

INTERNATIONAL BLIND SPORTS FEDERATION

SHOWDOWN SPORT COMMITTEE

GUIDELINES FOR INTERNATIONAL TOURNAMENTS AWARDING RANKING POINTS



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INTRODUCTION

The present guidelines, set forth by the IBSA Showdown Sport Committee, are in force from 1st September 2018, and shall be followed by Organizers of international tournaments meant to award points for the International Ranking List, hereafter referred to as tournaments.

GUIDELINES FOR OFFICIAL INTERNATIONAL TOURNAMENTS

Types of Tournaments

There are 4 levels of Showdown Official Tournaments awarding ranking points:

- National Tournaments;
- International Tournaments (not IBSA sanctioned);
- Top Twelve (not IBSA sanctioned);
- IBSA Sanctioned Events:
 - World and Continental Championships,
 - IBSA World Games.

Eligible Players

Players with visual impairment provided by IBSA standards (B1, B2, B3) are allowed to take part in tournaments awarding ranking points.

Documents proving their level of visual impairment must be produced to the Showdown Sport Committee or to ISAS, depending on the level of the tournament.

For **Official International Tournaments** and **Top Twelve** the VI documentation to provide may be either:

- 1) IBSA International classification
or
- 2) National classification
or
- 3) Official documents released by a local public body.

It is mandatory to send the VI documentation to the Showdown Sport Committee and cc to the Organizer within the tournament's registration deadline.

For **IBSA sanctioned events** it is mandatory to upload the VI documentation in the IBSA Sport Administration System (ISAS) six weeks before the tournament starts

Coaches/Referees

People being both coaches and referees, from the 1st September 2016 shall declare their role for one year, by writing to the Sport Committee and the ISRC.

From 1st September 2020, they shall decide their role definitively and communicate their decision to the Sport Committee and the ISRC.

Referees

Organizers shall choose referees only from the list provided by the International Showdown Referee Committee (ISRC).

In agreement with ISRC, new referees may be called, provided that their number shall not be greater than 25 per cent of the referees present at that tournament.

The number of referees shall be twice the number of tables used in the tournament.

Organizers shall provide referees with room and board, as well as cover their travel costs.

Organizer must offer double/triple/quadruple room accommodation and full board.

Travel solutions can be arranged, booked and sent by Organizers or arranged and booked by the referee. In any case, no final booking must be done without a previous agreement between referee and Organizers.

If the referee buys his/her tickets by his/her own, Organizers must refund the travel costs within a week from the end of the event.

Referees must provide all the necessary documents for the refund: flight tickets/travel costs receipts, bank account details (name, surname, address, IBAN and BIC).

Among the referees, Organizers shall appoint (in agreement with the ISRC) the Head Referee and the Vice Head Referee for the tournament.

Organizers shall send the list of referees and players (with their nationality) and the match schedule to the Head and Vice-Head Referee one week before the tournament. So they can assign the referees to the matches and schedule their work for the event.

Organizational Rules

The balls used shall be chosen between the ones approved by the IBSA Showdown Sport Committee.

If organizers wish, to play with a ball which has not been approved, a dispense shall be asked for to the Sport Committee. In case of a positive reply, the use of that ball shall be communicated in the invitation to the tournament.

Matches shall be played over a time span no longer than 11 hours per day, plus one hour break to have lunch.

Matches must finish on Saturday. Sunday will be dedicated only to departures.

The Set of Rules in force must be applied in any International Tournament awarding ranking points.

The duration of a best of three sets match is minimum 25 minutes.

The duration of a best of five sets match is minimum 45 minutes.

Appeals

The Appeal Committee has the tasks to make a decision in case of an appeal.

The subject of appeals submitted to the Appeal Committee, must regard only IBSA Showdown Rules of Play, Equipment Specifications and Team Play Rules.

The Appeal Committee is composed by the Head Referee (or Vice Head Referee), a Organization's delegate and an athlete voted by the public in the technical meeting.

