

ESBC
European Senior Bowlers Committee



Rules and regulations
European Senior Bowling
Championships
2025

After ESBC Meeting in Hamburg, Germany

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Chapter 1 Rules Annual ESBC meeting

1. Annual meeting.

- 1.1 The ESBC (European Senior Bowlers Committee) has the annual meeting during the E.C. (European Championships) usually in June on the first Sunday at 10.00 o'clock.
- 1.2 The meeting will be attended by the presidium of ESBC, representatives of all countries, honourable members and invited guests approved by the presidium of ESBC.
- 1.3 In the meeting the following items will be discussed and decided:
 - 1.3.1 Minutes of previous ESBC meetings.
 - 1.3.2 Confirmation of the E.C. host from next year.
 - 1.3.3 Confirmation of the entry fee for the E.C. from next year.
 - 1.3.4 Discussion and confirmation for countries willing to host an E.C. in the future including a presentation by those countries.
 - 1.3.5 Discussion and approval of ESBC rules and regulations.
 - 1.3.6 Discussion and approval of the financial report.
 - 1.3.7 Election of an ESBC presidium member in the function, president, secretary, treasurer, tournament director and IT delegate for a period of three years.
 - 1.3.8 Other points from representatives or ESBC presidium.
 - 1.3.9 The ESBC Presidium will send invitations for the next ESBC meeting.
The ESBC Secretary will send out the minutes of the meeting by the end of October.

2. Time table for proposals.

- 2.1 All proposals from representatives must be done in writing by letter, fax or E-mail to the secretary of ESBC.
- 2.2 Proposals concerning the ESBC playing rules must be forwarded to the secretary of ESBC before March 1st of each year. (The presidium of ESBC can discuss those proposals during their inspection visit of the E.C. host for next year).
- 2.3 Countries willing to host an ESBC E.C. in the future must inform the ESBC secretary before March 1st of each year.
- 2.4 The ESBC secretary sends all information and proposals needed for the annual meeting not later than June 1st of each year. The information will be send by E-mail and if a country has no E-mail or on request by normal mail.
- 2.5 Other points must be forwarded to the ESBC secretary before June 10th of each year.

3. Participants of the ESBC meeting.

- 3.1 Each participating country is allowed to attend the meeting with a maximum of two representatives. Only one representative has the right to vote.
- 3.2 Each participating country is allowed to bring a translator to the meeting at their own costs.
- 3.3 Honourable members are allowed to attend the meeting and have speaking rights.
- 3.4 Members of the presidium of EBF (European Bowling Federation) are allowed to attend the meeting and have speaking rights.

3.5 ESBC presidium members are in charge of leading the meeting and have all rights.

4. Voting in the ESBC Meeting.

4.1 Every participating country present in the meeting with a maximum of two representatives is allowed to vote and the number of votes that these countries have are:

- 1 vote for countries with 1 - 10 players
- 2 votes for countries with 11 - 50 players
- 3 votes for countries with 51 - 100 players
- 4 votes for countries with 101 or more players

The number of votes every country has will be announced and sent out together with the invitation and the agenda of the ESBC meeting. It will be based on the number of players known by the OC of the host country after the deadline on February 15th for registration has passed.

4.2 Honourable members and members of the presidium of EBF have no voting rights.

4.3 ESBC presidium members have no voting rights, only in case a presidium member is the official representative of an attending country, he or she has a voting right.

4.4 Every country may represent only 1 other country. This representation must be given in writing to the presidium of ESBC before the meeting.

5. Decisions of the meeting.

5.1 Decisions of the meeting will be made by simple majority.

5.2 In case of tied votes, a motion or proposal shall be considered as rejected.

5.3 In case of tied votes by elections, a second or third vote shall take place.

5.4 The representatives in the meeting can make new proposals or amendments to proposals, but changes can, if carried, for the first time become effective at the next year tournament

6. Secret Voting.

6.1 There will be secret voting if there are two or more candidates for a function in the presidium of ESBC.

6.2 If there is only one candidate for a function in the presidium of ESBC, at least two representatives of different countries can ask for a secret voting.

6.3 If two representatives of different countries want to have a secret voting, there will be a secret voting.

6.4 If there are two or more countries willing to host an E.C. in a certain year, the meeting will choose a country by secret voting.

