

EUROPEAN DEAF CHAMPIONSHIPS GENERAL REGULATIONS



European Deaf Sport Organisation

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Reference: the abbreviated words in the first column shall bear the full name in the second column

EC:	EDSO Executive Committee
EDC:	European Deaf Championships
EDSO:	European Deaf Sport Organisation
ESF:	European Sport Federation
ISF:	International Sport Federation
NDSF:	National Deaf Sport Federation
OC:	Organising Committee
TD:	Technical Director

General Regulations for European Deaf Championships

1. General Information

- 1) The European Deaf Championships (hereinafter “EDC”) may take place every four (4) years for all sports events, except for some sports disciplines such as youth and juniors based on decision of EDSO Executive Committee (hereinafter “EC”).
- 2) In no case may the EDC be postponed to another year.
- 3) The date which the EDC is to take place is determined by the host country which must be proposed to the EC with the date in which the EDC is to take place, and the EC shall inform the Congress.
- 4) The EDC can only take place where there are four (4) or more participating National Deaf Sport Federation (hereinafter “NDSF”).
- 5) Where there are less than four (4) participating NDSF taking part in the event, the host country shall have the responsibility of terming the sporting event as an invitational competition or cancelling the event after consultation with the EC.
- 6) The EDC is the exclusive property of the EDSO.
- 7) The EDSO may, amongst other things, grant licenses in respect of these Championships.
- 8) Participation in the EDC shall be restricted to athletes who are:
 - a) deaf, defined as a hearing loss of at least 55dB in the better ear (3 tone frequency average of 500, 1,000 and 2,000 Hertz, ANSI 1969 standard), and
 - b) members of their NDSF and affiliated members of the EDSO.
- 9) Athletes taking part in the EDC shall be forbidden from wearing any hearing aids or cochlear implants during competitions.
- 10) There is no age limit for athletes except where stated in the rules of the respective European Sport Federation (hereinafter “ESF”) or International Sport Federation (hereinafter “ISF”).

2. Bidding Procedures

- 1) Only NDSF members are eligible to bid for the EDC in sports that are officially recognised by EDSO.
- 2) Any NDSF member applying to host the EDC must submit its application to the EC at least two (2) years prior to the EDC and is subject to the approval by the EC.
- 3) A bidding application to host the EDC shall be accompanied by the following:
 - a) Certification of support from the proposed city;
 - b) Certification of support from the NDSF of the applicable sport.
- 4) An application for the EDC must contain details as to the:
 - a) location of the EDC;
 - b) dates of the EDC;
 - c) estimated overall budget of the EDC;
 - d) financial deposit;
 - e) current price list for hotels (3 various price classes), meals and transport for that host city.
- 5) The successful bidder shall receive a Legal Agreement from the EC, agreeing to comply with EDSO General Regulations and EDSO Technical Regulations of each sports.
- 6) The Legal Agreement must be signed by the representative on behalf of the NDSF and representative on behalf of the EC.
- 7) The bidder for the EDC must arrange a site visit to the host city by the EDSO Representative or EDSO Technical Director (hereinafter “TD”) for the respective sport prior to the Congress at which the hosting bid will be presented.
- 8) At the Congress, the approved bidders to host the EDC will be presented to the NDSF’s members for their approvals.
- 9) In the event that a bid is accepted, the host organiser shall also arrange for a site visit by the EDSO Representative and EDSO TD no less than one year prior to the EDC.
- 10) The inspection visit must take place during the month in which the EDC is to take place.

3. Organising Committee

- 1) The bidder awarded the EDC may appoint an Organising Committee (hereinafter "OC") and delegate the responsibility of organising the Championships to them.
- 2) The OC shall be comprised of persons with management experience (deaf and hearing). The OC shall enter into direct dialogue with the EC by electronic communications.
- 3) The OC may form a centralised office with telephone/fax and electronic communication facilities.
- 4) The numbers of these communications should be shown on the OC's letterheads and on any web site.
- 5) The OC is responsible for the organisation of the EDC and must enter into dialogue with the NDSF and ISF in regard to obtaining support for the work of the Committee.
- 6) The OC shall seek, whenever appropriate, sanction and support from NDSF or ISF to put the EDC event in the ISF's Events Calendar.
- 7) The OC shall ensure that all NDSF get newsletters with information about the cost of accommodation, meals and transportation services after the pre-EDC inspection trip.
- 8) The EDSO Representative and/or TD should carry out the inspection trip at least a year before the respective EDC.

