RULES AND REGULATIONS
EGCA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE & WOMEN'S CHAMPIONS LEAGUE 2027

Approved by the EGCA Competition Committee under authority delegated and also by the EGCA Executive Board in accordance with Section 11 of the EGCA Statutes on 10 November 2026 and they are valid during EGCA – Champions League's & Women's Champions League season 2027.

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Scope. These Rules and Regulations apply to the EGCA Champions League and Women's Champions League season 2027.

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1. GOALS

- To determine the strongest European men's and women's goalball club team in the EGCA – Champions League;

(1) To allow the best European goalball club teams and athletes to compete with each other

(2) To proclaim goalball and motivate people to practice this sport

(3) To support creation of goalball fan clubs and encourage their activity

(4) To improve the visibility of goalball in media and spread the knowledge of this sport around Europe and worldwide

2. MANAGEMENT

The EGCA Champions League and Women's Champions League are managed by the EGCA Competition Committee in accordance with these regulations, the EGCA Statutes and the authority delegated to the Committee by the Executive Board.

The Competition Committee is responsible for the operational management of the competitions and may exercise the functions delegated to it by the Executive Board.

Matters falling outside the Committee's delegated authority, including matters with significant legal, financial, policy or reputational implications for EGCA, must be referred to the Executive Board.

Any member of the Competition Committee or other EGCA decision-making body who has an actual or potential conflict of interest in relation to a club, athlete or matter being considered must declare that conflict and must not participate in the decision where required by the EGCA Statutes, the Committee's Terms of Reference or other applicable EGCA governance rules.

Within its delegated authority, the EGCA Competition Committee is responsible for determining and overseeing the following matters:

a) Organizing clubs and dates for all stages of the EGCA - Champions League season

b) To supervise the general registration of clubs and rosters using a digital registration system

c) To supervise all regulations of a season in co-operation with all participating clubs

d) To send a representative of EGCA to each stages of the season

and to share:

a) Results, statistics and standings of the season on EGCA's website and social media

b) Publish news about the Champions League together with the EGCA Media Group

2.1 RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE EGCA REPRESENTATIVE

An EGCA Representative shall be appointed for each competition in accordance with the Competition Committee's delegated authority and the requirements approved by the Executive Board. Any actual or potential conflict of interest must be declared and managed before appointment.

(1) To represent the Association with the official entities present in the event

(2) To serve as a member of the Tournament Jury for protests within the Jury's authority under section 10, while taking no part in a matter where the representative has an actual or potential conflict of interest or has been materially involved in the decision under protest.jury

(3) To ensure good tournament organization within fair play

(4) To assist the organizing club

(5) To collect information and data for communication platforms

(6) To collect feedback from teams, referees, officials and spectators and send a short report to the EGCA Competition Committee how the stage was organized.

3. COMPETITION FORMAT

(1)There are three qualification stages for a maximum of 8 clubs / stage in a season of the Champions League

(2) A club can announce their preferred stage, which they want to participate in terms of their competition schedule and economical situation but EGCA Competition Committee will make the final decision. The club can mark all the stages which they are available to participate in

(3) Top 3 clubs from each stages secure their slot at the Final Stage of the season

(4) The host club of the Final Stage is qualified automatically. The host of the Final Stage can't participate in the Qualification Stage.

(5) There is own competition weekend for the Women's Champions League. There are maximum 10 participating clubs in the competition. Top 3 clubs of the last Women's Champions League tournament as well as the host club of the Women's Champions League are automatically qualified.

3.1 OFFICIAL DATES OF COMPETITIONS

(1) All competition dates will be published in the official competition calendar approved by the Executive Board. The Competition Committee may approve individual competition dates and organisers within that calendar and the authority delegated to it by the Executive Board. Any proposal falling outside that delegated authority, or involving significant legal, financial, policy or reputational implications for EGCA, must be referred to the Executive Board for approval.

(2) All qualification stages will start on Thursdays (arrival) and go until Sundays (departure). Competition days will be Friday, Saturday and Sunday

(3) The Final Stage and Women's Champions League can also run from Wednesday to Sunday or from Thursday to Monday

(4) Competition dates can be changed only due to objective reasons (weather conditions, transport breakdown, pandemic lockdown etc) If such a situation occurs, the clubs should inform the person responsible for the stage immediately. Any change to a competition date must be approved through the decision-making arrangements in paragraph (1). Informing the person responsible for the stage does not itself constitute approval of the change.

