

Update: 5/12/2014

## **EGF Professional Qualification System (EPQS) – qualification protocol – Version 2.0**

References:

[1]–contract with CEGO: <http://www.eurogofed.org/egf/index.htm>

[2]–EGF European Professional System Constitution (includes rights & duties of European go professional) : [http://www.eurogofed.org/proqualification/EU-Pro-System\\_%20final-version-5\\_2014-04-09.pdf](http://www.eurogofed.org/proqualification/EU-Pro-System_%20final-version-5_2014-04-09.pdf)

[3]-EGF general tournament rules: <http://www.eurogofed.org/egf/tourrules.htm>

[4]- EGF European Professional System operational rules : *in progress*

This document defines the **rules and regulations to be applied to the EGF Pro Qualification System (EPQS)**.

The objective of this document is to clarify the application of the official EGF rules and regulations to the EPQS and define the complete qualification system for all participants.

### 1. Objective:

In scope of the new EGF professional qualification system (EPQS), up to two players (\*) will be selected to become European Go Professional every year during 10 years according to [1].

*\*: possibly one or none player is elected*

### 2. Conditions:

#### a. Eligibility:

Any go player being of a citizenship of one of the EGF country member since 10 years on 1<sup>st</sup> of January is eligible for the qualifying process of this year.

**During the qualifying period, (s)he must be a member of a national Go federation that is an EGF member.**

A copy of proof of citizenship (birth certificate, front page of national passport, naturalisation documents or similar, ...) must be presented prior to participation in the EPQS. These documents will be kept on file with the EPQS Committee.

#### b. Age limit of eligibility (cf. ref [2]):

Two professional players certificated in 2014 must be born in 1970 or later.

The number of players and age limit will be confirmed in the European professional ground meeting in the previous year. **For 2015, no age limit will be fixed.**

c. Right & duties:

16 players who volunteer to become eventually professional can apply every year. It means that they would accept the rights & duties of the European professionals ([2]) and they would participate to the **qualifying event(s)** if selected.

d. Candidates selection:

They shall be all identified and they shall confirm their interest **latest by end of February**.

The EGF Executive Board will suggest in a first step to the following 16 players:

- a) 4 seats from the last European Championship (only out of the top 4)
- b) 1 seat from the last World Amateur Go Championship –the player must have ended up under the top 10
- c) 1 seat as a wildcard for CEGO (ref[1]) – it must be decided latest **end of January** of the running year
- d) 2 seats as a wildcard for EGF - it must be decided latest end of March of the running year.
- e) Other 8 seats (to complete up to 16 players) from the EGF rating-list - the highest rating of players during a period **October - January** of the running year is taken into account.

Any unused seat from a) to d) will increase the number of seats offered with e)

Then, if one eligible player is not interested, the next seat will be offered upon the EGF rating list as in e) .

For the first round, the invited players will be classified from 1 to 16 depending on their actual EGF ranking from **end of February** of the running year.

*Note: if for any reason, one player can't participate to one qualifying event for valid reasons (not financial), the opponent will get one win for the qualifying process.*

### 3. EPQS matches:

#### a. Organisation & schedule:

The EPQS games will be run by the EGF organisation **in cooperation with the organisers of qualifying tournament(s)** .They will happen between **March** and September each year.

A total of 6 games will be played.. One European go professional will be selected after 4 wins and the other one after 6 rounds (5 wins and one loss).

These qualifying events shall be agreed by the EGF Executive board the year end before and they **might** be part of the European Bonus point tournament.

#### b. EGF officials:

##### o EPQS Event director:

The EPQS Event Director (ED) shall be the main enforcer and arbiter of all rules and regulations herein as per reference [4] of EGF General Tournament rules. Questions about procedures or disputes between participants must be brought to the TD's attention immediately for resolution.

In the event of an unusual situation or condition not (or insufficiently) covered by the EGF rules and this document, the ED will resolve the situation in the best spirit of the rules, aiming at all times for as much fairness as the circumstances allow. The ED's resolution is final.

##### o Referee:

An EGF Referee will be available to assist with any questions of procedure and protocol to assist with disputes. In the event that a matter of protocol dispute cannot be decided by the ED, the Referee will step in for adjudication.

##### o Appeals Commission:

If needed, the EGF Appeals commission might be solicited in case of significant protests or situation insufficiently handled by the current EGF rules.

