

INTERNATIONAL BOWLING FEDERATION
2023 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS
October 3rd – 15th, 2023
Kuwait Bowling Center
Salmiya, Kuwait

Rules and Regulations

The format for the 2023 World Championships is as approved at the 2019 World Bowling Congress.

1. Eligibility Rule 4.9

4.9.1 To be eligible to enter athletes in IBF championships, federations must be current with their IBF and Zone membership fees.

4.9.2 Any athlete in the IBF championships must be a national of the country of the IBF member federation, which is entering him (subject to the exceptions below).

4.9.3 All disputes relating to the determination of the country which an athlete may represent in the IBF championships shall be resolved by the IBF Executive Board.

4.9.4 Exceptions

a) An athlete who is a national of two or more countries at the same time may represent either one of them, as he may elect. However, after having represented one country in the Olympic Games, in world, continental or regional games or in world or regional championships recognized by the IBF, he may not represent another country unless he meets the conditions set forth below that apply to persons who have changed their nationality or acquired a new nationality.

b) An athlete who has represented one country in the Olympic Games, in world, continental or regional games or in world or regional championships recognized by the IBF, and who has changed his nationality or acquired a new nationality, may participate in the IBF Championships to represent his new country provided that at least three years have passed since the athlete last represented his former country. This period may be reduced or even cancelled by the IBF Executive Board, with the agreement of the athlete's National Olympic Committee and national bowling federation, which takes into account the circumstances of each case.

c) If an associated state, province or overseas department, a country or colony acquires independence, if a country becomes incorporated within another country by reason of a change of border, if a country merges with another country or if a new member federation is recognized by the IBF, an athlete may continue to represent the country to which he belongs or belonged. However, he may, if he prefers, choose to represent his country or be entered in the IBF Championships by his new IBF member federation if one exists. This particular exception may be made only once.

d) Furthermore, in all cases in which a competitor would be eligible to participate in World Championships, either by representing another country than his or by having the choice as to the country which such competitor intends to represent, the IBF Executive Board may take all decisions of a general or individual nature with regard to issues resulting from nationality, citizenship, domicile or residence of any competitor, including the duration of any waiting period.

2. Eligibility/Qualification Rule 5.2

5.2.2

- a) In the World Championships (for men and women) 32 men's team and 32 women's team will qualify to participate
- b) The host federation is qualified with one men's and one women's team
- c) The remaining 31 teams will be distributed among the zones and the number of teams from each zone will be decided by how many member federations there are in each zone relative to the total number of member federations in good standing on 1st of January two years ahead of the year of the championship.

No. of Qualifiers per Zone:

The number of qualifiers per zone is based on the total number of IBF federations as January 2021 and the total number of IBF federations at this date was 109.

Number of Federations by Zone Jan 2021		Number of Qualifiers
ABF	33	9
BFA	5	2
EBF	42	12
OBF	4	1
PanAm	<u>25</u>	<u>7</u>
	109	31 plus host federation (= 32)

- d) Each Zone decides the qualification process in its zone.
- e) Two deadlines will be defined by IBF.
 - i) for each Zone to present to IBF the standing of zone qualification of teams/federations
 - ii) a final date for invitation of teams/federations
- f) IBF invites the federations according to the qualification rules above following the standing in each zone qualification. If there are any vacant spots IBF may fill these vacancies of one zone by team(s) from any zone
- g) The minimum number of athletes from each participating team must be six (6) athletes**
- h) No wild card system will be used

3. Official Delegation

The official delegation shall/can include:

- a. 6 athletes (male and/or female) (this is the required number)
- b. Coaches for athletes
- c. Administrators for athletes
- d. Medical officers including sport psychologist and sport physiotherapist.

The official delegation is invited to all official functions including the Opening Ceremony as well as the Victory Banquet.

4. Lane Assignments and Registration Rule 5.3

5.3.1 In due time before the start of the championships, the Tournament Director will decide the number of squads for each event and the number of lanes in use for each squad.

5.3.2 Lane assignments shall be determined by a predetermined schedule for Singles, Doubles, Trios and Team.

5.3.3 For Singles and Doubles, once competition is under way, the number of athletes scheduled on a pair of lanes must be consistent throughout the tournament.

5.3.4 Lane assignments should be performed in due time prior to the Pre-Tournament meeting in order for it to be announced at the meeting.

5. Practice Rule 5.4

5.4.1 The athletes of each federation shall be nominated prior to the start of the official practice.

5.4.2 Minimum one day of official practice must be provided immediately prior to the start of the championship. One hour practice is required for each federation. However, if the competition lanes are not available for unofficial practice immediately prior to the official practice, two days of official practice will be required with two hours for each federation the first day and one hour for each federation the second day.

5.4.3 Each federation will have one session of official practice.

5.4.4 After the lanes have been prepared and the official practice concluded, no play whatsoever by the participants of the championships shall be allowed on the competition lanes during the entire duration, except the championships proper. This will not preclude efforts (e.g. exhibition) to promote bowling before, after or in between events. However, this does not allow any play by participants on the competition lanes after the last event of the day when the bowling centre is available to the public for open bowling. Violators are subject to disqualification.

5.4.6 Notwithstanding 5.4.4, IBF tournament management may, in their sole discretion, allow warm-up on championship lanes in circumstances in which athletes are required to compete on lanes not previously used in the championships, or lanes that have been retired in the championships.

