

Fédération Internationale du Sport Football de Table
Federation of International Sports Table Football

<http://fistf.com>

FISTF Handbook



Season 2014/2015

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Chapter 0 – Document Basis & Rules of Construction

Rules of Construction

- The provisions of this handbook apply to FISTF, its Member Nations, registered players, registered Clubs and competition organizers in the conduct of any activity related to table football.
- In case of any conflict between the FISTF Statutes and any other section of this handbook, the provisions of the FISTF Statutes shall prevail.
- If any provision of this handbook or its applicability to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of this handbook which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this handbook shall be severable.
- In the event of any controversy, dispute or claim arising out of or relating to this handbook, or to the interpretation, breach, or enforcement thereof, the parties shall in good faith use best efforts to settle such controversy, dispute or claim by negotiation. If such negotiation should fail, such controversy, dispute or claim shall be submitted to the FISTF Board of Directors, which shall issue a final, binding and conclusive ruling on all interested parties.
- The rights and obligations herein contained shall inure to the benefit of, and be binding upon, FISTF, Member Nations, registered players and registered clubs and their respective executors, administrators, successors and assigns.
- Any forbearance of FISTF, Member Nations, registered players or registered clubs to exercise any right or remedy to which he is entitled to under this handbook shall not be construed as a waiver of, or preclude the exercise of, any right or remedy.
- As used in this handbook, words in the masculine gender shall mean and include corresponding neuter words or words in the feminine gender and vice-versa, words in the singular shall mean and include the plural and vice versa, and the word "may" gives sole discretion without any obligation to take any action.
- Any case not provided for in this handbook shall be referred to the FISTF Board of Directors, which shall issue a final, binding and conclusive ruling on the case.



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Disclaimer of Liability

FISTF HEREBY DISCLAIMS ANY WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, WITHOUT LIMITATION, ANY IMPLIED WARRANTY ARISING FROM COURSE OF PERFORMANCE, COURSE OF DEALING OR USAGE OF TRADE, AND ALSO DISCLAIMS ALL OTHER OBLIGATIONS AND LIABILITIES WHATSOEVER WHETHER IN CONTRACT, WARRANTY, PRODUCT LIABILITY, TORT (INCLUDING WITHOUT LIMITATION, NEGLIGENCE, ACTIVE, PASSIVE OR IMPUTED LIABILITY OR STRICT LIABILITY), BY STATUTE OR OTHERWISE, RELATED TO THE ORGANIZATION AND CONDUCT OF TABLE FOOTBALL COMPETITIONS, EXCEPT AS EXPRESSLY ASSUMED BY FISTF IN ITS STATUTES OR IN THE PRESENT HANDBOOK.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS AND COMPETITION ORGANIZERS, BY RESPECTIVELY BECOMING FISTF MEMBERS AND ACCEPTING TO ORGANIZE A TABLE FOOTBALL COMPETITION, EXPRESSLY AGREE THAT FISTF IS RELEASED FROM, AND SHALL NOT BE LIABLE TO NATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS OR COMPETITION ORGANIZERS UPON, ANY CLAIM HOWSOEVER ARISING OUT OF TABLE FOOTBALL COMPETITIONS, WHETHER IN CONTRACT, WARRANTY, PRODUCT LIABILITY OR TORT (INCLUDING WITHOUT LIMITATION, NEGLIGENCE, ACTIVE, PASSIVE OR IMPUTED LIABILITY OR STRICT LIABILITY), BY STATUTE OR OTHERWISE, AND ALL DIRECT, INDIRECT, SPECIAL, CONSEQUENTIAL AND INCIDENTAL DAMAGES OF ANY NATURE WHATSOEVER, EXCEPT AS EXPRESSLY ASSUMED BY FISTF IN ITS STATUTES OR IN THE PRESENT HANDBOOK, AND NATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS AND COMPETITION ORGANIZERS ASSUME ALL RISK AND LIABILITY WHATSOEVER RELATED TO TABLE FOOTBALL COMPETITION ORGANIZED BY THEM, THAT IS NOT EXPRESSLY ASSUMED BY FISTF.

SHOULD A REGISTERED PLAYER, REGISTERED CLUB, REGISTERED REFEREE OR ANY OTHER THIRD PARTY ASSERT A CLAIM AGAINST OR SUE FISTF WHETHER IN CONTRACT, WARRANTY, PRODUCT LIABILITY OR TORT (INCLUDING WITHOUT LIMITATION, NEGLIGENCE, ACTIVE, PASSIVE OR IMPUTED LIABILITY OR STRICT LIABILITY), EITHER AT LAW OR IN EQUITY, FOR EVENTS RELATED TO A TABLE FOOTBALL COMPETITION, THE COMPETITION ORGANIZER OF SUCH COMPETITION SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR DEALING WITH AND SETTLING, AT HIS OWN EXPENSE, ANY SUCH CLAIM, ACTION OR PROCEEDING. SHOULD FISTF INCUR ANY EXPENSES IN DEALING WITH SUCH CLAIM, ACTION OF PROCEEDING, THE COMPETITION ORGANIZER SHALL INDEMNIFY FISTF FOR ALL DAMAGES INCURRED TO FISTF.

AT THE TIME OF RENEWING THEIR FISTF MEMBERSHIP OR OF FIRST BECOMING MEMBERS OF FISTF, NATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS HAVE BEEN EXPRESSLY MADE AWARE OF THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION "DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITIES" AND, BY ACCEPTING MEMBERSHIP, RECOGNIZE THAT THESE PROVISIONS ARE FULLY UNDERSTOOD AND ACCEPTED.

AT THE TIME OF APPLYING FOR THE ORGANIZATION OF A TABLE FOOTBALL COMPETITION, COMPETITION ORGANIZERS HAVE BEEN EXPRESSLY MADE AWARE OF THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION "DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITIES" AND, BY ACCEPTING MEMBERSHIP OR THE TASK OF COMPETITION ORGANIZER, RECOGNIZE THAT THESE PROVISIONS ARE FULLY UNDERSTOOD AND ACCEPTED.

IN CASE OF ANY CONFLICT BETWEEN THIS SECTION "DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITIES" AND ANY OTHER SECTION OF THIS HANDBOOK (EXCEPTING THE FISTF STATUTES), THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION "DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITIES" SHALL PREVAIL.

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Chapter I – Internal Regulations

1. FISTF Departments

1.1. FISTF Board of Directors

- 1.1.1 As a FISTF representative, the Board of Directors has the authority and the responsibility for the following matters:
- 1.1.2 Organization and administration of the FISTF members (Member Nations) and registered players, referees, clubs and supporters;
- 1.1.3 Organization and administration of international table football competitions. FISTF will support competitors taking part in competitions by offering distinguished organizations and high quality table football;
- 1.1.4 Implementing rules of the game and rules of competitions;
- 1.1.5 Production and distribution of international official and promotional table football newsletters;
- 1.1.6 Promotion and development of table football so that the number of members and registered players, referees, clubs and supporters can increase and to develop recognition of table football as a sport by the public;
- 1.1.7 Development and support of players' abilities through meetings and specialist high level training camps for players and referees;
- 1.1.8 Ensure that sports material is available and distributed and promote a positive image of table football.

1.2. Definition of Department

- 1.2.1. Except the President, each Board Members has his own Department under his supervision, as follows:
 - 1.2.1.1. General Secretary – Administrative Department
 - 1.2.1.2. Sports Vice-president – Sports Department
 - 1.2.1.3. Finance Vice-president – Finance Department
 - 1.2.1.4. Communication Vice-president – Communication Department
 - 1.2.1.5. Marketing and Promotion Vice-president – Marketing and Promotion Department
- 1.2.2. Each Department can create Commissions for the purpose of the management of a predetermined task under that Department.

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2. FISTF Commissions

2.1. Definition of Commission

- 2.1.1. FISTF Commissions (Committees) are special groups of people (*Commissioners*) invited or nominated by the FISTF Board of Directors to help on determined tasks under the supervision of one of the FISTF Board members who shall have the right to be members of those Commissions.
- 2.1.2. It is not mandatory that these members be members of a FISTF Member Nation.



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Chapter II – Administrative Regulations

3. FISTF Members

3.1. Type of FISTF Members

3.1.1. FISTF Member Nation is the only type of FISTF Member.

3.2. Criteria for the admission as FISTF Member Nation:

- 3.2.1. A Board with at least 3 persons: a President, a Secretary, a Treasurer
- 3.2.2. A Program of sports activities: Organization of a National Championship.
- 3.2.3. Mandatory FISTF forms, a membership application to become a Member Nation enclosing its statutes approved by the national authorities of his country.
- 3.2.4. The request for affiliation as a member nation must contain a commitment:
 - a. To comply with statutes, rules and decisions of FISTF;
 - b. To observe the laws of the game in force in FISTF.
- 3.2.5. An observation period of one-year minimum is required to validate the application for affiliation as a member nation.
- 3.2.6. Each affiliate will be validated annually at the Annual General Meeting of FISTF
- 3.2.7. A Member Nation shall have a minimum of 12 registered players.
- 3.2.8. A Member Nation shall have at least National Championship and National Cup on Individuals and Teams.

3.3. Rights of the Member Nations

- 3.3.1. All national associations that are members of FISTF may:
- 3.3.2. Organise their own FISTF tournaments and take part in tournaments listed in the FISTF calendar.
- 3.3.3. Grant licenses to their clubs and players to attend FISTF tournaments.
- 3.3.4. FISTF will issue an official diploma proving the membership of the Member Nation, valid for one season (See also 8.3 - FISTF Sports Season).

3.4. Duties of the Member Nations

- 3.4.1. At the start of the season each national association wishing to become or remain a Member Nation of FISTF must send an information sheet and a list of its licensed players and clubs to the FISTF General Secretary.
- 3.4.2. The information required in the **article 3.5.** must be submitted by the 1st September. This deadline can be extended to the 15th September if there are no players of the referred nation registered in any FISTF tournament before that date.

3.5. Rules for the Registration of a Member Nation

3.5.1 Guidelines about the Form F01 - National Association Membership Form

- 3.5.1.1. The completion of this form is mandatory to all Member Nations in the terms referred in 3.4.
- 3.5.1.2. The form must be completed with as much detailed information as possible. Some of this information will be publish on the FISTF website under the Nations pages.
- 3.5.1.3. With the Form F01, the National Association must send all the following:
 - I. Picture files, on JPG format:
 - 1. Portrait photo of each Board Member
 - 2. Photos of national competition winners on the previous season
 - II. Documents:
 - A. Statutes of the National Association.
 - B. National Association Regulation including the following mandatory information:
 - i) Registration fee per player and/or per club.
 - ii) Annual fee per player and/or per club.
 - iii) The format of the championship, the national cup and the team championship.

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- iv) Who can be selected and how the selection is made to play in the World Cup and the Champions League / Europa League.
- v) How the Board of Directors operates.
- C. Copy of any documents that shows the National Association's activity during the previous year, such as newspaper cuttings, etc.
- D. Copy of an insurance policy covering on the tournaments organized by the national association.

3.5.2 Guidelines about the Form F20 – Member Nation – Licensed Clubs & Players Form

3.5.2.1. The completion of this form is mandatory to all Member Nations in the terms referred to in 3.4.2.

3.5.2.2. Licensed Clubs.

- 3.5.2.2.1. The form must include all clubs licensed by the National Association. The clubs not included in the list won't have a FISTF license to play international FISTF tournaments.
- 3.5.2.2.2. Every club shall have a unique FISTF license code and maintain the same code from the previous season. This code never changes and cannot be used by other club in the future.
- 3.5.2.2.3. The 3 letters of the national association code, following by the letter "C" and 3 sequential digits from 000 to 999, compose the structure of the Club license code. For example, valid club license codes for Austria are AUTC001, AUTC002, ..., AUTC999.
- 3.5.2.2.4. For each club, it is mandatory to indicate: Full Club Name, Contact Person, Contact Email, Address, City and its logo.

3.5.2.3. Licensed Players.

- 3.5.2.3.1. The form must include all players licensed by the Member Nation. The players not included in the list won't have a FISTF license to play international FISTF tournaments.
- 3.5.2.3.2. Every player shall have a unique FISTF license code and maintain the same code from the previous season. This code never changes and cannot be used by other player in the future.
- 3.5.2.3.3. The structure of the Player license code is composed by the 3 letters of the national association code, following by 4 sequential digits from 0000 to 9999. For example, valid club license codes for Austria are AUT0001, AUT0002, ..., AUT9999.
- 3.5.2.3.4. The indication of the date of the birth is mandatory for every player in order of having a FISTF license.
- 3.5.2.3.5. The indication of the email although not mandatory is advisable.

3.5.2.3.6. **Foreign players registered with a national Club.**

- 3.5.2.3.6.1. All foreign players registered with a national Club shall be included in this list, provided that they have a valid license from their national association.
- 3.5.2.3.6.2. The National Association has no competence to grant a FISTF license to a foreign player.

3.5.2.4. **National Transfers**

- 3.5.2.4.1. A national transfer is every transfer of a player between 2 clubs of the same nationality of the player.
- 3.5.2.4.2. The **FORM F06E - National Player Transfer List** shall include the list of all transfers of players regarding the National Association in the referred season:
 - i) Between National clubs
 - ii) From a National Club to a Foreign Club
 - iii) From a Foreign Club to a National Club

3.5.2.5. **International Transfers**

- 3.5.2.5.1. An international transfer is every transfer of a player when the former club **or** new club has a different nationality of the player.
- 3.5.2.5.2. This transfer shall also be managed by the Member Nation which grants the license to the referred player.

3.5.2.6. **Procedures for International Transfers**

- a) New club (or player) submits form F06 **to the player's national association.**

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- b) This form must be signed by the player and by a responsible of the new club. The signature of the responsible of the former club is not mandatory, but he **still** must be informed by being included in the recipient list of the request email. **Also, the form must be disclosed to the national associations of the new and the previous clubs, for their information.**
- c) Once approved **by the national association of the player**, the form is sent to FISTF for registration.

3.6. Administrative Sanctions for Member Nations

- 3.6.1 If a Member Nation has not submitted its registration form until the indicated deadline, its clubs and individual players will be prohibited from taking part in FISTF tournaments until this is in order.



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4. FISTF Licensed Clubs

4.1. Definition of FISTF Licensed Club

- 4.1.1. A FISTF Licensed Club is a club officially recognized by its Member Nation after has been included on the list of the Member Nation's licensed clubs (FISTF Form F20), or, in the case of there being no Member Nation in its country, the License will be awarded directly by the FISTF.
- 4.1.2. A FISTF License is valid for one sports season only.

4.2. Definition of the Nationality of Clubs

- 4.2.1. Regardless of its legal form, a club shall be deemed to have, for the purpose of table football, the nationality of the national association that licenses it to play table football.
- 4.2.2. Clubs shall be individually responsible to apply for the license to play table football. The club shall be issued a license card, the form of which is left to each national association to decide.
- 4.2.3. The national association of the country where a club is headquartered, providing this national association is a member of FISTF, shall solely grant the license and the club shall be deemed a member of this national association after the granting of the license. The club shall remain a member of this national association until the end of the sports season. It is impossible moves its headquarters to another country.
- 4.2.4. A national association shall not unreasonably deny a license to a club headquartered within the country it is representing.
- 4.2.5. A club headquartered in a country where no table football national association exists, or where the national association is not a member of FISTF, shall be granted a license directly by FISTF.
- 4.2.6. The Member Nations are free to ask a yearly fee to each of their clubs.

4.3. Rights of the FISTF Licensed Clubs

- 4.3.1. All clubs that are members of a Member Nation of FISTF may take part in all tournaments listed in the FISTF calendar and are included in the world-ranking table.

