



TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS
2026-2027

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CHAPTER I GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1: Definitions and abbreviations

In these Regulations, the following terms have the meanings set out below:

Term	Meaning
knockout system	a competition system in which the winner advances to the next round and the loser is eliminated
general tournament provisions	provisions that apply to every approved tournament
AWR	General Match Regulations (Algemeen Wedstrijdreglement)
badminton domicile	the place of establishment of the club for which a player competes in the Netherlands, or, if the player does not compete in the Netherlands, the player's place of residence; a badminton domicile may be established only once per competition season
BE	Badminton Europe
affiliated club	a member club of Badminton Nederland
BTP	Badminton Tournament Planner
BWF	Badminton World Federation
bye	a position in a draw to which it is determined in advance that no participant will be assigned
circuit	a coherent series of tournaments whose name is determined by the CW before the relevant year or season, possibly divided into different strength or age categories
participant	a player, pair or team
final stage	a competition system in which the highest-ranked participants from the preliminary stage continue
withdrawal form	overview of withdrawals and retirements submitted after the closing date and during the tournament
main tournament	a tournament in which a number of participants are admitted directly and the remaining participants qualify through a qualifying tournament
entry form	the form on which a participant enters a tournament

junior player	a player who is under 19 years of age on 31 December of the year in which a match takes place
class	part of a para-badminton tournament for participants with comparable impairments
qualifier	a participant in a qualifying tournament who advances to the main tournament
qualifying tournament	a tournament from which participants may qualify for the main tournament
age category	part of a tournament for participants with comparable age qualifications
draw referee	a referee who conducts a random draw using computer software
draw group	participants in an event who originate from the same country, region, club or other unit, depending on the tournament
non-member	a player without a valid membership number of Badminton Nederland or another organisation affiliated to the BWF
NJRB	National Junior Badminton Ranking, a ranking by discipline for junior players, showing year of birth and ranked by points
NRB	National Badminton Ranking, on which players are ranked by points for each discipline
NRBS	Dutch Senior Badminton Ranking, a ranking by discipline for senior players, showing year of birth and ranked by points
event	an event within a specified age or strength category
discipline	a badminton discipline in individual tournaments, or a fixed defined number of disciplines in team tournaments
closed/interclub tournament	a tournament in which members of no more than three affiliated clubs participate
pool	a competition system in which all participants in the pool play each other once and a ranking is drawn up after completion
master calendar	an annual schedule adopted by the Federation Board showing the weeks in the competition season in which leagues and important tournaments are played
ranking tournament	a tournament at which participants may earn points for a national ranking
recreational event	a badminton event designated as such by the CW

recreational player	a player with no points on the NRB, NJRB, NRBS or any other national or international ranking
senior	a player aged 35 or older on 1 January of the year in which a match takes place
35+, 40+, 45+, 50+, 55+, 60+, 65+, 70+, 75+, 80+, 85+	age categories in which senior players must have reached at least the stated age on 1 January of the year in which the matches take place
specific tournament provisions	additional details of the tournament established by the tournament organiser
strength category	a category determined according to a national ranking, or according to competition division but in that case not counting towards a national ranking
admission procedure	a description of which players are admitted to a championship or circuit final
tournament	a badminton tournament
tournament applicant	the person or body applying for approval to organise a tournament
tournament committee	the committee appointed by the tournament organiser to conduct the tournament
tournament calendar	the list of tournaments approved under these Regulations, stating the type and date
tournament director	the chair of the tournament committee
tournament organiser	the person or body that has obtained approval to organise a tournament
play-out draw	a knockout draw incorporating consolation rounds
UR	Implementation Regulation
U11, U13, U15, U17, U19	age categories in which players must be younger than the stated age on 31 December of the year in which the matches take place
preliminary stage	a competition system from which multiple participants per event progress to the final stage
exempt player	a player who does not need to play a qualifying tournament in order to be admitted to the main tournament

If an article or paragraph is preceded by the letter 'D', dispensation from that article or paragraph is possible.

Article 2: Types of tournaments

1. Tournaments are divided into two types:
 - a. Individual tournaments, in which participants are players or pairs and a contest between two participants is a match.
 - b. Team tournaments, in which participants are teams and a contest between two teams consists of a prescribed number of matches in specified disciplines.
2. Within both types of tournaments, restrictions may apply:
 - a. Junior tournaments are open exclusively to junior players, possibly separately for several age categories.
 - b. Senior tournaments are open exclusively to seniors, possibly separately for several age categories.
 - c. Para-badminton tournaments are open exclusively to para-badminton players, possibly separately for several classes.
 - d. Other tournaments are open to all players, possibly separately for several strength categories.
3. Within both types, tournaments may also be classified as:
 - a. Ranking tournaments in which one or more categories count towards a national ranking.
 - b. Non-ranking tournaments that do not count towards a national ranking.

Article 3: Championships

1. Each year, under the responsibility of the Federation Board, the international championships and international junior championships of the Netherlands are organised.
 - a. International championships are not played under these Regulations, but under the rules laid down by the BWF or BE.
 - b. For international championships, the referee and any deputy referee are appointed by the BWF or BE. The Federation Board may appoint an additional local referee if desired.
2. National and regional championships are organised annually by the CW.
 - a. Participants must have Dutch nationality and be a member of Badminton Nederland or the BWF, or have a Dutch badminton domicile and be a member of Badminton Nederland.
 - b. Participation in Dutch championships is subject to an admission procedure based on a national ranking.
3. A tournament other than those referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 may use the designation “championship” only if that designation has been applied for. The Federation Board decides on the application after consulting the CW.

Article 4: Tournaments of national importance

1. Tournaments of national importance include:
 - a. tournaments forming part of the Master Circuit, Junior Master Circuit or Para Badminton Circuit;

- b. national and regional individual championships organised by the CW;
 - c. the annual National Championship for Competition Teams organised by the CW; the CW may also organise other national team events.
2. Tournaments of national importance are included on both the Tournament Calendar and the Master Calendar.

Article 5: National rankings

1. At approved ranking tournaments, participants may earn points for a national ranking:
 - a. At ranking tournaments without age categories, points may be earned for the NRB.
 - b. At junior tournaments and at ranking tournaments without age categories, junior players may earn points for the NJRB.
 - c. At senior tournaments and at ranking tournaments without age categories, seniors may earn points for the NRBS.
 - d. No national-ranking points can be earned in categories open to non-members.
2. No national-ranking points can be earned at non-ranking tournaments. These are:
 - a. closed/interclub tournaments;
 - b. unapproved tournaments.

Article 6: Strength and age categories

1. Each tournament may distinguish one or more strength categories.
2. Each strength category corresponds to a maximum number of NRB points or to a highest division in the National League.

Category	Maximum NRB points	Highest National League division
1	-	Premier Division
2	7823	First Division
3	5476	Second Division
4	3833	Third Division
5	2683	Fourth Division
6	1878	Men Feather-1 & Fifth Division
7	1315	Men Feather-2 & Sixth Division
8	920	Seventh Division
9	-	Men Nylon & Eighth Division

3. The strength categories at national and regional individual championships and Master tournaments are based on the National Badminton Ranking (NRB).
4. At other tournaments, the tournament organiser may base strength categories on the NRB or on competition level. Only strength categories based on the NRB count towards the national ranking.
5. At junior tournaments, only the age categories U11, U13, U15, U17 and U19 count towards the National Junior Badminton Ranking (NJRB). Participants in other age categories receive no NJRB points.
6. A senior tournament consists of one or more of the age categories 35+, 40+, 45+, 50+, 55+, 60+, 65+, 70+, 75+, 80+ and 85+. Participants in other age categories receive no NRBS points.
7. The para-badminton categories are described in the current Implementation Regulation for the Para Badminton Circuit.