6.5 Secret voting will be done by voting on paper. The secretary of ESBC will provide voting paper in different colours. The presidium of ESBC will decide which voting paper will be used for the voting.

6.6 A committee of three representatives will count the votes and announce the outcome of the voting. The presidium of ESBC will ask representatives of the meeting to join the voting committee.

7. Official language of the ESBC meeting.

- 7.1 The official language of ESBC is English.
- 7.2 A representative of a participating country is allowed to bring an interpreter to the meeting at its own costs.

8. Election of presidium members of ESBC.

- 8.1 The ESBC presidium is elected at the annual ESBC meeting.
 - 8.1.1 Time of duty for presidium ESBC:
Every member of the ESBC presidium will be elected for 3 years.
 - 8.1.2 Election scheme presidium ESBC
Elections for president will be in 2025 - 2028 and so on,
Elections for secretary will be in 2026 - 2029 and so on,
Elections for IT delegate will be in 2026 - 2029 and so on,
Elections for treasurer will be in 2027 - 2030 and so on.
Elections for tournament director will be in 2027 - 2030 and so on
- 8.2 Vacancies presidium ESBC
When a member of the ESBC presidium ceases to be member of any EBF member federation or in case of death, serious illness or refusal to work by any of them, the remaining presidium members will take over the position to the next meeting.
The vacancies will be filled by elections; the newly elected presidium member will be re-elected in above schedule.
- 8.3 Auditor
The auditor will come from the country that is hosting the EC and is a member of the Organizing Committee of that country (preferably the chairman or the treasurer).
He or she must have the necessary qualifications to undertake this duty.
In the audit report, it needs to be clearly stated that the financial situation of ESBC has been seen and that the auditor agrees with the fact that the finances are up to a date and certify that the financial report given is correct.

9. Submitting a candidacy to host an EC

Every year a country can submit their candidacy as a host for the European Championships (EC) to the annual ESBC meeting, at least three (3) years before the intended EC will take place. The candidate must inform the ESBC Presidium, in writing, before March 1st in the year they want to announce their candidacy in the annual ESBC meeting.

In that ESBC meeting (3 years ahead of the actual EC) a candidate must inform the ESBC meeting at least about the following items: the city where the E.C. will be played, how many bowling centres and lanes are available, how many players can attend, the availability of airport(s), train station(s), hotels and transport.
Of course, a candidate is welcome to add more items to get the meeting interested in the host country.

One year later (two years ahead of the EC) a candidate must give a presentation in the

ESBC meeting about some interesting facts of the city where the EC will be held and specifics about the bowling centres and the hotels that will be used including an estimate of the hotel rates, entry fees for players and guests and more details about transportation and other items or changes that were being mentioned a year before.

If there are more candidates, the meeting will decide which candidate will be chosen. In case of a vote, simple majority by one vote is enough. The voting will be by secret vote.

Since the official language of the ESBC is English the representatives of the country that will take place in the Organizing Committee must speak English.

A year before the E.C. the candidate should give a final presentation in the annual ESBC meeting of all subjects mentioned above. The presentation must include an invitation with all details mentioned above including the number of days the EC will be played, definite entry fee for players and guests and hotels rates.

The meeting will decide if final presentation and the costs are satisfactory and if the host for next year, can be confirmed.

Chapter 2 Championships regulations

1. **Date of playing the championships.**

The European Championships for seniors, sanctioned by the EBF, will **usually** be played in the last week of June.

2. **Start of championships.**

The Championships will start on Sunday and end on Friday or Saturday. The host country will provide the meeting with the number of days needed (5 or 6) when they do the presentation in the meeting where they will be elected as a host. It can't be changed afterwards.

3. **Schedule for playing the events.**

The playing schedule for the players in the events can be changed, but the latest changes will not be later than 14 days before the EC starts. If there are players cancelling after this deadline or during the EC, pacers will be needed to take their places. Each participant must play on three different days, in single, double and trio events. Unless there are special circumstances every player has to play in the morning, the afternoon and the evening. Players that have played in the last squad in the evening will not be scheduled in for the first squad the next day.

4. **Playing time.**

Normal playing time is from 09.00 to maximum 24.00 hours.

Exceptions (if needed to let everyone that registered play) can be made for:

Countries that arrive early before the EC. They can be asked to play before or after the opening. Players from the host country and countries that registered after the deadline, by adding a squad in the early morning or ending after 24.00 hrs.

