

# **RULES FOR EUROPEAN WEBSERVER CHAMPIONSHIP**

(valid from 1 January 2014)

The following tournaments will be played on the webserver. The qualifications for the Preliminaries, Semi-Finals and Candidates' Tournaments reached in accordance with these Rules can be used only once, except for the special qualification provisions based upon ICCF titles or rating points achieved: these can be used only once each calendar year and only at the appropriate level or stage.

From one Preliminary, Semi-Final, Candidates' Tournament or Final, it is only possible to reach one qualification for a further European Championship stage. Qualifications based on results in tournaments are valid for 3 years from the end of the tournament in which the qualification was obtained. Each additional qualification achieved by a player at the same level will be valid for one additional year (for example, a second qualification will be valid for 4 years from the end of the tournament in which the qualification was obtained).

ICCF Tournament Rules 1.0.8 and 1.0.9 are applicable.

## **European Championship Open Round**

Will consist of 7 players per section. Starting continuously.

The following players have the right to participate in the European Championship Open Round:

- (a) players new to ICCF or without an ICCF Rating
- (b) a player rated below 2100 at the time of application.

## **European Championship Preliminaries**

Will consist of 11 players per section. Starting continuously.

The following players have the right to participate in European Championship Preliminaries:

- (a) a player rated 2100 to 2299 at the time of application.
- (b) a player who has won a European Championship Open Round is entitled to one start in the Preliminaries, regardless of rating.
- (c) a player without an ICCF rating who is nominated by the National Federation and accompanied by a statement of qualification confirming the player is considered to be of sufficient strength to enter directly into the Preliminaries.

## **European Championship Semi-Finals**

Will normally consist of 13 players per section. But the Tournament organiser shall have the power to change the number of players to 11, 15 or 17. Starting once per year in September.

The following players have the right to participate in European Championship Semi-Finals:

- (a) a player rated 2300 to 2499 at the time of application.
- (b) a player who finished 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> in a European Championship Preliminary is entitled to one start in a European Championship Semi-Final, regardless of rating.
- (c) the participants of previous or running Candidates who have scored at least 45% of the possible points, if they have not earned a higher qualification.
- (d) the participants of previous or running Semi-Finals who have scored at least 55% of the possible points, if they have not earned a higher qualification.

## **European Championship Candidates**

Will normally consist of 13 players per section. But the Tournament organiser shall have the power to change the number of players to 11, 15 or 17. Starting once per year in March.

The following players have the right to participate in European Championship Candidates:

- (a) a player rated 2500 or over at the time of application.
- (b) the holders of the Grandmaster Title.
- (c) the holders of the Senior International Master Title with a rating over 2400 at the time of application.
- (d) the holders of the International Master Title with a rating over 2450 at the time of application.
- (e) a player who finished 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> in a European Championship Semi-Final is entitled to one start in a European Championship Candidates, regardless of rating.
- (f) the participants of previous or running Finals who have scored at least 45% of the possible points, if they have not earned a higher qualification.
- (g) the participants of previous or running Candidates who have scored at least 55% of the possible points, if they have not earned a higher qualification.

## **European Championship Final**

Will normally consist of 15 players per section. But the Tournament organiser shall have the power to change the number of players to 11, 13 or 17. Starting once every two years subject to the Tournament Organiser's discretion.

The following players have the right to participate in European Championship Final:

- (a) the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> placed players from the previous Final.
- (b) the 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> placed players in the Candidates.

In the event that the number of qualifiers exceeds 17, the tournament organiser shall admit players to the Final in the following order of priority:

- 1/ those players who qualified for a previous Final but were omitted under this order of priority.
- 2/ 1<sup>st</sup> placed player in a previous Final
- 3/ 1<sup>st</sup> placed player from a Candidates section.
- 4/ 2<sup>nd</sup> placed player in a previous Final
- 5/ 2<sup>nd</sup> placed player from a Candidates section
- 6/ 3<sup>rd</sup> placed player in a previous Final

The Final qualifications can be deferred only once.

Where vacancies exist for a Final, after all qualifiers wishing to play have been included, then the European Zonal Director may admit the next qualified players from the previous Final or Candidates, namely those who failed to qualify on the basis of a tie-break. The European Zonal Director also has the right to grant up to two free places on the basis of extraordinary international performance.

It should also be noted that Server qualifications can be used for the Postal stages, but not vice versa.

[Rules approved during ICCF - Europa Meeting, Cracow, Poland, July 23<sup>rd</sup> 2013]