

WDF EUROPE CUP ~ PLAYING RULES & FORMAT



WDF EUROPE CUP PLAYING RULES & FORMAT

Seventh revised edition



A Full Member of the SPORTACCORD and committed to compliance with the WADA Code on Anti-Doping.

'Random drug testing could occur in this event as required by WADA'

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WDF EUROPE CUP

1.00 INTRODUCTION

The playing Rules and Format for the WDF Europe Cup listed below are a set of rules created especially for the WDF Europe Cup. These rules are not comprehensive and must, at all times be read in conjunction with the WDF Playing and Tournament Rules.

The WDF Europe Cup shall consist of two (2) separate Championships, the Men's Europe Cup and the Women's Europe Cup.

Each Championship shall consist of a four person Team Event, a Pairs Event and a Singles Event. The total sum of the points obtained in all three events will decide which Country will be crowned Europe Cup Champions.

Gold, Silver and Bronze medals will be awarded to the winners, the runners-up and the joint third places in each Men's and Women's event.

Gold, Silver and Bronze medals will be awarded to the Overall winners, runners-up and third placed teams. An additional medal will be awarded to one Team manager from each of the three best Overall countries in both the Men's and Women's Championships.

2.00 RESPONSIBILITY

The WDF Executive will make all decisions and retain complete responsibility for all aspects of the WDF Europe Cup. This includes the draw, the playing schedule, appointment of event officials and the approval of the playing venue.

The WDF Executive reserves the right to change any aspect of the WDF Europe Cup if deemed necessary. Such changes may be made either before or during the event.

3.00 PLAYERS

Teams entering the WDF Men's Europe Cup or the WDF Women's Europe Cup shall consist of four (4) persons. All players shall be selected by the respective Full Member Darts Body for that Country by such method that the National Darts Body may determine.

All selected players must comply with the WDF Eligibility Rule (See WDF Bye-Law No: 7.05). It is the responsibility of the officials of the player's respective WDF Member Darts Body to check and properly verify that all players entered for the WDF Europe Cup fully comply with the WDF Eligibility Rule.

All selected players for the WDF Men's Europe Cup and the WDF Women's Europe Cup must be at least 18 years old on the day before the commencement of match-play.

4.00 DRAW

The draw for all knock-out Singles and knock-out Pairs events shall be conducted in such a way that in the first round of match-play, no country shall meet another country more than once.

The differential of "Byes" between countries shall not be greater than one (1).

The order of play for all matches in all events will be determined automatically by the official WDF computer software programme.

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5.00 SEEDING

Each specific event in the Men's and Women's Europe Cups shall be seeded. Seeding shall be based on the points scored in the relative event at the previous Europe Cup. Seeding shall be allocated to countries and not players. When determining the seeding positions "bonus points" awarded for wins in Round Robin group matches or final group placing shall not be included.

In the event of two or more countries having the same number of points the seeding positions will be decided by the total overall points obtained in the previous Europe Cup. Should this not be conclusive then a random draw will be made.

If a country which would have been seeded under these criteria does not enter a team or is forced to make a late withdrawal their allocated seeding places will be filled by making a random draw from all non-seeded countries that have entered.

6.00 MATCH TIE-BREAK RULE

All Matches in the WDF Europe Cup are subject to the Match Tie-break rule if they reach the following position:

- If the score reaches 3-3 in best of 7 matches
- If the score reaches 4-4 in best of 9 matches
- If the score reaches 5-5 in best of 11 matches
- If the score reaches 6-6 in best of 13 matches
- If the score reaches 8-8 in Four Person Team match

In Pairs and Four Person Team matches one player shall be nominated from each Pair/Team to play the leg.

A "Bull" throw shall be taken to decide the order of play. The player representing the Pair/Team which started the match shall throw first for the "Bull". The player throwing nearest to the bull shall start the leg. In the event of a tie the throw shall be re-taken in reverse throwing order until a decision is reached. During the "Bull" throw all darts entering the "25" or "Bull" sectors shall be removed before the opponent takes his/her throw.

7.00 THE GROUP TIE-BREAK RULE (Four Person Team only)

If two teams have the same number of points the following criteria are used to separate them:

- 1: Leg difference
- 2: Result of the match played between the two tied teams.

If three teams are tied on the same number of points, the leg differences are the same, and each team has won one of the three matches involving those three teams then a tie-break shall be played.

In the Tie-break each tied team shall select one player to play the tie-break. All players shall play on one board. The throwing order shall be established by a Bull throw. The Bull throw shall determine the throwing order 1: 2: 3 for the first leg. The throwing order for the second leg shall then be 2: 3: 1 and the third leg 3: 1: 2. The fourth and final leg shall be 1: 2: 3. The first player/team to win two (2) legs will be declared the winner of the tie-break.