5.4.5 Warm-up for events

- a) Singles, 10 minutes
- b) Doubles, 10 minutes
- c) Trios, 10 minutes
- d) Team, 15 minutes
- e) Masters, 5 minutes practice time
- f) Semi Finals and Finals, 10 minutes practice time for Team and Trios; 5 minutes practice time for Doubles and Singles.

5.4.6 Notwithstanding 5.4.4, IBF tournament management may, in their sole discretion, allow warm-up on championship lanes in circumstances in which athletes are required to compete on lanes not previously used in the championships, or lanes that have been retired in the championships.

6. Singles Rule 5.13.1

- a) Round 1 - 192 athletes divided into 6 groups of 32 athletes Each group is subdivided into 4 subgroups with 8 athletes each
 - i) Groups are seeded according to previous Championships
 - ii) Athletes bowl 7 games round robin and will be awarded 3 points for a win and 1 point for draw
- b) Round 2 - 24 athletes, composed of the winner from each subgroup
 - i) They will be divided into 4 groups of 6 athletes with pre-determined schedule
 - ii) Athletes will bowl 5 games round robin and will be awarded 3 points for a win and 1 point for a draw
- c) Semi-finals and finals

- i) The winner from each group will proceed to the semi-finals; they will be seeded according to their points in Round 2. If there is a tie for seeding positions, the points from round 1 and 2 will be added. Further ties will be determined by a coin flip.
- ii) Best of three games for position 1 vs 4, 2 vs 3 and the winners shall bowl best of three games.

7. Doubles Rule 5.13.2 – all games shall be bowled in Baker format

- a) Round 1 - 96 doubles divided into 3 groups of 32 doubles. Each group is subdivided into 4 subgroups with 8 doubles each.
 - i) Groups are seeded according to previous Championships
 - ii) Athletes bowl 7 games round robin and will be awarded 3 points for a win and 1 point for draw
- b) Round 2 - 24 doubles, composed of the winner and second place from each subgroup
 - i) They will be divided into 4 groups of 6 doubles with pre-determined schedule
 - ii) Athletes will bowl 5 games round robin and will be awarded 3 points for a win and 1 point for a draw
- c) Semi-finals and finals
 - i) The winner from each group will proceed to the semi-finals
 - ii) They will be seeded according to their points in round 2
 - iii) If there is a tie for seeding positions, the points from round 1 and 2 will be added. Further ties will be determined by a coin flip.
 - iv) Best of three games for position 1 vs 4, 2 vs 3 and the winners shall bowl best of 3 games

8. Trios Rule 5.13.3 – all games shall be bowled in Baker format

- a) Round 1 – 64 trios divided into 2 groups of 32 trios. Each group is subdivided into 4 subgroups with 8 trios each
 - i) Groups are seeded according to previous Championships
 - ii) Trios will bowl 7 games round robin and will be awarded 3 points for a win and 1 point for draw
- b) Round 2 – 16 trios, composed of the winner and second place from each subgroup
 - i.) They will be divided into 2 groups of 8 trios with pre-determined schedule
 - ii.) Trios will bowl 7 games round robin and will be awarded 3 points for a win and 1 point for a draw.
- c) Semi-finals and finals
 - i.) The top 2 from each group will proceed to the semi-finals
 - ii.) They will be seeded according to their points in round 2
 - iii.) If there is a tie for seeding positions, the points from round 1 and 2 will be added. Further ties will be determined by a coin flip
 - iv.) Best of three games for position 1 vs 4, 2 vs 3 and the winners will bowl best of three games,

9. Team Rule 5.13.4 – all games shall be bowled in Baker format

- a) Round 1 – One group of 32 teams. Each group is subdivided into 4 subgroups with 8 teams each.
 - i.) Groups are seeded according to previous Championships

ii.) Teams will bowl 7 games round robin and will be awarded 3 points for a win and 1 point for draw.

b) Round 2

i.) Top 2 teams in each subgroup advances to Round 2

ii.) They will be in 1 group of 8 teams with pre-determined schedule

iii.) Teams will bowl 7 games round robin and will be awarded 3 points for a win and 1 point for a draw

c) Semi-finals and finals

i.) The top 4 teams from Round 2 will proceed to the semi-finals

ii.) They will be seeded according to their points in round 2

iii) If there is a tie for seeding positions, the points from round 1 and 2 will be added. Further ties will be determined by a coin flip

iv.) Best of three games for position 1 vs 4, 2 vs 3 and the winners will bowl best of three games

v.) Line up changes are allowed after each game, prior to the start of the game

5.13.5 Ties in all disciplines that affect proceeding to a next round will be determined by a 9th and 10th frame roll off

5.13.6 An all-events medal will be awarded based on the sum of the finishing position in each discipline.

a) The winner is the athlete with the least number of points, based on finishing position in each discipline

b) Ties will be declared co-medallists.

10. Over-all Federation Champion Rule 5.13.7

Over-all federation champion medals will be awarded based on the sum of finishing positions in each discipline.

a) The federation ranking will be done by a formula:

$S*(P-Avg+1)*T$, where S = number of athletes in team (1 for singles, 2 for doubles, etc); P = total number of athletes/teams in event; Avg = average position for the federation in event; T = tier, singles .25, doubles .50, trios .75, team 1.00

b) The winner is the federation with the highest number of points

c) Ties will be declared co-medallists,