The countries involved should approve with exception in writing or they will not be able to play. The host country must provide transport and all other facilities mentioned in the rules for bowlers and guests.

5. **Master finals.**

The Championships will be concluded with the Master finals on the last day.

6. **Team captains meeting.**

A team captains meeting will be held on Saturday to provide every country with the latest information on the Championships.

7. **Representation by country.**

Each country will be represented by a maximum of two (2) persons, who should be country co-ordinators or members of the ESBC presidium.

8. **Opening Ceremony.**

After the team captains meeting the Championships will be officially opened with an Opening Ceremony which will at least include a bowler parade with flag display.

- 9. Lane maintenance.**

The full length of the lanes must be completely stripped (dry) and dressed before each shift/squad. The official Championships pattern(s) will be handed out to all the participating countries at the team manager meeting.
- 10. Conditioning of the lanes.**

For the lane conditioning requirements see bowl.com/information, then go to USBC equipment specifications and in the manual look for lane dressing and lane maintenance.
- 11. ESBC Medals.**

ESBC medals, gold first, silver and bronze to second and third place, made with tools available in Helsinki.
- 12. Medal presentation.**

The medal presentation can be held after the Masters for all events or after each event and preferably before the commencement of the next event. The way the medals will be presented must be presented in the invitation booklet or in the team captains meeting.
- 13. EBF medals for winners of the Masters.**

The winners of the Masters will receive the official EBF medal.
National anthems shall be played for the winners.
- 14. Medals for the all-events.**

When the singles, doubles and trio's events have been played, the all events scores for every player will be known. There are medals for the all events after 18 games. The best 3 players in the age categories men A, men B, men C, women A, women B and Women C will be awarded with the ESBC gold, silver and bronze medal.
- 15. Closing Ceremony.**

There will be a closing Ceremony which shall at least include appropriate remarks by representatives of the Host Committee and/or ESBC.
- 16. Victory Banquet.**

The last evening of the Championships will be concluded with a Victory Banquet accessible to all the participants and registered guests.
- 17. Flag of ESBC.**

During the Victory Banquet or the Closing Ceremony the ESBC flag will be forwarded to the next organizing committee.
- 18. Transportation.**

Incoming groups or single participants will be on one ride together, meaning that one or another might have to wait a few minutes up to a maximum of one hour. This can happen to smaller and bigger groups, single participants and as long as the organizer has to transfer everybody within the time frame (which he will always be able to).

In this case, there is no need for a group definition.

The organizer is obliged to arrange transfers from and to an airport and railway station announced in advance. This obligation will be in effect for all arrivals 24 hours before the team captains meeting (Friday 15.00 hours) until Saturday midnight before the start of the EC. For the departures, the host has the obligation to transport people up to 24 hours after the last event of the EC (Victory Banquet).

Players and official guests can always ask the OC if they can arrange transport for them outside the time frame mentioned above and it is up to the OC if they will be able to make arrangements at the costs of the persons that ask for this extra service.

There will be a regular bus connection between all the bowling centres and between all official hotels and other accommodations. Busses will run from Saturday before the Opening Ceremony.

19. Hotels and other accommodations.

The Organizing Committee shall offer good accommodation for a reasonable price. The offer must include hotel accommodation with breakfast and never full of half board. The host country also has the liberty to arrange more official accommodations, like apartments, camping's etc. It is up to the guests to accept this offer or make their own arrangements.

20. Entries.

The minimum number of possible participants is 500. This means that at least 12 lanes for the single event, 12 lanes for the doubles event and 14 lanes for the trio event are necessary.

21. Restriction players of hosting country.

The number of participants from each country is unrestricted, but the maximum number of bowlers from one country may never be more than 25 percent (%) of the total.

22. Restriction players of all countries.

If there are more entries than the maximum capacity for that year, each country has the right to bring the same percentage of bowlers as the average over the last three (3) years. There are two exceptions to the above though.

1. If there are entries from new countries, they will have the right to enter with a maximum of 3 players first.
2. For the calculation of average in the last three (3) years the percentage of any host country will be excluded for the year they organized the EC.

23. Calculation of Restriction players of all countries.

If an overcapacity occurs first countries that didn't participate in the past will get a maximum of 3 places and the overcapacity must be distributed in this way: 50% to the host country, if not breaking the rule of 25% of the total number of players. The other 50% will be decided by the ESBC Board according to past years' participation

and justice.

