

SPORTS INFORMATION GUIDE

European Masters Games 2023 offers each athlete the opportunity to compete in a maximum of three sports (five disciplines) at the Games. In Badminton you can compete in **four** disciplines: singles, doubles, mixed doubles and mixed team competition.

	28.6. Wed	29.6. Thu	30.6. Fri	1.7. Sat	2.7. Sun
OFFICIAL PRACTICE	8:00-9:00	8:00-9:00	8:00-9:00	8:00-9:00	8:00-9:00
COMPETITION	9:00-20:00	9:00-20:00	9:00-20:00	9:00-20:00	9:00-20:00

All dates and times are subject to change, until final entries have been received. A detailed schedule for each category will be created during spring 2023.

COMPETITION SPORTS AND DISCIPLINES

The events and age categories for Badminton Sport at EMG2023 are as follows. Applies both to Grade A open, Grade B competitive and Mixed Team Event.

SPORT	DISCIPLINES	COMPETITION FORMAT	DIVISION	AGE CATEGORY
Badminton	Indoor	Singles	Open	Women's:35+,40+,45+,50+,55+,60+,65+,70+,75+,80+
			Competitive	Men's:35+,40+,45+,50+,55+,60+,65+,70+,75+,80+
		Doubles	Open	Women's:35+,40+,45+,50+,55+,60+,65+,70+,75+,80+
			Competitive	Men's:35+,40+,45+,50+,55+,60+,65+,70+,75+,80+
		Mixed Doubles	Open	Women's:35+,40+,45+,50+,55+,60+,65+,70+,75+,80+
			Competitive	Men's:35+,40+,45+,50+,55+,60+,65+,70+,75+,80+
		Mixed Team Event	Open	Women's:35+,40+,45+,50+,55+,60+,65+,70+,75+,80+
			Competitive	Men's:35+,40+,45+,50+,55+,60+,65+,70+,75+,80+

In line with the sport specific rules, an athlete can compete in a younger age group, however, can only enter one age category per event. In Mixed Team Event participation age category is based on the age of the youngest participant in the team.

If there are insufficient number of entries in an age category, categories may be combined in order to conduct a good quality competition. The price of medals will be awarded in the age group in which the athlete has registered.

Rankings for the tournament are based on national rankings when available and on international and national competition results as additional sources for deciding rankings for the tournament. Players are asked to inform organizing committee sites of their national ranking systems when registering to the EMG 2023, especially in terms of senior rankings, when possible.

VENUE DETAILS

EMG2023 Badminton competition takes place at Tampere Tennis Center

Venue Name	Tampere Tennis Center
Competition hosted	Mansen Sulka ry
Venue Information	14 badminton courts, Address Toimelankatu 8, 33560 Tampere, Finland

Organizers offer a stringing service for a separate fee. All courts are located in the same building. Lunch can be purchased from the venue. There are two gyms and a sauna, as well.

COMPETITION DETAILS

Competition rules

1. For the European Master Games in badminton, your age is determined as at 31 December 2023. Minimum age is 35 (born on or before 31 December 1988).

2. Each player can **register for 4 events in badminton (singles/doubles/mixed doubles/mixed team event)**.
3. The Badminton Organizing Committee reserves the right to regroup participants in the age category directly beneath them. Where there are insufficient entries in an age category or division, the categories may be combined in order to conduct a viable competition.
4. Singles: the player can register in their corresponding age category or any lower age categories (e.g. a 47 year old may register for categories 45+, 40+ or 35+).
5. **Doubles/Mixed Doubles:** Pairs can register for the age category corresponding with the youngest player or any lower age category (e.g. a pair with a 42 and 54 year old player can register for categories 40+, 35+).
6. All three individual events must be played in the same grade division: Open or Competitive.
7. Mixed Team Event age category whole team's age category is based on the youngest player's age category. Placement on Grade A and Grade B is based on the highest-grade category of the team's players.
8. If an individual athlete without a team wishes to play in the team event, please specify this when entering through the Games Registration system and the Badminton Organizing Committee will do their best to accommodate all requests.