Article 7: Special provisions and implementation regulations

1. These Regulations have two appendices, which have the same binding force as the articles of these Regulations:
 - a. Allocation of seeds and byes (Appendix 1).
 - b. Admission procedure for Dutch championships (Appendix 2).
2. After hearing the CW, the Federation Board may issue special provisions for tournaments of national importance, including provisions concerning the selection of participants. Such special provisions may deviate from the admission procedure for national championships in Appendix 2.
3. On the proposal of the CW, the Federation Board adopts the following implementation regulations under these Regulations and their appendices:
 - a. Implementation Regulation Master Circuit, containing additional provisions for tournaments forming part of the Master Circuit.
 - b. Implementation Regulation Junior Master Circuit, containing additional provisions for tournaments forming part of the Junior Master Circuit.
 - c. Implementation Regulation Para-Badminton Circuit, containing additional provisions for tournaments forming part of the Para-Badminton Circuit.
4. The implementation regulations are adopted, after consultation with the circuit participants, no later than two months before the start of the relevant circuit and take effect from the date of publication.

CHAPTER II REGISTRATION AND APPROVAL OF TOURNAMENTS

Article 8: Registration of a tournament

1. All tournaments must be registered with the CW, except for a closed tournament within one club (club championships).

- a. A closed/interclub tournament in which members of more than one club participate must be registered at least one month before the start of the tournament by e-mail to wz@badminton.nl, stating the clubs involved.
 - b. Organisers of a tournament forming part of the Master Circuit or Junior Master Circuit must confirm participation in the next cycle before 1 October by e-mail to wz@badminton.nl.
 - c. All other tournaments must be registered by completing and submitting the application form at www.badminton.nl/wedstrijden/toernooi-aanvragen/ before entries for the tournament are opened.
2. The application form must state:
- a. the name of the tournament and the organising club;
 - b. the playing dates of the tournament and one or more alternative dates, taking the published Master Calendar into account;
 - c. the venue(s) where the tournament will be played;
 - d. the type of tournament as referred to in Article 2;
 - e. which strength categories count towards the NRB and/or which age categories count towards the NJRB or NRBS;
 - f. whether a referee or draw referee is requested.
3. Each tournament applicant will receive by e-mail notification of provisional approval and confirmation that the requested tournament has been published on the Tournament Calendar. If a requested tournament is not approved, the refusal will likewise be notified by e-mail to the applicant, stating the reasons.
4. After receiving provisional approval, the tournament organiser may publish the tournament on badmintonnederland.toernooi.nl, provided the Badminton Tournament Planner is used.
5. Changes to already approved tournaments must be submitted by e-mail to wz@badminton.nl, stating the reason for the change. They will be eligible for CW approval only if they do not prejudice tournaments previously approved.

Article 9: Approval of a tournament

1. CW approval is required to organise a tournament, except for closed/interclub tournaments.
2. The tournament must have been applied for to the CW within the period specified in Article 8.
3. The CW is entitled to prohibit unapproved tournaments and closed/interclub tournaments if other badminton interests could thereby be harmed. Such a prohibition will be notified by e-mail, with reasons, to the tournament applicant and the club(s) concerned.
4. An approved tournament is played under these Regulations. The definitions and provisions of the General Match Regulations (AWR) also apply.

5. By way of exception to paragraph 1, tournaments approved by BE or the BWF are played under the rules of BE or the BWF respectively.
6. Every match in an approved tournament must be played in accordance with the applicable Laws of Badminton.
7. Use of the Badminton Tournament Planner is mandatory for all tournaments approved by the CW.
8. For approval as a ranking tournament, the strength categories must be determined in accordance with the Implementation Regulation National Badminton Rankings. If competition division or another strength criterion is used instead, the tournament cannot be a ranking tournament.
9. For approval as a junior tournament, the tournament must consist of at least one of the age categories U11, U13, U15, U17 and U19, possibly supplemented per age category by strength rules in accordance with the Implementation Regulation National Badminton Ranking. Participants in other age categories receive no NJRB points.
10. For approval as a senior tournament, the tournament must consist of one or more of the age categories 35+, 40+, 45+, 50+, 55+, 60+, 65+, 70+, 75+, 80+ and 85+, possibly supplemented per age category by strength rules in accordance with the Implementation Regulation National Badminton Ranking.
11. Participation by non-members in a tournament or category is permitted if this is stated in the specific tournament provisions. If non-members participate in a category, no participant in that category may be awarded points for a national ranking.
12. The CW may withdraw an approval already granted if compelling reasons exist.

Article 10: Tournament Calendar

1. The CW compiles the Tournament Calendar.
2. For each registered tournament, except closed/interclub tournaments, the Tournament Calendar states the provisional status of:
 - a. type of tournament, strength categories and/or age categories;
 - b. playing dates and address details.
3. After consultation with those involved, the CW may change the date and categories of tournaments on the Tournament Calendar if compelling reasons exist.
4. The Tournament Calendar is published and updated on the “matches” page of www.badminton.nl.
5. Unapproved tournaments are removed from the Tournament Calendar.
6. Tournament contributions under Article 11 are payable for tournaments on the Tournament Calendar.

Article 11: Tournament contributions and surcharges

1. After a tournament has been placed on the Tournament Calendar, an amount is payable and must be paid within two weeks of the date of the invoice. The General Meeting annually determines this tournament contribution in the budget.
2. The amounts referred to above are not payable for a tournament organised directly by the CW.
3. For each non-member participating in a tournament on the Tournament Calendar, a surcharge is payable per event. The Federation Board determines the surcharge for non-members per tournament.
4. Tournament fees will not be refunded after tournament approval if the tournament is cancelled. If a tournament is cancelled, the tournament organiser must notify the CW by e-mail within 14 days after the decision is taken.

CHAPTER III ORGANISATION OF APPROVED TOURNAMENTS

Article 12: Tournament organisers

1. Approved tournaments may be organised by:
 - a. the CW;
 - b. affiliated clubs;
 - c. other bodies or persons authorised by the CW for that purpose.
2. Closed/interclub tournaments in which members of more than one club participate may be organised by one of the clubs concerned.

Article 13: Duties and powers of the tournament organiser

1. The tournament organiser publishes the tournament from the Badminton Tournament Planner on badmintonnederland.toernooi.nl before the entry period opens.
2. The tournament organiser appoints a tournament committee responsible for running the tournament, without this relieving the tournament organiser of responsibility towards Badminton Nederland.
 - a. The tournament committee consists of at least three persons.
 - b. The tournament organiser appoints a tournament director and, if desired, a deputy tournament director from among the members of the tournament committee.
3. After the tournament, the tournament organiser sends the Badminton Tournament Planner backup to the approving authority.
4. If a tournament is cancelled, the tournament organiser must notify the CW within 14 days after the decision is taken.

Article 14: Duties and powers of the tournament director

1. The tournament director acts as chair of the tournament committee and, in that capacity, maintains contact with the referee or deputy referee.
2. D The tournament director and deputy tournament director may not participate in the tournament as players.
3. The tournament director assigns the courts on which matches are to be played and determines the starting times of matches.
4. The tournament director decides whether a match should be interrupted where this is necessary for reasons not arising from the Laws of Badminton, such as hall or lighting problems. A match not completed on the day on which it started is rescheduled in its entirety by the tournament director.
5. The tournament director may propose to the tournament committee that a participant be excluded from one or more events:
 - a. if the participant is not ready or refuses to play at the time determined by the tournament director and the interests of other participants or the proper progress of the tournament preclude postponement, as assessed by the tournament director;
 - b. if the participant fails to comply with the general or specific tournament provisions or otherwise obstructs the proper conduct of a match or tournament.
6. The tournament director informs the referee of decisions of the tournament committee concerning replacement and exclusion of participants. If the referee disagrees with a decision, the referee's decision on the matter prevails.

