

**EUROPEAN
BOWLING TOUR
RULES IN EFFECT
FOR 2026**



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European Bowling Tour Rules 2026

1 Delimitations

- 1.1 European Bowling Federation (EBF) organizes every calendar year a bowling tour, including a series of open bowling tournaments.
- 1.2 The name of the tour is the "European Bowling Tour" (EBT) followed by the year of the tour (in this case EBT 2026).
- 1.3 The EBT is owned and governed by the EBF Presidium and administrated by the EBT Management.
- 1.4 The EBT Rules are maintained by and can only be changed by the EBF Presidium.
- 1.5 The composition of the EBT is decided exclusively by the EBF Presidium.
- 1.6 The EBT is managed by:
Valgeir Gudbjartsson, EBT Director: vg@europeanbowling.sport

2 Tournaments in the tour

- 2.1 The EBT consists of tournaments owned by the tournament organisers.
- 2.2 Tournaments adopted in the EBT are in general known as EBT Tournaments.
- 2.3 EBT Tournaments are basically conducted in countries, which are falling under the jurisdiction of EBF, but it is possible for the EBF Presidium to adopt tournaments in the EBT, which are conducted in other zones.
- 2.4 EBT Tournaments are, open to all athletes, who are a member of one of International Bowling Federation's (IBF) member federations, unless the federation of the athlete is suspended or the athlete is individually suspended by one of the member federations, by a zone or by IBF.
- 2.5 EBT Tournaments must include at least one individual event, either conducted in separate divisions for women and men or conducted as a combined division for both genders.
- 2.6 Tournaments without individual events, tournaments where one or more places in the final stages 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 adopted in the EBT.
- 2.7 An EBT Tournament is recognized by its title or and as the EBT 2026 Stop XX.

3 Definitions

- 3.1 Entry value
- The Entry value is a ratio used to evaluate the interrelation between the size of the prize fund and the entry fee.
 - The Entry value is calculated as $EV=PF/EF$, where
 - EV = Entry Value
 - PF = Prize Fund defined as all prize money allocated for individual athletes in the international part of the tournament
 - EF = Maximum entry fee of the tournament
- 3.2 A prize fund is defined as all prize money allocated for individual athletes in the international part of the tournament.
- 3.3 A clash is defined as tournaments ending in the same weekend. A tournament, ending, when another tournament is beginning its first squads, is an overlap and not a clash.

4 Categories

- 4.1 There are five categories of EBT Tournaments with the following category names: EBT Satellite, EBT Bronze, EBT Silver, EBT Gold and EBT Platinum.
- 4.2 Definition of EBT Satellite Tournaments
- The prize fund must be minimum € 15.000
 - The entry value must be minimum 120
 - An EBT Satellite Tournament cannot clash with EBT Silver, EBT Gold and EBT Platinum Tournaments
 - EBT Satellite Tournaments can clash with each other and with EBT Bronze Tournaments, but normally only if such tournaments are scheduled at a suitable geographical distance
- 4.3 Definition of EBT Bronze Tournaments
- The prize fund must be minimum € 30.000
 - The entry value must be minimum 175
 - An EBT Bronze Tournament cannot clash with EBT Silver, EBT Gold and EBT Platinum Tournaments
 - EBT Bronze Tournaments can clash with each other and with EBT Satellite Tournaments, but normally only if such tournaments are scheduled at a suitable geographical distance
- 4.4 Definition of EBT Silver Tournaments
- The prize fund must be minimum € 45.000
 - The entry value must be minimum 250
 - An EBT Silver Tournament cannot clash with any other EBT Tournament
- 4.5 Definition of EBT Gold Tournaments
- The prize fund must be minimum € 60.000
 - The entry value must be minimum 325
 - An EBT Gold Tournament cannot clash with any other EBT Tournament

- 4.6 Definition of EBT Platinum Tournaments
- a. The prize fund must be minimum € 100.000
 - b. The entry value must be minimum 500
 - c. An EBT Platinum Tournament cannot clash with any other EBT Tournament
 - d. There must be at least 48 international prizes
 - e. Within the minimum prize fund of € 100.000, the lowest prize must be minimum € 600
 - f. It is permitted to award prizes of less than € 600, but such prizes can only be for positions with a number of 49 or higher and not within the main prize fund of the minimum € 100.000

