



*European Softball Federation*  
*Fédération Européenne Softball*



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# CONGRESS 2012

## MELLIEHA (MAL) – February 4<sup>th</sup> 2012

President van Overbeek opens the XXXVII General Congress and introduces the President of the Malta Baseball & Softball Association, Mario De Bono who gives his welcome speech.

The floor is given to the major of Mellieha, Robert Cutajar for his welcome speech.

### ***I. Roll Call***

Affiliated Federations represented by Accredited Delegates with Credentials:

AUSTRIA, BULGARIA, CROATIA, CZECH REPUBLIC, DENMARK, SPAIN, FRANCE, GREAT BRITAIN, GERMANY, IRELAND, ISRAEL, ITALY, MALTA, NETHERLANDS, RUSSIA, SLOVENIA, SAN MARINO, SERBIA, SWITZERLAND, SWEDEN, TURKEY, UKRAINE.

Affiliated Federations absent:

ARMENIA, BELGIUM, FINLAND, GEORGIA, GREECE, GUERNSEY, HUNGARY, JERSEY, MOLDOVA, NORWAY, POLAND, PORTUGAL, ROMANIA, SLOVAKIA.

Each present Federation has provided a proof of payment of its Membership Fee.

There are 36 Federations affiliated, 22 Federations duly represented, 22 Federations with the right of vote; the Congress has reached the quorum.

### ***II. Approval of the Minutes of 2011 Congress***

The Congress unanimously approves the Minutes of 2011 Congress.

### ***III. Admission of new Federations***

Secretary General Fabretto introduces delegate Diana Pupininkiene from Lithuania Baseball Softball Association and Chrisis Prentzas and Angelos Mylonas from Cyprus Amateur Softball Federation. Secretary General Fabretto informs the Congress that the two federations are willing to start the affiliation's procedure to become member of the ESF.

### ***IV. Suspension or exclusion of Federations***

President van Overbeek brings attention to the motion of the Executive Council to expel the Portugal Baseball and Softball Federation based on article 3.7.1 of the ESF Statutes.

The Congress votes to pass the motion with the following vote: 18 in favor, 3 against, 1 abstention.

### ***V. Approval of the activities report 2011***

The Congress unanimously approves the activities report 2011.

### ***VI. Approval of the financial report 2011***

The Congress approves the financial reports 2011: 20 in favor, 2 abstentions.

### ***VII. Approval of the budget 2011***

The Congress approves the budget 2011: 20 in favor, 2 abstentions.

### ***VIII. Appointment of the Auditor***

Treasurer van Straelen brings attention to the proposal of appointment of Mark De Permentier as Auditor. The Congress unanimously approves the appointment of Mark De Permentier.



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## **IX. Membership fees and special contributions**

Unchanged.

## **X. Approval of activities to be carried out**

Intervention of the ISF President, Don Porter.

## **XI. Amendments to the Statutes**

None.

## **XII. Motions and other Matters**

### *XII. 1 – MOTIONS for amendments to regulations proposed by Affiliated Federations.*

Vice President for Technical & Competitions Waage brings attention to the amendments to the regulations as approved the day before by the Competitions and Technical Commission. The report is attached and forms integral part of this Congress Minutes.

### *XII. 2 – MOTIONS for amendments to regulations proposed by the Executive Council.*

Vice President for Technical & Competitions Waage brings attention to the amendments to the regulations as approved the day before by the Competitions and Technical. The report is attached and forms integral part of this Congress Minutes.

### *XII. 3 – MATTERS BY CONGRESS COMMITTEES*

No intervention related to the Marketing Committee. The report is attached and forms integral part of this Congress Minutes.

First Vice President Sanna reports what was discussed during the Development Committee. The report is attached and forms integral part of this Congress Minutes.

### *XII. 4 – HALL OF FAME*

None.

## **XIII. Appointment of Organizers of Competitions**

Vice President for Technical & Competitions Waage goes through the calendar of 2012 and 2013 events.

### *Calendar of 2012 Events:*

Championship U22 Girls: it is allotted to Havlickuv Brod (CZE), July 9<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>.

Championship Junior Girls: VP for Technical & Competitions Waage informs that the organizer from Hoboken (BEL) withdrawn. There are three possible new candidates. The decision about the location will be taken as soon as possible by the Executive Council after evaluating the situation.

Cup Women A – ECWA: it is allotted to Enschede (NED), Aug. 20<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>.

Cup Winners Cup Women A – ECWCWA: it is allotted to Nuoro (ITA), Aug. 20<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>.

Cup Women B – ECWB: it is allotted to Ostrava (CZE), Aug. 20<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>.

Cup Winners Cup Women B – ECWCWB: it is allotted to Trieste (ITA), Aug. 20<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>.

Super Cup Men – ESCM: it is allotted to Prague (CZE), Aug. 27<sup>th</sup>-Sept. 1<sup>st</sup>.

Cup Coed Slowpitch – ECCS: it is allotted to Paradubice (CZE), Jul. 31<sup>st</sup>-Aug. 4<sup>th</sup>.



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## *Calendar of 2013 Events:*

Championship Women – EchW: it is allotted to Prague (CZE). Date to be reconfirmed, after the request of Israel delegate to move the competition to another date, because the Maccabiah games are scheduled at the same time.

Championship Cadet Girls – EChCG: it is allotted to Ostrava (CZE), Aug. 5<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>.

Championship Junior Boys – EChJB : it is allotted to Stenløse (DEN), Jul.8<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup>.

Championship Coed Slowpitch – EChCS: it is allotted to Paradubice (CZE), Jul. 15/16<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>. Starting date to be reconfirmed after knowing the number of entries.

## *Official Draw of Teams for Championships:*

### Championship Under 22 – EChU22:

Groups after the draw:

|          |          |
|----------|----------|
| A1 - CZE | B1 – RUS |
| A2 - FRA | B2 – POL |
| A3 - UKR | B3 – SVK |
| A4 – BUL | B4 – GRE |

### Championship Men – EChM:

Groups after the draw:

|          |          |
|----------|----------|
| A1 – DEN | B1 – CZE |
| A2 – NED | B2 – GBR |
| A3 – ISR | B3 – BEL |
| A4 – CRO | B4 – SVK |

### Championship Junior Girls – EChJG:

Groups after the draw:

|          |          |          |          |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| A1 – RUS | B1 – ITA | C1 – CZE | D1 - GER |
| A2 – NED | B2 – FRA | C2 – GBR | D2 – ESP |
| A3 – BEL | B3 – CRO | C3 – ISR | D3 – AUT |
| A4 – LTU | B4 – DEN | C4 – GRE | D4 – UKR |

## ***XIV. Election to the Executive Council***

None.

