prize money for the EBT 2005 will for each sex be distributed as follows
- No. 1 €5.000
  - No. 2 €3.000
  - No. 3 €2.000
- 11.2 In case of a tie between two or more players at a prize position, the tie will be broken as specified in 10.5
- 11.3 Prize money in each of the tour stops is decided by the tournament organizer as announced in tournament posters, websites and other tournament information.
- 11.4 Prize money for the WRM will be decided by WTBA.

## 12 Number of players per pair of lanes and lane changes

- 12.1 It is the obligation of each tournament organizer to decide the number of players per pair of lanes in each qualifying squad.
- 12.2 The number of players per pair of lanes may vary from one to another qualifying squad. However, within the same squad no variations are permitted.
- 12.3 All players in a qualifying squad must change lanes either after each game or after every second game.
- 12.4 Players who have already played on one pair of lanes may not return to the same pair of lanes in the same qualifying squad. However, this may be permitted when lane pairs are changed after each game and the number of lane pairs in the bowling centre is less than the number of games of the qualifying squad.
- 12.5 It is the privilege of each tournament organizer to decide whether all players are moving to the right pair of lanes, whether the players at the left lane are moving left and the players at the right lane are moving right or the players are moving more than one pair of lanes left, right or all in the same direction.



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## 13 EBT penalty points and penalty numbers

- 13.1 Penalty points are points given to players with inappropriate actions before or during a tournament, as specified in these rules.
- 13.2 Penalty numbers are numbers given, when a penalty is imposed to a player, where 1 = 1<sup>st</sup> penalty, 2 = 2<sup>nd</sup> penalty etc.
- 13.3 After the conclusion of each tournament, the organizer will submit a list to the EBT Administrator including players with penalty points in the actual tournament
- 13.4 The EBT Administrator will keep a list of accumulated penalty points and penalty numbers. The list will be published at the ETBF Website after each update.
- 13.5 Each time new penalty points are added to the list of penalty points the EBT Administrator will notify the federations about players getting new penalty points.
- 13.6 When a sum of penalty points for a player is equal to or higher than 4, a penalty will be imposed and the following actions will be taken by the EBT Administrator:
- The penalty number will be set to 1 higher than the previous number.
  - The 4 penalty points with the oldest date stamp will be removed.
  - A letter will be issued to the player and to all EBT organizers that the player is suspended from coming stops in the EBT (see 13.7 for the length of the suspension).
  - The ETBF President will be notified if the penalty includes a penalty fee (see 13.7 for the size of an eventual penalty fee).
  - An invoice will be issued to the federation of the player if (d) is in effect.
- 13.7 Penalties
- If the penalty number is 1, the player will be suspended during 60 days from EBT stops, counting from the day the suspension letter is issued.
  - If the penalty number is 2, the player will be suspended during 90 days from EBT stops, counting from the day the suspension letter is issued. In addition the player will, through his federation, pay a penalty fee of €300.
  - For each time the penalty number is higher than 2, the suspension period will be 30 days higher than the suspension period of the previous penalty number. In addition the penalty fee will be €300 higher than the penalty fee of the previous penalty number.
  - A suspension of a player from the EBT will in principle never end as long as a player's federation has not paid the penalty fee to ETBF.
- 13.8 Yearly modifications in the list of penalty points and penalty numbers
- Penalty points and penalty numbers are valid for three years, which is the actual year plus the foregoing two years.
  - The list of penalty points and penalty numbers will be modified each year during the first 7 days of January (first time in January 2009).





- c) Penalty points given in the first of the previous counting years will be deducted from the total number of penalty points a player has accumulated during the three year counting period.
- d) Penalty numbers given in the first of the previous counting years will be deducted from the total number of penalty numbers a players has accumulated during the three year period.

## 14 Special playing rules in effect during the EBT

### 14.1 Re-racks

- a) A player is allowed maximum two re-racks per game without asking the tournament management for permission. Unless permission for another re-rack in the game is granted such a re-rack is illegal.
- b) Additional re-racks in the game can only be granted by the tournament management and should be limited to situations where it is obvious that the pin setting is clearly of spot.
- c) If a player violates this rule, the frame following the illegal re-rack will be set to zero.

### 14.2 Pull outs

- a) If a player, without permission from the tournament management, leaves a qualification squad or a final stage before he has completed all games in the squad/stage (illegal pull out), all previous scores of the player will be counted as zero and the player cannot enter the tournament again at any later squad or final stage.
- b) In case of an illegal pull out, pre-paid entry fees for later squads will not be reimbursed.
- c) In case of an illegal pull out, the player will be given 1 penalty point and the pull out will be reported to the EBT Administrator.

