

Tournament Ranking Criteria

Distribution: BFA members

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BFA Criteria for Ranking Tournament Status Season 2010-2011

The Tournament Coordination Committee (TCC) under sanction from the BFA Executive Committee has produced a list of criteria that event organisers need to meet in order for a tournament to be eligible for ranking status.

These criteria are divided into 4x sections –

A - Essential – basic minimum standards which are not negotiable

B - Expected – criteria which must be observed unless there are very good reasons otherwise,

C - Recommended – criteria which represent best practice.

D - Sanctioned Tours – Criteria for including regular local events in the BFA rankings

E - Category E events – Criteria for including one-off or occasional local events in the BFA rankings

A Essential Criteria (for cat D tournaments and above and all POY (player of the year) tournaments)

- A1. **Notice – Sanction:** Organiser to send flyer and full tournament details to a member of TCC or BFA EC at least 30 days before the date of the tournament.
 - (a) **Notice – Public:** Tournament details to be published on BritFoos a minimum of 21 days before the date of the tournament.
 - (b) **ITSF tournaments** - Notice for events seeking **ITSF status** must be provided no later than 1st October for tournaments scheduled for the following year's ITSF tour, which must include date, venue and table type. ITSF events can be held only on official or recognised ITSF tables
 - (c) **Clashes** – No BFA ranking tournaments may be held on the same weekend as an ITSF World Championships Series, World Championships or World Cup.
- A2. **Entry** – The competition must be open to all entrants (who are eligible by rank/age/sex) and not restricted to members of any specific group, club or locality
- A3. **Tables** - The tournament is to be held on a minimum of 6 table football tables.
- A4. **Results** – Full results (including match results) must be provided to the BFA in appropriate format for ranking / web upload. This must be provided within 1 week of the tournament (should an organizer be unfamiliar with this the BFA can help)
 - (a) Results for ITSF tournaments must be submitted to the BFA within 24 hours
- A5. **Rules** - Tournaments must use official ITSF Rules of Play, and abide by the BFA Code of Conduct.
- A6 **Personnel** – Promoters must designate a Tournament Director and Head Official to be responsible for running the event and maintaining discipline.
- A7. **BFA Membership** – All participants in BFA ranking events are entitled to full membership of the BFA upon payment of registration fees. Where organisers do not use BFA tables a fee of £1 per participant is payable to the BFA in lieu of membership fees. Organisers are obliged to provide a full list of participants to the BFA secretary within 14 days of the conclusion of the event, information to include Full Name, Year of Birth, Nationality (if not UK) and contact details (email and/or mobile phone number)
- A8 **Event must be authorized by TCC.** - The TCC will have the final say, and reserves the right not to award ranking status to an event it sees not deserving. Tournament organisers also have the right to appeal to the BFA Executive Committee if they feel they have been unfairly denied ranking status.

B – Expected Criteria

B1 Notice - Tournaments should normally be announced with at least 3 months notice.

- (a) Tournaments should not be held within 2 weekends of another ranking tournament or within 3 weekends of any ITSF ranking tournament held in the UK

B2 Events – Unless otherwise sanctioned (e.g. rookie or no-pro only tournaments) organisers should include the following events:

Open Singles, Open Doubles, Womens Singles (with no restrictions on entry)

Organisers are encouraged to hold the following events eligible for Player of the Year (and/or ITSF) ranking status

Womens Doubles, <18 Singles, <18 Doubles, >50 Singles, >50 Doubles

Organisers may also hold the following events eligible for Table-Specific ranking status

Rookie (Novice/Amateur) Singles/Doubles

Semi-Pro Singles/Doubles

Masters Singles/Doubles (restricted to pro or semi-pro and above)

Mixed Doubles

Pro-Am Doubles

Organisers may hold non-ranking events including, but not restricted to the following:

Draw your Partner (DYP), Goalie Wars, Forward Shoot-Out, 2-Ball Rollerball

If an advertised event has fewer than 4 entries (players/teams) it may be cancelled.