4. Visas

- 1) If necessary, the participating NDSF must apply for entry visas from the embassy of the host country well in advance of their trip.
- 2) Upon request, the host association must assist the participants as much as possible with their visa formalities.

5. Reports

- 1) Progress reports shall be submitted to the EDSO Representative and the TD six (6) months, three (3) months and one (1) month before the EDC.
- 2) A report detailing the technical organisation of the EDC shall be submitted to the EDSO Congress that is held prior to the EDC.
- 3) The NDSF or OC shall forward to the EDSO within one (1) day the final results to the EDC, which then will be shown by EDSO.
- 4) A final report shall be submitted to the EC up to three (3) months after the completion of the EDC, and should consist of:
 - a) Technical / Operational Report;
 - b) Finances showing revenue and expenditure details;
 - c) Statistical report showing the total number of athletes for both genders, officials of each participating national entrants and spectators.

6. Formal Invitations

- 1) The invitations to take part in the EDC must be sent out by the NDSF or OC at least twelve (12) months prior to the EDC.
- 2) All documents (including invitations, competition lists, entry cards and programs) printed for the EDC as well as any promotional products including badges, posters
- 3) Prizes must carry the logo and/or initials of the EDSO on the front where applicable.
- 4) All posters should be drawn in English language and National language of the EDC host country and approved by EDSO Representative responsible for this event.

7. Programs

- 1) The Representative of EC and TD for the respective sports shall approve the final competition schedule at least six (6) months prior to the EDC.
- 2) The OC shall consult with the EC on the proposed dates of the EDC.
- 3) The consultation shall decide on the exact dates of the Championship on the basis of eliminating any potential conflicts with any other EDSO recognised sporting events and shall be finalised no less than eighteen (18) months before the EDC.
- 4) The official dates of the EDC shall be from opening day to closing day.
- 5) The EDC with preliminary registration from at least four (4) participating countries shall remain on the official program.
- 6) If the final number of entries is less than four (4) participants for a particular event or discipline, this event can be cancelled or be named as an invitational event.
- 7) In the case of cancellation of any individual or team sport event due to the above rules, the authorised EDSO Representative must notify the affected NDSF immediately after the deadline for the final registration.

8. Participations

- 1) All athletes representing their country must hold a valid passport of their NDSF.
- 2) Any athlete who decides to represent the country for which they hold an alternative passport must only make this change once.
- 3) There is also a two (2) year waiting period before the athlete can represent the newly adopted country.
- 4) The entry form must include the text of the eligibility code, and the following declaration must be signed by the President and Secretary of the NDSF.
- 5) No entry form shall be valid unless the above rules have been complied with.
- 6) No Individual / Team entry shall be accepted without any payment
- 7) No admission for Sports Official to the EC shall be accepted without any payment.
- 8) All payments by electronic banking payments **MUST** be paid in full **20 days** before the start of qualification or by cash or cheques **1 day** before the start of the Competition.
 - a) Any alternative payment must be confirmed by written notification to EDSO Treasurer and EDSO Representative.
- 9) Only NDSF members of EDSO may register their athletes in any EDC.
- 10) Athletes from any non-affiliated NDSF may compete in the EDC pending on authorisation from their National Sports Federation (hereinafter "NSF").
- 11) The registration forms for the EDC will be supplied by the EDSO.
- 12) Any EDC will be cancelled if there is no host country available eighteen (18) months before the Opening of the EDC.
- 13) In case of a new host taking place at least twelve (12) months before, the EDC can be hosted if certain conditions are appropriately fulfilled.