4.4. Duties of the FISTF Licensed Clubs

- 4.4.1. Only FISTF licensed clubs can attend FISTF tournaments.
- 4.4.2. For the purpose of attend FISTF tournaments, the Club must request a FISTF License from its Member Nation.
- 4.4.3. If there is no National Association in its country, the license must be request directly to FISTF.

4.5. Rules for the Registration of a Club

- 4.5.1. In order to have a FISTF license, a new club shall request their affiliation with the National Association existing in its country.
- 4.5.2. Only if there is no National Association in its country, the club shall request their FISTF license directly from the FISTF.
- 4.5.3. **The administrative procedures** are as follows:
 - 4.5.3.1. A new Club must complete the **Form F10** and send it to its National Association with its logo when available. After its approval, the National Association shall send the form to FISTF.
 - 4.5.3.2. For each new season, the National Associations shall request to their clubs to send an update of the **Form F10**. This form shall be sent to FISTF after approval by the National Association.

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4.5.4. Extinction of a club activity

- 4.5.4.1. In the case of the change of the name or other details of a club (president, secretary, address, contacts, or the club shall cease the activity), the **Form F11** shall be sent by the club to its National Association and then to FISTF.
- 4.5.4.2. Check rule 5.9 about the situation of the players registered with a club which ceases its activity.

4.6. Administrative Sanctions for Clubs

- 4.6.1. A club that takes part in a FISTF tournament without having a valid FISTF license will be fined 30 Euros.
- 4.6.2. If the offence re-occurs the fine will be increased to 50 Euros.



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5. FISTF Licensed Players

5.1. Definition of FISTF Licensed Player

- 5.1.1. Players shall be individually responsible to apply for the license to play table football.
- 5.1.2. If the player chooses to become a member of a club operating in the country where the player has his domicile, such obligation may be delegated to the direction of such club but only his national associations may grant the license to the player.
- 5.1.3. The player shall be issued a license card, the form of which is left to each national association to decide.
- 5.1.4. A FISTF license is valid for one sports season only and it must be revalidated each sports season.

5.2. Definition of Licensor

- 5.2.1. The national association of the player, providing this national association is a member of FISTF, shall solely grant the license and the player shall be deemed a member of this national association after the granting of the license.
- 5.2.2. Example: Player A has his nationality in France. Only the Fédération Française de Football de Table (FFFT) is authorized to grant him a license.
- 5.2.3. The national association granting a player a license to play table football, or the FISTF when it plays such role, shall be further referred to as "the Licensor".
- 5.2.4. The Member Nations are free to ask a yearly fee to each of their players even if they are domiciled in that country.

5.3. Players Nationality

- 5.3.1. The national association of the country from which the player is a legal citizen shall be informed by the Licensor within 30 days of the grant of the license that a license has been issued if:
 - i. The player has another legal citizenship than that of the country where he has his domicile; or
 - ii. The player has the same legal citizenship as that of the country where he has his domicile, but also has another legal citizenship.
- 5.3.2. Any dispute or appeal related to the licensing of players or to the unreasonable denial of license to players shall be referred in writing within thirty (30) days to the FISTF General Secretary.
- 5.3.3. Notwithstanding the identity of the Licensor, the player shall have the right to be a member of any club of his choice, whether or not that club is operating within the country where the player has his domicile, subject to the rules and regulations established by FISTF for membership and transfers to and from clubs.
- 5.3.4. Example: Player C has a Belgian citizenship and is licensed by the Belgian national association (FBFTS). Player C may also be a member of the Washington, D.C., Table Football Club.
- 5.3.5. Notwithstanding the club of which the player is a member, the player shall have all the rights and obligations of the other players being granted a license by the same Licensor.
- 5.3.6. Example: Player C has a Belgian citizenship, is licensed by the Belgian national association (FBFTS), but is a member of the Washington D.C. Table Football Club. Player C must be authorized by FBFTS to play the Belgian national individual championship.
- 5.3.7. By being granted a license by a national association, the player becomes eligible to represent this national association in individual and team international competitions, including but not limited to the World Cup, subject to the agreement of the direction of such national association and to the rules of the competition.
- 5.3.8. Example: Player C has a Belgian citizenship, is licensed by the Belgian national association (FBFTS), but is a member of the Washington D.C. Table Football Club. Player C may be selected by FBFTS to represent Belgium in the World Cup (both for the individual and team competition), even if he is of a citizenship other than *Belgian*.

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5.4. Players without National Association

- 5.4.1. A player having its nationality in a country where no table football national association exists, or where the national association is not a member of FISTF, shall be granted a license directly by FISTF.
- 5.4.2. Example: Player B has a Russian citizenship, where no national association exists. FISTF will grant him a license on request.

5.5. Rights of the FISTF Licensed Players

- 5.5.1. All players who are licensed to play table football by a National Association member of FISTF may take part in all tournaments listed in the FISTF calendar and be included in the world-ranking table.

5.6. Duties of the FISTF Licensed Players

- 5.6.1. When taking part in a FISTF tournament, a player must complete a registration form that is submitted to the organiser. If the player has already completed a registration form during an earlier tournament he should check on the list of registered players provided by the tournament organiser that his details are correct.
- 5.6.2. A player is also required at every tournament to sign an enrolment form that is sent to the organiser by FISTF.

5.7. Rules for the Registration of Players

- 5.7.1. The players who take part in FISTF events must provide their nationality, club and birth date to FISTF. **All data is mandatory.**
- 5.7.2. If a player has not provided his birth date, he cannot attend any FISTF tournament.
- 5.7.3. It's the responsibility of the National Associations to make sure all players have provided the requested data.
- 5.7.4. The list of players (including the full name, address, date of birth, nationality and club) should be sent to the FISTF General Secretary.
- 5.7.5. Only the FISTF registration **Form F20** sent exclusively by the National Association is valid for this purpose.

5.8. Rules for Free agents ("unattached" players)

- 5.8.1. A Free agent is a player that is not registered with any licensed Club.
- 5.8.2. If a player wants to become a free agent (player in individual ranking, but not registered with any club), referring the following season, he shall submit this to the FISTF between the 1st of July and 31st of August.
- 5.8.3. A "free agent" **may** join a club during the season, **even if he became "free agent" just before that season started, only following the terms** stated in 5.8.4. and 5.8.5.
- 5.8.4. **A "free agent" can join an existent club** if:
 - a) He didn't play any FISTF **Teams** competition since the beginning of the season (1st of September);
 - b) The registration was made not after the 31st of December;
 - c) The Player completed a Transfer Form F06 and sent it to its National Association and FISTF for approval.
 - d) The Player cannot play any FISTF **Teams** competition within the next 14 calendar days following the registration with the new club.
- 5.8.5. **A "free agent" can join a new club** if:
 - a) He didn't play any FISTF **Teams** competition since the beginning of the season (1st of September);
 - b) The Club has registered after the 1st of September;
 - c) The Player completed a Transfer Form F06 and sent it to its National Association and FISTF for approval.

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d) The Player cannot play any FISTF Teams competition within the next 14 calendar days following the registration with the new club.

5.8.6. Before the 1st of September, a player with "free agent" status during the last season will be always allowed to register with any club for the next season.

5.9. Rules for the players registered with a club which ceased activity

5.9.1. All players registered with a club which ceased its activity, change their status as "free agents" (rule 5.8.). These players can keep on playing all FISTF Individuals competitions during the season.

5.9.2. However, the registration with a new club shall still respect rules 5.8.4. and 5.8.5.

5.10. Rules for the Transfer of a Player between 2 clubs

5.10.1. Players may transfer between two clubs subject to the following conditions:

5.10.1.1. All transfer requests shall be made using **FISTF form F06**. When completed, the form shall be sent to FISTF for registration. If the National Association has his own internal transfer form, the **FISTF form F06E** may be used instead. However, the use form F06 for transfers which involve foreign clubs is still mandatory.

5.10.1.2. There is no restriction on the number of players that can be transferred within the same national association.

5.10.1.3. A player may only play for one club in FISTF Teams competitions during a sports season.

5.10.1.4. Players shall be enrolled anew each season.

5.10.1.5. **National Associations** shall submit a complete list of their clubs' players to the FISTF by the 15th of September, at the same time as the list of transfers is submitted (**FISTF Form F20**).

5.10.1.6. The penalty for partially or completely disregarding this rule is automatic disqualification from the event and forfeits the world ranking points from the event in question. FISTF reserves the right to apply a different decision if necessary.

5.10.1.7. Between 1st of September and 31st of December players who didn't play in any FISTF Teams competition (~~Individual and Team~~) for the club they are registered for in this period can be transferred with sending the transfer form to the FISTF.

5.10.1.8. Players who are not in any Individual ranking and who didn't play for a club can change the club during the whole season.

5.10.1.9. **December 31st is the deadline** of the extended transfer period.

5.10.1.10. **On extraordinary occasions the FISTF Board of Directors reserves the right to take decisions regarding transfers during the season on a case-by-case basis, following a petition of the relevant players. In such cases, if the petition is accepted by FISTF BoD, the transferred player will not be allowed to transfer to a new club for the following season.**

5.10.2. Foreign Players

5.10.2.1. Foreign players are players who, at the time of filing of the transfer request, have a different nationality to that of the club to which they are registered or they request to be transferred.

5.10.2.2. **A club may enrol as many foreign players as they want in a sports season or during a specific Teams competition, but only two foreign players may be declared with the club team in the same match.**

5.10.3. Formal Contracts

5.10.3.1. Formal contracts between a club and a player must be registered with FISTF in order to be accepted as valid.

5.10.3.2. From the moment the contract is registered, FISTF becomes the referee for every dispute about the referred contract.

5.10.3.3. Registration of the contract is free of charge and its details will be kept private between the parts.

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5.10.4. Special Transfer Period

- 5.10.4.1. A special transfer period is accepted for players licensed by Member Nations outside Europe, which have a different season period between the 1st January and 31st December.
- 5.10.4.2. These Member nations shall inform FISTF they have a different season period before the FISTF Season starts.
- 5.10.4.3. This special transfer period is between 1st January and 31st January. No transfers will be allowed out of this period.
- 5.10.4.4. All remaining transfer regulations will apply to the players of these Member Nations.

5.11. Administrative Sanctions for Players

- 5.11.1. A player that takes part in a FISTF tournament without having a valid FISTF license will be fined 10 Euro.
- 5.11.2. If the offence re-occurs, the fine will be increased to 30 Euros.
- 5.11.3. Failure of a player to strictly comply with the transfer regulations shall lead to automatic disqualification from the event and forfeit the world ranking points from the event in question.
- 5.11.4. FISTF reserves the right to apply a different decision if strict application of the rule would lead to unfairness.

5.12. Change of Nationality

- 5.12.1. A player may request the change of his FISTF nationality under the following terms:
 - i. He can prove by providing official papers that he has the legal citizenship of the country represented by the national association that he is applying to become a member of, or
 - ii. He can prove by providing official papers that he is a long-time resident (at least 3 years) of the country represented by the national association that he is applying to become a member of.
 - iii. He has not changed his FISTF nationality during the last 10 years.



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6. FISTF Licensed Referees

6.1. Definition of FISTF Licensed Referee

(Chapter under construction)

6.2. Rules for the Registration of Referees

(Chapter under construction)

6.3. Rights of the FISTF Referees

(Chapter under construction)

6.4. Duties of the FISTF Referees

(Chapter under construction)

6.5. Definition of Competition's Head Referee

For every FISTF event, there must be a Head Referee to supervise all aspects of refereeing. His job is to:

- Take decisions in the event of problem of rule;
- Take a decision in the event of problems regarding the behaviour of players or teams.

6.5. Administrative Sanctions for Referees

(Chapter under construction)



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7. Membership Fees & Levies

7.1. Table of the Membership Fees

7.1.1 Fees:

Yearly Membership Fee	100 EUR
Yearly Membership Fee (1 st year)	50 EUR

7.1.2 The FISTF Board of Directors can exempt a Member Nation of the payment of the Membership Fees on a case-by-case basis, when the referred nation adheres to the FISTF Development Program.

7.2. Tournament Levies

Tournament Type	Values per player		Values per club
	Individual Competitions Open & Veterans	Individual Competitions U19, U15, U12 and Ladies	Club Team Competitions
Major Grand Prix	1,50 EUR	No levy	4,00 EUR
International Grand Prix	1,00 EUR		3,00 EUR
International Open	0,50 EUR		2,00 EUR
Satellite Tournament		No levy	
Challenger Tournament			
Future Tournament			
Promotional Event			
National Team Tournament			
Masters			
Champions & Europa Leagues			
World Cup			

See also **19.2.13.2. Entry fees - Maximum values**

7.2.1 To help the development of the game outside of Europe, the FISTF Board has decided that there will be **no tournament levies for Satellites held outside Europe.**

7.2.2 Campaigns

7.2.2.1. In the case that a Member Nation organizes a group of tournaments, FISTF will offer a discount on the total amount of the tournament fees in every tournament, as follows:

Tournament Packages	Discount
1 Grand Prix + 2 International Opens	20%
1 Grand Prix + 2 International Opens + 3 Satellites	40%

7.2.2.2. The packages will be valid only if the requests are made before the date of the first tournament included.

7.2.2.3. In the case of cancellation of one or more tournaments included in the package, the discount will be invalidated and it will be refunded to FISTF.

7.2.2.4. Major Grand Prixes are not included in the discount Campaign.

7.3. Transfer fees

7.3.1 There is no fee for the transfer of players.

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7.4. Clubs fees

7.4.1 Clubs do not have to pay a fee to be members of FISTF.

7.5. Players fees

7.5.1 Players do not have to pay a transfer fee.

7.6. Payments to FISTF

7.6.1 All payments regarding tournament fees and fines to clubs and players of a determined National Association must be done directly to the FISTF by the National Association itself.

7.6.2 It is solely the responsibility of the National Association to receive the money from those organizers, clubs or players.

7.6.3 FISTF Finances Department will maintain a Checking Account for each Member Nation.

7.7. Payments of the Membership Fees

7.7.1 The payment of the Membership Fee regarding the **following season** must be paid in advance by the 30th of April.

7.8. Payments of the Tournament Levies

7.8.1 The payment of the levies regarding a specific tournament must be paid within 30 days after the date of that tournament.

7.9. Sanctions for Payment delays

7.9.1 For every payment not done within the determined deadline, a sanction fine will be applied on the following terms:

7.9.1.1. For payments done on the **following 30 days** after the deadline, **15%** of the value in debt.

7.9.1.2. For payments done **between 31 and 60 days** after the deadline, **30%** of the value in debt.

7.9.1.3. **More than 60 days after the deadline** without payment, all tournaments of that Member Nation will be immediately cancelled and removed from the FISTF Calendar and no tournaments will be granted to the Member Nation before all payments, including the sanctioned fines, have been paid.

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Chapter III – Competition Regulations

8. FISTF Competitions – Definitions

8.1. Individual Competitions

- 8.1.1. The format for each tournament that is part of the FISTF calendar provides the best organisation for matches. This is normally the same format, although the World Cup and the Masters are organised differently.
- 8.1.2. The results of group matches are awarded as follows:
Win = 3 points
Draw = 1 point
Loss = 0 points
- 8.1.3. Final group positions are determined as follows:
1. Number of points won.
2. Result(s) of the direct match(es) between the players that have the same points.
3. Goal difference in the match(es) between the players that have the same points.
4. Most goals scored in the match(es) between the players that have the same points.
5. Total goal difference.
6. Most goals scored.
7. Shoot-out
- 8.1.4. In individual competitions in the U12, U15, U19 and Ladies categories, the maximum score in the group stage can only be 5-0. For instance:
- If a game ends on 9-2, it will be reported as 5-0 in the results file.
- If a game ends on 7-2, it will be reported as 5-0 in the results file.

