

WORLD BOWLING TOUR

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World Bowling Tour Rules

1 Overview

- 1.1 World Tenpin Bowling Association (WTBA) organizes a bowling tour.
- 1.2 The name of the tour is the "World Bowling Tour" (WBT) followed by the year of the tour (in this case WBT 2012).
- 1.3 The WBT is owned by WTBA, and governed and administered by the WTBA Presidium, which in its discretion may designate a committee or other entity for regular supervision of the WBT.
- 1.4 The WBT Rules are maintained by and can only be changed by the WTBA Presidium.

2 Tournaments in the tour

- 2.1 The WBT consists of tournaments owned by the tournament organisers.
- 2.2 Tournaments adopted in the WBT are in general known as WBT Tournaments.
- 2.3 WBT Tournaments are conducted in countries falling under the jurisdiction of WTBA.
- 2.4 WBT Tournaments are, without limitations, open to entry by all players, who are a member of one of the WTBA member federations, unless the player is suspended by one of the member federations, by a zone, by WTBA or by FIQ.
- 2.5 WBT Tournaments must include at least one individual event, either conducted in separate divisions for women and men or as a combined division for both genders or for only one gender.
- 2.6 WBT Tournaments must have in their format a finals in which more than one match will be conducted.
- 2.7 It is recommended that there be TV coverage for the semi-finals and the finals.
- 2.8 Each tournament agrees to comply with all provisions contained in the WBT Tournament Application where applicable.
- 2.9 The favorable reputation of the WBT, its tournaments and players is a valuable asset and creates tangible benefits for all WBT stakeholders . Accordingly, it is an obligation for WBT tournaments, owner(s), promoter(s), operator(s) or representative(s) thereof, to refrain from engaging in conduct contrary to the integrity of the sport of bowling. Conduct contrary to the integrity of the sport shall include, but not be limited to, comments to the news media that unreasonably attack or disparage a tournament, sponsor, player, official or the WBT. Responsible expressions of legitimate disagreement with the WBT policies are not prohibited. However, public comments that one of the stated persons above knows, or should reasonably know, will harm the reputation or financial best interests of a tournament, player, sponsor, official or the WBT are expressly

covered by this section. Violation of this section shall subject a tournament to a loss or change in membership status, and/or forfeiture of all sums, if any, previously paid to the WBT.

3 Categories

3.1 Definitions

- a. The prize fund (all prize money allocated for individual players in the international part of the tournament) must be minimum US \$ 100.000.
- b. There must be at least 48 international prizes.
- c. There is in principle no limit of the number of WBT Tournaments from the same zone in the tour, but the number will, with considerations for the general tour calendar, be regulated by the WBT Committee from year to year.

4 Selection

- 4.1 Only tournaments approved through the process described in WTBA Statutes 3.2.1(c) can be adopted in the WBT.
- 4.2 The tournaments in the WBT will be selected once a year based on an invitation to organizers of WBT Tournaments in the foregoing tour, followed by applications from organizers and finally followed by a selection process based on the applications and possible further evaluations or investigations.
- 4.3 Regardless if all areas of an application from a tournament, not adopted in the previous year's WBT, meet all criteria for adoption in the tour, it is the right of the WTBA to reject such tournament in its sole discretion.

5 Fees

- 5.1 The fee for a WBT Tournament is US \$ 5.000.
- 5.2 When an organizer is submitting an application for adoption in the tour, it is the obligation of the organizer to transfer the relevant WBT fee to the account of WTBA. The application is not valid until the full amount has been received by WTBA. If an application for adoption in the tour is rejected, 100% of the fee will be reimbursed.
- 5.3 WBT fees will, in principle, be used for WBT-related purposes.

6 Points

- 6.1 In each WBT Tournament, ranking points will be awarded to women and/or men.
- 6.2 If there is a combined division, women and men will be awarded points in relation to their final position relative to the other players of the same gender.
- 6.3 The method of points to be awarded and tie rules covering all tie situations shall be published in the application of each tournament.

