

► **DYNAMIC SWISS OPEN 2007**

MARK GRAY IS NEXT BRITISH EURO-TOUR CHAMPION

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ORGANISATION GMBH



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Winner Mark Gray

> The run of British victories on the Euro-Tour still goes on. After Daryl Peach and Imran Majid having won in Germany and the Netherlands earlier this year, it was now Mark Gray who claimed the top-spot of the Dynamic Swiss Open 2007 podium. In a titlematch of „first-timers“, Gray managed to beat Hungarian Vilmos Foldes with 10-7 confirming impressively his semi-final appearance at the previous tour-stop in the Netherlands being more than just a one-hit-wonder. Indeed, after having lost his second round match against fellow-countryman Daryl Peach,

things didn't look that bright for 34-years-old snooker-transplant. But Gray, who had during his loss against Peach missed several chances, seemed to never look back and scored one win after the other; under them a solid 10-5 against Roman Hybler avenging his semi-final loss at the Dynamic Netherlands Open against the Czech. In the final round later on Gray came to a clear 10-5 over German Marko Vogel, followed by a 10-8 against Dutch star Niels Feijen and a 10-7 against Ruslan Chinahov in the quarter-finals. In a close semifinal against Spaniard David Alcaide, he proved his steady nerves winning 10-9 despite having trailed 8-9. And also Hungarian Foldes who had secured his first Euro-tour final spot through beating German ace Oliver Ortmann in the semi-finals could not endanger Gray's triumph. Indeed Foldes took first blood as he came to an early 3-1 lead. But Gray could close the gap and took the lead at 5-4 which he retained until the very end. In the Euro-Tour overall-rankings all four semi-finalist made more or less huge steps forward. Whereas Alcaide improved from No. 9 to 5 and Ortmann from 17 to 6, Foldes climbed from 21 to 9. Champion Mark Gray boosts from 73 to 12 despite having played only five tourstops so far.

◀ **ABOUT IBPF**

International Billiard Promotion Foundation (IBPF), that is the new organizer's name of the poolbilliard Eurotour, the only existing successful European professional tournament series in pool for now over 12 years. The IBPF is the exclusive partner of the European Pocket Billiard Federation (EPBF). With its whole power and engagement, the IBPF, decisively supported by Eurotour title-sponsor Dynamic Billard, wants to further develop the Eurotour with a completely revised system.

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CO-SPONSORS



HUNT FOR YEAR-END-BONUS OPEN AS NEVER

Whereas the number of players coming into question to take the European pole position at the end of the season was quite limited in recent years - seldomly more than two or three players have had a fair shot on it - , things changed dramatically in 2007. This year, more than a dozen of players can still have hopes of finishing the current Euro-Tour season on the top-spot of the Euro-Tour overall rankings after the upcoming Dynamic Costa del Sol Open in December. Finishing the current season as the European No. 1 is not only interesting from the sporty point of view. Furthermore, this spot is funded with an extra Year-End-Bonus of 1.500,00 EUR awarded by Euro-Tour organiser IBPF. As a matter of fact, this will definitely provide some extra tension to the competition at the conclusive tour-stop in Spain.

TOUR-ANNOUNCEMENT PROCEDURE WILL CHANGE

Euro-Tour organiser IBPF decided to change the tour-announcement procedure. This step became necessary as it unfortunately happens too often, that players cancel their announcement short to the tournament start. Indeed, due to the high popularity of the Euro-Tour, a waiting-list is formed at almost every tour-stop. But the shorter to the tournament start the respective cancellations occur, the lesser useful is the waiting-list as there is no time left for foreign players to make travel arrangements. IBPF wants to give as much players as possible the chance to compete on the Euro-Tour and will inform all players and other parties at the end of the year about the new regulations.