5 Selection

- 5.1 EBT Tournaments must be approved by EBF and IBF
- 5.2 The tournaments in the EBT will be selected once a year based on applications send from tournament organizers.
- 5.3 The EBF Presidium might reject adoption of tournaments for reasons such as:
- a. The total number of tournaments is too high
 - b. A tournament is fitting badly in the schedule
 - c. Communication with the organizer is very difficult
 - d. Rules are not followed or violated
 - e. Results are not presented after each game played

6 Fees

- 6.1 The fee for an EBT Satellite Tournament is € 1.000.
- 6.2 The fee for an EBT Bronze Tournament is € 2.000.
- 6.3 The fee for an EBT Silver Tournament is € 3.000.
- 6.4 The fee for an EBT Gold Tournament is € 4.000.
- 6.5 The fee for an EBT Platinum Tournament is € 5.000.
- 6.6 Invoices of the EBT fees will be sent just after the composition of a tour is published and latest a month after followed up by reminders for none paid invoices. A tournament may be excluded from the tour in case of a continued unpaid fee.
- 6.7 EBT fees will, in principle, by decisions of the EBF Presidium, be used for EBT and EBT related purposes.

7 Points

- 7.1 In each EBT Tournament, points will be awarded to both women and men.

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- 7.2 If there is a combined division, women and men will be awarded points in relation to their final position relative to the other athletes of the same gender.
- 7.3 Points in Satellite Tournaments will be awarded to the top 50 of each gender according to the presented list in 7.8.
- 7.4 Points in Bronze Tournaments will be awarded to the top 50 of each gender according to the presented list in 7.8 times two.
- 7.5 Points in EBT Silver Tournaments will be awarded to the top 50 of each gender according to the presented list in 7.8 times three.
- 7.6 Points in EBT Gold Tournaments will be awarded to the top 50 of each gender according to the presented list in 7.8 times four.
- 7.7 Points in EBT Platinum Tournaments will be awarded to the top 50 of each gender according to the presented list in 7.8 times five.
- 7.8 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 |

8 Standings

- 8.1 On the day of the completion of a tournament, the EBT Management will create the women's and the men's top 50-point lists based on scores and standings provided at the website of the tournament.
- 8.2 Based on the point lists, the EBT Management will update the women standing and the men standing.
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- 8.3 The standings will be published on the EBF Website.
- 8.4 If a tie needs to be broken for any deciding position, the athlete in the highest position is the one with the highest number of maximum points awarded in all tournaments, then the athlete with the highest number of second highest maximum points awarded in all tournaments etc.

9 Qualification for the EBT Masters

- 9.1 The primary final of an EBT is the EBT Masters, which will be conducted in the year following the conclusion of an EBT.
- 9.2 Participants in the EBT Masters are the top 8 women and the top 8 men of the standings after the last EBT tournament of the previous year has been played.
- 9.3 In cases of withdrawals from the EBT Masters, replacements will be made by inviting athletes on position 9 and following positions of the standing.

10 EBT Masters

- 10.1 The EBT Masters will preferably be conducted in the period February - July.
- 10.2 The host of an EBT Masters can be a federation, a tour stop organizer or a company, providing a bowling centre of at least 16 lanes is available.
- 10.3 The minimum mandatory obligations for an organizer of the EBT Masters are:
 - a. Transportation for all participants between the airport and the hotel at arrival and departure
 - b. Shuttle service hotel-bowling centre-hotel during the tournament
 - c. Normal administration of the tournament
- 10.4 The EBT Masters consists of two divisions, one for women and one for men, with 8 athletes in each division.
- 10.5 The EBT Masters will for each division be played as follows:
 - a. There will be 8 games qualification, played over 4 pair of lanes
 - b. Top 4 will continue to the final
 - c. In the final, 4 athletes will play additionally 4 games on 2 pair of lanes, with the pin fall from the qualification carried forward
 - d. The Masters will be decided over a total of 12 games
- 10.6 Ties will be broken as follows:
 - a. In case of a tie for position 4 in the qualification, a 9th and 10th frame roll off will be played, repeated until the tie is broken
 - b. In case of a tie for position 5-8 in the qualification, the highest positioned athlete will be the athlete scoring the highest last game of the 8 games played, then the highest second last game of the 8 games played etc.
 - c. In case of a tie for any of the 4 positions in the final, a 9th and 10th frame roll off will be played, repeated until the tie is broken

- 10.7 The minimum guaranteed total prize money, which will be shared equally between the two divisions, will for each EBT Masters be decided upon by the EBF Presidium.
- 10.8 In addition to the minimum guaranteed prize money, it is an option for the EBT Masters organizer to offer additional prize money, which will be added to the total prize money.