9. Identity Cards

- 1) The OC or NDSF must supply identity cards for each athlete and official.
- 2) The OC shall process all athletes' identity cards by checking appropriate documentations such as passports or government issued photo identity cards to ensure all the details below matches the athletes' profiles prior given the approval by the EDSO Representative.
- 3) The identity card shall contain the following details such as;
 - a) Title, date and location of the EDC;
 - b) Surname;
 - c) Given name(s);
- 4) Nationality (except where the individual is a member of the EC or an TD);
- 5) Date of Birth (participants only);

- 6) Role (which will be required of officials, for example, manager, trainer, interpreter and any other such individual);
- 7) Photograph (which is no more than three (3) months old).
- 8) The NDSF shall ensure that information given to the OC for the identity cards are accurate.
- 9) The OC may use alphabet or colour codes on the identity cards for identification purposes.
- 10) Details on identity cards cannot be amended without agreement by the OC.

10. Control & Sanctions

- 1) Any athlete will be allowed to participate in the EDC if they have got the approved ICSD's ID numbers.
- 2) Any athlete, whose audiogram has not been approved by ICSD or has not previously been tested by the ICSD appointed Audiologist, must submit to the ICSD at least three (3) months before the EDC an audiogram that is not more than one year old.
- 3) This must be arranged prior to participation in any qualifying round or EDC.
- 4) The audiogram form can be downloaded via ICSD's official website.
<http://www.deaflympics.com/forms/audiogram.pdf>
- 5) EDSO supports the work of the World Anti-Doping Agency in developing the World Anti-Doping Code and shall follow the latest updates.
- 6) EDSO cooperates with ICSD and comply with the regulations of ICSD Anti-Doping Rules, in accordance with the Code, which will apply to all EDC and any other relevant international events.
- 7) All expenses for doping tests and audiology testing, taken during the EDC shall be covered by the host NDSF or the OC.
- 8) The OC is responsible for providing the infrastructure (including trained personnel, appropriate sample collection facilities, access to WADA Accredited Laboratory) to enable a doping control program to be conducted at the EDC.
- 9) All NDSF are responsible for ensuring that their athletes are informed about ICSD's Anti-Doping Rules and their requirements.
- 10) Athletes may be required to take additional audiology tests during the EDC.
- 11) In the case of any fraud on the part of the athlete or team, the NDSF in question shall be obliged to pay all expenses and fines as determined by the EDC.
- 12) In the event of any disqualified athlete or team, their medal and diploma must be returned to the EDSO.
- 13) If this is not done, the NDSF in question shall be liable to suspension.

11. Sports (General)

- 1) All sport events must be participated by at least four (4) NDSF in order to be eligible for an EDC.
- 2) EDSO Representative in consultation with the TD for the sport as per (EC11.1), shall decide the competition format and structure at least one (1) year prior to the EDC.

12. Sports (Team)

- 1) The preliminary registration (Form 1) for the qualifying rounds for team sport competitions must be made minimum of twenty-four (24) months prior to the EDC and/or qualifying stage.
- 2) The final registration (Form 2) must be submitted minimum of twelve (12) months before the EDC and/or qualifying stage.
- 3) Only one team per NDSF, except in some special circumstances shall be admitted to the EDC.
- 4) The number of teams for the final round of EDC, in each sport and gender will, involve up to:

Football (Men)	– 16 teams;
Futsal (Men)	– 16 teams;
Football (Women)	– 12 teams;

Futsal (Women)	– 12 teams;
Volleyball	– 12 teams;
Basketball	– 12 teams;
Handball	– 12 teams;
Water Polo	– 12 teams;
Ice Hockey	– 12 teams;
Beach Volleyball	– 2 men’s and women’s teams from each country.

13. Sports (Individual)

- 1) There shall be no limit on the number of events that an individual athlete may enter.
- 2) A fine will be levied on each non-starting athlete, except where there is a presentation of a doctor's medical certificate stating that the athlete should not be allowed to participate in the EDC.

14. Advertisements

- 1) Participants of the EDC must abide by all directives issued by the EDSO with regard to the carrying or being attired with items that contain commercial advertising.
- 2) The EDSO may approve the carrying or being attired with items that contain commercial advertising during the EDC.
- 3) The identification of the manufacturer or sponsor shall appear not more than once per item of clothing and equipment.
- 4) Participants may wear competition clothing and shoes that show the traditional distinctive design of the manufacturer or sponsor.
- 5) The manufacturer or sponsor's name and/or logo may also appear in size that is not greater than a total of 400 cm² on both the front and back, either as part of the traditional distinctive design pattern or independent of the traditional design pattern.

