



NAF Tournament Data Review of 2023

This report looks at the data held in the NAF database of tournament games, so will not reflect league games or non-NAF tournament games.

Number of Games

2023 saw far and away the largest number of NAF games ever played in a year. 10,000 of these were over 3 days in Alicante, as 2300 coaches attended the 5th NAF World Cup, but removing this would have meant more games played than in 2019, when the 4th World Cup took place.

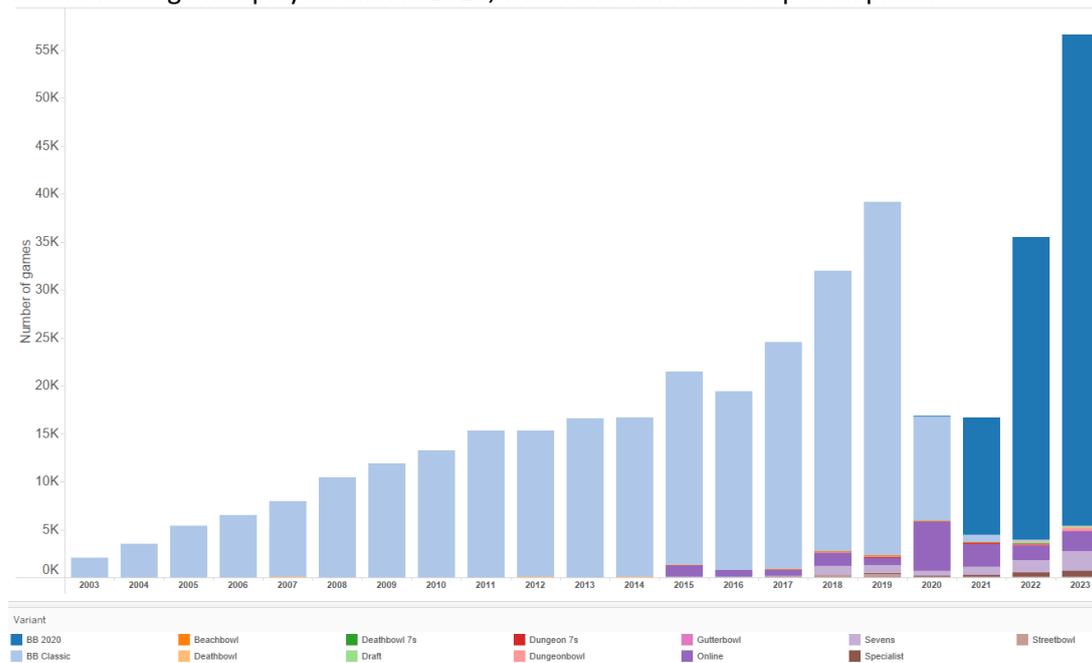


Figure 1 - Number of Games from all variants

Number of Active Coaches

As well as number of games, we can look at the number of coaches who played in a NAF tournament in a particular year. There are always some for whom the World Cup is their only tournament of the year, and this was the case for 400 participants in Alicante. Stripping these out to find the regular tournament players shows that the growth here continues. There were over 1000 more people taking part in NAF tournaments in 2023 than in 2022, excluding the World Cup.

