

Walking Football 2024

SPANISH EUROPEAN MASTERS TROPHY

Mens Qualifying Matches Friday 10th May, **and Finals on Sunday** 12th May.

Ladies Qualifying Matches Saturday 11th May, **and Finals on Monday** 13th May.



MEDITERRANEAN
SPORT VILLAGE

Salou, Spain

9th to 13/14th May 2024

Mediterranean Sport Village video: <https://bit.ly/2CI07w9>



The Spanish Masters 2024 tournament will be held from 9th till 13th May for the Mens Section and 10th -14th May for the Ladies section, in the beautiful setting of The Mediterranean Sports Village, Salou Spain.

This tournament has gradually become one of the most prestigious Walking football tournaments in Europe. With its rich environment of things to see and do, the Costa Daurada is a perfect place to hold a football tournament.



The following pages will provide all the information you need to know regarding the tournament, accommodation, and the resort.

Accommodation

We will be staying in Cambrils Sports Village and residing in the two twin bedroom Villa Bonita/Aloha bungalows that can host up to 4 people. Single occupancy rooms are available with a small extra charge and family or nonplayer rates are also available.



The rooms are clean and comfortable with a small lounge area to relax in.



The village can accommodate up to 2000 people at a time

The package includes Breakfast and Lunch served buffet style in the onsite restaurant. Mealtimes will be arranged around our match times.



There are Bars, Laundrette, supermarket, and many other facilities on site, including a Fitness and Spa centre.



The village is nestled between Cambrils and Salou which are both a short ten-minute taxi ride away.

Cambrils is a beautiful place and well worth a visit. Tours can be arranged to the nearby “Ferrari land” or local wine tasting trips. For the more adventurous there are speed boat tours or even football sight-seeing tours to the Camp Nou in Barcelona around an hour drive away. Tarragona, Reus, and La Pineda are also within easy travelling distance.



The Football Tournament

Will be hosted at the nearby Futbol Salou complex around 900 meters from the village. With its breath-taking facilities the complex is one of Europe’s most prestigious football Academies and holds many international tournaments annually. Please note there will be over 50s and over 65s Male Only sections and an Over 40s Ladies only section.





Tournament Structure

The tournament will consist of teams being split into League groups. The idea is that everyone will have the same amount of games instead of a knockout tournament. Group games will commence on 10th May and will consist of matches against all the other teams in their group. There will be half time water breaks of 2 minutes. The games are **6 a side** with unlimited substitutions from your registered 10 players. There will then be a day off on the Middle day to recover, remember we are older now and most of us need this. Play will re commence on the following morning and will be split as follows: The top teams from the groups (**over 50s**) will form a group and contest the **“Spanish European master's Trophy”**.

The remaining teams from each group will form new groups and play for the **“Cuchara De Madera”** (Wooden Spoon)

In the (**over 65s**) the format will be similar, and teams will compete for the **“European Seniors Trophy”**.

The Ladies will compete for the **“Maestros Españoles Femeninos”**.

Cup presentations will be held after the Sunday Matches.





Due to the complexity of getting copies of everyone's medical records and as we all have medical history, we are unable to arrange any personal insurance for the tournament. You will have to make sure your own travel insurance policy will cover you playing football abroad.

There is a link to a specific playing Walking Football Abroad policy on the main webpage www.walkingfootballtours.com

Everyone competing will have to sign a disclaimer to confirm they are playing at their own risk.

Tournament Rules

The objective of these rules is to ensure safe and competitive tournaments played in a friendly fun manner. The normal rules of Football apply with the following exceptions and amendments:

1. Walking rule
2. Teams
3. Player's equipment
4. Playing area, goals, and ball
5. Duration of play
6. Three touch rules
7. Height of ball restriction
8. Areas of play
9. Free kicks and penalties
10. Offside