11 Rules and tournament presentations

- 11.1 EBT Tournaments are governed by the following rules:
 - a. Tournament information presented in the EBF Tournament Calendar
 - b. The rules of the tournament
 - c. The EBT Rules
 - d. The EBF Constitution
 - e. IBF Playing Rules
- 11.2 Organizers of EBT Tournaments are allowed to publish tournament rules and other tournament information at tournament websites, posters, flyers and other similar media.
- 11.3 According to the EBF Constitution, it is not allowed to publish any information about a tournament before the tournament is approved by EBF.
- 11.4 In cases where there is a difference between tournament information published by the organizer and tournament information presented in the EBF Tournament Calendar, the information presented in the EBF Tournament Calendar is prevailing.
- 11.5 Any EBT tournament must open for their entry registration, latest four months before the first day of the tournament. If an organizer fails to meet this requirement, the tournament may, after a warning, be removed from the EBT, but the EBT fee must still be paid, i.e. the fee will not be reimbursed if already paid.
- 11.6 The prize fund for each of the EBT Tournaments is decided by the respective tournament organizer, as presented at the moment when the tour is published.
- 11.7 It is permissible to increase the total prize fund after a tour composition has been published, as long as it is coordinated with the EBT Director and reflected in the EBF Tournament Calendar.
- 11.8 If an organizer lowers the prize fund, allocated for individual athletes in the international part of the tournament, after a tour composition has been published, the following will be in effect.
 - a. The EBT Fee will stay as it is, even if the category of the tournament changes to a lower status as a consequence of the lowered prize pool.
 - b. If it happens before the registration has opened, there are no other consequences for the organizer.
 - c. If it happens after the registration has opened, the organizer is obliged to pay EBF 20% of the difference between the changed prize fund and the prize fund listed when the tour was published. In addition Article 8.6.5 of the EBF Constitution concerning compensations to athletes will apply.

- 11.9 Eventually national tax
- If any national tax rule will or might influence the size of prizes to be paid to one or more athletes taking part, it is the obligation of the organizer to publish these rules at the EBF Website.
 - In case of taxation, it is the obligation of the organizer to provide each affected prize winner with a copy of the filled in tax form, if such form is included in the taxation process, or provide another kind of documentation for the tax paid, if so requested by the prize winner.
 - For tournaments, where no national tax rules are published at the EBF Website, it is mandatory for the organizer to pay the prizes 1:1 as listed.

12 Tournament standings and results

- 12.1 Standings must be presented for the following result categories:
- Squad standings
 - Qualification standing
 - Desperado standing
 - Other types of standings, providing qualification for final steps
 - List of qualified athletes for the final
 - Each final step
 - Final tournament ranking including all entered athletes
- 12.2 The following must be presented at result pages:
- Position number
 - Full name of the athlete
 - The federation of the athlete
 - Each game score
 - A total of the game scores
 - The handicap
 - A total of the game scores including the handicap
- 12.3 The text in all result presentations must be presented as a combination of capital letters and lower-case letters. To use lower-case letters or capital letters only is not permitted. Names are presented in the order first name, middle name and last name.
- 12.4 Each of the result categories must as a minimum be presented at a board in the centre and at the tournament website. In addition other media as wide screens or extra monitors should be considered.
- 12.5 Standings and results must be available in the centre and on the tournament website just after the conclusion of each game.

13 Guest and media services

- 13.1 Guests can for instance be media representatives, EBF representatives, external lane maintenance staff and sponsor representatives.

- 13.2 If possible a separate room for guests should be available. If no separate room is available, then at least a dedicated and shielded area of the centre must be provided.
- 13.3 Sufficient space, a dedicated table and a chair for each guest present must be available.
- 13.4 A fast Internet connection must be available for guests.
- 13.5 It is recommendable to consider free refreshments for guests and other similar conditions, as long as sponsorship and resources to provide such facilities are available.

14 Tournament cancellations

- 14.1 If a tournament is cancelled after the composition of a tour has been published, the organizer is still obliged to pay the EBT fee equivalent to the category of the tournament. An already paid EBT fee will not be reimbursed.
- 14.2 If the registration for the tournament has opened, article 8.6.5 of the EBF Constitution, concerning cancellations and compensations, will apply.