Article 15: Duties and decision-making powers of the tournament committee

1. The tournament committee of an approved tournament is required to use the Badminton Tournament Planner.
2. The tournament committee ensures that starting times for individual matches on the tournament days are visibly published for all participants.
3. The tournament committee ensures that sufficient new shuttles are immediately available.
4. The tournament committee is responsible for appointing umpires, service judges and line judges for matches if no Badminton Nederland umpires have been appointed.
5. The tournament committee supervises compliance with the general and specific tournament provisions described in Chapter IV of these Regulations.
6. The tournament committee decides by majority vote:
 - a. on excluding a participant who has entered contrary to the specific tournament provisions, if that irregularity is discovered only during the tournament;
 - b. on replacing participants as referred to in Article 28;

- c. on excluding a participant proposed for exclusion by the tournament director under Article 14 paragraph 5;
 - d. in all cases where the decision is not assigned to another official named in these Regulations.
7. In the event of withdrawals, the tournament committee must enquire into the reason(s) and provide those reason(s), together with the name, club and membership number of the person concerned, to the referee by e-mail.
8. The tournament committee must refund any entry fees already paid for non-accepted entries no later than the week after the tournament.

CHAPTER IV TOURNAMENT PROVISIONS

Article 16: Use of the Badminton Tournament Planner

1. Use of the Badminton Tournament Planner is mandatory for an approved tournament. It may also be used for unapproved tournaments.
2. For approved tournaments, the Badminton Tournament Planner must be used for:
 - a. publication of the tournament on badmintonnederland.toernooi.nl;
 - b. tournament entry;
 - c. preparation of draws;
 - d. the draw by the draw referee;
 - e. submission of tournament data after the tournament.
3. The tournament overview page on badmintonnederland.toernooi.nl must be published from the Badminton Tournament Planner and must state:
 - a. the name and organiser of the tournament;
 - b. the start and end dates;
 - c. the name and address of the venue(s);
 - d. the e-mail address and/or telephone number of the organiser's contact person;
 - e. the start and end dates of the entry period and the final date on which withdrawal without payment of the entry fee is possible;
 - f. the disciplines and any strength and age categories;
 - g. a link to the tournament provisions.
4. If a referee has been appointed, the tournament provisions must be approved by the referee before publication on badmintonnederland.toernooi.nl. For tournaments without a referee, the tournament provisions must be approved by the CW before entries are opened on badmintonnederland.toernooi.nl.

Article 17: General tournament provisions

1. The general tournament provisions concern entry, participant obligations, rules relating to matches, data protection and publication rights, special measures and liability. They apply to every approved tournament.

2. Entry form

- a. The entry form must be created by the tournament organiser from the Badminton Tournament Planner. Participants indicate the events entered and, where applicable, the relevant strength and age categories.
- b. When entering, a member of Badminton Nederland must state their membership number and the name of their club or, where applicable, training group or squad, or indicate that they are an individual member of Badminton Nederland. A member of another association affiliated to the BWF must state their membership number with that association and the name of their club, or their personal BWF membership number.
- c. Non-members state the name of their club where applicable. Without a valid Badminton Nederland membership number or membership of another BWF-affiliated association, a player may enter only a tournament that is open to non-members.
- d. An entry for doubles without a partner is regarded as a request for a partner to be assigned. The request will be met if possible; otherwise the entry without a partner is deemed not to have been made. A player without a partner may not be included in the draw for a doubles event.
- e. A player may request exemption from playing at certain times when entering. This will only be taken into account if it does not impede the proper progress of the tournament. The tournament committee's decision is final.

3. Processing entries

- a. Entries are recorded and accepted in order of receipt unless the specific tournament provisions prescribe a different method of acceptance. The order recorded in the BTP determines the order of entry.
- b. Entries close on the closing date stated in the specific tournament provisions, or earlier once the maximum number of matches has been reached. The draw must take place after the actual closing date.
- c. An entrant whose entry has been accepted in at least one event receives notification of their first match as soon as possible after the draw and no later than 48 hours before the tournament starts. Notification must be sent by e-mail from the BTP; alternatively the draw with playing times may be published on badmintonnederland.toernooi.nl.
- d. If not all events entered by a player are accepted, the player must be informed before the draw and has the right to withdraw.

- e. An entrant whose entry has not been accepted in any event is notified by the tournament committee as soon as possible and no later than 96 hours after the draw.

4. Participant obligations during the tournament

- a. A participant is deemed medically fit to play badminton.
- b. A participant must have paid the entry fee no later than before their first match. The method of payment may be further regulated in the specific tournament provisions. A tournament organiser may refuse to allow a participant who has not paid on time to play.
- c. A participant must report to the tournament committee on arrival.
- d. A participant must be present in the hall ready to play 15 minutes before the start of each match. The participant may not leave the building without permission of the tournament committee.
- e. A player may be appointed by the tournament committee to umpire a match.

5. Rules relating to matches

- a. Matches must be played in accordance with the applicable Laws of Badminton.
- b. During matches, a player must wear clothing that complies with Article 3 of the Implementation Regulation Clothing and Advertising at Badminton Matches.
- c. A shuttle permitted for the tournament under the current List of Approved Shuttles must be used. The tournament committee ensures that sufficient quantities of this shuttle are available in the hall at the current retail price or a lower price.
- d. Unless the specific tournament provisions state otherwise, the first shuttle of a match is paid for by the loser. Any subsequent shuttles are paid jointly. The loser becomes the owner of the last shuttle.
- e. If a participant retires after a match has started, the result is determined as if the opponent had scored, from the moment of retirement, the points required to win the match under the applicable Laws of Badminton, with the status "retired" added. For this purpose, retirement means failure to complete a match.
- f. A player is entitled to ten minutes' rest between matches if the player has played two matches without a rest period.
- g. An umpire is appointed for final matches. For other matches, the participants jointly find an umpire unless one is appointed by the tournament committee.

6. Data protection and publication rights

- a. During a tournament, photographs of a participant may be taken in the sports hall unless the participant indicated at entry that they do not consent to photographs.
- b. Publication of photographs is governed by Badminton Nederland's photo policy.

7. Special measures and liability

- a. The tournament committee may at all times take measures it considers necessary in the interests of the tournament. Such measures may not conflict with rules laid down by Badminton Nederland and are subject to the referee's right of veto.
- b. Neither the tournament committee, the tournament organiser nor Badminton Nederland is liable for physical injury sustained during the tournament or for loss of or damage to personal property.

Article 18: Specific tournament provisions

1. The tournament organiser sets out the additional details of the tournament in the specific tournament provisions. They may not conflict with these Tournament Regulations or their appendices.
2. The tournament provisions must be drawn up in Dutch. A translation into another language may be included beneath the Dutch text.
3. The specific tournament provisions must state that the tournament is played under the General Match Regulations and the Tournament Regulations. They must also state for which type of tournament referred to in Article 2 Badminton Nederland has granted approval and any restrictions attached to the approval.
4. With regard to the draw format, the following must be specified:
 - a. which competition system referred to in Article 21 paragraph 1 is used;
 - b. where applicable in a knockout system, which method referred to in Article 24 paragraph 4 is used for additional matches to determine further final placings;
 - c. the number of rounds if a Swiss ladder system is used;
 - d. in a preliminary/final-stage system, the number of participants who may be exempt from the preliminary stage and the number who may qualify for the final stage;
 - e. where applicable, how the best runner-up(s) are determined in a horizontal comparison.
5. With regard to entry, the following must be specified:
 - a. the number of events that may be entered and whether this applies to one or more categories;
 - b. the method of accepting entries if a method other than order of receipt is prescribed;
 - c. the entry fee per event and how it must be paid;
 - d. the cases in which entry fees will be refunded;
 - e. the maximum total number of matches to be accepted;
 - f. where applicable, the maximum number of entries per event and how excess entries will be handled; permitted options are another competition system or a reserve list;
 - g. where applicable, the minimum number of entries per event and how the event will be handled if that minimum is not reached; permitted options are another competition system, combining with another event, or cancelling the event;