(5) Subject to the approval arrangements in paragraph (1), the dates and organisers for the 2027 season are listed below:

Champions League Qualification Stages

- 1st Qualification Stage: 18th – 21st February 2027, Rostock, Germany organized by RGC Hansa Rostock
- 2nd Qualification Stage: 25th – 28th February 2027, Vila do Conde, Portugal organized by Castelo da Maia GC & ANDDVIS
- 3rd Qualification Stage: 18th – 21st March 2027, Bursa, Türkiye organized by Nilüfer Buges

Final Stage of the Champions League

- The Final Stage: 15th – 19th September 2027, Espoo, Finland organized by Old Power

Women's Champions League 2027

- EGCA Women's Champions League: 22nd – 26th September 2027, Antalya, Türkiye organized by Isparta Visually Impaired Sports Club

4 COMPETITION RULES

The EGCA Champions League is played under the IBSA 2025 rules, subject to the changes approved in these regulations.

In just any of the stages, arbitration support technologies may be used with approval from the EGCA Competition Committee up to 30 days before the tournament and with information in the EGCA media.

Goalball rules tests can be used in just any of the 3 stages, as proposed by IBSA and with approval by the EGCA Competition Committee up to 30 days before the tournament and with information in the EGCA media.

4.1 PARTICIPATING CLUBS

(1) Clubs must register their teams and players according to the registration regulations that can be found on www.egca.info/rules-regulations-egca-competitions

(2) Each registered club must be an officially registered club that ordinarily participates in its national league or national championship.

Where a club is unable to participate in its national league or national championship because of exceptional circumstances outside the club's reasonable control, it may apply in writing for an exemption from this requirement. The application must be submitted by the registration deadline, explain the circumstances relied upon and include sufficient supporting evidence. The Competition Committee must give the club a written decision with reasons. An exemption applies only to the competition season for which it is granted and does not create a precedent for a future season.

In considering an application, the Competition Committee must assess both the club's eligibility to participate and how the club would be treated for entry-priority and ranking purposes. The Committee must be satisfied that:

a) the club is officially registered and is a genuine, established goalball club;

b) the circumstances preventing national participation are exceptional and outside the club's reasonable control;

c) the club has provided sufficient evidence of those circumstances;

d) participation would not give the club an unfair sporting advantage or undermine the integrity of the competition; and

e) granting the exemption is consistent with the purposes and eligibility principles of EGCA.

A club admitted under an exemption does not receive a higher entry priority solely because the exemption has been granted. Its entry priority must be determined under the applicable categories, ranking provisions and country limits in section 4.1(4) and (5), or section 7 for the Women's Champions League. Within the applicable category, the club's existing Champions League Ranking position will be used where available. Where it is not included in that ranking, the applicable country ranking will be used and, if clubs remain

equal, priority will be determined by the date and time on which both a complete registration and a complete exemption application had been received. Participation under an exemption may generate ranking points only through the club's results in the competition, in the same way as for every other participating club.

A newly established club that has not yet had a reasonable opportunity to participate in a national league or national championship may apply for an exemption. The club must be officially registered and must provide evidence that it is a genuine goalball organisation rather than a team assembled solely to enter a particular EGCA competition. The application will be assessed against the exemption criteria above, including the requirements relating to sporting fairness, competition integrity and entry priority.

An exemption from the national participation requirement does not waive the athlete eligibility or minimum local-athlete requirements in section 4.2. Any application for an individual athlete to receive local-athlete status must be considered separately under section 4.2(6).

Any exemption must be determined in accordance with the Competition Committee's delegated authority. Any application falling outside that authority, or raising significant legal, financial, policy or reputational implications for EGCA, must be referred to the Executive Board.

(3) Each club, who wants to take part in the EGCA competitions must be an EGCA member

(4) There are maximum 8 participating clubs at one qualification stage in following order:

a) Organizing club of the stage

b) National champions from countries in Europe that operate a national goalball league or national championship. A champion from a multinational goalball league may be treated within this category where the league has been recognised by the Competition Committee in accordance with these regulations. Where more than one eligible club falls within this category, clubs will be ordered by their position in the Champions League Ranking. A club not included in the Champions League Ranking will be ordered in accordance with the applicable country ranking and, if clubs remain equal, by the date and time on which its complete registration was received. The winner of the European Cup is also included in this category.

