

6TH EUROPEAN NATIONS CHALLENGE CUP

18 - 20 SEPTEMBER 2008

BUDAPEST, HUNGARY

On behalf of the European Squash Federation (the "ESF") and the Hungarian Squash Federation (the "Host Association") we are very pleased to invite you to participate in the 2008 European Nations Challenge Cup (the "ENCC" or the "Championships").

THE VENUE

The Championships will be held at: Griff Squash and Fitness Club, Budapest
Phone: +36 1 206-4065
Address: 1113 Budapest, Bartok Bela ut 152
Website: www.griffsquash.hu

ENCC TIMETABLE

21 July	Closing Date for Entries. Payment of Entry Fees to ESF.
21 July	Closing Date for Payment of Package Fees to the Host Association.
21 July	Deadline for notification of Accommodation requirements.
19 August	Names of players in squads to be supplied in descending order of strength.
28 August	Seeding of Squads.
4 September	Deadline for notification of Arrival Details.
9 September	Final Submission Date - changes to Squad Members and/or Squad Orders to be lodged in writing with the Championships Director.
11 September	Squad Orders published.
12 September	Objections to Squad Orders to be lodged in writing with the Championships Director.
17 September	Arrival Day.
18 September	Managers' Meeting at 09.00 hrs at the Venue.
18 September	Start Date of the Championships. Play scheduled to start at 10.00.
20 September	Finals of the Championships, Prize-giving and Finals Party.
21 September	Departure Day (unless other arrangements have been agreed in advance with the Championships Director).

ENTRIES / ENTRY FEES

Only entries endorsed by National Associations will be accepted. These entries, made on the official entry forms, must be submitted to the ESF Office no later than the Closing Date – **21 July 2008** – with copies to the Championships Director.

The Entry Fee is **EUR 134** per Men's Team and **EUR 103** per Women's Team. [An Entry Fee of **EUR 36** per Individual playing in a Composite Team will be collected from the individual at the event].

The Entry Fee must be paid net of bank charges at the time the entry is sent to the ESF.

Post/fax/email entry form to:

European Squash Federation
Sue Scott
The Almonry
High Street
Battle
East Sussex, TN33 0EA
England
Fax: (+44) 1424 774879
Email: esf@europeansquash.com

Payment of entry fee to:

Account name: European Squash Federation
Account number: 10433001
Bank: Bank of Scotland
Direct Business Banking
PO Box 25044, Princes House,
50 West Campbell Street,
Glasgow, G2 6YJ, Scotland
SWIFT/IBAN BIC: BOFSGB21EUL
IBAN: GB69 BOFS 1220 1010 4330 01

Closing Date for the Championships: 21 July 2008

All entries will be acknowledged.

A visa may be necessary for entrants from some countries. We therefore recommend that entrants should check on visa requirements as soon as possible. If a visa is required please inform the Championships' Director, colin@karakalsquash.hu, immediately, giving the details of all possible team members (including full name, passport number and date of birth) so that visa invitations can be arranged.

LATE ENTRIES & WITHDRAWALS

Late entries may be accepted by the Host Association with the approval of the ESF Technical Director.

Late entry fees must be paid by the National Association to the ESF as follows:

- (i) **30 to 59 days** before the Start Date Entry Fee **doubled** per team
- (ii) **Less than 30 days** before the Start Date Entry Fee **trebled** per team

Withdrawals from the Team Championship will be handled under Rule A11 of the Rules Governing the European Nations Challenge Cup (the "Rules") – see ESF website (www.europeansquash.com)

ELIGIBILITY

Member National Associations (MNAs), who have settled all financial obligations by the Closing Date of entry to the Championships and have not been prohibited from entering the ENCC under the provision of the Code of Conduct or for any other reason, shall be eligible to enter an official team in the Championships provided:

- (i) The MNA is a Full Member of the ESF **or**
- (ii) The MNA is a Provisional Member of the ESF and has not played twice before as an official team in these Championships **and**
- (iii) The team has not finished better than #16 in the ESF European Team Championships in the last 5 years **or**
- (iv) The team has not won the ENCC on two occasions in the last 5 years.

We believe the following countries are eligible to enter official teams in the ENCC 2008:

- **MEN** – Croatia, Cyprus, Estonia, Gibraltar, Greece, Iceland, Isle of Man, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Russia, Serbia, Slovenia, Turkey and Ukraine;
- **WOMEN** – As for Men plus Hungary and Sweden.

A player may represent a Country only if he/she meets the ESF eligibility rules:

1. if he/she has not represented another country, in a recognised international squash team event in any age group, in the **36 months** preceding the Start Date **and**
2. if he/she represents:
 - (i) the Country of his/her birth **or**
 - (ii) the Country of either parent's birth **or**
 - (iii) the Country in which he/she is a citizen **or**
 - (iv) the Country in which he/she has been resident for **four years** immediately preceding the Start Date.

A properly qualified player, who has once represented a Country in a recognised international squash team event, shall be eligible to represent that Country thereafter, until such time as he/she exercises a qualification to represent another Country, thus making him/her no longer eligible under Rule 1 or 2.