8.2. Team Competitions

8.2.1. General Principles for team competitions are:

- 8.2.1.1. A team comprises 4 players and 2 reserves for each match.
- 8.2.1.2. A club may enter as many teams as it wishes in a tournament.
- 8.2.1.3. A club may not transfer any players between its teams during the same tournament.
- 8.2.1.4. A club may play a maximum of two foreign players. Foreign players are those from a National Association that is different to that to which the Club belongs (see transfer rules – 5.10).
- 8.2.1.5. A player may only be a member of one team at any one time.
- 8.2.1.6. The coach of each team is responsible for all aspects of his team.
- 8.2.1.7. The coach may follow the progress of the match from the playing area but may not disturb a player or the referee.
- 8.2.1.8. During the game the coach may give verbal instructions to his team in a reasonable manner.
- 8.2.1.9. A coach may be asked to leave the playing area for inappropriate behaviour by any of the four referees.
- 8.2.1.10. Each of the four players shall play a player from the opposing team.
- 8.2.1.11. Each team will gain one point for a victory in each individual match.
- 8.2.1.12. No points are awarded for a draw or a defeat.
- 8.2.1.13. If a player is disqualified he will lose the match by a minimum of 3-0, unless the score in the match was higher than this when he was disqualified.
- 8.2.1.14. A team that has had a player disqualified cannot win a match on goal difference.
- 8.2.1.15. If a team is disqualified it loses that match 0-4 with a goal difference of 0-12.
- 8.2.1.16. If a team or one of its players is not ready at kick off time the referee shall decide whether to disqualify the player/team or to accept a late kick off.

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8.2.2. General Competition structure

8.2.2.1. The results of group matches are awarded as follows:

Win = 3 points

Draw = 1 point

Loss = 0 points

8.2.2.2. Final group positions are determined as follows:

1. Number of points won.
2. Result(s) of the direct match(es) between the teams that have the same points.
3. Individual wins difference in the match(es) between the teams that have the same points.
4. Most individual wins achieved in the match(es) between the teams that have the same points.
5. Total individual wins difference.
6. Most individual wins achieved.
7. Goal difference in the match(es) between the teams that have the same points.
8. Most goals scored in the match(es) between the teams that have the same points.
9. Total goal difference.
10. Most goals scored.
11. Shoot-out

8.2.3. Match Procedure

8.2.3.1. For each team match, the team's coach shall present a maximum of 6 players in the playing area for the seeding procedure as follows:

1. Referee tosses a coin to determine which coach will start the seeding procedure - coach A / coach B.
2. The losing coach (coach A) starts the procedure by selecting one of his players to play in match 1.
3. Coach B selects one of his players to play in match 1
4. Coach B selects one of his players to play in match 2
5. Coach A selects one of his players to play in match 2
6. Coach A selects one of his players to play in match 3
7. Coach B selects one of his players to play in match 3
8. Coach B selects one of his players to play in match 4
9. Coach A selects one of his players to play in match 4

8.2.3.2. A team must consist of a minimum of three players.

8.2.3.3. The coach of a team with only three players must start the seeding procedure, and must forfeit the fourth match. A team consisting of three players cannot win a match on goal difference.

8.2.3.4. A FORM F24 - Team Competition Match Form shall be used to register every team match.

8.2.4. Substitutions at half time

8.2.4.1. Substitution rules for team competition (1 substitution)

8.2.4.1.1. At half time, both coaches have the opportunity to substitute one of the four players that has played the first half of the match. The referee shall be notified of any changes made. The reserve player takes over any sanction cards of the substituted player from the first half of the match. The team that won the toss must first declare its intention to make the substitution. The referee will ask to the captain of the team that won the toss, to declare the intention to make the substitution. Once the captain of the team that won the toss, has made his substitution or declared he didn't want to make substitution, the captain of the other team have the possibility to make his substitution.

8.2.5. In case of draw

8.2.5.1. In case of a draw in a team competition, there will be a sudden death of 10 minutes and, if needed, a shoot-out. For the shots, each team has to decide which player will play.

8.3. FISTF Sports Season

8.3.1. A sports season is the period between the 1st of September and the 31st of August of the following year.

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8.4. FISTF Age Categories

- 8.4.1. Tournaments are divided into different age categories. Players may normally play in only one category at each tournament, apart from the U12 (see below). Only if the organizer allows it, players can compete in two categories.
- 8.4.2. For the season 2014/2015 the categories are as follows:
- Open
 - Veterans: players born before September 1st, 1973;
 - Under-19: players born **from September 1st, 1995, until August 31st, 1999**;
 - Under-15: players born **from September 1st, 1999, until August 31st, 2002**;
 - Under-12: players born **from September 1st, 2002 onwards**;
 - Ladies: female players only, of any age.
- 8.4.3. For the seasons 2013/2014, 2014/2015, 2015/2016, 2016/2017 and 2017/2018, the age limit for the veterans category will raise to over age 41, over age 42, over age 43, over age 44 and over age 45, respectively.

8.5. Dress Code

- 8.5.1. Definition:
- 8.5.1.1. All individual players shall wear sports clothing such as their club or football shirt, tracksuit, etc. Teams players wear their Club colours. Sports shoes players also are worn. The image of the sport to the media and public is vital and adhering to these guidelines will help portray the desired effect and give the sport the respect that it deserves.
- 8.5.2. Rule 8.5.1.1. shall be enforced **only** for Major Grand Prix, International Grand Prix and International Opens.
- 8.5.3. Infringement:
- 8.5.3.1. The organizer must report this to the FISTF Sports Director. The player will be fined a token amount of 1 Euro or 3 Euros in case of a repeat offence.
- 8.5.3.2. The players of a team must wear the colours of their club. In case of infringement, there will be a fine of 20 Euros or 50 Euros in case of a repeat offence.

8.6. Presentation of Equipment

- 8.6.1. Definition: Some players use teams in which some figures and bases are different from the rest of the team. This is not acceptable, as it does not conform to our ambitions for the image of the sport. It does not look professional. Understandably, there will be breakages in a set of figures, but players must do whatever is necessary to ensure that all their figures and bases are of the same design and colour. A player has the right to ask their opponent to change teams if this regulation is breached. There is no penalty for abusing this rule but the referee must enforce it.
- 8.6.2. Infringement: The referee must ask the offending player to change his team.

8.7. Refusal to Referee

- 8.7.1. A player leaving the tournament without refereeing in the round following his elimination will be penalized as follows: 20 Euros.
- 8.7.2. For a team, the sanction shall be a fine of 50 Euros.

8.8. Late withdrawals or early departures of players from FISTF events

- 8.8.1. Players who:
- a. are not present at the scheduled beginning of any competition which they have committed themselves to attend, and who fail **to give an early notice or** to present a reasonable justification to the organizer of that competition within a reasonable time, **or**
 - b. **leave the competition while they have already qualified for a next round of games, without playing their scheduled games (except for cases of huge delays of competition schedule)**
- shall be penalized as follows:
- 8.8.1.1. First time: 15 Euros fine and deduction of 50 world ranking points;
- 8.8.1.2. Second time (same season): **25** Euros fine and deduction of 100 world ranking points;

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8.8.1.3. Third time: 50 Euros fine, deduction of 200 world ranking points and 6 months suspension from any FISTF event.

8.8.1.4. Additionally, players who leave the competition without playing their scheduled games will be awarded no world ranking points from the specific competition.

8.9. Late withdrawals or early departures of club teams from FISTF events

8.9.1. Club teams which:

- a. are not present at the scheduled beginning of any competition which they have committed themselves to attend, and which fail to give an early notice or to present a reasonable justification to the organizer of that competition within a reasonable time, or
- b. leave the competition while they have already qualified for a next round of games, without playing their scheduled games (except for cases of huge delays of competition schedule)

shall be penalized as follows:

8.9.1.1. First time: 50 Euros fine and deduction of 50 world ranking points;

8.9.1.2. Second time (same season): 100 Euros fine and deduction of 100 world ranking points;

8.9.1.3. Third time: 150 Euros fine, deduction of 200 world ranking points and 6 months suspension from any FISTF event.

8.9.1.4. Additionally, club teams which leave the competition without playing their scheduled games will be awarded no world ranking points from the specific competition.

8.9.2. Those tournament organizers who send us a report with players who didn't show up without a valid justification are paid the starting fees for the player from FISTF.

8.10. Special Rules for FISTF CL/EL and other Continental Competitions for Clubs

8.10.1. Club teams which:

- a. withdraw from a Continental Competition for Clubs after already having registered, and which fail to give an early notice of at least five weeks or to present a reasonable justification to the organizer of that competition within a reasonable time, or
- b. leave the competition while they have already qualified for a next round of games (including placing qualification games), without playing their scheduled games (except for cases of huge delays of competition schedule)

shall be penalized as follows:

8.10.1.1. Withdrawal without giving an early notice of at least five weeks: 50 Euros

8.10.1.2. Withdrawal in the last 7 days before the competition: 100 Euros

8.10.1.3. Withdrawal in the last 48 hours before the scheduled start of the competition: 150 Euros, deduction of 100 world ranking points and suspension from the next Continental Competition for Clubs.

8.10.1.4. Additionally, club teams which leave the competition without playing their scheduled games will be awarded no world ranking points from the specific competition.

8.11. Special Rules for FISTF World Cup

8.11.1. National teams which:

- a. withdraw from a World Cup Teams event after already having registered, and which fail to give an early notice of at least two weeks or to present a reasonable justification to the organizer of that competition within a reasonable time, or
- b. leave the competition while they have already qualified for a next round of games, without playing their scheduled games (except for cases of huge delays of competition schedule)

shall be penalized as follows:

8.11.1.1. Withdrawal without giving an early notice of at least two weeks: 30 Euros per team

8.11.1.2. Withdrawal in the last 5 days before the competition: 50 Euros per team

8.11.1.3. Withdrawal in the last 48 hours before the scheduled start of the competition: 100 Euros per team and suspension of the withdrawn team from the next World Cup.

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8.11.1.4. Additionally, National teams which leave the competition without playing their scheduled games will be awarded no world ranking points from the World Cup.

8.11.2. Players who:

- a. withdraw from a World Cup Individuals event after already having registered, and who fail to give an early notice of at least two weeks or to present a reasonable justification to the organizer of that competition within a reasonable time, or
- b. leave the competition while they have already qualified for a next round of games, without playing their scheduled games (except for cases of huge delays of competition schedule)

shall be penalized as follows:

8.11.2.1. Withdrawal without giving an early notice of at least two weeks: 15 Euros

8.11.2.2. Withdrawal in the last 5 days before the competition: 25 Euros.

8.11.2.3. Withdrawal in the last 48 hours before the scheduled start of the competition: 50 Euros, deduction of 100 world ranking points and suspension from the next World Cup.

8.11.2.4. Additionally, players who leave the competition without playing their scheduled games will be awarded no world ranking points from the World Cup.



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9. FISTF Calendar

Considering the high number of tournaments played every year, some rules have been established.

9.1. Rules of construction of the Calendar

9.1.1. The third weekend every month (with the exception of June, July and August) has to be free of Major, Grand Prix and International Open. All Member Nations which haven't sent their requests before the 15th of May, will have to announce them to FISTF before the tournament takes place.

9.1.2. The deadlines for requesting an event are:

- Grand Prix - **4 months** before the date of the tournament
- International Opens - **2 months** before the date of the tournament
- Satellite, Challenger and Future Tournaments - **1 month** before the date of the tournament.

9.2. Rules for the request of a FISTF Tournament.

9.2.1. National associations must send the dates for their FISTF tournaments for the following season to the FISTF Sports Director **before May 15th**.

9.2.2. All Member Nations who send their dates before May 15 have the chance to choose the weekend they requested for their Grand Prix first. After that, the International Open of each national association will be matched with all Grand Prix dates for the continent. If there is a conflict, the organizer of the International Open has to choose another date.

9.2.3. The tournaments are only officially confirmed if they are confirmed by the FISTF Sports Director, and mentioned in the official FISTF calendar that is published in the FISTF newsletter or on the FISTF forum. **Under any circumstances, FISTF is not liable for delayed or missing confirmations and each National association has full responsibility for verification of requested tournaments acceptance.** The first version of the calendar has to be published the latest **on the 20th of May**.

9.2.4. **After the 15th of May**, candidatures will not be accepted if they don't respect the delay referred to in 9.1.1. for the tournaments they request.

9.2.5. The FISTF Sports Director may move late applications according to the available dates.

9.3. Rules for the Major Grand Prix

9.3.1. A Major Grand Prix is requested **before April 30th**, through a separate process run by FISTF Sports Department, as described in **13.2**.

9.3.2. A Major Grand Prix tournament must be the only tournament on the weekend in the continent. Around the country where the Major will take place the FISTF sports department will confirm no other tournaments. **However, a Satellite, Challenger or Future Tournament can be organized on the same weekend with a Major Grand Prix, provided that the minor event is not organised in a country that neighbours the country which organises the Major Grand Prix.**

9.3.3. The Head Referee has to be appointed by the Sports Director of FISTF at least one week before the tournament.

9.3.4. All Major Grand Prix's MUST comply with certain rules:

- a. Prestigious Hall
- b. Same surfaces and same goals in every pitches
- c. Update Website

9.4. Rules for the Grand Prix

9.4.1. A Grand Prix must be requested by a Member Nation **before May 15th**.

9.4.2. Only one Grand Prix per continent is allowed in the same weekend. If several Member Nations request the same weekend, the FISTF Sports Director will give the priority to the national association that already had the same weekend the season(s) before.

9.4.3. **A Grand Prix may only be confirmed when the Member Nation has paid their membership fee to FISTF for the coming season. A copy of the confirmation of payment has to be added to the request.**

9.4.4. A Satellite, Challenger or Future Tournament can be organized on the same weekend with a Grand Prix. The Sport Director has the possibility to also allow an International Open in the same weekend with the agreement of the two organizers of the tournaments.

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- 9.4.5. If a national association doesn't request its Grand Prix **before the 15th of May**, the national association loses the priority of the date the Grand Prix had the previous season.
- 9.4.6. The Grand Prix of a national association **cannot** be divided in two separate events (individual Grand Prix and Open for teams and later a Grand Prix for teams and an individual Open)
- 9.4.7. The organizer must send a provisional list of the registered players and clubs in the competition **at least 5 days before the tournament**.
- 9.4.8. The Head Referee(s) of a Grand Prix must be appointed by the FISTF Sports Directors **at least three days** before the tournament. The Sports Director can nominate between one and three Head Referees.
- 9.4.9. An updated website of the Grand Prix is mandatory.

9.5. Rules for the International Opens, Satellites

- 9.5.1. These tournaments can be requested by the national association beginning on the **20th of May**.
- 9.5.2. It is possible to organize more than one International Open or Satellite on the same weekend **as long as they are not in neighbouring countries**.
- 9.5.3. In that case the national association, which had the same date the season(s) before, will have the priority.
- 9.5.4. Satellites can be also organized on the **3rd weekend of the month**.
- 9.5.5. The organizer must send a provisional list of the registered players and clubs in the competition **at least three days before the tournament**.
- 9.5.6. The tournament organizer is the Head Referee of the tournament.
- 9.5.7. An updated website for each tournament is advised.

