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# World Bowling Tour Rules

## 1 Overview

- 1.1 The WBT owned by WORLD BOWLING is organized, governed and administered by the WORLD BOWLING Executive Board, which in its discretion has designated the Officers for regular supervision of the WBT.
- 1.2 The name of the tour (Tour) is the "World Bowling Tour" (WBT) followed by the year of the Tour.
- 1.3 The WBT Rules are maintained by and can only be changed by the WORLD BOWLING Executive Board (EB) or its designee.

## 2 Tournaments in the Tour

- 2.1 The WBT consists of tournaments owned by the tournament organizers.
- 2.2 Tournaments accepted in the WBT are in general known as WBT Tournaments.
- 2.3 WBT Tournaments are conducted in countries falling under the jurisdiction of WORLD BOWLING.
- 2.4 WBT Tournaments are open to entry by all athletes who are members of one of the member federations of WORLD BOWLING, unless the athlete is suspended by one of the member federations, by a zone or by WORLD BOWLING.
- 2.5 WBT Tournaments can be conducted in separate division for women and men but must include at least one individual event for either a combined division for both genders or a division for either one gender or separate divisions for both genders. However, WORLD BOWLING may include test events that do not fit the current standard format, including mixed gender events.
- 2.6 It is recommended that there be TV coverage for the semi-finals and the finals.
- 2.7 Each tournament must comply with all provisions in the WBT Tournament Agreement where applicable.
- 2.8 The positive reputation of the WBT, its tournaments and athletes is a valuable asset and creates tangible benefits for all WBT stakeholders. Accordingly, it is an obligation for WBT tournaments, owner(s), promoter(s), operator(s) or representative(s) thereof, to refrain from engaging in conduct contrary to the integrity of the sport of bowling. Conduct contrary to the integrity of the sport shall include, but not be limited to, comments to the news media that unreasonably attack or disparage a tournament, sponsor, athlete, official or the WBT. Responsible expressions of legitimate disagreement with the WBT policies are not prohibited. However, public comments that one of the stated persons above knows, or should reasonably know, will harm the reputation or financial best interests of a tournament, athlete, sponsor, official or the WBT are expressly covered by this section. Violation of this section shall subject a tournament to

# WORLD BOWLING

## World Bowling Tour

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a loss or change in WBT status, and/or forfeiture of all fees, if any, previously paid to the WBT.

### **3 Rules and Tournament Presentation**

- 3.1 Tournament rules shall be published by the Organizer.
- 3.2 WBT Tournaments are governed by the following rules:
  - a. The WORLD BOWLING Playing Rules
  - b. The WBT Rules
  - c. The rules of the tournament
- 3.3 A tournament organizer cannot claim to be a WBT tournament before the tournament is approved and accepted by WORLD BOWLING.
- 3.4 After a tour schedule has been published, it is not permissible to lower the guaranteed prize fund, defined as all prize money allocated for individual athletes in the tournament, without the written consent of WORLD BOWLING.
- 3.5 If any national tax rule influences the amount of the cash prizes to be paid to one or more participating athletes, it is the obligation of the organizer to publish these rules on the WORLD BOWLING Website. For tournaments, with no national tax rules published on the WORLD BOWLING Website, the organizer must pay the prizes in full as listed.
  - a. The total prize fund for individual athletes must be at least US\$50,000.00 (Tier 3).
  - b. The prize fund for individual athletes for WBT Tier 2 events must be at least US\$100,000.00, and for WBT Tier 1/Major events must be at least US\$200,000.00.
  - c. Any proposed WBT events may file an application to the WBT management group for an incremental move up one level, based upon special circumstances. WORLD BOWLING shall make an Application form available, as well a list of special circumstances (e.g., demonstrated elite field, etc.). The decision of WORLD BOWLING shall be final.
  - d. At least there must be a minimum of 24 individual athletes receiving cash prizes
  - e. There is no limit of the number of WBT Tournaments from the same zone in the tour, but the number will, with considerations for the general Tour calendar, be regulated by WORLD BOWLING from year to year.
- 3.6 When a tie occurs in various stages of a WBT tournament the following tie rules will apply. For some stages (3.5.1; 3.5.4b and 3.5.5) the organizer must select one of the optional tie rules described below. In the event an organizer fails to specify one of the prescribed options, then the first option set forth herein shall apply.
- 3.7 When a tie occurs in completed qualification competitions which affects the qualification level of an athlete, including the number of byes, either including all squads, only a defined number of squads or just one squad, the highest positioned athlete will be decided by one of the following options:
  - a) a 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> frame roll off, repeated until the tie is broken
  - b) a one game roll-off. In case a tie still exists a 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> frame roll off, repeated until the tie is broken