Grade definitions

Single, Doubles, Mixed Doubles and Mixed Team Events:

A Grade: Open - For elite players who have competed at an international or national team level and for national, state or provincial master's champions. Players are advised to register to grade that they deem appropriate to them according to information given here. In Finland, players of levels V and A participate in Open grade competition. Grading from other nations is based on available national rankings and on results of international and national competition when possible. The organizing committee makes checks to grade registrations and presents grading to the Referee of the tournament. Referee decides grading based on suggestions from the organizing committee.

B Grade: Competitive - For competitive players who have competed in state or provincial championships, elite club players and upper and middle grade local and interclub

players. Players are advised to register to grade that they deem appropriate to them according to information given here. In Finland, players of levels B and C and advanced recreational players. Grading from other nations is based on available national rankings and on results of international and national competition when possible. The organizing committee makes checks to grade registrations and presents grading to the Referee of the tournament. Referee decides grading based on suggestions from the organizing committee.

Note: in Mixed Team Event placement on Grade A and Grade B is based on the highest-grade category of the team's players.

Players entering doubles or mixed doubles events must enter the grade of the higher level player in the pair. The Badminton Organizing Committee reserves the right to re-grade athletes. Players who are re-graded will be advised by the Organizing Committee and Referee prior to draws being done.

COMPETITION FORMAT

9. Each event will consist of one pool stage followed by a cup stage for awarding medals.
10. For each category there will be 2 sorting per pool which assures that each player will have a minimum of 2 matches to play. If there are 4-5 entries, the playing format will be pool stage only.
11. Semi-finalists and finalists will be awarded with medals, there is no match for 3rd place.

COMPETITION RULES

12. Each player should present themselves at the score table when their name is called and will have 2 minutes on the match court for warm up before the start of the match.
13. Any player who does not go when their name is called will be disqualified if they do not appear within 5 minutes of their name first being called.

14. The minimum rest time between each match is 30 minutes.

15. Players who wish to momentarily leave the hall should be aware of the possibility of being disqualified if their match is called and they are not present.

16. Registering for the Badminton match implies the acknowledgement and acceptance of all terms and conditions of the tournament rules.

Competition format

17. Singles (men, women), Doubles (men, women) and Mixed Doubles will be offered in two divisions: Open and Competitive. Mixed Team Event is a separate competition format in the EMG 2023.

18. The four events can be one singles, one doubles, one mixed doubles and one mixed team event.

19. Round robin (pool play) preliminary rounds will be held. Where there is more than one pool, these pools will determine the placings for knockout rounds for medals. Players can expect to compete in a minimum of two matches per event.

Match schedule

20. The Badminton Organizing Committee shall post the draw two weeks prior to the start of the competition on the Games website, the Tournament Software website and each day of competition at the venue. Time schedule of the tournament will be published one week before the start of the tournament. Possible changes of the schedule will be published daily (for example, in cases of walk over etc.) It will be the responsibility of all athletes to ensure they have checked the draws and are available to play at the scheduled time and location.

Process to determine pool placings

The following process will be used to determine pool placings

21. Ranking in individual championships will be established by the number of matches won.

22. If two players / pairs have won the same number of matches, the winner of the match between them will be ranked higher.

23. If three or more players / pairs have won the same number of matches, ranking will be established by the difference between total games won and total games lost, with greater difference ranked higher.

24. If this still leaves two players / pairs equal, the winner of the match between them will be ranked higher.

25. If three or more players / pairs have won the same number of matches and are equal in the difference between total games won and total games lost, ranking will be established by the difference between total points won and total points lost, with greater difference ranked higher.

26. If this still leaves two players / pairs equal, the winner of the match between them will be ranked higher.

27. If three or more players / pairs are still equal, then ranking will be established by drawing lots.

28. All results of any player/pair that has been disqualified or withdrawn shall be deleted.

Results

29. Umpires or players or persons showing points shall deliver the original tie sheet for each tie to event control within 5 minutes of the official finishing time.

30. Players should ensure that following the completion of each match the score sheet is submitted to event control within 5 minutes of the conclusion of the match.

31. Players should check the Results Board after each match to ensure that the result is correct. Any concerns should be reported immediately to event control.

Competition Details

32. Competition rules. The Badminton competition will be conducted under the Laws of Badminton and Competition Regulations of the Badminton World Federation (BWF). Information on general competition regulations can be found at www.bwfbadminton.org. The competition will also conform to the requirements of the International Masters Games Association, unless otherwise specified in this document.