c) Clubs according their position in the Champions League Ranking

d) If there are still free spots at some stage, a place will be given in order for a club who comes from a country that has own national league / championships and the highest position in European Championships

e) There can be maximum 2 clubs from the same country at one qualification stage

(5) For decisions made under these regulations, the applicable country ranking is the ranking published by IBSA for the relevant competition and registration period. The ranking applicable to the 2027 Champions League registration period, as published on 1 September 2026, is: Türkiye, Ukraine, Germany, Israel, Finland, Poland, Montenegro, Belgium, Denmark, Greece, Sweden, Spain, Lithuania, Portugal, Great Britain, France, Italy, the Netherlands and Serbia. Countries not listed are treated equally and will be ordered by the date and time on which a complete registration was received. Any suspension from EGCA competitions will be applied in accordance with the decision imposing that suspension and the EGCA Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Framework.

4.2 ROSTER REGULATIONS FOR PARTICIPATING CLUBS

(1) A team can name maximum 10 athletes in its squad during EGCA Champions League 2027 season (qualification stage + final stage). The line-up must be informed by a team no later than 30 days before the start of a qualification stage or the Final Stage. For Women´s Champions League, this has to be done 30

days before the tournament starts. The roster has to be registered with EGCA using an official form or online system.

(2) An athlete can represent only one club during a Champions League season except female athletes who can play for one club in the Champions League and for another in the Women's Champions League.

(3) There must be always minimum 4 and maximum 6 registered athletes / team at a Champions League or Women's Champions League stage.

(4) There must be always a minimum one IBSA classified athlete in a squad of a team at a Champions League / Women's Champions League stage.

(5) Unclassified athletes (also sighted) athletes are eligible in the Champions League / Women's Champions League.

(6) A club must always have local athletes in its line-up for an EGCA Champions League or Women's Champions League stage. A local athlete is a player who has played for the club's team during the last two national league seasons, including the current season; in the last two consecutive national championships, including the current year; or in the last three consecutive years of EGCA competitions, including the current year. Where serious injury or another exceptional circumstance outside the athlete's and club's reasonable control has prevented the athlete from meeting these requirements, the club may apply to the Competition Committee for an exemption granting that athlete local-athlete status. The application must include appropriate supporting evidence and must be decided before the roster deadline. The Committee must be satisfied that granting local-athlete status would not create an unfair sporting advantage or undermine the integrity of the competition. An exemption grants status to the individual athlete; it does not reduce the minimum numbers of local athletes required by paragraph (7).

(7) If a team registers 6 athletes in its line-up for the EGCA Champions League or Women's Champions League stage, four of these athletes must be local athletes; if the team registers 5 athletes, three must be local; and if the team registers 4 athletes, three must be local. The nationality of the athlete does not matter, as long as the athlete meets the above-mentioned local player criteria. This rule also applies to athletes who come from the same country as the club.

(8) Subject to the minimum local-athlete requirements in paragraph (7), a club may register EU citizens who do not meet the local-athlete criteria.

(9) Subject to the minimum local-athlete requirements in paragraph (7), a club may register a maximum of one non-EU citizen who does not meet the local-athlete criteria.

(10) A female athlete can take part in the Champions League and it will not prevent them to take part inWomen's Champions League, Youth Championships or EGCA Grand Prix tournaments. A female athlete can also represent another club in another competition like one in the Champions League and another in the EGCA Grand Prix.

(11) A U23 male athlete can take part in the Champions League and Youth Championships during the same year. A youth athlete can also represent one club in the Champions League and another at the EGCA Youth Championships.

(12) A male athlete who has taken part of the Champions League can't play the EGCA Grand Prix during the same year except U20 athletes.

(13) An athlete who has participated in the Champions League qualification stage but whose team has not advanced to the Final Stage, can take part in the EGCA European Cup representing the same team as in the Champions League qualification stage.

(14) Failure to comply with registration rules results in a 10-0 loss in the game.

4.3 REGISTRATION

(1) Registration for participating clubs of the Champions League qualification stages is open between 1st September – 30th November 2026 on www.egca.info/champions-league-2027

(2) EGCA Competition Committee informs the clubs who were qualified to the qualification stages just after the deadline of registration

(3) The participating club must pay the payment of participation fees not later than 60 days before the start of the stage. A club is officially approved to the EGCA – Champions League 2027 season when it has paid the participation fees in time

(4) If the club doesn't pay the payment of participation fees in time its place at the stage may be offered for another club

(5) Once a club has paid the participation fees, it can no longer reduce the number of its participants without charge. Additional participants may be added, but additions or changes must be made no later than 3 days before the start of the stage. This provision does not extend the athlete roster deadline in section 4.2(1) or waive the athlete eligibility requirements in section 4.2.

