

Meeting of the Technical Committee of 28–29 January 2012

Place: Hotel Winters Offenbacher Hof
Ludwigstrasse 33-37, DE – 63067 Offenbach

Date: 28th January 2012, 9.00 a.m. to 29th January 2012, 1.00 p.m.

Participants: Pasi Aho – chairman (**PA**), Yuki Koshimura (**YK**), Günter Schwarz (**GS**),
Jan Strandberg (**JaS**), Martin Tomanek (**MT**)

Excused: Jon Stanwyck (**JoS**)

Minutes

1. Greetings, establishment of the quorum, voting right

PA opens the meeting, welcomes all participants and explains that **JoS** could not attend due to conflicting duties. Quorum is established, five participants have one vote each.

2. Writer of the minutes, writer of the news flash for WMF homepage and approval of the agenda

MT elected for the secretary of the meeting. **PA** will process a newsflash for the WMF website, utilizing drafted meeting minutes from **MT**. Agenda approved without changes.

3. Feedback from last year's championships

3.1 Feedback to the new mode with two individual titles

PA introduces the topic, explaining his views and feedback received, mostly concerning YEC 2011 in Naturns – the reactions of players and coaches to the new mode are mostly positive but there are also many voices that the team competition is too short now. **JaS** seconds these observations: the general class also seems to be of prevailing opinion that the team competition is too short.

Headquarters: World Minigolf Sport Federation, office manager Bengt Svensson, Kviberg, SE-41582 Gothenburg

Legal seat: registered with seat in Switzerland, registration number CHE-113.818.772

Bank account: BGL BNP Paribas SA, account number 30-070539-54
IBAN LU02 0030 0705 3954 0000; Swift/BIC BGLULL

Website: www.minigolfsport.com / office@minigolfsport.com

Furthermore, **JaS** reports about the problem of media not recognizing there are actually two champ titles experienced during WC 2011.

Possibilities to make the team competition longer further discussed among the TC members. **PA** – for general class, more rounds added to the schedule would also mean more rounds starting with shotgun starts, which are not really appropriate to decide on champions. **PA** also notes that the experience with German media reporting on WC in Stockholm is different than what JaS described regarding the media in Sweden. **GS** – German players also perceive the team competition quite short but they also acknowledge there is not much possibilities to make it longer; **GS** also notes that the possibilities to extend the team competition are even more limited with championships played on one course only, like 2012 SEC in Rozemaai.

3.2 Selection of the K. O. lanes

The issue is not as urgent as it used to be; the decision is being left on the jury more and more now and things are going fluently.

3.3 Results of the initiative to help young and small nations during practice

JaS reports: France, Japan, Latvia, Portugal, Russia asked for help in practice before Stockholm. Assistance was received to the extent it was asked for and teams seemed to be happy with it. **YK** confirms this for Japan. **PA** – during practising before 2011 YEC in Naturns, help provided to the two Portuguese players by local players explaining the course. In general, from **JaS**'s viewpoint the program worked as expected, but nations actually did not demand too much help.

This offer will be again proposed for Porto by **PA** (who will send the offer by a special e-mail), this event is specific in the respect that no national team will be there for practising really early. **JaS** offers he would be available again to provide this kind of support.

3.4 Signatures WADA and media rights

No problems in 2011 except of that the database of signatures was updated after Vergiate, not before. The problem with misspellings of players' names discussed again. Also, transcriptions of Asian names sometimes differ from case to case. National federations should do the checks for their own players (**PA** takes this to his shortlist).

3.5 Best practices from 2011 WMF/EMF events

PA mentions big attention of spectators from general public during WC in Stockholm. **JaS** explains that this was one of the main targets already when deciding about the application for the venue, the organizers also paid big attention and support to the media during the competition. **GS** mentions very professionally arranged opening ceremony of EC in Vergiate. **PA** points out that during YEC in Naturns, there were many helpers for any possible task, even with extra people for every necessary position. The banquet on the closing ceremony, again organized with great personal deployment of the South Tyrolean minigolf clubs members, was remarkable.

4. Current situation of awarded international championships 2012 ff

Responsible officers giving information about status of individual tournament preparations, where necessary. In particular:

4.1 YNC / YWC 2012 Bad Mnder, Germany

4.2 NC / EC 2012 Porto, Portugal

4.3 SNC / SEC 2012 Rozemaai, Belgium

4.4 ECup 2012 Vizela, Portugal

4.5 AOC 2012 Chiangmai, Thailand

4.6 NC / WC 2013 Bad Mnder, Germany

No special remarks to any of these.