24. Who is allowed to enter bowlers?

Entries are only possible through the ESBC representative or the national EBF member federations, entries from individual bowlers will not be accepted.

25. Appeal of not accepted player.

Only if a single representative will not accept a player, or group of players, and there is no appeal possible, the ESBC Presidium has the final decision for participating.

26. Entry fees.

The entry fee for bowlers may consist of:

- the costs of transportation
- the costs of Opening/Closing Ceremonies
- the costs of the Victory Banquet
- the costs of Championships games, including costs of medals
- the costs of organizing the Championships
- the ESBC charge € ~~9,00 (new 2018)~~ 14,00
- the EBF charge € 1,00 (one Euro since 2004)

27. Payment ESBC and EBF charge.

The Organizing committee must pay the ESBC and EBF charge in advance to the treasurer of ESBC. Before May 1st the organizer must pay 80% of the total charge.

The rest of the amount must be paid before the closing ceremony of the championships.

28. Entry fee for bowlers.

All bowlers must pay the full fee, even if they do not need any transportation or do not participate in the Victory Banquet.

29. Entry fee for guests.

The fee for non-bowling guests is the same, less the costs of bowling and the ESBC/EBF charge, even if they do not need any transportation or do not participate in the Victory Banquet.

30. Information and gifts.

Bowlers and guests will receive the same information and gifts. The playing schedule and the bus schedule should be received by all players and guests in the welcome package.

31. Agreement presidium ESBC.

The ESBC Presidium must agree with entry fees and must have a complete view on the budget and the information handed out to the players and guests.

32. How and when to pay.

The entry fees must be paid in advance in Euro (€), without any exception, before the deadline mentioned in the invitation booklet.

33. Deadlines, cancelations and refunds.

The deadlines for the return of the forms and the payment are the same every year.

1. Registrations countries with an estimate of the players and guests and the names of the team captains and the head of delegation: January 15th
2. Registration deadline for players and guests: February 15th
3. Registration deadline for hotels: March 01st
4. Payment deadline for players and guests: March 01st

34. Substitute player.

When a country has a player that will not be able to participate, but when he or she will be replaced with some other player there is no cancellation, but only a change in names and/or sexes.

There will not be an additional charge of fees for the substitute player and no return of fees for the original player.

When the hotel room is changed into a more expensive sort of room, the difference has to be paid in addition to the original hotel rate.

34.1 Cancellations with return of fees

After the official deadlines for registration and the booking of the hotels the participation of a country is definite.

Participants and guest that withdraw their entries and hotel booking before March 01th will not have to pay the entry fee and the hotel. This means cancellation is possible with a refund of 100% minus 10 % bank costs for players from countries not connected to the IBAN system.

Participants and guest that withdraw their entries and hotel bookings after March 01st and through April 1st will have to pay 50 % of the entry fee and the hotel. This means you will receive a refund of 50% minus 10 % bank costs for players from countries not connected to the IBAN system, when you cancel your participation.

34.2 Cancellations without any return of fees.

Participants and guest that withdraw their entries and hotel bookings after April 1st will have to pay 100 % of the entry fee and the hotel, and will not get any refund at all.

34.3 Penalty for lack of payment.

Countries that have withdrawn their entries and hotel bookings after the deadlines mentioned in this article and that refuse to pay the host country for the number of participants, guests and rooms booked will be suspended for future European Championships until they have paid the full amount they owe to any host country.

35. Inspection Meeting of Presidium ESBC and the Kegel LaneMapper.

In the year before a host country will organize an EC there will be a meeting of the ESBC Presidium in March or April. This meeting will take place preferably in the city where the EC is held. During this visit the bowling centres, accommodations and all details concerned will be inspected. The Organizing Committee needs the approval of the ESBC Presidium for all of their plans and budget and will agree upon the additional rules for organizers.

During this inspection the lanes of the bowling centres that are being used in the European Championships, the Technical Delegate of the EBF will use the Kegel LaneMapper to measure the topography and the effect that has for bowling. The costs for the inspection will be paid by the organizing committee, but of course they are free to get the bowling centres to pay for these costs. The costs will contain:

- The fee for EBF € 450,00 since 2023.
- The fee for each lane that must be inspected € 50,00 per lane in 2023.
- The travel costs for the EBF delegate and the equipment.
- The accommodation during the inspection and his expenses for food and drinks.