Appeals in the Tournaments must be submitted in writing in English and delivered together with the appeal fee to the Head Referee, within 30 minutes after publication of results. The

Appeal Committee will then decide on the matter. The decision must be put into writing as well. If the appeal is rejected, the appeal fee will not be returned and will be cashed in by IBSA; if the appeal is accepted the appeal fee will be returned to the appellant.

The decision of the Appeal Committee is final.

Playing System

IBSA Showdown Sport Committee, in consultation with the event Organizer shall determine the playing system of the tournament. The competition must follow the guidelines approved by the IBSA Showdown Sport Committee to be considered an officially recognized tournament by the IBSA Showdown Sport Committee, offering points for the international ranking system.

While making playing systems and schedules for international tournaments, Organizers shall refer to the ranking list updated 15 days before the tournament.

The list of players cannot be changed after the refund deadline set by Organizers. The playing system will be based on that list. Absent players will be inserted in the playing system anyway, they will lose their matches by default and no ranking points will be awarded to them at the end of the tournament.

Mixed tournaments are not allowed. Any dispense shall be asked and agreed with the Showdown Sport Committee.

One playing system for gentlemen and one for ladies must be developed.

Two types of Playing System may be used: Round-robin or Multi-stage Pool System.

Depending on the number of players, it is allowed to use in the same tournament different types of playing system for ladies and gentlemen, example: ladies playing system round-robin, gentlemen playing system multi-stage pool.

Round-robin System

In the Round-robin system, each participant plays against every other participant once. Players will be inserted in the unique pool, from the first to the last, following the ranking list (see Appendix A).

The schedule of the matches must follow the pattern showed in Appendix B.

All the matches will be played best of 3 sets, except for Top Twelve's matches played best

of 5.

Points awarding

- 1 point for a won match
- 0 point for a lost match

In case of 2 or more players with the same points in the same group, their placements will be determined by considering the following, in turn:

- a) Results of the matches played by the involved players among them
- b) Set difference concerning matches played by involved players among them
- c) Points difference concerning matches played by involved players among them
- d) Draw

Appendix A

Example of 6 athletes:

RNK	Position
01	1
02	2
03	3
04	4
05	5
06	6...

Appendix B

1) Order of matches in group including 3 players

2-3, 3-1, 1-2

2) Order of matches in group including 4 players

1-4, 2-3, 3-1, 2-4, 4-3, 1-2,

3) Order of matches in a group including 5 players

2-4, 5-3, 4-1, 5-2, 3-1, 4-5, 1-5, 2-3, 3-4, 1-2

4) Order of matches in a group including 6 players

1-6, 2-4, 3-5, 4-1, 2-5, 6-3, 1-5, 2-3, 4-6, 3-1, 6-2, 5-4, 5-6, 3-4, 1-2

5) Order of matches in a group including 7 players

2-7, 3-6, 4-5, 7-1, 6-4, 5-3, 1-6, 2-5, 3-7, 5-1, 6-2, 7-4, 1-4, 2-3, 6-7, 4-2, 3-1, 7-5, 5-6, 4-3, 1-2

6) Order of matches in a group including 8 players

1-8, 2-7, 3-6, 4-5, 8-2, 7-1, 6-4, 5-3, 1-6, 2-5, 3-7, 4-8, 5-1, 2-6, 4-7, 8-3, 1-4, 2-3, 5-8, 6-7, 3-1, 4-2, 7-5, 8-6, 7-8, 6-5, 3-4, 1-2

7) Order of matches in a group including 9 players

2-9, 8-3, 4-6, 7-5, 8-1, 5-2, 3-7, 6-9, 1-9, 2-7, 6-3, 4-8, 5-1, 8-2, 9-4, 6-7, 1-6, 5-3, 4-7, 9-8, 7-1, 2-6, 9-3, 4-5, 1-4, 3-2, 8-5, 7-9, 3-1, 2-4, 9-5, 6-8, 7-8, 5-6, 3-4, 1-2