4.7 SNC / SEC 2013 Appelscha, The Netherlands

PA, GS report: the tournament will be played on felt only. Dutch federation was contacted about possibility to play on both (felt + miniature) courses but conditions of the organizer were not acceptable. EMF therefore confirmed that only the felt course will be played, as originally planned.

4.8 ECup 2013 Holesov, Czech Republic

4.9 NC / EC 2014 Neutraubling, Germany

No special remarks to these.

4.10 AOC 2014 Kish Island, Iran

Question raised, if the course for the tournament already exists. WMF president has tried to collect information on this issue, until now without success. **YK** is asked to discuss in Asian federation about any backup option in case that the tournament could not take place in Iran for whatever reasons.

4.11 ECup Appelscha 2015, The Netherlands

Will be played again on felt only, as reported by **GS**

5. Invitations of international championships in general

5.1 Improvement of the championship mode

The motion from Austria to DC 2011 concerning minimum number of rounds was forwarded to TC (see DC 2011 minutes 9.1). It was discussed by TC and eventually **dismissed**. TC members think that if 6 rounds for teams were guaranteed under any circumstances as proposed, it could destroy the entire tournament structure in certain situations. Current provisions (i.e. team competitions ending at 14:00 Friday latest) is well balanced and sensible enough.

YC's alternate proposal of team competition schedule for the Youth Championships was thoroughly discussed. YC WMF proposed to make the team competitions to be played over 4+4 rounds in the first two days, with the possibility of reducing to 7 or 6 rounds by decision of the jury. Such a decision could be made during the competition (for reasons like weather, unexpected interruptions etc.) or before the tournament start, if there are good reasons (e.g. too many participants announced, expected high time consumption).

TC decided to **approve** this scheme for 2012 YWC in Bad Münden. A limiting number of participants registered that would automatically "cut down" the number of rounds will be set in the final version of YWC invitation. The same model will be also used in EC Porto 2012 and in other future championships, the number of participants and other mentioned factors allowing. Again, the 8-round extension of the team competitions should apply only if possible to complete within two days. The extension is not applied for Friday's play.

5.2 Purchasing the challenge trophies EC + YWC 2012 + organizer gifts

MT will take care of all 2012 trophies, including EMF events. For strokeplay and matchplay, the trophies should be exactly the same

5.3 Organizers contract (overview of the technical details)

Topic postponed until it is clear, which is the latest version of the masterfile (**PA**).

5.4 Registration process for the ECups

In the past there were certain cases of misunderstanding about who is responsible for sending registration and payments for ECups (national federation vs. participating club). GS reports about EMF's measures: only the national federations will receive the password for e-registration. In case that the fees are not paid in time, only the national federation is the partner for EMF to work out such problems.

6. Final approval of official invitations for international championships 2012

All invitations are checked again and approved. The AOC 2012 Chiangmai / Thailand invitation is not ready yet.

7. World Adventuregolf Masters 2012 and Tour 2013

Jouni Valkjärvi's (FIN) initiative regarding prospective MOS tour discussed: **PA** adds his comments and reports that UK, Russia and Kosovo are interested in organizing MOS events under the WMF umbrella in 2012. Also Sweden (Askim, indoor) is interested to have a tournament in 2013 as soon as the course is ready.

Venues already decided for 2012:

WAGM 2012 - Hastings, UK (May 18-19 – best possible date; the final invitation can be sent out in two weeks)

Prishtina, Kosovo (last weekend of July, before YEC and SEC)

Moscow, Russia (June)

PA plans to be in Kosovo and Moscow for supervising the tournaments. The exact dates for Moscow and Prishtina will be published in about a week. (meanwhile confirmed and published)

Issue of participation of national teams vs. club (private) players discussed. 2011 WAGM was a competition for primarily national teams and players. Bigger participation could be possibly achieved if private players (with no possible obligations of being national team representatives) were allowed too. On the other hand, some federations could (and prefer to) send national teams and receive public support for that. For WAGM 2012, it was decided that the team competitions will be for national teams with an official nomination by their respective national federations, while individual competition would be open (for club players).

8. Discussion on existing applications for international championships 2013 ff. and update Championships Calendar WMF

GS reports that Willisau / Switzerland officially announced interest to organize SEC 2014 (courses being 80% concrete and temporary miniaturegolf), the official application is coming very soon. There is also another promised application for SEC 2014 or 2015 from Askim / Sweden.

Possibility of introducing deadlines for championships applications (currently nonexistent) discussed.

YEC 2013 - Situation with applications received (Lahti/FIN, Portel/POR) explained by **PA**. There is an application for YEC 2013 from Lahti (accompanied by applications for SEC 2014 and WC 2015) since November. Shortly before TC meeting another application for this championship was received from Portel. The situation of concurring applications and possible solutions discussed by TC.

