



October 15th, 2021

RUGBY EUROPE SNOW CHAMPIONSHIP TOUR 2022

Official Communication #1

1. General Information

The Rugby Europe Snow Championship Tour 2022 is a competition open to both Men and Women national teams of Snow rugby representing respective Rugby Unions affiliated to Rugby Europe (RE). The CHAMPIONSHIP is based on the Licensing Agreement signed by RE and Russian Rugby Union (RUR). Rugby Europe governs all sport aspects, while for direct preparation, administration, and event operations, RUR has established a dedicated company - «Sports Development: Beach and Snow Rugby» (SDBSR).

1.1. Organization Format

The Rugby Europe Snow Championship Tour shall consist of the:

- Preliminary Rounds (Qualification events) – Rugby Europe Snow Championship Tour (The “TOUR” Events) The number of rounds may vary from year to year and will be confirmed before **November 30st** of each year.
- Final event - Rugby Europe Snow Championship Final (The “FINAL” Event), organised in Russia.

Specific Event Regulations of each event (TOUR or FINAL) must be prepared for each tournament and approved by RE and SDBSR.

Host Unions of the TOUR can deliver the rights to organise an event to independent organisations (Promoter or Host Organiser) in agreement with Rugby Europe. Official Communication and General Information of TOUR and FINAL will be available after RE homologation of each event.

1.2 Basic principles of the Rugby Europe Snow Championship Tour

1.2.1 Rugby Europe season ranking points

Each participating team will receive RE Snow Championship points through final results of each tournament according to the European Snow Championship Ranking Points Breakdown Table. (Appendix 2)

1.2.2 Specific conditions for the TOUR events:

- Double gender events,
- Minimum 6 teams per gender,

- RE Snow Championship Terms and Conditions (Appendix. 1) and RE marketing regulations must be applied.
- RE Snow Championship sport equipment and balls must be used.
- World Rugby Snow Championship Rules of the Game shall be applied.
- Host to provide a post event report to the RE and SDBSR including the results directly after the event.

All events must be homologated by RE\RUR with a specific Host Union Agreement (HUA), and each player of each team must be registered in the RE database.

1.3. Competition Format

1.3.1 The TOUR events can be comprised of a minimum of 6 teams per gender, and a maximum that will be depending on teams' entries and the number of pitches available per event. The final number will be confirmed once team registration is closed.

1.3.2. The FINAL is composed by 8 teams per gender. The allocation of the participating teams by the following criteria:

- 1 host country team,
- 6 best teams according to the European season's Snow Championship ranking,
- 1 or 2 WC delivered by RE\SDBSR.

1.4. Eligibility criteria to enter the FINAL

1.4.1. The minimum number of participations in the TOUR events to be eligible to enter the FINAL is 1 (one).

1.4.2. After each TOUR, within the next 48h RE\SDBSR will publish the status of the qualified teams to the FINAL with the total ranking points and a number of the played tournaments.

1.4.3. After the last TOUR event of 2022 season and no less than -21 days before the FINAL, RE will publish the list of the Teams qualified to the FINAL based on the Snow Championship Tour's ranking and in accordance with the article 1.4.1 above.

1.4.4. In case of tie between 2 teams to enter the FINAL, the following criteria shall be applied (by order of application):

- The 2021 Beach Rugby Tour's ranking,
- The best result in any of the participated TOUR events,
- Total number of participations in TOUR events during the season,
- Total results between head-to-head matches (if any) between the 2 teams concerned during all TOUR events,
- Tries' difference during the head-to-head matches,
- Overall tries' difference during all matches played,
- A coin toss.

1.4.5 In case of tie between 3 or more teams to enter the FINAL the following criteria shall be applied (by order of application):

- The 2021 Beach Rugby Tour's ranking,
- The best result in any of the participated TOUR events,
- Total number of participations in TOUR events during the season,
- Tries' difference during the head-to-head matches between all the teams concerned,
- Tries' difference during all matches played,
- A coin toss.

