



# 2019 ESF CONGRESS, Athens

## FINANCIAL COMMITTEE REPORT

February 1<sup>st</sup> 2019

Chair: Eddy van Straelen, ESF treasurer  
Minutes: Carolien Stadhouders

**Present:** 12 federations:

AUT, CRO, CZE, DEN, GBR, GRE, HUN, IRL, ISR, SRB, SWE, TUR,

**General remarks:**

- Please note for 2019 competitions:  
Febr 1<sup>st</sup> for withdrawing Entry and March 1<sup>st</sup> for payment Entry fee, (see CR 03.03/04)
- Information about the right to vote at Congress: **Malta** and **Lithuania** are not "in good standing"

**Discussion financial result 2018:**

Loss only €18.000 (budget was €30.000) in general no special differences:

Income: Entry Fees were more than in budget because more tournaments and more participations

Income: PUPs higher because more participations + because MESC was in CZE (lower travel cost for pups)

Income We received the last part of a "written off" amount (€2.000)

Expenses: TV+Web : half (= €11.000) to Playo for Super 6 , flagship for Softball Europe, many viewers

Expenses: debts written off because we lost sponsor Enjoy/Tecnovap.

**Discussion budget 2019 :**

Affiliation fees: no changes needed yet,

Entry fees: no changes needed yet,

Expenses UC: we need more UIC and Umpires, because more teams, sometimes 3 fields, independence,

Expenses development: we keep trying to spend around 15.000 same as last years,  
but if really needed we will spend more.

*Question IRL:* With a budget loss of 27.000 €, what will be the critical point.

*Treasurer answers:* The auditor has admitted this amount as being reasonable. If the capital reserve would reach 50.000 €, we will have to consider raising fees or other solutions.

We will also have to consider the new situation after the "financial" start of WBSC Europe.

*President Waage informs:* for 2019 we will receive the amount of €25.000 from WBSC!!

*Question DEN :* Did ESF consider to spend more reserve money before the merging to WBSC Europe

*President Waage answers:* We prefer to have a reasonable amount as an "umbrella"

As there are no more questions, the Treasurer is happy to conclude that all reports, and figures and details were very clear for everyone and closes this Financial Committee meeting.

# 2019 ESF CONGRESS, Athens

## DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

February 1<sup>st</sup> 2019

Chair: Ami Baran, Mette Nissen Jakobsen, Kristian Pälviä  
Guest: Angelo Vicini (WBSC)  
Minutes: Helena Novotná

**Present:** 16 federations:

AUT, CRO, CZE, DEN, GBR, GRE, HUN, IRL, ISR, POL, RUS, SLO, SVK, SRB, SWE, TUR, UKR

### **Angelo Vicini**

- WBSC cooperates more with the NFs on development projects, 51 projects accepted, 23 from European countries
- WBSC wants to give more responsibilities to the Continental Federations; each continental federation will be given 50k for development in each continent, to be distributed by the Continental Federation

### **Petra Cizmic – IGETS presentation (NED, CRO, MLT)**

- Petra Cizmic is available for any help or consultations regarding Euro-funding projects

**Turkey** - ESF help, government connections, producing their own equipment, working on building a field

- level 1 coaching course (7-day) for 19 coaches, umpiring clinic with an ESF Umpire Raoul Machalet

### **Northern Countries**

- Baltic Open -both men and women + Sweden and Lithuania took part in the MECh 2018
- Norway at the Baltic Open, an ESF clinic was held in Norway, signed up for the MESC 2019

### **Coaching clinics**

- Germany, Great Britain, Italy

### **Equipment for Europe**

- Keeps going, NFs requests to Ami Baran, then distributed
- Restarting the requests process

### **Paralympic Commission „Baseball for All“ – Tom Nagel**

- Wheelchair projects (both baseball and softball) are not always connected to NFs then WBSC cannot support them and to monitor them and to structure international competition

### **Lee County Sports Development – Kevin Smith, Angel Natal, Mark Zimmerman**

- Invitation to Central Florida with national development projects, for teams, players, and coaches
- Resources – lodging, transportation, program, contacts

**Pony League - Abraham Key** - This year for the first time adding also U14 girls category

**Little League – Daniel Velte** – Development – resources for Europe (dependent on participation in LL tournaments)

### **Slowpitch**

- First-ever Men's Slowpitch Championship
- 16 clubs from 9 countries CSPESC
- Player clinic in Denmark

**Euroleague – Petra Cizmic** - Great increase to 10 countries

- Invitation to other clubs and countries to join in

**Clinics at Championships and Cups** - Every year

**Coaches Fastpitch Program + European Coaches Certificate Online Program** - Future projects

**MECh** - Record of 12 teams participating

### **ESCA**

- 15 countries, 70 participants
- Registrations to start in 2019, with ESCA registration goes NFCA membership as well