PA will contact Finnish federation to explain the situation and their chances (risk of losing the 2014 SEC, if they cannot alter their applications). The best possible schedule would be 2014 YWC, 2015 WC general class, 2016 SEC. In regards of these concurrences and rumours about further applications coming, all recommendations about the applications are therefore **postponed** for the moment. TC recommends to EMF and WMF boards that all applications they will receive before their next meetings should be decided on in those meetings and not postponed any further.

9 . Topics from Youth Committee meeting 26th November, 2011 Prague

Spread and discussed under other topics of the agenda for practical reasons.

10. International referees

10.1 Update of international referee list

The list was reviewed and updated. TC proposes to add Ermes Franchini (ITA), Roland Gasser (ITA), Tuula Mörck (SWE) and Thomas Zeininger (AUT) to the list. **PA** will contact these persons and ask if they accept the nomination.

10.2 Referee nominations 2012

GS will ask the referees from the list about their availability for 2012 events, then further decisions will be made.

10.3, 10.4 Education programs during Nations Cups, standards for international referees → workshop in Bad Münden (motion YC 2011)

TC discussed the idea of a workshop that should prepare standards for international referees and propose a procedure of their education / examination. The initial meeting will be summoned on Tuesday, August 14th in Bad Münden / Germany, during the YWC week. The DMV education officer Sebastian von Block, **PA**, **MT**, Dieter Helmke and Christian Somnitz will be invited for the meeting.

PA will bring information on Finnish referee tests, **JaS** will organize the Swedish standards/tests. Previous German material is already in possession of TC.

11. Update of checklist and maintenance of equipment for international championships

11. 1 Update of the check list

Motion from YC regarding starting numbers (YC 2011 Prague meeting minutes 13.1.1.) discussed. The updated checklist will set the obligation for organizer to provide some kind of solution for cases when a starting number is lost forever – either a third set of starting numbers kept undistributed in the tournament office or at least some blank starting numbers to be filled in by thick black felt pen or printed immediately. No further changes were proposed.

11.2 Contents of the toolbox for general class

The inventory list will be searched for (help from Gerd Zimmermann). The box is physically in Portugal now. **MT** will physically check the youth box in March during his inspection visit in Bad Münden.

Referee cards (introduced 2012) – **PA** will take care of their purchasing and distribution.

11.3 Update of the sponsor walls

PA gives information. The next update will be made at the beginning of 2013.

11.4 CD's with checked national anthems

Distributed during the meeting for those officers who didn't have it yet. Situation with **rights of WMF anthem explained**: discussions about copyrights are ongoing, but at the moment it seems that it can be used in 2012.

12. Current situation BA and BAMS

Information given by PA: BAMS was used on 2011 WC in Stockholm as the first major WMF event (although tested on some minor venues – NC, U23 – before). The experiences from Stockholm were positive. In 2012, the system will be used in Bad Mnder at YNC and YWC.

BAMS will also be used in the Garsten Hallentrophy / Austria in February.

JaS will check the situation about detailed explanation and BA settings for the Nations Cup, being prepared by Peter Brown.

13. Worldwide international sport rules WMF rulebook 2.3

13.1 Check of rule interpretation catalogue to take over some parts to the rules or to add or cancel some parts

Interpretation rules were reviewed, no need to add anything at the moment. The mistake in the text regarding definitions "on the course" and "during the tournament" pointed out by EMF is corrected.

13.2 Use of plastic rings, change in rule 2.3.2.15 wording (motion Switzerland to DC 2011 given on to TC)

Swiss Minigolf motioned to change the wording of the text for this rule to allow plastic rings not only to prevent balls from rolling away on tee-off and repositioning areas. TC discussed the motioned wording and stated that in the repositioning areas the plastic rings could in some cases serve as prohibited artificial aiming points. Therefore they should not be permanent. On tee-off areas they can be permanent.

TC makes the following motion to WMF DC 2013 to change the Worldwide international sport rules, WMF Rulebook 2.3.2.15:

Old text: „... However attaching of small paper or plastic rings (to prevent the balls from rolling away before a shot) is allowed in the teeing-off area and in the repositioning areas.“

New text: *„...However attaching of small paper or plastic rings is allowed in the tee-off area. In the repositioning areas, these rings are allowed temporarily only, to prevent the ball from rolling away.“*

13.3 Lending of balls, change in rule 2.3.7.1 wording (motion Switzerland to DC 2011 given on to TC)

The Swiss Minigolf motion is supported by TC as it is and will be **brought as motion** to WMF DC 2013 as such.

