

## DYNAMIC FRENCH OPEN 2008

### TONY DRAGO WINS SEASON-OPENER IN PARIS

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**Winner Tony Drago**

> Three times former snooker-star Tony Drago had reached a Euro-Tour championship match within the last few years and three times it has been his respective opponent who cashed in the title in the end. But at the Dynamic French Open 2008, the Maltese finally broke the spell and secured his very first Euro-Tour title with a coming-from-behind 10-6 win over German Christian Reimering. Indeed, it was not only trailing 1-4 and 3-5 in this match what might stretched Drago's nerves. Despite several comfortable wins like the 10-3 successes over Carlos Cabello (ESP), Thomas Engert

(GER) and Markus Juva(FIN), he also had to survive three nerve-wracking 10-9 matches on his way to the title-match. In two of them he further more trailed seemingly pre-decisive. But neither young Polish Mateusz Sniegocki nor German Jakob Belka brought their leads of 9-7 respectively 9-6 over the line. But perhaps it were these experiences that might have helped him in the title-match later on. Beside Drago successfully ending his „losing-streak“ in title-matches, it were Markus Juva (FIN) and Marco Tschudi from Switzerland who set marks in this tournament. Whereas former Euro-Tour Champion Juva reached his second podium after having won the tourstop of Rankweil in 2005, Tschudi entered his second semi-final after the Italy Open 2007.

In the overall rankings, Mark Gray defended his pole position despite a 3-10 loss against Dutch star Niels Feijen in the round of the Last 32. New runner-up is Christian Reimering, whose final appearance brought him from No. 13 to now No. 2. Closely behind follows Italian veteran Bruno Muratore, who had succeeded in the conclusive tour-stop in 2007 and improved from No. 4 through his 9th place in France. Dynamic French Open-Champion Tony Drago, formerly notified on No. 52, is now 5th.

## 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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## COOPERATION BETWEEN IBPF AND KOZOOM ENDED



**IBPF President David Morris**

As displayed in a separate press-release, the long-thermed cooperation between Euro-Tour organizer IBPF and media-partner Kozoom came to an end during the Dynamic French Open. This step turned out to be unavoidable as main intentions of both parties diverged evidently. „It is always sad when cooperations like these come to an end but these things happen on a daily basis in the business world“, so IBPF President David Morris. Indeed, the IBPF

won't spare neither trouble nor expense to provide a further development also regarding the media-presence of the Euro-Tour. For that purpose, the IBPF has reacted immediately and meanwhile already found a satisfying solution for the upcoming tour-stops with another provider.

## EURO-TOUR SPOTS FOR 9-BALL WC 2008 AFTER ITALY

The EPBF-spots for this year's World Pool Championship will be distributed after the Dynamic Italy Open 2008, the upcoming tournament of the Euro-Tour 2008, scheduled from 10th to 12th April in Naples.

## EURO-TOUR BACK IN FRANCE

After a pause of more than 13 years, the Euro-Tour came back to France to host the Dynamic French Open, the season's opening tournament in 2008. Led by European No. 25 Vincent Facquet not less than 44 players from the host-country entered the competition, which meant the numerically strongest contingent of all 34 represented countries in a completely booked-out field of 256 players. Indeed, none of these players managed to reach the final round of the Last 32, a remarkable proof for the outstanding importance of continuous match-practice on the highest level.