15. Preliminary & Final Registrations

- 1) Individual Sports
 - a) A preliminary registration (Form 1) to participate in the EDC or not must be submitted at the minimum of twelve (12) months prior to the EDC
 - b) A final registration (Form 2) to enter the approximate number of athletes confirmed for each event must be submitted at the minimum of six (6) months prior to the EDC.
 - c) A registration list (Form 3) showing the names of each athlete for their event entry must be submitted at least one (1) month prior to the opening of the EDC.
 - d) The submission may be made by e-mail if immediately followed by the official registration form.
 - e) Any late registration after the deadline is liable to be fined.
 - f) No athlete shall be replaced after the start of the EDCs.
- 2) Team Sports
 - a) A preliminary team registration (Form 1) to participate in the EDC or not must be submitted at the minimum of twenty-four (24) months prior to the EDC and/or qualifying stages
 - b) The final team registration (Form 2) must be submitted at the minimum of twelve (12) months prior to the EDC and/or qualifying stages.
 - c) Final entries received after the closing date shall not be accepted.
 - d) Preliminary Athletes Registration (Form 3) showing the names of each player for their event entered must be submitted at least one (1) month prior to the opening of the EDC.
 - e) The submission may be made by e-mail if immediately followed by the official registration form.

- f) Final Athletes Registration (Form 4) showing the names of each player must be submitted to the TD prior to the opening of the EDC according to the date stated on Form 4.
- g) The submission may be made by e-mail or facsimile if immediately followed by the official registration form.
- h) Any player suffering from an injury or illness can be replaced from the reserved list of Preliminary Athletes registration with the provision of medical evidence or certification from their doctor.
- i) No athlete shall be replaced after the commencement of the EDC.
- j) Any late registration after the deadline is liable to be penalised.

16. Financial Instructions

- 1) The NDSF or OC or agency must offer accommodation facilities and meals at reasonable prices for all NDSF's participants in the EDC.
- 2) Each NDSF shall be responsible for their costs of travel fares, accommodation and other arrangements.
- 3) A penalty fee to be determined by EC shall be imposed when a NDSF withdraws after submitting the final entry list.
- 4) The NDSF or OC must arrange and pay for:
 - a) one inspection visit by the EDSO Representative and/or TD to the EDC venue approximately one (1) year before the Opening Date.
 - b) The visit of the EDSO Representative and TD arriving two days before the Opening date and one day after the Closing for the period of the EDC.
 - c) Other travel fares, accommodation, meals and expenses incurred by EDSO Representative and TD should be reimbursed by NDSF or OC
 - d) Per diem to the EDSO Representative and TD for the period of EDC.
- 5) Where the expenses of the EDC are greater than the income received, the NDSF or OC shall be fully responsible for covering the difference.

17. Prizes, Diplomas & Posters

- 1) The proposed design of posters, prizes and diplomas must be submitted to the EDSO Representative for approval no later than one (1) year before the EDC.
- 2) Posters shall carry the logo of EDSO in a prominent position.
- 3) In all sports and events, the first prize will be a gold medal and a diploma, the second prize a silver medal and a diploma, and the third prize a bronze medal and a diploma.
- 4) All medals shall have engravings stating type of sport and event for which the medal or diploma shall be decided after consultations with the OC.
- 5) In individual and team sport competitions, athletes placed fourth (4th) to eighth (8th) shall receive diplomas.
- 6) The type and format that the prizes will take shall be at the discretion of the OC or NDSF.
- 7) However, prizes must include the wording and/or logo of EDSO in any engravings.
- 8) Diplomas shall carry the logos of both EDSO and NDSF or OC.
- 9) The EDSO Representative and President of the NDSF or OC shall sign these diplomas. Names of athletes shall be printed.
- 10) The NDSF or OC shall forward to the EDSO Museum two specimens of diplomas, and one specimen of prizes, trophies or medals.
- 11) All surplus prizes and diplomas shall be destroyed.