#### c. Broadcasting:

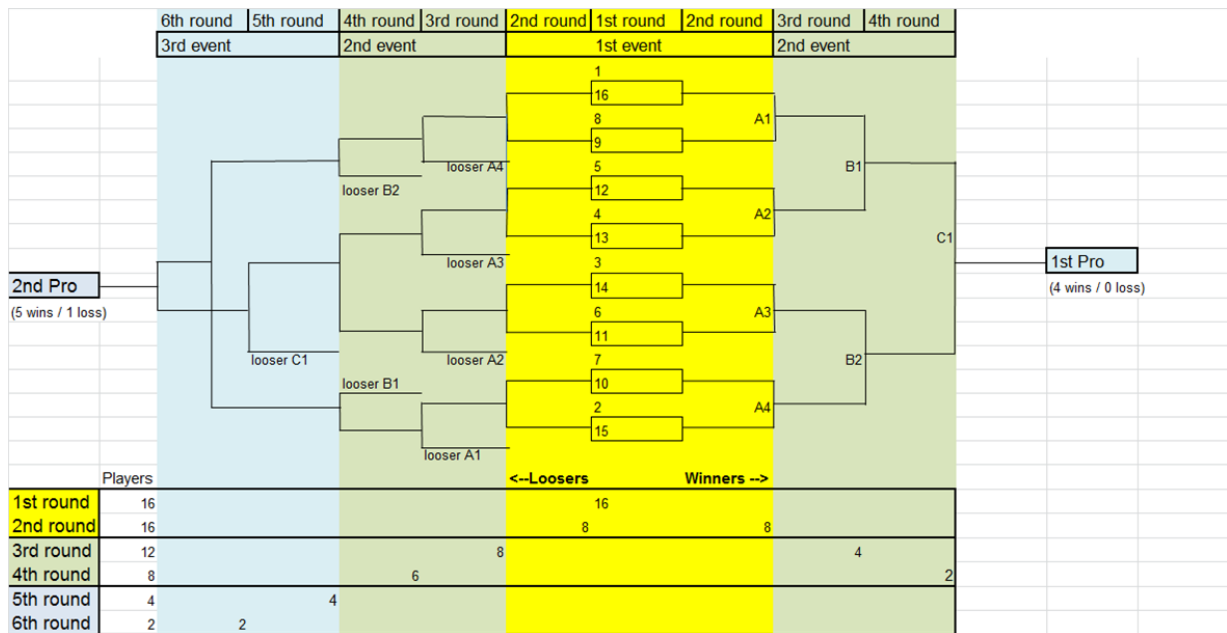
Games shall be broadcasted on internet "live" during the final event. A minimum of 2 games shall be broadcasted during the first two qualifying events.

d. EPQS format:

For next year ( 2015 onwards), the qualifying format will be decided by the European Professional ground meeting.

It is decided to run the qualification phase as follows:

It will be played as a “double elimination” modified Swiss tournament (elimination after two losses):



It means that 16 players will play 2 rounds on the first qualifying day 4 will be eliminated, 12 players remain qualified for the second qualifying day.

Then, after the second qualifying day, one player will be ahead with 4 wins and will become European professional. As 4 players remain with only one loss, they will be qualified for the last day.

During the last qualifying day, 2 rounds will be played. The player with 5 wins after 6 rounds will become the second European professional.

All 16 players who volunteers and are selected shall commit to participate to the qualifying event(s). Otherwise, in case of an absence of a player, it will be considered as a loss (walk over).

Preferably, the games ( 2 per day) shall not start later than 9:30am to have enough time for a decent lunch break (2h).

4. Conduct:

The rules of conduct applies as defined by [3] and [4].

5. Game rules:

All qualifying games will be played with 90mn basic time and a Canadian overtime (25 stones during 10mn **or 3 periods of 30 seconds if electronic clocks are used**). Chinese rules will be applied. Komi will be 7.5 points .

6. Expenses and EGF subventions:

For each participant, EGF will reimbursed 200€ for travel costs..

EGF will also transfer 500€ for the organisers to cover their costs (renting rooms, broadcasting, material, advertising, transfers ,...).

*Note:*

*An EGF referee shall be appointed as well and one EGF executive officer shall be available at each event*

7. Sponsors:

If local sponsors are found for each qualifying event, they might contribute to cover travel and accommodation costs of the 16 players.