

European Dodgeball Federation Regional Tournament Regulations

Version 2.0

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**EUROPEAN
DODGEBALL
FEDERATION**



This document is applicable to the national associations and federations who are members of the EDF.

1. Premise and details

1.1 EDF Regional tournaments are tournaments conceived to be smaller than Euros, and should not be seen as an 'equal' alternative. Therefore, EDF Member Nations have been assigned to a specific region, having the chance to play only in their specific regional tournament.

1.2 The goal of regional tournaments is promoting dodgeball, an aim pursued by:

- Allowing all countries the possibility to play one international event each year
(Regional tournaments happen every two years, alternating with Euros, and in the same year as World Championships. Therefore countries not taking part in Worlds still have another chance to play)
- Reducing costs both for the hosts and for the participants
(Regional tournaments last no more than 2 days, keeping the expenses significantly down compared to Euros. A geographical split of nations also allows them to reduce travel costs)
- Promoting internal development as countries can field new and less experienced players
(Being an explicitly minor tournament compared to Euros, it can be used to have different people involved. Also, nations have the chance to field more than one team per category)
- Provide an ease of access for new or growing nations

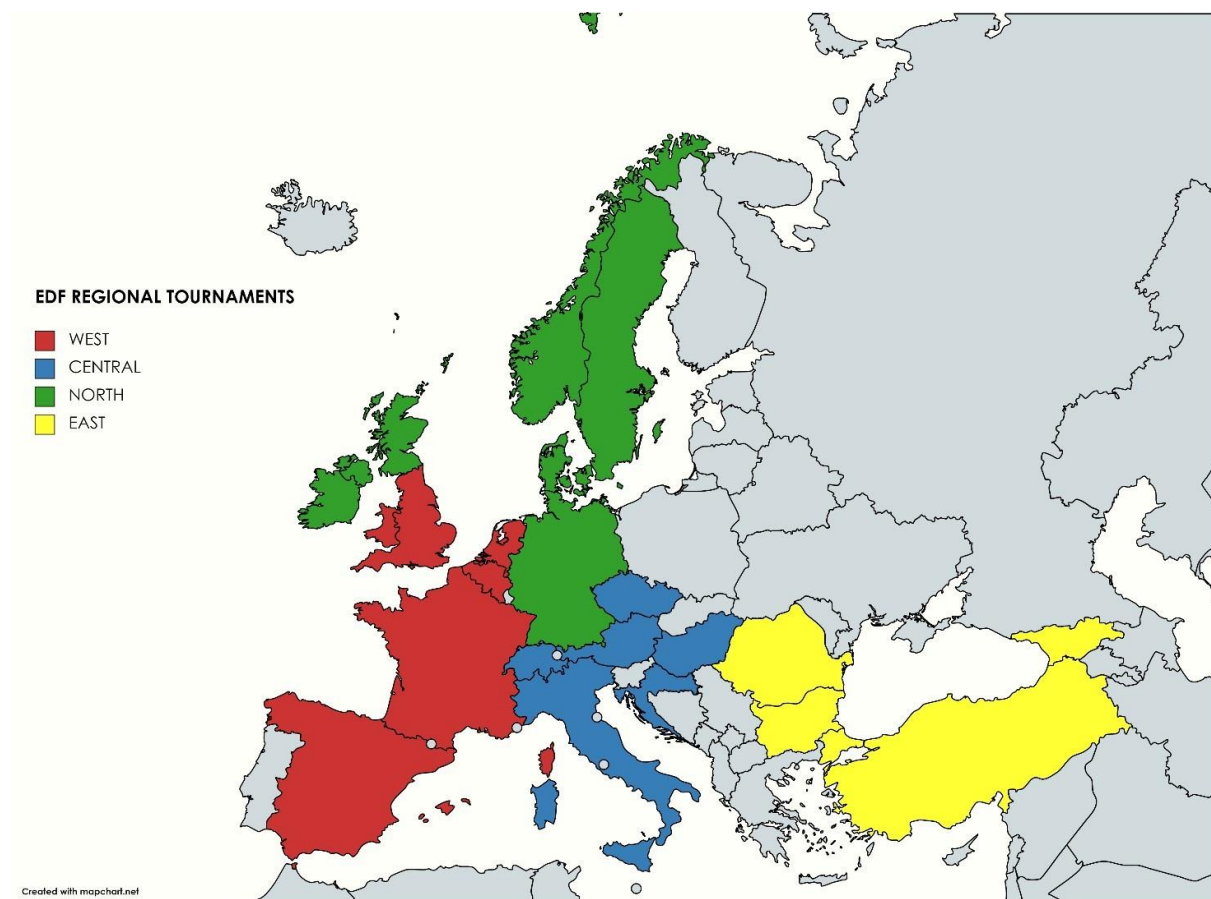
1.3 In 2022, EDF went through the process of revising the previous Regional Tournaments format, which featured two competitions: CEC (Central European Championships) and NEC (Northern European Championships).