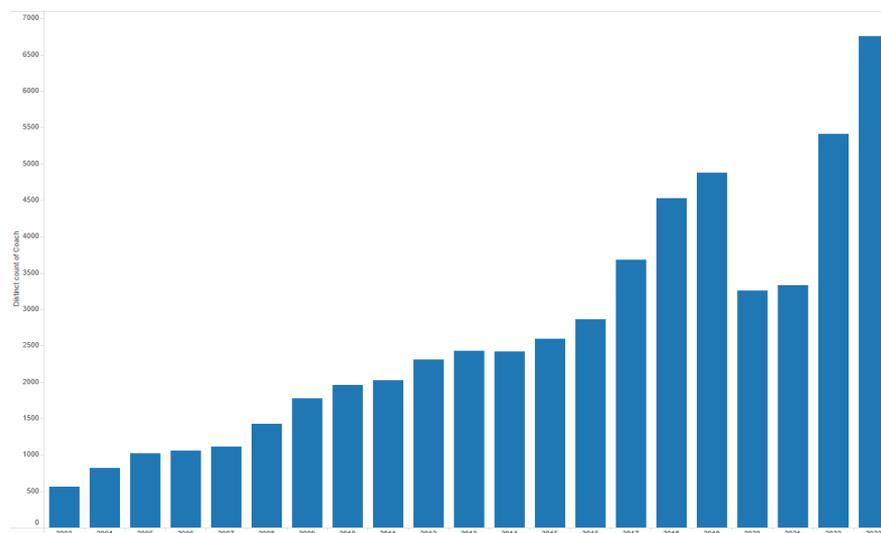


Figure 2 – Active coaches per year, excluding those just attending world cup

Majors

One of the developments in 2023 was Nationals being recognised as Majors in their own right, joining the large team tournaments and the 5 individual Majors. More of these will be added in 2024, and it's obvious why, looking at for example the size of Spain's Reva and Bilbali cups. The first Welsh individual Major is taking place in just over a week's time! Chaos Cup moved to Florida, and grew, and we saw the NAF Championship sell out in super quick time, matching a trend in the popularity of tickets and sometimes the difficulty of getting hold of tickets!

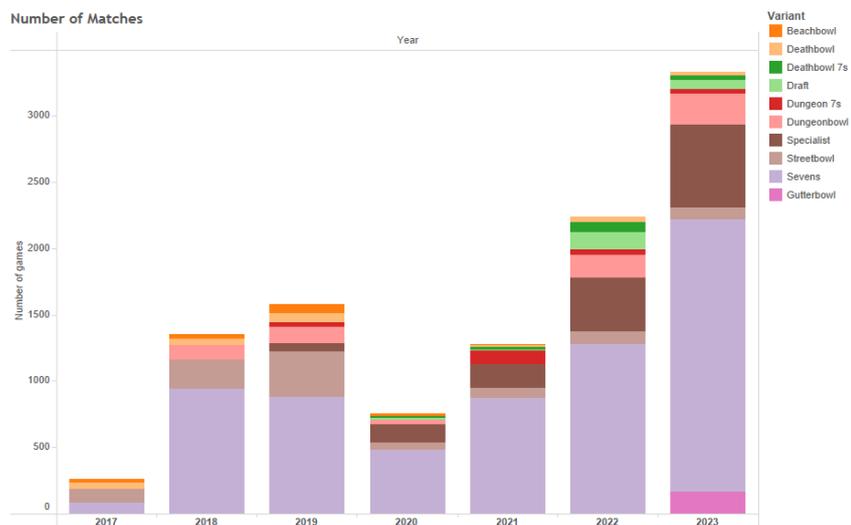
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2022	2023		
World Cup					273				484				913				1,426		2,254		
Eurobowl												144		128	145	176		194			
Europen												120		92	131	210		232			
UK Individual Major (BB, NAFC)	119	146	126	129	98	140	147	127	189	186	156	159	150	144	208	193	192	271	265		
Dungeon Bowl		42	63	58	69	70	80	82	93	86	90	99	69	85	88	96	101	76	85		
Chaos Cup		22	14	18	38	34	50	30	34	56	80	75	94	78	81	82	108	85	160	201	
The Spike Championship			40	8	8		26	29	47	51	52	50	37	35	44	48	42	56		60	
Australian Individual (Cancon, Euc)	29	35	30	38	30	46	63	72	54	50	55	46	36	36	20	34	60	39	54		
Amorical Cup																98					
Ausbowl									34	28	46	32	36	36	40	24				31	
Historic						102															
National - France																				94	
National - Italy																				71	
National - Poland																				65	
National - Spain																				138	223
National - Sweden																					84

Figure 3 – Players in Majors

Variants

The most popular variant of tabletop BB continues to be 7s. Gutterbowl was released officially by GW as an official version of Streetbowl, which had a steady presence in the early years of the variants being recognised in the database. Specialist is also increasing, and it will be interesting to see whether this grows in 2024, depending on how strict the sanctioning team is on deviations from the core rules, now that people are getting to grips with Blood Bowl 2020 and some of the associated difficulties, such as star players.

