

Playing System for the 2009 Men's and Women's World Cup

1. The tournament will consist of 3 stages.
2. In the preliminary stage the 4 continental representatives from Africa, Latin America, North America and Oceania shall compete for an Intercontinental Cup, played on a group basis with all the members of the group playing each other. The winner of this group shall join the remaining 15 players in the 1st stage.
3. Seeding shall be done according to the latest available World Ranking.
4. In the 1st stage the players will be divided into 4 equal groups, with all the members of a group playing each other, and in the 2nd stage the group winners and runners-up will compete in a knockout.
5. For the 1st stage, the highest-ranked player will be placed in Group A, the 2nd highest in Group B, the 3rd highest in Group C and the 4th highest in Group D. The remaining players will be drawn into the groups 4 at a time in ranking order.
6. If there are 2 players from the same Association, they will be drawn into separate groups but a 3rd player from the same Association may be drawn into any group.
7. For the 2nd stage, the winners of Groups A and B will be placed in positions 1 and 8 respectively and the winners of groups C and D will be drawn between positions 4 and 5; the runners-up will be drawn into the remaining places, in opposite halves from the winners of the same groups. There will not be separation by Association.
8. In the semi-finals, the winner of the 1st quarterfinal will play the winner of the 2nd and the winner of the 3rd will play the winner of the 4th ; the winners of the semi-finals will play each other in the final, with the losers of the semi-finals playing each other for third place.
9. The tournament will be played in accordance with the Laws of Table Tennis and the Regulations for International Competitions.
10. All matches shall be the best of 7 games.

Judit Farago
Executive Director of Competitions

Graeme Ireland
Technical Committee Chairman