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- c) the athlete with the highest sum of the scores in all qualifying games, minus the score of the lowest game. If a tie still exists, the highest positioned athlete will be the athlete with the highest sum of the scores in all counting games, minus the score of the two lowest games etc.
- 3.8 When a tie occurs in a build-in competition in the qualification (e.g. a Turbo competition), the highest ranked athlete will be the athlete with the highest position in the qualification.
- 3.9 When a tie occurs in a separate competition held after the main qualification and before the first final step (e.g. a Desperado competition), which affects who will qualify from that competition, the tie will be broken by playing a 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> frame roll off, repeated until the tie is broken.
- 3.10 When a tie occurs in final stages not including head-to-head matches the tie is broken as follows:
- A tie not affecting the final top 3 of the tournament, or a tie not influencing who will qualify for the next final step, will be broken by the same procedure as selected option in Article 3.5.1.
  - A tie affecting the final top 3 of the tournament, or a tie affecting who will qualify for the next final step, will be broken by one of the following options
    - a 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> frame roll off, repeated until the tie is broken
    - a one game roll-off. In case a tie still exists a 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> frame roll off, repeated until the tie is broken
- 3.11 When a tie occurs in head-to-head matches, the tie will be broken by one of the following options
- a one ball roll-off on a full set of pins will be played, repeated until the tie is broken
  - a 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> frame roll off, repeated until the tie is broken
- However, if the match games are preliminary in nature and do not on a game-by-game basis determine further advancement by the athlete, then ties may result in a draw with equal benefit to both athletes, as specified by tournament rules.
- 3.12 If a format in a tournament demands tie breaking procedures for situations not covered by these rules, it is the obligation of the organizer to specify the necessary additional tie rules in the tournament rules.

## 4 Selection

- 4.1 Only tournaments approved through the process described in WORLD BOWLING Statutes 3.2.1(c) can be accepted in the WBT.
- 4.2 The tournaments in the WBT will be selected by the WORLD BOWLING. A written Agreement will be signed by WORLD BOWLING and Organizer.
- 4.3 WORLD BOWLING has the right to accept and reject any organizer at its sole and absolute discretion, considering such criteria as, but not limited to, geographic distribution, format, prize fund distribution, scheduling, integrity of the venue and promoter.

# WORLD BOWLING World Bowling Tour

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## 5 Fees

5.1 The registration fee for a WBT Tournament is either US\$5,000.00, or a per athlete fee based upon the size of the prize fund and anticipated number of athletes entered, as agreed by WORLD BOWLING and the tournament organizer.

## 6 Points

- 6.1 In each WBT Tournament, ranking points will be awarded to women and/or men.
- 6.2 If there is a combined division, women and men will be awarded points in relation to their final position relative to the other athletes of the same gender.
- 6.3 The method of points to be awarded and tie rules covering all tie situations shall be published in the rules of each tournament.
- 6.4 Points in WBT Tournaments will be awarded to the top 50 according to the presented list in 6.5; if both genders participate to the top 50 of each gender.
- 6.5 Points awarded:

### For WBT Tournament

#### a. Base Points for WBT Tournaments

Position	Points	Position	Points
1	100	11-22	30
2	80	23-34	28
3	70	35-46	26
4	60	47-58	24
5	50	59-70	22
6	48	71-74	16
7	46	75-80	12
8	44	81-85	8
9	42	86-90	6
10	40	91-95	4
		96-100	2

Points to be allocated on the following basis;

- Level 1 event – 6 x base points
- Level 2 event – 4 x base points
- Level 3 event - 2 x base points

## 7 Standings

- 7.1 Within one day of the completion of the tournament, the organizer shall submit the women's top 50 and/or the men's top 50 to WORLD BOWLING.
- 7.2 Forms to be filled and completed by the tournament organizer must be sent by WORLD BOWLING prior to the completion of the event to the organizer.

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- 7.3 WORLD BOWLING will update the women standing and the men standing accordingly.
- 7.4 The standings will be published on the WORLD BOWLING Website.
- 7.5 In case of a tie in the WBT ranking list including qualifying for the WBT Finals, the following will be used to break the tie to determine the position:
- The athlete with the highest number of points in a single event. In case of a further tie;
  - the athlete with the second highest number of points in a single event. In case of a further tie;
  - the athlete with the third highest number of points in a single event.
  - In case of a further tie, this method will be used accordingly until the tie is broken.

## 8 Finals

- 8.1 WORLD BOWLING at its discretion may organize a Finals event.
- 8.2 WORLD BOWLING intends to develop a bonus pool for distribution to the highest-ranked athletes at the conclusion of each WBT year. Ranking points will be cumulative over a one-year period of time and will drop off each athlete's total at the end of such period. In the event that a WBT event that has been included in the previous WBT year changes its dates so as to cause the possibility that two such events would be included in the one-year ranking, WORLD BOWLING in its sole and absolute discretion may determine the timing of such events for ranking purposes and shall publish any diversion from the one-year rule on its website.
- 8.3 No more than 25% of any qualifying squads may be assigned to athletes from a particular category or geographic region.