# 2019 ESF CONGRESS, Athens

## TECHNICAL AND COMPETITIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

February 1<sup>st</sup> 2019

Chair: Mike Jennings, Carolien Stadhouders, Gabriel Waage, Petra Arends

Minutes: Helena Novotná

**Present:** 16 federations:

AUT, BUL, CRO, CZE, DEN, GBR, GRE, HUN, IRL, ISR, NED, SUI, SVK, SRB, SWE, UKR

**TC Report by Mike Jennings (Director TC) – no comments**

**Umpires Director – Carolien Stadhouders**

- Decreasing numbers, less than 90 active umpires now, however the number of entries is increasing
- 40% assignments from 3 federations, 12 federations send team but have no ESF-licensed umpires
- Raoul Machalet develops a program for umpire-base sustainability – to be approved and sent to the NFs
- Basic fastpitch umpire clinic to be held in 2019 in Prague (deadline for registration in mid-February)
- Ability to organize regional or national clinics for umpires – ask for support!
- **Bulgaria:** suggestion to consider licensing not only at a clinic but also locally (passing an exam, or examination) .
- **Ireland:** Is there an umpiring course for national level – for beginners/short time investment
  - o There's no course for fastpitch, but the ESF can send a lecturer or assist depending on needs
  - o Slowpitch – there's a one-day course – Chris Moon to be contacted for this
- **Netherlands:** During tournaments they hold courses/clinics for both umpires and scorekeepers
- Pre-game reports to be provided before each game for media (or other) needs – automated system created from the play-by-play

**Live-streaming – Helena Novotná** - Live-streaming Manual is available under “Other Documents” on the website

- Organizers' responsibility at championships (not the ESF's anymore)

**U-18 Women's European Qualifier**

- No organizer, the tournament is cancelled

**CSPECh** - Organizer unsure of their ability to host the tournament, to be resolved asap, other countries may step in

- It is a qualifier from the World Cup – number of spots for Europe not announced yet

**WEC presentation**

**WECWC presentation by both bidders** - Vote tied, voting will be repeated at the General Congress

**Motions and issues for discussion**

- **Great Britain** suggestion to use previous standings to divide teams into groups, to not to do drawings – *denied*
- **Great Britain** – return to using the page system – *denied (more attractive, media friendly)*
- **Switzerland**
  - o Age limits for European competitions – *year of birth is deciding, not the day of birth, age tables will be aligned with the WBSC, applies also to Cups*
- **Ireland** – transportation puts a big pressure on the organizer and doesn't always work properly, the entry fee could be lowered for the teams who take care of their own transportation
  - o Denmark support the idea
  - o *For this year – teams should indicate soon (deadline to be set) whether they are planning on using their own transportation or use the organizer's service*
- **Denmark** – MECh not to have 2-year break but rather to play two back to back years
- **Israel** – U18 qualifier should be based on the last standings or youth-only rankings
- **Great Britain** – ESF should consider adding an item on the list of competitions for junior boys and girls – there is a 3-year gap (after the WBSC timing changes)

# 2019 ESF CONGRESS, Athens

## ESF and CEB joint **MEDIA and MARKETING COMMITTEE REPORT**

February 1<sup>st</sup> 2019

Chair: Rainer Husty (CEB), Johannes Godler (CEB), Helena Novotná

Minutes: Helena Novotná

**Present:** 15 federations:

AUT, CRO, CZE, EST, FRA, GBR, GRE, HUN, ISR, NED, POL, RUS, SVK, SWE, UKR

### **CEB 2018 Activities**

- Summary by Rainer Husty
- Increase of social media content and website content
- Team Mate partnership
- Shout out to Super 6 organizers

### **Super 6**

- Bart Volkerijk: experience with a media team

### **ESF 2018 Activities**

- Summary by Helena Novotná
- All games from the main field at European Championships were live
- Media Coverage of the tournaments has improved but there was less news from NFs
- A goal for next year – to address potential sponsors
- Shout out to EMRYT for an excellent coverage following the Softball Europe's example

### **OTT platform baseballsoftball.tv**

- A good start, version 2.0 for the upcoming season, over 200 games were live, reach around 400k
- NFs are encouraged to join in to have their section at the platform as well, no cost!

### **Low budget live-streaming**

- A step-by-step manual available at the ESF website "Other Documents" section
- The ESF's staff won't do the live-streaming at the tournaments anymore – organizers duty

### **Minimum standards for media coverage – Johannes Godler**

- Suggestions
- Examples