Figure 4 – Number of Variant Matches



Racial Breakdown

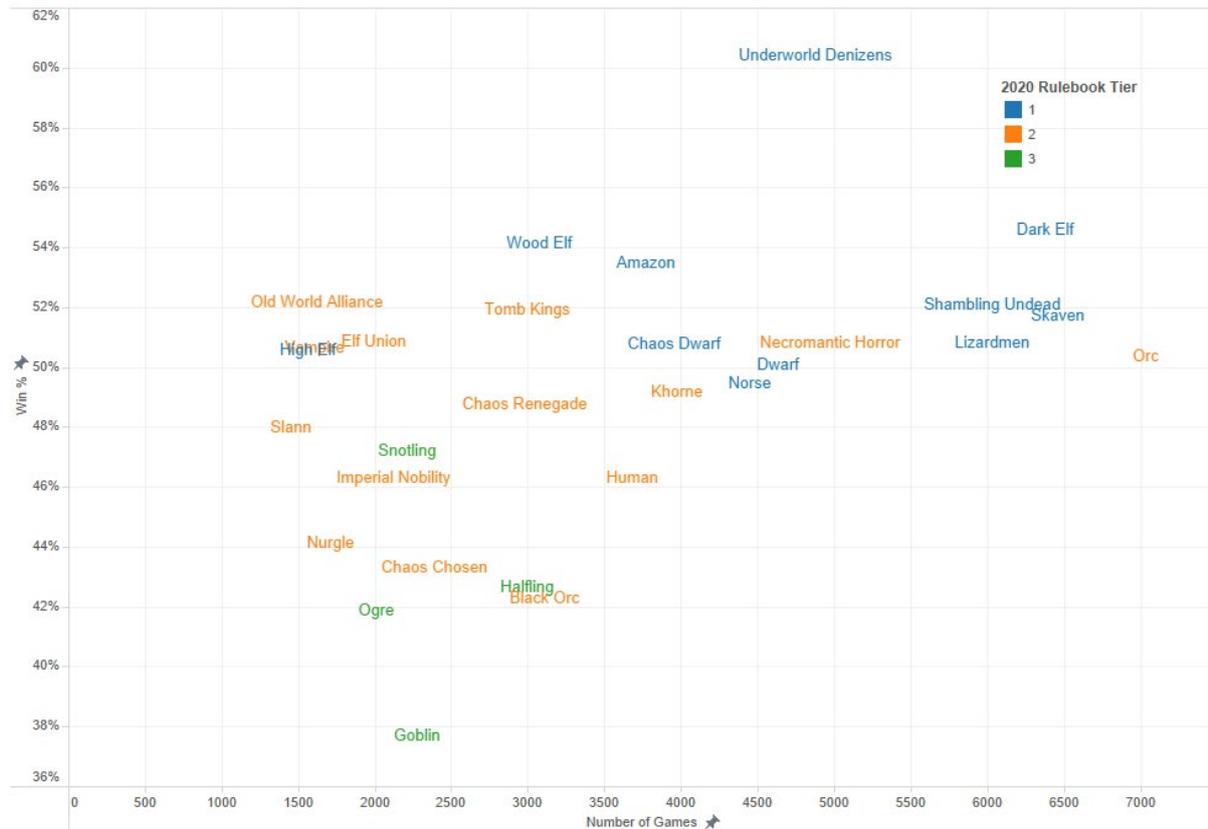


Figure 5 - Success and Popularity

In 2023 the domination of Underworld continued and got more extreme, with over 60% win rating. As expected the World Cup rules were used by many tournaments, which cemented this position as a winning Underworld roster was able to be built. High Elves dropped down in popularity and effectiveness, and Skaven saw a big increase in popularity, again driven partly by their World Cup tiering.

People in general still haven't got the hang of playing Black Orcs, Nurgle, or Chosen, and unfortunately the axis for win % had to be extended downwards from last year to take account of the Goblin disastrous performance. A new ruleset for Vampires was released, which saw a small boost in their popularity and quite a big boost in effectiveness, from 45% win rate to just over 50%, but it will be interesting to see where they finish in 2024 with a whole year of data in the new ruleset.



Prolific Coaches

There was only one story for number of games in 2023, as Volkajo took on a charitable challenge for the Year of Blood Bowl and set a new record for the number of games of tabletop 11s in a year, though as it included multiple 24-hour tournaments he was one off PeterD’s record of 31 tournaments, which still stands. He spread the love around, playing 20 different races in those 30 tournaments.

