



EDSO
General & Technical
Regulations
Handbook

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KEY TERMS

Abbreviation Meaning / Description

COP	Communication Open Platform - – official digital communication platform used by EDSO.
DNS	Did Not Start
DNF	Did not Finish
EDC	European Deaf Championships – official continental competitions under EDSO.
EDG	European Deaf Games – the official continental multi-sport event for adult Deaf athletes organised by EDSO.
EDSO	European Deaf Sports Organisation – the governing body for Deaf sports in Europe.
EDSO EC	EDSO Executive Committee – the EDSO’s main decision-making body.
EDSO GR	EDSO General Regulation
EDSO SD	EDSO Sports Director – appointed by EDSO to supervise technical operations.
EDSO TD	EDSO Technical Director (old) - same role as sports director (new)
EDYC	European Deaf Youth Championships – official continental youth competitions under EDSO
EDYG	European Deaf Youth Games – the official continental multi-sport youth event organised by EDSO, development-oriented in nature.
ICSD	International Committee of Sports for the Deaf – global authority for Deaflympics and World Championships.
IF	International Federation
IS	International Sign – visual language used for official communication.
LOC	Local Organising Committee – responsible for hosting and delivering the event.
NADA	National Anti-Doping Agency – responsible for anti-doping tests in the host country.
NDSF	National Deaf Sports Federation – national member organisation of EDSO.
RZ	Restricted Zone - Areas where the use of hearing aids, cochlear implants or similar devices is prohibited.
TM	Technical Meeting
WDC	World Deaf Championships – official world-level championships organised under the authority of ICSD.
WDYC	World Deaf Youth Championships – official world-level youth championships organised under the authority of ICSD.

Preamble

The EDSO General & Technical Regulations Handbook establishes a unified regulatory framework for all competitions organised, sanctioned or recognised by the European Deaf Sports Organisation (EDSO).

This Handbook consolidates EDSO general, technical, sport-specific and event-related regulations into a single coherent reference document and provides clear guidance for the organisation, conduct and governance of EDSO competitions.

The provisions of this Handbook are applied in conjunction with the currently valid EDSO Statutes and EDSO General Regulations. Together, these documents form the binding regulatory basis for all EDSO activities and events.

The Handbook reflects EDSO's strategic role in the development and governance of European Deaf sport and aims to ensure:

- consistency across all sports disciplines,
- transparency for athletes, national federations and officials,
- alignment with international standards,
- and a clear pathway from youth development to elite competition.

EDSO competitions follow a multi-level competition system.

The European Deaf Youth Games (EDYG) are development-oriented competitions designed to promote participation, education and long-term athlete development among Deaf youth, aligned with youth sport models applied by the European Olympic Committees (EOC).

The European Deaf Youth Championships (EDYC) serve as age-category-based continental youth championship competitions and represent a transitional championship level between development-oriented youth events and open-age elite competitions.

The European Deaf Championships (EDC) are performance-oriented, single-sport continental championship events, while the European Deaf Games (EDG) constitute the official continental multi-sport event for adult Deaf athletes. Both EDC and EDG are aligned, where applicable, with the regulations, standards and qualification pathways of the International Committee of Sports for the Deaf (ICSD).

This Handbook applies to all EDSO competitions, including EDYG, EDYC, EDC and EDG, as well as qualification events, demo or pilot sports and officially sanctioned tournaments.

The EDSO General & Technical Regulations Handbook provides a stable, transparent and coherent technical framework while allowing the necessary flexibility to adapt competition formats to different sports, age categories and participation levels.

All stakeholders involved in EDSO competitions are required to comply with the applicable provisions of this Handbook.

EUROPEAN DEAF CHAMPIONSHIPS GENERAL REGULATIONS



European Deaf Sport Organisation

*Entered into force after 16th EDSO Congress in Moscow, Russia
01-02 June 2012*

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Reference: the abbreviated words in the first column shall bear the full name in the second column

EC:	EDSO Executive Committee
EDC:	European Deaf Championships
EDSO:	European Deaf Sport Organisation
ESF:	European Sport Federation
ISF:	International Sport Federation
NDSF:	National Deaf Sport Federation
OC:	Organising Committee
TD:	Technical Director

General Regulations for European Deaf Championships

1. General Information

- 1) The European Deaf Championships (hereinafter "EDC") may take place every four (4) years for all sports events, except for some sports disciplines such as youth and juniors based on decision of EDSO Executive Committee (hereinafter "EC").
- 2) In no case may the EDC be postponed to another year.
- 3) The date which the EDC is to take place is determined by the host country which must be proposed to the EC with the date in which the EDC is to take place, and the EC shall inform the Congress.
- 4) The EDC can only take place where there are four (4) or more participating National Deaf Sport Federation (hereinafter "NDSF").
- 5) Where there are less than four (4) participating NDSF taking part in the event, the host country shall have the responsibility of terming the sporting event as an invitational competition or cancelling the event after consultation with the EC.
- 6) The EDC is the exclusive property of the EDSO.
- 7) The EDSO may, amongst other things, grant licenses in respect of these Championships.
- 8) Participation in the EDC shall be restricted to athletes who are:
 - a) deaf, defined as a hearing loss of at least 55dB in the better ear (3 tone frequency average of 500, 1,000 and 2,000 Hertz, ANSI 1969 standard), and
 - b) members of their NDSF and affiliated members of the EDSO.
- 9) Athletes taking part in the EDC shall be forbidden from wearing any hearing aids or cochlear implants during competitions.
- 10) There is no age limit for athletes except where stated in the rules of the respective European Sport Federation (hereinafter "ESF") or International Sport Federation (hereinafter "ISF").

2. Bidding Procedures

- 1) Only NDSF members are eligible to bid for the EDC in sports that are officially recognised by EDSO.
- 2) Any NDSF member applying to host the EDC must submit its application to the EC at least two (2) years prior to the EDC and is subject to the approval by the EC.
- 3) A bidding application to host the EDC shall be accompanied by the following:
 - a) Certification of support from the proposed city;
 - b) Certification of support from the NDSF of the applicable sport.
- 4) An application for the EDC must contain details as to the:
 - a) location of the EDC;
 - b) dates of the EDC;
 - c) estimated overall budget of the EDC;
 - d) financial deposit;
 - e) current price list for hotels (3 various price classes), meals and transport for that host city.
- 5) The successful bidder shall receive a Legal Agreement from the EC, agreeing to comply with EDSO General Regulations and EDSO Technical Regulations of each sports.
- 6) The Legal Agreement must be signed by the representative on behalf of the NDSF and representative on behalf of the EC.
- 7) The bidder for the EDC must arrange a site visit to the host city by the EDSO Representative or EDSO Technical Director (hereinafter "TD") for the respective sport prior to the Congress at which the hosting bid will be presented.
- 8) At the Congress, the approved bidders to host the EDC will be presented to the NDSF's members for their approvals.
- 9) In the event that a bid is accepted, the host organiser shall also arrange for a site visit by the EDSO Representative and EDSO TD no less than one year prior to the EDC.
- 10) The inspection visit must take place during the month in which the EDC is to take place.

3. Organising Committee

- 1) The bidder awarded the EDC may appoint an Organising Committee (hereinafter "OC") and delegate the responsibility of organising the Championships to them.
- 2) The OC shall be comprised of persons with management experience (deaf and hearing). The OC shall enter into direct dialogue with the EC by electronic communications.
- 3) The OC may form a centralised office with telephone/fax and electronic communication facilities.
- 4) The numbers of these communications should be shown on the OC's letterheads and on any web site.
- 5) The OC is responsible for the organisation of the EDC and must enter into dialogue with the NDSF and ISF in regard to obtaining support for the work of the Committee.
- 6) The OC shall seek, whenever appropriate, sanction and support from NDSF or ISF to put the EDC event in the ISF's Events Calendar.
- 7) The OC shall ensure that all NDSF get newsletters with information about the cost of accommodation, meals and transportation services after the pre-EDC inspection trip.
- 8) The EDSO Representative and/or TD should carry out the inspection trip at least a year before the respective EDC.

4. Visas

- 1) If necessary, the participating NDSF must apply for entry visas from the embassy of the host country well in advance of their trip.
- 2) Upon request, the host association must assist the participants as much as possible with their visa formalities.

5. Reports

- 1) Progress reports shall be submitted to the EDSO Representative and the TD six (6) months, three (3) months and one (1) month before the EDC.
- 2) A report detailing the technical organisation of the EDC shall be submitted to the EDSO Congress that is held prior to the EDC.
- 3) The NDSF or OC shall forward to the EDSO within one (1) day the final results to the EDC, which then will be shown by EDSO.
- 4) A final report shall be submitted to the EC up to three (3) months after the completion of the EDC, and should consist of:
 - a) Technical / Operational Report;
 - b) Finances showing revenue and expenditure details;
 - c) Statistical report showing the total number of athletes for both genders, officials of each participating national entrants and spectators.

6. Formal Invitations

- 1) The invitations to take part in the EDC must be sent out by the NDSF or OC at least twelve (12) months prior to the EDC.
- 2) All documents (including invitations, competition lists, entry cards and programs) printed for the EDC as well as any promotional products including badges, posters
- 3) Prizes must carry the logo and/or initials of the EDSO on the front where applicable.
- 4) All posters should be drawn in English language and National language of the EDC host country and approved by EDSO Representative responsible for this event.