B3 Prize Funds – Organisers are discouraged from publishing prize funds in advance unless these can be guaranteed.

- (a) **BFA Ranking Events** – Unless otherwise agreed in advance with the TCC, prize funds should be distributed according to the following formula, rounded to the nearest £5 (if over £30) or nearest £1 (if under £30) and may be subject to a minimum payout of £5 for singles and £10 for doubles events.

Placing	Total Entries (players/teams) less than or equal to:									
	4	8	16	24	32	49	64	96	128	160
1 st	100%	60%	50%	40%	30%	25%	22.5%	20%	18%	17%
2 nd	-	40%	30%	30%	25%	20%	17.5%	16%	14%	14%
3 rd	-	-	20%	20%	20%	17.5%	15.0%	14%	12%	10%
4 th	-	-	-	10%	10%	12.5%	10.0%	10%	8%	7%
5 th	-	-	-	-	7.5%	7.5%	7.5%	6%	5%	4%
7 th	-	-	-	-	-	5.0%	5.0%	4%	4%	3%
9 th	-	-	-	-	-	-	2.5%	3%	2.5%	2.5%
13 th	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2%	2%	2%
17 th	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.5%	1.5%
25 th	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1%

- (b) **ITSF Events** – Where organisers publish prize funds in advance, **these must be honoured in all ITSF ranking events** (OS, OD, WS, WD, <18S, <18D, >50S, >50D). In the event of any shortfall the funds to other events (eg. semipro) may be reduced
- (c) **Novice/Junior Events** – Novice and Junior events are not required to carry prize funds, in such cases entry fees should be limited to cover the cost of trophies plus £1 per player.
- (d) **Prize funds** should normally equal a minimum of 80% of entry fees, after allowing expenses including trophies, venue hire, player registration fees and other expenses
- (e) **Transparency** - Organisers should provide accounts of all tournament income and expenditure, including a breakdown of all prize fund payouts

B4 Formats – Events should use an appropriate format to allow a balance between fair competition and smooth running of the tournament.

- (a) **Approved formats** include Double-elimination (DE), World cup group stages (WC), Swiss format (SW) or Single Elimination (SE) – Straight Single elimination should only be used as a last resort.
- (b) **Match Formats** – The minimum format to decide any individual match is one game to 5 goals.
- (c) **Open Events** - The longest practicable match formats should be used for Open events (e.g. best of 5 games in winners bracket), and no other event should have a longer format than Open Doubles. Shorter formats would normally be used for Losers bracket/Group stage/Swiss games with a minimum Open KO format of 1 game to 9 goals.
- (d) **ITSF Events** – The Deuce Rule must apply in all events with ITSF ranking status with a minimum format of best of 3 games to 5 goals (winners bracket or SE events). World Cup or Swiss Format is not permitted for ITSF events
- (e) **Discretion** – The Tournament Director has the discretion to amend event and/or match formats if circumstances so dictate (e.g. to ensure a tournament concludes on time)

B5 Tables – Tournaments should have at least 10x tables available for competition. Promoters must indicate the sourcing of tables as part of the sanctioning process. Unless agreed in advance:

- (a) Tables must be of ITSF standard and/or a make and model otherwise sanctioned by the BFA
- (b) The bulk of tables should be sourced from an approved supplier
- (c) Approved table suppliers include:
Garlando – BFA table sponsorship and supply scheme (the scheme)

- Tornado – BFA table sponsorship and supply scheme (the scheme)
- (d) Tables from approved suppliers may be supplemented by locally-sourced tables

B6 Table Fees

- (a) Organisers are encouraged to provide tables on freeplay.
- (b) Table fees should be sufficient to cover the cost of providing tables, which should be:
£10 per person
- (c) Where organisers do not use BFA scheme tables £1 per entrant is payable to the BFA from registration or entry fees
- (d) Organisers may provide discounted table fees for Junior and Novice players subject to agreement with table providers
- (e) If no separate table fee is charged, entry fees should include the following towards table provision
£1 per player for Rookie (novice/amateur) events
£3 per player for Open events
£2 per player for all other events

B7 Trophies – Organisers are encouraged to obtain trophies via the BFA or an approved supplier. If trophies are to be sourced from another source, organisers should provide details/estimates of cost to the TCC as part of the sanctioning process. Excessive trophy costs (unless sponsored) may result in ranking status being denied or withdrawn

B8 Software – Tournaments should be run using approved tournament software and experienced operators. Approved software includes Sport or FAST software.

