



# European DodgeBall Federation



## European DodgeBall Federation National Eligibility Criterion

This document is applicable to the national associations and federations who are members of EDBF.

### **1. General Principles**

- 1.1. These regulations apply to all EDBF international events and player representation for a national team.
- 1.2. These regulations apply to all current and future male players in male teams and female players in female teams. Instances where a female player represents their country as part of a male team these regulations do not apply. (See Section 6.)

### **2. Eligibility and Nationality**

- 2.1. To be eligible to play for the national team of a country you must be a national or eligible non-national as defined in this document. Players must also fulfill the conditions of eligibility according to the laws and internal regulations of that country.
- 2.2. A National:
  - 2.2.1. Must hold the legal nationality of that country (i.e. passport, birth certificate, immigrant status, permanent citizenship, etc.) as obtained by birth or by naturalization.
- 2.3. A Non-national must meet at least one of the following conditions:
  - 2.3.1. Parents: one or both birth parents, adoptive parents or step-parent born in the country which the player represents.
  - 2.3.2. Grandparents: one or more birth or adoptive grandparents born in the country which the player represents. Step-grandparents are not accepted for national eligibility of players. (Guidance: a player who qualifies through a family relation must be able to provide a valid birth certificate of that relation upon request.)
  - 2.3.3. Marriage: a partner or spouse who is a passport holder in the country which the player represents, with the qualification that the couple must be resident in the country being represented. (Guidance: in the event of death of the partner or spouse, the surviving partner/spouse will still be deemed to be eligible to play for their country of residence.)
    - 2.3.3.1. Divorce: in the event that a married couple divorces, where the husband/wife is the passport holder of the nation being represented, the qualifying player's eligibility will no longer be valid and they will no longer be able to represent that nation on completion of divorce proceedings.
    - 2.3.3.2. Eligibility by marriage or partnership relates to a relationship which has been legally sanctioned by that country.
- 2.4. Residence: players who have been resident in a country for a minimum of three years prior to the application to play for that nation are eligible to represent that country.
  - 2.4.1. If a player is undertaking studies in another country outside that of their birth they are not eligible to play for that nation in which they attend college or university, unless they meet the other eligibility criteria mentioned elsewhere in this document.
  - 2.4.2. A student in another country, other than that of their birth, is a student who has maintained a home address in the country of their birth during their studies in another country. A person who studies in a country and they have maintained a permanent address in that country are regarded as fully resident in that country.
- 2.5. All documentation must be produced to the manager or head coach of the national team or to a representative of the national governing body upon request.



# European DodgeBall Federation



## **3. Age Requirements**

- 3.1. To be eligible to play in an adult EDBF international competition and represent an EDBF nation, a player must have reached the age of 16 years as of the day prior to the start of that competition.
- 3.2. For national teams for competitions with age restrictions, players must be eligible to participate within that age category prior to the start of that competition. E.g. for under 19 teams and events, players must be 20 years of age or younger prior to the first date of the competition.
- 3.3. Players who reach a birthday which precludes them from an age restricted national team, they are no longer eligible to represent their country in that age restricted team and they will be released from all contracts and restrictions which apply to national eligibility.
- 3.4. A player who has two legal nationalities, or more, by birth or by naturalization, may choose each age restricted national team they wish to play for when at each age category.

## **4. Changing National Eligibility**

- 4.1. A competitor who is a national of two or more countries at the same time may represent either one of them, as he may elect. However, after having represented one country in an EDBF competition, in continental or regional games or in world or regional championships recognised by the relevant international federation, he may not represent another country unless he meets the conditions set forth in paragraph 4.2 below that apply to persons who have changed their nationality or acquired a new nationality.
- 4.2. In circumstances of dual nationality, a player may wish to change the country they represent once and once only, based on the following circumstances:
  - 4.2.1. If an associated State, province or overseas department, a country or colony acquires independence, if a country becomes incorporated within another country by reason of a change of border, if a country merges with another country, or if a new association or federation is recognised by the EDBF, a competitor may continue to represent the country to which he belongs or belonged. However, he may, if he prefers, elect to represent his country or be entered into international competitions by his new NGB if one exists. This particular choice may be made only once.
  - 4.2.2. A player has not been selected by the national team they want to leave.
  - 4.2.3. The player has represented the nation at youth, or other age restricted level, or in a secondary representative team (i.e. 2<sup>nd</sup> Team or 'B' Team) but they have not represented that country at full international level.
  - 4.2.4. The player has not represented their country at an international competition previous to their application to change their national eligibility.
  - 4.2.5. A competitor who has represented one country in a recognized international competition, in continental or regional games or in world or regional championships recognised by the relevant NGB, and who has changed his nationality or acquired a new nationality, may participate in international competitions to represent his/her new country provided that at least three years have passed since the competitor last represented his/her former country. This period may be reduced or even cancelled, with the agreement of the NGBs



# European DodgeBall Federation



concerned, by the EDBF Executive Board, which takes into account the circumstances of each case.

- 4.3. Furthermore, in all cases in which a competitor would be eligible to participate in an international competition, either by representing another country than his or by having the choice as to the country which such competitor intends to represent, the EDBF Executive Board may take all decisions of a general or individual nature with regard to issues resulting from nationality, citizenship, domicile or residence of any competitor, including the duration of any waiting period.

## **5. Proof of Eligibility:**

- 5.1. All national teams must show proof of nationality and age of all players upon request by EDBF.
- 5.2. Failure to provide satisfactory documentation may result in the player being disqualified from participating in the event in question. If documentation is not available and this is discovered after an event has started, this can affect the results and standing of the team in that event.
- 5.3. A player who is disqualified from participating in an event after the competition has begun, due to lack of sufficient proof of nationality, will cause the offending team to forfeit all matches in which the ineligible player participated. The offending player will be ineligible to participate in any team activities or matches for the duration of that event.

## **6. Mixed Gender Representation:**

- 6.1. Male teams are able to select female players if and when they wish to do so, providing that female player fulfills the eligibility criterion in Section 2 above.
- 6.2. A female player in a male team can choose to leave that team to represent their country's women's team, from this point they are no longer eligible to participate in the male team.
- 6.3. The exception to this regulation will be when a player in the nation's male team is injured and he is no longer able to continue in the competition and this leaves the team with less than 6 fit players. In such cases a member, or members, of that nation's female team can play for the male national team.
- 6.4. Females of dual nationality who represented one country in a male team are able to change national eligibility, to the other nation for which they can qualify, upon request to EDBF in the following circumstances:
  - 6.4.1. Their current nation fails to provide a female team to support the needs of the player in question
  - 6.4.2. The nation which the player requests to leave will be deemed as having failed the player if they do not attempt to form a female national team or after forming a women's team they fail to enter the women's team into competitions, without sufficient reasoning.
- 6.5. Mixed Gender Teams: Mixed gender teams entering mixed gender competitions must fulfill all the national eligibility requirements as set out in all Sections above.



# European DodgeBall Federation



## 7. Player Selection by National Governing Body:

7.1. The national governing bodies for dodgeball, who are members of EDBF, should use points 1 to 6 above as the basic standard for granting national eligibility to players. In addition, NGB's can also use their own selection rules when selecting their national teams, except where they are in direct contravention of EDBF Eligibility Rules.