7. Programs

- 1) The Representative of EC and TD for the respective sports shall approve the final competition schedule at least six (6) months prior to the EDC.
- 2) The OC shall consult with the EC on the proposed dates of the EDC.
- 3) The consultation shall decide on the exact dates of the Championship on the basis of eliminating any potential conflicts with any other EDSO recognised sporting events and shall be finalised no less than eighteen (18) months before the EDC.
- 4) The official dates of the EDC shall be from opening day to closing day.
- 5) The EDC with preliminary registration from at least four (4) participating countries shall remain on the official program.
- 6) If the final number of entries is less than four (4) participants for a particular event or discipline, this event can be cancelled or be named as an invitational event.
- 7) In the case of cancellation of any individual or team sport event due to the above rules, the authorised EDSO Representative must notify the affected NDSF immediately after the deadline for the final registration.

8. Participations

- 1) All athletes representing their country must hold a valid passport of their NDSF.
- 2) Any athlete who decides to represent the country for which they hold an alternative passport must only make this change once.
- 3) There is also a two (2) year waiting period before the athlete can represent the newly adopted country.
- 4) The entry form must include the text of the eligibility code, and the following declaration must be signed by the President and Secretary of the NDSF.
- 5) No entry form shall be valid unless the above rules have been complied with.
- 6) No Individual / Team entry shall be accepted without any payment
- 7) No admission for Sports Official to the EC shall be accepted without any payment.
- 8) All payments by electronic banking payments MUST be paid in full **20 days** before the start of qualification or by cash or cheques **1 day** before the start of the Competition.
 - a) Any alternative payment must be confirmed by written notification to EDSO Treasurer and EDSO Representative.
- 9) Only NDSF members of EDSO may register their athletes in any EDC.
- 10) Athletes from any non-affiliated NDSF may compete in the EDC pending on authorisation from their National Sports Federation (hereinafter "NSF").
- 11) The registration forms for the EDC will be supplied by the EDSO.
- 12) Any EDC will be cancelled if there is no host country available eighteen (18) months before the Opening of the EDC.
- 13) In case of a new host taking place at least twelve (12) months before, the EDC can be hosted if certain conditions are appropriately fulfilled.

9. Identity Cards

- 1) The OC or NDSF must supply identity cards for each athlete and official.
- 2) The OC shall process all athletes' identity cards by checking appropriate documentations such as passports or government issued photo identity cards to ensure all the details below matches the athletes' profiles prior given the approval by the EDSO Representative.
- 3) The identity card shall contain the following details such as;
 - a) Title, date and location of the EDC;
 - b) Surname;
 - c) Given name(s);
- 4) Nationality (except where the individual is a member of the EC or an TD);
- 5) Date of Birth (participants only);

- 6) Role (which will be required of officials, for example, manager, trainer, interpreter and any other such individual);
- 7) Photograph (which is no more than three (3) months old).
- 8) The NDSF shall ensure that information given to the OC for the identity cards are accurate.
- 9) The OC may use alphabet or colour codes on the identity cards for identification purposes.
- 10) Details on identity cards cannot be amended without agreement by the OC.

10. Control & Sanctions

- 1) Any athlete will be allowed to participate in the EDC if they have got the approved ICSD's ID numbers.
- 2) Any athlete, whose audiogram has not been approved by ICSD or has not previously been tested by the ICSD appointed Audiologist, must submit to the ICSD at least three (3) months before the EDC an audiogram that is not more than one year old.
- 3) This must be arranged prior to participation in any qualifying round or EDC.
- 4) The audiogram form can be downloaded via ICSD's official website.
<http://www.deaflympics.com/forms/audiogram.pdf>
- 5) EDSO supports the work of the World Anti-Doping Agency in developing the World Anti-Doping Code and shall follow the latest updates.
- 6) EDSO cooperates with ICSD and comply with the regulations of ICSD Anti-Doping Rules, in accordance with the Code, which will apply to all EDC and any other relevant international events.
- 7) All expenses for doping tests and audiology testing, taken during the EDC shall be covered by the host NDSF or the OC.
- 8) The OC is responsible for providing the infrastructure (including trained personnel, appropriate sample collection facilities, access to WADA Accredited Laboratory) to enable a doping control program to be conducted at the EDC.
- 9) All NDSF are responsible for ensuring that their athletes are informed about ICSD's Anti-Doping Rules and their requirements.
- 10) Athletes may be required to take additional audiology tests during the EDC.
- 11) In the case of any fraud on the part of the athlete or team, the NDSF in question shall be obliged to pay all expenses and fines as determined by the EDC.
- 12) In the event of any disqualified athlete or team, their medal and diploma must be returned to the EDSO.
- 13) If this is not done, the NDSF in question shall be liable to suspension.

11. Sports (General)

- 1) All sport events must be participated by at least four (4) NDSF in order to be eligible for an EDC.
- 2) EDSO Representative in consultation with the TD for the sport as per (EC11.1), shall decide the competition format and structure at least one (1) year prior to the EDC.

12. Sports (Team)

- 1) The preliminary registration (Form 1) for the qualifying rounds for team sport competitions must be made minimum of twenty-four (24) months prior to the EDC and/or qualifying stage.
- 2) The final registration (Form 2) must be submitted minimum of twelve (12) months before the EDC and/or qualifying stage.
- 3) Only one team per NDSF, except in some special circumstances shall be admitted to the EDC.
- 4) The number of teams for the final round of EDC, in each sport and gender will, involve up to:

Football (Men)	– 16 teams;
Futsal (Men)	– 16 teams;
Football (Women)	– 12 teams;

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Futsal (Women)	– 12 teams;
Volleyball	– 12 teams;
Basketball	– 12 teams;
Handball	– 12 teams;
Water Polo	– 12 teams;
Ice Hockey	– 12 teams;
Beach Volleyball	– 2 men's and women's teams from each country.

13. Sports (Individual)

- 1) There shall be no limit on the number of events that an individual athlete may enter.
- 2) A fine will be levied on each non-starting athlete, except where there is a presentation of a doctor's medical certificate stating that the athlete should not be allowed to participate in the EDC.

14. Advertisements

- 1) Participants of the EDC must abide by all directives issued by the EDSO with regard to the carrying or being attired with items that contain commercial advertising.
- 2) The EDSO may approve the carrying or being attired with items that contain commercial advertising during the EDC.
- 3) The identification of the manufacturer or sponsor shall appear not more than once per item of clothing and equipment.
- 4) Participants may wear competition clothing and shoes that show the traditional distinctive design of the manufacturer or sponsor.
- 5) The manufacturer or sponsor's name and/or logo may also appear in size that is not greater than a total of 400 cm² on both the front and back, either as part of the traditional distinctive design pattern or independent of the traditional design pattern.

15. Preliminary & Final Registrations

- 1) Individual Sports
 - a) A preliminary registration (Form 1) to participate in the EDC or not must be submitted at the minimum of twelve (12) months prior to the EDC
 - b) A final registration (Form 2) to enter the approximate number of athletes confirmed for each event must be submitted at the minimum of six (6) months prior to the EDC.
 - c) A registration list (Form 3) showing the names of each athlete for their event entry must be submitted at least one (1) month prior to the opening of the EDC.
 - d) The submission may be made by e-mail if immediately followed by the official registration form.
 - e) Any late registration after the deadline is liable to be fined.
 - f) No athlete shall be replaced after the start of the EDCs.
- 2) Team Sports
 - a) A preliminary team registration (Form 1) to participate in the EDC or not must be submitted at the minimum of twenty-four (24) months prior to the EDC and/or qualifying stages
 - b) The final team registration (Form 2) must be submitted at the minimum of twelve (12) months prior to the EDC and/or qualifying stages.
 - c) Final entries received after the closing date shall not be accepted.
 - d) Preliminary Athletes Registration (Form 3) showing the names of each player for their event entered must be submitted at least one (1) month prior to the opening of the EDC.
 - e) The submission may be made by e-mail if immediately followed by the official registration form.

- f) Final Athletes Registration (Form 4) showing the names of each player must be submitted to the TD prior to the opening of the EDC according to the date stated on Form 4.
- g) The submission may be made by e-mail or facsimile if immediately followed by the official registration form.
- h) Any player suffering from an injury or illness can be replaced from the reserved list of Preliminary Athletes registration with the provision of medical evidence or certification from their doctor.
- i) No athlete shall be replaced after the commencement of the EDC.
- j) Any late registration after the deadline is liable to be penalised.

16. Financial Instructions

- 1) The NDSF or OC or agency must offer accommodation facilities and meals at reasonable prices for all NDSF's participants in the EDC.
- 2) Each NDSF shall be responsible for their costs of travel fares, accommodation and other arrangements.
- 3) A penalty fee to be determined by EC shall be imposed when a NDSF withdraws after submitting the final entry list.
- 4) The NDSF or OC must arrange and pay for:
 - a) one inspection visit by the EDSO Representative and/or TD to the EDC venue approximately one (1) year before the Opening Date.
 - b) The visit of the EDSO Representative and TD arriving two days before the Opening date and one day after the Closing for the period of the EDC.
 - c) Other travel fares, accommodation, meals and expenses incurred by EDSO Representative and TD should be reimbursed by NDSF or OC
 - d) Per diem to the EDSO Representative and TD for the period of EDC.
- 5) Where the expenses of the EDC are greater than the income received, the NDSF or OC shall be fully responsible for covering the difference.

17. Prizes, Diplomas & Posters

- 1) The proposed design of posters, prizes and diplomas must be submitted to the EDSO Representative for approval no later than one (1) year before the EDC.
- 2) Posters shall carry the logo of EDSO in a prominent position.
- 3) In all sports and events, the first prize will be a gold medal and a diploma, the second prize a silver medal and a diploma, and the third prize a bronze medal and a diploma.
- 4) All medals shall have engravings stating type of sport and event for which the medal or diploma shall be decided after consultations with the OC.
- 5) In individual and team sport competitions, athletes placed fourth (4th) to eighth (8th) shall receive diplomas.
- 6) The type and format that the prizes will take shall be at the discretion of the OC or NDSF.
- 7) However, prizes must include the wording and/or logo of EDSO in any engravings.
- 8) Diplomas shall carry the logos of both EDSO and NDSF or OC.
- 9) The EDSO Representative and President of the NDSF or OC shall sign these diplomas. Names of athletes shall be printed.
- 10) The NDSF or OC shall forward to the EDSO Museum two specimens of diplomas, and one specimen of prizes, trophies or medals.
- 11) All surplus prizes and diplomas shall be destroyed.