18. Protocols

- 1) The Opening and Closing Ceremony of the EDC must be fulfilled as required accordingly to the ESF or ISF rules.
- 2) The symbolic transferal of the EDSO flag at the EDC must be observed.
- 3) The official ceremony for the prize award presentations is the sole responsibility of the EDSO Representative.
- 4) The TD may act as the Master of Ceremonies (MC) at the Prize Awards ceremony.

19. Technical Meetings

- 1) The Technical Meeting with NDSF's delegates will be held at least one day before the Opening of the EDC.
- 2) The Technical Meeting shall allow 2 delegates of each participating NDSF. One of the delegates must be Deaf.
- 3) The Technical Committee, the Protest Committee, and up to two delegates of each participating NDSF shall attend the Technical Meetings.
- 4) At the Technical Meeting, the OC must assist with the conduct of recording the Minutes.
- 5) Then the Representative of the ISF and TD will endorse the Minutes before sending to all NDSF up to one (1) month after the Technical Meeting.

20. Authority & Jurisdiction

- 1) The EDSO Representative shall be the final arbiter on any matter in disputes relating to any aspect of the EDC brought forward by the NDSF or OC or any participating NDSF.
- 2) The competition rules for each sport shall comply with ESF or ISF as amended where visual cues are used in place of auditory cues.
- 3) Referees, judges, starters and other officials shall be selected by their NSF for the OC or TD.
- 4) It would be preferable to select deaf and national level referees.
- 5) It is compulsory to have neutral Referees/Judges to officiate all host's individual/team matches.
- 6) The OC shall submit a copy of all referees' qualifications to TD at least fourteen (14) days before the first Technical Meeting.
- 7) The NDSF or OC shall bear full responsibility for the appointment and scheduling of referees at the EDC.
- 8) For the team sport qualifying matches, at least one independent observer from the EDSO shall attend to observe these events.
- 9) The NDSF or OC shall bear full responsibility to bear the costs of each match fee to all Referees/Judges, where necessary.
- 10) Any protests will not be considered unless it was written in English and submitted to the ground judge within the time limit as established by respective ESF after the competition's results have been declared.

21. Technical Regulations

- 1) The TD will establish technical regulations for the respective sport and, if necessary, for each event on the EDC program.
- 2) These technical regulations shall be in accordance with the Rules of the EDC held at least six (6) months before the EDC.
- 3) These technical regulations shall be electronically published and sent to all participating teams six (6) months before the EDC.

22. Venues

- 1) All competition venues must have electronic scoreboards.
- 2) They may be either permanent or portable.

23. Transport

1) Local Transportation

- a) The OC shall ensure that transportation is available between lodgings and venues for all EDSO officials, and all participants.
- b) The officials and participants must be provided transport to and from the venues where they are competing or officiating.
- c) Only official members of the participating teams and EDSO officials may be permitted to use the transportation services of the OC.
- d) Athletes and officials wishing to use the transportation service to watch sporting events for which they are not registered may be charged at the discretion of the OC for using the service.
- e) This transportation service shall be available for the period from one day prior to the Opening Ceremony until after the Closing Ceremony of EDC.
- f) If possible, the OC can provide transfers between Airport and participating teams' accommodation.

2) EDSO Representative and TD

- a) Transportation must be available for EDSO Representative and TD at all times.
- b) The OC shall provide transportation for the EDSO Representative and TD to attend the Opening and Closing Ceremonies of the EDC.

3) Transportation Plan

- a) The OC must include in their inspection reports to the EDSO Representative, information relating to transportation plans outlining all transport arrangements to enable athletes and officials to commute between venues, hotels and any other relevant locations.
- b) The EDSO Representative may call upon the OC to report progress on their transportation plan at any time.

24. Medical Care & First Aid

- 1) The OC shall be responsible for the provision of adequate medical support (doctors, nurses, dentists and any other medical officer) during the EDC.
- 2) All team doctors, nurses and chiefs of missions shall be informed as soon as possible upon arrival as to the resources and contact details for all medical support services.
- 3) First aid stations shall be available at all competition areas. These shall be adequately staffed with medical and first aid personnel and ambulance facilities for emergencies.
- 4) The services of a nurse shall be available 24 hours a day. There shall be a back-up physician available on call.
- 5) Hospital services consisting of emergency rooms and hospital beds must be available to deal with severe injuries 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- 6) Appropriate facilities shall be made available where physiotherapists can treat their athletes or sport teams.
- 7) Adequate space must be made available at each participating team's accommodation wishing to establish their own sports injury and medical clinic.