The mapping of the lanes is mandatory. If the lanes are not within the international specifications, they need to be repaired.

36. Confirmation hosting country for the European Championships.

Every year at the meeting during the Championships the site for the next year will be confirmed, after the presentation to the country representatives. With this information goes an entry form and information about the closing-date for entering and the account number for the payment of the entry fees. At the same time the Organizing Committee gives a deadline for sending in the needed information such as line ups. The invitation will be mailed to all countries not present in the meeting and all National Federation members of the EBF.

37. Election hosting countries for the European Championships.

Because more and more people are competing in the E.C. and that fund raising and finding suitable locations gets harder hosting countries will need more time to properly organize the championships.

During the annual ESBC meeting the sites for the next three years will be elected after presentations of the candidates. To prevent there will be the same hosts repeatedly the time interval between two EC's will be at least 8 years.

(This means that in the annual meeting of 2024 the hosts were confirmed to be Finland in 2025 and Italy in 2026). New applications need to be with the presidium in writing, in accordance with rule 9 chapter 1, before any annual meeting.

38. Recognition of EBF.

The ESBC Presidium will inform the President of the EBF and ask for recognition for that year and for the EBF medals.

39. Information of organizing committee.

After the closing time, the Organizing Committee will inform the representatives of the participating countries and the Presidium of the ESBC how many entries have been received and whether all the entries can be accepted or not (in case of too many entries). The ESBC Presidium will act accordingly to rule 23 when there are more entries than places available.

40. The official language during the Championships.

The official language of the ESBC during the championship is English.

41. Organizing committee is not able to host and E.C.

If, for whatever reason, the Organizing Committee is not able to organize the Championships, the ESBC Presidium will try to find another host for that year.

42. Cases not mentioned.

In all cases not mentioned in these rules the ESBC Presidium will make the final decision and act in the interest of the senior bowlers!

Target for ESBC

The European Senior Bowlers Committee wishes to organise European Senior Bowling Championships for all senior bowlers of one of the member Federations of EBF. It is and should be an open Championship for all seniors without any restriction on age or bowling average.

The motto of ESBC is like the motto of the Olympic Games:

“Participating is more important than winning”.

One may also say

“Senior bowlers do not play against each other but with each other”.

Chapter 3 General Playing Rules.

1. Age groups and Women and Men.

The championships will be played in three age groups and women and men are divided in different groups.

2. Age eligibility.

The players in the European Championships must be 50 years of age or above in the year the championship is conducted.

3. The age groups.

Women 50 – 59 years old, name of group:	Women age group A
Women 60 – 69 years old	Women age group B
Women 70 years and older	Women age group C

Men 50 – 59 years old, name of group:	Men age group A
Men 60 – 69 years old	Men age group B
Men 70 years and older	Men age group C

For the classification in the age group the first day of the championships will determine what category is in order. This means that only in category A there can be persons that are still 49.

4. Bonus for bowlers in the age groups B and C.

Participants in the Women and Men age groups B and C will receive for each game played, a bonus of 1 point for each full year they are older than the age of 65 years.

4.1 The bonus is for every event in the age groups B and C Singles, Doubles, Trios and Masters.

4.2 The bonus must be visible in the results that are published during the EC and in the version of the results that will be handed out to the countries afterwards.

5. Mixed Teams.

Mixed teams means women and men are together in one team and these teams are not allowed.

6. Nationality.

All participants must possess the nationality of the country they represent. The sanction is written in rule 45.

7. Bowling licence and suspension.

All participants must be in possession of a licence or national bowling pass of the country they represent and shall not be under suspension by any member federation. The sanction is written in rule 47.

8. Illegible to compete.

The Championships are only open to persons of countries that are a member of EBF. The sanction is written in rule 46.

