



## **FIB Technical Committee - decision to be confirmed by the FIB Congress**

### **PROMOTION - RELEGATION IN WCS**

As long as teams have to pay for their own hotel/meals it will be difficult to have a lot of teams participating in world championships. So we might end up with teams that will never come again or maybe once every two/three years. We cannot accept in this bandy world that a solid group A country relegates a group because they were not there, but we also cannot neglect a team that wins group B.

**Decision:** Remove automatic promotion and relegation for the time being.

In the foreseeable future, group allocation of participating teams will be based on the mentioned subjects below. This is also done for the world championships 2023. Technical Committee will appoint a workgroup which will decide on this group allocation in the near future.

- Technical Committee have made a simple ranking spreadsheet with the results of world championships in the last years to see where the current participating teams would be allocated. This will be extended every year to have a first idea.
- Workgroup makes a ranking (if possible a few months before the WCS), based on which federations can participate, last year's performances, level of sporting ambition etc.
- Considering the very different strength of the teams, the most important thing for most teams is probably to get to play a WCS tournament and not absolutely play in Group A.
- Other subjects that can be of influence.

For example, for the world championships 2023 was considered:

- Germany is normally in group A Men, but asked for a step down because of (among others) a weaker team.
- Estonia qualified for group A Men (winner WCS 2019 group B), but are not participating this season.
- Hungary qualified for group A Men (winner WCS 2020 group B) but does not really want to play in group A under the current circumstances.
- In the allocation we now have in the men's tournaments we will have a lot of interesting matches.
- The women's tournament has (expectedly) a clear split in level. For this world championship we decided to play in two pools of three teams instead of one group of six teams.

Nijmegen, the Netherlands  
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Frank Peters  
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