### 14.3 Other kinds of improper behaviour

- a) The tournament management can decide on miss-behaviour if a player violates equipment, violates tournament officials (verbally or physically), violates other players (verbally or physically) or in general presents a behaviour far from acceptable on or off the lanes of the tournament site.
- b) The tournament management will decide if the miss-behaviour will lead to an exclusion from the tournament.
- c) The tournament management will decide if the miss-behaviour of a player is of a nature, where it should lead to an international penalty. In this case a report must be prepared by the tournament organizer and submitted to the EBT Administrator not later than 3 days after the last day of the tournament.
- d) The report will be evaluated by the ETBF Tournament Committee, and within 14 days after receipt of the report the player will be informed in writing about the decision. Based on the evaluation the player will be given a maximum of 4 penalty points, depending on the nature of the miss-behaviour. The player has the right to appeal the decision to the ETBF Presidium no later than 30 days after the an-



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nouncement of the original decision. The appeal procedure shall be in accordance with the ETBF Constitution.

#### 14.4 Practise

- a) The practise time before a qualification squad or final stage will be 10 minutes in case there are 2 to 4 players per pair of lanes.
- b) The practise time before a qualification squad or final stage will be 15 minutes in case there are 5-6 players per pair of lanes.
- c) The practise time before a desperado squad will be 10 minutes regardless the number of player per pair of lanes.

#### 14.5 Women handicap

- a) In case of a mixed women and men division, women will be awarded 8 pins per game in handicap in all whole games played in the tournament.
- b) A handicap is counted as a pin fall.
- c) No handicap will be awarded in roll-off shots and roll-off frames.

## 15 Late cancellations in tour stops

15.1 If a cancellation of participation is received later than 15 days before the first day of a tournament, it will be considered as a late cancellation.

15.2 There are three types of late cancellations:

- a) Type A means that the organizer is notified by the player in the period of 14 days or less before the first day of the tournament until the day just before the first day of the tournament.
- b) Type B means that the organizer is notified by the player during the tournament, but before the qualification squad in which the primary entry was ordered.
- c) Type C is defined as a "No Show", which means that a player fails to appear without having notified the organizer or if the player notifies the organizer after the start of the qualification squad in which the primary entry was ordered.

15.3 Penalties for Cancellation Type A

- a) The player will be given 1 penalty point.
- b) The organizer is allowed to issue a penalty invoice to the player with an amount of not more than half of the maximum fee for a primary entry.

15.4 Penalties for Cancellation Type B

- a) The player will be given 2 penalty points.
- b) The organizer is allowed to issue a penalty invoice to the player with an amount of not more than the maximum fee for a primary entry.

15.5 Penalties for Cancellation Type C

- a) The player will be given 3 penalty points.



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- b) The organizer is allowed to issue a penalty invoice to the player with an amount of not more than the maximum fee for a primary entry plus the maximum fee for a re-entry.
- 15.6 Penalty invoices for late cancellations must, to be valid, be issued latest 7 days after the last day of the tournament.
- 15.7 When a valid penalty invoice is issued and the full amount is not received by the organizer latest 30 days after the invoice was issued, it is the right of the organizer to notify the EBT Administrator and the player will be given 1 penalty point even if the invoice is paid at a later moment.
- 15.8 Before submitting a list of players with penalty points to the EBT Administrator, the organizer has the right to exclude players from the list, if the organizer has full documentation or at least a full confidence that illness or injury (in special occasions also other serious excuses) were the reason for the cancellations.
- 15.9 Player's claims of an entry not ordered
- A player can, through his federation and to the EBT Administrator, claim that he never applied for an entry in a tournament, where he is given penalty points.
  - Such a claim must be received by the EBT Administrator not later than 30 days after the last day of the tournament.
  - In that situation the organizer has the obligation to show proof in form of a filled in entry form, an email including the entry order or another kind of written documentation.
  - In situations where a player claims that no entry was ordered and the organizer is unable to document the order, the EBT Director might decide to remove the penalty points given to the player in that specific tournament.
- 15.10 Player's claims of illness or injury
- A player can, through his federation and to the EBT Administrator, for a tournament where he is given penalty points, claim illness or injury as the reason for the cancellation.
  - Such a claim must be received by the EBT Administrator not later than 30 days after the last day of the tournament, where the penalty points were given.
  - In that situation the player has the obligation to show documented evidence that illness or injury was the cause.
  - If an illness or injury is documented by a medical certificate the documentation is counted as full documentation, while a supporting letter from the federation is counted as partial documentation.
  - In case of a full documentation the EBT Administrator will remove the penalty points for the player in the specific tournament, while the EBT Director might decide to remove the penalty points in case of a partial documentation.
  - Claims directly from players about illness or injury without full or partial documentation will not be taken in consideration.
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