

Qualification Tournament for SportAccord World Mind Games 2011

25th - 28th of August 2011, Prague, Czech Republic

Prerequisites:

- SportAccord World Mind Games 2011 (Games later) will be held in Beijing, China, during a period 8th - 17th of December 2011. Players who will take part in the Qualification Tournament must agree that they will represent European Union Team in the Games in case they qualify for the Games. EU Team will play under the flag of EU and the European anthem in the Games.
- After qualifying for the EU Team for the Games, players will immediately, on site, sign PLAYER's_commitment_IGF_June2011 (included to the invitation) and fulfill all necessary application forms as all application documents for the Games must be sent to China latest by 31st of August 2011.
- The team for the games must consist of 5 players of whom at least one must be a woman and one must be a man. All players must have a passport of any of EGF-member countries.
Therefore,
 - a) 24 best players, citizens of any EGF-member country, according to their best rating within a period of 1st of July 2010 - 30th of June 2011 are invited for the Qualification Tournament. There is just one restriction applicable – there cannot be more than three players from one country.
 - b) If any of the top 24 players refuses to play the Qualification Tournament, the best player on the rating list according to his/her strength not qualified so far will be invited on condition that a number of players of his/her country will not exceed three players.
 - c) There is just one exception of the rule in the point b) above. As there must be at least one female player in the EU team, a reasonable number of reasonably strong female players is wanted in the Qualification Tournament. There are four strong women among top 24 at the moment undoubtedly. If two of them refuse to play the Qualification Tournament, there will be invited next woman on the rating list on condition that her rating within an observed period has reached at least 2400 and including her into the tournament, a number of players of her country will not exceed three. If there is not such a woman, then the selection process will follow a point b).
 - d) In case there will be no woman registered for the Qualification Tournament, EGF Exec will decide about a procedure how to select a female player.

Tournament system and conditions

Tournament system:

6 rounds, Swiss system, 75 minutes basic time, byoyomi – 3 x 30 sec. or 15 stones / 5 minutes according to the type of clocks. First three rounds will be seeded according to the actual rating.

Schedule:

Thursday, 25 August 2011: 12:00 – ... check-in in a hotel Ibis, Plzenska 14, Praha 5 (metro line 'B', station 'Andel')
20:00 – an organisation meeting in a hotel lobby

Friday, 26 August 2011 15:00 – 15:30 – registration for the tournament in a Town Hall of Prague 13, Slunecni namesti 13 (metro line 'B', station 'Hurka')
15:30 – 15:45 – Opening
15:45 – 22:00 – 1st, 2nd rounds

Saturday, 27 August 2011 09:30 – 12:30 – 3rd round
12:30 – 14:00 – lunch break
14:00 – 17:00 – 4th round
17:30 – 20:30 – 5th round

Sunday, 28 August 2011 09:30 – 12:30 – 6th round
13:00 – 14:00 – Closing

Organiser has a right to change a schedule if necessary.

Tournament venue:

Town Hall of Prague 13, Slunecni namesti 13, Praha 13 (metro line 'B' – yellow, a station 'Hurka')

Accommodation:

Hotel 'Ibis', Plzenska 14, Praha 5 (metro line 'B' – yellow, a station 'Andel'). Accommodation since 25 till 28 of August in a double room in the hotel 'Ibis' is free of charge.

Travelling contribution:

See a table in an enclosed file SportAccord_2011_Contributions.pdf for travelling contributions for particular countries. The money will be sent by a bank transfer to everybody's personal bank account immediately after the tournament unless there is another agreement between a player and EGF.

Entry fee:

No entry fee

Prizes:

There will be no prize money awarded immediately after the tournament is finished. Nevertheless, winners who will represent EU in the Games are guaranteed to receive 500 EUR everybody as a minimum immediately after they return from the Games. The money will be sent by a bank transfer to everybody's personal bank account unless there is another agreement between a player and EGF.

Registration for the Qualification Tournament:

by e-mail to Jana Hricova – hricova.go@gmail.com
with Cc to the EGF executive – egf-executive@eurogofed.org

Deadline for the registration:

Players questioned in a first wave are kindly requested to announce their interest to participate in the Qualification Tournament, and as a members of EU Team also in SportAccord World Mind Games 2011, **latest by 4th of July 2011**. If we do not hear from you by that date, we will take it as a negative answer. If there is not a group of 24 players ready to play the Tournament after 4th of July 2011, next group of players will be addressed with with an offer to participate in the Tournament, and as a result in the Games as well.

Travelling recommendation

There are many possibilities how to reach Prague for a reasonable price. A train, a bus, or a car might be the best possibility for neighbouring countries or countries with a good net of highways. There are also many cheap flights operated to/from Prague's airport. Nevertheless, regular airlines might be sometimes even better possibility for some connections.

Important notice!

Whatever route you will choose by a public transport, you will need to calculate for getting from the tournament venue

- about 30 minutes to get to the airport,
- about 25 minutes to get to the Main Railway Station, and the same time for the Railway Station 'Holesovice',
- about 10 minutes to get to the Railway Station 'Smichovske nadrazi',
- about 20 minutes to get to the bus station 'Florenc'.

We recommend to plan your return for 15:00 or later. Well, if it is really necessary, maybe for 14:30. (We can start a half an hour earlier on Sunday morning, in a case of emergency.)

Travelling by a car:

For finding the best way how to reach Prague, we recommend to look up the way using www.viamichelin.com

Travelling by a bus:

There are many option how to come to Prague by a bus. We can recommend Czech company StudentAgency – www.studentagency.cz , for example. It operates around almost all European countries for very reasonable prices.

Travelling by a train:

Prague lies on an intersection of many international trains. You can use special discount programs like City Star (the whole Europe) for a group of more players, or SparNight (Netherlands, Germany, Austria, Hungary), for example.

Travelling by a plane

Here is a list of a few cheap flights operating to/from Prague

- EasyJet – <http://easyjet.com> (Amsterdam, London, Paris, ...)
- Germanwings – www.germanwings.com (Cologne, ...)
- Smartwings – www.smartwings.com (Paris, ...)
- Wizz Air – www.wizzair.com (Brussels, London, Eindhoven, ...)

Be aware, that sometimes regular flights might be cheaper than cheap flights, even when it is not a direct flight connection. You can also try

- Czech airlines (CSA) <http://czechairlines.com> (Paris, ...)
- Malev (Hungarian airlines) – www.malev.hu (Budapest, Bucharest, ...)
- Austrian airlines - <http://www.aua.com/> (Wien, Bucharest, ...)

Full list of flights companies operating to/from Prague is here:

<http://www.prg.aero/en/flight-info/destination-and-airlines/airlines/>

You can also use some booking servers. We have a good experience with www.letuska.cz , but there are undoubtedly many other booking servers in your countries as well.