15 Tournament dates

- 15.1 The period of an EBT Tournament must not be scheduled in a way, which makes it impossible for athletes, taking part in the World Championships, the World Women Championships, the World Men Championships, the European Women Championships or the European Men Championships, to enter qualification squads in the tournament at the latest on the second last day of the qualification and additionally being able to bowl the rest of the tournament.
- 15.2 The EBF Presidium might, in special occasions, allow organizers of EBT Satellite Tournaments to disregard from Article 15.1, if it is beneficial both for the tournament and the EBT.
- 15.3 Any change in the duration or period of an EBT Tournament must be approved by the EBT Director.
- 15.4 If the period of a tournament is changed, other than adding days to the beginning of the tournament, and if the registration for the tournament has opened, article 8.6.5 of the EBF Constitution, concerning changes in tournament periods and compensations, will apply.

16 Women handicap

- 16.1 In case of a mixed women and men division, women will be awarded handicap in all whole games played in the tournament.
- 16.2 A womens handicap can be 8, 12 or 16 pins pr game.

- 16.3 A handicap is counted as a pin fall.
- 16.4 No handicap will be awarded in roll-off shots and roll-off frames.
- 16.5 When a handicap is added to a scratch game score, the maximum scratch score of the game is the game played but game including handicap can never be higher than 300, i.e. if there is game of 295 then there will be only handicap of 5 awarded.

17 Booking policy

- 17.1 The total number of possible bookings per athlete in a tournament is in principle unlimited.
- 17.2 In the period before the tournament, each athlete is allowed to pre-order a maximum of three bookings, one primary entry and two re-entries. Maximum two of the pre-ordered bookings can be placed on the last two qualification days in the tournament. – if the host centre is 24 lanes or bigger, the host can allow one extra booking during the last 2 days.
- 17.3 Each organizer is entitled to specify a maximum number of bookings, an athlete can make during a tournament; regardless of what the bookings are for: squad lists, waiting lists or priority lists.
- 17.4 Before as well as during the tournament, athletes are signed up for squads by using the first-come-first-served method.
- 17.5 An athlete can always, without consequences, cancel a re-entry during a tournament.
- 17.6 It is the obligation of the organizer to publish a deadline, which can be maximum 30 minutes before a scheduled squad time, before which any athlete booked for the squad must register and pay the entry fee. If an athlete fails to meet this requirement, the athlete's booking may be removed.
- 17.7 For tournaments with various sizes of team events added to their singles event(s), it is possible to open for entries where an athlete is listed in more than 3 teams, as long as the athlete him/her selves does not pre-order more than 3 squads – unless centre is 24 lanes or bigger then extra booking can be made. This extended entry possibility must, if introduced by the organizer, not begin before at the earliest the first day of the penalty period (see. 28.2a).
- 17.8 In general, all bookings must have the name of the individual athletes specified. However, if the organizer has the full confidence that all booked squads will be used, then bookings (often in groups) from a federation, club or individual may be permitted. In such cases it is recommended that a deadline be specified for submitting the names of the athletes. Such deadline should be set to minimum of one month prior to the first day of the tournament.
- 17.9 An athlete cannot, regardless the moment of cancellation, cancel a booking on behalf of another athlete, i.e. an athlete must cancel any booking in person.

- 17.10 An athlete cannot forward pre-ordered bookings to another athlete, since an athlete not coming is an athlete cancelling. Any athlete, not previously booked for squads in a tournament, must be considered as a new athlete and will be positioned as the last signed up athlete in booked squads. The only exception from this rule is in cases, where an organizer has accepted a group booking from a national team and the national team exchanges an athlete.

18 Qualification squads

- 18.1 A limited number of qualification squads might be open only for a dedicated group of athletes, such as youth athletes or senior athletes, but in general qualification squads are open to all eligible athletes, who want to participate in the tournament.
- 18.2 The number of games in qualification squads is minimum 6.
- 18.3 The playing time in 6 games qualification squads must be scheduled as follows:
- a. 2,0 hours for 2 athletes per pair of lanes
 - b. 2,5 hours for 3 athletes per pair of lanes
 - c. 3,0 hours for 4 athletes per pair of lanes
 - d. 4,0 hours for 5 athletes per pair of lanes (not in qualification squads)
 - e. 4,5 hours for 6 athletes per pair of lanes (not in qualification squads)
- 18.4 The lanes must be stripped and re-dressed before each qualification squad.
- 18.5 The dressing time for qualification squads will normally be scheduled as one hour, but in certain situations, such as a limited number of lanes available or more than one dressing machine available, a different time for dressing might be permitted.
- 18.6 Irrespectively of the number of athletes per pair of lanes in a qualification or a desperado squad, the practice time is 10 minutes.
- 18.7 For all stages of the tournament, referees must be available, at least one for each 8 lanes. The referees must be positioned in such a way, that they have a good overview of the lanes and are clearly visible to the athletes.
- 18.8 For all stages of the tournament, only athletes, tournament officials and the staff may be present in the athlete's area, which means that no coaching in the athlete's area may take place.
- 18.9 It is the obligation of the organizer, if not physically obvious, to ensure that the athlete's area is properly marked out.
- 18.10 During the final steps of the tournament open bowling is not permitted in the centre. It is also strongly recommended not to have open bowling during the qualification squads. Open bowling and/or other normal daily activities in the centre are permitted outside the periods of qualification squads and final steps.