9.6. Rules for the Challenger and Future Tournaments

- 9.6.1. These tournaments can be requested by the national association beginning on the **20th of May**.
- 9.6.2. It is possible to organize more than 1 Challenger or Future, on the same weekend **with no restrictions**.
- 9.6.3. There is no restriction for the organization of Challenger and Future tournaments on the **3rd weekend of the month**.
- 9.6.4. The organizer must send a provisional list of the registered players and clubs in the competition **at least three days before the tournament**.
- 9.6.5. The tournament organizer is the Head Referee of the tournament.
- 9.6.6. An updated website for each tournament is advised.

9.7. Combination of Tournaments in the same weekend

- 9.7.1. It is allowed to organize 2 tournaments in the same weekend in the same country, with the exception of a Major Grand Prix **or an International Grand Prix**.
- 9.7.2. The following combinations will be accepted:
- **International Grand Prix + International Open (Individuals Only)**
 - International Open + International Open
 - International Open + Satellite
 - International Open + (Challenger or Future)
 - Satellite + Satellite
 - Satellite + (Challenger or Future)
 - (Challenger or Future) + (Challenger or Future)

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10. FISTF World Cup

10.1. General Rules

10.1.1. The maximum number of players in each category is as follows:

Open:	64
Veterans:	64
Under-19:	32
Under-15:	32
Under-12:	32
Ladies:	32

10.2. Selection of Players

10.2.1. Member Nations may nominate a maximum of 2 players in each category, the national champion on the referred category inevitably being one of them.

10.2.2. Each National Association may also register a maximum of 2 substitute players in each category.

10.2.3. In addition, the FISTF World Ranking at the end of April will be used to select players as follows:

- 8 **Open** category players (maximum 2 players per country);
- 8 **Veteran** category players (maximum 2 players per country);
- 8 **U19** category players (maximum 2 players per country);
- 8 **U15** category players (maximum 2 players per country);
- 8 **U12** category players (maximum 2 players per country);
- 8 **Ladies** players (maximum 2 players per country).

10.2.4. Consequently, a National Association can nominate up to 4 players in each category, including the substitute players plus 2 more players from this country who qualify through FISTF World Ranking (maximum 6 players in this case).

10.2.5. If the required number of players is not reached in a particular category as defined at 10.1.1, the priority for the selection of players is made according to the following criteria:

- a. First substitute from a country that has no players selected by the World Ranking
- b. First substitute from a country that has 1 player selected by the World Ranking
- c. Second substitute from a country that has no players selected by the World Ranking
- d. First substitute from a country that has 2 players selected by the World Ranking
- e. Second substitute from a country that has 1 player selected by the World Ranking

10.2.6. The World Ranking at the end of April will be used to determine the priorities for 10.2.5.

10.2.7. Special wild cards can be awarded by the FISTF Board of Directors, on a case-by-case basis,

- a) to players coming from Nations that they are not FISTF Member Nations or;
- b) to players registered by their Nation only for the team competition, even if the Nation's limits set in 10.2.4 are exceeded, in order to complete the maximum number of players in a category.

10.2.8. This system can guarantee that nations have a leveled number of players in the individual event and also can help having more national teams.

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11. European Continental Cups for Clubs

11.1. Definitions

11.1.1. In Europe, after season 2010/2011, Europa Cup for Clubs has been replaced by 2 distinct competitions:

- FISTF Champions League
- FISTF Europa League

11.2. These competitions have a new format from 2013/2014 as follows.

11.3. Introduction

11.3.1. The present format of FISTF Champions League and Europa League aims to form a lasting structure of rules, which will control the organisation of the specific event and will ensure critical success factors such as the following:

- I) A strong competition which will always host the best Table Football Clubs, while it will also give to weaker participants the chance for a decent or even an antagonistic presence.
- II) Increased interest for CL and EL from the part of participants (Clubs) and higher numbers of attendance, which will consequently lead to the success of the organisation.
- III) A bigger possibility for organisers to attract sponsors attention and to achieve better deals with service providers, which will ensure there will be no money loss and even help bring profit from the organisation of the CL and EL.
- IV) A smooth running of the event, without indifferent games, exhausting schedules, tiring delays or long idle periods.

11.3.2. The major change to the format is that all participating Clubs will start on a common field and will be forwarded to CL or EL, subject to their performance during a combined group stage of the competition. As a result, all ambitious participants will have from the beginning the chance to claim their place in the CL, while the losers of the first phase of the competition will be given a renewed motivation to go for the EL. On the other hand, weaker Clubs who usually lose interest after the first 2-3 matches will also have the chance to be re-motivated by being transferred with a clean record to a less demanding competition after their first possibly disappointing results.

11.3.3. There are mainly two areas where the changes tackle in. The way participating Clubs are selected and the structure of the tournament. In the following paragraphs the changes related to these two areas are described in detail.

11.4. Preliminary Qualification of Clubs

11.4.1. A total number of 32 teams at maximum will be allowed to participate in FISTF CL/EL competition every year. A preliminary qualification procedure will decide which will be the Clubs that will have the right of attendance. Specifically:

I) The first 8 teams of FISTF WR (May edition) qualify for the group stage (see also 11.4.2).

II) 2 teams (winners of last season's CL and EL) qualify for the group stage (see also 11.4.2).

III) The organiser (1 team) qualifies for the group stage.

IV) 2 teams at maximum from each FISTF nation may qualify automatically for the group stage. This may include teams from outside Europe. The respective National Association nominates the nation's qualifying Clubs, by naming them nation's Applicant A and Applicant B. Additionally, a National Association can also send a list of the nation's Substitute Clubs to FISTF. The nation's Substitutes list may contain any number of Clubs. The deadline for the sending of nominations is the end of June.

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- 11.4.2. If any of these teams does not wish to participate, its place will be given to a Substitute Club, as described in the following paragraphs.
- 11.4.3. In case more than 32 teams apply for the competition, priority for participation is given to teams from categories 1, 2 and 3 and then to teams from category 4. In particular, Applicant A from each nation automatically qualifies for the group stage. Then, Applicants B higher in FISTF WR (May edition) become eligible, until the number of 32 Clubs is completed. All Applicant B Clubs, which do not become eligible, take a place in the Substitutes list.
- 11.4.4. In case the number of 32 teams is not completed from the beginning or in case one or more Clubs cancel their participation, FISTF has the right to enlist Substitute Clubs in the empty places. Priority for selection is given to Substitute Clubs that were eliminated during the fourth stage of the selection process, that is to Applicants B that were not accepted due to a large number of applications. Substitute Applicants B higher in FISTF WR (May edition) become eligible, until the number of 32 Clubs is completed.
- 11.4.5. Consequently, in case the number of 32 teams is still not completed, FISTF will start enlisting the rest of the Substitute Clubs, until the number of 32 Clubs is completed. This will be done by repeating the following process: a group of Clubs coming from different nations is formed, which consists of one Club per nation. In the group enters the nation's Club, which is higher in FISTF WR (May edition). Substitutes in the group higher in FISTF WR (May edition) become eligible, until the number of 32 Clubs is completed or all the members of the group are enlisted. The circle is repeated until the number of 32 Clubs is completed or there are no more Substitute Clubs left. If the number of 32 Clubs is completed and there are substitute teams not selected, the priority between them is decided using the same method. In case the number of 32 teams is not completed even after the inclusion of all Substitutes, the competition will commence with a smaller number of participants.
- 11.4.6. To be noted that a National Association can extend the list of the nation's Substitute Clubs after the deadline of June. The deadline for the update of the nation's Substitutes list is the end of August. However, any Clubs inserted into the list of Substitutes after the deadline of June take a priority below the Clubs already in the list. **Substitute Clubs from nations that have not occupied the 2 places they are entitled because they sent their nominations after the expiration of the deadline, are anyway placed on top of the list of Substitutes.**
- 11.4.7. It is highlighted that no more than 8 Clubs from the same nation can be enlisted in any case.

11.5. Structure of the Champions and Europa Leagues competitions

11.5.1. Combined Group Stage

- 11.5.1.1. 32 teams in total start the combined group stage on first day. 8 groups (A to H) of 4 teams are formed. In case there are less than 32 participating teams, 8 groups still have to be formed. The latest available edition of FISTF World Ranking is used for the seeding of the leaders of the 8 groups. A draw, which happens on the day before the start of the event, decides the rest of the population of the groups. No more than 1 team from the same nation is allowed to be in the same group at combined group stage.
- 11.5.1.2. The first two teams in each group (16 teams in total) qualify for the group stage of the Champions League.
- 11.5.1.3. The rest of the teams qualify for the Europa League.

11.6. Champions League Final Stage

- 11.6.1. 16 teams in total start the group stage of the CL. 4 groups of 4 teams are formed. The winners of the first four groups of the combined group stage are placed as leaders of each group. The rest are placed as follows:

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CL Group 1. A1, H1, B2, G2

CL Group 2. C1, F1, D2, E2

CL Group 3. D1, E1, C2, F2

CL Group 4. B1, G1, A2, H2

11.6.2. The winners and runner-ups of each group advance to the quarter-finals of the knock-out phase. The knockout games until the CL Final are matched in the following way:

Quarter-finals:

i. W1 - R3

ii. R2 - W4

iii. W3 - R1

iv. R4 - W2

Semi-finals:

a. Wi - Wii

b. Wiii - Wiv

Final:

Wa - Wb

11.6.3. The losers of the knock-out games play for places 3 to 8. The qualification games are matched in the following way:

2nd Qualification round

(Places 5 to 8):

c. Li - Lii

d. Liii - Liv

3rd Qualification round

(Places 3 to 4):

La - Lb

(Places 5 to 6):

Wc - Wd

(Places 7 to 8):

Lc - Ld

11.6.4. The 3rd and 4th teams of each group play qualification games for places 9 to 16. The qualification games are matched in the following way:

1st Qualification round

(Places 9 to 16):

i. 3rd 1 - 4th 3

ii. 4th 2 - 3rd 4

iii. 3rd 3 - 4th 1

iv. 4th 4 - 3rd 2

2nd Qualification round

(Places 9 to 12):

a. Wi - Wii

b. Wiii - Wiv

(Places 13 to 16):

c. Li - Lii

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d. Liii – Liv

3rd Qualification round

(Places 9 to 10):

Wa – Wb

(Places 11 to 12):

La – Lb

(Places 13 to 14):

Wc – Wd

(Places 15 to 16):

Lc – Ld

11.7. Europa League Final Stage

11.7.1. 16 teams at maximum start the group stage of the EL. 4 groups of 4 teams are formed. In case there are less than 16 participating teams, 4 groups still have to be formed. The winners of the third place of the first four groups of the combined group stage are placed as leaders of each group. The rest are placed as follows:

EL Group 1. A3, H3, B4, G4

EL Group 2. C3, F3, D4, E4

EL Group 3. D3, E3, C4, F4

EL Group 4. B3, G3, A4, H4

11.7.2. The winners and runner-ups of each group advance to the quarter-finals of the knock-out phase. The knockout games until the EL Final are matched in the following way:

Quarter-finals:

i. W1 - R3

ii. R2 - W4

iii. W3 - R1

iv. R4 - W2

Semi-finals:

a. Wi – Wii

b. Wiii – Wiv

Final:

Wa - Wb

11.7.3. The losers of the knock-out games play for places 3 to 8. The qualification games are matched in the following way:

2nd Qualification round

(Places 5 to 8):

c. Li – Lii

d. Liii – Liv

3rd Qualification round

(Places 3 to 4):

La – Lb

(Places 5 to 6):

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Wc – Wd

(Places 7 to 8):

Lc – Ld

11.7.4. The 3rd and 4th teams of each group play qualification games for places 9 to 16. The qualification games are matched in the following way:

1st Qualification round

(Places 9 to 16):

i. 3rd 1 – 4th 3

ii. 4th 2 – 3rd 4

iii. 3rd 3 – 4th 1

iv. 4th 4 – 3rd 2

2nd Qualification round

(Places 9 to 12):

a. Wi – Wii

b. Wiii – Wiv

(Places 13 to 16):

c. Li – Lii

d. Liii – Liv

3rd Qualification round

(Places 9 to 10):

Wa – Wb

(Places 11 to 12):

La – Lb

(Places 13 to 14):

Wc – Wd

(Places 15 to 16):

Lc – Ld

11.8. Draft Competition Schedule

Number of tables needed: 32

Saturday

Row 1 – Combined Group Stage – Match 1 (Groups A-D) – 32 tables

Row 2 – Combined Group Stage – Match 1 (Groups E-H) – 32 tables

Row 3 – Combined Group Stage – Match 2 (Groups A-D) – 32 tables

Row 4 – Combined Group Stage – Match 2 (Groups E-H) – 32 tables

Row 5 – Combined Group Stage – Match 3 (Groups A-D) – 32 tables

Row 6 – Combined Group Stage – Match 3 (Groups E-H) – 32 tables

Row 7 – Champions League Group Stage – Match 1 – 32 tables

Row 8 – Europa League Group Stage – Match 1 – 32 tables

Row 9 – Champions League Group Stage – Match 2 – 32 tables

Row 10 – Europa League Group Stage – Match 2 – 32 tables

Sunday

Row 11 – Champions League Group Stage – Match 3 – 32 tables

Row 12 – Europa League Group Stage – Match 3 – 32 tables

Row 13 – Champions League – Quarter-finals & Qualifications 1st round – 32 tables

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- Row 14 – Europa League – Quarter-finals & Qualifications 1st round – 32 tables
- Row 15 – Champions League – Semi-finals & Qualifications 2nd round – 32 tables
- Row 16 – Europa League – Semi-finals & Qualifications 2nd round – 32 tables
- Row 17 – Champions League – Qualifications 3rd round – 28 tables
- Row 18 – Europa League – Qualifications 3rd round – 28 tables
- Row 19 – Europa & Champions League – Finals

11.9. Advantages of proposed Changes into FISTF Champions and Europa Leagues Format

The advantages by the change of FISTF CL/EL format compared to the existing or other proposed formats can be summarised in the following:

Competitiveness

1. Every competitive and ambitious Club will be able to claim its place in the CL, thanks to the large number of initial entries allowed in the combined group stage. Impartially speaking, the best Clubs (8 first WR teams and last year's winners) will all be allowed to play without dominating the table of CL by not letting other teams participate
2. A first-class Club which will be eliminated in the combined group stage of the competition will be given a renewed motivation, because it will be allowed to go for the EL win.
3. Weaker Clubs will not lose interest after the first 2-3 matches, because they will have the chance to be re-motivated by being transferred with a clean record to a new less demanding competition.

Organisational success – Attendance

4. It is expected that because of the advantages mentioned above, there will be increased interest for FISTF CL and EL from the part of participants (Table Football Clubs) and consequently elevated numbers of attendance and finally success of the event.

Commercial success (Sponsors – Service providers)

5. The scheduling of the last legs of the CL and EL group stages during the second day of the event guarantees that all participating teams will spend a second night in the city of the event, thus allowing for better prices negotiation capacity with local Hotels and Restaurants.
6. The greater number of players expected to stay for the whole two-day period, gives organisers a higher possibility to attract sponsors attention and thus gain profit from the organisation of CL and EL.
7. It is secured by the selection process that every nation will have at least two participating Clubs in the event. The fact that Substitute Clubs will be selected by their WR place also ensures that the strongest Clubs from each nation will take part.

Smooth event running

8. By the same token, stronger Clubs will not have to exhaust themselves playing pointless games during Marathon-race sized group stages of 7 or 8 teams per group.
9. Every team that will participate in the event will play at least 9 meaningful games during the two days of the event.
10. A rich 19-rows schedule fully utilising the 32 available tables, ensures that the event will run smoothly, even if unexpected delays occur.