- h. where applicable, the minimum total number of entries; if that minimum is not reached, the tournament may be cancelled or one or more disciplines may use a different competition system from that stated under paragraph 4, provided that different system is also specified.
6. With regard to the venue and playing times, the following must be stated:
- a. the tournament playing day(s) and the playing hours on each day;
 - b. the number of courts used.
7. With regard to the categories, the following must be specified:
- a. the basis of the strength categories;
 - b. if the strength categories are based on the NRB, NJRB or NRBS, the maximum number of points for entry in each category;
 - c. if the strength categories are based on competition division, the highest division in which a participant may be a nominated regular player;
 - d. where applicable for age categories, any additional strength provisions.
8. With regard to matches, the following must be stated:
- a. if Badminton Nederland umpires are present, the matches for which they are appointed;
 - b. the shuttle type and required shuttle category;
 - c. the matches for which the shuttle, or a specified number of shuttles, is provided free of charge;
 - d. where applicable, additional clothing provisions supplementing the Implementation Regulation Clothing and Advertising at Badminton Matches, applicable to all matches or specified matches;
 - e. the scoring system if an alternative scoring system permitted by the Laws of Badminton is used;
 - f. if a participant is not permitted to play any further match in the tournament after failing to play or complete an earlier scheduled match. If this is not stated in the specific tournament provisions, further participation is permitted.
9. With regard to the draw and referee, the following must be stated:
- a. the name and contact details of the referee and draw referee, if appointed;
 - b. how the draw groups referred to in Article 23 are formed;
 - c. the date on which the draw takes place and the result is published on badmintonnederland.toernooi.nl;
 - d. if no electronic draw from the BTP is used, the date of the public draw.
10. With regard to prizes, the following must be specified:
- a. the number of prizes per event;
 - b. when and where the prize ceremony takes place.
11. The specific tournament provisions may additionally include:
- a. the presence of a physiotherapist and/or medical facilities;

- b. a description of the cases in which a participant must keep score or umpire a match;
- c. the presence of a stringing service and/or badminton sales stand;
- d. the brand of tournament shuttle and the price at which it is available in the hall;
- e. information about food and catering during the tournament.

Article 19: Additional provisions for team tournaments

1. The provisions of these Regulations and their appendices apply to team tournaments insofar as they are relevant to team tournaments.
2. The specific provisions for a team tournament must additionally state:
 - a. how many matches and which disciplines make up a tie between two teams;
 - b. for ties in a knockout system, how the winner of a tie is determined; for ties in a pool system, how tie points are awarded;
 - c. any restrictions on the same player competing in different matches;
 - d. which types of players are eligible to play for the team.
3. The following are not regarded as team tournaments within the meaning of Article 1:
 - a. international team matches, which are organised by Badminton Nederland under BWF rules;
 - b. competitions for affiliated clubs, whose organisation and all related matters are governed by the Competition Regulations;
 - c. cup competitions.

Article 20: After the tournament

1. For ranking tournaments, the CW must receive the BTP backup immediately after the tournament. If withdrawals were not recorded in the BTP, the completed withdrawal form must be sent to the CW within two weeks after the tournament.
2. For approved non-ranking tournaments, the CW must receive the BTP backup within two weeks after the tournament.
3. The CW may give the tournament organiser additional instructions regarding information to be supplied after the tournament.

CHAPTER V DRAW FORMAT AND DRAW

Article 21: Competition systems

1. D Tournaments must be played according to one of the following competition systems:
 - a. knockout system: the winner of a match advances to the next round and the loser is eliminated;
 - b. pool system: all participants play each other once;

- c. Swiss ladder system: all participants play a predetermined number of rounds, the first round being determined by draw/seeding and subsequent rounds by the current ranking;
 - d. preliminary stage and final stage: the preliminary stage consists of one or more of the systems listed under a-c and the final stage consists of a knockout system or a single pool.
2. In all systems referred to in paragraph 1, additional matches may be played to determine further final placings, for example third and fourth place.
 3. The competition system and any additional matches must be stated in the specific tournament provisions.
 4. If fewer than four entries are received for an event, the event may be cancelled. Entrants must be informed in the same way as for non-accepted entries.
 5. If there are eight or fewer entries for an event, the competition system for that event may be changed regardless of the specific tournament provisions.

Article 22: Preparing a draw

1. The draw in which the participants in each event play each other must be determined by lot, taking account of any seeding under the conditions set out below.
2. Seeding of participants in accordance with Appendix 1 is mandatory for tournaments of national importance. At other tournaments, the tournament committee may also seed participants in an event by strength in accordance with Appendix 1.
3. Where seeding is used, the tournament committee numbers the seeded participants in order of strength as 1, 2, 3, etc. The seeding must be shown in the draw.
 - a. For ranking tournaments, the most recent NRB, or NJRB for junior tournaments and NRBS for senior tournaments, must be used for seeding. This is not mandatory for non-ranking tournaments. Where the NRB, NJRB or NRBS is used, seeding must follow subparagraphs b-d.
 - b. Singles seeding is based on the most recent national ranking for the relevant singles discipline available when the seeding is carried out.
 - c. Doubles seeding is based on the most recent national ranking for the relevant doubles discipline available when seeding is carried out. The pair score is calculated as the sum of the points of both players on that ranking. If pair scores are equal, the pair including the player with the higher individual points is ranked first.
 - d. Players not appearing on a national ranking must be inserted into the seeding by the tournament committee, or on the basis of strength by any seeding committee where specific event regulations provide for one.
4. The number of available positions in the draw, i.e. the total number of positions minus the number of byes, must equal the number of entries in the event.
5. Under no circumstances may a player be allowed to compete more than once in the same event.

Article 23: The draw

1. The draw must be conducted so as to guarantee strict impartiality. Participants from the same draw group must, as far as possible, meet as late as possible, unless seeding makes this impossible.
2. Depending on the nature of the entries and tournament, a draw group consists of participants from the same origin (such as country, region or province) or who regularly play together (such as club, squad or training group).
3. If not all events entered by a player are accepted, the player must be informed before the draw and has the right to withdraw from the tournament.
4. The draw must be carried out using the Badminton Tournament Planner.
 - a. At tournaments of national importance, the draw is conducted under the responsibility of the draw referee appointed by the CW. No later than two days before the draw, the tournament committee must e-mail the appointed draw referee a copy of the tournament produced by the Badminton Tournament Planner. Immediately after the draw, the draw referee sends the result to the tournament committee and referee in the form of an updated copy.
 - b. At all other ranking tournaments the draw is public and must be conducted on the date stated in the specific tournament provisions in the presence of the referee, or the tournament director if no referee has been appointed, unless the draw is carried out by an appointed draw referee. Before the draw, the tournament committee informs that official which entries have not been accepted and on what grounds.
5. The tournament committee is responsible for notifying each entrant in accordance with Article 17 paragraph 3.

Article 24: Knockout system

1. If the number of participants in an event is not a power of two, byes are added in knockout tournaments as set out in Appendix 1: Allocation of Seeds and Byes.
2. Participants may be seeded in knockout tournaments. Seeded participants are allocated as set out in Appendix 1.
3. Participants from the same draw group are allocated by lot unless the specific tournament provisions state that allocation is based on strength as described in Article 22.
 - a. numbers 1 and 2 on the strength list within the draw group are drawn into the two halves;
 - b. numbers 3 and 4 on the strength list within the draw group are drawn into the two remaining quarters;
 - c. where there are 32 or more participants in total, numbers 5 to 8 are distributed among the remaining eighths.
4. Additional matches may be played to determine final placings beyond the finalists in a knockout tournament. The permitted systems are:

- a. one match for third and fourth place between the losing semi-finalists;
 - b. knockout system with consolation event, in which participants who lose their first match continue in a separate knockout system. The size and shape of the consolation draw is determined by the number of matches in the original draw from which a participant can enter the consolation event. Once all participants are known, the available positions are assigned from the top down in the order in which participants appear in the original draw;
 - c. play-out system, in which each participant, apart from byes, plays the same number of matches. After a first loss, each participant continues in the lower half of the draw. This principle applies after each round until only two-participant draws remain.
5. The competition system for additional matches must be stated in the specific tournament provisions.