8) Order of matches in a group including 10 players

1-10, 2-9, 3-8, 4-6, 5-7, 8-1, 2-5, 7-3, 10-4, 9-6, 1-9, 2-7, 3-6, 4-8, 5-10, 5-1, 8-2, 10-3, 4-9, 6-7, 1-6, 2-10, 3-5, 4-7, 8-9, 7-1, 6-2, 9-3, 5-4, 10-8, 1-4, 2-3, 5-8, 7-9, 6-10, 3-1, 4-2, 9-5, 8-6, 10-7, 9-10, 7-8, 6-5, 3-4, 1-2

9) Order of matches in a group including 11 players

2-11, 3-10, 4-9, 5-8, 6-7, 11-1, 10-2, 8-4, 7-5, 9-6, 1-10, 3-11, 4-7, 5-9, 6-8, 9-1, 8-2, 7-3, 11-5, 10-6, 1-8, 2-7, 3-9, 4-11, 10-5, 7-1, 9-2, 8-3, 10-4, 6-11, 1-6, 2-4, 3-5, 8-10, 9-11, 4-1, 5-2, 6-3, 10-7, 11-8, 5-1, 2-3, 4-6, 11-7, 8-9, 1-3, 2-6, 5-4, 7-9, 11-10, 9-10, 7-8, 6-5, 3-4, 1-2

10) Order of matches in a group including 12 players

1-12, 2-11, 3-10, 4-9, 5-8, 6-7, 11-1, 10-2, 12-3, 4-8, 7-5, 9-6, 1-10, 2-12, 3-11, 4-7, 5-9, 6-8, 9-1, 8-2, 3-7, 12-4, 11-5, 10-6, 1-8, 2-7, 3-9, 4-11, 5-10, 6-12, 7-1, 9-2, 8-3, 10-4, 12-5, 6-11, 1-6, 2-4, 3-5, 7-12, 8-10, 9-11, 4-1, 5-2, 6-3, 10-7, 11-8, 12-9, 5-1, 2-3, 4-6, 11-7, 8-9, 10-12, 1-3, 2-6, 5-4, 7-9, 8-12, 11-10, 12-11, 9-10, 7-8, 6-5, 3-4, 1-2

Multi-stage Pool System

First round

Pools shall include players selected following the ranking list, according to the pattern hereafter:

- First places: Starting with the first player, in pool A; second player, in pool B, etc till place 1 of the last pool;
- Second places: following a reverse order starting from the last pool to pool A;
- Third places: starting again with pool A etc. (see e.g. in appendix A).

Players who are not in the ranking list shall be included in pools by draw, after players who have ranking points.

From a minimum of 40 per cent to a maximum of roughly 60 per cent of the total number of players shall go through to the second round.

Second round

2 or 4 or 8 pools shall be formed, according to the number of players.

The two or four or eight Pools will include players taken from the first round according to a cross pattern (see e.g. in appendix B).

For match sequence within a pool, see Appendix C.

Finals

From quarter-finals, matches shall be played at best of five sets.

Points awarding

- 1 point for a won match
- 0 point for a lost match.

In case of 2 or more players with the same points in the same group, their placements will be determined by considering the following, in turn:

- a) Results of the matches played by the involved players among them;
- b) Set difference concerning matches played by involved players among them;
- c) Points difference concerning matches played by involved players among them;
- d) Set difference concerning matches played by involved players against all players in the group;
- e) Points difference concerning matches played by involved players against all players in the group;
- f) Draw.

Appendix A - Pools First Round

Example 1: 4 pools

RNK - POOL

01 - A1

02 - B1

03 - C1

04 - D1

05 - D2

06 - C2

07 - B2

08 - A2
09 - A3 ...

Example 2: 6 pools

RNK - POOL

01 - A1
02 - B1
03 - C1
04 - D1
05 - E1
06 - F1
07 - F2
08 - E2
09 - D2
10 - C2
11 - B2
12 - A2
13 - A3 ...