6.4 Points in WBT Tournaments will be awarded to the top 50 according to the presented list in 6.5. If both genders participate to top 50 of each gender.

6.5 Points table

No. 1	50 points
No. 2	40 points
No. 3	35 points
No. 4	30 points
No. 5	25 points
No. 6	24 points
No. 7	23 points
No. 8	22 points
No. 9	21 points
No. 10	20 points
No. 11-12	15 points
No. 13-14	14 points
No. 15-16	13 points
No. 17-18	12 points
No. 19-20	11 points
No. 21-25	8 points
No. 26-30	6 points
No. 31-35	4 points
No. 36-40	3 points
No. 41-45	2 points
No. 46-50	1 point

7 Standings

7.1 Within one day of the completion of a tournament, the organiser shall submit the women's top 50 and/or the men's top 50 to the WTBA.

7.2 Forms to be filled in by the tournament organiser will be sent in due time to the organiser by the WTBA.

7.3 The WTBA will update the women standing and the men standing.

7.4 The standings will be published on the WTBA Website.

7.5 In case of a tie in the WBT ranking list including qualifying for the WBT Masters, the following steps will be taken to determine the position:

- a. 1st step, the bowler with the highest finish, in the case of further tie;
- b. 2nd step, the bowler with the second highest finish, in the case of further tie;
- c. 3rd step, the bowler with the third highest finish, in the case of further tie; etc.

8 Bonus Pool

8.1 The WTBA intends to develop a bonus pool for distribution to the highest-ranked players at the conclusion of each WBT year. Points will be cumulative over a two-year period of time, and will drop off each player's total on a continuous basis. Thus, commencing at the end of BWT 2012, bonus pool points will be determined on the basis of two year totals.

9 Tiered tournaments

- 9.1 The WTBA will study the potential for tiered tournaments commencing with 2012 WBT, based upon criteria to be determined.

10 Rules and tournament presentations

- 10.1 WBT Tournaments are governed by the following rules:
- a. The rules of the tournament
 - b. The WBT Rules
 - c. The WTBA Playing Rules
- 10.1 Organizers of WBT Tournaments are allowed to publish tournament rules and other tournament information at tournament websites, posters, flyers and other similar media.
- 10.2 A tournament organizer may not claim to be a WBT tournament before the tournament is approved by WTBA.
- 10.3 After a tour composition has been published, it is not permissible to lower the prize fund, defined as all prize money allocated for individual players in the international part of the tournament. Should it occur, the organizer shall pay WTBA 20% of the difference between the changed prize fund and the prize fund listed when the tour was published.
- 10.4 If any national tax rule will or might influence the size of prizes to be paid to one or more players taking part, it is the obligation of the organizer to publish these rules at the WTBA Website. For tournaments, where no national tax rules are published at the WTBA Website, the organizer shall pay the prizes in full as listed.

11 Tournament standings and results

- 11.1 Standings must be presented for the following result categories:
- a. Squad standings
 - b. Qualification standing
 - c. Desperado standing, if any
 - d. List of qualified players for the final
 - e. Each final step
 - f. Final tournament ranking including all entered players
 - g. Top 50 of the women's ranking and/or
 - h. Top 50 of the men's ranking
- 11.2 For each of the result categories (11.1 a, b, c and e) the following must be presented:
- a. Position number
 - b. Full name of the player
 - c. The country of the player
 - d. Each game score
 - e. A total of the game scores (not for head to head matches)
 - f. The handicap
 - g. A total of the game scores including the handicap (not for head to head matches)

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- 11.3 For each of the result categories (11.1 d, f, g and h) the following must be presented:
- a. Position number
 - b. Full name of the player
 - c. The country of the player
 - d. Ranking points (only for 11.1 g and h)
- 11.4 The text in all result presentations must be presented in the order of first name, last name.
- 11.5 Each of the result categories must as a minimum be presented at a board in the centre and at the tournament website. In addition other media as wide screens or extra monitors should be considered.
- 11.6 The pages from all result categories must be combined in one PDF file, which is forming the final and official list of results from the tournament. This list must also be available at the tournament website.
- 11.7 Standings and results must be available in the centre and on the tournament website not more than half an hour after the conclusion of a squad or a final step.
- 11.8 In cases where the score system provides a result export facility, it should be considered to establish an import to the tournament result software, with the purpose to reduce as much as possible the time gap between a completed squad/stage and the presentation of the results.

