

Rules



1. The Fédération Européenne de Croquet ("FEC") welcomes all croquet players to compete for the European Croquet Masters trophies. These are:
 - a. the European Country Master ("ECM");
 - b. the European Master, Golf Croquet ("EMG");
 - c. the European Master, Association Croquet ("EMA").
2. The FEC will appoint a steering committee ("SC") to manage the Masters on a day-to-day basis. The governing body for croquet of each PC will be invited regularly to vote on important issues related to the European Croquet Masters and is alone answerable towards their own country players.
3. Players taking part in a tournament part of the European Croquet Masters (an "Event") do so as individuals, not as national representatives nominated by their country (except in the European Championships).
4. Players from participating countries who are in good standing with their national croquet body ("PPC") may have their participation in an Event count towards the ECM. In case of doubt, a player's current status under Appendix 1 of the WCF Sports Regulations determines which country is relevant to a player for purposes of the ECM; each PC is alone responsible for determining whether a player is good standing with them. All players, whether PPC or not, may also have their participation counted towards the Individual Masters.
5. PC are encouraged but not required to stage their own Event (format at their discretion but compliant with WCF Sports Regulations; purely invitational events do not qualify), and to do so at a time that if possible does not clash with Events of other PCs. These can be either Golf Croquet (GC) or Association Croquet (AC). Both count towards the ECM, but separate individual Masters will apply for AC (EMA) and GC (EMG).
6. PCs are urged to give some priority of access to their Event to players from other PC. Where the Event has no more than 12 places available, that might mean up to half the number of available places in their Event. The first player applying from a given country during the first 2 weeks after applications to the relevant Event were invited might thus have priority access, but if in that period more than one player applies from a given PC then the organising country is free to accept the highest ranked player. Where more than 12 places are available, there is less need for such priority access.
7. In any Event, the PPC for a given country gaining the highest place will gain points for the ECM, whilst any player, PPC or not, can gain points for their position in the EMG or EMA, as shown in the table adjacent: points in this table are also awarded for a place in a FEC European Championship but increased by 5; note however that the single point for "Taking part" in other Events is only awarded in respect of non-local players. If 3rd and 4th places are not disputed in any Event, the losing semi-finalists share equally the aggregate otherwise available i.e. each gets 7 place points plus potentially 1 for taking part (and the same applies mutatis mutandis for the other places, if the Event does not rank all participants).

Place	Points	Taking part	Aggregate
1st	14	1	15
2nd	11	1	12
3rd	8	1	9
4th	6	1	7
5th	4	1	5
6th	3	1	4
7th	2	1	3
8th	1	1	2
others		1	1

8. After end of the season, the PC with the most points wins the ECM; in case of equal points, the winner is that PC whose players have played in more Events outside their "home" country. Likewise, the player with the most points in a given code (GC or AC) wins the EMG or EMA as appropriate, and in case of equal points, the player who played in more Events is the winner.
9. To pay for trophies and administration, each PC agrees to pay 10 EUR if it has a PPC in an Event, no matter how many PPCs from that country are playing, to be collected by the end of the season. Players other than PPC who wish to be ranked in the EMG or EMA pay 10 EUR to the manager of the Event(s) in which they will play, who will in turn account to the FEC.
10. For 2016, countries must decide by the 31 March if they will be a PC and which of their relevant Opens, if any, will be taken into account as an Event, and inform the SC accordingly.
11. Tournaments relevant for the European Masters, a current set of scores and the eventual winners are published on the internet via the FEC homepage site www.eurocroquet.eu/index.php/european-masters. Organisers of Events are welcome to use the European Masters logo and publish it for their benefit.