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8.00 POINTS ALLOCATIONS

Four Person Team Event	First place	= 58 points
	Second place	= 38 points
	Joint 3 rd	= 22 points
	Joint 5 th	= 10 points
	Joint 9 th	= 4 points
	Joint 17 th	= 2 points
	Joint 33 rd	= 1 point

In the Four-Person Team Event the Group Winner shall be awarded "3" points

The Runner-up in each group shall receive "2" points.

In addition all teams shall be awarded "1" point for each match won in a Round-Robin Group.

Pairs Event	First Place	= 42 points
	Second place	= 30 points
	Joint 3 rd	= 20 points
	Joint 5 th	= 12 points
	Joint 9 th	= 6 points
	Joint 17 th	= 2 points

Singles Event	First place	= 28 points
	Second place	= 21 points
	Joint 3 rd	= 15 points
	Joint 5 th	= 10 points
	Joint 9 th	= 6 points
	Joint 17 th	= 3 points
	Joint 33 rd	= 1 point

In all events the points awarded for positions obtained in each event are only awarded to players, pairs or teams which have won at least one match.

The country achieving the highest total of points from all three events shall be crowned the **WDF Europe Cup Champions**. In the event of a tie for first place those countries shall be declared the **Joint WDF Europe Cup Champions**.

9.00 FOUR PERSON TEAM EVENT

Seeded teams will be placed in groups using the following formula:

Eight Groups:

Group A	Group B	Group C	Group D	Group E	Group F	Group G	Group H
1	8	5	4	3	6	7	2

Four Groups:

Group A	Group B	Group C	Group D
1 – 8	5 – 4	3 – 6	7 – 2

Non seeded teams will be entered into the groups by random draw. Teams advancing to the "knock-out" stages will be entered into the bracket as follows.

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The Knock-out Bracket: For Eight Groups

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| 1: Winner Group A | 9: Winner Group E |
| 2: Second Group G | 10: Second Group C |
| 3: Winner Group B | 11: Winner Group F |
| 4: Second Group H | 12: Second Group D |
| 5: Winner Group C | 13: Winner Group G |
| 6: Second Group E | 14: Second Group A |
| 7: Winner Group D | 15: Winner Group H |
| 8: Second Group F | 16: Second Group B |

The Knock-out Bracket: For Four Groups

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| 1: Winner Group A | 9: Winner Group C |
| 2: Fourth Group B | 10: Fourth Group A |
| 3: Second Group D | 11: Second Group B |
| 4: Third Group C | 12: Third Group D |
| 5: Second Group C | 13: Second Group A |
| 6: Third Group A | 14: Third Group B |
| 7: Winner Group B | 15: Winner Group D |
| 8: Fourth Group D | 16: Fourth Group C |

Playing Format

The playing format will be best of seventeen (17) legs, each 501 up, with a straight start and a double or bull to finish. All matches will terminate when one team wins nine (9) legs.

The Four Person Team event shall commence with a Round Robin series. Teams shall be divided into groups in which all teams shall play each other once. From these groups the best teams will advance to the knock-out final stages.

Where there are eight (8) Groups the two (2) best teams will advance.

Where there are four (4) Groups the four (4) best teams will advance.

In the event of two countries having obtained the same number of points in the Group matches final positions will be decided using the following criteria.

1. Total Leg difference
2. Result of the match between the two tied teams

In the event of three countries having obtained the same number of points in the Group matches final positions will be decided using the following criteria.

1. Total Leg Difference
2. Results of matches between the tied teams
3. A "Tie-break" shall be played.

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10.00 PAIRS EVENT

Seeded teams will be placed in the knock-out bracket using the following formula:

Two Groups

Group A	Group B
1 – 8 – 5 – 4	3 – 6 – 7 – 2

Non-seeded pairs will be placed into the brackets using a random draw.

Playing Format

Opening rounds: Best of seven (7) legs each 501 up, with a straight start, finish on a double or bull.

Semi-Finals: Best of nine (9) legs. Final: Best of eleven (11) legs.

11.00 SINGLES EVENT

Seeded players will be placed in the knock-out bracket using the following formula:

Four Groups

Group A	Group B	Group C	Group D
1 – 8	5 – 4	3 – 6	7 – 2

Non-seeded pairs will be placed into the brackets using a random draw.

Playing Format

Opening rounds: Best of seven (7) legs each 501 up, with a straight start, finish on a double or bull.

Quarter-Finals: Best of nine (9) legs. Semi-Finals: Best of eleven (11) legs. Final: Best of thirteen (13) legs.

12.00 THROWING ORDER

The designated Board Official will arrive at the match board in good time before the start of a match with the Match Sheet. The Match Sheet will contain the names of the players who shall play in the match, their country, the board number and the scheduled starting time of the match.