Most Games per Race			Top 20 Games Played			Most Races Played		
Race	Coach	# Games	Index	Coach	# Games	Index	Coach	
Amazon	calltroop	61	1	Volkajo	176	1	Emi_-13-_	20
Black Orc	Panzer68	47	2	Storr	145			
Chaos Chos..	Lunatiko	25	3	Stimme	137	2	Storr	20
Chaos Dwarf	ferra	51	4	grave	136			
Chaos Renee..	FB_Titel17	45	5	javin23	135	3	Volkajo	20
Dark Elf	Sprinter	72	6	abaddon	130			
Dwarf	mapache515	45	7	zahiko	130	4	javin23	19
Elf Union	Jonno	36	8	peterd	126			
Goblin	Lord_buba	51	9	Emi_-13-_	114	5	Gr4n0t4	18
Halfling	felix11_59	73	10	spleggy	110			
High Elf	Hicks	35	11	torquemada	108	6	Stimme	17
Human	Nabolo	62	12	calltroop	106			
Imperial Nob..	NotThePornGuy	38	13	Gr4n0t4	105	8	arioso	16
Khorne	totay	53	14	Jazmin	103			
Lizardmen	Meerkul	54	15	FB_Titel17	102	9	Tschirgant	14
Necromantic..	Darius_G.R.	50	16	Josepe	101			
Norse	Hachablanca	49	17	Spielmacher	101	10	grave	14
Nurgle	DazzaMac	38	18	arioso	98			
Ogre	MoonMaster	34	19	Duke_Luthor	97	11	wobert	14
Old World Al..	NightSword	41	20	Scouseboy	97			
Orc	zahiko	79				12	xiete	14
Shambling U..	davestarmaster	42						
Skaven	wozoi	49						
Slann	Silent_death	38						
Snotling	Pink_Charlie	43						
Tomb Kings	grave	74						
Underworld ..	abaddon	52						
Vampire	YourNameHere	37						
Wood Elf	topas	53						

Figure 6 - Prolific Coaches

Tournament Winners

Javin23 took home an impressive 8 tournament wins this year, and chaoshugs was again joint top for the number of best painted wins. Well done to Duffins for his 5 Stunty Cup wins, all with Goblins!

Champions

Index	NAF Name	Nation	Winner
1	javin23	Spain	8
2	torquemada	England	6
3	Helborg	France	5
4	delevus	United States of America	5
5	Barbossa	Italy	4
6	Jokaero	Switzerland	4
7	inforthepain	Sweden	4

Coach Nation
(All)

Year
2023

Variant
BB 2020

Stunty Cup

Index	NAF Name	Stunty Cup
1	duffins	5
2	Marquis_of_Peaches	4
3	Melifaxis	3
4	Misifu	3
5	Storr	3
6	Vonblocker	3

Best Painted

Index	NAF Name	Best Painted
1	James_	5
2	chaoshugs	5
3	dalyo	4
4	Big_Shawn	3
5	El_Spoonio	3
6	Kruel_fie	3

Most Touchdowns

Index	NAF Name	Most Touchdowns
1	Da_Great_MC	4
2	torquemada	4
3	Drakenspear	3
4	Eldryr	3
5	Ulvardar	3
6	Vital	3

Most Casualties

Index	NAF Name	Most Casualties
1	captinconway	6
2	EvilSmoothie	4
3	Jokaero	4
4	Sjapie	4
5	inforthepain	4
6	totay	4

Figure 7 – Winners in BB2020 in 2023



Growth Across the World

To look at growth internationally I've looked at the number of individual BB tournaments, excluding variants, excluding those that did not take place or did not get their games registered. I've also excluded 2020 and 2021 due to the impact of Covid to show a sensible pattern of growth.

Andorra managed its first NAF tournaments, and Slovenia and Lithuania continue to host, with rumours of at least one of these countries entering a team in Eurobowl 2024 for the first time!

2024 was the first year that the UK had the most tournaments, overtaking the US, although if you could include variants then America is still the place to be, with over 50 variant tournaments taking place in the US in 2023. Australia managed to have almost twice as many as in 2022, as did New Zealand, and there was also substantial growth in Sweden, Finland and Germany.