B9 Personnel – Tournament organisers are responsible for providing persons to assist with table unloading/loading and assembly/disassembly, Organisers may offer incentives (payment or reduced entry fees) for such services but are not obliged to do so

C Recommended Criteria

C1 Accessibility – Venues should be situated close to public transport links and have access to adequate and affordable parking within reasonable walking distance.

C2 Accommodation - Where accommodation is required promoters should attempt to negotiate discounts/group rates with local hotels, guest-houses, and (for events held between April & September) campsites.

C3 Promotion/Publicity – Organisers should notify local press, online and broadcast media at least 2 weeks in advance of the event

C4 Spectators – at least one show table should be provided with facilities for spectators and/or TV/Video recording.

D. BFA Sanctioned Tour Events

Where organisers wish to hold regular competitions in a single venue over period of between 3 and 12 months, these may be eligible for BFA Sanctioned Tour status. This confers ranking status on the whole tour, rather than any individual event within the tour.

D1 Number of Events - The minimum number of events is 3 and the maximum 12 in any tour period

D2 Event types - Singles and doubles events will count as separate tours. The weighting of tours is based on the rank of the highest-ranked competitor

D3 Entry Restrictions - All tournaments must be open to the public and held on a pre-set date (e.g. the Xth Yday of the month), with a minimum of 1 weeks notice of any changes of date posted to the appropriate Britfoos forums (local region and UK Competitions threads)

D4 Membership – Participants who are not full members of the BFA will gain provisional member status but not (without full membership) and ITSF licence. Organisers must provide the BFA secretary with records of participants including full name, year of birth and nationality (if not UK). Organisers must pay the BFA a sanction fee of £1 per unique entrant who is not a full BFA member at the conclusion of the tour

D5 Results – Organisers MUST publish full results (first to last) and full names of entrants in each event on a dedicated thread in the UK Tournaments section of the Britfoos Forum.

D6 Prize Funds etc - There is no restriction on prize money/entry fees, number of entries, number of tables or formats, if prize funds exceed threshold levels the status of the tour may be raised to Cat C or above.

D7 Tables - The tour must take place on one table type

D8 Ranking Points - Ranking points will be awarded based on the total number of unique entrants, and the final overall position of each player after results in all events on the tour have been accounted for, as if the whole tour was a single Category D tournament. Ranking points will be added to the national database at the next update following a POY tournament following the end of the tour.

E. Category E Events

Where organisers wish to hold regular competitions in a single venue over a 12 month period, these may be eligible for BFA Cat E ranking status. Cat E status can be granted retrospectively.

- E1 Number of Events** - The maximum number of events is 12 in any 12 month period
- E2 Event types** - Singles and doubles events will count separately. The weighting of Open Cat E events is based on the rank of the highest-ranked competitor
- E3 Entry Restrictions** - All tournaments must be open to the public with a minimum of 1 weeks notice posted to the appropriate Britfoos forums (local region and UK Competitions threads)
- E4 Membership** – Participants who are not full members of the BFA will gain provisional member status but not (without full membership) and ITSF licence. Organisers must provide the BFA secretary with records of participants including full name, year of birth and nationality (if not UK).
- E5 Results** – Organisers MUST publish full results (first to last) and full names of entrants in each event on a dedicated thread in the UK Tournaments section of the Britfoos Forum.
- E6 Prize Funds etc** - There is no restriction on prize money/entry fees, number of entries, number of tables or formats
- E7 Tables** - The event must take place on approved table types
- D8 Ranking Points** - Ranking points will be added to the national database at the next update following a POY tournament