Appendix B - Pools Second Round

Example 1:

Pool 1 second round: A1 - C1 - D2 - B2 - A3....

Pool 2 second round: B1 - D1 - C2 - A2 - B3....

Example 2:

Pool 1 second round: A1 - C1 - E1 - F2 - D2 - B2 - A3....

Pool 2 second round: B1 - D1 - F1 - E2 - C2 - A2 - B3....

Appendix C

1) Order of matches in groups including 3 players

Round 1: 2-3

Round 2: 3-1

Round 3: 1-2

2) Order of matches in groups including 4 players

Round 1: 1-4, 2-3

Round 2: 3-1, 2-4

Round 3: 1-2, 4-3

3) Order of matches in a group including 5 players

Round 1: 2-4, 5-3

Round 2: 4-1, 5-2

Round 3: 3-1, 4-5

Round 4: 1-5, 2-3

Round 5: 1-2, 3-4

4) Order of matches in a group including 6 players

Round 1: 1-6, 2-4, 3-5

Round 2: 4-1, 2-5, 6-3

Round 3: 1-5, 2-3, 4-6

Round 4: 3-1, 6-2, 5-4

Round 5: 1-2, 3-4, 5-6

5) Order of matches in a group including 7 players

Round 1: 2-7, 3-6, 4-5

Round 2: 7-1, 6-4, 5-3

Round 3: 1-6, 2-5, 3-7

Round 4: 5-1, 6-2, 7-4

Round 5: 1-4, 2-3, 6-7

Round 6: 4-2, 3-1, 7-5

Round 7: 1-2, 4-3, 5-6

6) Order of matches in a group including 8 players

Round 1: 1-8, 2-7, 3-6, 4-5

Round 2: 8-2, 7-1, 6-4, 5-3

Round 3: 1-6, 2-5, 3-7, 4-8

Round 4: 5-1, 2-6, 4-7, 8-3

Round 5: 1-4, 2-3, 5-8, 6-7

Round 6: 3-1, 4-2, 7-5, 8-6

Round 7: 1-2, 3-4, 6-5, 7-8

7) Order of matches in a group including 9 players

Round 1: 2-9, 8-3, 4-6, 7-5

Round 2: 8-1, 5-2, 3-7, 6-9

Round 3: 1-9, 2-7, 6-3, 4-8

Round 4: 5-1, 8-2, 9-4, 6-7

Round 5: 1-6, 5-3, 4-7, 9-8

Round 6: 7-1, 2-6, 9-3, 4-5

Round 7: 1-4, 3-2, 8-5, 7-9

Round 8: 3-1, 2-4, 9-5, 6-8

Round 9: 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8

8) Order of matches in a group including 10 players

Round 1: 1-10, 2-9, 3-8, 4-6, 5-7

Round 2: 8-1, 2-5, 7-3, 10-4, 9-6

Round 3: 1-9, 2-7, 3-6, 4-8, 5-10

Round 4: 5-1, 8-2, 10-3, 4-9, 6-7

Round 5: 1-6, 2-10, 3-5, 4-7, 8-9

Round 6: 7-1, 6-2, 9-3, 5-4, 10-8

Round 7: 1-4, 2-3, 5-8, 7-9, 6-10

Round 8: 3-1, 4-2, 9-5, 8-6, 10-7

Round 9: 1-2, 3-4, 6-5, 7-8, 9-10

9) Order of matches in a group including 11 players

Round 01: 2-11, 3-10, 4-9, 5-8, 6-7

Round 02: 11-1, 10-2, 8-4, 7-5, 9-6

Round 03: 1-10, 3-11, 4-7, 5-9, 6-8

Round 04: 9-1, 8-2, 7-3, 11-5, 10-6

Round 05: 1-8, 2-7, 3-9, 4-11, 10-5

Round 06: 7-1, 9-2, 8-3, 10-4, 6-11

Round 07: 1-6, 2-4, 3-5, 8-10, 9-11

Round 08: 4-1, 5-2, 6-3, 10-7, 11-8

Round 09: 5-1, 2-3, 4-6, 11-7, 8-9

Round 10: 1-3, 2-6, 5-4, 7-9, 11-10

Round 11: 1-2, 3-4, 6-5, 7-8, 9-10

10) Order of matches in a group including 12 players

Round 01: 1-12, 2-11, 3-10, 4-9, 5-8, 6-7

Round 02: 11-1, 10-2, 12-3, 4-8, 7-5, 9-6

Round 03: 1-10, 2-12, 3-11, 4-7, 5-9, 6-8

Round 04: 9-1, 8-2, 3-7, 12-4, 11-5, 10-6

Round 05: 1-8, 2-7, 3-9, 4-11, 5-10, 6-12

Round 06: 7-1, 9-2, 8-3, 10-4, 12-5, 6-11

Round 07: 1-6, 2-4, 3-5, 7-12, 8-10, 9-11

Round 08: 4-1, 5-2, 6-3, 10-7, 11-8, 12-9

Round 09: 5-1, 2-3, 4-6, 11-7, 8-9, 10-12

Round 10: 1-3, 2-6, 5-4, 7-9, 8-12, 11-10

Round 11: 1-2, 3-4, 6-5, 7-8, 9-10, 12-11

Conclusion