19 Final stages

- 19.1 The number of athletes and the number of games to be played in each final stage are defined by the organizer, but the number of athletes to qualify can never be less than 32.
- 19.2 The practice time prior to any final stage, except matches in a stepladder final, is 10 minutes.
- 19.3 The practice time in stepladder finals will be as follows:
 - a. All athletes in the final can practise 10 minutes at the lane pair in use
 - b. Athletes, who will play in later matches, can continue their practise on another lane pair, dedicated by the Tournament Management
 - c. Before the second and following matches in a stepladder, the athlete entering the final pair from other practice lanes is allowed two practice shots at each lane. The athlete, who just won the previous match, will not get any practice shots before the next match
- 19.4 The lanes must be stripped and re-dressed a reasonable number of times in between stages in the final, basically depending on the number of games played on each lane in a stage and the format.

20 Lane assignments

- 20.1 In due time before a squad or a final stage, the athletes must be assigned to their starting lane by a manual or computerized draw witnessed by a neutral person or notary public.
- 20.2 Athletes per pair of lanes in qualification squads
 - a. The maximum number of athletes per pair of lanes is 4
 - b. There might be 3 or 4 athletes per pair of lanes in a squad
 - c. There might be 2 or 3 athletes per pair of lanes in a squad
 - d. The minimum number of athletes per pair of lanes is 2
- 20.3 Pacers
 - a. If there is an odd number of athletes in a squad with only 2 athletes per pair of lanes, it is mandatory to use one pacer
 - b. In squads with more than two athletes on some of the pairs, it is optional for the organizer to use pacers
- 20.4 In cases where it is necessary, because of requirements of the number of athlete per pair of lanes set forth in 20.2, an athlete might be moved from one lane pair to another after the draw is made.
- 20.5 When an athlete is signed up for a squad after the draw has been made, the athlete will be assigned to a lane as decided by the tournament management.
- 20.6 It is not possible to conduct squads with less than 5 athletes plus a pacer

21 Lane movements

- 21.1 With the exception of head to head matches, athletes have to change lanes after each game.
- 21.2 If the score system provides the possibility, then athletes positioned at the left lanes move left and athletes positioned at the right lane move right.
- 21.3 The athletes should be moved over as big a part of the centre as possible by skipping pairs (one or more) in the movement.
- 21.4 Athletes, who have already played on a pair of lanes, can in principle not return to the same pair of lanes in the same squad, with the exception as specified in 21.5.
- 21.5 A squad or final stage must be kept within a specific part of the centre. In squads, where the number of lane pairs in use is lower than the number of games to be played, the athletes can return to the same pair of lanes later in the squad, but only once.

22 Tie rules

- 22.1 When a tie occurs in qualification competitions, either including all squads, a defined number of squads or just one squad, the highest positioned athlete will be the athlete scoring the highest last game. If a tie still exists, the highest positioned athlete will be the athlete with the highest second last game etc.
- 22.2 When a tie occur in a build in competition in the qualification (a Turbo competition for instance), the highest ranked athlete will be the athlete with the highest position in the qualification.
- 22.3 When a tie occur in a separate competition held after the main qualification, and before the first final step (a Desperado competition for instance), and the tie is influencing who will qualify for the first final step, the tie will be broken by playing a 9th and 10th frame roll off, repeated until the tie is broken.
- 22.4 Ties in final stages, not including head-to-head matches
 - a. A tie not influencing the final top 3 of the tournament, or a tie not influencing who will qualify for the next final step, will be broken by following a procedure similar to Article 22.1.
 - b. A tie influencing the final top 3 of the tournament, or a tie influencing who will qualify for the next final step, will be broken by playing a 9th and 10th frame roll off, repeated until the tie is broken.
- 22.5 Ties in final stages including head-to-head matches, might it be one game ties in matches where each game counts for a standing, might it be matches over one game or matches where a total of two or more games are decisive, a one ball roll off on a full set of pins will be played, repeated until the tie is broken.
- 22.6 Procedures for 9th and 10th frame roll offs

