



ENGLISH SUBBUTEO ASSOCIATION

TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS

1. Introduction

The English Subbuteo Association (ESA) organises its own tournaments and has authority to award official FISTF tournaments to affiliated clubs to organise. These Regulations apply to both types of tournaments and also to tournaments organised by any other party where they seek the endorsement of ESA for their event.

2. Eligibility for participation

Tournaments are open only to ESA members or members of other FISTF-affiliated national associations. Participants can become ESA members at the event by paying the appropriate fee to the organiser and by providing contact details to enable the ESA Committee to take personal details after the event.

3. Venue

Venues must provide the following facilities:

- Playing room that is well lit, at a suitable temperature and spacious enough to allow sufficient room around each table;
- Subbuteo Astropitch pitches or equivalent, and robust support structures;
- Lower height pitches for junior competitions;
- Access by public transport;
- Adequate parking;
- Shops or cafés on site or close by to purchase food and drink;
- First aid facilities.

4. Costs

The tournament organiser is entirely responsible for the financial outcome of the event. Unless otherwise agreed in writing in advance, the ESA will not underwrite any losses incurred by organisers. Organisers must budget not only for the cost of venue but also for payment of tournament levies to FISTF (where appropriate) and ESA (where required).

The organiser may set the event entrance fee as required to cover projected costs provided that:

- The entrance fee for junior players does not exceed £5.
- General entrance fees in excess of £15 are clearly advertised in advance of the event.

5. Tournament organisation

Official FISTF events (at which FISTF World ranking points are awarded) must satisfy FISTF tournament rules that require qualifying groups preceding a knockout stage. Competitions in all classes (open, veteran, junior) should be held for all classes attracting at least three participants. Plate competitions for losing qualifiers must also be held where practicable.



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Tournament organisation (contd)

For non-FISTF events, organisers are free to decide on the form of competitions provided it meets the following criteria:

- The competition structure is fair to all participants;
- Competitions are held for each class attracting at least three participants;
- Rules of the competition are clear and understandable so that participants understand their placings and route to finals;
- The draw is made publicly to ensure openness;
- All results are recorded and published after each round.;
- Plate, or similar, competitions are arranged to ensure that all participants have the opportunity to enjoy an adequate number of games at appropriate levels of competition.

The organiser must arrange for the provision of trophies for the victor and runner-up of each class of competition that has at least four participants. At the discretion of the organiser, trophies may also be awarded for third place or to losing semi-finalists. Trophies awarded for official FISTF or ESA events should carry the ESA trophy badge (available via the ESA General Manager). Trophies should be awarded at a prize ceremony held at the end of the event.

6. Advertising and promotion

The ESA will promote all authorised events through its website and on its calendar. The ESA website offers a facility for participants to enter events (including payment of entrance fees) online.

Where appropriate organisers should create event-specific websites.

The ESA will assist organisers to promote their events via other channels such as press releases, local media, FISTF website etc.

7. Discipline

All tournament participants are required to conform to the ESA Code of Conduct (ESA2). Some participants are volatile and may become angry or abusive. In such cases the organiser should firstly try to calm the player before issuing warnings. If the behaviour persists, or if the organiser knows the participant to be a serial offender who has been warned in previous tournaments, the organiser should raise a disciplinary allegation under the ESA Disciplinary and Grievance Procedure (ESA4). The ESA's disciplinary procedure is designed to encourage good behaviour and apply appropriate sanctions for unacceptable behaviour.

In exceptional circumstances where a participant acts with, or threatens violence, or where the participant ignores at least two warnings about persistent misconduct, the organiser must eject the participant from the event and refer the matter immediately under the ESA Disciplinary and Grievance Procedure (ESA4).

8. Event results

The organiser is responsible for submitting results in a timely fashion to ESA and FISTF (where appropriate).