25. Cancellations

- 1) In event of the NDSF or OC deciding to cancel the EDC, it must give notice to the EDSO and all NDSF no less than twenty-four (24) months prior to the event taking place and refund all monies (for example, deposits) paid by all participating teams.
- 2) In event of the NDSF or OC cancelling the EDC less than twenty-four (24) months prior to the official Opening date, the OC must refund all monies paid by all participating teams. The NDSF shall also reimburse all participating teams for any loss of monies as a result of non-refundable deposits being made for travel uniforms and any other such incidentals.
- 3) In event of the NDSF or OC making its own decision to cancel the EDC, they may face further penalty to be determined by the EC, after the Legal Agreement had been signed as per Article 2.6.

26. Withdrawals

- 1) In the event of participating in the Qualification events, any individual / team deciding to withdraw between the Entry deadline date (**Form 3**) and completion of Qualification matches shall be liable to pay the lower penalty fee plus any other costs incurred by other teams or host.
- 2) In the event of any qualified individual / team to withdraw at any time **between** the completion of Qualification matches until the completion of Final Tournament shall be liable to pay the higher penalty fee.
- 3) In the event of non-qualification matches, any individual / team deciding to withdraw at any time from Entry Deadline (**Form 3**) until completion of Final Tournament shall be liable to pay the higher penalty fee.

27. Violations

- 1) In the event of any penalty procedures not covered in these regulations of the above clauses, will result in disciplinary actions or penalty fees issued by the EC to any offending accredited person or NDSF.
- 2) The EC will review all violations to allocate whether it is sport or non-sport related violation to decide whether to impose appropriate disciplinary actions or penalty fines.
- 3) A sports related violation is defined as an unsporting incident happening on the field of play or inside the designated zones specified by the TD during the match.
- 4) A non-sport related violation is defined as an unsporting incident happening off the field of play or outside the designated zones specified by the TD during the match.
- 5) The decision by the EC to impose their appropriate action shall be final.

28. Miscellaneous

- 1) In the event of circumstances not covered in these regulations, the EDSO Constitution and the EDSO bylaws must be complied with the appropriate ESF or ISF.

Revised 1: January 2015

Revised 2: January 2017

Revised 3: January 2018

APPENDIX 1

PROCEDURES AT OFFICAL CEREMONIES

A. Opening Ceremony

- 1) Parade of participating NDSF teams in alphabetical order.
- 2) Formal Welcome greetings.
- 3) Opening announcements.
- 4) The EDSO flag is carried to the pole.
- 5) Raising of the EDSO flag.
- 6) At the end of the ceremony the participating NDSF teams will exit the venue in reverse order.

B. Closing Ceremony

- 1) Parade of all participants in any order.
- 2) Farewell and closing announcements.
- 3) Lowering of the EDSO flag.
- 4) The EDSO flag is handed over to the NDSF hosting the next EDC.

C. Prize Awards Ceremony

- 1) For the individual competition, the first, second and third placed athletes will receive a medal and diploma.
- 2) For the team sport competition, each team player of the first, second and third placed teams will receive a medal and diploma as well as a trophy for the team.
- 3) The presentation of medals will take place in a formal manner after the final event at the sport venue.
- 4) To honour the gold medallist, the athlete`s national flag shall be raised in conjunction with the national anthem.
- 5) The EDSO President will present the awards. He may assign this task to any members of the EC or EDSO Honorary Members, but he shall promptly advise these selections to the OC.
- 6) The OC in drawing up the timetable of each sport event shall also include the timetable of official ceremonies for each award presentations.
- 7) The awards presentation for team sports taking place at the closing ceremony must take place before the parade of all participants.

D. Amendment of order

- 1) The EC shall decide and make any amendments to these above rules due to any unforeseen circumstances.