(6) Exact deadlines for the organizer to send the entry forms and invoices are informed in the Requirement & Responsibilities of the stage organizer document that can be found on www.egca.info/rules-regulations-egca-competitions.

(7) Registration dates and instructions for the Women's Champions League 2027 will be published by the EGCA Competition Committee in the first quarter of year 2027

4.4 CLUB UNIFORM

(1) Clubs must use jerseys of the same colour and design, subject to any requirements in the applicable IBSA Goalball Rules and Regulations. Where exceptional circumstances outside the club's reasonable control, such as jerseys being lost or damaged during travel, make this impossible, the EGCA Representative may authorise a temporary alternative. The decision must protect the ability of officials and participants to distinguish the teams, must apply only for as long as necessary and must be recorded with reasons.

(2) Clubs can use numbers 1-19 on their jerseys. The size of jersey numbers is defined in the IBSA 2025 rules.

4.5 EYE SHADES

At the EGCA Champions League & Women's Champions League 2027 stages, it is mandatory to use goalball eye shades with a nose piece. If a player does not have the required eye shades, they will not be allowed to participate in the match. If, during the inspection of the eye shades, it is found that a player is not wearing eye shades that comply with the regulations, the team will be penalized for delay of game.

5. QUALIFICATION STAGES

5.1 TOURNAMENT TREE

(1) Tournament tree at qualification stages:

a) With four teams; double round robin (12 games)

b) With five teams; a single round robin, semifinals and medal games (14 games)

c) With six teams; single round robin, semifinals, placement & medal games (20 games)

d) With seven teams; a single round robin (21 games)

e) With eight teams: 2 groups with 4 teams, single round robin in both groups, quarter finals, semifinals, placement & medal games (24 games)

(2) There can be a maximum three matches for one team during one competition day

(3) There must be always minimum 75 minutes break for a team between two matches

5.2 POINTS

(1) Teams will earn 3 points from a victory, 1 point from a tie and 0 points from a loss;

(2) Teams ranking in the tournament with single or double round robin as well as in group stage will be determined as follow:

a) Earned points

b) Goal Difference – subtracting a team's goals scored against from their goals scored in the total round robin

c) Number of Wins – teams will be assessed on the number of wins in the round robin. Teams with the most wins will be given the higher ranking.

d) Goals Against – the team with the lowest goals against in the overall competition will be given the higher ranking.

e) Goal Difference – The same procedure shall be used again, but this time only the games in the round robin between the teams that have to be separated shall be included. In the event that a tie occurs between more than two teams, the above criteria will be used, in order, until one team has been separated.

f) If two clubs are still tied after criterions A-E the extra throw competition may be organized to determine the ranking of the teams.

(3) There will be awarded the best team of the qualification stage by a trophy that is provided by the organizing club

(4) There will be also given the award for the best scorer of the qualification stage as well as the most valuable player (The MVP). The MVP is voted by the participating teams

(5) The placement games are also important for the clubs who don't qualify to the Final Stage because there will be the EGCA European Cup tournament in the end of 2027 where the best ranked clubs will be invited

6. THE FINAL STAGE

6.1 TOURNAMENT TREE

(1) There will be 10 participating clubs at the final stage and Women´s Champions League

(2) There will be 2 groups with 5 teams that will be drawn with the model that EGCA Competition Committee has decided

(3) The ranking of the clubs in groups will be determined as in the section 5.2

(4) There will be quarter finals, semifinals, medal & placement games after the group stage

(5) Top three teams will receive EGCA – Champions League Season medals

(6) The best scorer as well as the MVP of the final stage will be awarded. The MVP will be voted by the participating teams.

7. WOMEN'S CHAMPIONS LEAGUE 2027

1. There will be maximum 10 participating clubs in the Women's Champions League 2027 that will be held in Antalya, Türkiye on 22nd – 26th September 2027. Top 3 clubs of last season: Old Power (FIN), Kahramanmaras (TUR) and RGC Hansa Rostock (GER) as well as the host club Isparta are automatically qualified to the Women's Champions League 2027 tournament
2. If more than ten clubs register, places will be allocated in the following order:
3. The automatically qualified clubs identified in paragraph (1).
4. National champions from countries that operate a national women's goalball league or national championship.

c) Clubs that participated in the previous Women's Champions League, in order of their final position in that competition.

d) Other eligible clubs.