In all cases where a player's eligibility is in doubt, it is obligatory upon the MNA for which the player wishes to play, to prove eligibility to the satisfaction of the ESF Officers before the Start Date.

CHAMPIONSHIPS ADMINISTRATION

ESF Technical Director	Chris Stahl
Championships Director	Colin White
Championships Referee	Csaba Altvater

The Championships Adjudicating Panel (CAP) will be chaired by the ESF Technical Director who will appoint at least 2 other members of the Panel at least 30 days before the Start Date from event organisers or team managers with ENCC experience who are expected to attend the event. The CAP shall be responsible for final decisions on all appeals during the Championships.

If a member of the CAP is from an MNA that is involved in or associated with an appeal, then the ESF Technical Director shall co-opt a neutral person for that appeal from one of the Teams in attendance.

Detailed Rules of the ENCC may be found on the ESF website: www.europeansquash.com

Note that PAR 11 Scoring will be used on an experimental basis in all matches.

SEEDING OF TEAMS

The CAP will seed Official Teams based on their final placings in the last ENCC. Any new Official Teams will be seeded on the current form of players nominated in their squads. Unofficial (Guest, Composite and 2nd) Teams will be placed after all Official Teams, avoiding those from the same Country being placed in the same Pool.

The ESF Technical Director shall make the draws and publish them 21 days before the Start Date. There is no right of appeal against seedings or draws.

REFEREES

The Championships Referee will ensure that a referee officiates at every match in the Championships. MNAs are asked to ensure that their players and officials referee matches as requested by the Championships Referee.

SQUASH BALLS

The Dunlop Pro ball will be used.

INSURANCE

Players enter and play in the Championships at their own risk. Neither the ESF nor the Host Association accepts any responsibility for injury arising from participation in the event. Players must arrange their own insurance.

DRUGS

The ESF and the Host Association reserve the right to implement compulsory dope testing for any player participating in the Championships. Dope testing may be carried out by the National Government. This event must be dope free.

CHAMPIONSHIPS PACKAGES

Accommodation can be booked in the official Championships Hotel only through the Host Association's representatives:

Pro Squash Akademia Sport Egyesult
Valeria U. 2
1038 Budapest, Hungary

E-mail: colin@karakalsquash.hu or sfulop@karakalsquash.hu

Standard Package

The Standard Package is **EUR 288** per person including: accommodation in the official Hotel for 4 nights in twin-bedded rooms; transportation between the airport/station and official hotel; 9 meals (starting from breakfast on the Start Date and ending with breakfast on the Departure Day); a final evening dinner and party; event administration and welcome pack; and admission to all court viewing areas. Additional nights are **EUR 52** per person in a twin-bedded room (including breakfast).

Some single rooms may be available at an extra cost of **EUR 41** per person per night (including breakfast).

The official Hotel is the Griff Hotel (***). Further information available on www.griffsquash.hu

Basic Package

A Basic Package of **EUR 72** per person, including a final evening party, event administration, welcome pack and admission to all court viewing areas, is offered to those teams that wish to make their own arrangements for accommodation, food and local transportation.

Accommodation can be confirmed only after the MNA has transferred the total Package Fee to the Hungarian Squash Federation at:

Bank:	OTP Bank Nyrt.
Account No:	11711003-20001869
SWIFT/BIC:	OTPVHUHB
IBAN:	HU49 1171 1003 2000 1869 0000 0000
Account Name:	Pro Squash Akademia Sport Egyesult
Reference:	ENCC 2008

All package fees must be paid net of bank charges.

CURRENCY

The EURO is the official currency of the European Squash Federation. All payments to the ESF must be made in Euro (or Sterling at an exchange rate to be agreed with the ESF Office).

All payments to the Host Association must be made in Euro (or Hungarian Forints at an exchange rate to be agreed with the Host Association).

CANCELLATION

The cost of packages and entry fees cannot be refunded for any cancellation after 21 July 2008

TRANSPORT

Teams taking the Standard Package will be met at one of the two Budapest Ferihegy Airports or three International Railway Stations, provided the Host Association is given adequate notice.

TEAM AND SQUAD ORDERS

MNAs must lodge with the ESF Office by post, email or fax at least **30 days** before the Start Date, the names of the players in their Squads in descending order of strength that reflect the current form of players. Not more than 4 players may be nominated in any squad; and only those players who have been officially nominated may play in any match.

MNAs may lodge with the Championships Director by post, email or fax at least **9 days** before the Start Date (the Final Submission Date), changes to their squad members and/or squad orders justified by changes in current form.

The Championships Director will publish all nominations **7 days** before the Start Date.

Any objections to a playing order or player eligibility must be lodged with the Championships Director at least **5 days** before the Start Date. Objections must be in writing and be justified with evidence based on latest PSA Top 100/WISPA Top 50 rankings, then on current National rankings or results of latest National Championships.