TC makes the following motion to WMF DC 2013 to change the Worldwide international sport rules, WMF Rulebook 2.3.7.1:

Old text: 7.1. *„A player must finish each lane with the ball with he/she was beginning the lane. The lending of balls is allowed providing the tournament is not disturbed by it.“*

New text: *„A player must finish each lane with the ball with he/she was beginning the lane.“*

13.4 Playing without starting number → common line for referees (motion YC 2011)

TC discusses the regular phenomenon, problems and different scenarios. Outcome: the starter should check the starting numbers at the beginning of the round. In case the starter errs and/or a starting number is missing during the round, referee should demand the player/coach to bring the starting number or organize a replacement from the organizers as soon possible. Then, if the referee sees that the team is not doing enough to organize the number soon, he should give a penalty.

As for the position of the starting number – it should be placed on player's back, not elsewhere. **PA** will update the fair play guide in this respect.

13.5 Approval process / prohibition of non-approved balls like klicker etc. (questions from sponsor companies)

Situation and possible outcomes discussed thoroughly. The billard-type balls cannot be properly printed, and balls without any apparent markings are impossible to recognize -> anyone can claim the ball was made before 2006. TC tends to think that a list of balls exempted from the approval procedure should be created, including e.g. glass balls, billard balls and possibly golf balls too. Ball producers with a contract with WMF should be asked for suggestions for balls to be put to this list. **TC will be make a motion to the WMF Board**, who can decide on this since it is a regulation.

TC makes the following motion to WMF Board to change the ball approval process:

TC proposes to create a list of balls which are exempted from the ball homologation and approval procedure. The list should include balls which are not specifically

minigolf balls, but are widely used in minigolf competitions. The list will be non-exhaustive and can be completed from time to time. TC proposes glass balls, acrylic balls and billiard balls (klickers) to be taken on the list. The sponsor companies dealing with balls will be asked for further proposals. The TC will discuss the collected proposals and Board will make the final decision which will be valid from 1.1.2013.

13.6 Questions from Swiss Minigolf

TC received a list of questions from Swiss Minigolf. Some of them were spread to other topics, discussed and answered during the meeting. Regarding the rest of the questions, TC came to the following conclusions and answers:

- Are other activities (for example smoking) allowed for a player during a toilet leave during a round?
 - Answer: No smoking or other activities than going to toilet are allowed during a toilet leave. Rule 2.3.11.6 says that a player can leave his/her pairing for good reasons only with a permission of a referee and only activities for which the permission has been given are allowed.
- How should and incorrect entry on a scorecard be handled according to the current rules (changed at DC 2011)?
 - Answer: If the mistake is spotted before initialling the scorecard, there is no penalty and the mistake will be corrected. If the mistake is spotted AFTER initialling, then the result in the scorecard is valid and it is not incorrect anymore. If it can be proved beyond doubt that it is a deliberate mistake, there are provisions of punishment in the rulebook (18.5, 18.6., 18.7).

14. Update fair play guide

Starting number position (see topic 13.4) will be added to the guide. Fair play guide also checked, updated and some wordings changed.

TC was also brainstorming the use of the modern electronic devices during the tournament and is aiming to prepare a motion for DC 2013 on its next year's meeting.

15. System-specific rules concrete WMF rulebook 2.4

15.1 Consequences of the decision of DC Stockholm

The situation about problems with copyrights on original Bongni plans is explained by **PA**. This is solved by provision approved by the 2011 DC and the alternate drawings are published. The rulebook does not refer any longer to 'Bongni' drawings as authoritative.

15.2 Question from Swiss Minigolf (drawings lanes 9 and 11)

TC received a comment from Swiss Minigolf explaining that the text and picture for lane 9 regarding the border line position are in conflict with each other. For lane 11, one arrow in the image is pointing at the wall instead of the repositioning line it should be pointing. Since this is only

a correction of an obvious mistake, **TC sees no need for a motion to change a rule and will correct the mistake in the drawing.**

TC finds both comments valid anyway and will therefore make a **motion to the WMF DC 2013** to amend the rules for lanes 9 accordingly.