Bearing in mind the rules mentioned above, the Sport Committee recommendation is to let people play as much as possible, so that, at least, the top 30 players can get a placement in order to be awarded ranking points.

IBSA Sanctioned Events

For World and Continental Championship, pools and match schedule shall be made according to the ranking list updated at the moment when the list including the names of participants is issued.

In the Continental Championship, if a Country doesn't have enough players to play the Team Competition (depending on coefficients), it is authorized to add to its Team the sufficient number of players taken from the ranking list. If a Country doesn't have any athlete in the ranking list, players appointed by the National Federation will be authorized to participate. These players must play only in the Team Competition.

Top Twelve

The match schedule of European Top Twelve shall refer to the ranking list updated to 31 August, prior to the date of the tournament itself.

GUIDELINES FOR RANKING LIST MANAGEMENT

Ranking List Management

After a tournament or event ranking points are awarded to the top 30 players.

International Tournament

Final results of the Tournament must be communicated to Showdown Sport Committee right after the event in order to update the ranking list.

In case a Tournament is not taking place in the usual period of the year, points awarded for the previous edition of that tournament are taken away at the scheduled date, unless it is known it will be postponed.

The number of ranking points awarded to the winner of an International Tournament is proportional to the number of players included among the top 20 players in the ranking list, before that tournament, as mentioned below:

- a) 1-2 players out of top 20: Tournament Category I
- b) 3-5 players out of top 20: Tournament Category II
- c) 6-9 players out of top 20: Tournament Category III
- d) 10 or more players out of top 20: Tournament Category IV
- e) IBSA Sanctioned Events and Top Twelve: Tournament Category IV

Points awarding:

Category I Points: 100 80 60 50 45 40 36 32 28 26 24 22 20 18 16 15 14 ...

Category II Points: 200 160 120 100 90 80 72 64 56 52 48 44 40 36 32 30 28 ...

Category III Points: 300 240 180 150 135 120 108 96 84 78 72 66 60 54 48 45 42 ...

Category IV Points: 400 320 240 200 180 160 144 128 112 104 96 88 80 72 64 60 56 ...

In case more players have the same number of ranking points, their respective place is determined:

- a) By the average points/tournaments;
- b) The placement in the previous international tournaments.

National Tournament

Final results and playing system of the Tournament must be communicated to Showdown Sport Committee right after the event in order to update the ranking list.

In case NC is not taking place, points awarded for the previous year are taken away at 31 of December of the year the NC has not been held.

Category I points will be awarded to the first 30 participants to the NC.