11. Substitution procedures
12. Disciplinary sanctions
13. Appeals committee

1. Walking rule - Walking is defined as “always having one foot in touch with the ground whilst moving”. The referee will award an indirect free kick against any player who is seen to be not walking while moving. If a **team** is penalised on five occasions in a match for infringing the walking rule, a blue card will be issued this will result in the award of a penalty kick against them. Each subsequent infringement will result in the award of a further penalty kick.
2. Teams - Teams will comprise of 6 players. A maximum number of 4 substitutes is permitted.
3. Players' equipment - Players must wear designated AstroTurf or moulded studded footwear. Screw-in metal studs and blades are not allowed. All jewellery must be removed or taped over; watches must be removed.. Fitbits must be covered over. Spectacles may be worn. Shinguards **must** be worn.
4. Playing area, goals, and ball - The playing area will be approximately 38mx28m. Goals will be similar in size to standard Futsal goals. A size 4 ball will be used.
5. Duration of matches - The duration of matches shall be divided into 2 equal periods of 6, 7 or 8 minutes.
6. Three touch rule - An outfield player is limited to three touches of the ball uninterrupted by another player touching the ball. A fourth touch will be an infringement and result in the award of an indirect free kick. A player having used three touches should step back two metres from the ball and not obstruct play. Goalkeepers must distribute the ball in an underarm “bowling” motion. Goalkeepers may not kick the ball directly from their hands. Goalkeepers cannot control the ball with their hands from a pass back. Goalkeepers have unlimited touches but are not allowed to run at any point.
Height of ball restriction - A height restriction is set at the height of the crossbar. If the ball is kicked by any player above the designated height an indirect free kick will be awarded. If the ball rises above the designated height restriction due to a block/deflection by a player or a block/deflection or save by a goalkeeper, then play should continue without the award of a free kick or penalty. If the ball is going above head height and the keeper chooses to try and play the ball, then the play will continue as normal. Heading the ball is not permitted at all and will result in a free kick .
7. Areas of play - The playing area will include a Goalkeeper Safe Zone (GSZ). A goalkeeper cannot exit the (GSZ). If a goalkeeper exits their area a penalty will be awarded. Access to the GSZ is restricted to goalkeepers. Entry to the (GSZ) by a player will result in the award of a penalty for defending players and an indirect free kick for attacking players.
Free kicks and penalties - Infringements outside of the (GSZ) will result in the award of an indirect free kick. Infringements will include over physical contact, barging and excessive use of upper body strength. No Tackling from behind or overzealous tackling will be permitted, this will be at the referee's discretion. The game should be semi-contact and controlled tackling is allowed.
Denying a goal scoring opportunity by any foul means will be punished by the award of a penalty kick. Goalkeepers leaving their (GSZ) or any defender entering the (GSZ) will also be punished by a Penalty kick. Goalkeeper kicking or throwing the ball above head height will be

punished by a penalty kick unless the referee deems the touch as a block rather than a deliberate kick.

Penalty Kicks – The penalty taker must start their approach no more than one metre from the ball.

8. Kick ins must be taken from behind the touchline but within two metres of the line.
9. Offside - There is no offside.
10. Substitution procedures - The number of substitutions made during a match is unlimited. A player who has been replaced may return to the field of play as a substitute for another player. Substitutions should take place when there is a break in play during play if sanctioned the second official where there is one. Any of other players, or substitutes, may change places with the goalkeeper but the referee must be made aware of any change before it takes place, and a change may only be made during a stoppage in play. The replacement goalkeeper must wear a jersey which distinguishes them from other players and the referee. The goalkeeper cannot be changed just for penalties.
11. Disciplinary sanctions - Blue card offences will be dealt with as per Rule 1. Yellow and red cards will be issued in line with normal rules related to foul play. Any player receiving a **yellow card** will be removed from the field of play, but can be replaced by another team member, there will also be an automatic goal award for the opposition for any sending off offence.
Any player receiving a **red card** will be suspended from playing in all remaining matches in the tournament and a goal will automatically be awarded to the opposition..
12. Appeals committee - Appeals against sanctions noted above or any other matters relating to the tournament will be heard by the tournament disciplinary committee which will consist of two officials from walkingfootballtours.com and two senior referees.

There will be 3 points awarded for a win and 1 point for a draw.

The winners will obviously be the team with the most points.

If teams are tied on points then, the head-to-head results will be checked
(On aggregate)

If still tied team placings will be decided on Goal difference.

If still tied it will be judged on most goals scored.

If still tied a play-off match will be played including extra time and penalties if required.

Once registered with a team, Players may not play for any other team in the tournament.



We will need **one contact** for each club regarding payment and registration, individual payments cannot be accepted. It will cost **100 euros per head** to register your place at the event, which will come off the final balance owed. **All payments must be in Euros.** **Places for the event are very limited and popular, so you are advised to register quickly before planning flights.**

Deposits of 100 euros per head must be paid ASAP to secure your places.

Final balances must be paid by February 28th 2024

Once commitment of team players numbers has been made by deposits, you can still change players' names but not numbers. Once we make the initial payment, we cannot receive cancellation fees and full payment will be required.

Player registration forms will be sent separate and will require dates of birth.

Passports will be checked at resort.

Playing squads must have a maximum of 10 and we would recommend a minimum of 8 to cover unforeseen injuries. Teams can enter as many squads as they wish.

If you need assistance organising travel from the airport to the resort (Barcelona or Reus airports) we can assist you.

If you have any questions or Special requirements, please contact Mick Quinn directly on 07810 100175

More information can be found on www.walkingfootballtours.com