
Rules

World Championship Three Cushion for National Teams

1. Participating Nations

The nation of the title holder (if the title is not older than two years).
The nation of the organizing country.
Each nation has the right to announce two teams.
Here are first of all only the first teams taken into consideration.

One plays with 16, 18, 20 or 24 teams.
In case that there should not be enough inscriptions one will make up according to the following ranking till the nearest number of teams will be reached:

1. B-team of the nation of the title holder
2. B-team of the organizing nation
3. B-team of the nations according to the list of rankings

If more than 24 inscriptions the position on the ranking will be decisive for participation.

2. World List of Rankings for National Teams

The World list of rankings is based on the results of the last five years.
Each nation receives points according to its place in the last years.
(e.g. Sweden place 1 in 2005 = 1 point)
In case that from one nation two teams participate, the nation will receive the points of the best team. (e.g. Sweden A – place 5, Sweden B – place 3, then the nation receives 3 points)
All nations which are not participating automatically receive 25 points.
Should a nation inscribe and should not participate in the tournament, this nation will receive 50 points.

3. General rules for the Championship

1. In the case that a Confederation will not take all places to which they have the right following the given quota's, the organizing Confederation will be able to fill this places.
2. If a team is not present or not able to start the competition, it can be replaced by a reserve-team. In this case the reserve-team takes the position of the absent team. Should more than one team be replaced in this way there will be a draw to decide about the place the teams will take.
3. In groups of three teams or more, each team plays one encounter against all others.
4. In groups of two teams each team plays against the other twice.
5. In case that at the beginning of the Championship two or three teams out of one group should not participate and that in that case no reserve-team is at disposal, one of the other groups will be completed with that remaining team by draw. In this case two teams out of this new group will be qualified.
6. If during the Championship a Team withdraw from the competition in the group, all results of this Team will be taken out of the results. All above regulations are than valid.
7. Each Team can provide a reserve-player, as far as the player has the right to play for his Federation and as far as this player has been announced before the end of the inscription-date.

The utilization of the reserve-player must be brought to the attention of the

Tournament-Director at last 45 minutes before the start of the first matches. The Tournament-Director will than at last 30 minutes before the start of the matches of the Team publically announce this changing.

In case a sportsman of this Team or the whole Team would be disqualified, such replacement is not possible.

8. All Teams must start with two players. A starting of an encounter between two Teams is not possible with only one player of a Team.
9. Whenever a player has to abandon his match for medical reasons to be confirmed by the Tournament Doctor), the result independently of the match results, is to be interpreted in the advance of the opponent.

4. General Rules for all Playing Systems

Each team consists of two sportsmen.

The sportsmen play against each other according to their order of ranking

Team A / sportsmen 1 (rank 1) against team B / sportsmen 1 (rank 1).

Each team match is held at the same time on two billiard tables.

All divisions of the groups are always effected according to the staircase system (Z-system).

Teams of the same nationality, independent of their position on the list of rankings, are seeded in different groups. Then the second team of the same nation will be passed on one group further. The original team of this group takes up the place of the team which had been passed on.

If a team failed after the groups were specified so the reserve team gets the same place of the failed team.

Till the quarter final one is playing best of 3 with sets of 15 points. In the groups each team is playing against each other team.

For the rankings in the games of the groups the following valuation is valid:

1. Match points
2. Positive difference of set points
3. Average
4. Draw of lots

4.1. Time-Regulation-System

The whole championship – included the qualification-rounds – will be played with a time-regulation-system:

On each table a time-clock will be used under the control of the referee and according to following rules:

- limit of 50 seconds (by preference in a count-down order) with lightning warning system at 40 seconds (if not available the referee will give a warning about the 40 seconds-limit)
- penalization-signal (by preference sonoric) after the 50 seconds with putting up of the balls for the opponent as consequence
- one time-out for each set is possible; a time-out can be asked at all time within the 50-seconds period; the new total limit is than brought to 100 seconds.

The clock has to be put up in the sports arena in a good visible way for the sportsmen /women and the spectators.

4.2. Quarter Final

The combinations of the quarter final are freely drawn by lot.

Exception:

In case of 16 and 20 participating teams the following rule is valid:

Each time a winner of a group will get a second one of a group by drawing of lots.

Should the winner of a group meet the second one of his group, a new second one of a group will be drawn lots.

The second one of a group which had been drawn lots first will take the place in the next match.

One is playing best of 5 with sets of 15 points.

Should the winner of a match be previously definite the match will be stopped.

The current set will not be played at an end.

In case of an absolute draw of the match the two sportsmen whose match had been finished first, will play one match-decision-making-set up to 10 points.

The decision-making-set starts with the cushion decision.

In case that the sportsmen who is starting the decision-making-set, is finishing the set in the 1st inning, the opponent will have an after-stroke. In case that the decision-making-set is ending in the 1st inning 10:10, the two sportsmen will play by turns kick-off-balls till the decision. Here each one is playing the same number of innings. That sportsmen is starting who also started the decision-making-set.

4.3. Semi Final and Final

The combinations for the semi final are freely drawn by lot.

Exception:

In case that two teams of the same nation should be standing in the semi final, those ones will play against each other.

Then the other combination is automatically arising.

One is playing best of 5 with sets of 15 points.

The two winners reach the final, the two losers take the 3rd place.

For the semi final and final is as well valid:

Should the winner of a match be previously definite the match will be stopped.

The current set will not be played at an end.

In case of an absolute draw of the match the two sportsmen whose match had been finished first, will play one match-decision-making-set up to 10 points.

In case that the sportsmen who is starting the decision-making-set, is finishing the set in the 1st inning, the opponent will have an after-stroke. In case that the decision-making-set is ending in the 1st inning 10:10, the two sportsmen will play by turns kick-off-balls till the decision.

Here each one is playing the same number of innings. That sportsmen is starting who also started the decision-making-set.

5. Number of Participating Teams: 16

Main Tournament

The 16 teams are divided up according to the current list of rankings (world list of rankings for national teams) in four groups of 4 teams.

The ones placed first and second of each group reach the quarter final.

6. Number of Participating Teams: 18

Preliminary Round

The 18 teams are divided up by the UMB according to the current list of rankings (world list of rankings for national teams) in six groups of 3 teams.

All encounters are played at an end.

The one placed first in each group reaches the quarter final.

The one placed second in each group reaches the intermediate round.

Intermediate Round

The six which are placed second in the preliminary round are divided up according to the order of rankings (results) of the preliminary round in two groups of 3 teams.

The one placed first in each group reaches the quarter final.

7. Number of Participating Teams: 20

- **12 teams play the preliminary round**
- **8 teams are seeded in the order of rankings (according to the world list of rankings for national teams) 1-8 in the main tournament.**

Preliminary Round

The 12 teams of the preliminary round are divided according to the list of rankings (world list of rankings for national teams) in four groups of 3 teams.

The one placed first of each group reaches the next round.

Main Tournament

The 8 teams seeded by the UMB as well as the 4 teams which are placed first in the preliminary round are divided up according to the list of rankings in four groups of 3 teams.

The places of the list of rankings of the initial rankings are composed as follows:

Places 1-8 teams seeded by the UMB according to the order of rankings

Places 9-12 according to the order of rankings (results) in the preliminary round

The ones placed first and second of each group reach the quarter final.

8. Number of Participating Teams: 24

Main Tournament

The 24 teams are divided up by the UMB according to the current list of rankings (world list of rankings for national teams) in eight groups of 3 teams.

The one placed first in each group reaches the quarter final.

9. Advertising & Tournament clothing

See UMB Rules for Advertising and Tournament clothing