Article 25: Pool system

1. Matches in a pool are played over a number of rounds. In each round every participant in the pool plays one match; if the pool has an odd number of participants, one participant has a bye each round.
2. Participants may be seeded in pool tournaments. Seeded participants are allocated as set out in Appendix 1.
 - a. If two seeded participants are placed in one pool, they must play each other in the final round.
 - b. The order of matches in a pool must be arranged so that participants from the same draw group meet in the earliest possible rounds, subject to subparagraph a.
 - c. In events consisting of one pool, no more than two participants may be seeded. All participants are placed in one pool, which is played in accordance with paragraph 1.
3. A ranking is prepared for each pool on the basis of the number of matches won, or the number of tie points in team tournaments. A participant who wins all matches in a pool is the pool winner.
 - a. In an individual tournament, matches of participants who did not complete all matches scheduled for them in the pool are disregarded.
 - b. In a team tournament, the result of a match not played or not completed is determined as if the opponent had scored, from the point of retirement, the points required to win under the applicable Laws of Badminton.
4. If participants in an individual tournament have won the same number of matches within a pool, the following criteria apply in order:
 - a. game difference;
 - b. point difference;
 - c. head-to-head result;
 - d. the pool winner is number 1 in the ranking.

5. If participants in a team tournament have won the same number of ties within a pool, the following criteria apply in order:
 - a. tie points awarded under the Competition Regulations;
 - b. tie points in the head-to-head result;
 - c. game difference in the head-to-head result;
 - d. point difference in the head-to-head result;
 - e. the pool winner is number 1 in the ranking.

Article 26: Swiss ladder system

1. In tournaments using the Swiss ladder system, participants are paired in the first round by draw. The draw should avoid participants from the same draw group or seeded players meeting each other.
2. After each round, a complete ranking is prepared on the basis of the average number of match points scored over all rounds played so far. This ranking is prepared in accordance with Article 25 paragraph 4 for an individual tournament or paragraph 5 for a team tournament, unless the specific tournament provisions prescribe another method.
3. In the second and subsequent rounds, participants play according to the ranking. Starting with the highest-ranked participant, each participant who has not yet been assigned an opponent in that round plays the next lower-ranked participant whom they have not yet played, subject to paragraph 4.
4. With an odd number of participants, it should be avoided that the difference in the number of matches played at the end of the tournament exceeds one.
5. By way of exception to paragraph 3, a Swiss ladder system may avoid seeded players meeting prematurely, i.e. they may be kept apart until the final rounds.

Article 27: Competition system with preliminary stage and final stage

1. In competition systems with a preliminary stage and final stage, the preliminary stage consists of a knockout, pool or Swiss ladder system and the final stage consists of a knockout system or a single pool.
2. The preliminary/final-stage system may be referred to as a qualifying tournament and main tournament. If different systems are used in the preliminary and final stages, the system may also be described by those systems, for example pool/knockout system.
3. Before the final stage, some participants first play in the preliminary stage. The final stage consists of the highest-ranked participants from the preliminary stage (qualifiers) together with participants admitted directly to the final stage (exempt players). Exempt players are deemed stronger than preliminary-stage participants. If the preliminary stage uses a Swiss ladder system, no participants may be admitted directly to the final stage.

4. Each place in the final stage not assigned to an exempt player corresponds to one qualifier, who continues in that position. The position in the final stage is determined by seeding or by draw, with the qualifiers treated as one draw group.
5. Preliminary-stage groups must contain equal numbers of participants unless the total number of qualifying participants, i.e. participants minus exempt players, is not divisible by the number of preliminary groups. In that case, groups may differ in size by one place.
 - a. Participants from the same draw group must be distributed as evenly as possible among the preliminary groups.
 - b. The draw for each preliminary group is prepared as if that group were a separate event.
6. If the final stage consists of a knockout system, the total number of exempt players and qualifiers must be a power of two.
7. In a preliminary/final-stage system, at least the winner of each preliminary group advances to the final stage. If necessary, they are supplemented by lucky losers, i.e. the best runner-up(s) from the preliminary stage.
8. If the preliminary stage is a knockout system, the losers of the final qualifying round are the runners-up. If it is a pool system, the runners-up are determined per pool in accordance with Article 25 paragraphs 4 and 5. In a horizontal comparison of runners-up, the specific tournament provisions may determine lucky losers as follows:
 - a. based on position in the national ranking (NRB, NJRB or NRBS);
 - b. based on the result achieved against the winner of the preliminary group;
 - c. based on number of matches won and then game difference and point difference if the preliminary stage is a pool system.
9. If participants other than preliminary-group winners and best runners-up also progress to the final stage, this must be specified in the specific tournament provisions.
10. The maximum number of seeds in the final stage is determined in accordance with Appendix 1, but may never exceed the number of participants in the final stage.
 - a. Seeded players do not have to be exempt players, provided paragraph 3 is observed.
 - b. If the final stage is a knockout system, exempt players cannot have a bye.
 - c. If the final stage is a pool system, the order of matches must ensure that seeds 1 and 2 meet in the final round.

Article 28: Changes to the draw

1. D After the draw has taken place, changes to the draw are prohibited except for the changes permitted under paragraphs 2, 3 and 4.
 - a. Errors discovered in the draw after it has been finalised do not invalidate the draw.

- b. If participants' interests are seriously harmed by errors in the draw or by withdrawals, the draw may be conducted again.
- 2. Promotion from a qualifying tournament, preliminary stage or reserve list always takes priority over replacement of participants.
 - a. If final-stage participants withdraw before the tournament has started, the additional vacancies in the final stage are filled by participants drawn in the preliminary stage. Promotions to the final stage are processed by strength in accordance with the national ranking (NRB, NJRB or NRBS) applicable on the draw date. If several vacancies arise, the promoted participants are drawn into the open positions in the final stage.
 - b. If one or more final-stage participants withdraw after the preliminary stage has started, the pools in the preliminary stage, or at least the current round in a knockout system, are first completed. Additional vacancies in the final stage are filled by the lucky loser(s) from the preliminary stage in accordance with Article 27 paragraph 8.
 - c. By way of exception to subparagraph b, at Dutch championships and international tournaments played under BE or BWF rules, subparagraph a also applies to participants who, during an ongoing qualifying tournament, have not yet lost a match.
 - d. If preliminary-stage participants withdraw or are promoted to the final stage before the tournament starts, vacancies in the preliminary stage are filled from the reserve list if one exists. Promotions from the reserve list are processed by strength in accordance with the national ranking (NRB, NJRB or NRBS) applicable on the draw date.
- 3. In doubles, one of the original partners may be replaced if that partner is unable to play because of illness, injury, exclusion or any other unavoidable cause, provided the newly formed pair would not have been seeded higher than the original pair. Replacement may be by a player not originally in the draw but eligible to play the event, or by an original player in the draw whose partner has also withdrawn. In the latter case, the position of the newly formed pair is determined as follows:
 - a. if one of the players belongs to a pair with a bye and the other does not, the new pair takes the position of the player with the bye;
 - b. otherwise the tournament committee draws lots for the position of the newly formed pair.
- 4. In events in which the preliminary stage is played in pools, a participant drawn into a pool may be replaced if that participant is unable to play because of illness, injury or another unavoidable cause and, as a result, the pool would have no more than two participants or two fewer participants than the largest preliminary pool.
 - a. Replacement may only be by a participant not originally in the draw but eligible for the event, subject to Article 22 paragraph 4.

- b. Replacement is permitted only before the first match in the relevant pool starts and only if, according to the national ranking (NRB, NJRB or NRBS) applicable on the draw date, the replacement is not ranked higher than the original participant.
- 5. The tournament committee decides on a request for replacement in accordance with Article 15.
- 6. The tournament committee announces a replacement immediately by means of a notice in the Badminton Tournament Planner.