TC makes the following motion to WMF DC 2013 to change System-specific rules concrete, WMF Rulebook 2.4 – drawings lane 9:

Old text of the first sentence: *„A straight line has to be marked immediately behind the exit of the obstacle.“*

New text of the first sentence: *„A straight line has to be marked at the exit of the obstacle.“*

15.3 Possible need of rules revision

The necessity of a complete revision discussed. Adding several measures to the current drawings would be useful as long as the measures from original drawings can be retrieved. (**MT** will check this, since he should possess old drawings)

16. System-specific rules miniaturegolf

16.1 Plateau measures (motion Austria to DC 2011 given on to TC)

16.2 Question Swiss Minigolf (lane 16)

See 16.3, 16.4

16.3, 16.4. Possible need of rules revision, including sponsor companies' proposals in the revision

Major revision discussed. **GS** – all measures need revision in the first place. Some lanes have very authoritative measures (pyramids) whereas some have none (cones). **GS** should be able to prepare the revision of measures until the next TC's meeting. **PA** – for the measures missing, course-producing companies should be asked about their opinions/production standards – he will take care of this. **MT** will take care about the new drawings once the data are collected. (These conclusions answer topics 16.1 and 16.2 too.)

17. System-specific rules feltgolf

17.1 Possible amendments to the new version

None at the moment. **PA** will ask production companies about their opinions on new felt rules and different versions of some lanes they already produce when sending the enquiry for miniaturegolf revision.

17.2 Question Swiss Minigolf (two lanes with same rulebook number but different obstacle alternatives on one course)

The question was whether two lanes with same number in the rulebook but different obstacle alternatives are permitted on one course. TC concludes the answer is affirmative and the same should also apply to the miniaturegolf courses. However two lanes with same number and obstacle alternative are not permitted, as stated by the WMF international sport rules 2.3.2.6. TC therefore makes a motion to WMF DC 2013 to supplement the text of 2.5.3 (miniaturegolf) and 2.6.3 (feltgolf).

TC makes the following motion to WMF DC 2013 to change System-specific rules miniaturegolf, WMF Rulebook 2.5.3 and System-specific rules feltgolf, WMF Rulebook 2.6.3:

Text to be added at the end of paragraph in both cases: „*Different alternatives of the same lane type are permitted.*“

18. System-specific rules MOS

18.1 Consequences of the decision of DC Stockholm

PA gives general information about the discussion during the 2011 DC, concerning repositioning rules for MOS (areas around obstacles).

(Meeting interrupted; resumed on Sunday 9:00 am.)

19. Homologation rules for courses WMF rulebook 2.8

19.1 Definition of “obstacle” in the homologation rules to differ from playing area (task from DC 2011 to TC)

TC members are discussing in depth about possible definitions of “obstacle” which would be fitting to all types of minigolf courses.

During the brainstorming the question is raised whether it is even possible to make one common definition of “obstacle” for all systems. Creating an exhaustive list of obstacles for each system separately might be a viable alternative.

One attempt of obstacle definition to start with would be: *an obstacle is anything protruding vertically from the base plane of a lane.* TC will continue the brainstorming on this topic in the next meeting and try to reach a conclusion.

20. Tournament approval of minigolf courses WMF rulebook 2.9

GS informs that courses for ECup 2012 in Vizela and NC/EC 2012 in Porto have no valid approval at the moment (Porto – prolongation missing, Vizela – never approved before). PA points out that some reminders to national federations for 2012 are still open and approvals expected in near future. (Porto and Vizela meanwhile ok)

20.1 Creating an online system for registrations

Discussion on turning the approval procedure on-line and checking the possibilities. This is rather a WMF Board issue, a considerable investment into the development of software would be needed. PA will take over the issue soon from GZ and will report after having better insight.

20.2 Separate approval price for temporary courses

Discussion about pricing for the temporary tournament approval. TC will propose the Board some moderation of the fees in such cases. The final approval of the motion must be done by DC 2013.

TC makes the following motion to WMF Board to change the tournament approval of minigolf courses, WMF Rulebook 2.9:

For temporary courses which are installed for one year only a fee of EUR 125 is proposed.

If competitions are played in the second year at same location, further EUR 125 have to be paid and the course will be handled as permanent from that year on.

For courses which are moved to another location from the original approved location, a fee of EUR 125 per each new location is proposed.

21. Worldwide international sport regulations WMF rulebook 3.3

21.1 New wording of the lending rule

PA and GS explain the clarification of the text regarding eligibility for competitions during the loan period, which was already approved by the Board, based on a question from an active member.

21.2 Regulations in general

TC also discussed the regulations in general and decided to make a motion to WMF Board to amend the text 3.3.9.5 to make it even clearer.

TC makes the following motion to WMF Board to change of Worldwide international sport regulations, WMF Rulebook 3.3.9.5:

Old text: "A short playing-in time on the first lane should be available at every tournament. Before a shotgun start a short playing-in time must be given on the respective starting lane."