Scoring system

33. All matches will be played as per the current BWF scoring system. All matches (team and individual events) will be the best of three games to 21 points, with extension until 29 all when the winner shall be the side winning the 30th point.

Draws/schedules

34. Draws for both Individual and Teams competitions will be available through the World Masters Games website and the Tournament Software website:
www.tournamentsoftware.com two weeks prior to commencement of the competition.

35. Schedules for both Individual and Teams competitions will be available through the World Masters Games website and the Tournament Software website one week prior to commencement of the competition. The Tournament Organizer in conjunction with the Referee reserves the right to amend the schedule where required.

Officiating of matches

36. The decision of the Referee on all regulations and interpretations of the Laws of Badminton shall be final.

37. Athletes may be required to umpire their own matches. Umpires will be provided for all matches in medal rounds subject to availability.

Substitutions/withdrawals

38. A player/pair/team may participate in an Individual event of the Badminton competition only if the player/pair/team enters by the closing date for registrations.

39. After the closing date for registrations, a player who has entered and is then unable to take part through illness, injury or any other unavoidable cause, may be substituted by another registered player providing that the rules for age category and grade are followed, and that it is in line with the EMG participation terms and conditions.

40. All results of any player/pair that has been disqualified or withdraws before completing the group matches shall be entirely deleted. A 'no-show' for a match will be treated as a withdrawal.

41. The BWF GCR regulations 25 regarding player withdrawals do not apply to this event. I.e. If a player withdraws from one event they may still participate in another event.

Appeals and protests

42. There will be no field-of-play appeals. The decision of the Referee on all interpretations of the Laws of Badminton shall be final.

43. Any appeals, protests and disputes regarding the Tournament Rules must be lodged in writing to the Tournament Organizer prior to the commencement of the competition.

44. The Referee in conjunction with the Organizing Committee shall determine all appeals, protests and disputes in relation to the Tournament Rules.

Technical Delegate

45. The BWF has endorsed the appointment of Ilkka Vainio to act in the role of Technical Delegate for the EMG Badminton competition. The Technical Delegate will oversee the implementation of all sport specific rules and requirements at the Games.

COMPETITION RULES

46. Each player should present themselves at the score table when their name is called and will have 2 minutes on the court for warm up before the start of the match.

47. Any player who does not go when their name is called will be disqualified if they do not appear within 5 minutes of their name first being called.

48. The minimum rest time between each game is 30 minutes.

49. Players who wish to momentarily leave the hall should be aware of the possibility of being disqualified if their match is called and they are not present. No match is called before the time that is set in Tournament Software for the match.

50. Registering for the Badminton match implies the acknowledgement and acceptance of all terms and conditions in the booklet. The Referee will be able to partially or fully disqualify any player who does not respect these rules.

Umpiring

51. Matches will be self-umpired with the signature from the two players at the end of the match up. Semifinals are umpired always, when possible, all finals are umpired.

52. In the case of a dispute during a match, the point will be replayed, when matches are self-umpired. If a match is umpired, then the umpire makes decisions concerning match. However, the player can appeal to the referee if there is large number of disputes that require the referee presence.

Disciplinary Committee

53. The Committee will make decisions concerning incidents or breaches or discipline which may occur during the competition.

54. The decisions made by the Disciplinary Committee will be based on the list of disciplinary measures outlined by the BWF and the written report provided by the Umpire.

55. The Disciplinary Committee can hold meetings to decide which is the appropriate action to take.

56. The decisions of the Disciplinary Committee are definitive. They cannot be appealed if they involve a cautionary warning, penalties or suspension against a player or accompanying relatives during a match or other disciplinary matters pertaining to the competition.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Training

It will be possible to train through the period of competition, starting from the commencement of the last match and depending on availability of space.

Anti-doping

The IMGA has adopted an anti-doping policy in line with the WADA (World Anti-Doping Agency) code, which means that testing will be conducted during the games. Each participant must comply with and independently consent to the IMGA Anti-Doping policy <https://imga.ch/masters-sports/anti-doping/>.

