

Emerging Area EQC Spot Allocation Process

As of October 2018

European Quidditch Cup Basics

The European Quidditch Cup is the yearly club championship of European quidditch, organised by Quidditch Europe, the umbrella organisation of European NGBs. Community and school teams from across the continent qualify through national championships and leagues within their own NGB, and come together from March to May to fight for the title of European Champion.

Starting with the 2018/19 season, the European Quidditch Cup is held in two divisions, Division 1 and Division 2, in order to facilitate both highly competitive gameplay at the top end and the ever-growing player base in Europe overall.

Emerging Areas at EQC Division 2

NGBs that are considered Full Members or Developing Regions by the IQA are guaranteed at least one spot for one of their teams at EQC. Those considered Emerging Areas by the IQA do not have that guarantee. However, having a certain amount of spots at EQC set aside for teams Emerging Areas is an important tradition of the tournament, and will continue to be a cornerstone of EQC under the new system.

In general, there are 3 spots reserved for teams from Emerging Areas for EQC Division 2.*

Emerging Area Spot Application Forms

Teams from Emerging Areas can apply for one of the Emerging Area spots by sending in an application through the application form listed on the Quidditch Europe website at <https://quidditch europe.wixsite.com/quidditch europe/eqc-emerging areas> during the application period.

The application period starts with the release of that season's application form, shortly after the date and location of the European Quidditch Cup for the relevant season (and in particular Division 2) are made public, and lasts approximately 4 weeks.

This application form asks the team to fill out some information concerning

- the team's history, including recruitment and competitive experience, so far,
- how participating in EQC will help the team's development as well as
- how it will help the region's development as a whole.

* It's possible that in certain years the amount of Emerging Area spots will be lower than 3. One potential reason for such a thing would be if there are less than 3 Emerging Areas recognised in a certain season.

Quidditch Europe reserves the right to lower the amount based on other reasons as well.

Emerging Area Spot Decision Guidelines

Quidditch Europe is aware there's a wide variety of emerging areas, all with their unique history and challenges to develop the sport in their region. As such, we find it important to give out emerging area spots in a way to cater for a range of diverse developmental needs and want to choose a variety of types of teams.

On the one hand, we want to encourage motivated up-and-coming teams from our newest regions to grow and gain valuable experience, helping them to capitalise on the momentum to continue growing their team and help their region to grow from Emerging Area to Developing Region within a season or two.

We will choose at least one team from an Emerging Area less than two seasons old that can use the gained motivation, momentum and experience to grow their team and NGB. **

On the other hand, we understand there are regions with experienced, motivated and competitive teams that have trouble developing due to logistical reasons linked to their region. For example, a region's comparatively small population size, population density or geographical reasons might hinder the development of the necessary number of 2 or more teams as well as regular competitive play in order to gain the IQA status of developing NGB.

We will choose at least one team from an Emerging Area more than two seasons old who show continued motivation, training and competitive experience despite development being hindered by logistical reasons so far. **

Of course, not all teams and Emerging Areas will fall neatly into one of these categories. For example, a region that has been considered an Emerging Area for longer than two seasons might have recently gained a new team that's eager to grow, but doesn't themselves yet have the "continued motivation, training and competitive experience" described above.

As such, the above categories and their descriptions are used merely as guidelines by Quidditch Europe to help them make their decision on Emerging Area spot allocation. Sometimes a team might be considered part of a category it doesn't exactly fit into, and sometimes it might not be considered as part of either category.

The Quidditch Europe members will collectively use their best judgement to choose the teams allowed to attend EQC with the help of the above guidelines, without losing sight of the complex reality of Europe's varied Emerging Areas and Emerging Area teams, who cannot neatly be defined into strict categories.

** If in a particular season Quidditch Europe does not receive any (strong) applications for one category, but three or more (strong) applications for another, it reserves the right to decide not to choose teams from a particular category for that year. This will not affect the decision process the following years.