Country	2016	2017	2018	2019	2022	2023
Andorra						2
Argentina		1		1		
Australia	12	16	14	20	16	30
Austria		1	4	3	5	6
Belgium	11	13	14	14	10	13
Brazil				3		
Bulgaria			2	2	2	2
Canada	18	27	30	33	26	43
Chile		1	4	5	9	4
Colombia					1	3
Czech Repu..		4	2	3	3	7
Denmark	5	14	12	16	9	13
Finland	1	3	7	8	7	12
France	35	46	54	45	47	56
Germany	25	23	28	33	48	60
Greece			3	2	4	5
Hungary	2	4	1	2	1	2
Ireland					1	4
Italy	32	32	33	37	32	34
Lithuania					1	2
Malta	1	4	4	12	10	10
Mexico				1	3	2
Netherlands	5	4	7	8	5	7
New Zealand	6	7	7	6	5	9
Norway	1	4	4	5	5	7
Poland	1	6	8	10	14	19
Portugal		2	3	5	6	8
Slovenia					1	2
South Africa		2	3	2	1	1
Spain	50	60	73	72	83	96
Sweden	12	14	10	11	13	20
Switzerland	3	5	4	2	5	5
United Kingd..	41	63	86	95	102	133
United States	49	79	105	108	108	130
Uruguay		8	8	1	2	2

Figure 8 - Tournaments per Country



Rankings at Year End

A new addition for this year is looking at who is top of the pops at the end of the year. The main site has the full rankings, and Olivierdulac was riding high at a very satisfying 300.00. Some people would be very tempted to stop there, as the ELO rankings do not decay. As a side note, during the world cup Olivier also achieved the highest ever spot ranking, hitting 305 before a loss during the tournament. He’s been playing vampires since, so we shall see what 2024 brings.

Overall Rankings ^{[?] Click here for a full explanation of how the rankings work and are updated}							
#	Real Name	Username (Naf number)	Nation	Last Updated	Variant	Race	Rating
1	Olivier Nakache	Olivierdulac (18901)	France	02/01/2024	Blood Bowl 2020	Skaven	300.00
2	Kaare Foged	kfoged (10691)	England	02/01/2024	Blood Bowl 2020	Dark Elf	278.05
3	Philip Pearson	Purplegoo (11777)	England	23/06/2021	Blood Bowl 2020	Wood Elf	272.75
4	Alessandro Verri	Verrinho (16930)	Italy	02/01/2024	Blood Bowl 2020	Lizardmen	271.77
5	Geoff Porritt	Podfrey (149)	England	23/06/2021	Blood Bowl 2020	Amazon	268.34
6	Mathieu Ferreira	Matt le Fou (13561)	France	23/06/2021	Blood Bowl 2020	Amazon	266.99
7	Simon Bonemaïson	Simon_ACP (12903)	France	02/01/2024	Blood Bowl 2020	Dark Elf	266.65
8	Kevin Nielson	Harti (13583)	France	23/06/2021	Blood Bowl 2020	Dark Elf	265.96
9	Felipe Caballero	Frikipe (4818)	Spain	02/01/2024	Blood Bowl 2020	Shambling Undead	263.14
10	Lorenzo Diomedi	Diomlord (22346)	Italy	02/01/2024	Blood Bowl 2020	Shambling Undead	262.04
11	Riccardo Zerbo	Spartako (13417)	Italy	02/01/2024	Blood Bowl 2020	Wood Elf	260.26
12	Pablo Lozano	bletos (21331)	Spain	02/01/2024	Blood Bowl 2020	Lizardmen	259.65
13	Shirokov	Shirokov (12520)	Spain	23/06/2021	Blood Bowl 2020	Norse	259.38
14	Pete Woodroffe	PeteW (7769)	England	02/01/2024	Blood Bowl 2020	Dark Elf	258.93
15	José María de las Casas	Duke_Luthor (11793)	Spain	23/06/2021	Blood Bowl 2020	Skaven	258.38
16	Massimo Rolli	Rolex (16091)	Italy	23/06/2021	Blood Bowl 2020	Human	257.71
17	Dan Gov	Foad (13462)	Australia	02/01/2024	Blood Bowl 2020	Amazon	257.65
18	Jean Francois Veries	Jeff (8964)	France	02/01/2024	Blood Bowl 2020	Shambling Undead	257.58
19	Brendan Spencelayh	Pibey (5290)	England	23/06/2021	Blood Bowl 2020	Shambling Undead	256.71
20	Shirokov	Shirokov (12520)	Spain	02/01/2024	Blood Bowl 2020	Khorne	256.04

Figure 9 – Official BB2020 Rankings

The Last Updated column tells a tale, however, as if it says 23/06/21 that means the coach has not used that race in the BB2020 rules, so in Tableau I have built an equivalent set of rankings that only use races that have played under these rules.

