

Rules of the European Championship in Hand Mowing

1. General

- The official name of the event and to be announced in like manner is to be: European Championship in Hand Mowing.
- The announcement of the contest ought to be carried out on 2 days at least, whereas the first day ought to be used for inspection and cultural exchange. The official announcement ought to be handed in to the corresponding country's contact person at least 10 weeks before the start of the contest.
- The pre-qualifying contests for the championship will take place individually for each participating country.
- For each non-German speaking country one (or preferably two) translator(s) of the country are needed.
- There has to be only one contact person per country for corresponding before and after the contest and has to own an E-Mail address.
- The rules have to be corrected and completed with the newest statements after each European Championship in Hand Mowing and to be sent to each participating country.

2. Entitlement for participation & Age limit

- 10 men and 5 women per country are permitted to participate the European Championship in Hand Mowing
- These participants have to own the country's citizenship
- 3 male participants and 1 female participant over 30 years old are permitted to attend. Whereas the birth year and not the date counts. The titleholder may attend regardless of his/her age and will not be included in the number of participants of his/her group. IDs (Identification cards) will be checked at the draw for the start numbers. Attendance is obligatory.

- If a country wants to participate who has never attended the European Championship in Hand Mowing before, then it may start with 2 male mowers and 1 female mower.
- A new country attending the contest has to apply at least 8 weeks before the event.
- If a mower of a country, which has never attended before, makes it to the first half of the participant's field, then there may be an additional mower in the following European Championship.

3. The Field

- The host country is obligated to provide 20% more of the competition field than needed (e.g. 70 male participants = at least 84 competition plots 10 x 10 m).
- There is a tolerance of 1% for the preparing of the plots.
- There has to be enough even practicing ground (at least 1 hectare) provided, which can also be offside the competition field, however not further than 1 km away.
- The practicing ground has to be marked properly and labelled with the names of the participating countries.
- There has to be a mowed distance of 2 meters between each mowing plot, in order to decide freely from which corner to start mowing.
- The announcing cart is not permitted to be in the centre of the fields but beside them.
- The field has to be well closed-off.

4. Quality grading

- All referees and main referees have to carry out a test grading before the start of the competition.
- Once 2 rounds have been carried out, the actual grading may begin (for grading comparison).

- The referees discuss the cleanliness grades together (revealing of cleanliness grades). However, each referee gives his own grading.
- There are 12 people (2 per country) who grade between 0 to 4, with in-between grades (e.g. 2.5 etc.).
- The people who grade are not permitted to grade one of their country's participants.
- The highest and lowest grade will be cancelled. The remaining 8 grades will be added together.
- Time addition Men: Sum of grade x 4 seconds
- Time addition Women: Sum of grade x 2 seconds
- The courier's' task is to check directly on the spot if the grades vary over 1 point from each other. If yes, they must notify immediately in order for the main referees to inspect further.
- In the case that a curier has not been aware of a grade variation of 1 point, then a later grading may occur only after confirmation of all 3 main referees.
- Example of a grading: 10 grades: 2.0 - 1.5 - 1.5 - 1.0 - 1.5 - 1.5 - 2.0 - 1.5 - 1.0 - 2.0
The grades 1.0 and 2.0 will be cancelled according to point 4/6. The remaining grades sum up to be 12.5. This grade will be multiplied with 4 (for men) or with 2 (for women). This results in additional time of 50 seconds for men or 25 seconds for women.
- The highest time addition may be 128 seconds for men and 64 seconds for women.

5. Penalty seconds

- Insufficient mowing (less than half of the grass mowed) results in exclusion from the competition of the participant/s carried out by the main referee.
- No third person is allowed to carry out changes in the competition plots (e.g. pulling out grass etc.). The supervisor is only allowed to give acoustic instructions during the competition.
- If grass is being mowed or pulled out afterwards, then a 30 seconds penalty is added.