12 Guest and media services

- 12.1 Guests can for instance be media representatives, WTBA representatives, external lane maintenance staff and sponsor representatives.
- 12.2 If possible a separate room for guests should be available. If no separate room is available then at least a dedicated and shielded area of the centre must be provided.
- 12.3 Sufficient space, a dedicated table and a chair for each guest present must be available.
- 12.4 A fast Internet connection (preferably wireless) must be available for guests as specified in 12.1.
- 12.5 It is recommendable to consider free refreshments for guests and other similar conditions, as long as sponsorship and resources to provide such facilities are available.

13 Tournament cancellations

- 13.1 After the composition of a tour has been published, if an adopted tournament does not occur for any reason, the WBT fee is forfeited to WTBA. Additionally, players, who have already entered must be compensated in full for any incurred loss or damage, including any non-refundable tickets for air and/or surface transportation by the organizer upon receipt of proven documentation. However, neither party shall be liable in damages to the other party, or to any players, or have the right to terminate this Agreement for any delay or default in performing hereunder if such delay or default is caused by conditions beyond its control including, but not limited to Acts of God, Government restrictions (in-

cluding the denial or cancellation of any export or other necessary license), wars, insurrections and/or any other cause beyond the reasonable control of the party whose performance is affected.

14 Tournament dates

- 14.1 The date of the first day of a tournament can normally be changed, with the consent of WTBA.
- 14.2 Changes to the final day of a tournament cannot be changed without the consent of WTBA.

15 Women handicap

- 15.1 In case of a mixed women and men division, women may be awarded between zero and eight pins per game handicap in all whole games played in the tournament, in the discretion of the tournament organizer.
- 15.2 A handicap is counted as pin fall.
- 15.3 No handicap will be awarded in roll-off shots and roll-off frames.

16 Entry policy

- 16.1 An entry policy shall be developed and published by the tournament organizer.

17 Qualification squads

- 17.1 A limited number of qualification squads might be open only for a dedicated group of players, such as youth players or local players, but in general qualification squads are open to all eligible players.
- 17.2 The number of games in qualification is a minimum of 6.
- 17.3 For all stages of the tournament, referees/lane monitors must be available, in sufficient numbers to facilitate tournament play. The referees must be positioned in such a way, that they have a good overview of the lanes and are clearly visible to the players.
- 17.4 For all stages of the tournament, only players, tournament officials and relevant centre staff members may be present in the player's area, which means that no coaching in the player's area may take place. It is the obligation of the organizer, if not physically obvious, to ensure that the player's area is properly marked out.
- 17.5 During the final steps of the tournament open bowling is not permitted in the centre. It is also strongly recommended not to have open bowling during the qualification squads. Open bowling and /or other normal daily activities in the centre are permitted outside the periods of qualification squads and final steps.

18 Final stages

18.1 The number of players and the number of games to be played in each final stage are defined by the organizer.

19 Lane assignments

19.1 Lane assignments shall be accomplished in an unbiased manner, and shall be published in sufficient time for the players to prepare for competition.

20 Lane movements

20.1 Lane movements will be done according to the rules of the tournament.

21 Re-racks

21.1 A player is allowed maximum two re-racks per game without tournament management permission. Unless permission for another re-rack in the game is granted such re-rack is illegal.

21.2 Additional re-racks in the game can only be granted by the tournament management and should be limited to situations where it is obvious that the pin setting is clearly off spot.