## ***XV. Place of 2012 Congress***

President van Overbeek informs that there are two candidates willing to organize the 2012 Congress: Austria and Russia. Both candidates withdraw.

The location of the next Congress remains open.



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## **XVI. Various**

With reference to item IV. of the agenda, “Suspension or exclusion of Federations”, President van Overbeek takes the floor and submit to the Congress the motion from the Executive Council to expel the affiliated federations from Armenia, Georgia and Moldova from being a member of the ESF, under the article 3.7.1 of the Statutes. The Congress unanimously votes to pass the motion.

Armenia is excluded from being a member of the ESF. Votes: 18 in favor, 3 against, 1 abstention.

Georgia is excluded from being a member of the ESF. Votes: 19 in favor, 2 against, 1 abstention.

Moldova is excluded from being a member of the ESF. Votes: 16 in favor, 4 against, 2 abstentions.

President van Overbeek gives the floor to Israel delegate who suggests to establish a provision of automatic exclusion for those members who do not accomplish with the regulations.

President van Overbeek thanks all delegates and closes the Congress.

André VAN OVERBEEK  
President

Francesca FABRETTO  
Secretary General



## **XXXVII ESF CONGRESS, Mellieha, Malta**

### **MARKETING COMMITTEE REPORT**

Date: Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2012

Chair: Michael Schmidt

Web Consultant: Davide Dozza

Member Marketing Committee: Ruud van Zetten

Present 19 persons: 10 federations (AUT, DEN, FRA, GER, GRB, ISR, MAL, NED, SUI, UKR)

#### **2011 Report**

Introduction of play by play all over the competitions in Europe, with the help of informed technicians of countries which already use play by play.

TV coverage European Championship Women 2012 in Ronchi Italy. Most of the games were broadcasted through the internet. Finals were live on Italian television and in a summery play in the Dutch television. Figures: 4.5 million hits on the internet, Final 1.5 million hits, over 40.000 unique visitors. More than 600.000 households were involved by seeing live stream and TV with softball. For European Softball is a quite good exposure.

Now the ESF has some experience and numbers to try to get sponsors. The TV exposure in Italy and the Netherlands gave some little income.

Question: are there contacts with Eurosport. Yes there are contacts. It is however very difficult to stay in contact with them. We have to ensure that they stay interested. The ESF needs also addresses and names of local TV stations which can be used or are helpful in the future to get in contact with. Federations shall communicate names and contact details by sending them to the Marketing Committee (to Michael Schmidt).

There is a video made of the European Championships in Ronchi, also a photo book has been made. Those who are interested in receiving more information can ask to Anna Di Luca (Assistant SG). Soon there will be a story with facts and figures about European Softball. Interesting stuff for federations, partners and sponsor finders.

#### **2012 Plans**

Play by play will be a very good instrument to find international AND local sponsors. The Marketing Committee is making plans for that.

Before the summer starts the new website will be put on line. Davide Dozza presented the new format which will be more useable then the old website. It will have two sections: the first one with official information from the ESF and news; the second one with other softball material. Also social media get there environment needed, advertising space, and news of organizers of tournaments (directly).

Because of the World Championship Women (to be held in Haarlem (NED) in August 2014), The ESF starts with an ambitious plan over the next two years. Starting in 2013 with exhibition games, training, school programs all over Europe with top teams from probably Japan, Australia, China, USA, Canada and New Zealand. The ESF tries to invite those countries in the summer of 2013. With interested federations the ESF will make local programs. Of course cooperation between federations is needed, also the help of funding some costs. In 2013 the Olympic Committee will decide which sports will be added in the 2020 Olympics. With the ESF program we try to have some influence on that. It is also the start of the program for the World Championship 2014 in Europe.

Federations who are interested, are asked to send a mail with contact persons who are the local organizers in future.

From now on the ESF will also support the organizers of the World Championship Women in Haarlem (NED). In cooperation with them there will be very interesting possibilities to come to the games, have training and coaching classes and of course to visit the most popular sites of Holland in 2014.



## **XXXVII ESF CONGRESS, Mellieha, Malta**

### **DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT**

Date: Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2012

Chair: Totoni Sanna  
Co-Chair: Ami Baran  
Secretary: Anna Di Luca

Present 16 persons: 12 Federations (BUL, DEN, FRA, GBR, IRL, ISR, MAL, NED, SBR, SUI, SWE, UKR)

Meeting opening and introduction of the members of the commission.

President introductory speech: stressing on the possibilities for Federations to have more members thanks to developing programs. Need to find the right plan for the right Federation.

Presentation of 2012 budget: 50 % of the budget is to be used for juvenile category development.

Budget 2012:

|                   |                  |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Slowpitch program | 5.000, 00 Euros  |
| Beeball program   | 10.000, 00 Euros |
| Clinics           | 6.000,00 Euros   |
| School Manual     | 3.000,00 Euros   |
| Dvd               | 1.500,00 Euros   |

#### BEEBALL

Program will start in the spring.

The basis for playing softball are in the youth and social games, with simple rules.

A cooperation with CEB and with the Dutch Federation is in place for developing the program that is based on the experiences of the tests carried out in the Netherlands.

The recommendation for the other federations that want to start playing Bee ball is to have a uniform way of playing it. The main target is to create growth of players in all the countries, to have instructors, ambassadors of Beeball, clinics, in different location.

2 days clinics will be organized in the in the neighbour of 6 schools where we 6 different teams can participate. Each school will receive a full kit with equipment at the end of the clinic.

#### SLOWPITCH

Format of slowpitch clinics will be the same: players and umpires together

One clinic will be held in Austria in April, 2 umpires clinics will take place in Switzerland and Belgium.

A clear picture of slowpitch situation in Europe does not exist so far, the communication channel with the development commission is open in order to collect details about each country and create a development contacts list.

