

EGF Professional Qualification 2027

Ruleset and Playing Schedule

Vienna, Austria

24-28 February 2027

1. Purpose and status

The EGF Professional Qualification is a qualification tournament to determine one new EGF Professional player. The format is designed to give every participant a genuine second chance: a player is eliminated only after two losses, and the final qualification is decided by a true double-elimination bracket with a bracket reset.

This ruleset is intended to publish the tournament system and key participation conditions in advance, so that prospective participants can make informed decisions about registration, travel and accommodation.

2. Tournament overview

Organiser:	Österreichischer Go-Verband (Austrian Go Federation) European Go Federation
Dates:	24.-28.02.2026 (Wednesday – Sunday)
Venue:	GO7, Lerchenfelder Straße 97, 1070 Vienna, Austria
Players:	16 (14 by EGF rating and 2 EGF wildcards)
System:	True double elimination, 16 players bracket, with bracket reset in the Grand Final
Referee:	Damir Medak
EGF representative:	Li Ting (alternative Damir Medak)
Rules:	Japanese rules
Komi:	6.5 points
Colour:	Colours will be decided during opening ceremony by Referee
Time:	Fischer time: 45min main time+ 20sec per move
Elimination:	A player is eliminated only after two losses.
Travel support:	150 Euro per participant (receipts required)

3. Eligibility and selection

- 3.1. The tournament is open to amateur players who are willing to become an EGF Professional player.
- 3.2. Age limit: a player must be 40 years old or younger on 24 February 2027
- 3.3. Fourteen of the 16 places are allocated by peak EGF rating achieved during the 2026 calendar year.
- 3.4. The rating-based selection uses a primary threshold of 2550. If fewer than 14 eligible applicants meet that threshold, applications from players with a 2026 peak rating between 2500 and 2550 are accepted.
- 3.5. Registration deadline for applicants with a 2026 peak rating of at least 2550: 1 December 2026. The additional application period, if required, runs for 30 days after that deadline.
- 3.6. If more than 14 eligible players qualify for rating-based places, the 14 highest 2026 peak ratings are selected. Rating ties are resolved first by the player's EGF rating at the registration deadline and, if still tied, by a draw conducted by the EGF.
- 3.7. The organisers will publish the final participant list and the seeding before the tournament.
- 3.8. The EGF awards two wildcard places. The wildcard recipients are selected by the EGF and announced before the final participant list is published. Wildcard places are additional to the 14 rating-based places and do not displace a player selected by rating.

4. Tournament system

- 4.1. The tournament is a true 16-player double-elimination bracket.
- 4.2. The first loss moves a player to the Losers' Bracket; the second loss eliminates the player.
- 4.3. The Winners' Bracket and Losers' Bracket are played according to the published bracket. Pairings within each bracket are determined by the bracket position
- 4.4. The Winners' Bracket winner reaches the Grand Final with no loss. The Losers' Bracket winner reaches the Grand Final with one loss.
- 4.5. The Grand Final is a bracket-reset final. If the undefeated player wins the first Grand Final game, the tournament ends. If the Losers' Bracket player wins the first Grand Final game, that game gives the previously undefeated player their first loss and an immediate second Grand Final game is played. The winner of the second game is the new EGF professional.
- 4.6. Accordingly, the tournament consists of 30 games if no reset is required and 31 games if the Grand Final is reset.

European Go Federation -- Professional Qualification Tournament 2027

Round 1 Wednesday 24.02.	Round 2 Thursday 25.02.	Round 3 Thursday 25.02.	Round 4 Friday 26.02.	Round 5 Friday 26.02.	Round 6 Saturday 27.02.	Round 7 Saturday 27.02.	Round 8 Sunday 28.02.	(Round 9) Sunday 28.02.
Game 1 Seed 1 Seed 16	Game 9 Winner of Game 1 Winner of Game 2	Game 21 Winner of Game 9 Winner of Game 10					Game 30 Winner of Game 27 Winner of Game 29	Game 31 Winner of Game 30 Loser of Game 30
Game 2 Seed 8 Seed 9								
Game 3 Seed 4 Seed 13	Game 10 Winner of Game 3 Winner of Game 4							
Game 4 Seed 5 Seed 12								
Game 5 Seed 2 Seed 15	Game 11 Winner of Game 5 Winner of Game 6			Game 27 Winner of Game 21 Winner of Game 22				
Game 6 Seed 7 Seed 10		Game 22 Winner of Game 11 Winner of Game 12						
Game 7 Seed 3 Seed 14	Game 12 Winner of Game 7 Winner of Game 8							
Game 8 Seed 6 Seed 11								
	Game 13 Loser of Game 1 Loser of Game 2	Game 17 Winner of Game 13 Loser of Game 12	Game 23 Winner of Game 17 Winner of Game 18	Game 25 Winner of Game 23 Loser of Game 21				
	Game 14 Loser of Game 5 Loser of Game 6	Game 18 Winner of Game 14 Loser of Game 11			Game 28 Winner of Game 25 Winner of Game 26	Game 29 Winner of Game 28 Loser of Game 27		
	Game 15 Loser of Game 7 Loser of Game 8	Game 19 Winner of Game 15 Loser of Game 10	Game 24 Winner of Game 19 Winner of Game 20	Game 26 Winner of Game 24 Loser of Game 22				
	Game 16 Loser of Game 3 Loser of Game 4	Game 20 Winner of Game 16 Loser of Game 9						