- a. The athletes will be positioned at a pair of lanes, as decided by the Tournament Management.
 - b. Each athlete will get two practise shots at each lane.
 - c. The highest ranked athlete after the qualification chooses on which lane he wants to begin, the second highest ranked athlete after the qualification will then be positioned at the other lane, while the third highest ranked athlete after the qualification will be positioned at the first chosen lane etc.
 - d. If more than two athletes are involved in the roll off, the highest ranked athlete after the qualification will decide the order of athletes at each lane.
 - e. In case of further ties, the procedure stipulated in b-c will be repeated.
 - f. There will be no handicap included in 9th and 10th frame roll offs.
- 22.7 Procedures for one ball roll offs
- a. There will be no practise shots before the roll off shots.
 - b. When a game is played on a pair of lanes, the athletes will, for the first roll off delivery, be positioned on the lanes where they ended the game. The highest ranked athlete after the qualification will choose the order of play. For a second roll off delivery the athletes will switch lanes and the order of deliveries will be opposite to the first one etc.
 - c. When a game is played on one lane, all roll off shots will be delivered on the lane, where the tied game was played. The highest ranked athlete after the qualification will choose the order of play. For a second roll off delivery the order of deliveries will be opposite to the first one etc.
 - d. There will be no handicap included in one ball roll offs.
- 22.8 If a format in a tournament requires tie breaking procedures for situations not covered by these rules, it is the obligation of the organizer to specify the necessary additional tie rules in the tournament rules.

23 Deciding the final tournament standing

- 23.1 By the conclusion of a tournament, a final tournament standing must be provided, in which all ties are broken and all positions are unique in a relation 1:1 between athletes and positions.
- 23.2 Athletes will be positioned in the following order
- a. The winner of the tournament
 - b. The runner-up of the tournament
 - c. Athletes leaving after the second last final stage, athletes leaving after the third final stage before that etc.
 - d. Athletes not qualified for the final (except athletes qualified from a desperado squad) in the order of the qualification standing
- 23.3 In final stages, where a pin fall is deciding the positions, athletes leaving the final stage are positioned according to their score in the stage.
- 23.4 In a final stage with head to head matches, athletes leaving the final stage are positioned according to their positions in the previous stage not including head to head matches.
- 23.5 If positions in one or more stages of a tournament cannot be decided by using the general position definitions presented in these rules, then it is the

obligation of the organizer to specify the position rules for these specific stages.

24 Penalty points

- 24.1 Penalty points are points given to athletes with inappropriate actions before or during a tournament, as specified in these rules.
- 24.2 After the conclusion of each tournament, the organizer will submit a list to the EBT Management, including athletes with penalty points in the tournament.
- 24.3 The EBT Management will keep a list of accumulated penalty points and penalty numbers. The list will be published at the EBF Website after each tournament.
- 24.4 Each time new penalty points are added to the list of penalty points, the EBT Management will notify influenced players and their federations about added points and eventually new suspensions.
- 24.5 Penalties
 - a. When new points are added, and the number of points for a player is 4-7, the athlete will be suspended from participation in 4 EBT stops
 - b. When new points are added, and the number of points for a player is 8-11, the athlete will be suspended from participation in 6 EBT stops and the athlete must pay a penalty fee of € 300 to EBF
 - c. For each additional penalty (12-15 points, 16-19 points etc.), the number of tournaments suspended will be 2 higher and the penalty fee € 300 higher than in the previous penalty
 - d. Athletes cannot be suspended from participation in stops, conducted within the appeal period, which is a 14 days period after the letter of suspension has been issued (see 29.10 and 29.11)
 - e. An athlete can get the suspension lifted by paying an additional penalty fee of € 300 to EBF, identical to € 300 for the first penalty, € 600 for the second penalty etc.
 - f. A suspension of an athlete from the EBT will not end until the athlete has paid the full penalty fee to EBF or a period of 3 calendar years, after the year in which the athlete is suspended, has passed
- 24.6 Yearly modifications in the list of penalty points and penalty numbers
 - a. Penalty points are valid for three years, which is the actual year plus the foregoing two years
 - b. The list of penalty points will be modified each year after the conclusion of the last tour stop of the year
 - c. Penalty points given in the first of the previous counting years will be deducted from the total number of penalty points an athlete has accumulated during the three year counting period

25 Re-racks

- 25.1 An athlete 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.
- 25.2 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 off spot.
- 25.3 If an athlete violates this rule, the frame following the illegal re-rack will be set to zero.

