

UKU Qualification Procedures to international club competitions 2017-18 v1-0

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1. Introduction

In addition to the usual European Ultimate Championships Series (EUCS) in the Open, Women and Mixed divisions, 2017-18 will also see three additional international club competitions. This document sets out the procedures for qualification to those competitions.

Event Name	Dates (Location)	Divisions (listed alphabetically)	Further Information
European Ultimate Masters Club Championships (EUMCC)	12-15 August 2017 (Frankfurt, Germany)	Master Mixed Master Open* Master Women’s	3. Master Divisions
European Ultimate Championship Series (EUCS)	Aug-Oct 2017 (TBA)	Mixed Open* Women’s	2. EUCS
WFDF 2018 World Ultimate Club Championships (WUCC)	14-21 July 2018 (Cincinnati, USA)	Men’s* Mixed Women’s	4. WUCC
WFDF 2018 World Masters Ultimate Club Championships (WMUCC 2018)	29 Jul – 4 Aug 2018 (Winnipeg, Canada)	Grandmaster Men’s* Master Men’s* Master Mixed Master Women’s	3. Master Divisions

() We note that this division is currently referred to as Open or Men’s by different organisations, but that the eligibility criteria are the same regardless of the name: i.e. there is no gender eligibility restriction in that division. For the time being we have used Open/Men’s in a manner that is consistent with the usage by WFDF/EUF. For the time being UKU continues to use the term Open in domestic club competition.*

2. EUCS

UKU have been involved in a dialogue with Irish Flying Disc Association and EUF with regards to Ireland’s clubs moving to the West (UK) region for EUCS. It has been provisionally agreed that this switch will occur in time for the 2017 competition, and in that case Ireland will send clubs to compete at UK Nationals (EUCR-W). Final details concerning additional bids to EUFC that the Irish clubs bring, and exactly how many Irish clubs will be able to attend are still being finalised.

The rules and regulations relating to qualification through UK domestic competitions to EUCR-West and EUFC will be provided in the full UKU Competition Rules. That document is normally updated and published in the period Jan-Feb prior to the outdoor season starting in late March at MT1.

3. Master Divisions

Due to the worldwide growth of ultimate, the international events have become over-subscribed. The master-age divisions will in future be run in separate events, which is being seen for the first time in 2017 with EUMCC, followed by WMUCC in 2018.

During November 2016 UKU will seek expressions of interest from individuals/groups that

- (a) plan to build teams with a view to qualifying for, and competing at international club master competitions in 2017-18
- (b) would like to compete at UK-based competitions in these divisions irrespective of qualification to international events

Based on the responses we will work with those groups to set up an appropriate competition structure in those divisions for the period 2017-18 and beyond.

4. WUCC Qualification

Given the worldwide growth in ultimate and the resulting interest in attending WFDF events, we expect the number of bids per division per country at WUCC will continue to decrease. In 2014, UK received 3 bids in Mixed, 3 in Open and 2 in Women's. A 4th UK team gained entry through a wait-list bid in the mixed division. Whilst WFDF has not yet published the bid allocation procedure it is reasonable to anticipate that the UK will receive maximum three bids in any of those divisions. Indeed, it is quite possible UK will receive only one or two bids per division.

4.1 WUCC Qualification Procedure

1. Assume that UK receives **N** bids in a division
2. **N-1** clubs win bids (and are ranked) per their finishing positions at UKU Nationals 2017.
3. **Nth** bid will be awarded to the highest placed UK club at EUCF 2017 in each division, excluding clubs that have already qualified through UK Nationals.
4. If UKU is offered additional bids, or if **N** is not known at the time of Nationals-2017/EUCF-2017, then algorithm is run as defined at the time that **N** is confirmed. If **N** changes, the algorithm is re-implemented for the new value of **N** to determine the ranking list.

Additional comments:

- All qualifying clubs must have current UKU club affiliation
- Irish teams at UKU Nationals will NOT win any UK bids to WUCC (see Section 2 above)
- Club Masters is separate and ad hoc - will be designed in collaboration with the teams that are interested - i.e. finding them a sensible date and location for any qualification process (see Section 3 above)
- Unlike qualification to WUCC 2010 and WUCC 2014, no bids are taken directly from UKU Tour results (see Section 4.2 below)

4.2 UKU Tour removed from bid allocation

UKU Tour has been and will continue to be an important part of the UK Ultimate's competition structure. However, one of its strengths is that we allow quite a bit of flexibility on rosters and seeding, and that is much harder to justify/allow if the competition is also a qualification event to EUCF and/or WUCC. It was decided that the qualification rules would be improved by removing the bids that were granted based on tour rankings:

- This does more to force teams and players to pick their main division for both the international event AND the qualification event, and reduces the problem of clubs qualifying to Worlds with players that compete at Worlds in a different division.
- This removes the very real problem of clubs being penalised if they have players in GB teams that are using Tour events as part of their own preparation (e.g. U24 and Juniors).
- As noted above, the number of bids awarded per division per country is on a downward trajectory. Removing Tour results from the qualification procedures will make it easier for clubs to prioritise their plans for the season.