- Every referee, main referee and time taker (stopper) is obligated to check such a case and report immediately to the 3 main referees. Additionally the respective decisions will be noted in a separate column of the participant list.
- On a fail start (early start) there will be a double time charge added for the participant (e.g. if participant starts 3 seconds early: +6 seconds).
- One supervisor is allowed per participant, who can only give acoustic instructions. This will be checked by the time takers. The main referees decide upon a penalty if a violation occurs.
- When doubtful decisions occur then the hierarchy is as follows: time taker - referee - main referee

6. Measure of Time

- For each participant there are 2 time takers measuring the used time with a stopwatch whilst mowing. If the times differ, then the resulting average will be calculated by the contest office.
- The time takers are not allowed to take the time of their own nation. The main referees are supposed to check upon that.
- It is not allowed of the two time takers to be of the same nation measuring time for a participant.
- There is a meeting for the time takers before the competition.
- The host country is responsible for providing sufficient stopwatches.

7. Grading

- The normal grading consists of the average of the two mowing times (two time takers) added together with the time addition from the quality grading.
- Women and men are graded separately.
- The male team grading consists of the times from the 5 best mowers (age not relevant) and the female team grading consists of the times from the 3 best mowers (age not relevant).

- If a country wins the team grading for the third time (men or women), then the winning team may keep the challenge cup. The team, however, is obligated to provide a new challenge cup for the next Championship.
- It has to be obvious from the list of results, which country submitted each grading.

8. Contest Procedure

- Each man has to mow a field of 10 x 10 m (100 square meters).
- Each woman has to mow a field of 5 x 7 m (35 square meters).
- It is up to each participant if they mow the plot circular or in lines.
- Before start, the time takers and mowers are asked if they are ready.
- The starting signal ought to be given as simple as possible (Ready, set, go!).
- The announcer has to be heard clearly by everyone and everywhere.
- The scythe can be held in hands before the start.
- Each participant is allowed to have one supervisor, who can only give acoustic instructions.
- The whetstone is not to be carried or brought by a third person. In case of violation there will be a penalty of 20 additional seconds. This has to be monitored by the time takers, referees and main referees.
- The end of the mowing has to be announced with a hand signal. Important: to minimize injuries each participant must hold his/her scythe in hands (the scythe is not allowed to be thrown away).
- During the contest all team supervisors are asked to make the mowers and supervisors aware of not having too many people on the competition field.
- In order not to disturb the person who rakes and the referee, the participants have to clear the competition plot immediately after ending mowing, otherwise 30 penalty seconds are added.

9. Other information

- On the first day there is a field inspection taking place with a delegation of two people per country, where inappropriate plots are disqualified (measurements may be taken). If the representatives of one country arrive over half an hour late, then the inspection will start without that country and a further inspection is not permitted (It is obligatory to be present for team supervisors and main referees at 17:00h/5 PM on the first day).
- The host country organizes an official plot draw (Attention: Tickets have to be folded at least once).
- The plot draw has to be organized accordingly so that in each round one person per country mows. (Example: One person draws from each country one name for the first round and those 6 people have to draw a starting number from 1 to 6. The same applies for the second round with numbers from 7 to 12 etc.).
- The mowers are allowed to take half an hour to inspect and prepare their plot.
- The officials on the competition field have to be dressed in order to be distinguished easily (e.g. vests or T-shirts).
- The grass of the whole area has to be cleared away.
- Prizes for the award: individual prizes and cups are provided by the host country.
- During the prize giving each mower has to be announced with his/her respective placing.
- The team supervisor is supposed to keep an eye on the behaviour of the teams' fans (every one who came with their team). They sometimes tend to behave inappropriately for such a sport event.

Austria, 2nd of Mai 2019



Rules European Youth Championship in Hand Mowing 2019

When:

Thursday, 15th August 2019 at 13:30h (1:30 PM)

Where:

St. Florian/Inn at the competition site

Entitlement for participation:

2 boys and 1 girl of the birth year 2005 and younger (per nation). If a nation has insufficient youth participants then the host country will provide the remaining.

Mowing area:

5m x 7m (same as for women)

Grading:

According to the valid competition rules, same grading as for women. During the competition the supervisors are allowed to sharpen the scythes.