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11. The flexible format of the competition (combined group stage) allows for an undisturbed route of the event regardless of the initial number of participants, meaning that the whole path of the competition will not be blocked or the prestige of any of the two tournaments (CL and EL) will not be harmed by a last-minute absence of a couple of participants.



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12. Other Continental Cups for Clubs

12.1. Definition

12.1.1. For other Continents except Europe the rules are as follows:

- 12.1.1.1. The number of teams has to be decided by the Sports Director of FISTF, after the deadline of registrations is over.
- 12.1.1.2. Each continental organizer is free to choose the system of tournament but the system must be presented to the FISTF Sports Director two (2) months before the event.

12.2. Selection of Teams

- a) FISTF World Ranking (at the end of August) will be used to select 8 teams (maximum 2 teams per nation).
- b) In addition to a) each national federation may also nominate 2 teams.
- c) Each National Federation may also register one or two substitute teams. If the required number of teams were not achieved, the first substitutes would have selection priority according to:
 - i. Team from a nation which have no teams selected in a)
 - ii. Team from a nation which have one team selected in a)
 - iii. Team from a nation which have two teams selected in a)
- d) The World Ranking at the end of August is used to determine priority in i, ii & iii, if required.

12.3. Additional rules

- 12.3.1. Only 'A' teams are eligible to play.
- 12.3.2. In certain circumstances, the Sports Director reserves the right to change the number of teams after 12.2. a) & b) selections.
- 12.3.3. The holders are automatically qualified.
- 12.3.4. If the host nation has no qualifiers according to a), they could nominate three teams according to b).

12.4. Competition Format

- 12.4.1. 32 tables are needed to play this format.
- 12.4.2. **1st Round:** 8 groups of 4 teams, numbered 1-8.
- 12.4.3. FISTF World Rankings are used to find the seeded teams, Nr.1 seed in group 1, Nr.2 seed in group 2, etc.
- 12.4.4. The draw is made with the first team drawn being placed in group 1, second team out in group 2, etc.
- 12.4.5. When making the draw, it must be taken into consideration that it is not allowed to have two teams from the same nation in the same group, in which case the team will be placed in the next group down.
- 12.4.6. **2nd Round:** All teams will play for a final ranking place. In order to achieve this (after the first round group matches) teams are ranked thus:

Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 4	Group 5	Group 6	Group 7	Group 8
1A	2A	3A	4A	5 ^A	6A	7 ^A	8A
1B	2B	3B	4B	5B	6B	7B	8B
1C	2C	3C	4C	5C	6C	7C	8C
1D	2D	3D	4D	5D	6D	7D	8D

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Ranking 1-16

(S) 1A - 7B	(1) winner S - winner T	(5) winner 1 - winner 2	Final winner 5 vs winner 6
(T) 2B - 8A			
(U) 5A - 3B	(2) winner U - winner V		
(V) 6B - 4A			
(W) 3A - 5B	(3) winner W - winner X	(6) winner 3 - winner 4	
(X) 4B - 6A			
(Y) 7A - 1B	(4) winner Y - winner Z		
(Z) 8B - 2A			

Ranking 17-32

(S) 1C - 7D	(1) winner S - winner T	(5) winner 1 - winner 2	Final winner 5 vs winner 6
(T) 2D - 8C			
(U) 5C - 3D	(2) winner U - winner V		
(V) 6D - 4C			
(W) 3C - 5D	(3) winner W - winner X	(6) winner 3 - winner 4	
(X) 4D - 6C			
(Y) 7C - 1D	(4) winner Y - winner Z		
(Z) 8D - 2C			

12.5. Match Schedule

Saturday

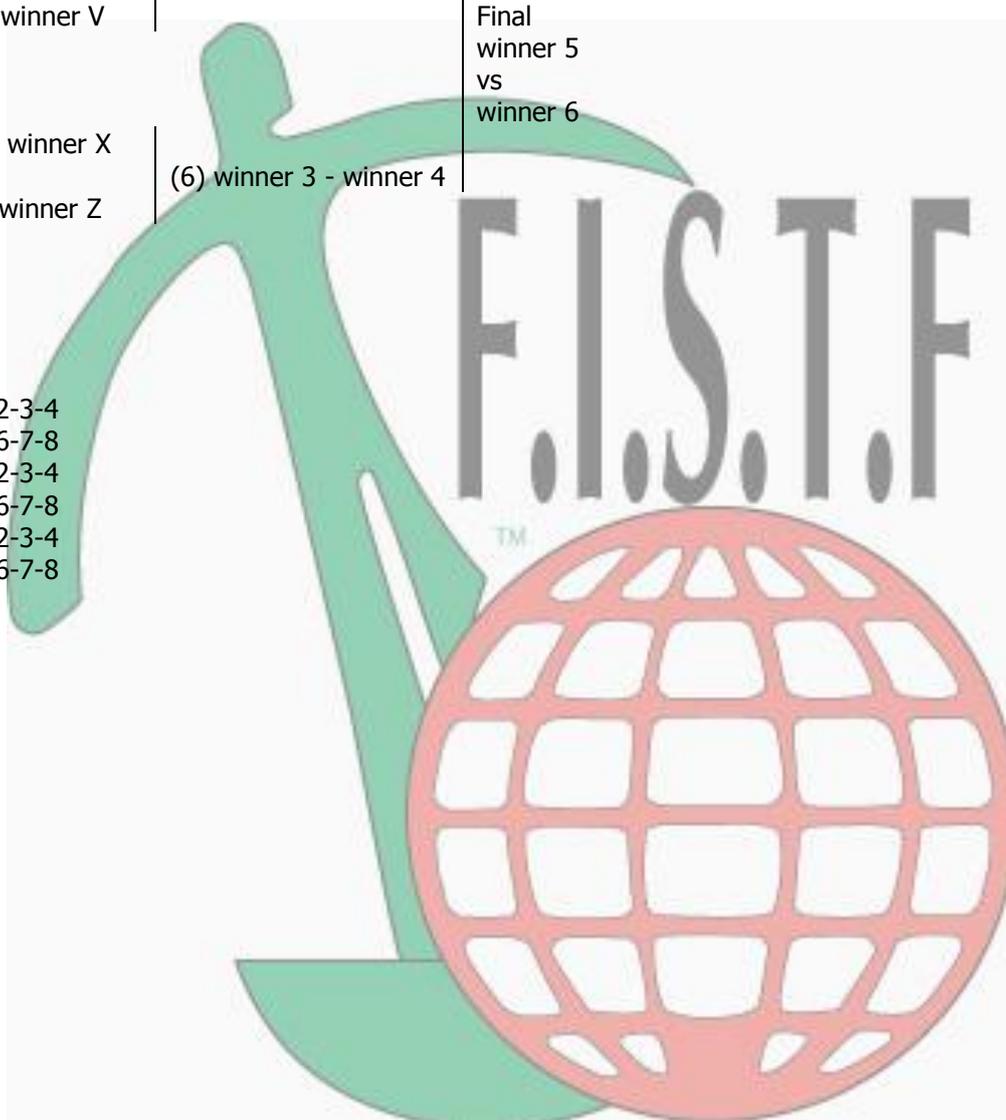
10.00	1st Phase - Groups 1-2-3-4
11.00	1st Phase - Groups 5-6-7-8
12.00	1st Phase - Groups 1-2-3-4
13.00	1st Phase - Groups 5-6-7-8
14.00	1st Phase - Groups 1-2-3-4
15.00	1st Phase - Groups 5-6-7-8
16.00	1/8th finals 17-32
17.00	1/8th finals 1-16

Sunday

10.00	Quarterfinals 17-32
11.00	Quarterfinals 1-16
12.00	Semi-finals 17-32
13.00	Semi-finals 1-16
14.00	Play-offs 17-32
15.00	Play-offs 3-16
16.00	Final

12.6. Additional Rules

(Chapter under construction)



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13. FISTF Tournaments

13.1. Masters FISTF

13.1.1. Definition:

13.1.1.1. The FISTF Masters is an invitation only tournament. This tournament will take place in June every two years (even years). Prize money may be offered. No world ranking points will be awarded

13.1.2. Specific competition rules

13.1.2.1. The FISTF World Ranking of **latest December** will be used to select eleven players. In addition the host nation will be given a wild card for the twelfth player. If one of the eleven selected players is from the host nation the 12 best players from the World Ranking will be selected.

13.1.3. Tournament System

13.1.3.1. The tournament is played over the course of one day. There will be two groups of six players with players seeded, followed by quarterfinals, semi-finals and a final.

13.2. Major Grand Prix

13.2.1. Definition:

13.2.1.1. FISTF is striving to raise the level of play and the prestige of its affiliated events. Having this in mind, FISTF BoD decided to change the way FISTF Majors are to be appointed. Consequently, there will no longer be a fixed list of FISTF Majors. That is, all five Major Grand Prixs will be reconsidered every year.

13.2.2. System of selection

13.2.1.2. The right to organise a Major will be given to those tournaments considered to be the best choices for the next season only, according to certain weighted criteria that FISTF has defined, starting from the current season. The selection criteria will not change for a period of at least three years, which is until season 2015-16.

13.2.1.3. The idea is to form a list of "candidate" tournaments every year and let FISTF criteria decide the best five to be named Majors for the next season. Every year, the list of "candidates" will be populated by the five Majors organisers of the current season and one tournament per nation, preferably (but not necessarily) a GP, which will be named by the respective National Association if wished, provided that candidate events from the same country must be at least 50 Km away from each other.

13.2.1.4. Nominations will be fixed on April the 30th every year, so that a two-week period will be allowed to FISTF Sports Department in order to calculate the weighted points and announce the five Majors long enough before May 15th, which is the deadline for the National Associations to submit Grand Prix applications to FISTF. The organizers of the five tournaments selected to be next season's Majors will, until May 15th, have to set the date of the event, so that FISTF Calendar is updated in time.

13.2.1.5. The criteria for the selection of Majors will be the following:

- i) Total number of individual participants in all categories the last time the event was organised (*)
- ii) Total number of categories played (Open, Veterans, U19 etc) the last time the event was organised (*)
- iii) Total number of foreign players in all categories the last time the event was organised (*)

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- iv) Total number of top-10 ranked players in all categories the last time the event was organised (*)
- v) Total number of events (International Open, Grand Prix and Major Grand Prix) organised in the country of the candidate event during current season
- vi) An international airport in a short distance from the venue of the event
- vii) An overall evaluation judging the quality of venue, condition & number of tables, media coverage, organisers spirit of co-operation with FISTF, decided by FISTF BoD.

(*) If the event has not been held before the third weekend of April of the current season, the statistics of last year's version of the event will be used instead.

- 13.2.1.6. Each criterion will be given 1 - 5 points, depending on the level of satisfaction of the specific criterion. Pre-defined ranges of values will delineate the level of satisfaction for each criterion. So, a total of $5 * 7 = 35$ points will be the best possible mark for a candidate. The exact ranges of values for each selection criterion mentioned above were defined and published by FISTF Sports Department on April 22nd, 2013.
- 13.2.1.7. The large number of selection criteria ensures that no manipulation will be possible. In case two or more events gather exactly the same number of points and as a result it is not possible to decide the winner, the Major status will be awarded to the event with more points in criterion 1, then criterion 2, then criterion and so on.
- 13.2.1.8. The five tournaments in the list of candidates collecting the most points will be named Majors for next season. No more than 2 tournaments from the same country will be allowed to have a Major status during the same season.
- 13.2.1.9. Advantages of the new system of selection:
 - 1. Only the events that really deserve to have the status of a Major according to FISTF weighted criteria will be named Majors for next season.
 - 2. No organisers will take for granted that next year their event will keep the Major status. So, they will always try to improve their performance.
 - 3. National Associations will have a say in nominating a Major and every year will be given the chance to nominate their best candidate according to FISTF criteria.
 - 4. No FISTF tournament will be excluded from the list of candidates, even if it is a new one, provided that it has been organised at least once in the past.
- 13.2.1.10. Deadline for the National Associations to send candidacies
- 13.2.1.10.1. As mentioned above, any National Association that wishes to name one tournament as their candidate for a Major of next season will have to send their application until April the 30th, midnight, stating the name of the event and its distance from an international airport and giving any additional information related to the seventh criterion (see above).
- 13.2.1.10.2. The five current Majors organizers do not have to apply, as they are automatically included in next season's candidates list. Only one nomination is allowed for each National Association. A National Association has the right to nominate one candidate, even if an event from the same country is among the five current Majors.

13.2.3. Specific competition rules

- 13.2.3.1. The Major's organizer must guarantee the following prize-money:
 - Open winner 240 Euros
 - Open finalist 140 Euros
 - Open semi-finalist 60 Euros
 - ~~Open Team winner 240 Euros~~

13.2.4. Tournament System

- 13.2.4.1. It is mandatory having both events, Individual and Teams, in an Major Grand Prix
- 13.2.4.2. The first round of the tournament has to be a group stage with a minimum of 4 players, on which all players must participate. Groups with a bigger number of players are accepted.

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- 13.2.4.3. The organizer must inform the FISTF of the structure of the tournament's groups one month before its date.
- 13.2.4.4. Compliance to the sports regulations defined in the **FISTF HANDBOOK Organizers Guide** is mandatory.

13.3. International Grand Prix

13.3.1. Definition

- 13.3.1.1. An International Grand Prix should be the best International tournament organized on a country in terms of quality and total number of players, not considering a Major Grand Prix, organized by the same Member Nation.
- 13.3.1.2. Only high quality international tournaments will be accepted as an International Grand Prix.

13.3.2. Specific competition rules

- 13.3.2.1. Each Member Nation of FISTF is entitled to organise one (1) Grand Prix per season.

13.3.3. Tournament System

- 13.3.3.1. It is mandatory having both events, Individual and Teams, in an International Grand Prix
- 13.3.3.2. The first round of the tournament has to be a group stage with a minimum of 3 players, on which all players must participate. Groups with a bigger number of players are accepted.
- 13.3.3.3. The organizer must inform the FISTF which will be the structure of the tournament's groups one month before its date.
- 13.3.3.4. Compliance to the sports regulations defined in the **FISTF HANDBOOK Organizers Guide** is mandatory.

13.4. International Opens

13.4.1. Definition

- 13.4.1.1. An International Open is the most commonly organised International tournament.

13.4.2. Specific competition rules

- 13.4.2.1. Each Member Nation of FISTF is entitled to organise two (2) International Opens per season.
- 13.4.2.2. Each national association must submit its preferred date(s) to the FISTF Sports Director.
- 13.4.2.3. At least **8** players must take part for world ranking points to be awarded. **FISTF Sports Director may take the decision to allow the downgrading of an International Open to a Satellite (or Challengers or Futures) if the number of attending players is not equal to or above 8 and there are no more than 3 players from the Top 100 (or Top 200 or Top 300 respectively) in the latest available World Ranking.**

13.4.3. Tournament System

- 13.4.3.1. The first round of the tournament has to be a group stage with a minimum of 3 players, on which all players must participate. Groups with a bigger number of players are accepted.
- 13.4.3.2. The organizer must inform the FISTF which will be the structure of the tournament's groups one month before its date.
- 13.4.3.3. Compliance to the sports regulations defined in the **FISTF HANDBOOK Organizers Guide** is mandatory.

13.5. Satellites

13.5.1. Definition

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- 13.5.1.1. A Satellite is an International tournament reserved for players not highly ranking. However all FISTF standards must be respected.

13.5.2. Specific competition rules

- 13.5.2.1. Each Member Nation of FISTF is entitled to organise three (3) Satellites per season.
13.5.2.2. Each national association must submit its preferred date(s) to the FISTF Sports Director.
13.5.2.3. At least **6** players must take part for world ranking points to be awarded.
13.5.2.1. Only players below 100th place in the World Ranking may take part in this competition.
13.5.2.2. In a Satellite, all players should compete in the Open category, although other categories are allowed.
13.5.2.3. Categories may be organised for players ranked below 20th place in the World Ranking.