21.3 If a player violates this rule, the frame of the illegal re-rack will be set to zero.

22 Machine break downs

22.1 The Tournament Manager will make all decisions regarding the continuation or rescheduling of games in the event of a mechanical breakdown.

23 Players withdrawals

23.1 Tournament organizers shall be allowed to develop player withdrawal rules to cover situations in which a player enters, then withdraws, from an event.

24 Unsportsmanlike conduct

24.1 Players shall at all times conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner, and give due regard to the authority of officials and the rights of opponents, spectators and others. Unsportsmanlike conduct is defined as any misconduct by a player that is clearly abusive or detrimental to the success of a tournament, the WBT and/or the Sport. In addition, unsportsmanlike conduct shall include, but not be limited to, the giving, making, issuing, authorizing or endorsing any public statement having, or designed to have, an effect prejudicial or detrimental to the best interest of the tournament and/or the officiating thereof.

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- 24.2 All players entering WBT tournaments agree, as a condition of their entry, that for themselves, their executors, administrators, heirs and personal representatives, all claims of any kind, nature and description are waived, including past, present or future claims and injuries, if any, sustained in traveling to or from, or participating in, any WBT tournament, as against the WBT, WTBA, the tournaments concerned and the organizers and sponsors of the tournaments and circuits thereon.
- 24.3 The tournament management can decide on unsportsmanlike conduct, if a player abuses equipment, abuses tournament officials (verbally or physically), abuses other players (verbally or physically), abuses other coaches, abuses spectators or in general presents unsportsmanlike conduct on or off the lanes of the tournament site.
- 24.4 The tournament management will decide if the unsportsmanlike conduct will result in an exclusion from the tournament. Additionally, if tournament management believes such conduct should result in any additional WBT penalty, he/she shall prepare a report and submit the same to the WTBA not later than 3 days after the conclusion of the tournament.
- 24.5 The report will be evaluated by the WTBA, and within 14 days after receipt of the report the player will be informed in writing of the decision. The player has the right to appeal the decision to the WTBA Presidium no later than 30 days after the announcement of the WTBA determination.

25 Publicity and Promotion

- 25.1 All players agree to the following:
- a. I grant and assign to the WBT and the WBT tournaments in which I am or have been entered the right in perpetuity to record in tangible form and use my name, performance, likeness, voice, and biography, in any and all media (including the right to produce, display and otherwise use motion pictures, still pictures and live, taped or filmed television and other reproductions of me), solely for purposes of advertising and promoting the WBT, the WBT tournaments and other events held as part of the WBT. Any such use of my name, performance, likeness, voice or biography shall be without separate compensation to me or to my heirs, devisees, executors, administrators, legal representatives or assignees. Nothing in this section shall permit the WBT, or the WBT tournaments to use my name, performance, likeness, voice or biography on any product, service or clothing, or in any manner that constitutes an endorsement of any product, service or company.
 - b. I agree to cooperate with the news media and to participate upon request in reasonable promotional activities of the WBT and the WBT tournaments and events in which I am entered, subject to my reasonable availability to participate therein. My participation in any such promotional activities or other events shall not be represented to third parties as an endorsement by me of any product or company.
 - c. Any use of my name, likeness, signature, photograph, depiction or video (my "Likeness") on official WBT branded merchandise (the "WBT Merchandise") shall be subject to my prior written approval. I agree that my response to any request for my approval will not be unreasonably delayed. With my prior written approval as to the items of WBT Merchandise, the use of my Likeness and the compensation for this use, I grant and assign to the WBT the right to use my Likeness on WBT Merchandise, provided that use of my Likeness on any such merchandise shall not conflict with or cause me to be in breach of any current endorsement contract to which I am bound. In the event WBT desires to use my Likeness on WBT Merchandise, I acknowledge that

I will receive a commission amount agreed upon in writing on any proceeds or revenue generated from such use.