- 9. Smoking.**
During the championships smoking is not permitted for anybody in the bowling centre. (In most European countries smoking inside a public building is forbidden by law)
- 10. Ball Information Form.**
All players must fill in the “Ball information form” handed out by the organizing committee in front of the start of the Championships. The form must contain all information from the players, the number of balls that will be used in the EC, the brand and number of the ball and all other details to determine the validity of the ball used.
The sanction is written in rule 48.
- 11. Practice before the events.**
There will be 5 minutes’ practice for each player before every event, which means 10 minutes before single and double event, and 15 minutes before the trio event.
- 12. Number of Games.**
All participants must play 6 games singles, 6 games doubles and 6 games in the trio event.
- 13. Squad or Shift.**
Each block of six games is also mentioned a (full) squad/shift or event.
- 14. When to play the events.**
The single, double and trio event must be played on different days of the Championships.
- 15. Change of lanes.**
After 2 games in the single, double and trio event, the players will change lanes in order to meet other opponents. Bowlers starting their first game on left lanes will turn left, bowlers on right lanes will turn right. The size of the shift will depend on the number of lanes of the centre. It will be announced at the team manager meeting.
- 16. Not allowed to leave the lanes.**
All players must stay in their lanes for the full squad/shift.
For the explanation of the term squad or shift see rule 13.
- 17. Leaving the lanes.**
Players are only allowed to leave the lanes with approval of the referee.
(Meaning a player must stay in the playing area during the total of 6 games and is not allowed to leave the playing area after 2 or 4 games.)
The sanction is written in rule 48.
- 18. Players per lane in singles and doubles.**
The single and double events will be played with 2 players per lane.
Each game will be played by using 2 lanes immediately adjoining each other, whereby the players shall change lanes after each frame (American system.)

- 19. Boosters in single and double events.**
There must be at least 1 booster in the single and double events, in case there are no participants enough.
- 20. Different age groups in one team.**
If a double consists of 2 players from different age groups, they must play in the age group of the youngest player.
If a double consists of 1 or 2 B or C age players the bonus for B and C group players will be awarded in the result of the doubles. (See rule 4)
- 21. Players per lane in trio events.**
The trio event will be played with three players per lane.
Each game will be played by using the two lanes immediately adjoining each other, with a change of lanes after each frame. (American system).
- 22. Booster in Trio event.**
There must be at least 1 booster in the trio event, in case there are not enough participants.
- 23. Bonus for B and C players in Trio event.**
If a trio consists of 1, 2 or 3 B or C age players the bonus for B and C group players will be awarded in the result of the trio. (See rule 4)
- 24. Bowling centres for the different events.**
The trio event can be played in 1 bowling centre, but it is allowed to play the women and men events in different bowling centres.
The singles and doubles can be played in one bowling centre, but it is allowed to play them in different bowling centres by age category and divided in women and men.
- 25. Lane assignments.**
All lane assignments are made by the Organizing Committee in advance and should be made in such a way that the players must play against players from different countries, before and after changing lanes. (as far as possible)
- 26. International teams.**
All countries must give the line-up for doubles and trio's in April each year to the Organizing Committee. In the end, there will be players left, not fitting into a double or trio. The organizing committee will form international teams from these players of different countries. The international teams will compete fully in this event and receive ESBC medals.
- 27. Age groups and international teams.**
The Organizing Committee will look after the age groups and the best way to form an international team.
- 28. Winning of international team.**
If an international team wins an event the European Anthem will be played for the winners. At the same time the European flag will be shown.

29. Booster teams.

A booster team is only possible if there are not enough players to make international teams, due to fewer participants in the Championships.

30. No medals for booster team.

A booster team cannot win any medals, the scores played in booster team only counts for the all events.

31. Elimination Finales in the Masters.

After playing the preceding 18 games the top 6 players in each group have qualified to play the elimination final. The scores of the foregoing 18 games will not be carried over and the players all start at 0 again.

In these finals there will be played 5 games.

Unless the person that is the all event winner in the age category will lose the first game then this game will be replayed for all players in that age category.

So in that case there will a 6 games elimination in that age category or categories.

When there will be a tie in one (or more) of the games in an age category there will be a one ball roll-off, until the tie is broken.

Each game will be played by using 2 lanes immediately adjoining each other, whereby the players shall change lanes after each frame (American system).

And all six players in the same age category start at the same pair of lanes.

After the first game, the player that has the lowest score in the age category is eliminated. There are now 5 players left in each age category.

In the second game, the five remaining players of each age category bowl another game and the players with the lowest score is eliminated. There now 4 players left in every age category.

In the third game, the four remaining players of each age category bowl another game and the players with the lowest score is eliminated. There now 3 players left in every age category. These players will change lanes. The men will bowl at the lanes the ladies were on and vice versa.

In the fourth game, the three remaining players of each age category bowl another game and the players with the lowest score is eliminated, and will receive the bronze EBF medal. There now 2 players left in every age category.