A Facebook page will be created for the slowpitch community to exchange information.

Slowpitch develop package will be distributed as in the past.

A coaching accreditation process will be create in collaboration with ASA and Canada softball.

Tournament rules may change. There is the willing to have a slowpitch tournament in alternative years, only one slowpitch tournament per year because often the players of the Cup and of the Championship are the same.



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## MEN FASTPITCH

Main objectives are improving quality of low ranking teams and developing U19 programs for more countries. Pitching program for former baseball players will be organized. The connection with the Federation must be checked, to have a better dialog between the men fastpitch community and their respective Federations.

The Super cup in Prague this year will be a huge tournament with 21 teams.

## ESF-ASA

Project that will involve quite all the Federations that will be adopted by ASA states. Equipment will be distributed and shadow coaches programs will be put in place as well as shadow athletes programs. ASA coaches and palyer will both have the possibility to come to Europe or to organize clinics there with European participants.

They will also allow our umpires to go there and get the experience for the ASA games. Umpires will be paid to umpire there. 26 of the Local Associations that are willing to adopt our countries. The match between ESF countries and ASA local association will be done following criteria based on connections and preferences and on the programs they respectively have. ESF will monitor how the exchange will move along. High level exchanges will also continue: American universities will take coaches from Europe, as they did with GBR and ITA.

## COOPERATION WITH CEB

In Europe 24 Federations are join Federation with Baseball and Softball together. USA baseball will help the join Federations to implement the same structure as with ASA for the baseball side too.

## JUVENILE CATEGORY

Juvenile Category is the main target of the Development commission. Contact with Little league Softball have started. EMEA Finals will be held in July in North Italy (Bollate and Caronno). The winner will have the chance to play world league in the USA. This will allow to increase the possibilities of knowing and playing softball.

## EUROPEAN CAMP

Czech Republic will organize the first European camp in Chocen. Presentation from GW. The purpose is to offer the best softball education possible in Europe, gather players and coaches in one place and improve communication skills through softball.





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## **XXXVII ESF CONGRESS, Mellieha, Malta**

### **TECHNICAL AND COMPETITION COMMITTEE REPORT**

Date: Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2012

Chair: Gabriel Waage  
Co-Chair: Michael Schmidt  
Secretary: Anna Di Luca

Present 29 persons: 17 Federations (AUT, BUL, CZE, DEN, FRA, GBR, GER, ISR, ITA, MAL, NED, RUS, SLO, SMR, SUI, SWE, UKR)

#### COMMENTS TO TECHNICAL AND COMPETITION REPORT 2011

No comments to the report

#### REVIEW COMPETITION SITUATION 2012

Gabriel Waage goes through 2012 and 2013 competitions.

European Championship Junior Girls - Hoboken (BEL): 16 or 17 teams will participate so 3 fields are needed. The organizers have informed the ESF that they will not be able to host the tournament any more. 3 other clubs are ready to organize the tournaments and we are waiting for more information. The VP for competition ESF will go there and check the situation with the Belgium Federation.

European M. Romeo Youth Trophy: starting date is August 14<sup>th</sup>.

European Cup Coed Slowpitch: starting date is July 31<sup>st</sup>.

European Championship Women 2013, Israel asks to move the dates because of the Maccabiah games are scheduled at the same time. The Organizer shall change the dates, in order not to have any other competitions played at the same time.

#### ALLOCATION ECWA AND ECWCWB BY VOTE

European Cup Women A: Prague withdraws.

Presentation by San Marino and Enschede (NED).

Vote for ECWA: 9 Participating federations present. Result: San Marino 4 votes, Enschede 5, ECWA is allotted to Enschede.

European Cup Winner Cup Women B: presentation by Trieste and Dupnitsa.

Vote for ECWCWB: 5 Participating federations present. Result: Trieste 4 votes, Dupnitsa 1 vote. ECWCWB is allotted to Trieste.



# DRAWING TEAMS ESCM

Results:

| Pool A              | Pool B               | Pool C          | Pool D          |
|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Eagles (CZE)        | Havlíčkův Brod (CZE) | Chomutov (CZE)  | Spectrum (CZE)  |
| Bulls (DEN)         | Odense Giants (DEN)  | Hørsholm (DEN)  | Vikings (DEN)   |
| Richings Park (GBR) | Storks (NED)         | DVH (NED)       | Spikes (NED)    |
| Braschaat (BEL)     | Pessac (FRA)         | Cavigal (FRA)   | Chicaboos (BEL) |
| Indians (SVK)       | Lupi Roma (ITA)      | Medvenica (CRO) | Mask (SVK)      |
| Travellers (GER)    |                      |                 |                 |

Gilbert Tobback asks the organizers to contact him in order to finalize the schedule as soon as possible.

## CHANGES OF COMPETITION REGULATION 2012

### MOTIONS BY FEDERATIONS

- 1 – AUT – CR 14.07.03 – Amendment Age Category for Juniors. Vote: approved by unanimity.
- 2- DEN – CR 14.07.02 - Proposal Age Limit for Youth Categories. Vote: approved by unanimity.
- 3 – GBR.1 – Media Areas – Motion withdrawn. Micheal Jennings asks to add the request in the pre – inspection form.
- 4 – GBR.2 – Different Format for Championships. Vote: 9 in favour 3 abstentions. Approved.
- 5 – GBR.3 – Different Structure of Championships. Vote: 9 in favour, 5 against, 2 abstentions. Approved.
- 6 – GBR.4 – Financial Appendix. See Financial Commission report.
- 7 – GBR.5 – Umpire Participation/Guarantee. See Financial Commission report.



#### MOTIONS BY EC ESF

Presentation of the 2 motions by the EC:

- EC ESF put into CR articles regarding Scoring Committee.
- EC ESF extends regulation of the players (age limit used for U22 and seniors – CR 14.07.03) also for Cups competitions.

#### NEW DIRECTOR OF UMPIRES INTRODUCTION

Andrea Marcon is introduced as the new Director of Umpires and Romina Tolu is introduced as the new assistant to the Director of Umpires.

#### SCORING COMMITTEE PRESENTATION

Dennis Duin and Marco Battistella are introduced as Scoring Committee.