The following additional terminology is identified to assist with information provided within this

Guide:

- Match: A contest between opposing sides of one or two players. A Match is the best of three games.
- Game: A game consists of points won by both sides. The first side to win two games wins the match.
- Tie (team competition): A tie shall consist of maximum 5 matches.
- Tie Sheet (team competition): Details the players to contest each match. The form to be completed showing the result of each match in the tie.
- Team List (team competition): See details in rule numbers 61, 63 and 65.
- Scoresheet: The form used to record the score for a particular match.

Mixed Team event Rules

57. A mixed team competition will start on the first tournament day with the group stage. Group stage is played before the individual and double events. Knock-out stages are played during the second tournament day and finals at the end of the second tournament day or later. The following information relates to the Mixed Team event:

58. The number of entries received will determine each draw. The Badminton Organizing Committee reserves the right to combine any event. Round robin pools will be used, and pool placings will determine medal play-offs where there is more than one group.

59. Teams will be made up of a minimum two men and two women, with a maximum of four men and four women.

60. Athletes may only be a member of one team, in one age category. The team must play in the grade equivalent to the grade of the highest-level player and in the age category of the youngest player. Players may play up a grade from their individual entry level but may not play at lower level.

Team composition

61. Prior to commencement of the tournament, all teams will be required to submit to the

tournament organizer their team ranking list showing all possible doubles combinations in ranking order. Therefore, team ranking lists are submitted electronically on a provided excel spreadsheet to the tournament organizers one month before the start at the tournament. Based on these ranking lists the organizers make placement of the teams to proper divisions.

62. Teams must nominate a team captain/manager. All teams must be represented at the team meeting (date to be confirmed).

63. Teams must provide their team list showing their playing line-up for the tie no less than 2 hours prior to the scheduled tie time. Late submission of the team list may result in the tie being forfeited.

64. Ties

- A tie will consist of maximum of five matches in following possible orders:

- a) Men's singles – Women's singles – Men's doubles – Women's doubles – Mixed doubles
- b) Women's singles - Men's singles - Women's doubles - Men's doubles – Mixed doubles
- c) Mixed doubles - Men's singles – Women's singles – Men's doubles – Women's doubles
- d) Mixed doubles - Women's singles - Men's singles - Women's doubles - Men's doubles

65. Order of play

Order of play is decided by the Referee of the tournament. Team compositions (for each match in the tie) must be submitted no later than two hours prior to the start of a tie, and for the first ties of the day at 22.00 hrs the evening before.

- a) No player may play in more than three matches in any one tie.
- b) Teams may play a maximum of three ties per day.
- c) Each player must play at least one match in every tie.

Group stage

66. In the group stage the teams shall play in groups of three or four, where teams play all other teams in the same group playing in pool format. An overall ranking order in the group shall be achieved. If there are four to five teams, then there will be only pool format competition and the winner is based on these matches only.

67. The top 2 ranked teams of each group shall progress to the knock-out stage.

68. Ranking order in the groups:

69. If two teams have won the same number of ties, the ranking will be decided by the result of the tie between them.

70. If three or more teams have won the same number of ties, ranking will be decided by the total number of matches won. If this leaves two teams equal, ranking will be decided by the result of the tie between them.

71. If three or more teams have won the same number of ties and the same number of matches, ranking will be decided by the difference between total games won and total games lost, with greater difference ranked higher. If this leaves two teams equal, ranking will be decided by the result of the tie between them.

72. If three or more teams have won the same number of ties and the same number of matches and have the same difference between total games won and total games lost, ranking will be decided by the difference between total points won and total points lost, with greater difference ranked higher. If this leaves two teams equal, ranking will be decided by the result of the tie between them.

73. If three or more teams have won the same number of ties and the same number of matches, have the same difference between total games won and total games lost, and have the same difference between total points won and total points lost, ranking will be decided by drawing lots.

74. A conceded match shall count as if completed without the conceding side scoring another point.

75. All results of any team that has been disqualified or withdrawn shall be entirely deleted.

Knock-out stage

76. The draw for the knock-out stage shall be conducted at a Team Managers' Meeting held immediately after the conclusion of the group stage.

77. The knock-out stage shall be a knock-out draw with winning teams progressing to the next round until a winner is found.

