



COMPETITION FORMAT

MEN 2023

8 TEAMS

There are a total of **eight** teams participating in this year's competition. These teams will be divided into two pools (Pool A and Pool B) with four teams each. Each team in each pool will play all the other teams in that pool in a round robin competition to determine a pool ranking – i.e. each team will play three matches in the pool stage. (Ranking will be determined as explained below.)

The score at the end of the regulation time of these pool matches will be registered as the result of the match.

Once the pool matches are complete, the finishing ranking of each team in each pool will determine which teams play each other in the Quarter-Final round. There will be four Quarter-Final matches, assigned as follows (but will not necessarily be played in this order):

- QUARTER-FINAL 1 – 1st in POOL A vs 4th in POOL B.
- QUARTER-FINAL 2 – 1st in POOL B vs 4th in POOL A.
- QUARTER-FINAL 3 – 2nd in POOL A vs 3rd in POOL B.
- QUARTER-FINAL 4 – 2nd in POOL B vs 3rd in POOL A.

The quarter-final results will determine which teams play each other in the semi-final matches and Bottom Four Playoff matches, which will be played as follows (but will not necessarily be played in this order.)

- TOP 4 SEMI-FINAL 1 – Winner of Quarter-Final 1 vs Winner of Quarter-Final 4.
- TOP 4 SEMI-FINAL 2 – Winner of Quarter-Final 2 vs Winner of Quarter-Final 3.
- Bottom 4 Playoff 1 – Loser of Quarter-Final 1 vs Loser of Quarter-Final 4.
- Bottom 4 Playoff 2 – Loser of Quarter-Final 2 vs Loser of Quarter-Final 3.

Teams will then play a FINAL classification match to determine their ultimate position in the tournament. The teams participating in each classification match is determined by the results of the cross pool and semi-final matches as follows (but will not necessarily be played in this order).

- 7th and 8th Place Finish – Loser of Bottom Playoff 1 vs Loser of Bottom Playoff 2.
- 5th and 6th Place Finish – Winner of Bottom Playoff 1 vs Winner of Bottom Playoff 2.
- 4th and 3rd Place Finish – Loser of Semi Final 1 vs Loser of Semi Final 2. BRONZE MEDAL MATCH.
- 1st and 2nd Place Finish – Winner of Semi Final 1 vs Winner of Semi Final 2. GOLD/SILVER MEDAL MATCH.

During the classification matches, if at the end of the regulation time the result is a draw, in order to establish an outright winner, a shoot-out competition (as specified in the shoot-out rules, attached) will be played to establish the winner of the match.

POOL RANKING

In each pool, all the teams will play against each other, and the following points will be awarded for each match:

- three points to the winner,
- one point to each team, in the event of a draw,
- no points to the loser.

In each pool, teams will be ranked according to the number of points each has accumulated in the competition.

- a. If at the end of the pool matches two or more teams have the same number of points for any place in a pool, these teams will be ranked according to their respective number of **matches won**.

- b. If there remains equality among two or more teams, then these teams will be ranked according to their respective **goal difference** (which means “goals for” less “goals against”). A positive goal difference always takes precedence over a negative one.
- c. If there still remains equality among two or more teams, these teams will be ranked according to their respective number of “**goals for**”.

Should there still remain equality among two teams, then the **result of the match played between those teams** will determine the ranking of the tied teams.

- d. If more than two teams are involved, then a ranking based upon the results of the matches among (only) them shall determine their respective position, based upon the points awarded in accordance with the paragraph, above. If there remains equality, the teams involved shall be ranked according to the paragraphs above,
- e. If there still remains equality among two or more teams, then these teams will be ranked according to the number of Field Goals scored in the pool matches.
- f. Should there still remain equality among two teams, the ranking will be determined by a **shoot-out competition** between those teams (as specified in the shoot-out rules, attached).
- g. If more than two teams are involved, then each team will play a shoot-out competition against the other teams in the same sequence of play as the order of play in the competition, but with one round of 3 shoot-outs only to be taken compulsorily by each team.
- h. A ranking will then be established based upon the results of the round of the shoot-out competition only, with the award for each play of 3 points to the team having scored the highest number of goals, 1 point to each team having scored an equal number of goals and 0 points to the team having scored the lowest number of goals.
- i. If equality remains then teams having an equal number of points shall be ranked according to paragraphs a, b, c and d as applied to goals recorded during the shoot-out competition.
- j. If an equal position of three (or more) teams still remains thereafter, the same procedure shall be repeated until the teams can be ranked. The Technical Delegate shall make a draw to establish each sequence of play if such further rounds of shoot-outs are required.

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