1.5. Competition format and seeding

1.5.1 TOUR EVENTS

No limitation of the total number of participating teams. The seeding of the tournament is that Host Country is Seed #1, and then teams will be seeded according to the current European season Beach Rugby Tour's ranking.

Tie breaker criteria:

- In case of tie between 2 or more teams the result of the European Beach Rugby Tour 2021 to be applied.
- If the tie remains, then the first team to have registered for the event will obtain the first seed available, and so on.

No less than 7 days before the competitions RE\SDBSR\Host Organiser will announce a specific event regulation with the competition format that will depend on the number of entries and local conditions. Pool play Round Robin matches, face-to-face round, classification matches, semi-finals, and medal match to be played.

1.5.2 FINAL EVENT

The seeding of the Final is that Host Country is Seed #1, the rest according to the current European snow season ranking with the application of the following principles:

- In case of tie between 2 or more teams, provisions of the article 1.4.4 will apply
- Wild Card team (WC) is Seed #8 (and #7 if needed)
- The allocation of the teams in the Pools shall be done according to the snake principle (i.e. Pool A: Seed#1, #4, #5, #8; Pool B: Seed #2, #3, #6, #7)

1.6. Genders

For this inaugural season, all events (TOUR and FINAL) will be double gender events.

1.7. Players Eligibility

A player wishing to take part in the Rugby Europe Snow Championship Tour must be eligible according to World Rugby Eligibility criteria (Regulation 8) and must be duly recorded as such in Rugby Europe database.

1.8. National Teams Eligibility



All Unions/National federations affiliated to Rugby Europe and in good standing (not suspended) can register.

The right of participating teams shall become effective as soon as the National teams' names appear on the Registration List established by RE for each event. The Registration List shall be distributed by RE at least 14 days prior each event to all Unions/National Federations concerned.

1.9 Team delegation composition

1.9.1. For TOUR Events

A team delegation is composed of a minimum of ten (10) eligible players and up to 12 eligible players. For every match Teams can choose 10 players from this 12 players team sheet. Only 10 player per match can participate, but players can change from one match to the other. In addition, up to three (3) delegation members for TOUR Events. The total of the team delegation is from 13 to 15 members.

The cost of the two optional players is the fully the participating union cost (they do not benefit of the discounted price mentioned in 1.23.1).

1.9.2. For the FINAL Event

A team delegation is composed of up to twelve (12) eligible players, plus three (3) delegation members for the FINAL Event. For every match, Teams can choose 10 players from this 12 players team sheet. Only 10 players per match can participate, but players can change from one match to the other.

1.9.3. Additional Members

Additional members (staff) can be added to the delegation, at the team's cost. Accreditations to be granted to a maximum of 20 persons per delegation.

1.9.4 Team Delegation Members allowed on the Field of Play

Only the 10/12 players and 3 management staff can be at pitch side on the field of play. Additional members must stay outside the field of play.

1.10. Team's Registration and deadlines

Team's registration will follow a specific calendar, which will start firstly by a letter of interest in participating in the TOUR by the Unions. Then a pre-registration for each Event, before the Final registration and the confirmation of the Team delegation. You will find the deadlines and steps to follow in the table below:

The final team sheet must be sent to RE office and to the Organiser no less than **7 days** before the start of a TOUR or a FINAL Event.

Registration Deadlines for Participating teams:

Event	Deadline	Description	Form Name
Pre-Registration to the TOUR (all events)	November 5 th	A letter of interest in participating to the RE European Snow Championship TOUR. This is non-binding.	RE-SCT 01
Registration to the TOUR (all events)	November 30 th	The Final Entry of your National team to the TOUR. By sending this Form you agree to participate in at least one leg of the TOUR. This is binding.	RE-SCT 02
Pre-registration to a specific TOUR Event	Apprx 2 months before each Event	A non-binding Pre-registration for each Event of the TOUR	RE-SCT 03
Registration to a Specific Tour Event	1 month before each Event	The Final Registration of your National team to a specific Event. This is binding.	RE-SCT 04
Late Registration to a Specific Tour Event	Between one months and 15 days before the Event	Late Registration can be requested and will be managed on a case-by-case basis by RE. A late entry fee of 100 Euros payable to RE will apply in all cases.	
Registration of your team delegation	Between 1 month and 7 days before the Event	Your team delegation of 13 or 15 persons must be registered with RE and the Host Organiser.	Through the database Sportlomo
Regular Withdrawal	1 month before each Event	A team pre-registered can withdraw up to one month before the Event without any Penalty	
Late Withdrawal 1	From less than a month to 15 days before the Event	A Registered team can withdraw however Penalties and Sanctions may apply	
Late Withdrawal 2	Less than 15 days before the Event	A registered team can withdraw however Penalties and Sanctions will apply	

Specific cases:

- If there is less than a month between two Events, a window of 48h after the first Event will remain open to register or withdraw any team willing to do so. No Penalty will be applied
- Entry VISA requested by a Host country: The Host Organiser will provide the procedure to apply and the associated deadlines through the Specific Event Regulations. The Participating Union will have to strictly follow this procedure.

- Specific COVID-19 restrictions by a host country: The Host Organiser will provide detailed information through the Specific Tournament Handbook. The Participating Unions will have to strictly follow this procedure.

1.11. Substitution of a Player

No player can be substituted after (-3 days) the Registration List is published unless in case of injury or “force majeure” upon approval of the player’s National Federation request. Respective proof or documentation must be presented before the start of the Preliminary Inquiry of the respective event.

1.12. Withdrawal & Late Arrival

In case the withdrawal occurs after the registration deadline, the National Unions must respect the withdrawal procedure (see 1.10) and regulations and send this information to RE\RUR and to the Host Union/Organising Committee. Teams, which do not arrive or arrive late for the Entry Check and Manager’s Meeting and have not received the previous authorization from the RE Technical Delegate or responsible Organiser’s representative, will be fined according to the Competition Manual table of sanctions.

1.13. Rugby Europe Entry and License Fee

There will be no entry fee or license fee for the teams or athletes

1.14. Wild Cards

RE\RUR has the right to grant up to 1 (one) or 2 Wild Cards for the FINAL. National Unions may present their request for Wild Cards to the RE office at the latest 1 month before the beginning of the FINAL.

The RE\RUR final decision shall be communicated to the concerned National Unions and to the persons concerned no less than 48 hours after the last leg of the Tour. In case of unrequested Wild Card, the best ranked team from the waiting list will be admitted directly to the FINAL.

1.15. Balls

Official ball to be used for the Rugby Europe Snow Championship Tour is RHINO. RE will provide to the Host Organiser the necessary amount of the official balls, depending on Team’s registration.

1.16. Laws of the Game

All matches shall be played according to the WR Official Beach Rugby Rules in their latest edition 2021, that applies also to Snow Rugby. For the avoidance of doubt, the use of spike boots is allowed.

1.17. Visa application procedure

Players, Officials, Team Managers, Coaches and National Unions are responsible to apply entry visas on time, whenever they are required to do so. The Host Union should be contacted to send invitation letters or other documents required to attend the event.

1.18. Provisional Calendar*

January	1 Event, Location to be confirmed
February	1 Event, Location to be confirmed (ideally 1 st week-end)
February	26-27 Snow Championship Finals, Moscow, Russia (Red Square)

**Regular updates will be provided in due time*

1.19. Nominations of Officials

RE to nominate an International Snow Championship experienced Technical Delegate, Referee Delegate and neutral international referees according to the RE Snow Championship Terms and Conditions (App.2) for the TOUR and FINAL Events.

All Unions have to send to RE office the list of applicants to the candidates of the RE Technical Delegate (TD), Referee Delegate (RD) and referees till **15th November 2021 at latest**, CVs included, to snowrugby@rugbyeurope.eu and to referee@rugbyeurope.eu

1.20 Team Kit and Advertising Opportunities

Each Team must travel with two official competition kit of different colours.