The CAP will scrutinise nominations and will consider any objection lodged with the Championships Director. The CAP reserves the right to amend any squad order without formal objection. Team Managers must be available between **18:00 and 22:00 hours on the day before the Start Date** to give evidence to the CAP if required. The Team Manager will be advised immediately if his squad is subject to objection or amendment; or if he is required to justify player eligibility or playing order to the CAP. The CAP will hear his justification with the objecting manager(s) invited to be present. The decision of the CAP will be final and will be announced by the start of the Managers' Meeting. There is no right of appeal.

The squad playing order must be adhered to throughout the Championships. Any player can be omitted from a Tie provided the others play in the order of merit approved by the CAP.

Unless the Championships Director is notified otherwise in writing at least **one hour** before the scheduled start of a Tie or within 10 minutes of completion of the previous Tie (whichever is the later), Managers shall be deemed to have selected their top players. The CAP reserves the right to allow changes to player nominations after the deadline for each Tie in exceptional circumstances.

A Team Manager may request permission from the CAP to replace a member of his squad at any time from the Final Submission Date through the Championships. Such permission will be given only if the reason is considered by the CAP to be legitimate (e.g. injury, illness or *force majeure*).

A Team Manager may, at any time during the Championships, appeal to the CAP if he has evidence that a player in an opposing squad is likely to compete, or has competed, when unfit.

If this appeal is upheld, then the player in question may not be nominated to compete in any Tie until approved by the CAP and appropriate action may be taken against the squad concerned.

FORMAT AND PLAYING ORDER

A maximum of 16 Men's and 16 Women's teams may compete in the Championships. If more than 16 teams enter either event, the basis of acceptance shall be decided by the ESF Technical Director, with preference being given to "official" teams, on a "first come, first served" basis.

Only one team of Men and/or Women may officially represent an MNA at the ENCC. Second teams of either Men or Women and "Composite" teams of players may compete on an unofficial "guest" basis with the prior approval of the ESF and the Host Association depending on the number of entries as well as the number of courts and accommodation available.

The format of the Event will be decided by the ESF Technical Director such that any team can win however it is seeded, with all teams being scheduled to play a minimum of three Ties.

In the first stage, all teams normally will be required to play Ties in Pools on a "Round-Robin" (all play all) basis. In the second stage, teams normally will play Ties on a "knock-out" basis.

Teams that have been defeated will be required to play-off to produce a final order covering all competing teams. All places shall be played out.

The playing order of matches will be drawn for each day of the Championships by the Championships Director at the initial Managers' Meeting. Details of the playing order shall be posted in the Tournament Office.

All Ties played each day will use the same playing order. The #1 Player must play 1st or 2nd – giving 4 possible playing permutations (1-2-3, 1-3-2, 2-1-3, 3-1-2).

Each Tie shall consist of one match for each member of the team, played between players nominated in order of current playing strength. Each match shall be played the best of five games - except when the score is 2-0 in a Tie at the knockout stage, when the final match shall be played the best of 3 games.

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ENTRY FORM

CLOSING DATE: MONDAY, 21 JULY 2008

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

E-mail: _____

Name of Responsible Person _____

Position in Association _____

Address _____

Phone / Fax _____

Email _____

Signature _____

Name List all Men's squad players together, then all Women's squad players together then other officials	Capacity (Player / Official)	Male / Female	Ranking in Squad	Tournament Package (Standard Package €288; Basic Package €72)	Extra night(s) - please state dates - at €52 per night (twin bedded room)	Single room supplement - extra €41 per night	Total Package Fee per person

Maximum of 4 players in each squad. Officials limited to 2 per squad. Others by arrangement with Host Association.

TOTAL Package Fees to be sent to Host Association = €.....

ENTRIES TO BE SENT BY POST / FAX / EMAIL TO:

European Squash Federation
The Almonry
High Street
Battle
East Sussex TN33 0EA
England
Email: esf@europeansquash.com

with copy to Championships Director:
colin@karakalsquash.hu

WITH THE CORRECT ENTRY FEES

(**EUR 134** PER MEN'S TEAM AND **EUR 103** PER WOMEN'S TEAM)

BEING TRANSFERRED AT THE SAME TIME TO:

Account name:	European Squash Federation
Account number:	10433001
Bank:	Bank of Scotland
Address:	Direct Business Banking PO Box 25044, Princes House, 50 West Campbell Street, Glasgow, G2 6YJ, Scotland
SWIFT/IBAN BIC:	BOFSGB21EUL
IBAN:	GB69 BOFS 1220 1010 4330 01

Please note that the order of players on the Entry Form will be taken as the squad order, unless otherwise advised. Changes to squad members and/or squad orders must be notified in writing to the Championships Director by the Final Submission Date - 9 September - at the latest.

A copy of the Entry Form should be sent to the Championships Director by
E-mail: colin@karakalsquash.hu.

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ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE DETAILS

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION: _____
 Phone: _____ Fax: _____
 E-mail: _____

TRAVEL DETAILS:

Name	Arrival date	Arrival time	Arrival by	Departure date	Departure time	Departure by

To be returned to the Championship Director by Thursday 4 September.

E-mail: colin@karakalsquash.hu