New text: "A short practice time on the 1st lane should be allowed at the beginning of every competition round. Before a shotgun start, a short practice time should be given on the respective starting lane."

22. Regulations for World and Continental Championships WMF rulebook 3.6

22.1 Changes due to new mode

PA gives information that all necessary changes were already done by GZ and the amended regulations have been published at WMF website.

22.2 Possible need for new amendments, depending on decisions of this meeting

PA will check if there are any changes necessary and inform others TC members. This overview of amendments needed has to be completed until April to be approved at the WMF Board meeting.

22.3 General update of chapter 3.6

The text is currently oriented in these chapters merely to general class. Updates to 3.6 discussed among members. TC will make a **motion to the WMF Board**.

TC makes the following motion to WMF Board to change the Regulations for World and Continental Championships, WMF Rulebook 3.6:

See appendix 1 of these minutes.

23. World Ranking Lists

23.1 Status check

PA gives information about the general procedure and dealing with mistakes. Possibilities to avoid too many mistakes discussed. TC will change the form used by the national federations for reporting the results for ranking lists. Currently it is a Word-sheet, it will be changed to Excel which is more appropriate for further processing of the data collected.

This new version of the form will be first distributed in September 2012. In the future TC will struggle to further improve the entire process to make it more automated and less prone to human errors. It was also discussed if more competitions could be included in the calculation of the list, e.g. all international tournaments registered on WMF homepage. This definitely would require a more automated solution for list management, since the workload for list managers would be beyond current possibilities.

24. List of the motions to the Board

- 13.5 Changes in the ball approval process regulations 3.4
- 20.2 Changes in the course approval process rules 2.9 (final approval by DC 2013 necessary)
- 21.2 Change of wording in international sport regulations 3.3.9.5
- 22.3 General update of the regulations for World and Continental Championships 3.6

25. List of the motions to the DC 2013

- 13.2 Change of wording in international sport rules 2.3.2.15
- 13.3 Change of wording in international sport rules 2.3.7.1
- 15.2 Change of wording in system-specific rules concrete 2.4 – lane 9
- 17.2 Change of wording in system-specific rules miniaturegolf 2.5.3 and system-specific rules feltgolf 2.6.3

26. Date and location for next TC meeting

Date – roughly the same date next year

Location – to be decided later

27. Expenses

Daily allowances: 3 days for **YK**

2 days for other TC members

(Saturday's lunch was included in the meeting package = 0,5 daily allowances less)



Pasi Aho
WMF Sport Director
meeting chairman



Martin Tomanek
WMF Youth Officer
meeting secretary

Appendix 1.

3.6 Regulations for the World- and Continental Championships

1. Preface

In accordance with decisions of WMF and bodies of Continental Federations the Championships take place as follows:

In years ending in an odd number (2007, 2009, ...)

World Championships general class (4th weekend of August)

World Games (2009, 2013, ...)

Youth European Championships (open) (2nd weekend of August)

Senior European Championships (open) (2nd weekend of August)

In years ending in an even number (2008, 2010, ...)

Continental Championships general class (4th weekend of August)

Youth World Championships (2nd weekend of August)

Senior European Championships (open) (2nd weekend of August)

(For clarification: If the 1st August is a Sunday, this weekend is not counted as the 1st weekend of August).

In years of Olympic Summer Games or other very important events, the date of the Championships can be changed. The new date has to be agreed with the organizer and declared by the WMF Executive Committee latest two years in advance.

Awarding of the Championships is done by the responsible Delegates' Conference not later than four years before the Championships. If Championships are not awarded in this way the awarding will be done by the responsible Executive Committee. The awardings are based on recommendations of WMF Technical Commission supported by Youth Commission for Youth Championships. The awarding becomes valid with a written contract between WMF / Continental Federation and active member and local organizer. A detailed checklist is part of the contract.

The competition takes 4 days and begins on Wednesday.

Arrangements for the World Games are to be decided separately in accordance with IWGA and the World Games organizer.

Mode and date for Asian or American Championships can vary depending on possibilities of the organizer, number of participants, climate and other reasonable circumstances.

2. Types of tournament

2.1 Team Championships

2.1.1 Female categories

3 players and 1 substitute

Teams of general class may include seniors and/or female youth (no female kids). However no more than 2 players of the women's team may belong to youth category. Also no more than 2 players may belong to the seniors category.

Youth teams may include kids and youth.

2.1.2 Male categories

6 players and 1 substitute

Teams of general class may include seniors and/or male youth (no male kids). However no more than 3 players of the men's team may belong to youth category. Also no more than 3 players may belong to the seniors category.

Youth teams may include kids and youth.