Dennis Duin presents the 2011 activities and the program for 2012.

Intervention from Bulgaria: ESF should give more information about how to find it the TAS program and the costs related to it.



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## **PRESIDENT REPORT 2012**

Dear Members,

Before I go into detail of the last year, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our excellent Board Members with their performance over the last 4 years. Without their dedication it would not have been possible to run an operation as the ESF, the way we did.

Quarterly Board meetings in 2012 were held after the Congress in Malta, a spring meeting in Munich, a summer meeting at the Junior Championship in Rosmalen and an autumn meeting in Bled, Slovenia, the place of the combined Congress CEB/ESF in 2013.

Europe had a strong influential voice in the merger between the Baseball and Softball International Federations. After the agreement that was signed with CEB early 2011 and the united European vote at the ISF Congress in Oklahoma City, many efforts were put into the creation of the Charter for the combined World Baseball and Softball Organization with a majority vote in favour of the merger at the congress in Houston as a result.

At this time, 2 weeks before the presentation of Baseball and Softball to the IOC program commission, the result of this presentation is unknown, but perhaps at our congress in Bled next year we will have more information. Let's keep our fingers crossed, as reinstatement in the 2020 Olympics is not only to keep the dream alive of all our young softball players but also for many Federations who feel the "financial" results of not being on the Olympic Games Program.

We have started this year some of the projects which have been in our plans for some years now. The Bee Ball project, the combined development program of CEB and ESF, began with the first clinic in December and 5 more are scheduled for the first quarter of 2013.

The Big Sister project with the ASA has taken a little more time than expected but I am happy to report that we finally have started the twining of the countries and the local ASA associations.

"Work in progress" on the ESF website continues, to make our website futuristic, with all new possibilities such as up and downloading and play by play of our and other Championships.

The Scorekeepers are officially part of our ESF family and an ESF Scorekeepers manual was presented last year.

We are happy to announce that in March next year there will be an Umpire Convention in Rome with a separate meeting of the Technical commissioners at the same dates and place.

We have tried to do our best, and I can say a lot has been learnt these past 4 years by all of us. These years have been very difficult for all our Members but I believe that the ESF is on a path that will and can only lead to better things in the future.



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We need to grow, to establish partnerships and continue with the marketing and development of our sport throughout Europe.

I would like to thank all those Federations who have been helpful in building the future of the ESF and am sure this cooperation will grow throughout all the Federations in the coming years.

Last but not least, I want to thank my colleagues on the Board for allowing me to serve softball as their European President. I thank each of them for their dedicated effort and their open-minded approach to our discussions. As the next Congress shall be an Election Congress and although our ways may go in different directions, the friendships shall remain.

There is still a lot to do. Thank you for all your help.

André van Overbeek  
ESF President



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## **ESF VP Technical and Competition report**

### **Review ESF competitions 2012**

#### **Sources:**

This report is written based on TC reports of each tournament; on Director of Umpires report including reports of all UICs reports, on Player Licences Report and on Scorekeeper Committee Report.

Let me thank to all of them for the service for ESF during 2012.

#### **Enumeration of the competitions:**

In total 10 ESF competitions were planned for 2012. All competitions have the locations and were completed with final ranking. Two new competitions were played this year – European Massimo Romeo Youth Trophy, which replaced previous EChMG and European Super Cup Men, which was played based on special conditions and replaced ECM and ECWCM.

- 2012 I. ESCM\*, Prague (CZE): 27 Aug - 1 Sep
- 2012 XIX. ECWB, Ostrava (CZE): 20 - 25 Aug
- 2012 XXI. ECWCWA, Nuoro (ITA): 20 - 25 Aug
- 2012 XXXV. ECWA, Enschede (NED): 20 - 25 Aug
- 2012 XIV. ECWCWB, Trieste (ITA): 20 - 25 Aug
- 2012 I. EMRYT, Collecchio, Parma (ITA): 15 - 18 Aug
- 2012 VI. ECCS, Pardubice (CZE): 31 Jul - 4 Aug
- 2012 XI. EChM, Amstelveen (NED): 24 - 28 Jul
- 2012 XII. EChJG, Rosmalen (NED): 23 - 28 Jul
- 2012 III. EChU22G, Havlickuv Brod (CZE): 10 - 14 Jul

#### **Allocation of the tournament:**

Finally all ESF competitions 2012 were successfully allocated; even some problems were announced from Belgium regarding EChJG allocated to Antwerp. Post Congress EC decided to send me to Belgium and solve the problem before end of February. Based of found information I agreed with local clubs in Belgium to move this tournament out of Belgium due to financial reasons. We didn't want to face situation to invite in total 15

national teams to venue not adequate prepared for tournament like European Championship. Finally we made agreement with Gryphons (Netherlands) to host this tournament.

**I would like special thank to Gryphons for hosting this tournament and prepare all organization within very limited time.**

## **Game schedules:**

Because better communication between organizers and game schedule creator the potential problems was reduced to minimum. We faced only the problems with cancelling of participations. The number of withdrawals extremely increased in this year. We recognized **in total 27 withdrawals** and each tournament was touched by withdrawal any team. Also number of the countries, which withdrawn in this year, increased. Teams from in total 16 countries step down from any ESF tournament. WE are registered three withdrawal of teams from Greece, Bulgaria and Serbia. But also we can see two withdrawals of teams from strong countries like Italy or Russia. So more reasons are behind this and I identified following:

- financial reasons
- location of the ESF tournament
- timing between entries dead line and time of the tournament
- structure and timing of national competition

We expected this in the Cups competitions, like usually, but it happened also more than expectation in European Championships. This is the reason why one pool of EChJG left just with only 3 teams and not adequate number of the games. Because of this we had to change the pools made by drawing at the Congress of ESCM in Prague.

We have to think seriously about financial situation of ESF countries and we have to react on this with preparation of update of entries and potential penalties in consequences of participation at ESF tournaments.