18. Protocols

- 1) The Opening and Closing Ceremony of the EDC must be fulfilled as required accordingly to the ESF or ISF rules.
- 2) The symbolic transferal of the EDSO flag at the EDC must be observed.
- 3) The official ceremony for the prize award presentations is the sole responsibility of the EDSO Representative.
- 4) The TD may act as the Master of Ceremonies (MC) at the Prize Awards ceremony.

19. Technical Meetings

- 1) The Technical Meeting with NDSF's delegates will be held at least one day before the Opening of the EDC.
- 2) The Technical Meeting shall allow 2 delegates of each participating NDSF. One of the delegates must be Deaf.
- 3) The Technical Committee, the Protest Committee, and up to two delegates of each participating NDSF shall attend the Technical Meetings.
- 4) At the Technical Meeting, the OC must assist with the conduct of recording the Minutes.
- 5) Then the Representative of the ISF and TD will endorse the Minutes before sending to all NDSF up to one (1) month after the Technical Meeting.

20. Authority & Jurisdiction

- 1) The EDSO Representative shall be the final arbiter on any matter in disputes relating to any aspect of the EDC brought forward by the NDSF or OC or any participating NDSF.
- 2) The competition rules for each sport shall comply with ESF or ISF as amended where visual cues are used in place of auditory cues.
- 3) Referees, judges, starters and other officials shall be selected by their NSF for the OC or TD.
- 4) It would be preferable to select deaf and national level referees.
- 5) It is compulsory to have neutral Referees/Judges to officiate all host's individual/team matches.
- 6) The OC shall submit a copy of all referees' qualifications to TD at least fourteen (14) days before the first Technical Meeting.
- 7) The NDSF or OC shall bear full responsibility for the appointment and scheduling of referees at the EDC.
- 8) For the team sport qualifying matches, at least one independent observer from the EDSO shall attend to observe these events.
- 9) The NDSF or OC shall bear full responsibility to bear the costs of each match fee to all Referees/Judges, where necessary.
- 10) Any protests will not be considered unless it was written in English and submitted to the ground judge within the time limit as established by respective ESF after the competition's results have been declared.

21. Technical Regulations

- 1) The TD will establish technical regulations for the respective sport and, if necessary, for each event on the EDC program.
- 2) These technical regulations shall be in accordance with the Rules of the EDC held at least six (6) months before the EDC.
- 3) These technical regulations shall be electronically published and sent to all participating teams six (6) months before the EDC.

22. Venues

- 1) All competition venues must have electronic scoreboards.
- 2) They may be either permanent or portable.

23. Transport

- 1) **Local Transportation**
 - a) The OC shall ensure that transportation is available between lodgings and venues for all EDSO officials, and all participants.
 - b) The officials and participants must be provided transport to and from the venues where they are competing or officiating.
 - c) Only official members of the participating teams and EDSO officials may be permitted to use the transportation services of the OC.
 - d) Athletes and officials wishing to use the transportation service to watch sporting events for which they are not registered may be charged at the discretion of the OC for using the service.
 - e) This transportation service shall be available for the period from one day prior to the Opening Ceremony until after the Closing Ceremony of EDC.
 - f) If possible, the OC can provide transfers between Airport and participating teams' accommodation.
- 2) **EDSO Representative and TD**
 - a) Transportation must be available for EDSO Representative and TD at all times.
 - b) The OC shall provide transportation for the EDSO Representative and TD to attend the Opening and Closing Ceremonies of the EDC.
- 3) **Transportation Plan**
 - a) The OC must include in their inspection reports to the EDSO Representative, information relating to transportation plans outlining all transport arrangements to enable athletes and officials to commute between venues, hotels and any other relevant locations.
 - b) The EDSO Representative may call upon the OC to report progress on their transportation plan at any time.

24. Medical Care & First Aid

- 1) The OC shall be responsible for the provision of adequate medical support (doctors, nurses, dentists and any other medical officer) during the EDC.
- 2) All team doctors, nurses and chiefs of missions shall be informed as soon as possible upon arrival as to the resources and contact details for all medical support services.
- 3) First aid stations shall be available at all competition areas. These shall be adequately staffed with medical and first aid personnel and ambulance facilities for emergencies.
- 4) The services of a nurse shall be available 24 hours a day. There shall be a back-up physician available on call.
- 5) Hospital services consisting of emergency rooms and hospital beds must be available to deal with severe injuries 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- 6) Appropriate facilities shall be made available where physiotherapists can treat their athletes or sport teams.
- 7) Adequate space must be made available at each participating team's accommodation wishing to establish their own sports injury and medical clinic.

25. Cancellations

- 1) In event of the NDSF or OC deciding to cancel the EDC, it must give notice to the EDSO and all NDSF no less than twenty-four (24) months prior to the event taking place and refund all monies (for example, deposits) paid by all participating teams.
- 2) In event of the NDSF or OC cancelling the EDC less than twenty-four (24) months prior to the official Opening date, the OC must refund all monies paid by all participating teams. The NDSF shall also reimburse all participating teams for any loss of monies as a result of non-refundable deposits being made for travel uniforms and any other such incidentals.
- 3) In event of the NDSF or OC making its own decision to cancel the EDC, they may face further penalty to be determined by the EC, after the Legal Agreement had been signed as per Article 2.6.

26. Withdrawals

- 1) In the event of participating in the Qualification events, any individual / team deciding to withdraw between the Entry deadline date (**Form 2**) and completion of Qualification matches shall be liable to pay the lower penalty fee plus any other costs incurred by other teams or host.
- 2) In the event of any qualified individual / team to withdraw at any time **between** the completion of Qualification matches until the completion of Final Tournament shall be liable to pay the higher penalty fee.
- 3) In the event of non-qualification matches, any individual / team deciding to withdraw at any time from Entry Deadline (**Form 2**) until completion of Final Tournament shall be liable to pay the higher penalty fee.

27. Violations

- 1) In the event of any penalty procedures not covered in these regulations of the above clauses, will result in disciplinary actions or penalty fees issued by the EC to any offending accredited person or NDSF.
- 2) The EC will review all violations to allocate whether it is sport or non-sport related violation to decide whether to impose appropriate disciplinary actions or penalty fines.
- 3) A sports related violation is defined as an unsporting incident happening on the field of play or inside the designated zones specified by the TD during the match.
- 4) A non-sport related violation is defined as an unsporting incident happening off the field of play or outside the designated zones specified by the TD during the match.
- 5) The decision by the EC to impose their appropriate action shall be final.

28. Miscellaneous

- 1) In the event of circumstances not covered in these regulations, the EDSO Constitution and the EDSO bylaws must be complied with the appropriate ESF or ISF.

Revised 1: January 2015
Revised 2: January 2017
Revised 3: January 2018

APPENDIX 1

PROCEDURES AT OFFICIAL CEREMONIES

A. Opening Ceremony

- 1) Parade of participating NDSF teams in alphabetical order.
- 2) Formal Welcome greetings.
- 3) Opening announcements.
- 4) The EDSO flag is carried to the pole.
- 5) Raising of the EDSO flag.
- 6) At the end of the ceremony the participating NDSF teams will exit the venue in reverse order.

B. Closing Ceremony

- 1) Parade of all participants in any order.
- 2) Farewell and closing announcements.
- 3) Lowering of the EDSO flag.
- 4) The EDSO flag is handed over to the NDSF hosting the next EDC.

C. Prize Awards Ceremony

- 1) For the individual competition, the first, second and third placed athletes will receive a medal and diploma.
- 2) For the team sport competition, each team player of the first, second and third placed teams will receive a medal and diploma as well as a trophy for the team.
- 3) The presentation of medals will take place in a formal manner after the final event at the sport venue.
- 4) To honour the gold medallist, the athlete's national flag shall be raised in conjunction with the national anthem.
- 5) The EDSO President will present the awards. He may assign this task to any members of the EC or EDSO Honorary Members, but he shall promptly advise these selections to the OC.
- 6) The OC in drawing up the timetable of each sport event shall also include the timetable of official ceremonies for each award presentations.
- 7) The awards presentation for team sports taking place at the closing ceremony must take place before the parade of all participants.

D. Amendment of order

- 1) The EC shall decide and make any amendments to these above rules due to any unforeseen circumstances.

Part B – EDSO MASTER TECHNICAL REGULATIONS

B1 – Purpose and Scope

B1.1

These Master Technical Regulations form Part B of the EDSO-General & Technical Regulations Handbook.

B1.2

They establish the overarching technical principles applicable to all competitions organised, sanctioned or recognised by EDSO and are applied in conjunction with the currently valid EDSO General Regulation and EDSO-Statutes.

B1.3

These Regulations apply to all EDSO competitions, including European Deaf Youth Games (EDYG), European Deaf Championships (EDC), European Deaf Games (EDG), qualification events, demo or pilot sports and officially sanctioned tournaments.

B1.4

For the purposes of these Technical Regulations, the terms “Technical Director” and “Sports Director” refer to the same EDSO-appointed function with overall responsibility for technical and sporting matters of an EDSO competition, unless otherwise specified. The use of either term does not imply a difference in authority, responsibilities or decision-making power.