26 Machine break downs

- 26.1 The Tournament Manager will make all decisions regarding the continuation or rescheduling of games in the event of a mechanical breakdown.
- 26.2 If a breakdown requires athletes to move to an alternate pair, not previously used in the squad or final stage, each athlete required to move will be allowed two warm-up shots on each lane.

27 Athletes pull outs

- 27.1 If an athlete, 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 athlete will be counted as zero and the athlete cannot enter the tournament again at any later squad or final stage.
- 27.2 In case of an illegal pull out, pre-paid entry fees for later squads will not be reimbursed.
- 27.3 In case of an illegal pull out, the athlete will be given 1 penalty point and the pull out will be reported to the EBT Management.
- 27.4 In case of a legal pull out (permitted by the tournament management) the athlete is not permitted to play in any qualification or desperado squad the same day and until 11.00 o'clock the next day.

28 Improper behavior

- 28.1 The tournament management can decide on miss-behaviour, if an athlete abuses equipment, abuses tournament officials (verbally or physically), abuses other athletes (verbally or physically), abuses other coaches, abuses spectators or in general presents a behaviour far from acceptable on or off the lanes of the tournament site.
- 28.2 The tournament management will decide if the miss-behaviour will lead to an exclusion from the tournament.

- 28.3 The tournament management will decide if the miss-behaviour of an athlete 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 Director not later than 3 days after the last day of the tournament.
- 28.4 The report will be evaluated by the EBF Tournament Committee, and latest within 7 days after receipt of the report, the athlete will be informed in writing about the decision. Based on the evaluation the athlete will be given a maximum of 4 penalty points, depending on the nature of the miss-behaviour. The athlete has the right to appeal the decision to the EBF Presidium no later than 14 days after the announcement of the original decision. The appeal procedure shall be in accordance with the EBF Constitution.

29 Late cancellations by athletes

- 29.1 If a cancellation of participation is received within a period of 30 days prior to the first day of or during a tournament, it will be considered as a late cancellation.
- 29.2 There are three types of late cancellations
- a. Type A means that the organizer is notified by the athlete in the period of 30 days before the first day of the tournament until 8 days before the first day of the tournament
 - b. Type B means that the organizer is notified by the athlete in the period of 7 days before the first day of the tournament until and including the last qualification day of 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 an athlete fails to appear without having notified the organizer or if the athlete notifies the organizer after the start of the qualification squad in which the primary entry was ordered
- 29.3 Penalties for Cancellation Type A
- a. The athlete will be given 1 penalty point
 - b. The organizer may issue a penalty invoice to the athlete with an amount equal to half of the maximum fee for a primary entry
- 29.4 Penalties for Cancellation Type B
- a. The athlete will be given 2 penalty points
 - b. The organizer may issue a penalty invoice to the athlete with an amount equal to the maximum fee for a primary entry
- 29.5 Penalties for Cancellation Type C
- a. The athlete will be given 3 penalty points
 - b. The organizer may issue a penalty invoice to the athlete with an amount equal to the maximum fee for a primary entry plus the maximum fee for a re-entry
- 29.6 Penalty invoices for late cancellations must be issued by the organizer latest 7 days after the last day of the tournament.

- 29.7 If the full amount is received by the organizer latest 14 days after the invoice was issued, the organizer must notify the EBT Management and all given penalty points for that tournament will be removed.
- 29.8 If the full amount is not received by the organizer latest 14 days after the invoice was issued, it is the right of the organizer to notify the EBT Management and the athlete will be given 1 additional penalty point.
- 29.9 If a penalized athlete wants to pay a penalty invoice, and no invoice is made by the organizer, EBF will send the invoice to the athlete. In this case an amount paid belongs to EBF.
- 29.10 Before submitting a list of athletes with penalty points to the EBT Management, the organizer has the right to exclude athletes 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 reasons) were the reason for the cancellations.
- 29.11 Athlete's claims of an entry not ordered
- An athlete can, through his federation and to the EBT Management, for an entry in a tournament, where he is given penalty points, claim that he never applied for an entry
 - Such a claim must be received by the EBT Management not later than 14 days after the federation was notified about the penalty points given
 - 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 an athlete 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 athlete in that specific tournament
- 29.12 Athlete's claims of illness or injury
- An athlete can, through his federation and to the EBT Management, 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 Management not later than 14 days after the federation was notified about the penalty points given
 - In that situation the athlete 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 Management will remove the penalty points for the athlete in the specific tournament, while the EBT Director might decide to remove the penalty points in case of a partial documentation