13.5.3. Tournament System

- 13.5.3.1. The first round of the tournament has to be a group stage with a minimum of 3 players per group, in which all players must participate. Groups with a larger number of players are accepted.
13.5.3.2. The organizer must inform the FISTF of the structure of the tournament's groups one month before its date.
13.5.3.3. Compliance to the sports regulations defined in the **FISTF HANDBOOK Organizers Guide** is mandatory.

13.5.4. Teams Competition

- 13.5.4.1. Satellite for teams can be organized.
13.5.4.2. Only clubs, which are not in the Top 20 of the Teams Ranking, can take part.
13.5.4.3. Minimum of 4 teams have to take part for world ranking points to be awarded.
13.5.4.4. A club from the Top 20 can register its B-team providing:
13.5.4.4.1. The B-team is not in the world's Top 20, and;
13.5.4.4.2. The players taking part are not in the Top 100 in the Open world ranking or in the Top 20 of Veterans category.

13.5.5. Wild-cards

- 13.5.5.1. The organizers may invite a maximum of 3 players who don't qualify under the terms of point 13.5.2.

13.6. Challenger Tournaments

13.6.1. Definition

- 13.6.1.1. A Challenger is also an International tournament reserved for players not highly ranking. However all FISTF standards must be respected.

13.6.2. Specific competition rules

- 13.6.2.1. Each Member Nation of FISTF is entitled to organise three (3) Challengers per season.
13.6.2.2. Each national association must submit its preferred date(s) to the FISTF Sports Director.
13.6.2.3. At least **6** players must take part for world ranking points to be awarded.
13.6.2.4. Only players below 200th place in the World Ranking may take part in this competition.
13.6.2.5. In a Challenger, all players should compete in the Open category, although other categories are allowed.
13.6.2.6. Categories may be organised for players ranked below 25th place in the World Ranking.

13.6.3. Tournament system

- 13.6.3.1. The first round of the tournament has to be a group stage with a minimum of 3 players per group.
13.6.3.2. The players out in the first round will play a **consolation tournament**.

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13.6.4. Teams Competition

- 13.6.4.1. Challengers for teams can be organized.
- 13.6.4.2. Only clubs that are not in the Top 25 of the Teams Ranking can take part.
- 13.6.4.3. Minimum of 4 teams have to take part for world ranking points to be awarded.
- 13.6.4.4. A club from the Top 25 can register its B-team providing:
 - 13.6.4.4.1. The B-team is not in the world's Top 25, and;
 - 13.6.4.4.2. The players taking part are not in the Top 200 in the Open world ranking or in the Top 25 of veteran category.

13.6.5. Wild-cards

- 13.6.5.1.1. The organizers may invite a maximum of 3 players who don't qualify under the terms of point 13.6.2.

13.7. Futures Tournaments

13.7.1. Definition

- 13.7.1.1. A Future is also an International tournament reserved for players not highly ranking. However all FISTF standards must be respected.

13.7.2. Specific competition rules

- 13.7.2.1. Each Member Nation of FISTF is entitled to organise three (3) Futures per season.
- 13.7.2.2. Each national association must submit its preferred date(s) to the FISTF Sports Director.
- 13.7.2.3. At least **6** players must take part for world ranking points to be awarded.
- 13.7.2.4. Only players below 300th place in the World Ranking may take part in this competition.
- 13.7.2.5. In a Future, all players should compete in the Open category, although other categories are allowed.
- 13.7.2.6. Categories may be organised for players ranked below 30th place in the World Ranking.

13.7.3. Tournament system

- 13.7.3.1. The first round of the tournament has to be a group stage with a minimum of 3 players per group.
- 13.7.3.2. The players out in the first round will play a **consolation tournament** with a knockout system.

13.7.4. Specific rules of the competition

- 13.7.4.1. Futures for teams can be organized. Only clubs that are not in the Top 30 of the team ranking can take part.
- 13.7.4.2. Minimum of 4 teams have to take part for world ranking points to be awarded.
- 13.7.4.3. A club from the Top 30 can register its B-team providing:
 - 13.7.4.3.1. The B-team is not in the world's Top 30, and;
 - 13.7.4.3.2. The players taking part are not in the Top 300 in the Open world ranking or in the Top 30 of veteran category.

13.7.5. Wild-cards

- 13.7.5.1. The organizers may invite a maximum of 3 players who don't qualify under the terms of point 13.7.2.

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14. Experimental tournaments.

14.1. Definition

14.1.1. Experimental tournaments (**ETs**) are not a class in itself, but rather tournaments aimed to test new rules, formats or equipment, in derogation to the existing regulations.

14.2. Parameters

14.2.1. Satellites, Challengers and Futures at any level can be ETs.

14.2.2. **ETs** fall in four categories depending on the nature of the experimentation:

- I. The game rules;
- II. Organizational aspects (for example the suppression of the sudden death extra time);
- III. The format (f.e. the Swiss formula);
- IV. The game equipment. This category is more suited for achieving sponsorships with equipment producers.

14.2.3. Organizers of a certain event may ask FISTF to stage an **ET** at least 60 days in advance. They must declare the specific innovation(s) to be experimented. Typically, only one kind of innovation per tournament is permitted, unless the experiment involves a number of connected innovations of minor import. The Sport Director has the authority to decide whether to grant or refuse the request.

14.3. Duties and responsibilities of the organizers

14.3.1. The tournament's experimental nature must be clearly stated on the tournament website, on posters and on each and every form of announcement/advertisement. In addition the organizers must clearly and carefully detail category, nature and scope of the innovation.

14.3.2. Before the start of the competition (or before the start of the consolation tournament), an adequate amount of time must be committed to briefing players on the nature of the experiment and the proposed changes. In the case of category I **ETs**, it is strongly recommended that the organizers distribute leaflets detailing the rules changes and organize displays on the pitches, to ensure everyone understands the changes.

14.3.3. Category I **ETs** shall use referees. These are players familiar with the innovation(s). The organizers must appoint enough referees so that one of them is always on hand (i.e. not engaged in play or the organisation) to clarify doubtful situations.

14.3.4. Organizers are required to write a report on the outcome of the experiment.

14.4. FISTF duties and responsibilities

14.4.1. **ETs** are exempt from all FISTF fees.

14.4.2. The experimental nature of the event shall be noted on the official FISTF calendar.

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15. FISTF World Ranking

15.1. Rules

- 15.1.1. For every FISTF tournament, world rankings points are awarded.
- 15.1.2. When compiling the result and the ranking of one month, points from the previous 12 months are divided by 2 and points from the previous 24 months are simply removed (already divided by 2 of course after 1 year).
- 15.1.3. If a tournament is played over 2 days of different months (e.g.: September 30 & October 1), the tournament will count for the first month possible (e.g.: September)

15.2. Tables

15.2.1. Hereunder, the table of the points awarded.

Tournament Type	Winner	Runner Up	Semi Finals	Quarter Finalist	Last 16	Last 32	Formal Rounds
WORLD CUP	600	400	240	120	60	30	15
CONTINENTAL CUP	500	350	200	100	50	25	13
MAJOR	400	270	160	80	40	20	10-5-3
GRAND PRIX	300	200	120	60	30	15	8-4-2
INTERNATIONAL OPEN	150	105	60	30	15	8	5-3-1
SATELLITE	50	35	20	10	5	3	2-1
CHALLENGER	40	28	16	8	4	2	1
FUTURE	30	21	12	6	3	2	1
MASTERS	No points						

15.2.2. Adjustment according to the number of players

15.2.2.1. These are only valid for the Continental Cups (for individuals), Majors, Grand Prix, International Opens and Satellites.

OPEN	VETERANS	U19 & U15	TEAMS & U12 & LADIES
Over 64 = 120%	Over 48 = 120%	Over 32 = 120%	Over 16 = 120%
48 – 64 = 100%	36 – 48 = 100%	16 – 32 = 100%	12 – 16 = 100%
32 – 47 = 90%	24 – 35 = 90%	8 – 15 = 90%	8 – 11 = 90%
16 – 31 = 75%	12 – 23 = 75%	5 – 7 = 75%	4 – 7 = 75%
8 – 15 = 60%	6 – 11 = 60%	4 = 60%	3 = 60%
6 - 7 = 40% (Satellite, Challenger & Future)	Under 6 = 0	Under 4 = 0	Under 3 = 0
Under 6 = 0			

15.2.3. Individual rankings

- 15.2.3.1. Individual rankings are updated according to the criteria mentioned above. In September, some players are removed from the U19, U15 and U12 categories if they are too old.
- 15.2.3.2. The world rankings allow some players to be selected for the World Cup and the World Masters.

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15.2.4. Champions League Ranking

15.2.4.1. Hereunder, the table of the points awarded:

Rank	Points	Rank	Points	Rank	Points	Rank	Points
1	800,00	5	400,00	9	330,00	13	290,00
2	650,00	6	380,00	10	320,00	14	280,00
3	500,00	7	360,00	11	310,00	15	270,00
4	450,00	8	340,00	12	300,00	16	260,00

15.2.5. Europa League Ranking

15.2.5.1. Hereunder, the table of the points awarded:

Rank	Points	Rank	Points	Rank	Points	Rank	Points
1	260,00	5	100,00	9	60,00	13	40,00
2	200,00	6	90,00	10	55,00	14	35,00
3	150,00	7	80,00	11	50,00	15	30,00
4	120,00	8	70,00	12	45,00	16	25,00

15.2.6. Points adjustments according to the number of participant teams for Europa League:

Number of Teams	Percentage
12 to 16 teams	100%
8 to 11 teams	90%
6 to 7 teams	80%
4 to 5 teams	70%

15.2.7. Other Continental Championships

15.2.7.1. Hereunder, the table of the points awarded:

Rank	Points	Rank	Points	Rank	Points	Rank	Points
1	800,00	9	250,00	17	150,00	25	65,00
2	600,00	10	240,00	18	140,00	26	60,00
3	450,00	11	230,00	19	130,00	27	55,00
4	425,00	12	220,00	20	120,00	28	50,00
5	375,00	13	210,00	21	110,00	29	45,00
6	350,00	14	200,00	22	100,00	30	40,00
7	325,00	15	190,00	23	90,00	31	35,00
8	300,00	16	180,00	24	80,00	32	30,00

15.2.8. Points adjustments according to the number of participant teams on other Continental Championships:

24 teams or more	100%
20 to 23 teams	90%
16 to 19 teams	80%
12 to 15 teams	70%
8 to 11 teams	60%
4 to 7 teams	50%

15.2.9. Clubs rankings

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15.2.9.1. Tables 15.2.1 and 15.2.2. are used for Clubs competitions

15.2.10. National Teams rankings

15.2.10.1. Tables 15.2.1 and 15.2.2. are used for National Teams competitions

15.2.11. Friendly International Matches

15.2.11.1. Award Points for the FISTF Nations Ranking:

- Victory: 20 points
- Draw: 8 points
- Loss: 0 points

15.2.11.2. Bonus points for the FISTF Nations Ranking:

- 10 points for beating the World's number 1 team
- 6 points for beating the World's number 2 team
- 3 points for beating the World's number 3 team



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16. Controls on the game equipment and the event locations

16.1. Definition

16.1.1. Regular controls over the equipment and the locations are an essential feature of any sporting activity. They are managed according to the FISTF Equipment & Homologation Handbook. The controls on the players' equipment (16.2) are implemented in every FISTF tournament; controls on the organizers' equipment and the event locations (9.4) are intermittently carried out by FISTF officials. Finally, in certain high-level tournaments the organizers must provide information about the pitches and the goals they are using (16.3).

16.2. Controls on the players' equipment

16.2.1. The controls are handled by delegates appointed by the event organizers. They are implemented mainly through the FISTF Measuring Tool. The equipment checked includes bases, balls and goalkeepers. Figures only come into consideration inasmuch as the height of base + figure is concerned

16.2.2. The organizers must:

- a. Hold available at least two pieces of the FISTF Measuring Tool. In Satellites, Futures and Challengers, only one piece is required.
- b. Hold available a copy of the FISTF Equipment & Homologation Handbook.
- c. Appoint one or more delegate(s) to carry out the controls.
- d. Send a report to FISTF with the registered occurrences.

16.2.3. For each event day (this usually means once for the team event and once for the individual competition), the delegate(s) check a number of game tables equal to 15% (rounded up) the number of the players participating to the tournament. The tables to be checked are chosen at random. The checks are performed before the start of the matches, after the players have deployed their teams and goalkeepers. Moreover, checks must be run in at least two separate batches performed at different times. If the tournament is subdivided in categories, at least one table in each category must be checked.

16.2.4. For each table the delegate(s) checks the ball, the goalkeeper and one of the bases (selected at random) used by each player, taking advantage of the FISTF Measuring Tool.

16.2.4.1. In the case of the base he checks:

- a. the minimum height of base + figure;
- b. the maximum base diameter;

16.2.4.2. In the case of the goalkeeper he checks:

- a. that the figure passes through the opening smoothly, while holding the rod in a perfectly horizontal position;
- b. the thickness of the goalkeeper figure;
- c. the straightness of the rod. Only a slight angle at the junction point between the rod and the handle is allowed;
- d. The rod's width;
- e. the lengths of the rod and the handle.

16.2.4.3. In the case of the ball, he checks its diameter.

16.2.5. A player suspecting his opponent to be using illicit equipment may alarm the referee either before the match starts or during the interval. The referee determines if the charge is plausible. If so, he alerts the organizers. Checks requested by players must be noted in the pertinent form, but they do not count toward the minimum number of controls that must be performed each day.

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16.2.6. If a referee believes a player is using illicit equipment, he proceeds in the same way and the same points in time (before the match starts or during the interval).

16.2.7. Disagreements on the regularity of a player's equipment are adjudicated by the head referee(s).

16.2.8. Sanctions.

16.2.8.1. Upon being confirmed to be using irregular equipment, a player must immediately surrender it to the organizers, who shall hold it in custody as long as he remains in play. No attempt to rectify the item(s) on the spot is allowed. Repeat of the infringement or refusal to surrender it will lead to the player's immediate disqualification from the tournament (both days).

16.3. The statement from the organizers

(FISTF may restrict this requirement and the resulting obligations to certain categories of tournaments).

16.3.1. In Form F27, the organizers must declare the brands of the pitches and those of the goals that will be used in the competition. In exceptional cases, FISTF may allow them to delay the statement.

16.3.2. In addition, the organizers must point out any significant imperfection of the pitches and the goals they intend to use.

16.3.3. Pitches must be homologated.

16.4. Controls on the organizers' equipment and the event locations

16.4.1. The controls are performed by FISTF inspectors. These are volunteers appointed by FISTF.

16.4.2. Inspectors for a certain event cannot be selected among the members of the organizers' team. Inspectors will preferably be chosen among foreign players (in respect to the country hosting the competition).

16.4.3. FISTF will present inspectors with any information provided by the organizers about the equipment used in the event.

16.4.4. The inspector checks:

- a. The pitches and goals to see if their brands correspond to the organizers indications;
- b. the tables and pitches, paying attention to
 1. the balance of the table (the surface must be neither bended nor inclined) and
 2. the uniformity of the cloth (there must be no bubbles or waves especially in the playing area);
- c. the functional and aesthetic value of the equipment (newness, cleanness, lack of wear);
- d. the merits of the facilities arranged by the organizers, including:
 1. the game hall
 2. the positioning of tables and fences;
 3. the bar / restaurant;
 4. The toilets.
- e. Optionally, he may assess additional features, like the respect of the time schedule, of FISTF tournament regulations, players wearing sports cloths, and the suitability of the hotel convention.