CHAPTER VI REFEREES AND OTHER OFFICIALS

Article 29: Appointment of referees

- 1. The CW appoints the referee and draw referee for all tournaments of national importance.
- 2. Organisers of other ranking tournaments may ask the CW to appoint a referee or draw referee.
- 3. If a club acts as tournament organiser, the referee and draw referee may not be members of that club.
- 4. The referee, draw referee or equivalent official may not participate in the tournament as a player.

Article 30: Draw referee procedure

- 1. The Draw Referee Procedure applies to all tournaments for which a draw referee has been appointed by the CW.
- 2. Tournament entries must be made through the Badminton Tournament Planner (BTP). Within one week after entries close, the tournament organiser sends the BTP backup to the referee and the CW (wz@badminton.nl) for seeding advice.
- 3. The CW issues seeding advice.
 - a. For national championships, this is seeding advice for all events.
 - b. For Master and Junior Master tournaments, the advice concerns the Master or Junior Master events. When submitting the BTP backup, the organiser may ask the CW to provide seeding advice for other events as well. At ranking tournaments where the draw referee has been appointed at the organiser's request, the draw referee determines the seeding.
 - c. The CW sends the BTP backup, including seeding advice, to the tournament organiser and referee.
- 4. After receiving the seeding advice, the tournament organiser prepares the draws in the BTP and then sends the BTP backup to the draw referee (lotingreferee@badminton.nl).
- 5. The draw referee conducts the draw.
 - a. Within three days after receiving the BTP backup, the draw referee conducts the draw for all tournament events.
 - b. After the draw, the draw referee returns the BTP backup, now including the names of players in the draws, to the tournament organiser and referee.

Article 31: Referee's organisational duties

1. The referee may give the tournament director instructions regarding the performance of duties assigned to the tournament director and tournament committee.
2. The referee has a right of veto over decisions of the tournament director and tournament committee. If the referee exercises that right, the referee must also state how the matter is to be decided.
3. On an appeal by participants against decisions of the tournament director or tournament committee, the referee decides after hearing the tournament director and the participant(s) concerned.
4. If a participant fails to comply with the general or specific tournament provisions or otherwise obstructs the proper conduct of a tournament or match, the referee may exclude the participant from one or more events after hearing the tournament director.

Article 32: Umpires, service judges and line judges

1. The tournament committee is responsible for appointing umpires, service judges and line judges for matches.
2. If Badminton Nederland umpires are present, the referee is responsible for deciding in which matches and in which functions they will be used.

Article 33: Referee report

1. The referee prepares a tournament report stating:
 - a. which entries were refused and the reason, except entries refused because the maximum number of accepted entries had been exceeded;
 - b. the cases in which the referee exercised decision-making powers under Article 31;
 - c. the protests signed as seen by the referee as referred to in Article 42;
 - d. offences observed and how they were dealt with;
 - e. the withdrawal form;
 - f. any other observations the referee considers important to Badminton Nederland or badminton in general.
2. The referee submits the report to the authority that approved the tournament within one week, or within 24 hours if cards were issued. A copy is sent to the tournament organiser.
3. If the entire tournament is cancelled, the referee submits the report within two weeks after being informed of the decision.

CHAPTER VII DISPENSATIONS

Article 34: Dispensations by the CW

1. The CW may grant dispensation for a tournament from the following provisions of these Regulations:
 - a. Article 7;
 - b. Article 8 paragraph 1;
 - c. Article 14 paragraph 2.
2. For a tournament of national importance, the CW may grant dispensation from Article 28 paragraph 1.
3. The CW may grant dispensation from provisions of the implementation regulations referred to in Article 7 if the relevant provision is designated as a dispensation provision in that implementation regulation.
4. The CW may, on its own initiative, collectively grant organisers of groups of tournaments of national importance dispensation from the provisions referred to in paragraph 1. It may also indicate how the relevant provisions of these Regulations are to be applied.

Article 35: Dispensations by the Federation Board

The Federation Board may grant dispensation for a tournament from Article 7 paragraph 1.

Article 36: Procedure

1. Requests for dispensation must be received by the competent authority at least one month before the tournament starts.
2. The CW or Federation Board, as applicable, notifies the applicant of its decision within 14 days after receipt of the request and, if dispensation is granted, also notifies the tournament organiser and, where possible, the referee.

CHAPTER VIII OFFENCES AND ADMINISTRATIVE DEFAULTS

Article 37: General

1. Offences against these Regulations are dealt with in accordance with the Disciplinary Regulations.
2. For the same offence, an administrative measure may be imposed in addition to a disciplinary penalty and vice versa.

Article 38: Administrative defaults by organisers

1. Any incorrect or late submission or payment may be regarded as an administrative default within the meaning of Chapter XII, Article 1 of the Disciplinary Regulations.

2. In any event, an administrative default occurs if a tournament organiser fails to comply with the obligations under:

- a. Article 11: payment of tournament contributions;
- b. Article 13: notification of cancellation;
- c. Article 20: information to be supplied after the tournament.

Article 39: Offences by organisers

1. The following are in any event regarded as offences within the meaning of the Disciplinary Regulations:

- a. organising tournaments without registration under Article 8;
- b. failing to use the Badminton Tournament Planner;
- c. failing to have approved tournaments played in accordance with the applicable Laws of Badminton under Article 9;
- d. organising prohibited tournaments under Article 9;
- e. using the designation “Championship” without permission under Article 3.

2. A tournament organiser is in any event regarded as committing an offence if the organiser:

- a. acts contrary to Article 17, general tournament provisions;
- b. acts contrary to Article 18, establishment of specific tournament provisions;
- c. acts contrary to Article 23, draw provisions;
- d. cancels an approved tournament in whole or in part contrary to the tournament provisions under Article 13;
- e. deviates without approval from tournament dates, events, categories or restrictions on the Tournament Calendar under Article 10;
- f. at a ranking tournament, deviates from Appendix 1 to these Tournament Regulations;
- g. deviates from supplementary regulations to these Tournament Regulations adopted under Article 7 or from Chapter IV of the AWR.

3. The admission of the following is in any event regarded as an offence within the meaning of the Disciplinary Regulations:

- a. participants who have been suspended or expelled as members of Badminton Nederland;
- b. participants whose right to take part in matches has been withdrawn for a specified period by the Disciplinary Committee or Appeals Committee;
- c. non-members in ranking tournaments.

4. The following are also regarded as offences within the meaning of the Disciplinary Regulations:

- a. changes to the draw after the draw has been made under Article 28;
- b. neglect of participants’ interests.

Article 40: Defaults and offences by participants

1. It is regarded as an administrative default if participants fail, or fail on time, to meet payment obligations arising from entry in a tournament.
2. The following are regarded as participant offences:
 - a. participation in prohibited tournaments;
 - b. acting contrary to the general or specific tournament provisions;
 - c. failing to appear for a scheduled match, except in cases of force majeure;
 - d. failing to withdraw from a scheduled match in accordance with the AWR where force majeure prevents participation;
 - e. obstructing the proper conduct of a tournament or match;
 - f. wearing unauthorised clothing or advertising;
 - g. misconduct during a match.

CHAPTER IX PROTEST AND APPEAL

Article 41: Right to lodge a protest

1. Tournament organisers may lodge a protest with the CW against decisions of the referee or equivalent official made under Article 31. Until the CW has decided, the ruling of that official remains binding.
2. A player may appeal to the referee or equivalent official against a decision of the tournament director or tournament committee. Tournament participants may lodge a protest with the CW against decisions of the referee or equivalent official made under Article 31 paragraph 3 or 4. Until the CW has decided, the ruling of that official remains binding.
3. Tournament organisers, match officials and tournament participants may lodge a protest with the competent authority against decisions of the CW made under these Regulations and their appendices or under the implementation regulations referred to in Article 7.

Article 42: Method of lodging a protest

1. A protest will only be considered if all conditions in paragraphs 2 to 5 are met.
2. The protest must be received by e-mail by the competent authority:
 - a. if the decision was communicated during the tournament days: no later than one week after the last tournament day;
 - b. if the decision was communicated by e-mail: no later than one week after the date of sending;
 - c. if the decision was published only in the Official Notices: no later than one week after the date of the Official Notice.
3. The protest must state reasons.