B1.5

An EDSO (Sport) Director is the EDSO-appointed official responsible for the technical and sporting matters of a specific sport (e.g. EDSO Athletics Director, EDSO Swimming Director).

In the event that the position of an EDSO (Sport) Director is vacant, the Sports Coordinator may, upon mandate of EDSO, assume the responsibilities of that sport-specific Director on an interim basis, or appoint another qualified person to act on an interim basis.

Such interim appointments may include external experts, for example from recognised hearing sports federations, where appropriate.

The scope, authority and duration of any interim appointment shall be defined by EDSO.

The term Sports Directors refers collectively to all EDSO-appointed sport-specific Directors.

A Sports Coordinator is an EDSO-appointed official with an overarching coordination function, supporting and coordinating the work of the Sports Directors across multiple sports.

In the normal course of duties, the Sports Coordinator does not replace or override the authority of individual EDSO (Sport) Directors.

This does not apply where the Sports Coordinator is explicitly mandated by EDSO to act on an interim basis in the event of a vacancy.

B1.6

References to section numbering in other EDSO handbooks (e.g. Host Manuals) are for orientation purposes only and do not establish legal dependency.

B1.7

These Master Technical Regulations establish a common technical framework and explanatory principles for all sports and EDSO events.

They do not constitute complete sport-specific competition regulations. The official and complete technical regulations for each sport and event are defined in the respective Annexes to this Handbook.

B2 – Hierarchy of Rules

B2.1

The hierarchy of applicable rules for EDSO competitions is as follows:

1. ICSD Regulations and Statutes,
2. EDSO Statutes and General Regulations,
3. EDSO Master Technical Regulations (Part B),
4. Sport-Specific Technical Regulations (Part C),
5. Event-Specific Technical Bulletins (Part D).

B2.2

In case of conflict between regulations, the higher-level regulation shall prevail.

B2.3

International Federation (IF) rules apply to each sport unless specifically adapted for Deaf sport or modified by EDSO regulations.

B3 – Eligibility: Hearing Loss and ICSD Requirements

B3.1

All athletes participating in EDSO competitions must comply with the hearing eligibility requirements established by the International Committee of Sports for the Deaf (ICSD).

B3.2

Athletes may be required to hold a valid ICSD ID number in accordance with ICSD regulations and event requirements.

B3.3

The use of hearing aids, cochlear implants or other hearing devices during competition is prohibited, unless explicitly permitted by ICSD or sport-specific rules.

B3.4

Audiogram eligibility and verification are governed by ICSD regulations. Event-Specific Technical Bulletins may specify deadlines, submission procedures and on-site verification arrangements.

B4 – Anti-Doping

B4.1

All EDSO competitions are subject to the anti-doping regulations of the ICSD and the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA).

B4.2

Athletes, officials and team members must comply with all testing procedures and anti-doping controls conducted during EDSO events.

B4.3

Anti-doping violations are handled in accordance with ICSD anti-doping regulations and applicable international standards.

B5 – Age Categories and Age Determination

B5.1

Age eligibility principles are determined according to the type and level of the EDSO competition.

B5.2

For the European Deaf Youth Games (EDYG), age categories are development-oriented and may be determined by age groups or birth years, aligned with youth sport models applied by the European Olympic Committees (EOC).

B5.3

For the European Deaf Championships (EDC) and the European Deaf Games (EDG), age eligibility is performance-oriented and determined by date of birth, aligned with ICSD and International Federation standards.

B5.4

Specific age limits, age group definitions and eligibility criteria shall be defined in the Sport-Specific Technical Regulations and Event-Specific Technical Bulletins.

B5.5

For the purposes of these Regulations, the term “adult” refers to the main open-age competition category without an upper age limit, subject only to minimum age requirements defined in the sport-specific Technical Regulations.

The term “adult” replaces the ambiguous term “senior” commonly used in other sport systems.

B5.6

In exceptional cases, age-related exemptions may be granted, depending on the sport, competition format or number of participants. Such exemptions must be approved by EDSO.

B5.7

Each National Deaf Sports Federation (NDSF) is responsible for ensuring that all nominated athletes meet the applicable age eligibility requirements.

B6 – Competition Formats: General Principles

B6.1

EDSO competitions may be organised as:

- individual competitions,
- team competitions,

- or pair/duo competitions.

Mixed formats and hybrid competition systems may be applied where appropriate and shall be defined in the sport-specific Technical Regulations.

B6.2

The classification of each sport (individual, team or pair) is defined in the respective Sport-Specific Technical Regulations.

B6.3

General competition principles include fairness, transparency, equal opportunity and accessibility for Deaf athletes.

B7 – Qualification and Advancement

B7.1

EDSO competitions may serve as qualification events for higher-level competitions, including ICSD World Deaf Championships or Deaflympics Games.

B7.2

Qualification criteria, quotas and advancement rules depend on the sport, event and competition level and are defined in the Sport-Specific Technical Regulations and Event-Specific Technical Bulletins.

B7.3

Participation in demo or pilot sports does not automatically grant qualification rights unless explicitly stated.

B7.4

Qualification may apply not only to ICSD events but also to EDSO-controlled continental events where participation limits apply.

B8 – Demo and Pilot Sports

B8.1

EDSO may include demo or pilot sports to test new disciplines, adapted formats or development-oriented competition models.

B8.2

Demo or pilot sports are governed by the EDSO General Regulations, these Master Technical Regulations and specific provisions defined in the Event-Specific Technical Bulletins.

B8.3

Adaptations may include modified team sizes, pair formats, competition systems or age categories.

B9 – Technical Officials and Juries

B9.1

Each EDSO competition shall appoint qualified technical officials, referees and/or judges in accordance with sport-specific requirements.

B9.2

A Technical Delegate and/or the EDSO Sports Director (syn. Technical Director) may be appointed by EDSO to supervise technical compliance.

B9.3

The composition, authority and responsibilities of technical juries are defined in the Sport-Specific Technical Regulations and Event-Specific Technical Bulletins.

B10 – Protests and Technical Appeals

B10.1

Technical protests and appeals relating to competition procedures, results or rule interpretation may be submitted in accordance with sport-specific rules.

B10.2

Protest procedures, deadlines and applicable fees are defined in the Event-Specific Technical Bulletins.

B10.3

Technical protests do not replace disciplinary or administrative procedures, which are handled under the EDSO Constitution, the currently valid EDSO General Regulations and the EDSO Schedule of Fees (where applicable), and/or ICSD regulations for anti-doping matters.

B10.4.

Technical protests shall not suspend the competition unless explicitly decided by the Jury.

B11 – Event-Specific Technical Bulletins

B11.1

Event-Specific Technical Bulletins form an integral part of the EDSO regulatory framework.

B11.2

They define variable elements such as:

- age categories,
- competition categories (men, women and/or mixed),
- disciplines and events,
- weight classes,
- quotas and entry limits,
- and specific competition formats.

Event-Specific Technical Bulletins apply exclusively to the event for which they are issued and shall be published prior to the competition.

B11.3

In case of inconsistency, Event-Specific Technical Bulletins shall prevail for that specific event over Parts B and C, but may not override ICSD Regulations, EDSO Statutes or the EDSO General Regulations, and may only specify variable event parameters.

B12 – Unforeseen Technical Cases

B12.1

Any technical matter not covered by these Regulations shall be decided by the competent technical officials or jury.

B12.2

In unresolved cases, the EDSO Sports Director or delegated authority shall make the final technical decision.

Part C – SPORT-SPECIFIC TECHNICAL REGULATIONS

C - General Principles

C1 Scope

Part C of the EDSO Technical Regulations Handbook contains the sport-specific technical regulations for each sport discipline organised, sanctioned or recognised by EDSO.

C2 Relation to Other Parts

The provisions of Part C shall be applied in conjunction with:

- the EDSO Statutes,
- the currently valid EDSO General Regulations,
- Part B (Master Technical Regulations),
- and the applicable Event-Specific Technical Bulletins (Part D).

C3 Function of Sport-Specific Regulations

Sport-Specific Technical Regulations define the fundamental technical framework of a sport, including:

- the applicable international federation rules,
- the basic competition structure,
- and discipline-specific technical principles.

They do not define event-specific parameters such as age categories, final discipline lists, entry limits or competition schedules, which are specified in Part D.

Sport-specific technical regulations confirm the application of International Federation standards, including venue, field of play, and equipment requirements.

C4 Priority Rule

In case of inconsistency between Part C and an Event-Specific Technical Bulletin, the provisions of Part D shall prevail for the respective event.

Part D – EVENT-SPECIFIC TECHNICAL BULLETINS

D – General Provisions

(applies to all sports and all EDSO events)

D1 Purpose and Function

Part D of the EDSO Technical Regulations Handbook contains the Event-Specific Technical Bulletins. These Bulletins define the final, binding and event-specific competition parameters for a particular sport at a specific EDSO event.

They complement:

- Part A – EDSO General Regulations,
- Part B – Master Technical Regulations, and
- Part C – Sport-Specific Technical Regulations.

D2 Scope of Application

Event-Specific Technical Bulletins apply to all competitions:

- organised,
- sanctioned, or
- officially recognised

by the European Deaf Sports Organisation (EDSO), including:

- European Deaf Championships (EDC),
- European Deaf Youth Games (EDYG),
- European Deaf Games (EDG),
- qualification events,
- demo or pilot sports,
- and other EDSO-authorised competitions.