## **Scorekeeper Committee:**

We continue with scorekeeping after the biggest step forward in last year, when was fully adapted live scorekeeping at all ESF competitions. Head of scorers nominated ESF Scoring Committee ESF nominated Head of scorers at each ESF tournament 2012, which surely improved work of scorers at the tournaments and especially guaranteed unity with publication of results. We faced just two minor problems, which quite easy to solve. First we had to extend the limit of the unique access into the web especially when two tournaments are playing in the same time. Second is independent and solid and independent access of scorers to net due to high pressure to network connection with Smartphone's. **It is my pleasure to thank again to Dennis and Marco for very good job.** Scorekeeper report is attached.

## **EMRYT and ESCM – two new successful events:**

We established two new ESF competitions in 2012 – European Massimo Romeo Youth Trophy (EMRYT) and European Super Cup Men (ESCM). Both tournaments reflected development in these categories. Both events have special conditions of entries and also new

game format. EMRYT reflected intention to play more games offered minimum two games a day for each team. ESCM brought double elimination system to ESF tournaments.

I personally visited ESCM and including ESF President arranged meeting with coaches of participants with intention of evaluate this tournament and make some improvements for future. Coaches were generally very satisfied with this new format, which brought many very competitive games in Elite group and also in bottom group.

I also made questionnaire about satisfaction with EMRYT among the participants by TC Marcel Kratochvil. The answers of the participants confirmed right way of change of status of this tournament and recommended also small changes reflected young players.

We will continue with those events in same status also in next season with small adoptions.

## **Player Licences:**

We didn't have any big problems with Player Licences in this year. Some Federations asked for late submission of players, but all told the CR regarding late submission.

Duplicate Players – There was only 2 duplicates for all the tournaments. This was satisfactorily sorted out by the 2 clubs.

Pick Up Players – The decision to charge clubs €50 per PUP on the Application Form for Provision of Member Licence definitely helped reduce the duplicate players. Only 1 club did not understand that putting 9 PUPs on the Application would incur a charge of €450.

The problem with bona fide member of club definition for PUPs was again in force. We faced to appeal at ECWA and we had to make any steps to prevent of illegal player. But some clubs are doing fails again with confirmation of their federation. We have to make really strong explaining campaign and very strong force this rule. Player Licences Report is attached.

## **Umpires:**

2012 is the first year of new Director of Umpires Andrea Marcon. He worked very hard and quite easily followed in the work of Marlies Struyvé. Andrea Marcon personally attended in total 6 ESF tournaments in this year with intention to see more umpires in live. It was the key of good feeling among umpires to know real interest of them. Also other previous changes helped for good feeling of umpires, like change in the adopted systems in umpires ranking, their evaluation procedures, consequent promotions or demotions in lists and the Umpire Development System. The idea behind all this has been to simplify all the adopted systems, essentially to make them easier to apply. One example is the decision to change the lists from 5 to 4. Some changes have also been made for the umpire assignments system, our aim was that of making things quicker and more straightforward to use.

The new method, which we adopted in assignments, brought us to have the tournaments list finalized in March. In this way every umpire was able to organize the trip at best and every tournament has been covered with an adequate technical coverage. This result was possible also thanks to the umpires help and availability, considering that we had only 4 refusals on the 106 assignments we sent.

In 2012 we also managed to maintain the contacts with ASA (for fastpitch) and with the Canadian Federation (for slowpitch). In this regard a Canadian umpire has been hosted in Pardubice (Czech Republic) during the ECCS, and in future an exchange will be organized for a European umpire to be hosted by them.



In 2012 ESF was asked for two local clinics. Umpire Instructors from ESF have been sent to a slowpitch clinic in Dupnitsa (Bulgaria) and to a fastpitch clinic in Zagreb (Croatia).

I can, based on DoU report, finally conclude by describing two items that brought up problems that will need to be solved. The first item being the Basic Clinic. This year it was not held since we did not have the minimum number of applicants required (10). Clinic in 2013 is an absolute priority also because there are very critical situations in many important countries for European Softball, and we absolutely must cover them.

The second item is the ESF presence within the ISF Umpire Commission. The situation now is not clear and does not permit normal relationship with the Umpire Responsible in ISF. There are no problems with who the ESF representative will be, but the roles and competences must be clarified as soon as possible to avoid any misunderstandings between all parties involved.


Finally let me thank all of umpires, who worked in blue at ESF tournaments or represented Europe at ISF or other world tournaments.

## **Final words:**

Finally let me thank to all of organizers to host the ESF tournaments in 2012. It is very important to have you, because this is the place for the games and meeting of our players. Thank you so much for hosting!

Also thank to all of the officials – Tic's, Uic's, EC's, umpires, scorers, locals and so many volunteers – for you assists at ESF tournaments in 2011! Your work is invaluable help!

Special thanks to DoU in Europe Andrea Marcon and DoU assistant Ms. Romina Tolu for their excellent contribution and Mr. Gilbert Tobback, game schedule creator and one again to Dennis Duin and Marco Battistella for excellent job with scorekeepers and arrangement of Play By Play.



Gabriel Waage  
ESF VP Technical and Competitions



*European Softball Federation*  
*Fédération Européenne Softball*

email : [secretarygeneral@europeansoftball.org](mailto:secretarygeneral@europeansoftball.org) – website : [www.europeansoftball.org](http://www.europeansoftball.org)

## **ESF DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION REPORT 2012**

|                    |        |
|--------------------|--------|
| Totoni Sanna       | Chair  |
| André van Overbeek | Member |
| Slava Smagin       | Member |
| Ami Baran          | Member |
| John Austin        | Member |
| Anton Kops         | Member |
| Jens Terkelsen     | Member |

Dear ESF delegates,

Report 2012, the last of our 4 year term.

In these 4 years, ESF has been involved in several plans and supported the Federations in the process of softball development.

I believe that this Executive team did a great job, first with the analysis of the situation in each different Country, then trying to understand the needs and promoting differently the Softball game.

In order to carry on our proposals, we decided to add Development Operation Officers in sub areas of Europe.

Unfortunately, we didn't achieve the results we were looking for, but I believe that the work of the Regional Commissioners led the new Federations to the development of Softball.

In the past two years, we have striven to increase the quality of development not only considering the geographic areas, but even with the organization of different divisions of our discipline.

### **FAST PITCH:**

We held a pitching clinic in Austria and we arranged a specific pitching program to be presented at the 2013 Congress.

### **SLOW PITCH:**

In 2012, we carried on the work of the previous year, what Bob Fromer started, John Austin continued.