16.4.5. Sanctions for false statements rendered by the organizers:

16.4.5.1. False statements rendered by the organizers shall be sanctioned with a fine between 20 EUR and 100 EUR, depending on the severity of the situation.

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17. Friendly International Matches

17.1. Definitions

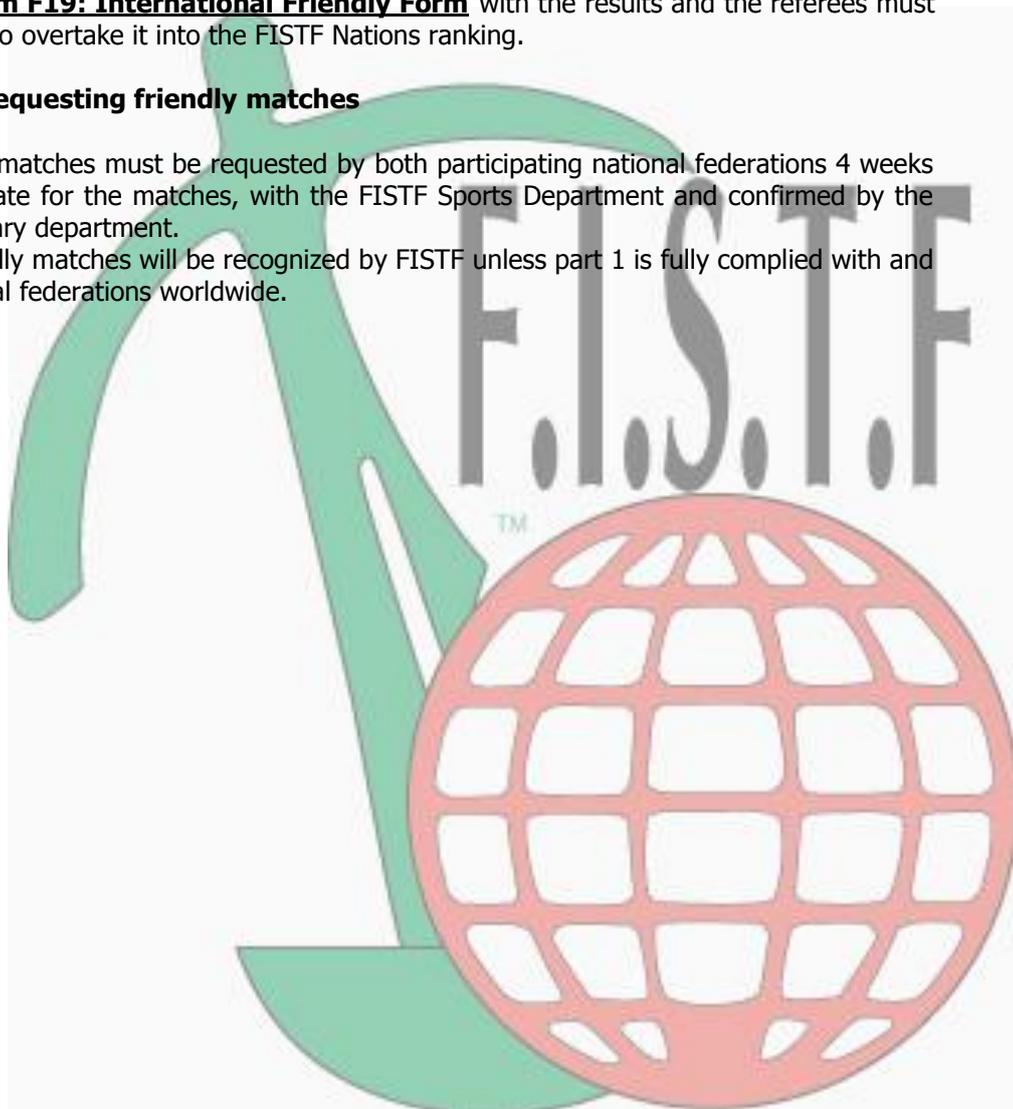
- 17.1.1. The controls are performed by FISTF inspectors. These are volunteers appointed by FISTF.
- 17.1.2. From the season 2006-2007, it is possible to play international friendly matches and get points in the nations ranking.

17.2. Specific competition rules

- 17.2.1. There are 2 official matches between 2 nations possible per season. See also 22. Organization of national teams competitions.
- 17.2.2. If the game takes place at an international tournament, the organizer of this tournament has to be informed too.
- 17.2.3. If both Member Nations confirm the scheduling of an official game, but one nation fails to attend, the game will be awarded as a 4-0 ff.
- 17.2.4. Official friendly national games have to be played with referees.
- 17.2.5. After the game a **Form F19: International Friendly Form** with the results and the referees must be sent to the FISTF to overtake it into the FISTF Nations ranking.

17.3. Requirements for requesting friendly matches

- 17.3.1. International friendly matches must be requested by both participating national federations 4 weeks before the planned date for the matches, with the FISTF Sports Department and confirmed by the FISTF General Secretary department.
- 17.3.2. No international friendly matches will be recognized by FISTF unless part 1 is fully complied with and followed by all national federations worldwide.



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18. Consolation tournament

18.1. Definitions

18.1.1 Organizers of all tournaments are advised to organize consolation tournaments for the players in each category out in the first round. This rule is NOT mandatory.

18.2. Specific competition rules

18.1.2 All matches must have referees.



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Chapter IV – Competition Organization Regulations

19. Organization of a Competition

19.1. General Rules

- 19.1.1 The most important points for the organisation of a tournament must be the quality of the equipment and the venue.
- 19.1.2 The goal of every tournament must be to become a Major Grand Prix.
- 19.1.3 Quality equipment and the fact that the organizers keep the same hall and the same date every year can help candidates to become a Major.
- 19.1.4 Having the same date every year can be important.
 - 19.1.4.1. For instance, Bologna in Italy and Frameries in Belgium use the same date for many years.
- 19.1.5 Many other factors can influence to have a good tournament.
 - 19.1.5.1. The fact to be able to attract many foreign players from many different countries or to be friendly with the players (for instance to give them some tips about hotels, transports and restaurants).
 - 19.1.5.2. Having other things to do or places to see close to the tournament's location or having a good refreshment bar can be advantages.

19.2. Management of the Competition

19.2.1 Official Invitation and Promotion

- 19.2.1.1. An official invitation must be available at least two months before the tournament.
- 19.2.1.2. Even if an invitation is not sent to every national association or every club, the information must be available from the FISTF website.
- 19.2.1.3. In order to promote the tournament on the FISTF website, the organizer shall complete the **Form F27 – Event Promotion Form**, and send it to FISTF at least 4 weeks before the date of the tournament.

19.2.1.4. Banners and Posters

- 19.2.1.4.1. A poster or banner announcing the tournament is mandatory for a Major Grand Prix, Grand Prix or International Open. For the other tournaments although it is not mandatory it is advisable.
- 19.2.1.4.2. It is mandatory to include the FISTF logo and the logo of the local national association as well.

19.2.2 Tournament Registrations

- 19.2.2.1. Set a deadline to receive the registrations (for instance 2 or 3 days before the tournament).
- 19.2.2.2. For larger tournaments (over 100 players), it may be necessary to have a longer deadline (one week).
- 19.2.2.3. In order to register the players in the tournament, the organizer shall use the Form F22 (Event Registration for Individuals Form).
- 19.2.2.4. In order to register the clubs in the tournament, the organizer shall use the Form F23 (Event Registration for Teams Form)
- 19.2.2.5. Both Forms must be sent to FISTF before the tournament.

19.2.3 Official Confirmation

- 19.2.3.1. In some cases, the organizer can ask the representatives of the various clubs to confirm the participation of their players the day before the tournament.

19.2.4 Promotion, public relations and Sponsorship

- 19.2.4.1. For any FISTF event, it is important to invite the national and regional media. This can provide significant positive images for the game and clubs in the organising country.
- 19.2.4.2. A member of the Organising Committee must be available to meet the reporters. Basic information should be available in a handout to the media.

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19.2.5 Meeting the spectators

- 19.2.5.1. For each tournament, it is important to attract spectators. This is the best way to attract new players.
- 19.2.5.2. The use of posters can be a good tool for attracting people but it is also very important to explain to them what is going on. From this point of view, it is very important to prepare a programme with the names of the competitors, the schedule of the tournament, the sponsors, etc.

19.2.6 The Draw

- 19.2.6.1. The draw for the individual and team events can be made up to two days before the tournament in order to allow some last minute changes. For large tournaments, it can be useful to do the draw even earlier.
- 19.2.6.2. The World Rankings shall be used to make the draw and to select the seeded players.
- 19.2.6.3. A player is allowed to play in his/her main category and one category of his choice. If the organizer doesn't allow playing 2 categories it is up to the player which category he/she would like to take part.
- 19.2.6.4. The tournament organizer has to make the draw the way that if it is possible (means that less teams/players from the same country than number of groups are taking part) teams/players from the same country won't be drawn to the same group.
- 19.2.6.5. The tournament organizer has to take care (as much as possible) about the fact that the referee of a game is not from the same country as one of the players.
- 19.2.6.6. The draw and the list of matches must be affixed to the wall. Each round of matches must be announced in the hall by microphone.

19.2.7 Management of referees

- 19.2.7.1. The choice of referees is very important. The Tournament Manager with the help of the head referee can do this.
- 19.2.7.2. In every competition, as there is one chance in three that there will be no group of four players, the organizer should be careful about the referees. If there is only one group of four players, the organizer must find three additional referees if he wants the first round to be completed after three series of matches. Usually, all players must play twice and referee once during the first round. However, groups of four can be played over four series of matches with the groups of three having a rest series.
- 19.2.7.3. From the knockout stages, the players who have been eliminated from the tournament in the previous round should be asked to referee in the following round, but avoiding having them referee the player that has just eliminated them.
- 19.2.7.4. In principle, it is the responsibility of the organizing club to provide missing referees.
- 19.2.7.5. U12 players can never be referees in FISTF tournaments.

19.2.8 Registration of Players and Clubs

- 19.2.8.1. Clubs must fill FORM F23 - Event Registration for Teams Form for registering on a team competition of a FISTF tournament and send it to the organizer.
- 19.2.8.2. Clubs (or individual players) must fill FORM F22 - Event Registration for Individuals Form for registering on an individual competition of a FISTF tournament and send it to the organizer.
- 19.2.8.3. The tournament organizer must refuse clubs or players without FISTF license.
- 19.2.8.4. An organizer that accepts the registration of a club without FISTF license will be fined 20 Euro for each non-licensed club.
- 19.2.8.5. An organizer that accepts the registration of a player without FISTF license will be fined 10 Euro for each non-licensed player.

19.2.9 Trophies

(Chapter under construction)

19.2.10 Competition reports

(Chapter under construction)

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19.2.11 Insurance

19.2.11.1. The competition organizer shall be solely responsible for the carriage of insurance suitable to the competition organized, and to the infrastructure in which it is played.

19.2.12 List of Players

19.2.12.1. The list of registered players shall be sent to the nations at least 2 days before the date of the tournament.

19.2.12.2. This list can be always updated after the deadline defined in 19.2.14.1

19.2.13 Entry fees

19.2.13.1. The entry fees must be paid at the deadline of the registrations. If players come from abroad, some flexibility is possible.

19.2.13.2. Maximum values

19.2.13.2.1. Organizers have to publish their entry fees at least 2 months before the tournament if they want to make them higher in any category compared to the standard maximum limits. If no information is provided, then the organizer will have to respect the limits set by the FISTF BoD.

19.2.13.2.2. The current maximum limits for the entry fees are as follows:

Tournament Type	Open & Veterans		Other Categories		Team	
	EUR (*)	GBP (*)	EUR (*)	GBP (*)	EUR (*)	GBP (*)
Major Grand Prix	12 €	10 £	8 €	7 £	29 €	25 £
International Grand Prix	12 €	10 £	7 €	6 £	23 €	20 £
International Open	12 €	10 £	7 €	6 £	23 €	20 £
Satellites, Challenger & Futures	6 €	5 £	4 €	3 £	14 €	12 £

(*) – Prices in Sterling Pounds (£) count only for England, Wales, Scotland, Ireland and Northern Ireland. For all other countries, prices in EUR, unless they follow **19.2.13.2.3.**

19.2.13.2.3. The current limits for nations with a different currency will depend on the exchange value between the local currency and the maximum values defined for EURO currency on table 19.2.13.2.2. This shall be communicated to FISTF in the time of the sending of the **Form F27 - FISTF Event Promotion Form**.

See also 7.2. Tournament Levies

19.2.14 Event's Sports Organization

19.2.14.1. All the regulations and instructions on how the sports organization of the event shall be made, can be consulted in the **FISTF HANDBOOK 2014-2015 Organizers Guide** (a separate document).

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19.3. Technical Infrastructure

19.3.1 Schedule of the Competition

- 19.3.1.1. The Board recommends that organizers provide a schedule of their tournaments to the players at the start of the weekend or in the invitation. For every round of matches a reasonable period should be allowed. For instance:
- 50 minutes for a team group match;
 - 60 minutes for a team knockout match;
 - 45 minutes for an individual group match;
 - 60 minutes for an individual knockout match.

19.3.2 The Hall

- 19.3.2.1. Make sure the hall is suitable for the kind of tournaments that you are organizing. The hall must not only be large enough for tables but also have an area reserved for officials, a rest area, and walkways for spectators, ...

19.3.3 Area for spectators

- 19.3.3.1. Ideally, the spectators must be able to walk freely around the hall so that they can watch games without disturbing the players. It is important to make paths with partitions or barriers where the spectators could walk.

19.3.4 Rest area

- 19.3.4.1. It is important to provide areas where the players can sit and rest around the tables.

19.3.5 Climatic conditions

- 19.3.5.1. The temperature in the hall must be between 18 and 25 degrees Celsius with sufficient ventilation.

19.3.6 Luminosity

- 19.3.6.1. Every playing area must be sufficiently lit. The correct level of lighting is between 80 and 100 lux.

19.3.7 Chronometer

- 19.3.7.1. Ideally, the organizer should have a timer showing the time and announcing the end of the game with a bell.

19.3.8 Bar

- 19.3.8.1. During competitions, the organizers are invited to provide drinks and food to players and spectators. The bar can be a good source of income for the organisational team.
- 19.3.8.2. However, the price of drinks and food must remain reasonable. It is also important to place the bar in a good position so that it does not disturb players.
- 19.3.8.3. It is strictly prohibited for players or spectators to enter in the hall with alcoholic beverage. The head referees and the organizers have a duty to monitor compliance with this prohibition. Players who fail to comply with this prohibition should be reported to the Disciplinary Council.

19.3.9 Playing Area

- 19.3.9.1. The playing area should be large enough to provide at least 2 meters between tables. All tables must be of the same type. The ground must be level and firm.
- 19.3.9.2. To organize a tournament under good conditions, make sure that there is easy access to the hall for players and spectators. Signs to indicate the direction of the hall are mandatory.

19.3.10 Transports

- 19.3.10.1. If some players come by train or by plane, directions to the venue must be clear and provided in all pre-tournament literature. Ideally, shuttles should be organized to bring the players to the hall.

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19.3.11 Accommodation

19.3.11.1. Some players sometimes come for a few days and they need a hotel for one or more nights. Organizers should always try to provide details of suitable hotels and B&Bs that are close to the hall.

19.3.12 Health and safety

19.3.12.1. The competition organizer is solely responsible to comply with any and all health and safety law and regulations applicable to the kind of competition that is organized, and to the infrastructure in which it is played.