D3 Content of Event-Specific Technical Bulletins

An Event-Specific Technical Bulletin may define, where applicable:

- event level and sport,
- age determination method and minimum age,
- competition categories,
- final list of disciplines or events,
- entry limits and quotas,
- reserve athlete rules and replacement procedures,
- non-start (DNS) and withdrawal provisions,
- medal allocation and award ceremonies,
- technical meeting information,
- Deaf accessibility and visual signal requirements,
- protest procedures and deadlines,
- Seeding rules,
- Ranking relevance,
- Qualification relevance.

D4 Legal Effect and Priority Rule

Event-Specific Technical Bulletins are binding for the respective event and sport.

In case of any inconsistency:

Event-Specific Technical Bulletins shall prevail over Parts B and C,

but may not override:

- the EDSO Statutes,
- the EDSO General Regulations,
- or applicable ICSD Regulations.

Event-Specific Technical Bulletins may specify only event-specific and variable parameters (such as disciplines, quotas, schedules, formats or venue-related information).

They shall not modify or override the General Regulations, the Master Technical Regulations or the sport-specific Technical Regulations, unless explicitly authorised by EDSO.

D5 Written Regulations and Digital Systems (COP)

During the transition phase, entries, confirmations, replacements and withdrawals may be managed:

- through written procedures, and
- through the EDSO Communication Open Platform (COP).

In case of any discrepancy between written regulations and digital systems, the provisions of the Event-Specific Technical Bulletin shall prevail.

D6 Issuing Authority

Event-Specific Technical Bulletins are issued under the authority of the:

- EDSO Executive Board, or
- an EDSO-appointed authority acting on its behalf.

D7 Compliance

All athletes, team officials, technical officials, organisers and other stakeholders are required to comply with the applicable Event-Specific Technical Bulletin.

Part E – OFFICIAL TECHNICAL REGULATIONS

E – General Technical Framework

Status of this Document

This Part E establishes the unified General Technical Framework applicable to all sports disciplines organised, sanctioned or recognised by the European Deaf Sports Organisation (EDSO).

Part E serves as the binding master reference for the structure, terminology and fundamental principles of all sport-specific Technical Regulations (Parts FXX–IXX).

1. EVENT STATUS

1.1 Event Authority

All competitions conducted under these Technical Regulations are organised, sanctioned or recognised by the European Deaf Sports Organisation (EDSO).

1.2 Event Type / Sport Status

Sports or disciplines may be classified as:

- Deaflympics sports
- Non-Deaflympics sports
- Demo sports
- Pilot or reactivated sports

EDSO determines the applicable status and may affect competition format, recognition, development pathways and qualification procedures.

1.3 Event Level

These Technical Regulations apply to EDSO competitions, including:

- European Deaf Championships (EDC)
- European Deaf Youth Championships (EDYC)
- European Deaf Games (EDG)
- European Deaf Youth Games (EDYG)

EDSO competitions may serve as stand-alone events or as part of a multi-sport event (e.g. EDG).

1.4 Sport Classification

Each sport shall be classified as one or more of the following:

- Individual sport
- Team sport
- Pair / Duo sport
- Mixed-format sport

This classification determines, inter alia, entry procedures, team composition rules, substitution principles and medal allocation.

1.5 Competition Categories

Competitions may be organised in the following categories, where applicable:

- Men
- Women
- Mixed / Open

For youth competitions (e.g. EDYG, EDYC), competition categories may be defined as Boys and Girls. Mixed categories may be organised where appropriate and specified in the sport-specific Technical Regulations or Event Technical Bulletins.

The applicable categories shall be defined in the sport-specific Technical Regulations.

1.6 Qualification Competitions

For certain sports, qualification competitions may be required to determine participation in the European Deaf Championships (EDC) or where ranking-based selection systems are applied.

Such qualification events shall be organised under EDSO authority and in accordance with the applicable sport-specific Technical Regulations.

Qualification competitions may apply where the number of teams or athletes exceeds the limits defined in the EDSO General Regulations.

1.7 Advancement Pathways

EDSO competitions may serve as qualification platforms for subsequent international events, in particular:

- World Deaf Championships,
- Deaflympics,
- and other ICSD-recognised competitions.

Whether and to what extent placements, medals or final rankings lead to automatic qualification for subsequent events shall be defined exclusively in the sport-specific Technical Regulations.

1.8 Ranking, Seeding and Cycle Systems

EDSO recognises the existence of both ICSD ranking systems and EDSO ranking systems. These systems are independent, may pursue different objectives and may be based on different calculation methods.

1.8.1 ICSD Ranking Systems

Where applicable, EDSO competitions may be linked to, referenced by or taken into account within ranking systems established by the International Committee of Sports for the Deaf (ICSD).

The structure, point allocation, weighting, validity periods and calculation methods of ICSD ranking systems are determined exclusively by ICSD.

EDSO shall not modify, reinterpret or redefine ICSD ranking systems. Any reference to ICSD rankings within EDSO competitions shall be of an indicative or complementary nature only, unless explicitly agreed otherwise.

1.8.2 EDSO Ranking Systems

EDSO may establish independent European ranking systems for individual athletes, pairs and teams.

EDSO ranking systems may be used, inter alia, for:

- seeding purposes,
- group allocation,
- draw procedures,
- qualification decisions,
- advancement pathways,
- reallocation mechanisms,
- wild card allocation,
- and long-term athlete and sport development.

The detailed structure of EDSO ranking systems shall be defined in the sport-specific Technical Regulations.

1.8.3 Cycle-Based Logic

EDSO ranking systems may be calculated on a multi-year cycle basis.

Unless otherwise specified, such cycles may cover a period of up to four (4) years.

The applicable cycle length, carry-over rules, decay mechanisms and reset procedures shall be defined in the sport-specific Technical Regulations.

1.8.4 Separation of Systems

ICSD ranking systems and EDSO ranking systems are independent.

Points, placements or rankings obtained under one system shall not automatically be transferable to the other, unless explicitly stated.

1.8.5 Transparency

All official EDSO ranking systems shall be published and made accessible to National Deaf Sports Federations and other relevant stakeholders.

1.9 Additional Provisions

Any additional event-related provisions not covered above shall be defined in the applicable sport-specific Technical Regulations.

2. PARTICIPANTS & ELIGIBILITY

2.1 Invitation / Nomination

Participation in EDSO competitions is subject to official invitation and nomination. Only athletes duly nominated by their National Deaf Sports Federation (NDSF) in good standing with EDSO are eligible to participate.

The official invitation to participate shall be issued by EDSO, in cooperation with the Organising Committee.

Entries may only be submitted by authorised representatives of the respective NDSFs.

2.2 Eligibility

Participation in EDSO competitions is restricted to athletes who fulfil all eligibility requirements defined by EDSO and, where applicable, by the ICSD.

2.2.1 Hearing Eligibility

All athletes must comply with the hearing eligibility requirements of the International Committee of Sports for the Deaf (ICSD).

A minimum hearing loss of 55 dB in the better ear is required.

Audiograms shall be verified in accordance with the applicable ICSD Audiogram Regulations.

The use of hearing aids, cochlear implants or similar devices is prohibited in the Restricted Zone.

2.2.2 Age Eligibility

Minimum and/or maximum age limits may apply, depending on the sport, event type and competition category.

The method of age determination (e.g. year of birth, date of birth with a defined cut-off date) shall be defined in the sport-specific Technical Regulations and/or the Event-Specific Technical Bulletin.

Unless otherwise specified, no maximum age limit applies.

2.2.3 Compliance

Only athletes who comply with:

the EDSO Statutes,

- the EDSO Regulations,
- the applicable sport-specific Technical Regulations,
- and all event-specific provisions
- are eligible to participate.

2.3 Number of Teams

For team sports, the maximum number of teams admitted to a competition may be limited.

Such limits shall be defined in the sport-specific Technical Regulations and/or the Event-Specific Technical Bulletin.

If no limits are defined, participation shall be open.

2.4 Qualified Teams / Athletes

Participation in EDSO competitions may be:

- open, or
- subject to qualification, or
- subject to quota systems, wild cards, or ranking-based selection.

The applicable qualification system shall be defined in the sport-specific Technical Regulations and/or the Event-Specific Technical Bulletin.

Reallocation procedures may be applied where qualified teams or athletes withdraw.

2.5 Maximum Number of Athletes and Team Officials per NDSF (Overall Participation Quota)

For each sport and event, maximum numbers of athletes and team officials per National Deaf Sports Federation (NDSF) may be defined.

The athlete quota determines the maximum number of athletes who may be entered, accredited and allowed to compete by an NDSF.

In addition, a limited number of team officials may be accredited per NDSF in accordance with the relevant sport-specific regulations.

These limits form the overall participation quota per country and shall be specified in the Technical Regulations and/or Event-Specific Technical Bulletin.

2.6 Number of Athletes per Event

For each discipline, event or competition category, a maximum number of athletes per NDSF may be allocated.

These limits regulate how many of the entered athletes may be fielded in a specific discipline or event.

These limits shall not increase the overall athlete quota defined under Article 2.5.

Such limits shall be defined in the sport-specific Technical Regulations and/or the Event-Specific Technical Bulletin.

2.7 Number of Reserves / Substitutes

NDSFs may nominate reserve or substitute athletes.

The number of reserves, as well as replacement rules, shall be defined in the sport-specific Technical Regulations and/or the Event-Specific Technical Bulletin.

2.8 Competition Entry Standards

Where applicable, minimum performance standards, qualification norms or ranking requirements may be applied.

Such standards shall be defined in the sport-specific Technical Regulations and/or the Event-Specific Technical Bulletin.

If no standards are defined, participation shall be open.

2.9 Competition Entry Rules

All entries must be submitted by authorised representatives of the respective NDSFs.

Entries must be submitted in accordance with:

- the applicable entry procedures,
- the defined entry phases,
- and the deadlines specified in Part E, Chapter 3 and the Event-Specific Technical Bulletin.