4. The protest is considered only after receipt of EUR 15. If the protest is wholly or partly upheld, the amount is refunded. If the amount is not received within 14 days after expiry of the protest period, the protest is inadmissible. This requirement does not apply where the protest is lodged by a match official.
5. For a protest against a decision of the referee or equivalent official, the applicant must, in anticipation of the protest referred to in paragraphs 2 and 3, have a short summary of the protest signed as seen by that official on the day the decision is communicated. The summary must be attached to the protest.

Article 43: Handling of protests

1. For a protest referred to in the preceding article, the CW decides within one month after hearing all parties concerned.
2. Depending on the nature of the protest, the CW may depart from the one-month period, provided that a decision is taken within one further month. The applicant is informed if the period is extended.
3. The CW notifies the applicant and the other parties of its decision, stating the reasons.

Article 44: Appeal

1. A person concerned may appeal to the Federation Board against a decision of the CW under Article 43, except a decision on a protest against an imposed sanction.
2. The appeal is considered only if the following conditions are met:
 - a. the appeal must be received in writing by the appellate authority no later than two weeks after the date of the decision;
 - b. the appeal must state reasons;
 - c. the appeal is considered only after receipt of EUR 50. If the appeal is wholly or partly upheld, the amount is refunded. If the amount is not received within two weeks after expiry of the appeal period, the appeal is inadmissible. This requirement does not apply where the appeal is lodged by a match official.

Article 45: Handling of appeals

1. For an appeal under Article 44, the Federation Board decides within one month.
2. Depending on the nature of the appeal, the Federation Board may depart from the one-month period, provided that a decision is taken within one further month. The appellant is informed if the period is extended.
3. The Federation Board notifies the parties concerned of its decision, stating the reasons.

Article 46: Further appeal

No further appeal is possible against a decision of the Federation Board.

CHAPTER X FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 47: Unforeseen cases

1. In cases not provided for by these Regulations or their appendices, a decision is made in accordance with the Statutes.
2. The Regulations Committee advises on the interpretation of articles of these Regulations or their appendices in accordance with the Statutes.

APPENDIX 1 ALLOCATION OF SEEDS AND BYES

The Tournament Regulations distinguish three competition systems. Some combinations of these systems are also possible:

- Knockout system
- Pool system
- Swiss ladder system

SEEDS AND BYES IN A KNOCKOUT SYSTEM

For knockout tournaments, the size of the draw is determined according to Table 1. In relation to the number of participants, the draw size is the next higher power of two. The number of byes in the first round is the difference between the draw size and the number of participants. For example, with 19 participants a draw of 32 is used, containing 13 byes.

TABLE 1 DRAW SIZE FOR A KNOCKOUT SYSTEM

Number of participants	Draw size
5-8	8
9-16	16
17-32	32
33-64	64
65-128	128
129-256	256

The maximum number of participants that may be seeded depends on the size of the draw. Seeding is not mandatory.

TABLE 2 MAXIMUM NUMBER OF SEEDED PARTICIPANTS IN A KNOCKOUT SYSTEM

Number of participants	Number of seeds
Fewer than 16	2
16-23	4
24-31	6
32 or more	8

When seeding participants in a knockout system, the following must be taken into account:

- Seeds 3 and 4: if seed 3 is stronger than seed 4, seed 3 is placed in the lower half and seed 4 in the upper half; otherwise, take account of already seeded participants from the same draw group; otherwise draw lots.
- Seeds 5 and 6, or seeds 5 to 8: take account of already seeded participants from the same draw group; otherwise draw lots.

The number of participants from the same draw group in corresponding sections of the draw may differ by no more than one.

If the allocation is made using the Badminton Tournament Planner, only the draw type and the players seeded first, second, etc. need to be entered. The software allocates the byes and conducts the draw.

TABLE 3 BYES AND SEEDS FOR DIFFERENT DRAW SIZES

Draw	Byes in positions	Seeds
8	2, 7, 4	1 at 1; 2 at 8
16	2, 15, 6, 11, 4, 13, 8	1 at 1; 2 at 16; 3 at 12; 4 at 5
32	2, 31, 10, 23, 6, 27, 14, 19, 4, 29, 12, 21, 8, 25, 16	1 at 1; 2 at 32; 3 at 24; 4 at 9; 5 and 6 at 13 and 20; 5-8 at 5, 13, 20, 28
64	2, 63, 18, 47, 10, 55, 26, 39, 4, 61, 20, 45, 12, 53, 28, 37, 6, 59, 22, 43, 14, 51, 30, 35, 8, 57, 24, 41, 16, 49, 32	1 at 1; 2 at 64; 3 at 48; 4 at 17; 5 and 6 at 25 and 40; 5-8 at 9, 25, 40, 56
128	2, 127, 34, 95, 18, 111, 50, 79, 10, 119, 42, 87, 26, 103, 58, 71, 4, 125, 36, 93, 20, 109, 52, 77, 12, 117, 44, 85, 28, 101, 60, 69, 6, 123, 38, 91, 22, 107, 54, 75, 14, 115, 46, 83, 30, 99, 62, 67, 8, 121, 40, 89, 24, 105, 56, 73, 16, 113, 48, 81, 32, 97, 64	1 at 1; 2 at 128; 3 at 96; 4 at 33; 5 and 6 at 49 and 80; 5-8 at 17, 49, 80, 112

The byes and seeded positions are distributed over the draw according to Table 3. In the example with 19 participants, the 13 byes are placed at the first 13 positions listed in the table: positions 2, 31, 10, 23, 6, 27, 14, 19, 4, 29, 12, 21 and 8. Participants are drawn normally into positions 25 and 16.

Figures 1 to 3 in the source regulations provide an alternative visual representation of the positions of seeds and byes in draws of 8, 16, 32, 64 and 128. The first column gives the draw position, the second the seeded positions and the third the order in which byes are allocated. For a draw of 64, for example, seeds 1 to 4 are placed at positions 1, 64, 48 and 17; seeds 5 to 8 are distributed over positions 9, 25, 40 and 56. The first bye goes to position 2, the second to position 63, the third to position 18, and so on until all byes have been allocated.

In a preliminary/final-stage system in which both stages use a knockout system, such as a main tournament preceded by a qualifying tournament, the total number of participants determines the

maximum number of seeds under Table 2. Because there are more participants than places in the main tournament, more participants may be seeded in the final stage than Table 2 would otherwise allow; see Table 4.

TABLE 4 BYES AND EXTRA SEEDS IN THE MAIN TOURNAMENT

Main draw	Byes in positions	Seeds
8	2, 7, 4	1 at 1; 2 at 8; 3 at 6; 4 at 3; 5 and 6 at 4 and 5; 5-8 at 2, 4, 5, 7
16	2, 15, 6, 11, 4, 13, 8	1 at 1; 2 at 16; 3 at 12; 4 at 5; 5 and 6 at 7 and 10; 5-8 at 3, 7, 10, 14

EXAMPLE OF A KNOCKOUT SYSTEM

As an example of a knockout system without a preceding qualifying tournament, Figure 4 in the source regulations shows a draw with 18 participants, identified by the letters A to R. The tournament committee has seeded four participants as numbers 1, 2 and 3/4: E is seed 1, O seed 2, and B and G seeds 3/4. Players A to E are members of the same club and therefore form one draw group; players F to H form another draw group; the other players come from different clubs.

With 18 participants, the next higher power of two is 32, so the participants are entered into a draw of 32 with 14 byes. In accordance with Table 3, the byes are placed at positions 2, 31, 10 and so on through position 25. Seed 1 (E) is placed at position 1 and seed 2 (O) at position 32. No draw is required between seeded players B and G because B is in the same draw group as E and should therefore be placed in the other half where possible. B can be placed at position 24, leaving G at position 9. The remaining participants are then drawn into the remaining positions while balancing draw-group participants between corresponding sections of the draw.