Several clinics were held in Austria and Bulgaria attended by coaches and players of different Countries.



## *European Softball Federation Fédération Européenne Softball*

email : [secretarygeneral@europeansoftball.org](mailto:secretarygeneral@europeansoftball.org) – website : [www.europeansoftball.org](http://www.europeansoftball.org)

We had contacts with several Countries such as Spain where the process of slow pitch development is started.

The Slow Pitch Package has been translated in different languages.

Thanks to the participation of our commissioner John Austin in the BATTLE IV TOUR, we saw the potential of slow pitch; with the ASA cooperation, we believe that Europe can enter the worldwide circuit.

With the Softball Men Fast Pitch, we would like to have a European representative attending the next BORDER BATTLE editions.

### **MEN FAST PITCH:**

The first edition of the Super Cup Men brought positive results, this formula will grow. Both organizers and participating teams loved that formula. Our commissioner Jens will work at the Fastpitch development.

### **BEE BALL:**

We decided to invest in the Bee Ball program as we believe that the development of Softball should start from the base.

Following an agreement with CEB, we have a common project which will involve a large number of young players.

Thanks to our commissioner Anton Kops, we prepared promotional material such as flyers, a range of information and documents, a short film on YouTube, starter kits with bases, bats, soft balls, tee and gloves.

It took a bit of time, but we are now ready and Lithuania held the first Bee Ball Clinic.

For the youth category too, we printed an introduction guide to softball that could be delivered in the primary school.

### **ESF/ASA**

The agreement with ASA which led Europe to a partnership with several USA Countries produced a great interest above all for coaches' exchange.

Ami Baran who follows this project is working on more requests that will implement this agreement in the near future.

### **ESF/ISF**

Following the ISF Congress in Oklahoma, we slowly started to cooperate with the ISF Development Commission. In 2012, thanks to this collaboration, we guaranteed the distribution of promotional



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material (pitching machines and other sports equipment to Serbia) and we succeeded in having a clinic with American coaches. Due to organizational problems, this clinic will be held in 2013.

We firmly believe that we did a great job in 2012, taking into consideration that we work with realities with very different aspects and problems.

Development projects don't get immediate and positive results. If we have a look even to the worldwide economic and financial situation, I anyway believe that our 4 years has been a positive period.

We have to work all together, keep cooperating, even if sometimes it's a heavy job, we will have so much satisfaction when the number of young girls and boys playing softball will be so large improved.

Together with the members of this Development Commission, I wish to extend my congratulations and I want to thank this Executive Board who showed always its interested in the development projects, but first of all, we wish to thank all the affiliated Federations that adopted these projects.

Totoni Sanna  
ESF Development Commission Chairman

De Permentier Mark  
Boekhoudingen - fiscaliteit  
Mechelsesteenweg 5  
2018 Antwerpen  
BTW BE 870.141.369  
Tel 0494/922.536  
Fax 03/295.62.11  
KBC 408-0090971-50

TO : ESF  
Mr Eddy van Straelen  
Plantin Moretuslei 120  
2018 Antwerpen

Antwerp, 3 december 2012.


Dear Sirs,

Hereby I confirm to have viewed and established the annual account of ESF in co-operation with Mr Eddy van Straelen, treasurer.

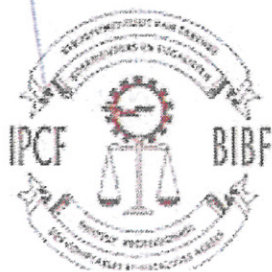
The financial year was closed at 31.10.2012 with a profit of 10.651,37 euro. The balance sheet presents 182388.22 eur.

I am at your service to do the next annual account on financial year 2013 closing at 31.10.2013.

Kind regards



Mark De Permentier





*European Softball Federation*  
*Fédération Européenne Softball*



## **MOTIONS AND PROPOSALS BY AFFILIATED FEDERATIONS**

### **COMMENTS & RECOMMENDATIONS OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL & COMMISSIONS**

**MOTION BUL-1** : Amendment to CR.24.01.01 - Letter of guarantee in place of guarantee sum

Recommendation of the Executive Council :

The EC does not recommend amending the Article. From past experiences in attempts to collect guarantees even as the statute stands have proven difficult. Mixing the responsibilities between the Federation and the Clubs would also, in the eyes of the EC, be a mistake.

The ESF Treasurer has stated collecting one payment is also a way to reduce the banking charges to one time only.

**MOTION BUL-2** : Amendment to AR.12.07 – Letter of guarantee in place of guarantee sum

Recommendation of the Executive Council :

The EC does not recommend amending the Article. From past experiences in attempts to collect guarantees even as the statute stands have proven difficult. Mixing the responsibilities between the Federation and the Clubs would also, in the eyes of the EC, be a mistake.

The ESF Treasurer has stated collecting one payment is also a way to reduce the banking charges to one time only.

**MOTION GBR** : Financial Appendix Amendment – Umpire deposit and penalty

Recommendation of the Executive Council :

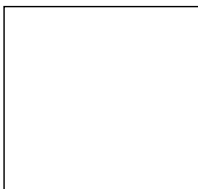
The EC suggests that the articles in place today are more than reasonable and actually seems similar to this proposal.

**MOTION UKR** : Amendment to Financial Appendix– Increase of EChW entry fee

Recommendation of the Executive Council :

The EC suggests that as we cannot guarantee broadcasting of our events, we would need more time to investigate any possibilities of such a project. As to date we do not see any of the sport channels broadcasting this event.

Comments by Legal Commission: All motions implying a change in writing of the Regulations are subject to a re-wording after approval.



# BULGARIAN **SOFTBALL** **FEDERATION**

Member of  
**Bulgarian Olympic Committee**  
**International Softball Federation**  
**European Softball Federation**  
**Balkan Softball Association**

1000 Sofia, Bulgaria, 97 Tzar Samuil Str.  
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[www.softball.bg](http://www.softball.bg)  
[www.softballevents.com](http://www.softballevents.com)

*Orlando-Sofia, 05.11.2012*

## **PROPOSAL No.1 FOR AMENDMENT AND CHANGES** *RELATED DOCUMENT: COMPETITION REGULATION*

**Main idea:** To provide the member federations (MF), who financially are in “good standings” with ESF, possibility/choice to replace payments, connected with guarantee with a Letter of Guarantee(LG) on the same amount. MF will act from their behalf and if they decide - as representatives (guarantors) of the club-organizers.