Late entries, changes and replacements may be subject to restrictions and/or sanctions.

2.10 Non-Starting Athletes and/or Teams (DNS / No-Show)

Athletes and/or teams who are duly entered but do not start the competition (DNS), withdraw after applicable deadlines, or fail to appear may be subject to financial and/or sporting sanctions.

The applicable sanctions, procedures and possible exemptions (e.g. duly justified medical reasons supported by appropriate documentation) shall be defined in the sport-specific Technical Regulations and/or the Event-Specific Technical Bulletin.

2.11 Additional Provisions

Any eligibility- or participation-related matters not covered in Sections 2.1 to 2.10 shall be regulated in the sport-specific Technical Regulations and/or the Event-Specific Technical Bulletin.

3. ENTRIES & REGISTRATION

3.1 Entry Procedure

Entries shall be submitted by NDSFs in accordance with EDSO procedures.

3.2 Entry Phases

Unless otherwise specified in the sport-specific Technical Regulations, the following standard entry models shall apply.

These standardised timelines serve to ensure:

- long-term planning security,
- fair access to competitions,
- operational feasibility for organisers,
- transparent decision-making,
- and equal treatment of all National Deaf Sports Federations (NDSFs).

Different models apply to team sports and individual sports.

3.2.1 Standard Entry Model – Team Sports

This model applies to team sports such as football, futsal, basketball, handball, volleyball and comparable disciplines.

Phase 1 – Preliminary Team Entry (Form 1)

NDSFs shall submit a non-binding preliminary team entry indicating their intention to participate.

Standard deadline:

24 months before the start of the event.

This phase serves to:

- estimate participation numbers,
- assess the need for qualification competitions,
- support long-term venue, staffing and scheduling planning.

Phase 2a – Qualification Team Entry (Form 2a)

(only if qualification is required)

If the number of interested teams exceeds the limits defined in the EDSO General Regulations, qualification competitions may be required.

In such cases, NDSFs must confirm their participation in the qualification system.

Standard deadline:

21 months before the start of the main event.

Qualification competitions shall normally take place approximately 12 months before the main event.

Phase 2b – Final Team Entry (Form 2b)

(if no qualification is required)

If no qualification is required, NDSFs shall submit their binding final team entry.

Standard deadline:

12 months before the start of the event.

Phase 3 – Provisional Name List (Form 3)

NDSFs shall submit a provisional and extended list of eligible athletes, including reserve players.

Standard deadline:

1 month before the start of the event.

This phase serves for:

- eligibility checks,
- accreditation preparation,
- medical and anti-doping planning,
- and logistical arrangements.

Phase 4 – Final Name List (Form 4)

NDSFs shall submit the final and binding list of athletes.

Standard deadline:

2 weeks before the start of the event.

Only athletes included on the Final Name List are eligible to compete, unless replacement rules apply.

3.2.2 Standard Entry Model – Individual Sports

This model applies to individual sports such as athletics, swimming, judo, shooting, badminton, tennis, table tennis and comparable disciplines.

Phase 1 – Preliminary Entry (Form 1)

NDSFs shall submit a non-binding preliminary entry indicating the expected number of athletes.

Standard deadline:

12 months before the start of the event.

Phase 2 – Final Discipline Entry (Form 2)

NDSFs shall submit the binding number of athletes per discipline or event.

Standard deadline:

6 months before the start of the event.

This phase determines the final competition programme.

Phase 3 – Provisional Name List (Form 3)

NDSFs shall submit a provisional and extended list of athletes, including reserve athletes.

Standard deadline:

3 months before the start of the event.

Phase 4 – Final Name List (Form 4)

NDSFs shall submit the final and binding list of athletes.

Standard deadline:

1 month before the start of the event.

3.2.3 Qualification-Specific Adaptations

Where qualification competitions are required, the above timelines may be adapted.

In such cases:

- the qualification entry shall normally take place at least 21 months before the main event,
- qualification competitions shall normally take place approximately 12 months before the main event,
- name list procedures for qualification events shall follow the same principles as for the main event.

The detailed qualification structure shall be defined in the sport-specific Technical Regulations.

3.2.4 Binding Character of Entries

The binding character of each entry phase shall be defined in the sport-specific Technical Regulations.

In general:

- Preliminary entries are non-binding.
- Final entries are binding.
- Name lists are binding unless replacement rules apply.

3.2.5 Late Entries, Withdrawals and Sanctions

Late entries, withdrawals, non-starts (DNS), and changes after deadlines may result in sporting or financial sanctions.

The applicable sanctions shall be defined in:

- the EDSO Schedule of Fees, and
- the sport-specific Technical Regulations.

3.2.6 Flexibility Clause

EDSO may adapt the standard timelines in exceptional cases, including but not limited to:

- newly introduced sports,
- pilot or demo sports,
- low participation numbers,
- extraordinary organisational circumstances.

Any such adaptations must be published in the Event-Specific Technical Bulletin.

3.2.7 Short-Notice and Emergency Adaptations

In cases where an Organising Committee is appointed on short notice, including but not limited to:

- late host appointments,
- emergency host replacements,
- reallocation of events,
- force majeure situations,
- or extraordinary organisational circumstances,

EDSO may shorten, modify or restructure the standard entry timelines.

Such adaptations shall:

- preserve the principles of fairness and transparency,
- be communicated to all National Deaf Sports Federations without delay,
- and be published in the Event-Specific Technical Bulletin.

3.3 Entry Limits

Entry limits may apply per sport, discipline or event and shall be defined in the sport-specific Technical Regulations.

3.4 Reserve Athletes

Reserve athletes may be nominated where applicable.

3.5 Late Entries & Changes

Late entries or changes are subject to EDSO approval.

3.6 Non-Start, Withdrawal & Penalties

Non-starts (DNS), withdrawals and late cancellations may result in financial and/or sporting sanctions in accordance with the EDSO Schedule of Fees.

3.7 Maximum Numbers of Teams and/or Athletes

The maximum number of teams and/or individual athletes admitted to an EDC shall be governed by the EDSO General Regulations and the applicable sport-specific Technical Regulations.

Limitations may be imposed for organisational, time-related, infrastructural or safety-related reasons. Where required, qualification competitions may be organised to determine the final list of participants.

3.8 Accreditation Fees and Financial Obligations

Participation in EDSO-sanctioned events may be subject to accreditation fees and other financial obligations.

The applicable fees and conditions shall be defined in:

- the EDSO Schedule of Fees, and
- the applicable sport-specific Technical Regulations and/or Event-Specific Technical Bulletins.

3.9 Additional Provisions

Any additional registration-related provisions shall be defined in the applicable sport-specific Technical Regulations.

4. COMPETITION RULES

4.1 Governing Rules

Competitions shall be conducted in accordance with the rules of the relevant International Federation unless otherwise stated.

4.2 Deaf-Specific Adaptations

Visual signals and other deaf-specific adaptations shall be applied where required.

4.3 Competition Format

Competition formats shall be defined in the sport-specific Technical Regulations.

4.4 Field of Play & Equipment

Venues, fields of play and equipment must comply with International Federation standards.

4.5 Equipment Control / Weigh-In

Where applicable, equipment control or weigh-in procedures shall be conducted in accordance with International Federation rules.

4.6 Additional Provisions

Any additional competition-related provisions shall be defined in the applicable sport-specific Technical Regulations.

5. EVENT PROGRAMME

5.1 Disciplines / Events Offered

Only disciplines explicitly listed in the applicable sport-specific Technical Regulations shall be contested.

5.2 Confirmation of Programme

The final programme shall be confirmed after completion of the entry process. Changes to the final programme may be made for safety, organisational or participation reasons.

5.3 Timetable

The Organising Committee shall publish the official competition timetable.

5.4 Additional Provisions

Any additional programme-related provisions shall be defined in the applicable sport-specific Technical Regulations.

6. TECHNICAL MEETING

A Technical Meeting shall be held prior to the start of the competition in order to ensure the proper organisation, coordination and conduct of the event.

The Technical Meeting serves as the official forum for the clarification of technical, procedural and organisational matters.

6.1 Purpose

The Technical Meeting serves in particular to:

- confirm entries and eligibility,
- clarify applicable rules and procedures,
- present technical and organisational information,
- address questions from participating delegations,
- and adopt binding technical decisions.

6.2 Organisation

The Technical Meeting shall be organised by EDSO in cooperation with the Organising Committee.

The meeting shall be chaired by the EDSO-appointed Sport Director or by a person designated by EDSO.

6.3 Date, Time and Location

The date, time and location of the Technical Meeting shall be published in advance. Detailed information shall be provided in the Event-Specific Technical Bulletin.

6.4 Attendance

Each participating National Deaf Sports Federation (NDSF) may be represented by at least two (2) official, unless otherwise specified in the sport-specific Technical Regulations.

Additional participants may be admitted with the approval of the Technical Committee.

6.5 Languages and Accessibility

The official working language of the Technical Meeting shall be English.
International Sign Language interpretation shall be provided.
Additional accessibility measures may be offered where possible.

6.6 Binding Effect

All technical clarifications and decisions taken at the Technical Meeting shall be binding for the competition.

Participating delegations are responsible for informing their athletes accordingly.

6.7 Documentation

Key decisions of the Technical Meeting may be documented and communicated to all participating delegations in written or electronic form.

6.8 Additional Provisions

Any additional Technical Meeting provisions shall be defined in the applicable sport-specific Technical Regulations or in the Event-Specific Technical Bulletin.

7. TRAINING & WARM-UP

7.1 Official Training

Official training sessions may be organised where applicable.

7.2 Training Schedule

Training schedules shall be published by the Organising Committee.

