

TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS of the 2025 MÖLKKY WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

July 15th, 2025

Organizers:

Polish Mölkky Federation

Stowarzyszenie Mölkky Dwunastka

I GENERAL INFORMATION

The 2025 Mölkky World Championship (MM 2025) is a tournament held under the auspices of the International Mölkky Organisation (IMO). It is the **20th edition of the Mölkky World Championship**.

Date: August 14th - 17th, 2025.

Location: Rodzinny Park Edukacji i Rozrywki in Gołotczyzna, Poland (gravel petanque fields)

MM 2025 consists of three separate tournaments:

- Warm-Up Tournament (August 14th)
- the main World Championship tournament (August 15th - 17th)
- Nations Cup (August 15th, organized by the International Mölkky Organisation)

II PLAYING EQUIPMENT

The tournament will only be played with official Mölkky sets from Tactic Games Oy. It is not allowed to play with equipment other than that provided by the organizers, e.g. players' own tikku (throwing pins).

The tikku provided by the organizers will be numbered according to the numbering of the playing fields and, as a rule, must only be used on the field whose number corresponds to the tikku number. Any changes in this respect can only be made by a main referee. The final match of the MM 2025 main tournament will be played with a new Mölkky set and a new tikku.

III RULES

All MM 2025 tournaments shall be played in accordance with the official Mölkky rules as contained in the Tournament Rules document published by the IMO (version 11.02.2024).

In matches of all MM 2025 tournaments, there is **no time limit for throwing, unless a referee decides to introduce a time limit for a match**. If a time limit is introduced, the time is measured from the moment the team has physical access to the thrower (ie. by being handed or placed in the throwing area by the referee or the opposing team) when all the skittles have been set upright until the moment the thrower is released from the throwing player's hand. The throwing time includes both consultation within the team and preparation for the throw itself.

The organizers encourage a **fair play rule of throwing in a reasonable amount of time**, no longer than necessary, so that there is no need for introducing a time limit.

IV TOURNAMENT FORMAT

The MM 2025 tournaments will be played in the following formats:

- Main tournament: 4-player teams (with up to 2 optional alternates)
 - Group stage, play-off stage and Orion Pharma Cup
- Warm-Up tournament: teams of 2 (with 1 optional alternate)
 - preliminary stage, final & 3rd place match
- Nations Cup: teams of 3 (with 1 optional alternate)
 - details to be announced by the organizer - International Mõlkky Organisation

In all MM 2025 tournaments the rule is: 1 player - 1 team. This means that one person cannot play on more than one team within one tournament.

In all MM 2025 tournaments, changes of players (within the team line-up) may only take place between sets and matches. No changes in the playing line-up of a team are allowed during a set.

V DRAW OF GROUPS

The groups for the **group stage of the MM 2025 main tournament** will be drawn by representatives of the organizers.

The MM 2025 main tournament draw will take place on Wednesday, July 16th at 8 PM CET and will be streamed live on the Polska Federacja Mõlkky Facebook page:
<https://www.facebook.com/molkkyp/>

The draw for the Warm-Up tournament will take place at a later time (to be announced).

In the draw for the MM 2025 main tournament, the **teams registered for the tournament will be drawn to groups in the order of their country's current position on the International Mõlkky Organisation's Nations Cup ranking list** (as of July 15th, 2025):

1. Finland
2. Japan
3. France
4. Germany
5. Australia
6. Estonia
7. Czechia
8. Great Britain
9. Hong Kong
10. Poland
11. Switzerland
12. Greece / Turkey (order to be decided randomly during the draw)

13. as above
14. Belgium
15. Spain
16. Slovakia
17. United States
18. Italy
19. Hungary / Algeria (order to be decided randomly during the draw)

Before the draw of teams, another draw will be held to determine which groups will have 8 or teams.

If a team withdraws from the MM 2025 main tournament after the groups have been drawn, its matches are considered walkovers (all sets 0:50).

VI WARM-UP TOURNAMENT

The Warm-Up tournament will be played in the following format:

- maximum number of teams: 147
- preliminary stage: each team plays 6 matches against randomly drawn teams (from as many different countries as possible)
- two best teams after the preliminary stage, play in the Warm-Up tournament final
- the third and fourth best teams after the preliminary stage, play in the Warm-Up tournament third place match

After the preliminary stage, the teams will be ranked according to the following criteria, in this order:

1. Number of sets won
2. Number of points scored
3. Difference between points scored and lost
4. Set score of the potential direct match between the teams under consideration
5. Point score of the potential direct match between the teams under consideration
6. Mölkkout

All preliminary stage matches are two-set matches.

The Warm-Up tournament final and 3rd place match are played best of 3 sets (race to 2).