Coach	Nation	Race	Variant	Ranking
Olivierdulac	France	Skaven	BB 2020	300.0
kfoged	England	Dark Elf	BB 2020	278.1
Verrinho	Italy	Lizardmen	BB 2020	271.8
Simon_ACP	France	Dark Elf	BB 2020	266.7
Frikipe	Spain	Shambling Undead	BB 2020	263.1
Diomlord	Italy	Shambling Undead	BB 2020	262.0
Spartako	Italy	Wood Elf	BB 2020	260.3
bletos	Spain	Lizardmen	BB 2020	259.7
PeteW	England	Dark Elf	BB 2020	258.9
Foad	Australia	Amazon	BB 2020	257.7
Jeff	France	Shambling Undead	BB 2020	257.6
Shirokov	Spain	Khorne	BB 2020	256.0
Jimjimany	England	Dark Elf	BB 2020	256.0
javin23	Spain	Underworld Denizens	BB 2020	255.6
javin23	Spain	Dwarf	BB 2020	255.0
Besters	England	Elf Union	BB 2020	254.8
donpimpon	Spain	Lizardmen	BB 2020	254.2
nynox	Spain	Dark Elf	BB 2020	253.1
Simon_ACP	France	Wood Elf	BB 2020	252.4

Figure 10 – Rankings for Coaches that have played BB2020

I will do some more playing around with rankings in 2024, as you will be able to add filters such as played in the last 2 years, or so on. You can also combine countries, to find for example the best UK coach for a particular race. All available on [Tableau public](#).



Using this, you can also take quite a nice snapshot of who is currently top using each of the races in BB2020 rules. Honourable mention for javin23 in there for holding three top spots, which you can only achieve by getting regular appearances in the most games stats and of course in most tournament wins!

Race	Coach	Nation	Ranking
Amazon	Foad	Australia	257.7
Black Orc	Panzer68	Spain	219.9
Chaos Chosen	Phoenix11	Italy	229.1
Chaos Dwarf	Liam	Italy	248.6
Chaos Renegade	Malasnoticias	Spain	230.1
Dark Elf	kfoged	England	278.1
Dwarf	javin23	Spain	255.0
Elf Union	Besters	England	254.8
Goblin	Duke_Luthor	Spain	218.9
Halfling	canta	Italy	213.7
High Elf	Besters	England	228.6
Human	Pipey	England	234.1
Imperial Nobility	Arzowane	Spain	204.4
Khorne	Shirokov	Spain	256.0
Lizardmen	Verrinho	Italy	271.8
Necromantic Horror	JamesDSF	Australia	233.3
Norse	Malasnoticias	Spain	249.4
Nurgle	Grither	USA	208.6
Ogre	Shirokov	Spain	206.8
Old World Alliance	tribalsinner	Australia	195.9
Orc	Spartako	Italy	249.3
Shambling Undead	Frikipe	Spain	263.1
Skaven	Olivierdulac	France	300.0
Slann	kfoged	England	230.5
Snotling	javin23	Spain	217.2
Tomb Kings	dementor	Wales	215.6
Underworld Denizens	javin23	Spain	255.6
Vampire	delevus	USA	227.2
Wood Elf	Spartako	Italy	260.3

Figure 11 – Highest Ranked BB2020 for each race

Looking Forward

The big event of 2024 is the Eurobowl and Europen in Athens in September. With the emphasis on the squad structure, it may be that we don't see as many Euro rule tournaments as we saw World Cup rules tournaments in 2024, but it is still likely to have an influence as people practice ready to fight for national glory!

You can find a full list of upcoming tournaments with maps [here](#), and my [Tableau Public profile](#) contains interactive versions of all the analysis above. Tourplay continues to grow and is probably now equal with Score as the default tournament software, though is obviously still internet reliant, so depends on the venue. Team tournament functionality has just been announced, and no doubt there will be more developments over time.

I'll finish with a big thank you to TD Stimme and the tournament staff for all their work approving tournaments and supporting Tournament Organisers, and of course all the TOs for doing organising the tournaments that we all love!