The first draw group contains five players who must be distributed over the eighths 1-4, 5-8, 9-12, 13-16, 17-20, 21-24, 25-28 and 29-32. Sections 1-4 and 21-24 are already occupied by E and B. The remaining three players are drawn into the other sections. In the example A is drawn into 5-8, C into 13-16 and D into 29-32, after which they are allocated within those sections. The next draw group consists of F to H, who are distributed over the quarters while taking account of seeded player G. The remaining participants are then drawn into the remaining positions.

SEEDS AND BYES IN A POOL SYSTEM AND POOL/KNOCKOUT SYSTEM

The maximum number of seeded participants in a pool system depends on the total number of participants. Seeding is not mandatory and the number of seeds may also be lower than shown in Table 5.

TABLE 5 MAXIMUM NUMBER OF SEEDED PARTICIPANTS IN A POOL SYSTEM

Number of participants	Number of seeds
Fewer than 16	2
16-23	4
24-31	6
32 or more	8

If the pool system consists of one pool, no more than two participants may be seeded regardless of pool size. If it consists of several pools, the number of places per pool may differ by no more than one, and byes occur only in the pools with the fewest places. Seeded players should be arranged so that they meet each other as late as possible in the next stage. If two seeds are placed in the same pool, they must meet in the final round of that pool.

In a preliminary/final-stage system with pools in the preliminary stage and a knockout final stage (a pool/knockout system), a number of participants may be exempted from pool play on the basis of strength. Exempt players may be seeded players, but not all seeded players need be exempt. If all seeds are exempt, non-seeded players may also be exempted. The final stage of a pool/knockout system may not contain byes. If the number of pools is not a power of two, one or more pool runners-up must also be admitted to the knockout final stage.

EXAMPLE OF A POOL/KNOCKOUT SYSTEM

In an event with 18 participants, four participants are seeded as numbers 1, 2, 3 and 4. Seeds 1 and 2 are exempted from pool matches. The other 16 participants are divided into five pools: four pools of three and one pool of four. The pool of four is drawn into position 3 in the example. The five pool winners and the two exempt players fill seven positions in the final stage. One best pool runner-up is added so that all eight positions in the knockout final stage are occupied and there are no byes.

SEEDS AND BYES IN A SWISS LADDER SYSTEM

The Swiss ladder system lies between a pool system and a knockout system. Every participant plays several matches but not every other participant. The first round is drawn under rules comparable to a knockout draw, except that there are no byes, so every participant plays in the first round unless the number of players is odd, in which case one player sits out each round. Seeded participants cannot meet each other in the first round.

In the second round, winners play winners and losers play losers, so seeded participants may already meet in round two. Subsequent rounds are again paired using previous results, so after the first round participants increasingly face opponents of similar strength. Pairing from the second round onward is not straightforward to administer manually; use of dedicated software such as the Badminton Tournament Planner is generally recommended. The Swiss ladder system may be used in

a preliminary/final-stage system, with Swiss groups in the preliminary stage and a knockout final stage. If the preliminary stage uses a Swiss ladder system, participants may not be admitted directly to the final stage.

APPENDIX 2 ADMISSION PROCEDURE FOR THE 2027 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS AND 2027 NATIONAL JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

The admission procedure for an individual Dutch Badminton Championship contains the general admission conditions and the determination of the number of participants admitted per event.

GENERAL CONDITIONS FOR ADMISSION

A player or junior player is eligible to participate in the Dutch National Championships (NK) or Dutch National Junior Championships (NJK), respectively, if at least one of the following criteria is met:

- the player has Dutch nationality and is a member of Badminton Nederland or another association affiliated to the BWF;
- the player has a Dutch badminton domicile and is a member of Badminton Nederland.

In addition, a valid entry under the Tournament Regulations must have been received for the player or junior player.

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS ADMITTED TO THE NK

- The main tournament in each event has 16 places: players in singles and pairs in doubles.
- In singles, numbers 1 and 2 in the final Master Circuit ranking preceding the NK are admitted directly to the main tournament. In addition, 8 players in men's singles and 10 in women's singles are admitted directly in order of position on the final National Badminton Ranking of the previous year. The remaining main-tournament participants are qualifiers from the qualifying tournament.
- In singles, regional champions are admitted to the qualifying tournament. An ineligible regional champion, or one already admitted to the main tournament, cannot be replaced by another player from that region. In addition, up to 6 participants from the top 20 of the final Master Circuit ranking preceding the NK are admitted to the singles qualifying tournament in order of final position, provided they are not already directly admitted to the main tournament and are not regional champions. The qualifying tournament is then completed in order of position on the final NRB of the previous year to a maximum of 48 players in men's singles and 32 in women's singles.
- For doubles, entrants are ranked on the entry list by the sum of the points of both players on the final NRB for that discipline in the previous year.
- Directly admitted to the main tournament are the 10 highest-ranked pairs in men's doubles, the 12 highest-ranked pairs in women's doubles and the 8 highest-ranked pairs in mixed doubles. The remaining main-tournament places are filled by qualifiers from the qualifying tournament.

TABLE 6 NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS ADMITTED TO THE NK PER EVENT

Admitted	Men's singles	Women's singles	Men's doubles	Women's doubles	Mixed doubles
to main tournament	16	16	16	16	16
based on Master Circuit	2	2			
based on NRB	8	10	10	12	8
via qualifying tournament	6	4	6	4	8
to qualifying tournament	48	32	24	16	32
regional champions [a]	6	6			
top-20 Master Circuit [a]	6	6			
based on NRB [b]	36	20	24	16	32
total admitted to NK	58	44	34	28	40

[a] maximum number in singles. [b] minimum number in singles.

- For doubles qualifying tournaments, available places are allocated in entry-list order: 24 pairs in men's doubles, 16 pairs in women's doubles and 32 pairs in mixed doubles.
- If there are more entries than permitted participants in an event, non-admitted participants are placed on that event's reserve list.
- If vacancies arise in the qualifying tournament before it starts, they are filled from the reserve list in order of position on the final NRB of the previous year. If a withdrawal occurs from the main tournament, the vacant place is filled from the qualifying tournament in NRB order, and the corresponding place in the qualifying tournament is filled from the reserve list.
- If a withdrawal from the main tournament occurs during the qualifying tournament, the vacancy may be filled by a participant in the qualifying tournament in accordance with Article 27 paragraph 10 of the Tournament Regulations.

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS ADMITTED TO THE NJK

- The NJK singles events have 24 places in the age categories U11, U13, U15 and U17, and 16 places in U19.
- The NJK doubles events have 16 places in the age categories U11, U13, U15 and U17, and 8 places in U19.
- In singles for U11, U13, U15 and U17, the eight highest-ranked entrants within the top 26 of the Junior Master final ranking are admitted to the NJK, provided they played at least three Junior Master tournaments in the year of that final ranking. The remaining participants are admitted on the basis of the NJRB.

- In U19 singles, the 16 highest-ranked entrants on the NJRB are admitted to the NJK.

TABLE 7 NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS ADMITTED TO THE NJK PER EVENT

Admitted	Men's singles	Women's singles	Men's doubles	Women's doubles	Mixed doubles
in U11, U13, U15, U17	24	24	16	16	16
top-26 JM Circuit [a]	8	8			
based on NJRB [b]	16	16	16	16	16
in U19	16	16	8	8	8
based on NJRB	16	16	8	8	8

[a] maximum number in singles. [b] minimum number in singles.

- In doubles, of all entrants in U11, U13, U15 and U17, the 16 highest-ranked pairs on the NJRB are admitted to the NJK; in U19, the eight highest-ranked pairs on the NJRB are admitted.
- If there are more entries than permitted participants in an event, non-admitted participants are placed on the reserve list for that event.
- If players withdraw, participants are admitted from the reserve list in order of position on the final NJRB of the previous year and inserted into the position in the draw of the withdrawn participant.