2.2 Individual Championships

2.2.1 Female categories

No female kids are allowed to start **at general class championships**.

2.2.2 Male categories

No male kids are allowed to start **at general class championships**.

3. Entitlement to play

3.1 All active members of the WMF are entitled to play providing they have fulfilled their obligations to the WMF / the responsible continental federation. Each active member can field the following:

3.1.1 **1 female team**

3.1.2 **1 male team**

3.1.3 4 female players (for general class: youth and seniors playing in the team championships are included in the women's open category for the relevant World/Continental Championships)

3.1.4 7 male players (for general class: youth and seniors playing in the team championships are included in the men's (open) category for the relevant World/Continental Championships)

3.2 Other points

3.2.1 An active member, which does not field its full allocation of players in one category has no right to field extra players in another category.

3.2.2 Teams must be composed of registered individual players.

3.2.3 The responsible Executive Committee can approve, on application, the participation of players from nations that are not yet active members of the WMF.

4. Procedure

4.1 General

The championships contain three different competitions:

- a) Individual championships in strokeplay
- b) Individual championships in matchplay
- c) Team championships

The individual champions in strokeplay are determined in preliminary rounds, 2 intermediate and 2 final rounds.

The team champions are determined in these preliminary rounds of the individual championships in strokeplay. The scores in the preliminary rounds for the individual championships in strokeplay count simultaneously for the team championships.

The preliminary and intermediate rounds of the individual championships in strokeplay count for the qualification to the individual championships in matchplay.

4.1.1 Preliminary rounds

The participants are divided into two groups (**female and male**), which start on different courses.

Female players should be one group and **male players** the other group. The responsible tournament director (WMF/Continental sport director) can on purpose also build up groups with similar size.

Within the groups, pairings of 3 players are to be drawn. Individual players start before the team players, substitutes after the team players.

Pairings should be made up of players representing at least 2 different active members, and if possible 3 different active members.

Players representing the different active members are entered into the draw in the playing order, in which they are registered by their active members.

Within pairings the order of play changes after every round according to the following pattern:

1 - 2 - 3

2 - 3 - 1

3 - 1 - 2

Before the second competition day the pairings are revised.

All female players (first individuals, then teams ranked 7th or lower with substitutes and finally leading 6 teams with substitutes) start on one course, all male players (first individuals, then teams ranked 7th or lower with substitutes and finally leading 6 teams with substitutes) on the other course.

For both categories pairings of the leading 6 teams are formed as shown in the table below.

pairings 1-14

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
6/1	3/1	6/2	3/2	6/3	3/3	6/4	3/4	6/5	3/5	6/6	3/6	6/E	3/E
5/1	2/1	5/2	2/2	5/3	2/3	5/4	2/4	5/5	2/5	5/6	2/6	5/E	2/E
4/1	1/1	4/2	1/2	4/3	1/3	4/4	1/4	4/5	1/5	4/6	1/6	4/E	1/E

4.1.2 Qualification for the intermediate and final rounds of the individual championships in strokeplay

The intermediate and final rounds are played on the third competition day.

All players of the preliminary rounds are qualified automatically for the 2 intermediate rounds (one on each course). The scores of the preliminary rounds are added to the scores of the intermediate rounds. The intermediate rounds are played with rolling start from lane 1, **if time schedule allows a rolling start.**

The best 15 male players and the best 9 female players after the intermediate rounds are qualified for the final rounds (one on each course). The scores of the preliminary and intermediate rounds are added to scores of the final rounds. The final rounds are played with rolling start from lane 1.

In case of a tie on place 15/9, all players with the same result are qualified.

In case of any delay due to bad weather conditions or other reasons **the regulations determined in the official invitation have to be followed.**

4.1.3 Qualification for the individual championships in matchplay

The individual championships in matchplay are played on the fourth competition day.

The best 32 male players and the best 16 female players after the intermediate rounds are qualified for the championships in matchplay. In case of a tie on place 32/16, a sudden-death between the players with the same result is played directly after the end of the last qualification round, beginning at lane 1 at the course played last by this category.

The detailed mode and the table of the play-offs is decided by WMF Technical Committee and is published in the official invitation for the World/Continental Championships.

4.2 Courses

- 4.2.1** World / Continental Championships are held on two different of the following courses:
- minigolf
 - miniaturegolf
 - feltgolf

minigolf open standard

If there are no applications for such combinations, the responsible bodies can decide for other applications.

4.2.2 Courses and location have to be defined in the application during the awarding procedure for the championships

4.3 Rounds and mode of team competition

The details are decided by WMF Technical Committee and published with the official invitation. They should guarantee, that teams from all active members can participate at the World/Continental Championships.