78. Knock-out stage draw procedure

79. The winner of group 1 will be placed as first seed in the knock-out draw.

80. The winner of group 2 will be placed as second seed in the knock-out draw.

81. The two teams finishing second in the groups will be drawn into the knock-out draw on a random basis.

CONSTITUTION OF MATCHES AND TEAMS

82. Each tie shall be decided by the results of the two singles and three doubles matches.

83. In the group stage all five matches of each tie shall be played.

84. In the knock-out stage each tie shall be stopped when the tie is decided.

85. No player shall play in more than three matches.

86. If, as a result of injury or illness sustained after arrival at the venue, a team has only one male or one female player, that player may play his/her respective matches.

87. If, for the above reasons, the team is reduced to two players only, either both of the same gender, or one of each gender, the whole tie shall be conceded.

88. Unless otherwise permitted by the Referee, all ties shall start at the times as set in the draw. All named members in a tie must be in the pre-tie team line-up. Teams not available to play 15 mins after the scheduled playing time may be defaulted.

Results

89. Team Captains or the Umpire or point-marking-person shall deliver the original tie sheet for each tie to event control within 5 minutes of the official finishing time.

90. Tie sheets must be signed by the captain of each team, who will be responsible for the accuracy and completion of all details.

91. Captains should check the Results Board after each tie to ensure that the declared result is correct. Any concerns should be reported immediately to event control. viii) Pool placings

92. A team is entitled to medals according to results actually obtained before any withdrawal or disqualification

93. If a team is unable to complete all of their pool ties, all the results of that team shall be deleted.

94. If a team is unable to complete a match in a tie, the result of that match shall be considered to be 21-0, 21-0 for the purpose of deciding ranking in the pool system. Retiring during a match shall be considered to be not completing a match. ix) Substitutions / Withdrawals

95. Once a team composition is submitted, no player/pair can be substituted, except the Referee may approve a substitute (or substitutes) for a player who, in the opinion of the Referee is incapacitated by illness, injury or unavoidable hindrance. A player who is substituted may take no further part in that tie.

96. A match conceded due to illness, injury, or other unavoidable hindrance shall count as if completed without the conceding side scoring another point. - All results of any team that has been disqualified or withdrawn before completing the group matches shall be deleted.

Please note: All regulation conditions concerning categories, venues, the running of the competition and technical aspects are applied on a provisional basis and are subject to change when and how the Organizing Committee sees appropriate, up until the beginning of the competition.

Competition format

Events (4 disciplines): Singles, Doubles, Mixed-Doubles, Mixed Team Event

97. First stage of competition is played in pool format and after that in cup format. In cases of smaller numbers of participants in an event pool format is used when there are 4-5 participants in a particular event.

Medals

98. In European Masters Games, the athletes do not represent their country of origin, therefore the prize-awarding ceremonies will be carried out without hoisting of flags. No National Anthem of the winning team will be played. The medals will be provided by the Organizing Committee.

Technical meeting

99. A Technical Meeting will take place before the start of the competitions in order to introduce the competitions, remind those involved of the regulations and the behavior that is expected. Teams are advised to play in a similar color of shirts and different to the opponent team.

Personal accident insurance and medical certificate

100. It is the participant's own responsibility to take out adequate and valid accident and health insurance. The competitor registration fee does not cover personal accident insurance. Each player is responsible for the security of their belongings, the Executive Committee will not take responsibility in case of damage or theft.

EQUIPMENT

Competition shuttles are provided by the organizer. Players provide practice shuttles by themselves. Stringing service is available for a separate fee.

UNIFORMS

Shorts or Skirt mandatory in playing. Indoor non-marking shoes required.

TRAINING FACILITIES

Training is possible every day 8-9 in the morning at the hall. Minimum of one warm-up court is available during the day.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Planning for the EMG2023 competition will continue throughout 2022 and spring 2023. Additional sport specific information will be communicated to registered participants and this Sports Information Guide will be updated according to possible changes.

All participants are encouraged to monitor the EMG2023 website at www.emg2023.fi as well as other Games communication channels to find out the latest information.

For more badminton sport specific information, please contact Pekka Rantanen, pekka.sulkapallo@gmail.com

For general information about EMG2023, please contact info@emg2023.fi.