In the fifth game, the two remaining players of each age category bowl another game and the players with the lowest score will receive the silver EBF medal. The player with the highest score will receive the gold EBF medal.

The lane schedule is:

<u>Lane</u>	<u>Left</u>	<u>Right</u>
Game 1	5-3-1	6-4-2
Game 2	5-3-1	4-2
Game 3	3-1	4-2
Game 4	3-1	2
Game 5	1	2

The starting order of the first game will be based on the result of the 18 preliminary games. The starting order in the following games will be based on the result of the last game played.

32. Equal scores in the all events.

Players with equal scores in the all events will get the same medals. In case of a tie for the first position, the next position will get bronze medal. In case of a triple tie for the first position, all will get gold medals, and there will be no other medals. In case of a tie for the second position, there will be no medals for the third position. In case there is a tie for the third position the players will all get a bronze medal.

33. Roll off for 6th place.

When a tie occurs during the Championships for the 6th place in the Masters a roll off game will be bowled until the tie is a broken.

34. Equal scores in single, double and trio event.

When equal scores (ties) are registered for any of the first three positions in the Singles, Doubles or Trio events, co-champions shall be declared. There will not be a play-off for a tie. Teams or players with equal scores will get the same medals. In case of a tie for the first position, the next position will get bronze medal. In case of a triple tie for the first position, all will get gold medals, and there will be no other medals. In case of a tie for the second position, there will be no medals for the third position. In case of a tie for the third position teams or players will all get a bronze medal.

35. Smoking and alcoholic drinks.

Players are not allowed to smoke and consume alcohol or be under the influence of alcohol while in competition, meaning during the entire period of her/his block of 6 games. The sanction is written in rule 48

36. Other drinks, food and fruits.

Non-alcoholic beverages, food, fruits and candy are allowed provided they are not consumed in the player's area. The sanction is written in rule 48

37. Alcohol free beer.

Alcohol free beer is also not allowed! The sanction is written in rule 48.

38. Protests.

Errors in scoring or errors in calculation in tournament play must be corrected by the responsible Tournament Official immediately upon discovery of such an error.

Questionable errors directly important for the results will be decided upon the tournament official of the bowling centre.

The time limit for filing protests on scoring errors is two hours after the first squad/shift the next morning.

The time limit for filing protests on scoring errors in the last day before the masters is two hours after the moment the results are published. If the player does not agree with the decision made by the tournament official a written appeal, by the team captain, should be handed over to the committee of appeal.

39. Foreign substance.

The application of any foreign substance on any part of the approach that detracts from the possibility of other players having normal playing conditions is prohibited.

In the IBF rules is stated that the USBC rules will be followed.

In the USBC rules is stated that products made by bowling manufacturers to help players to get a good slide in their approach, such as shoe slide is permitted, as long as others players don't file a protest that the approach is negatively influenced.

Products that are not on this list in the category approved are prohibited.

The recent USBC list can be found at: <http://www.bowl.com>

40. Bowling Ball cleaning during competition.

Any cloth towel that is non-abrasive and doesn't modify the surface finish of the ball and contains no chemical additives will be acceptable for use during the competition.

The USBC list with approved ball cleaners can also be found at:

<http://www.bowl.com/equipmentspecifications/ballCleaner>

41. Playing uniforms.

a. Players must wear a standard uniform approved by their national federation or national ESBC organization

b. Upper part of the uniform.

In a team event (doubles or trios) players of the same team must wear the same upper part of the uniform, all the same colours and layout.

c. Bottom part of the uniform.

In a team event (doubles or trios) players of the same team can dress individually, but must wear the same colours.

Women may wear skirts, shorts, pants, slacks, half pants or dress shorts.

Men may wear shorts, pants, or slacks.

d. The international teams and booster teams are suspended from playing in the same colours and layout.

The sanction is written in rule 49.

42. Committee of appeal.

The committee of appeal consists of two ESBC presidium members and one non playing member of the ESBC meeting.

43. Protests by a team captain.

All other protests, not mentioned in rules 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40 and 41, must be put in by a team captain or representative of a country.

The protest must be in writing and handed over to the Tournament Official.

The official has to give the protest to the committee of appeal. The committee of appeal will decide and give the verdict in written to all involved and all representatives of countries present. The decision is final.