30 Late cancellations by groups

- 30.1 If 50% or more of a group booking is cancelled late, as defined in Article 29.2, the organizer may issue an invoice to the federation, company, organization or person having booked the entries.
- 30.2 If a majority of the cancelled entries are Type A cancellations, the invoice will include an amount of not more than half of the maximum fee for a primary entry multiplied with the number of cancelled entries.
- 30.3 If a majority of the cancelled entries are Type B cancellations, the invoice will include an amount of not more than the maximum fee for a primary entry multiplied with the number of cancelled entries.
- 30.4 If a majority of the cancelled entries are Type C cancellations, the invoice will include an amount of not more than the maximum fee for a primary entry plus the maximum fee for a re-entry multiplied with the number of cancelled entries.

31 Bowling balls

- 31.1 Athletes participating in tournaments adopted in the European Bowling Tour can enter with an unlimited number of bowling balls.
- 31.2 Cleaning of the surface of the bowling ball is permissible prior to any delivery during a game. Any dry cloth product that is non-abrasive and contains no chemicals would be acceptable to use. Cleaners, which are products meant to clean the ball surface without changing the surface roughness, may be used only between block of games, and provided they are on the list of approved products.

If the ball picks up a foreign substance that cannot be removed by rubbing, an approved liquid cleaner such as rubbing alcohol may be used. However, this action requires approval from the tournament management
- 31.3 Adjusting of the surface of the bowling ball, by means of scrub sponges, scoring pads, and polish that are on the list of approved products, may be done before practise sessions, during practice sessions and in between:
 - a. Qualification squads
 - b. Final steps
 - c. Games in a stepladder final
- 31.4 Altering the surface of the bowling ball by means of bonded or coated abrasives, may be done only in between qualification squads and final steps, before qualification squads and final steps and during practice sessions before qualification squads and final steps.
- 31.5 Violation of the bowling ball rule
 - a. At an athlete's first violation in a tournament, the frame, in which an illegally cleaned, adjusted or altered bowling ball, as well as illegal ball is found to be in use, will be set to zero and the athlete will be given 1 penalty point.
 - b. At an athlete's second violation of the bowling ball rule in a tournament, the athlete will be given 2 penalty points and the score in the squad or final stage, where the violation takes place, will be null and void.

- c. At an athlete's third violation of the bowling ball rule in a tournament, the athlete will be given 3 penalty points, the score in the squad or final stage, where the violation takes place, will be null and void and the athlete will be suspended from the rest of the tournament.

32 Appeal procedures

32.1 Athletes appeals from tournament management decisions

- a. An athlete's appeal from the decision of the tournament management shall, within 7 days, be directed to the EBT Director.
- b. Within the same 7 days' time limit, an appeal fee of 100 € must be available at the bank account of EBF, transferred by the athlete
- c. If the appeal case is adopted (a and b is followed), the EBT director will inform the athlete and the tournament manager about procedures and deadlines, which includes an option for the tournament management to prepare a written statement related to the appeal
- d. The entire process period, ending with the EBT Directors decision, must be no longer than maximum 7 days
- e. The decision from the EBT Director shall be sent to the athlete, the tournament manager and the EBF Presidium
- f. The appeal fee will only be reimbursed to the athlete, if the appeal of the athlete is accepted by the EBT Director

32.2 Appeals of decisions from the EBT Director

- a. An appeal from either the athlete or the tournament manager, from the decision of the EBT Director, can within 7 days be directed to the EBF Presidium represented by the EBF Secretary General
- b. Within the same 7 days' time limit, an appeal fee of 100 € must be available at the bank account of EBF, transferred by the appellant
- c. If the appeal case is adopted (a and b is followed), the EBF Secretary General will inform the athlete, the tournament manager and the EBT Director about procedures and deadlines, which includes an option for each involved to prepare a written statement related to the appeal
- d. The entire process period, ending with the decision of the EBF Presidium, must be no longer than maximum 14 days
- e. The decision from the EBF Presidium shall be send from the EBF Secretary General to the athlete, to the tournament manager, to the EBT Director and to the EBF Presidium
- f. The appeal fee will only be reimbursed to the appellant, if the appeal is accepted by the EBF Presidium