IFAF MEN'S EC

Factsheet for Participants



The American Football Men's European Championships will be played in a biyearly cycle. Each team should have two games per year, ideally one home and one away game. The games are played individually and not in a tournament

format. This should allow to generate more media attention, raise the number of spectators and give coaches and players more time to prepare properly.

It is planned to put more emphasis on travel distances in the first year of the two year cycle. In the second year the emphasis will only be on the ranking of the teams according to the results of the first year.

Groups

As every team should play two games per year, it is not possible to have an unlimited number of teams in one group. While competitions could be played with up to 16 teams in one group, a total of 12 teams allows to strike a balance between costs and flexibility.

So there will be 2 groups (until group B reaches a total of 12 teams):

- Group A: Includes the 12 top ranked teams in Europe
- Group B: Includes the teams from rank #13 in Europe

Ranking Procedure

There are two groups of teams registering for the competition:

- A) **Teams that have qualified for the last tournament**. Those teams will be ranked according to the results of the last IFAF Men's EC tournament.
- B) Teams that did not participate in the last IFAF Men's EC competition.

The overall ranking including group B can be determined in the following ways:

- By an **expert panel**, or
- By evaluation of **other games** within the last 3 years (WC, EC or friendly games), or
- only to add teams of group B at the bottom of group A. Their order may result from randomly drawing the rank.

The IFAF Continental Director decides which of the methods is used.

Group A - Year 1 of the Competition - Group Stage

The top 4 teams are set on the #1 spots in the Divisions. The teams ranked #5-8 are set to the #2 spots and the teams ranked 9-12 are set on spot #3. The teams are assigned one of the four Divisions by IFAF trying to minimise overall travel costs for all participants.

Inside the four Divisions the games are played as follows:

Games in Division

	Home	Away
Game 1	#1	#2
Game 2	#3	#1
Game 3	#2	#3

After two games are played by every team all teams can be ranked inside their division.

Group A - Year 2 of the Competition - Playoff Stage

In the second year the teams with the same rank in the Divisions are put into groups of 4 teams:

• Top Group: #1s play for spots 1-4

• Middle Group: #2s play for spots 5-8

• Low Group: #3s play for spots 9-12

Inside the group the games are played as follows:

Games in Group - Year 2

	Team 1	Team 2	
Game 1	Best original ranked participant in group	Lowest original ranked participant in group	Better bid brings home field advantage
Game 2	#2 original ranked participant in group	<u> </u>	Better bid brings home field advantage
Game 3	Loser Game 1	Loser Game 2	Better bid brings home field advantage
Game 4	Winner Game 1	Winner Game 2	Better bid brings home field advantage

There is no automatic home field advantage. Teams may bid for home games. IFAF decides on the bids.

Group A 2019 - 2020

The top group is played with 12 participants. In the first year they are set in 4 Divisions with three teams each. It is not planned to add teams in the two year period. The Divisions for 2019 are:

EC Division A

- 1. FFFA France
- 2. SAAF Serbia
- 3. ČAAF Czechia

EC Division B

- 1. AFBÖ Austria
- 2. FIDAF Italy
- 3. SAFV Switzerland

EC Division C

- 1. SAJL- Finland
- 2. DAFF Denmark
- 3. AFBN Netherlands

EC Division D

- 1. SAFF Sweden
- 2. BAFA Great Britain
- 3. FAFR Russia

Group A - Calendar - Fixed Dates 2019

The calendar is work in progress. Not all games have already been set.

Date Division Matchup (Home vs Away)

November 9th/10th, 2019	Α	France vs Serbia
October 13th, 2019	Α	Czechia vs France
October 26, 2019	Α	Serbia vs Czechia
September 21, 2019	В	Switzerland vs Austria
October 6, 2019	В	Austria vs. Italy
October 20, 2019	В	Italy vs Switzerland
October 12, 2019	С	Netherlands vs Finland
October 19, 2019	С	Denmark vs. Netherlands
October 26, 2019	С	Finland vs. Denmark
October 19, 2019	D	GB vs Russia
November 2nd	D	Sweden vs GB
September 28th or October 5th	D	Russia vs Sweden

Group B - Participants

The remaining 5 participants in 2019 & 2020 play in Group B.

- 1. MAFSZ Hungary
- 2. FEFA Spain
- 3. BAFL Belgium
- 4. AFI Israel
- 5. TRF Turkey

Group B - Year 1 of the Competition - 2019

Group B 2019

	Home	Away
Game 1	Belgium	Hungary
Game 2	Turkey	Israel
Game 3	Hungary	Spain
Game 4	Spain	Turkey
Game 5	Israel	Belgium

Group A - Year 2 of the Competition

Group B 2020

	Home	Away
Game 1	Belgium	Turkey
Game 2	Turkey	Hungary
Game 3	Hungary	Israel
Game 4	Israel	Spain
Game 5	Spain	Belgium

After the second year a ranking is calculated from all games

Group B

Date	Matchup (Home vs Away)
September 19, 2019	Turkey vs Israel
October 12, 2019	Hungary vs Spain
October 26, 2019	Belgium vs Hungary
October 26, 2019	Spain vs Turkey
October 6, 2019	Israel vs Belgium

Tie Braking Procedures for all Groups

No game may end as tie.

Basic Ranking is always based on won-lost ratio.

If two teams have the same won-lost ratio

- 1. won-lost ratio
- 2. head-to-head result of the two teams
- 3. sum of total points scored reduced by points allowed during the regular season
- 4. total points scored during the regular season
- 5. coin toss

If more than two teams have the same W-L ratio

- 1. won-lost ratio
- 2. sum of total points scored reduced by points allowed during the regular season
- 3. total points scored during the regular season
- 4. coin toss

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