VII MM 2025 MAIN TOURNAMENT

The MM 2025 main tournament will be played in the following format:

- Maximum number of teams: 174
- group stage: 14 groups of 9 teams, 6 groups of 8 teams
- **all teams ranked 1-6 in their groups (120 teams), as well as 8 best teams ranked 7th in their groups (according to the criteria below) advance to the round of Last 128**

- the remaining teams ranked 7th in their groups, as well as teams ranked 8th and 9th in their groups and the losing teams from the round of Last 128 will play in the **Orion Pharma Cup**.

After the group stage, **teams will be ranked within the groups according to the following criteria**, in this order:

1. Number of sets won
2. Number of points scored
3. Difference between points scored and lost
4. Set score of the direct match between the teams under consideration
5. Point score of the direct match between the teams under consideration
6. Mölkkout

At the end of the group stage, the teams from all groups advancing to the play-off stage and progressing to the Orion Pharma Cup will be ranked according to:

1. Their positions achieved in the group stage
2. Their results (as per the criteria listed above)

For the purpose of comparing teams from groups of different sizes, results against the lowest-ranked team in larger groups will be excluded. This way, it will be possible to rank teams from 8-team groups together with the teams from 9-team groups.

Based on this ranking, a **play-off stage bracket** will be created (team ranked 1 vs. 128, 64 vs. 65 etc.), with the provision that the 1st and 2nd ranked teams from each group must be placed in two halves of the bracket, and that teams playing each other in the group stage cannot play each other in the round of Last 128 of the main tournament (minor adjustments to the bracket might be needed to meet this provision and they will be made by the main referees).

All group stage matches are two-set matches.

The play-off stage matches of the MM 2025 main tournament up to and including the semi-finals will be played “best of 5” (race to 3).

The MM 2025 final will be played “best of 7” (race to 4).

There will be no ranking matches for teams losing their main tournament play-off matches (with the exception of the round of Last 128 - losing teams move to the Orion Pharma Cup, and the 3rd place match). Losing teams from Last 64 will all be ranked 33th. Losing teams from Last 32 will all be ranked 17th. Losing teams from the Last 16 will all be ranked 9th. Losing teams from the quarterfinals will all be ranked 5th.

The format of the Orion Pharma Cup will be announced at a later time.

VIII REFEREEING

The main referees are responsible for the proper course of the tournaments and their compliance with the rules. They will be clearly introduced to the participants before the tournaments begin.

The organizers may also appoint additional referees to ensure that the tournaments run smoothly.

Decisions made by the main referees are final.

IX ORGANIZERS' PROVISIONS

Order of matches and fields

Matches of the MM 2025 tournaments must take place according to the order and on the fields designated by the organizers. However, a main referee may decide to change the field for a particular match, for example in case of delays.

Delays

A team which, without a clear reason (e.g. a prolonged earlier match or a permission from a referee), does not come to the field designated for its match within 5 minutes of the designated starting time of the match, loses the first set of the match in question by a walkover (0:50). If a team does not come to the field within 10 minutes without a clear reason, it loses the entire match by walkover (all sets 0:50)

Order of throwing

In every **group match of the MM 2025 main tournament** (including the Orion Pharma Cup), and the preliminary stage of the Warm-Up Tournament, each team starts one of the sets. **The order of starting the sets is determined randomly** (for example by a coin toss or a tikku toss).

In play-off matches of the MM 2025 main tournament, the team that starts the first set is determined randomly. All play-off matches are played in the **A-B-A-B(-A-B)** format, with the **deciding set (if needed) being started by the team with more points** scored in the match. In the event of a tie in points, a draw is held to decide which team starts the deciding set, with the exception of the semi-finals, the final and the 3rd place match of the main tournament, where in case of a tie in points, a Mölkkout is played (the winner of which starts the deciding set).

Alcohol and tobacco products

It is **strictly forbidden** to bring alcoholic beverages onto the playing area (clearly marked by signs and fences) or to consume them within the playing area. Consumption of alcoholic beverages is only permitted in a designated, clearly marked area. It is only allowed to

consume alcoholic beverages purchased in the catering stands in the designated area. **The penalty for consuming alcoholic beverages outside the designated area is, on the first occasion, a warning for the entire team of the player concerned and, on the second occasion, an immediate exclusion of the team from MM 2025.**

Smoking and heating of tobacco products in the playing area is strictly prohibited. There will be a designated area where smoking is allowed. **The penalty for smoking or heating up tobacco products in the playing area is, on the first occasion, a warning for the entire team of the player concerned and on the second occasion an immediate exclusion of the team from all MM 2025.**

Cooperation with organizers, referees, etc.

All participants of the MM 2025 tournaments undertake to obey the instructions of the organizers, referees, security personnel and volunteers involved in the organization of the tournament, as well as to observe the regulations of the venue where the tournaments will be played. Teams whose members do not comply with this obligation may be excluded from the tournament by decision of one of the main referees.

Responsibility

The participants take part in the tournament at their own risk - the organizers are not responsible for any harm to health or loss/damage of participants' property during the tournament.