44. Other protests.

The protests of rule 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40 and 41 must be addressed immediately to the Tournament Official in/of the bowling centre.

45. Sanction for rule 6.

If a player is in breach of rule 6 of chapter 3, the player is allowed to bowl his 18 games, but the results will not be valid. The player will get a result of 0 in all events.

46. Sanction not member of national federation.

When a player is playing for a country that isn't a member federation of the EBF the player is not allowed to enter the European Championships at all.

47. Sanction for player who is suspended.

If a player is under suspension by any national federation or by the EBF the player is not allowed to enter the European Championships at all.

48. Sanctions for breaching rules 10, 17, 35, 36, 37.

When it is established that a player is in breach of rule 10, 17, 35, 36 and 37 he or she will be suspended for the block of games then being played, resulting in a score of 0.

49. Sanction for breaching rule 41

When a player is in breach of rule 41, the following procedure will take place:

The player will be imposed a fine of 10 euro (€ 10,00) in the event where the first offense takes place.

If the player in the next events is not dressed according to rule 41, the player will be disqualified for the event where this new offense takes place.

Explanation:

Before the **next** event the player will have to change his or her playing uniform into the standard uniform which is defined in rule 41. If the player will keep on playing in the same uniform for which he or she got the fine then disqualification will follow for the event where the new offense takes place.

50. Doping.

ESBC recognises the doping rules from the International Bowling Federation (IBF), European Bowling Federation (EBF), the National Bowling Federation (from the country organizing the European Senior Bowling Championships) and World Anti Doping Agency (Wada).

51. Doping tests.

This means that there can be doping tests during the European Senior Bowling Championships if the National Bowling Federation or National anti-doping Agency wishes to do so. ESBC will be fully cooperative with the testing and will recognize any outcome and punishment. (The players must be aware of the doping tests, if they use medicine mentioned on the doping list, they must bring a medical passport, so they can prove it's a medicine). The most recent doping list can be found on the WADA website: <https://www.wada-ama.org/>

52. Proposals and changes of playing rules.

All proposals and changes in the playing rules must be forwarded in writing by mail or e-mail to the secretary of ESBC before March 1st of each year. If the proposals come in after the deadline of March 1st, the proposal will not be discussed in the next meeting in June, but in the following year.

53. Flags

ESBC has two flags of each participating country. "New countries" have to bring with them two flags, one size 100 x 150 cm, and one size 80 x 100 cm.

The organizer that is shipping the flags will be responsible for the fact that from each country there will be two flags sent to the next host. If there will be flags missing the before they are shipped to the next host they will need to order the missing flags at their costs.

The flags must be transported to the next organizing committee. The costs for transport will be paid by the receiving organizing committee.

54. Other matters.

Whenever these rules are not clear or explicit the ESBC presidium will decide.

**All information can be found
On our website**

<http://www.esbc-europe.eu/>

Explanation about medals

Single event:	Place	1	2	3	
Men A		gold	silver	bronze	ESBC medal
Men B		gold	silver	bronze	ESBC medal
Men C		gold	silver	bronze	ESBC medal
Women A		gold	silver	bronze	ESBC medal
Women B		gold	silver	bronze	ESBC medal
Women C		gold	silver	bronze	ESBC medal

Double event:	Place	1	2	3	
Men A		gold	silver	bronze	ESBC medal
Men B		gold	silver	bronze	ESBC medal
Men C		gold	silver	bronze	ESBC medal
Women A		gold	silver	bronze	ESBC medal
Women B		gold	silver	bronze	ESBC medal
Women C		gold	silver	bronze	ESBC medal

Trio event:	Place	1	2	3	
Men		gold	silver	bronze	ESBC medal
Women		gold	silver	bronze	ESBC medal

All events

After the singles, doubles and trio's events have been played, the all events scores for every player will be known. There are medals for the all events after 18 games. The best 3 players in the age categories men A, men B, men C, women A, women B and Women C will be awarded with the ESBC gold, silver and bronze medal.

Masters

<u>Masters:</u>	Place	1	2	3	1
Men A		gold	silver	bronze	EBF medal
Men B		gold	silver	bronze	EBF medal
Men C		gold	silver	bronze	EBF medal
Women A		gold	silver	bronze	EBF medal
Women B		gold	silver	bronze	EBF medal
Women C		gold	silver	bronze	EBF medal