**Rational:**

1. This will save expenses, connected with the wire transfers (for example – every organizer has 3 outgoing payments and 1 incoming and the total of banking charges is in average over 70 euro for EU member country and over 100 for non EU);
2. Being a guarantor, MF will be more deeply involved and will have interest to control and support the organizers.

**Proposal:**                   **1. To amend CR as follows:**

**24.01.01.** Every candidature to host a European Competition shall be presented to the ESF, together with a payment of a bona fide deposit of 20 per cent of the guarantee sum specified for organizing this competition **or Letter of Guarantee for the full amount** at least 90 days before the date of the Annual General Congress, which shall consider and act upon any nomination duly

presented for consideration.

**24.01.02.** Every candidature to host an European Competition shall be presented together with a payment of a bona fide deposit of 20 per cent of the guarantee sum specified for organizing this competition **or Letter of Guarantee for the full amount** (see Financial Appendix).

**24.03.** Once it has been officially appointed, the host Federation or Club shall pay an additional 30 per cent of the guarantee sum specified for organizing this Competition within 10 days after the official announcement in the year. The balance of 50 per cent of this guarantee sum shall be paid at the latest forty (40) days before the start of the Competition. **If there is Letter of Guarantee presented as per 24.01.01-02 no payments are due.**

The guarantee sum paid by the candidate Organizers not appointed will be refunded **or Letter of Guarantee declared void.**

## **2. New articles dedicated to the Letter of Guarantee to be added:**

1. Letter of Guarantee (LG) is a document issued by MF in favor of ESF. LG is a paper document, issued on the letterhead of the MF and has following text boxes: place of issuance; date of issuance; amount of the guarantee; name and address of the MF; text: “With this Letter of Guarantee above mentioned Federation irrevocably accepts to pay whatever amount is claimed by ESF in connection with the organization of (abbreviation of the competition, for example 2013 ECCS), within 10 working days from the date of the claim notice.”; names and signatures of the president and secretary general (or executive director) of the MF;

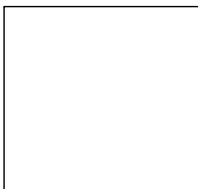
2. Scanned copy of LG should be submitted by the MF together with the application form (bid) for competition. The original should be presented to ESF Secretary General before Technical



and Competitions Committee meeting prior to the General Congress.

3. If LG for certain competition is issued and there is claim from ESF in consequence of lack or bad performance of the, organizer, MF should pay claimed amount via bank transfer or in cash within 10 working days. The late payment of the claimed amount is subject to the assessment of a penalty, which amount is indicated in the Financial Appendix (IV – Penalties).

(our proposal for penalty is 500 euro)



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*Orlando-Sofia, 05.11.2012*

## **PROPOSAL No.2 FOR AMENDMENT AND CHANGES** *RELATED DOCUMENT: ADMINISTRATION REGULATION*

**Main idea:** To provide the member federations (MF), who financially are in “good standings” with ESF possibility to replace payment, connected with guarantee with a Letter of Guarantee (LG).

**Rational:**

1. This will save expenses, connected with the wire transfers;
2. This will decrease the financial load on the MF when sending umpires to the competitions – once MF should pay the guarantee, once to pay the trip (taxi, airfares, train/bus, etc.);

**Proposal:** **To amend AR as follows:**

**12.07.** Each year before March 1st the Affiliated Federations that intend to participate in ESF Competitions, shall send to the ESF, for each European Championship or European Cup Tournament in which such Federation will be represented by a National team or a Club team, a guarantee sum **or issue a Letter of Guarantee** which amount is indicated in the Financial Appendix (III Guarantees). The late payment of the guarantee sum **or late presentation of Letter of Guarantee** is subject to the assessment of a penalty, which amount is indicated in the Financial Appendix (IV – Penalties).

**12.08.** If it occurs that the Affiliated Federation, for whatever reason, has not available the same number of Umpires as the teams which this Affiliated Federation is intended to participate in the current

year, it still has the obligation to send the appropriate guarantee sum **or to issue Letter of Guarantee**. When the absence of the Umpire is the responsibility of such Affiliated Federation, the latter loses the guarantee sum and has to pay in addition to the ESF a penalty which amount is equal to the guarantee sum and is indicated in the Financial Appendix (IV – Penalties). This penalty sum will then be used to ensure the transportation of an Umpire from another Affiliated Federation.

**1. New articles dedicated to the Letter of Guarantee to be added:**

1. Letter of Guarantee (LG) is a document issued by MF in favor of ESF. LG is a paper document, issued on the letterhead of the MF and has following text boxes: place of issuance; date of issuance; number of umpires; amount of the guarantee (number of umpires multiplied by the amount in Financial appendix); name and address of the MF; text: “With this Letter of Guarantee above mentioned Federation irrevocably accepts to pay whatever amount is claimed by ESF in connection with the presence of umpires in (abbreviation of the competitions, for example 2013 ECCS, 2013 ECWB), within 10 working days from the date of the claim notice.”; names and signatures of the president and secretary general (or executive director) of the MF;

2. The original of the LG should be presented to ESF Secretary General before March 1-st.

3. If LG as umpire guarantee is issued and there is claim from ESF in consequence of lack presence of the umpire, MF should pay claimed amount via bank transfer or in cash within 10 working days. The late payment of the claimed amount is subject to the assessment of a penalty, which amount is indicated in the Financial Appendix (IV – Penalties).