7.3 Warm-Up Areas

Warm-up areas shall be designated where applicable.

7.4 Restricted Zone

The Restricted Zone includes all competition and warm-up areas where hearing devices are prohibited.

7.5 Additional Provisions

Any additional training-related provisions shall be defined in the applicable sport-specific Technical Regulations.

8. CHECK-IN / CALL ROOM

8.1 Procedures

Check-in or Call Room procedures shall apply where required by the sport.

8.2 Timing

First and last call procedures shall be communicated at the Technical Meeting.

8.3 Substitution & Replacement

Substitution and replacement rules shall be defined in the sport-specific Technical Regulations. Failure to appear in time may result in DNS.

8.4 Additional Provisions

Any additional check-in or Call Room provisions shall be defined in the applicable sport-specific Technical Regulations.

9. PROTESTS & DISCIPLINARY MATTERS

9.1 Protests

Protests must be submitted in writing within the prescribed time limits.

9.2 Disciplinary Bodies

Sport-specific juries, disciplinary committees or sports courts may be appointed where applicable.

9.3. Protest Review and Decision Procedure

Protest review and decision-making procedures shall be defined in the applicable sport-specific Technical Regulations.

9.4 Penalties and Financial Sanctions

Sporting and/or financial penalties may be imposed for violations of these Technical Regulations, the EDSO General Regulations, or applicable sport-specific rules. The types, procedures and amounts of such penalties shall be defined in the relevant sport-specific Technical Regulations and/or the Event-Specific Technical Bulletin.

9.5 Additional Provisions

Any additional protest or disciplinary provisions shall be defined in the applicable sport-specific Technical Regulations.

10. AWARDS & CEREMONIES

10.1 Location and Procedure of Award Ceremonies

The location, timing and procedure of award ceremonies shall be determined by the Organising Committee and published in the relevant Event-Specific Technical Bulletins.

10.2 Medals

Gold, silver and bronze medals shall be awarded per discipline or event. Where applicable, two bronze medals or additional trophies (e.g. cups for team competitions) may be awarded as defined in the sport-specific Technical Regulations.

10.3 Trophies, Cups and Team Awards

For team or group competitions, trophies, cups or other team awards may be presented in addition to medals.

The type, number and design of such awards shall be defined in the sport-specific Technical Regulations or the relevant Event-Specific Technical Bulletins.

10.4 Certificates and Diplomas

Where applicable, certificates, diplomas or participation confirmations may be issued. The type and scope shall be sport-specific.

10.5 Additional Provisions

Any additional award-related provisions shall be defined in the applicable sport-specific Technical Regulations.

11. FINAL PROVISIONS

11.1 Event Modification or Cancellation

EDSO reserves the right to modify, reschedule or cancel events due to safety, weather conditions or participation levels.

11.2 Reactivated / Pilot Sports

Reactivated or pilot sports may be conducted under adapted or transitional formats.

11.3 Authority

These Regulations are issued under the authority of EDSO.

11.4 Language

In case of interpretation differences, the English version shall prevail.

11.5 Additional Provisions

Any matters not covered herein shall be regulated in the applicable sport-specific Technical Regulations.

12. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS / ADDENDUM

EDSO reserves the right to issue supplementary implementing provisions, clarifications or addenda for exceptional, unforeseen or sport-specific circumstances. Such provisions may be published as addenda or supplementary notices and shall form an integral part of the applicable Technical Regulations.

Any such provisions shall not conflict with:

- the EDSO Statutes,
- the EDSO General Regulations,
- or the applicable ICSD Regulations.

Part F – EUROPEAN DEAF CHAMPIONSHIPS (EDC)

F1 – EDC General Provisions

F1.1 Purpose and Status of the EDC

The European Deaf Championships (EDC) constitute the official continental championship competitions of the European Deaf Sports Organisation (EDSO).

They represent the highest regular single-sport competition level within the EDSO system and are designed to determine the official European champions in the respective sport disciplines. EDC are performance-oriented events and are not primarily intended as developmental or introductory competitions.

F1.2 Position within the EDSO Competition System

Within the EDSO competition structure, EDC are distinguished from:

- European Deaf Youth Games (EDYG), which are development-oriented,
- European Deaf Youth Championships (EDYC), which serve as transitional elite youth formats,
- European Deaf Games (EDG), which are multi-sport events.

EDC are single-sport continental championship with a primary focus on elite performance.

F1.3 Relation to ICSD Competitions

EDC shall, wherever possible, be aligned with the principles, standards and structures of the International Committee of Sports for the Deaf (ICSD).

Where EDC serve as qualification or selection events for ICSD-recognised competitions, including World Deaf Championships and Deaflympics, the applicable ICSD regulations shall prevail.

The existence of an EDC does not automatically imply qualification relevance for ICSD events. Such relevance must be explicitly defined in the sport-specific EDC Technical Regulations. Alignment does not imply subordination unless explicitly stated.

F1.4 Participation and Qualification Philosophy

Participation in EDC may be based on:

- open entry,
- quota-based entry,
- or qualification competitions.

The applicable participation model shall be defined in the sport-specific EDC Technical Regulations.

EDC shall be structured to ensure a high level of competition, fair representation and operational feasibility.

F1.5 Advancement Pathways

EDC may serve as qualification or selection platforms for subsequent international competitions. The existence, scope and mechanisms of such advancement pathways shall be defined exclusively in the sport-specific EDC Technical Regulations.
No automatic advancement shall apply unless explicitly stated.

F1.6 Age Philosophy

Unless explicitly stated otherwise, EDC are adult-level competitions.
Age limits, minimum participation ages and age determination methods shall be defined in the sport-specific EDC Technical Regulations.

F1.7 Competition Formats

EDC may include:

- individual competitions,
- team competitions,
- pair or duo formats,
- and mixed-format competitions.

The applicable format shall be defined in the sport-specific EDC Technical Regulations.

F1.8 Titles and Official Recognition

European Deaf Championships (EDC) award official European championship titles.
EDC titles are protected titles under the authority of EDSO.
The use of the title “European Champion”, “European Deaf Champion” or equivalent designations is restricted to EDSO-sanctioned events.
Placements, medals and rankings achieved at EDC constitute official continental results.
Where applicable, such results may be included in ranking systems as defined in Part E and the sport-specific Technical Regulations.

F1.9 Regulatory Structure of EDC

This Part F1 establishes the general framework applicable to all EDC.
The detailed technical, organisational and competition-specific rules are defined in the sport-specific EDC Technical Regulations (Parts Fxx).
Event-specific adaptations shall be defined in the applicable Event-Specific Technical Bulletins.

F1.10 Hierarchy of Norms for EDC

In case of conflict, the following order applies:

1. ICSD Regulations
2. EDSO-Statutes
3. EDSO General Regulations
4. Parts B–E of this Handbook
5. Part F1
6. Sport-specific EDC Technical Regulations (Parts Fxx)
7. Event-Specific Technical Bulletins

Part G – EUROPEAN DEAF YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS (EDYC)

G1 – EDYC General Provisions

G1.1 Purpose and Status of the EDYC

The European Deaf Youth Championships (EDYC) constitute the official continental youth championship competitions of the European Deaf Sports Organisation (EDSO).

EDYC are championship-level events organised for Deaf athletes within defined youth and young adult age categories. They are designed to determine the official European Deaf Youth Champions in the respective sports, disciplines and age categories conducted.

EDYC are performance-oriented youth competitions and are not primarily intended as introductory or purely developmental events.

G1.2 Position within the EDSO Competition System

Within the EDSO competition structure, EDYC are distinguished from:

- European Deaf Youth Games (EDYG), which are development- and participation-oriented youth events,
- European Deaf Championships (EDC), which are open-age elite championship competitions,
- European Deaf Games (EDG), which are multi-sport adult events.

EDYC serve as age-category-based continental championships and represent a transitional championship level between youth development events and open-age elite competitions.

G1.3 Relation to ICSD Competitions

EDYC are not ICSD championships.

EDYC shall, where appropriate, be aligned with the general principles, standards and structures of the International Committee of Sports for the Deaf (ICSD), particularly with regard to competition integrity, athlete eligibility and technical standards.

Participation in EDYC does not automatically constitute qualification for ICSD-recognised competitions, including World Deaf Championships or Deaflympics. Any qualification relevance must be explicitly defined in the sport-specific EDYC Technical Regulations.

EDYC competitions may, where explicitly defined by EDSO, serve as qualification events for ICSD-recognised youth competitions, including the World Deaf Youth Championships (WDYC).

Results achieved at EDYC may be taken into account for ICSD or EDSO ranking purposes only where such relevance is explicitly stated in the applicable sport-specific EDYC Technical Regulations.

No automatic qualification or ranking relevance shall apply unless explicitly defined.

Alignment with ICSD principles does not imply subordination unless explicitly stated.

G1.4 Participation and Qualification Philosophy

Participation in EDYC may be based on:

- open entry,
- quota-based entry,
- or qualification competitions.

The applicable participation and qualification model shall be defined in the sport-specific EDYC Technical Regulations.

EDYC shall be structured to ensure fair competition, balanced representation, athlete safety and operational feasibility across all age categories.

G1.5 Age and Category Philosophy

EDYC are organised by clearly defined age categories.

Age categories may include, but are not limited to, U13, U15, U17, U19, U21 and U23. Each age category constitutes a separate championship competition unless otherwise specified.

Competition categories within each age group may include Boys, Girls and, where appropriate, Mixed categories, as defined in the sport-specific EDYC Technical Regulations.

Age determination methods, minimum and maximum age limits and category definitions shall be governed by Part B of this Handbook and the applicable sport-specific EDYC Technical Regulations.