5. The refereeing committee

The WMF Technical Commission stipulates the refereeing committee required according to WMF rules.

6. Inspections

6.1 Pre-inspection

A pre-inspection of the tournament courses must be carried out by a representative of WMF Technical Committee latest by 30th April of the year, in which the championship is to be held. This is also the absolutely last date, where the courses have to be completed by the organizer and **made** suitable for tournament use.

6.2 Inspection

The courses should be inspected by the responsible WMF/Continental Sport Director resp. WMF Youth Officer for youth championships, the present members of WMF Technical Committee and the tournament organizer. This inspection must be carried out at the latest 4 days before the first competition day. The purpose of the inspection is to **record** any shortcomings with the course or peculiarities of construction. The captains of the participating active members have the right to report noticed peculiarities to the responsible Sport Director / Youth Officer in written form until the beginning of the inspection. The result of the inspection should be written down immediately. Decisions have to be implemented by the organizer as soon as possible.

Any questions concerning interpretation of the rules should be dealt with during the inspection.

Special observations or remarks on the peculiarities of the lanes should be communicated to the captains of the participating active member delegations and published in an appropriate place for all participants to see.

7. Entry to the tournament course

7.1 Only the jury, referees, lane referees, tournament organizers, coaches and players in the process of completing a round are allowed to enter the course during a tournament. The head referee can authorise the presence of other people on the course, if good reasons are presented.

7.2 **Other persons than those mentioned in 7.1** can only enter the tournament course when they can be identified as such. Notice should be posted of the kind of identification to be worn.

8. Press - Radio - Television

Members of the press, radio, and television are allowed on the course. An escort is appointed by the head referee to make sure that the smooth running of the tournament is not disturbed in any way.

9. Coaches

During the tournament two coaches per active member are allowed on each course (this includes active players not actually playing at the time). Coaches must wear their active member's sports clothing. The same code of conduct with regard to sporting behaviour applies to them as to the active players.

10. Practice

Official active members' practice takes place from Friday (**Saturday for youth**) to Tuesday immediately before the championships. A separate practice program should be published and sent to the active members right in time before the beginning of practice.

On official practice days the tournament courses have to be closed to the public during official practice hours. On tournament days the courses have to be closed to the public until end of play.

Practice fees for the official practice are included in the entry fees. The fees for a practice session before the official practice days must be published in the official invitation.

Smoking is not allowed on the course during the official practice.

11. Warm-up and practice times

11.1 General warm-up time

The general warm-up time ends 15 minutes before the beginning of competition.

11.2 Practice time at the respective starting hole

Each pairing has a practice time before starting each round.

The practice time begins with the starter's call and ends with the starter's order. In case of shotgun start the head referee is calling the practice time.

12. Entry fees

The entry fees are determined by the WMF/Continental federation's list of charges. Entry fees are to be paid according to the official invitation.

13. Prizes and awards

Teams: Trophies for the World/Continental Champions.
Medals in gold, silver and bronze for all members of the top 3 teams (including substitutes) and their coaches (in total women 6, men 9).

Individuals: Trophies for the World/Continental Champions.
Medals in gold, silver and bronze for the top 3 players in each category.

Additional awards by the organizer are very welcome.

14. Entries

14.1 Binding, numerical entries

These are to be submitted by May 31st on an official form to the WMF/Continental Sport Director.

14.2 Entries by name

These must be submitted no later than **on** Monday, two days before the beginning of the championship, on an official form to the tournament organizers. For detailed regulations see official invitation.

15. Payment

The entry fees are to be paid in EUR to WMF account stated in the official invitation no later than 31st May. Delay is charged with additional 25% of the entry fees.

16. Jury

The jury comprises 3 members. They should come from different active members and are appointed by the WMF/Continental Sport Director resp. WMF Youth Officer for youth championships.

16.1 Duties and powers of the jury:

16.1.1 Monitoring of the overall running of the tournament and the tournament organization. Members of the jury can intervene at their own discretion, if they find or are told of any irregularities. They may impose the penalties laid down in the rules.

16.1.2 Ruling on protests against the refereeing committee.

16.1.3 Ruling on abandoning of the tournament.

16.1.4 Ruling on classification of competitors, if the tournament is abandoned.

16.2 All members of the jury must be accessible throughout the tournament.

16.3 Jury members cannot be active in any other **tasks** (as players, coaches or members of the refereeing committee) during the World/Continental Championships.

17. General rules and regulations

The WMF worldwide general international rules and the WMF regulations apply in as far as these regulations stipulate nothing to the contrary.