Where more than one club falls within category (b), clubs will be ordered by the applicable women's country ranking and then, if clubs remain equal, by the date and time on which a complete registration was received. Clubs in category (c) will be ordered by their final position in the previous Women's Champions League. Clubs in category (d) will be ordered by the applicable women's country ranking and then, if clubs remain equal, by the date and time on which a complete registration was received. Each club will be considered in the highest priority category for which it qualifies and will receive no more than one place.

A club that is unable to satisfy the national participation requirement may apply for an exemption under section 4.1. Granting an exemption does not itself provide a higher entry priority.

1. For decisions concerning the 2027 Women's Champions League, the applicable country ranking is the ranking published by EGCA for the relevant registration period. The ranking published on 1 September 2026 is: Türkiye, Israel, Finland, Ukraine, Great Britain, Greece, Poland, France, Germany, Spain and Hungary. Countries not listed are treated equally and will be ordered by the date and time on which a complete registration was received. Any suspension from EGCA competitions will be applied in accordance with the decision imposing that suspension and the EGCA Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Framework.
2. Athlete regulations for the Women's Champions League are presented in the section 4.2
3. EGCA Competition Committee will confirm the play system and draw of pools for the Women's Champions League 2027 after the deadline of registration
4. Three best clubs of the Women's Champions League 2027 tournament will be awarded with the medals and the winner will be crowned as the European Champion of the clubs
5. Also the best scorer and the most valuable player (MVP) will be awarded. The MVP will be voted by the participating teams.

8. REQUIREMENTS & RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE STAGE ORGANIZER

The requirements and responsibilities of a club hosting an EGCA Champions League stage are set out in the separate document "Requirements & Responsibilities for the EGCA event organizer 2027", available at www.egca.info/rules-regulations-egca-competitions.

9. REFEREES

(1) Table officials and goal judges are primarily from the host country. Also the national level or IBSA level I referees from host country may work as 10 second referees

(2) The referees must be level III and / or II of the official IBSA classification. Also some experienced referees who are not IBSA classified anymore may referee in the Champions League and Women's Champions League but the organizer must ask for a special permission from the EGCA Competition Committee

(3) 7-10 referees are invited by a stage organizer and approved by EGCA Competition Committee according to the list of IBSA level II and III referees. The organizer must send first the list of referees whom they are aiming to invite to the tournament and after the approval of the EGCA Competition Committee they can send the invitations

(4) 50 % of the referees must be out of the host country of a stage.

(5) Referees must not referee 3 consecutive matches. They must follow one of these rotation models:

a) 1 match on the court + 1 match 10 sec. + 1 rest;

or

b) 2 games on the court consecutively + 1 rest.

In some stages technological assistance may be introduced to the referee

(6) A referee may not officiate a match in which a team from the referee's country of nationality is playing. A referee is also ineligible to officiate matches in which their cohabiting partner, spouse, or family member is involved as a player, coach, or team official. These conflict-of-interest rules do not apply when acting as a 10-second referee.

9.1 CHIEF REFEREE / TECHNICAL DELEGATE

The organizing club of a stage will name in co-operation with EGCA Competition Committee a chief referee (or in some cases a technical delegate) who has following responsibilities:

a) Create the schedule for referees

b) Monitor the work of goal judges and table officials (educated them if needed)

c) Fill in the tournaments' protocols and provide teams with this information

d) Take care of the courts' technical requirements, change game balls, remove all defects as soon as possible

e) Check that team line-ups and athlete identities are following EGCA - Champions League 2027 regulations

f) Work as a part of the tournament jury

10. PROTEST & TOURNAMENT JURY

A protest may be considered only where an alleged error in applying the IBSA Goalball Rules or these competition regulations may have materially affected the match result or provided one team with an unfair advantage. Concerns about behaviour, safeguarding, discrimination, harassment, cheating beyond the technical match decision or other misconduct must be reported under the EGCA Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Framework.

If a head coach or authorised team representative believes that an official's error may have materially affected the match result, the club may submit a protest using the official protest form. The protest must identify the IBSA or EGCA competition rule concerned and must be submitted to the chief referee within 30 minutes after the match ends. A protest fee of EUR 100 is payable. The fee will be refunded if the protest is upheld; otherwise, it will be retained by EGCA and used for the development of club goalball.

Tournament jury is consisted by:

1. The chief referee or technical delegate, or another referee if the chief referee officiated in the match under protest. A referee serves as Chair of the Tournament Jury;
2. An EGCA representative;
3. Representative of the organizing club. If the protest concerns a match in which the host club has played, the Chair of the Tournament Jury shall appoint a representative from another club that did not participate in the match subject to the protest.