EURO-TOUR POPULARITY FURTHER GROWING

The outstanding development of the Euro-Tour within the recent years has not only led into booked-out fields and meanwhile exceptionally large waiting-lists with hundreds of names in it. Further more the Euro-Tour attracts more and more non-European top players. After Marlon Manalo, World Pool Championships 2005 semifinalist from the Philippines, who entered a Euro-Tour event earlier this year, it was now Ismael Paez, one of the top players of Mexico, who found his way to the Dynamic Swiss Open. After a couple of close matches, Paez finally finished 9th after a loss against Thomasz Kaplan from Poland. Indeed, he promised to be back in Malaga to try to make better.

DIAMOND 9 SERIES INFO

A lot of important revises have helped to further increase the standard of the EPBF Eurotour. What has been already successful in the past, was now further developed for the sake of pool billiards sports in general as the „Diamond 9 Series“. Long-termed contracts with organizers on-spot are the key-point. They help all involved parties like players, visitors, sponsors and media, to plan for their respective purposes. Additionally, the total prize-money was increased to now €40.000.

2007-02-21 - 2007-02-25
PoolComps.com Czech Open
Liberec / Czech Republic

2007-04-11 - 2007-04-15
PoolComps.com Italy Open
Napels / Italy

2007-05-02 - 2007-05-06
PoolComps.com German Open
Sindelfingen / Germany

2007-06-13 - 2007-06-17
PoolComps.com Austria Open
Rankweil / Austria

2007-09-12 - 2007-09-16
Dynamic Dutch Open
Weert / Netherlands

2007-10-17 - 2007-10-21
Dynamic Swiss Open
Frauenfeld/ Switzerland

2007-12-05 - 2007-12-09
Dynamic Costa del Sol Open
Malaga / Spain

TOUR STOPS 2007



TOUR STOP TOP 32

Pl	Name	Nat.	Pts
1	GRAY Mark	GBR	630
2	FOLDES Vilmos	HUN	510
3	ALCAIDE David	ESP	420
3	ORTMANN Oliver	GER	420
5	CHINAHOV Ruslan	RUS	350
5	KAPLAN Thomasz	POL	350
5	VAN DEN BERG Nick	NED	350
5	VASSALOS John	GRE	350
9	BEEKERS Brian	NED	300
9	ERCULJ Matjaz	SLO	300
9	FEIJEN Niels	NED	300
9	LUTTICH Thomas	GER	300
9	PAEZ Ismael	MEX	300
9	PEREIRA Manuel	POR	300
9	SEE Huidji	NED	300
9	YASSIN Mohammed	LIB	300
17	BABICA Radoslaw	POL	275
17	BRUDERER Roger	SUI	275
17	DRAGO Tony	MLT	275
17	FACQUET Vincent	FRA	275
17	JUNGO Dimitri	SUI	275
17	MAJID Imran	GBR	275
17	MLADENOVIC Goran	SRB	275
17	MURATORE Bruno	ITA	275
17	PEACH Daryl	GBR	275
17	PETRONI Fabio	ITA	275
17	PUTNIK Ivica	CRO	275
17	SCHMIDT Michael	GER	275
17	STOLKA Harald	GER	275
17	TEGE Sascha	GER	275
17	TORRENTI Alessandro	ITA	275
17	VOGEL Marko	GER	275