G1.6 Competition Formats

EDYC competitions may include:

- individual competitions,
- team competitions,
- pair or duo formats,
- and mixed-format competitions.

Competition formats shall follow championship standards equivalent to those applied at EDC level, with age-appropriate adaptations permitted to ensure athlete safety, fairness and developmental suitability.

Such adaptations shall be defined in the sport-specific EDYC Technical Regulations and, where applicable, in Event-Specific Technical Bulletins.

G1.7 Titles and Official Recognition

EDYC award official European Deaf Youth Championship titles under the authority of EDSO.

EDYC titles are protected titles and shall be awarded separately for each sport, discipline and age category conducted.

EDYC titles shall not be equated with open-age European Deaf Championship titles awarded at EDC level.

Placements, medals and results achieved at EDYC constitute official continental youth championship results.

G1.8 Regulatory Structure of EDYC

This Part G1 establishes the general framework applicable to all European Deaf Youth Championships.

The detailed technical, organisational and competition-specific rules for EDYC are defined in the sport-specific EDYC Technical Regulations (Parts Gxx).

Event-specific adaptations and organisational details shall be defined in the applicable Event-Specific Technical Bulletins.

G1.9 Hierarchy of Norms for EDYC

In case of conflict, the following order applies:

1. ICSD Regulations (where applicable),
2. EDSO Statutes,
3. EDSO General Regulations,
4. Parts B–E of this Handbook,
5. Part G1,
6. Sport-specific EDYC Technical Regulations (Parts Gxx),
7. Event-Specific Technical Bulletins.

Part H – EUROPEAN DEAF GAMES (EDG)

H1 – EDG General Provisions

H1.1 Purpose and Status of the EDG

The European Deaf Games (EDG) constitute the official continental multi-sport Games of the European Deaf Sports Organisation (EDSO).

EDG are organised as a single, multi-sport event at one host location and bring together multiple sports conducted under a unified organisational and regulatory framework.

EDG are performance-oriented adult competitions designed to determine official European Deaf Games champions and medalists in the sports and disciplines included in the event.

H1.2 Position within the EDSO Competition System

Within the EDSO competition structure, EDG are distinguished from:

- European Deaf Championships (EDC), which are single-sport elite continental championships,
- European Deaf Youth Championships (EDYC), which are age-category-based youth championships,
- European Deaf Youth Games (EDYG), which are development- and participation-oriented youth events.

EDG represent the primary multi-sport championship event at continental level for adult Deaf athletes.

H1.3 Multi-Sport Character and Sports Programme

EDG are organised as a multi-sport event conducted at a single host location.

The EDG sports programme may include:

- individual sports,
- team sports,
- pair or duo sports.

Team sports may be included where facilities, scheduling and organisational capacity permit.

The final list of sports, disciplines and events to be conducted at each EDG shall be defined by EDSO and confirmed in the Event-Specific Technical Bulletins.

H1.4 Relation to European Deaf Championships (EDC)

In exceptional cases, an EDG may include one or more sports conducted as official European Deaf Championships within the framework of the Games.

This may apply in particular where a standalone European Deaf Championship in a given sport has not been organised within the preceding cycle.

Where a sport is conducted as an official European Deaf Championship within the EDG:

- EDC championship titles may be awarded,
- the applicable EDC sport-specific Technical Regulations shall apply,
- and such status must be explicitly stated in advance by EDSO.

H1.5 Relation to ICSD Competitions and Deaflympics Qualification

EDG are not ICSD championships.

EDG may, where explicitly defined by EDSO and in accordance with ICSD regulations, serve as qualification events for ICSD-recognised competitions, including the Deaflympics.

Any qualification relevance for ICSD competitions shall be explicitly defined in the sport-specific EDG Technical Regulations or Event-Specific Technical Bulletins.

No automatic qualification relevance shall apply unless explicitly stated.

H1.6 Age and Category Philosophy

EDG are adult-level competitions.

Participation is generally open to athletes meeting the minimum age requirements defined in the sport-specific EDG Technical Regulations.

Competition categories may include:

- Men,
- Women,
- Mixed or Open categories, where appropriate.

Age limits, minimum participation ages and category definitions shall be defined in the sport-specific EDG Technical Regulations.

H1.7 Competition Formats

EDG competitions may include:

- individual competitions,
- team competitions,
- pair or duo formats,
- and mixed-format competitions.

Competition formats shall follow elite championship standards and, where applicable, align with ICSD and International Federation rules.

Any adaptations required due to the multi-sport Games format shall be defined in the sport-specific EDG Technical Regulations or Event-Specific Technical Bulletins.

H1.8 Titles, Medals and Official Recognition

EDG award official European Deaf Games titles and medals under the authority of EDSO.

Titles and medals awarded at EDG constitute official continental results.

Where a sport is designated as an official European Deaf Championship within the EDG framework, the corresponding EDC titles and recognition shall apply.

H1.9 Regulatory Structure of EDG

This Part H1 establishes the general framework applicable to all European Deaf Games.

The detailed technical, organisational and competition-specific rules for EDG are defined in the sport-specific EDG Technical Regulations (Parts Hxx).

Event-specific adaptations and organisational provisions shall be defined in the applicable Event-Specific Technical Bulletins.

H1.10 Hierarchy of Norms for EDG

In case of conflict, the following order applies:

- 1) ICSD Regulations (where applicable),
- 2) EDSO Statutes,
- 3) EDSO General Regulations,
- 4) Parts B–E of this Handbook,
- 5) Part H1,
- 6) Sport-specific EDG Technical Regulations (Parts Hxx),
- 7) Event-Specific Technical Bulletins.

Part I – EUROPEAN DEAF YOUTH GAMES (EDYG)

I1 – EDYG General Provisions

I1.1 Purpose and Status of the EDYG

The European Deaf Youth Games (EDYG) constitute the official European multi-sport youth event of the European Deaf Sports Organisation (EDSO).

They are development-oriented competitions designed to promote participation, education, talent identification, and long-term athlete development among Deaf youth.

EDYG are not primarily intended to determine elite continental champions, but to provide an accessible, inclusive and structured entry point into international Deaf sport.

I1.2 Position within the EDSO Competition System

Within the EDSO competition structure, EDYG are distinguished from:

- European Deaf Championships (EDC), which are elite, performance-oriented adult competitions,
- European Deaf Youth Championships (EDYC), which serve as transitional elite youth formats,
- European Deaf Games (EDG), which are multi-sport adult events.

EDYG serve as the foundational youth platform of the EDSO competition system.

I1.3 Development-Oriented Character

EDYG are explicitly development-oriented events.

Their objectives include:

- promoting participation and access to international competition,
- encouraging multi-sport engagement,
- supporting athlete education and personal development,
- introducing international competition environments,
- strengthening Deaf identity and community,
- facilitating the transition to higher-level competitions.

Competitive results are relevant but not the sole or primary purpose.

I1.4 Relation to ICSD Competitions

EDYG are not ICSD championships and do not automatically serve as qualification events for ICSD competitions.

However, EDYG shall, where appropriate, be aligned with the general principles of ICSD youth development pathways.

Any direct qualification relevance must be explicitly stated in the sport-specific EDYG Technical Regulations.

I1.5 Participation and Inclusion Philosophy

Participation in EDYG shall prioritise:

- accessibility,
- inclusion,
- equal opportunity,
- development potential,
- educational value.

Entry models may be open, quota-based or adapted to youth participation needs.

The applicable participation model shall be defined in the sport-specific EDYG Technical Regulations.

I1.6 Age Philosophy

EDYG are youth-level competitions.

Age categories, minimum and maximum age limits, and age determination methods shall be defined in the sport-specific EDYG Technical Regulations.

Where appropriate, flexible age groupings may be applied to ensure meaningful competition and participation.

I1.7 Competition Formats

EDYG may include:

- individual competitions,
- team competitions,
- pair or duo formats,
- mixed formats,
- simplified or adapted formats.

Formats may differ from adult elite formats to better suit youth development objectives.

I1.8 Pathway Function

EDYG form part of the long-term athlete development pathway of EDSO.

They may contribute to:

- athlete monitoring,
- development tracking,
- talent identification,
- preparation for EDYC and EDC participation.

EDYG results shall not automatically create elite status unless explicitly stated.

I1.9 Titles and Official Recognition

EDYG award official youth-level titles under EDSO authority.

EDYG titles are protected titles.

They shall not be equated with adult European championship titles.

Placements, medals and rankings achieved at EDYG constitute official youth-level continental results.

I1.10 Regulatory Structure of EDYG

This Part I1 establishes the general framework applicable to all EDYG.

The detailed technical, organisational and competition-specific rules are defined in the sport-specific EDYG Technical Regulations (Parts Ixx).

Event-specific adaptations shall be defined in the applicable Event-Specific Technical Bulletins.

I1.11 Safeguarding and Protection of Minors

All EDYG events shall apply strict safeguarding principles.

This includes:

- protection of minors,
- supervision rules,
- safe sport policies,
- codes of conduct,
- appropriate medical and welfare provisions.

Detailed safeguarding provisions shall be defined in the sport-specific EDYG Technical Regulations and the Event-Specific Bulletins.

I1.12 Flexibility and Pilot Nature

As a youth development platform, EDYG may apply:

- pilot formats,
- simplified procedures,
- experimental structures.

Such adaptations must not undermine fairness, safety or integrity.

I1.13 Hierarchy of Norms for EDYG

In case of conflict, the following order applies:

1. ICSD Regulations (where applicable)
2. EDSO Statutes
3. EDSO General Regulations
4. Parts B–E of this Handbook
5. Part I1
6. Sport-specific EDYG Technical Regulations (Parts Ixx)
7. Event-Specific Technical Bulletins