1.4 This is due to the growth of European Dodgeball, which led to some organizational issues. Constantly having more member nations meant it was impossible to allocate all teams, if they would all eventually decide to register for regional tournaments. The only way of doing that would have been by compromising one of the key aspects of regional tournaments: having to play for more days or the chance to travel further would have increased costs, playing events with that many teams would have made them too similar to Euros.

1.5 EDF's goal was then to create a new format, more fitting to the actual demand, achieved by splitting member nations in more than two divisions.

2. Regional Tournaments Format

2.1 After 2022, current EDF full and provisional members will adhere to the following scheme, based on a geographical division, but also respecting specific Nations' demands:



WESTERN DIVISION	NORTHERN DIVISION	CENTRAL DIVISION	EASTERN DIVISION
Belgium	Denmark	Austria	Bulgaria
England	<i>Germany*</i>	Croatia	Georgia
France	Ireland	Czech Republic	Romania
Netherlands	Northern Ireland	Hungary	<i>Turkey*</i>
Spain	Norway	Italy	
Wales	Scotland	Switzerland	
	Sweden		

**currently provisional members*

2.2 Three regions (Western, Northern, Central) feature six full members. This is enough for a full scale tournament but not too many for a one-weekend-tournament, with the added potential to allow for secondary teams. The outcome eventually led to three balanced and even groups, both from a ranking as well as an experience perspective. Distances are also kept arguably short in all four groups which allows for accessibility in terms of travel.

2.3 The Eastern region is, as of now, groundwork for the future: a tournament that is not likely to take place immediately but has an existing framework for when the need arises. Meanwhile, if a country from the EEC region would like to host a regional tournament but are lacking in participation, countries from other regions can fill spots in order to make a full scale tournament. Similarly, should hosting be impossible, nations from EEC may attend other regional tournaments.

2.4 EDF reserves the right to make amendments to what hereby presented due to exceptional circumstances.

3. FAQs

Who hosts a regional tournament?

EDF encourages members to organise internally within each region, to find together a suitable host for any upcoming tournament. You can discuss it on your own at any time or have a meeting during a regional tournament, where the ideal goal would be to announce the upcoming hosts right at the end of a regional tournament (pending EDF approval), granting approximately two years of anticipation for players and organisers alike.

What if more than one nation wants to host the same regional tournament?

If, while meeting with all the fellow regional member nations, more countries express their will to host the same competition, we first encourage you to find a solution internally. Discuss it and work together to come up with any agreement that works best, then communicate the designated host to EDF for final approval.

Only in the event an agreement cannot be reached, EDF will directly choose between multiple hosts.

What if nobody wants to host my regional tournament?

In Western, Central and Northern Europe, then the tournament is not happening, and nations from that area are not eligible to play anywhere else.

In Eastern Europe, countries may alert EDF that you would like to enter a tournament due to yours not taking place, and we will all work together to find one able to welcome you.

What are the requirements for an EDF regional tournament?

- A tournament should last no longer than 2 days.
- It has to feature all three categories (Mixed, Women's, Men's).
- Each team should play at least 4 games and no more than 8.
- Tournaments should have finals, (not just a round-robin phase).
- Further suggested features can be found on EDF website.
- EDF rules must be applied.
- EDF Seeding and Scheduling rules should be applied, however scheduling always depends on the final number of participants, the number of courts, and the time available at the venue, so exceptions can be made to best accommodate all needs, always in accordance with EDF.

Do I have to host regional tournaments in a specific month?

The only requirement is not to have regional tournaments clashing with World Championships, therefore at least 3 months away from the World Championships must be the case. Apart from this, we would like for these tournaments to be as easy to carry out as possible, so there is no other need to limit them in time.

How many teams can enter a competition?

Any member nation holds the right to register at least one team in each competition of the regional tournament they belong to. This right is also granted to nations of the Eastern region in one of the other regional tournaments, if the Eastern European Championship is not happening. Beyond that, the maximum number of teams per competition is up to the host, who may decide this based on courts availability, scheduling format and in general to best adapt its organizational needs, without this ever leading to the exclusion of a nation eligible to play in that tournament.

So, can I register a second team from my country in a competition?

The purpose of regional tournaments is to give the chance to play on an international level to as many players as possible; therefore, if you have that chance, you can ask the hosts and check if this is possible.

As said, the host can decide to reject it if this creates scheduling issues; however, allowing a second (or even third) team is encouraged when there are no sensible scheduling limits and especially if the presence of additional teams will lead to a more balanced tournament format and group division.

What should be the priority order to accept teams in my regional tournament?

1. **Regional teams** (nations always hold the right to register one team per category in their regional tournament)
2. **Eastern teams** (if their regional tournament is not happening, and they ask to attend, this should be granted)
3. **Second regional teams** (in case of limited spots available, priority goes to the host nation)
4. **Eventual second teams of Eastern nations**
5. **Third regional teams**

Western, Central and Northern European nations cannot attend the regional tournament of another area.

Is this plan going to apply forever?

No, we need to respect the reality of things. Therefore, our prediction is for this plan to apply for tournaments in 2024 and 2026, and then things will have to be reevaluated.

Do I necessarily need to play in a regional tournament?

That is not mandatory, if your nation wishes not to attend, you can simply not register for it.