

At the outset, I wish to thank everyone for supporting Carrom Canada. We have come a long way and have already started getting international recognition for our efforts in promoting this game not only in Canada but around the world. International Carrom Federation has awarded the 2020 World Championship to Canada and we will be conducting it at the Pan Am Centre in Markham, under the auspices of Markham Mayor Frank Scarpitti.

We have quite a few individuals who bend over backwards in supporting this cause both physically and financially, and although I would love to mention all the names, I will not do so to avoid the embarrassment in missing out on a key individual. However, one name strikes the most is **Shad Ahmed** who puts in countless hours in generating our online presence. His paperless scoring system using tablets is the first, in the carrom circuit worldwide. Thanks Shad we appreciate your effort and support. If he could only put similar time in practicing his game, we could have another Louis in our Canadian team.

As you may be aware we are all ears to you, we listen and this year we are implementing 2 divisions in the men singles competition. This will create an equal competitive play in both divisions. We expect 20-24 players including USA players in the A division and about 24-30 in the B division. Both divisions will get enough games to make it worth your while to participate. Technically, as this is the first time we are organising this concept Canada wide, I have taken the liberty to split the players into 2 divisions as per the strengths of the players. However, if you feel that you would like to compete in the A division please do not hesitate to contact me with your request. Please note that this letter is addressed to the B division prospective players.

On completion of tournament 2 bottom players in the A division will be relegated into the B division for the next competition, likewise the top 2 players from the B division will be promoted into the A division for the next event. Please note that although B division and maybe subsequent more divisions will be formed, only players from A division will qualify to represent Canada in ICF organised tournaments. Prizes will be awarded to the top 4 players in A, B divisions and women group.

We will use our last tournament ranking to compile the draw depending on the number entries. For example, if we have 24 entries we will split the players into 4 groups of 6 players each. Player ranked 1 will be in Group A, Player ranked 2, will be Group D, Player number 3 in Group C and Player 4 will go into Group B. Likewise, the others will follow anticlockwise in the 4 groups. For players who have not participated last year will be drawn into different groups as per their skills and I will determine the ranking for them. For USA players, they will also use last years ranking but will use an anticlockwise method and similar system will be used for USA and International players who did not participate last year. Please note that if a previous ranked player does not participate than his place will be taken by the next player below and so on.

We will have 4 players out of the 6 (unless we have a huge influx of entries) from each group qualifying into the knock out stages. This year we will use a simple method, which is cross match within the same half. For example, in match 1, Group A1 (winner) will play Group B4 (4th placed), match 2, Group A2 (2nd) will play Group B3 (3rd), match 3, Group A3 (3rd) will play Group B2 (2nd) and in match 4, Group A4 (4th) will play Group B1 (1st placed). In the semis, winner of match 1 plays winner of match 3 and winner of match 2 plays winner of match 4. Likewise, similar procedure will be used for groups C and D.

Due to time constraints, we will be firm on our time schedule and if players turn up late, their matches will be awarded to their opponents; a 25-0 score will be used in a walkover situation.

Last year we managed to balance the enormous costs incurred to conduct this tournament in an excellent location by way of support from many of our generous players. This year, we have distributed most of the costs to players and as usual will be open to extra contribution from individuals to balance the budget.

The fee we must charge all men players to offset the cost is \$110 CAD (on or before Apr 15th) and after that it will be \$130 CAD. For ladies, we will subsidize their cost and charge them \$40 CAD.

The menu for the event is:

Coffee/Tea: All Day Coffee Service

Buffet Lunch Menu

Greek Salad with cherry tomatoes, peppers, cucumbers, olive, red onion and feta cheese

Greek Chicken Breast Marinated with Greek vinaigrette, garnished with diced tomato, olives and fresh Oregano

Garlic and Oregano Mini Red Potatoes

Assorted Freshly Baked Cookies

Buffet Dinner Menu

Seasonal Vegetable Medley

Tandoori Chicken, Boneless tandoori spiced chicken garnished with red onion, cilantro and lemon Wedges

Jasmin Rice

Dessert Squares

[The above food is Halal]

We will keep you informed and more details will follow and thanks for your support as usual. We are expecting a good response and due to space and playing equipment we must restrict the number of entries, so I expect you'll to register at the earliest. Thanks.

Francis D'Costa

President

Carrom Canada

416-880-0928