Advertising will be permitted and regulated according to World Rugby Guidelines.

Rugby Europe logo will appear on the **UPPER RIGHT** sleeve of the Team's kits.

1.21 Example of Schedule of a typical Snow Rugby Event (Tour or Final)

Time	Event	Description
Thursday / Friday until 18h00	Teams' arrival	
Friday afternoon	Entry Check-In	Check of official documents and players' entries
Friday Evening	Manager's Meeting	Detailed info on the Competition
Friday Evening	Captain's Photo	Media event
Saturday and Sunday	Competition days	
Monday	Departures	

1.22 Transportation

1.22.1 TOUR Events

The team delegation must cover the cost of international transportation to the Main Airport of destination mentioned by the Host in each of the Specific Tournament Handbook.

All internal transportation necessary to the event management will be then handled by the Local Organiser at its own cost.

1.22.2 FINAL Event

The cost of the international transportation of the team delegation (12 (twelve) players plus 3 (three) team's officials for the FINAL) will be borne by the organizer SDBSR. The cost of any additional delegation's member will be borne by the Participating Union.

1.23 Accommodation and Meals

1.23.1 TOUR Events

The Host Organiser will provide accommodation in full board during the competition period at a negotiated price in hotels of minimum 3 stars. The standard is double rooms for players and single room for staff. The cost will be entirely covered by the Teams during the Competition Period for the team delegation. The price proposed by the Host shall not exceed a maximum of 60 Euros per day per person (including full board and lodging plus local transportation, including airport shuttle). This is valid for 10 players and 3 staff. Any additional team delegation member will be at the full participating union expenses.

1.23.2 FINAL Event

The Host Organiser will provide accommodation in full board during the competition period in hotels of minimum 4 stars for the team delegation comprised of 12 (twelve) players and 3 (three) team's officials. The standard is double rooms for players and single room for staff. The cost will be entirely covered by the Host Organiser during the Competition Period for the team delegation. Any additional delegation's member will be at the participating union expenses.

1.24 How to become a Host?

You will find the Terms and Conditions to host the Event in the Appendix 1. If you are interested in hosting, please complete the Letter of Interest to Host. Rugby Europe will then send you a draft of Host Agreement.

Registration Deadlines to Host an Event:

Event	Deadline	Description	Title of Form
Letter of Interest to Host	November 5 th	A letter of interest to become a Host of a TOUR event. Unions, Host Cities or Promoter can be part of the Agreement. This is non-binding.	RE-S00

Selection Process	November	Application files requested from potential hosts, meetings and final selection	
Host Union/City Agreement	November 31 st	Host Union Agreement between Host Union/City , SDBSR and RE.	Agreement

1.25. Further Information

All necessary information about the CHAMPIONSHIP will be circulated to all National Unions through Official Communications' bulletins and Competition Manual.

Additional information about the competition (Number of teams, Special offers from the Host Organisers and etc.) and specific event regulations for each TOUR or FINAL be posted in the specific beach and snow section of RE website: www.rugbyeurope.eu, and on the Host Organisers websites. All of participants are responsible to check regularly for news, updates, and team delegation lists.

1.26. Contact Addresses

The RE and SDBRS address for all communications, related to snow rugby is: snowrugby@rugbyeurope.eu

- RE Head of Competition: Philippe Tuccelli philippe.tuccelli@rugbyeurope.eu
- RE Competitions Coordinator: Elena Usova-Akula elena.usova-akula@rugbyeurope.eu
- RE Head of Marketing: Sebastien Faye sebastien.faye@rugbyeurope.eu
- RE Head of Digital: Ben Fox ben.fox@rugbyeurope.eu
- SDBRS CEO: Ilya Volodarsky pliah@mail.ru

1.26.1. Addresses and names of the Host Organisers for beach rugby TOUR and FINAL

- To be provided in due time