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EURO RANKING TOP 32

Pl	Name	Nat.	Pts
1	STEPANOV Konstantin	RUS	2135
2	PEACH Daryl	GBR	2115
3	FEIJEN Niels	NED	2080
4	MAJID Imran	GBR	2035
5	ALCAIDE David	ESP	2030
6	ORTMANN Oliver	GER	2015
7	SOUQUET Ralf	GER	1990
8	PETRONI Fabio	ITA	1975
9	FOLDES Vilmos	HUN	1900
10	VAN DEN BERG Nick	NED	1900
11	REIMERING Christian	GER	1885
12	GRAY Mark	GBR	1875
13	ENGERT Thomas	GER	1855
14	TSCHUDI Marco	SUI	1855
15	FAZANES Antonio	ESP	1830
16	MURATORE Bruno	ITA	1775
17	FULCHER Jonni	GBR	1745
18	HYBLER Roman	CZE	1740
19	KEMPTER Martin	AUT	1740
20	TRAJDOS Wojciech	POL	1730
21	KAPLAN Thomasz	POL	1710
22	BABICA Radoslaw	POL	1705
23	VASSALOS John	GRE	1690
24	JUVA Markus	FIN	1685
25	SCHMIDT Michael	GER	1675
26	DRAGO Tony	MLT	1670
27	SEE Huidji	NED	1665
28	BEEKERS Brian	NED	1655
29	FACQUET Vincent	FRA	1650
30	TEGE Sascha	GER	1650
31	STOLKA Harald	GER	1605
32	SNIEGOCKI Mateusz	POL	1600

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RANKINGS

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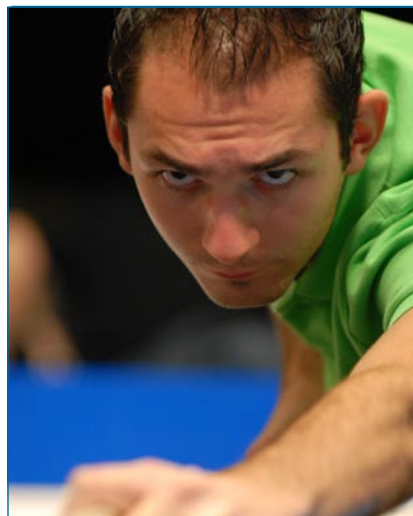
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IMPRESSUM

PICTURES



Shake-hands prior to the title-match. Runner-up Vilmos Foldes (left) and Champion Mark Gray.



Left picture: Mark Gray concentrating on the break-shot.

Right picture: Runner-up Vilmos Foldes celebrated his greatest success on the Euro-Tour by reaching his very first title match after two semifinal-appearances in recent years.



Dynamic Swiss Open Champion 2007 Mark Gray breaking for the title at 9-7.

PICTURES

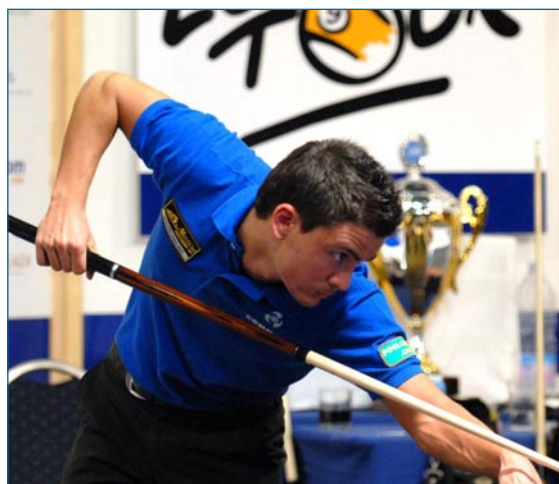


Left picture: German ace Oliver Ortmann missed his altogether 22nd title-match on the Euro-Tour by the 6-10 semifinal-loss against Foldes.

Right picture: Last year's member of the European Mosconi-Cup team David Alcaide (ESP) still has to wait for his first Euro-Tour final after being beaten by Gray with 9-10 in the semifinal.



The Top 4 of the Dynamic Swiss Open 2007 surrounding „Baba“ Kaeppli, the owner of the „Island Billiards“.
(From left to right): David Alcaide, Oliver Ortmann (both 3rd), runner-up Vilmos Foldes, Champion Mark Gray



FOTOS: © J.P. PARMENTIER / EPBF

Young Russian Konstantin Stepanov finished only 49th in Switzerland but will still enter the conclusive tour stop in 2007 as the current European No. 1. Indeed, he will need a high finish at the Dynamic Costa del Sol Open in Malaga/Spain to have a good shot at the Year-End-Bonus of 1.500,00 EUR.