## **MOTION FOR ESF CONGRESS**

**PROPOSING FEDERATION:**

British Softball Federation

### **GB MOTION 1**

|   |
|---|
| <b>PROPOSED CHANGE TO REGULATION:</b>   |
| <p>Amendment to Financial Appendix:</p> <p>Umpire Deposit and Penalty:</p> <p>1: GBR proposes that the Umpire deposit be forfeit each time a country has no umpire, or is otherwise unable to make an umpire available for selection, for the same number of events as they enter a team. The forfeited deposit is to provide the airfare for a replacement from elsewhere.</p> <p>2: If an umpire, having been selected and accepted, either:</p> <p>A: withdraws within thirty days of the TC meeting without the Federation providing an acceptable replacement, or:</p> <p>B: does not show up for the event,</p> <p>then, upon recommendation of the TC and by agreement of the EC, an amount equal to the deposit may also be levied as a penalty against the Federation in default.</p> <p>These paragraphs to replace all existing references to Umpire requirements and charges in the Appendix.</p> |
| <b>DATE CHANGE SHOULD TAKE EFFECT:</b>  |
| For the 2013 season.  |



## ФЕДЕРАЦІЯ БЕЙСБОЛУ ТА СОФТБОЛУ УКРАЇНИ FEDERATION BASEBALL SOFTBALL UKRAINE

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Ukraine, 01004, Kyiv, Rognedinskaya str., 4-a tel./fax (38044) 593-66-76, E-mail: info @ fbsu . com . ua

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To ESF SECRETARY GENERAL

*in the Agenda of the Annual General Congress  
proposals of changes FINANCIAL APPENDIX  
to the STATUTES & REGULATIONS*

The Federation baseball softball Ukraine proposes to change the COMPETITION ENTRY FEES "European Championship senior" (specifically - just for this tournament 2013 XVIII. EChW, Prague (CZE), 7 - 13 Jul) and offers to install it in the amount of 2500 euros.

Part of the money proposed to spend on a contract with a sports channel "Eurosport2" to translation softball games for this tournament - 2013 XVIII. EChW, Prague (CZE).

Mr.Vasyl Kysil  
Vice president FBSU



# APPOINTMENT of ORGANIZERS of COMPETITIONS

## CALENDAR 2013

|  |  |                                    |
|--|--|------------------------------------|
| Jul. 7 <sup>TH</sup> – 13 <sup>TH</sup>      | XVIII. European Championship Women       | Prague (CZE)                       |
| Aug. 5 <sup>TH</sup> – 10 <sup>TH</sup>      | VII. European Championship Cadet Girls   | Ostrava (CZE)                      |
| Jul. 8 <sup>TH</sup> – 13 <sup>TH</sup>      | VIII. European Championship Junior Boys  | Stenløse (DEN)                     |
| Jul. 16 <sup>TH</sup> – 20 <sup>TH</sup>     | IX. European Championship Coed Slowpitch | Pardubice (CZE)                    |
| Aug. 19 <sup>TH</sup> – 24 <sup>TH</sup>     | XXXVI. European Cup Women "A"            | Alkmaar (NED)<br>Prague (CZE) (1)  |
| Aug. 19 <sup>TH</sup> – 24 <sup>TH</sup>     | XX. European Cup Women "B"               | Dupnitsa (BUL) (2)                 |
| Aug. 19 <sup>TH</sup> – 24 <sup>TH</sup>     | XXII. European Cup Winners Cup Women     | Montegranaro, Fermo (ITA) (2)      |
| Aug. 13 <sup>TH</sup> – 17 <sup>TH</sup>     | II. European M. Romeo Youth Trophy       | Collecchio, Parma (ITA)            |
| Aug. 26 <sup>TH</sup> – 31 <sup>ST</sup>     | II. European Super Cup Men               | Pianoro, Bologna (ITA) (2)         |
| Jul. 30 <sup>TH</sup> – Aug. 3 <sup>RD</sup> | VII. European Cup Coed Slowpitch         | Nomination open until the Congress |

(1) Subject to vote at the Technical & Competitions Commission before the Congress

(2) Contingent to final approval by the Congress

## CALENDAR 2014

|   |  |                                    |
|---|--|------------------------------------|
| TBA                                     | IV. European Championship Under 22 Girls | Nomination open until the Congress |
| TBA                                     | XIII. European Championship Junior Girls | Nomination open until the Congress |
| Jul. 7 <sup>TH</sup> – 12 <sup>TH</sup> | XII. European Championship Men           | Havlíčkův Brod (CZE) (2)           |



# European Softball Federation Fédération Européenne Softball



## ELECTIONS TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL ADMISSIBLE NOMINATIONS

| Position   | Candidate              |       | Nominated by : |
|--|------------------------|-------|----------------|
| PRESIDENT  | Michael JENNINGS       | (GBR) | GBR            |
|  | Şahin KÖMÜRCÜ          | (TUR) | TUR            |
|  | André van OVERBEEK     | (NED) | S 4.5.2.3.     |
|  | Jacques REINENBERGH    | (BEL) | BEL            |
|  | Giovanni SANNA         | (ITA) | ITA            |
|  | Viatcheslav SMAGIN     | (RUS) | RUS            |
| SECRETARY GENERAL  | Ami BARAN              | (ISR) | ISR            |
|  | Metin EJDER            | (TUR) | TUR            |
|  | Francesca FABRETTO     | (ITA) | AUT            |
| TREASURER  | Michael JENNINGS       | (GBR) | GBR            |
|  | Mustafa KELEŞ          | (TUR) | TUR            |
|  | Eddy VAN STRAELEN      | (BEL) | S 4.5.2.3.     |
| VICE PRESIDENTS<br>(6 seats – including<br>First Vice President) | Youri ALKALAY          | (BUL) | BUL            |
|  | John AUSTIN            | (IRL) | IRL            |
|  | Ami BARAN              | (ISR) | S 4.5.2.3.     |
|  | Juergen ELSISHANS      | (GER) | GER            |
|  | Mette NIESSEN-JAKOBSEN | (DEN) | DEN            |
|  | Koray KARTAL           | (TUR) | TUR            |
|  | Kristian PÄLVIÄ        | (SWE) | SWE            |
|  | Giovanni SANNA         | (ITA) | ITA            |
|  | Michael SCHMIDT        | (AUT) | AUT            |
|  | Viatcheslav SMAGIN     | (RUS) | RUS            |
|  | Gilbert TOBBACK        | (BEL) | BEL            |
|  | Gabriel WAAGE          | (CZE) | CZE            |
|  | Dejan JESIC            | (SRB) | SRB            |

ALL NOMINATIONS ACCORDING TO ARTICLES 2.2.2 & 4.5.2 OF THE STATUTES OF THE ESF