19.3.13 Review of the papers

19.3.13.1. To attract sponsors for future editions, you have to keep copies of all press articles about previous tournaments. This will provide an informative file that can be used in media releases and promotions.

19.4. Duties of the Organizer

19.4.1 Sending of Results

19.4.1.1. The full results must be sent to the FISTF Sports Director **within 5 days** after the tournament.

19.4.1.2. Full results includes:

- a. All individual results of the individual tournament must be listed
- b. All individual results of the teams tournament must be listed
- c. All absent players must be reported (which means the results must not only be 0-3)

19.4.1.3. Only the **standard FISTF score sheet** file will be accepted for this purpose.

19.4.2 Sending of Tournament Report

19.4.2.1. The tournament report, including the full list of players and teams registered and/or absent without reason, should be sent to the FISTF Sports Director **within 5 days** after the tournament.

19.4.2.2. Only the **standard FISTF organizers file** will be accepted for this purpose.

19.4.3 Administrative Sanctions

19.4.3.1. Tournament Score sheet:

19.4.3.1.1. 5 EUR fine if the results are not sent 3 days after the tournament.

19.4.3.1.2. 10 EUR fine if the results are not sent 14 days after the tournament.

19.4.3.1.3. There will be an additional fine of 5 EUR per week for late delivery of the tournament results.

19.4.3.1.4. Additional to the fines above 10 EUR fine if the results are not sent in FISTF standard format.

19.4.3.1.5. The maximum fine for the point "Tournament Score sheet" will never exceed 100 EUR.

19.4.3.2. Tournament Organizers file:

19.4.3.2.1. 10 EUR fine if player's data are missing or not complete.

19.4.3.2.2. 5 EUR fine if the tournament sheets are sent later than 5 days after the tournament (but less than 15 days).

19.4.3.2.3. 15 EUR fine if the sheets are sent later than 15 days after the tournament.

19.4.3.2.4. From the 3rd week, there will be an additional fine of 5 EUR per week.

19.4.3.2.5. The maximum fine for the point "Tournament organizers file" will never exceed 75 EUR.

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20. Decisions by the FISTF Board

20.1. Definitions

- 20.1.1 It is solely of the competence of the FISTF Board of Directors to take a decision about any situation not described or not well clarified by the present regulations.
- 20.1.2 In the case of any doubt the interpretation of the FISTF Board will be accepted as valid.
- 20.1.3 Any decision taken by the FISTF Board of Directors within this context will prevail for future similar situations.
- 20.1.4 Only the FISTF Congress has competence for override the decisions of the FISTF Board of Directors.



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Chapter V – Finance Regulations

1. Bank account for event fees online

FISTF – Fred Vulpes
Targobank Düsseldorf
IBAN : DE35 3002 0900 5390 2350 28
BIC : CMCIDEDD
Paypal : finances@fistf.com

2. Financial plan - expenditure

Several issues are anticipated with regard to expenditure:

2.1. FISTF organisation and administration

2.1.1. The members of the Board of Directors and any committees may claim repayment of their reasonable expenses from the Finance Director who will settle these with the President's approval.

2.1.2. When a member of the Board of Director or of a committee files a claim for the reimbursement of travel and subsistence costs incurred for the benefit of FISTF, reimbursement shall be limited to travel costs and costs of lodging. No other subsistence costs (meals, drinks, etc.) shall be reimbursed.

a. For air travel, only economy class or cheaper ticket shall be reimbursed. The applicant shall make all reasonable efforts to book the cheapest flight available, including but not limited to charter flights and low cost airlines.

b. For train travel, only second-class ticket shall be reimbursed, possibly including additional sleeping banks costs if necessary. The applicant shall ensure that the shortest way is followed.

c. For travel by personal vehicle, the reimbursement shall be limited to 0,20 € per kilometre. The distance shall be calculated as the shortest distance between the applicant's residence and the meeting place.

Lodging costs shall be limited to an amount of 20 € per day. The applicant shall make all reasonable efforts to secure the cheapest lodging available while still in keeping with reasonable standard of health, safety and comfort.

2.1.3. Reimbursement of phone, fax, photocopies and mail shall be limited to 200 € per year. The applicant shall make all reasonable efforts to use electronic mail as a primary means of communication. Costs of subscription to an electronic mail provider shall not be reimbursed. Costs of office furniture or office material, including but not limited to computer equipment, shall not be reimbursed.

2.1.4. Representation costs and expenses related to clothing and sports material shall not be reimbursed.

2.1.5. **FORM F05 - FISTF Expenses Claim Form shall be used for this purpose.**

2.2. Production of the official FISTF publication

2.2.1. The publication of a magazine will involve certain expenditure. However, the most economical option will be sought.

2.3. Development assistance

2.3.1. FISTF will devote part of its budget to the development of table football. This assistance will be in practice:

2.3.1.1. Reductions in the fees paid by the national associations;

2.3.1.2. The purchase and provision of equipment for the smaller associations.

2.4. Allowances

2.4.1. Miscellaneous awards - FISTF may intervene annually to award national associations whose clubs and players have contributed towards the development of table football.

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Chapter VI – Communication Regulations

1. Definitions

1.1. The Communication Department is responsible for the aesthetic, technical and practical part: website, FISTF blog, news, Facebook, Forum, etc. In addition the Commission shall be responsible for relations with the international press, specialized websites and with the press departments of national federations.

2. Communication action points

2.1. There are various issues to develop:

2.1.1. Membership administration:

2.1.2. It is the general secretary's responsibility to maintain a list of registered players and clubs of FISTF in conjunction with the national associations and tournament organisers.

2.1.3. Rules of the game:

2.1.4. The rules of the game are available in French and English, the two official languages used by FISTF. The Member Nations must arrange translations of the rules into their own national languages. The FISTF shall monitor this effort.

2.1.5. Subbuteo Sports News is the FISTF e-newsletter;

2.1.6. Promotion, public relations and sponsorship:

2.1.7. The Director of Communications will be responsible for these issues.

2.1.8. FISTF web site:

- The Director of Communications will be responsible for this.
- The FISTF website's URL is <http://fistf.com>.

3. Publications

3.1. International Flick

3.1.1. The 'International Flick' is the official publication of FISTF. It must publish the following information:

- Tournament calendar;
- Tournament results;
- World ranking table of individual players, national teams and referees;
- Official decisions and announcements.

3.1.2. It should also include:

- A report of each tournament;
- Miscellaneous information and historical background;
- Advertising.

3.1.3. The 'International Flick' will be available for free downloading at the FISTF website.

3.2. Table football literature

3.2.1. Various publicity leaflets about table football will be produced for the attention of the media, the public (for distribution at events) and partners.

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3.3. Archives of the game

Several files have been and will be produced with compiled results and statistics since FISTF was created.

All winners recap'

History of the World Championships

History of the European Cup for clubs

History of the World Masters

History of the Major tournaments

History of the Satellite tournaments

History of the Challenger tournaments

History of International friendly games

History of FISTF tournaments - Season 1993-94

History of FISTF tournaments - Season 1993-94

History of FISTF tournaments - Season 1994-95

History of FISTF tournaments - Season 1995-96

History of FISTF tournaments - Season 1996-97

History of FISTF tournaments - Season 1997-98

History of FISTF tournaments - Season 1998-99

History of FISTF tournaments - Season 1999-2000

History of FISTF tournaments - Season 2000-01

History of FISTF tournaments - Season 2001-02

History of FISTF tournaments - Season 2002-03

History of FISTF tournaments - Season 2003-04

History of FISTF tournaments - Season 2004-05

History of FISTF tournaments - Season 2005-06

History of FISTF tournaments - Season 2006-07

History of FISTF tournaments - Season 2007-08

History of FISTF tournaments - Season 2008-09

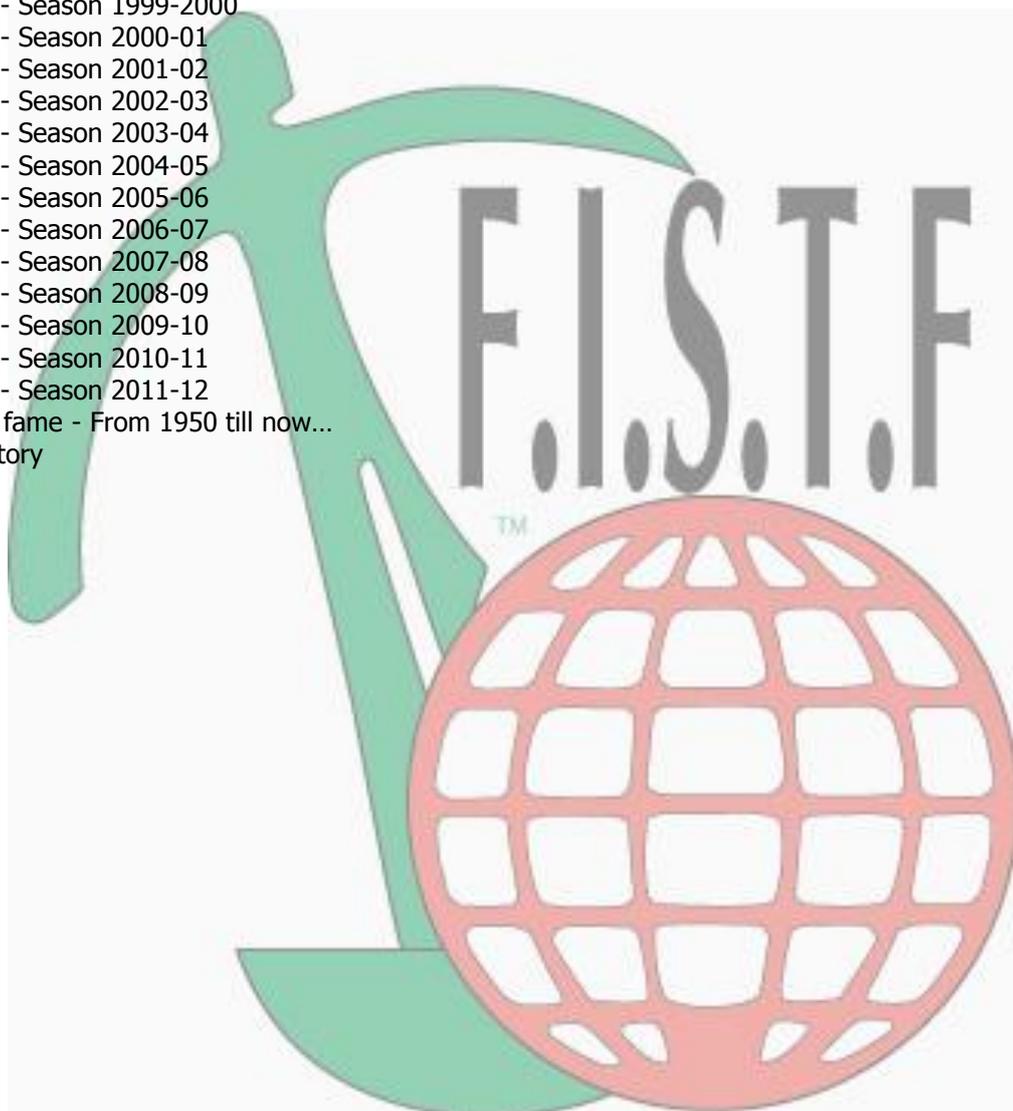
History of FISTF tournaments - Season 2009-10

History of FISTF tournaments - Season 2010-11

History of FISTF tournaments - Season 2011-12

International Subbuteo hall of fame - From 1950 till now...

FISTF Board of Directors - History



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Chapter VII – Marketing Regulations

1. Marketing Department

1.1 This department shall be responsible for:

1.1.1 The General aesthetic (clothing, places, events, etc.).

1.1.2 Rules and requirements for FISTF tournaments.

1.1.3 The Design and Style Guide of FISTF and all the international events, Sponsors, relation with producers and distributors of equipment.

1.1.4 It will offer to the producers and distributors a collaboration package.

2. Products Homologation

2.1 This chapter is available in a separate specific document "**FISTF Homologation Handbook**", to be released separately.



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Chapter VIII – Promotion Regulations

1. FISTF Development Program

- 1.1. FISTF will issue programs for the development of table football on a national and/or regional level worldwide.
- 1.2. These programs shall be established between the FISTF and a National Associations or a club.
- 1.3. FISTF partners can be added to the program on a case-by-case basis.
- 1.4. A protocol shall be signed between all involved parts in order to define duties and rights of each part.
- 1.5. All national associations and clubs can adhere to the FISTF Development Program with no restriction.

2. Training Centres

2.1. Goals of the centres

- To give local, national and foreign players a place to meet, play and communicate with other players.
- To have a place to train your local and/or national team for international competitions.
- To build the sporting image of Sports Table Football.
- To support national federations in developing Sports Table Football in their country.

2.2. Centre characteristics

- There must be good quality FISTF Pitches.
- The centre should be open at least 1 day a week for a minimum of 3 hours each time.
- The centre must be set up in a clean and non-smoking environment.

2.3. What the Centre gets in return from FISTF

- Official title as "FISTF Training Centre".
- A place on the FISTF website listing all the Centres with their locations and information, which is also a way to display the projects and organizational skills of national federations.
- Flags, banners, posters, rules can be downloaded freely from the FISTF website.
- Countries with little financial resources can request help through the FISTF Development Fund (FISTF Member Nations only).
- There are no registration fees for setting up an FISTF Training Centre.

2.4. How to apply

- The Form F21 (Training Centres Request Form) shall be used for the application.
- You must fill a form for each centre you wish to register.
- The application will be submitted to the General Secretary of FISTF for clearance and consideration from the FISTF board.
- A minimum of 4 photos of the venue shall be included with the application, one photo from outside and three photos from inside.

2.5. Overall Benefits

- All players with a valid FISTF license can use the FISTF Certified Centres for free.

2.6. FISTF Certification

- The application will be submitted to the General Secretary of FISTF for clearance and consideration from the FISTF board.
- A certification diploma shall be issued to all approved Training Centres.

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Chapter IX – Disciplinary Regulations

The Disciplinary Regulations are available in a separate specific document.



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Chapter X - Rules of the game

The rules of the game are available in a separate specific document.

This file consists of three parts:

- Rules of the game;
- Regulations about the equipment
- Referee's guide



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Chapter XI - Forms

National Federations must fill out the following forms where applicable:

Form F01: To be completed by the National Federation Board at the start of the season to confirm joining FISTF and also to confirm payment of fees.

Form F04: Event request form.

Form F05: Expenses claim form - a FISTF Official can claim costs incurred while carrying out FISTF tasks. This should be sent to the FISTF Finance Director after the approval of the FISTF President

Form F06: Transfer form.

Form F06E: National Player transfer list

Form F09: New table football equipment homologation form.

Form F10: New Club Registration Form

Form F11: Change of Club Details Form

Form F12: FISTF Champions League and Europa League Submission Form

Form F13: Recognition for a new producing company form

Form F16: Nomination for Person to work with Board

Form F19: International Friendly Form

Form F20: List of Licensed Clubs and Players by a National Association

Form F21: Training Centres Request Form

Form F22: Event Registration for Individuals Form

Form F23: Event Registration for Teams Form

Form F24: Team Competition Match Form

Form F25: Individual Competition Match Form

Form F26: Products Homologation Form

Form F27: Event Promotion Form

FORM F28: Partner License Request Form

FORM F29: Supporter License Request Form

FORM F30: New Products Homologation Form

FORM F31: Equipment Checks Form

FORM F32: Event Scrutiny Form

FORM F33: SUBBUTEOScar Voting Form Model