The Match Sheet will also indicate the order of play and the throwing order. The match Sheet will also clearly indicate which Player, or Pair shall start the match.

13.00 PRACTICE DARTS

Each player is entitled to six (6) practice darts on the assigned match board prior to a match. No practice darts may be thrown during any floor matches. Practice darts during "stage" matches are permitted only after players have returned to the stage after a break, and then only after permission has been given by the Stage Referee.

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14.00 REPLACEMENTS DUE TO ABSENTEEISM

Players who are unable to attend the Europe Cup may be replaced. Replacements will normally be permitted until the end of the Team managers Meeting which takes place in the afternoon on the day before match-play commences.

Countries wishing to make replacements must inform the WDF Executive as soon as possible providing the names of the absent player and the name of the substitute. Teams and Pairs line-ups may not be changed as a result of a replacement.

15.00 SUBSTITUTIONS DURING MATCH-PLAY

In the Pairs and Team events a player may be substituted if unable to continue for a "bona-fide" reason. In such cases one substitute will be permitted. Substitution can only be made before the start of a match and only by an individual who has not already played in the current Europe Cup.

16.00 DISPUTES

In the instance of a dispute occurring during match-play the match concerned shall be stopped immediately. Both Team managers shall then accompany the Board Official to the Floor Manager or the Control desk where the matter will be resolved. All players shall remain at the match-board.

In the instance of an appeal against a ruling the appeal shall be heard by an appointed WDF Executive Officer whose decision shall be final and binding.

Appeals to other WDF Executive Officers shall not be permitted.

17.00 TEAM MANAGERS MEETINGS

During the afternoon prior to the start of match-play the WDF Tournament Director shall hold a meeting for all team managers. The WDF Tournament Director will use this meeting to explain procedures and supply the Team managers with the latest information concerning the Cup and answer any questions which may arise.

18.00 DEFINITION ON PLAYER'S ELIGIBILITY – WDF BYE-LAW No: 7.05

WDF Europe Cup and Area Cups

In addition to complying with the terms of Clause 2.01 to establish themselves as 'playing members' all participants must also meet the following conditions;

To play for a WDF Member Darts Body in an official WDF Cup, a person must have resided within the national entity represented by that WDF Member Darts Body for at least three (3) years immediately prior to the date of the Cup in question.

In the case where two or more WDF Member Darts Bodies are situated within one national entity, the above requirement shall be interpreted as residence in the national entity.

A WDF Member Darts Body may impose additional eligibility requirements for its players.

A person, eligible to play for a WDF Member Darts Body, who moves from the Country represented by that WDF Member Darts Body, shall remain eligible to play for that WDF Member Darts Body until such time as he or she meets the Eligibility requirements of another WDF Member Darts Body.

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Any person who has played for a Member Darts Body in an official WDF Cup shall not play for another Member Darts Body in an official WDF Cup earlier than the third calendar year after the last year in which he or she played for the former Member Darts Body.

In the course of the twelve months prior to the scheduled date of a EUROPE Cup or Area Cup a WDF Playing member must have played at least 65% of their International Singles Events in tournaments which are recognised in the WDF EUROPE ranking Systems as well as International Singles events promoted/organized between Member Darts Bodies and recognised by the EUROPE Darts Federation

IE: Events such as, but not limited to, the 6 Nations Cup, Baltic Cup, Celtic Cup, Mediterranean Cup, Nordic Cup, and the Spring Cup.

Note 1: This rule shall not apply to youth players.

Note 2: Additional clarification is available in the WDF Bye-Laws document.

It is the responsibility of the officials of a player's respective WDF Member Darts Body to check and properly verify the eligibility of a player to represent that darts body in a WDF Cup or Area Cup.

In the instance of a dispute arising in regard to Clause 7.05, the context shall be put to the WDF Executive for a ruling which shall be final and binding.

19.00 COMPLIANCE WITH ANTI-DOPING RULES

All players and officials shall comply with the requirements laid down in the WDF Code of Practice on Anti-Doping.

20.00 APPLICATION TO HOST A WDF EUROPE CUP

An application to 'host' WDF Europe Cup must be made in writing by an accredited WDF Member Darts Body at least two years prior to the date of the tournament.

The WDF approval of an application may not be given for a tournament scheduled on a date which is more than four (4) years in advance of the date of the application being heard.

An official 'hosting' application form is available for download on the WDF website.

21.00 REVISION NOTES

The Seventh revision of the WDF Europe Cup Playing Rules and Format provides a simplified presentation of the contents of the previous revision.

This revision includes the introduction of the Four Person Team event in the WDF Women's Europe Cup.

The page numbers in the Index of Contents have been amended accordingly.