## 9 Tournament Standings and Results

- 9.1 Standings must be presented for the following result categories:
- Squad standing
  - Qualification standing
  - Desperado standing, if any
  - List of qualified athletes for the final
  - Each final step
  - Final tournament ranking including all participating athletes
  - Top 50 of the women's ranking and/or
  - Top 50 of the men's ranking
- 9.2 For each of the result categories (9.1 a, b, c and e) the following must be presented:
- Position number
  - Full name of the athlete
  - The country of the athlete
  - Score of each game
  - A total score of all the games except the head to head matches
  - The handicap given
  - A total score including the handicap for the games except the head to head matches

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- 9.3 For each of the result categories (9.1 d, f, g and h) the following must be presented:
- Position number
  - Full name of the athlete
  - The country of the athlete
  - Ranking points (only for 9.1 g and h)
- 9.4 The text in all result presentations must be presented in the order of first name and then last/family name.
- 9.5 Each of the result categories must be presented on a board in the centre and on the tournament website. In addition, other types of media exposure such as wide screens or extra monitors should be considered.
- 9.6 All result categories must be combined in one PDF file, which will form the final and official list of results from the tournament. This list must also be available on the tournament website.
- 9.7 Standings and results must be available in the centre and on the tournament website not more than half an hour after the conclusion of a squad or a final step.
- 9.8 In cases where the score system provides a result export facility, establishing an import to the tournament result software should be considered with the purpose of reducing the time gap between a completed squad/stage and the presentation of the results.

## 10 Media Services

A fast Internet connection (preferably wireless) must be available for media.

## 11 Tournament Cancellations

After the schedule of the tour has been published, if an accepted tournament does not occur for any reason, the WBT fee will be forfeited to WORLD BOWLING. However, neither party shall be liable in damages to the other party, or to any athletes, or have the right to terminate this Agreement for any delay or default in performing hereunder if such delay or default is caused by conditions beyond its control including, but not limited to Force majeure, Government restrictions (including the denial or cancellation of any export or other necessary license), wars, insurrections and/or any other cause beyond the reasonable control of the party whose performance is affected.

## 12 Tournament Dates

The date of a tournament may only be changed with the consent of WORLD BOWLING

## 13 Women Handicap

- 13.1 In case of a mixed women and men division, women may be awarded between zero and eight pins per game handicap in all of the games played in the tournament as published in the tournament rules.

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- 13.2 A handicap is counted as pin fall.
- 13.3 No handicap will be awarded in the roll-off shots and/or roll-off frames.
- 13.4 No handicap shall be awarded after the conclusion of qualifying, e.g., after the first cut score has been posted and the qualifying athletes have moved on to additional competition. However, 2018 WBT events that are previously committed to use of such handicap for the entire duration of the event are exempt from 13.4.

## 14 Qualification Squads

- 14.1 The minimum number of games played to qualify for the finals is 6.
- 14.2 No coaching in the athlete's area may take place. It is the obligation of the organizer, to ensure that the athlete's area is properly defined.

## 15 Lane Assignments

Lane assignments shall be done in an unbiased random manner.

## 16 Re-racks

- 16.1 An athlete is allowed a maximum of two re-racks per game without management consent.
- 16.2 If an athlete requests more than two re-racks, tournament management must approve.

## 17 Unsportsmanlike Conduct

- 17.1 Athletes shall at all times conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner and give due respect to the authority of officials and the rights of opponents, spectators and others. Unsportsmanlike conduct is defined as any misconduct by a athlete that is clearly abusive or detrimental to the success of a tournament, the WBT and/or the sport of tenpin bowling. In addition, unsportsmanlike conduct shall include, but not limited to, the giving, making, issuing, authorizing or endorsing any public statement having, or designed to have, an effect prejudicial or detrimental to the best interest of the tournament and/or the officiating thereof.
- 17.2 All athletes entering WBT tournaments agree, as a condition of their entry, that for themselves, their executors, administrators, heirs and personal representatives, all claims of any kind, nature and description are waived, including past, present or future claims and injuries, if any, sustained in traveling to or from, or participating in, any WBT tournament, as against the WBT, WORLD BOWLING, the tournaments concerned and the organizers and sponsors of the tournaments and circuits thereon.
- 17.3 The tournament management can decide on unsportsmanlike conduct, if an athlete intentionally makes contact with equipment, abuses tournament officials (verbally or physically), abuses other athletes (verbally or physically), abuses other coaches, abuses spec-

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tators or in general presents unsportsmanlike conduct on or off the lanes of the tournament site.

- 17.4 The tournament management will decide if the unsportsmanlike conduct will result in an expulsion from the tournament. Additionally, if tournament management believes such conduct should result in any additional WBT penalty, he/she shall prepare a report to be submitted to WORLD BOWLING not later than 3 days after the conclusion of the tournament.
- 17.5 The report will be evaluated by the WORLD BOWLING, and within 14 days after receipt of the report the athlete will be informed in writing of the decision. The athlete has the right to appeal the decision to the WORLD BOWLING EB no later than 30 days after the announcement of the WORLD BOWLING decision.

## 18 Publicity and Promotion

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