If the EGCA Representative cannot take part in a protest because of an actual or potential conflict of interest or material involvement in the decision under protest, the Chair of the Tournament Jury shall appoint an impartial replacement who has no such conflict or involvement. The appointment and the reasons for it must be recorded before the protest is determined.

10.1 INFRACTIONS, REASONABLE FOR A PROTEST

1. Mistakes in running the main game clock (video records can be provided);
2. Infraction of the 10 seconds rule (8-12s) (video records can be provided);
3. Goal from out of court line is scored (video records can be provided, if recorded from the back of the Goal line);
4. Players took off their eyeshades when the match had not finished yet (video records can be provided);
5. A player has cheated during the match and effected to the result (video records can be provided);
6. Violation of the team constitution rule;
7. Other rude mistakes of the referees.

Video clips for the protest must be taken from the official live stream record or by using video assistant referee.

A protest may be considered only where an alleged error in applying the IBSA Goalball Rules or these competition regulations may have materially affected the match result or provided one team with an unfair advantage.

The Tournament Jury may determine protests concerning the application of competition rules and decisions affecting an individual match. Where the same incident also raises an allegation under the EGCA Code of Conduct, the Jury may decide the technical match protest but must refer the disciplinary allegation under the applicable disciplinary procedure. The Jury must not determine disciplinary responsibility under the Code of Conduct or impose disciplinary sanctions outside the powers expressly provided by these regulations.

11. RULES FOR THE FULFILLMENT OF SPORTS TRUTH

11.1 SPORT TRUTH

- European Goalball Club Association defends the appreciation of the athlete for his / her work and the reflection of his / her overcoming, condemning any and all actions that alter the sports truth;

- EGCA is betting on the forefront of technological innovation that allows human error to be reduced as much as possible which can influence results;

- EGCA condemns any and all fraud or cheating initiatives by an athlete or club;

- The tournament directors and EGCA representatives have a duty to uphold the values of ethics and prevent illegal acts in competitions, as well as comply with and enforce the World Anti-Doping Agency's World Anti-Doping Code;

- Consequently, athletes competing in EGCA tournaments can be subjected to doping control tests at any time, with or without notice.

11.2 ACT OF CHEATING

The Competition Committee may deal with routine competition administration and report suspected breaches arising during a competition. Serious disciplinary matters must be considered in accordance with the EGCA Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Framework.

Referral under the EGCA Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Framework does not displace any immediate match sanction available under the applicable IBSA Goalball Rules or these competition regulations. Any restriction on participation beyond the individual match may be imposed only by a person or body authorised under the applicable rules or disciplinary framework and in accordance with its procedures.

The Competition Committee must not determine a serious disciplinary case or impose a final disciplinary sanction unless expressly authorised to do so under the applicable disciplinary framework.

11.3 DOPING CONTROL

Any player, who is playing in an EGCA tournament may be asked to perform a doping control test.

Refusal to undertake an authorised doping control must be reported immediately to the responsible anti-doping organisation and to EGCA. Any immediate restriction, investigation or sanction must be determined in accordance with the applicable anti-doping rules, the authority of the responsible anti-doping organisation and the EGCA Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Framework. Any EGCA decision must include written reasons and information about the applicable right of appeal.

11.4 DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

Any disciplinary decision and any appeal arising from it shall be dealt with in accordance with the EGCA Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Framework and the internal appeals procedure provided for under the EGCA Statutes.

Before a final disciplinary sanction is imposed, the person or club concerned must be informed of the allegations and given an opportunity to respond in accordance with the EGCA Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Framework. This provision does not displace any authorised interim protective measure or immediate match sanction.

Any suspension for cheating must be determined under the EGCA Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Framework. The decision-maker must consider the seriousness of the conduct, the harm or risk caused, whether it was deliberate, any previous behaviour, cooperation, action already taken and the need to protect fair competition. The written decision must state the duration of the suspension, its scope, when it starts, any conditions for return and the right of appeal.

Any referral required by applicable law or binding rules must be made in accordance with those requirements. In other cases, a disciplinary decision or report may be referred to IBSA, the relevant national federation, an anti-doping body, a safeguarding authority, the police or another competent organisation where the referral is necessary, proportionate and permitted by applicable law. EGCA must

explain that the receiving organisation will determine independently whether to take further action under its own rules.