## 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.

2008-02-07 - 2008-02-09  
Dynamic French Open  
Paris / France

2008-04-10 - 2008-04-12  
Dynamic Italy Open  
Napels / Italy

2008-05-22 - 2008-05-24  
Dynamic German Open  
Sindelfingen / Germany

2008-06-12 - 2008-06-14  
Dynamic Austria Open  
Rankweil / Austria

2008-09-11 - 2008-09-13  
Dynamic Dutch Open  
Weert / Netherlands

2008-10-16 - 2008-10-18  
Dynamic Swiss Open  
Frauenfeld/ Switzerland

2008-12-04 - 2008-12-06  
Dynamic Costa del Sol Open  
Malaga / Spain

TOUR STOPS 2008

## TOUR STOP TOP 32

| Pl | Name                 | Nat. | Pts |
|----|----------------------|------|-----|
| 1  | DRAGO Tony           | MLT  | 630 |
| 2  | REIMERING Christian  | GER  | 510 |
| 3  | JUVA Markus          | FIN  | 420 |
| 3  | TSCHUDI Marco        | SUI  | 420 |
| 5  | CHAMAT Marcus        | SWE  | 350 |
| 5  | ENGERT Thomas        | GER  | 350 |
| 5  | FEIJEN Niels         | NED  | 350 |
| 5  | ORTMANN Oliver       | GER  | 350 |
| 9  | ALCAIDE David        | ESP  | 300 |
| 9  | APPLETON Darren      | GBR  | 300 |
| 9  | KAPLAN Thomasz       | POL  | 300 |
| 9  | KEMPTER Martin       | AUT  | 300 |
| 9  | MAJID Imran          | GBR  | 300 |
| 9  | MURATORE Bruno       | ITA  | 300 |
| 9  | SOUQUET Ralf         | GER  | 300 |
| 9  | VOGT Marc            | GER  | 300 |
| 17 | BERG-VAN-DEN Nick    | NED  | 275 |
| 17 | BOYES Karl           | GBR  | 275 |
| 17 | CABELLO Carlos       | ESP  | 275 |
| 17 | ERCULJ Matjaz        | SLO  | 275 |
| 17 | ESPRIT Gareth        | GBR  | 275 |
| 17 | FOLDES Vilmos        | HUN  | 275 |
| 17 | FULCHER Jonni        | GBR  | 275 |
| 17 | GRAY Mark            | GBR  | 275 |
| 17 | KRISTOFFERSEN Kasper | DEN  | 275 |
| 17 | LARSEN Martin        | DEN  | 275 |
| 17 | MALAI Nick           | GRE  | 275 |
| 17 | OUSCHAN Albin        | AUT  | 275 |
| 17 | PAURITSCH Sven       | GER  | 275 |
| 17 | SCHMIDT Michael      | GER  | 275 |
| 17 | STEPANOV Konstantin  | RUS  | 275 |
| 17 | VASSALOS John        | GRE  | 275 |

More Rankings on  
[www.eurotour.nu](http://www.eurotour.nu)

## EURO RANKING TOP 32

| Pl | Name                | Nat. | Pts  |
|----|---------------------|------|------|
| 1  | GRAY Mark           | GBR  | 2295 |
| 2  | REIMERING Christian | GER  | 2250 |
| 3  | MURATORE Bruno      | ITA  | 2105 |
| 4  | MAJID Imran         | GBR  | 2060 |
| 5  | DRAGO Tony          | MLT  | 2050 |
| 6  | SOUQUET Ralf        | GER  | 2050 |
| 7  | FEIJEN Niels        | NED  | 2040 |
| 8  | PEACH Daryl         | GBR  | 2040 |
| 9  | ALCAIDE David       | ESP  | 2015 |
| 10 | STEPANOV Konstantin | RUS  | 2005 |
| 11 | VASSALOS John       | GRE  | 1990 |
| 12 | ORTMANN Oliver      | GER  | 1945 |
| 13 | BERG-VAN-DEN Nick   | NED  | 1940 |
| 14 | TSCHUDI Marco       | SUI  | 1925 |
| 15 | ENGERT Thomas       | GER  | 1895 |
| 16 | BABICA Radoslaw     | POL  | 1885 |
| 17 | JUVA Markus         | FIN  | 1845 |
| 18 | JUNGO Dimitri       | SUI  | 1830 |
| 19 | FOLDES Vilmos       | HUN  | 1810 |
| 20 | CHAMAT Marcus       | SWE  | 1785 |
| 21 | FULCHER Jonni       | GBR  | 1715 |
| 22 | HYBLER Roman        | CZE  | 1705 |
| 23 | TEGE Sascha         | GER  | 1670 |
| 24 | SEE Huidji          | NED  | 1665 |
| 25 | FACQUET Vincent     | FRA  | 1650 |
| 26 | FAZANES Antonio     | ESP  | 1650 |
| 27 | KEMPTER Martin      | AUT  | 1645 |
| 28 | LARSEN Martin       | DEN  | 1630 |
| 29 | PETRONI Fabio       | ITA  | 1620 |
| 30 | APPLETON Darren     | GBR  | 1615 |
| 31 | KAPLAN Thomasz      | POL  | 1615 |
| 32 | SNIEGOCKI Mateusz   | POL  | 1600 |

More Rankings on  
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## RANKINGS

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## PICTURES



Dynamic French Open-Champion Tony Drago enjoying the moment of triumph.



Runner-up Christian Reimering improved to No. 2 in the Euro-Tour overall rankings close behind Mark Gray.



The semi-finalists of the Dynamic French Open 2008, Marco Tschudi (left) and Markus Juva, congratulating each other during the victory ceremony.

## PICTURES



Left picture: Little Big Swede Marcus Chamat is back in the European Top 20 through his quarter-final appearance in France.

Right picture: Dutch Star Niels Feijen lost his Last 8-match against Marco Tschudi despite having equalised a 2-9 deficit.



The Top 4 of the Dynamic French Open 2008 (from left to right): Marco Tschudi, Markus Juva (both 3rd), runner-up Christian Reimering, Champion Tony Drago.



Eurotour Overall Champion 2007, Mark Gray, receiving the bonus of 1.500,00 EUR from EPBF-President Gre Leenders.