



*European Softball Federation*  
*Fédération Européenne Softball*

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# DOCUMENTS

<b>Congress 2009 Minutes (II)</b>
<b>Activities Report 2009 (V)</b>
<b>Financial Report 2009 (VI)</b>
<b>Budget 2010 (VII)</b>
Written Matters by Congress Committees (if any) will be communicated after the Congress Committees Meetings



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## ESF President Report 2009

The 2009 ESF year started with the Lausanne Annual Congress, hosted and well organized by the Swiss Federation.

Don Porter and Dale McMann, co-Chair of the BackSoftball Taskforce, joined us and gave us an update on progress on their efforts and to set out the action plan for all to follow between February and October 2009.

New Executive Council members were elected:

President	: André van Overbeek ( The Netherlands )
Secretary General	: Patrice Bienfait ( France )
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	: Totoni Sanna ( Italy )
Treasurer	: Eddy van Straelen ( Belgium )
Vice President Development	: Slava Smagin ( Russia )
Vice President Marketing & PR	: Michael Schmidt ( Austria )
Vice President Technical & Competitions	: Gabriel Waage ( Czech Rep. )
Vice President Operations	: Ami Baran ( Israel )
Vice President Athletes, Medical and Anti Doping	: Chiqui Vázquez ( Spain )

The new appointed EC agreed to work according to a working plan 2009-2012. This working plan was made by all EC members and approved at the ESF EC Spring meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> April in the Netherlands. The first day of this meeting, Dale McMann was present to discuss the development plans in Europe.

The EC approved that the Secretary General will be assisted by an assistant Secretary General, the VP Technical & Competitions will be assisted by a Technical Director, an UiC and assistant UiC.

The ESF EC Summer meeting was held on 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> July at Valencia during the European Championships Women. ISF President Porter attended the first day and informed us about the progress of the Backsoftball campaign. Scheduled EC meetings for the remainder of 2009 are 20-22<sup>nd</sup> November at Frankfurt. The ESF EC will meet again prior to our Annual Congress early February 2010 at Antalya in Turkey.

### **Development**

The Development Commission divided Europe in regions with five regional commissioners, and appointed a slow pitch commissioner and a commissioner for men's fastpitch. These regional commissioners are responsible for the development in their region, and the slowpitch and fastpitch men commissioners are responsible to develop their disciplines throughout Europe, assisted by the regional commissioners.

At our Spring meeting, we agreed to set up a coach taskforce who will be well trained to teach and travel around Europe to fulfill the needs of our member Federations at all levels.

Another part of the development was the start of a scorekeepers committee, something new. We have put together a working group of scorekeepers from Italy and the Netherlands to inventory the available computer programs and decide which program we will use for scorekeeping and play by play at the coming European competitions, with the 2010 European Championship Junior Girls at Vienna as test event.

A slowpitch umpire clinic was held in the Czech Rep. and a pitching clinic in the Ukraine. Regional umpire, coach and player clinics are prepared for the winter months (November 2009 till March 2010).

## **Technical and Competition**

For the first time in many years, a TC meeting was held in London in May to instruct all TC members and Umpire commissioners about the regulations during the coming European tournaments. We welcomed Turkey as a new member Federation; in its first year, this new Federation organized a European tournament. In total, the ESF organized 11 European competitions with more than 80 teams participating. There was a late withdrawal of one of the organizers, but it was possible to find a new organizer who managed to organize the European Championship Cadets within three months. The Technical Commission prepares new specifics for slowpitch, a new hierarchy of ESF tournaments including conditions for organizers and a new format of the ESF A-competitions according to the wish of the ESF Congress and minimum playing field requirements according to the level of competition

## **Marketing and P/R**

A newsletter was launched to inform the members about EC activities and events in the Federations. An advertising, merchandising and broadcasting appendix will be effective for tournament organizers from 2010. A questionnaire was sent to all member Federations with a response of over 90%. The results will be used for development purposes. The first steps were made for a cooperation with the European Union, funding by sponsorships and preferred suppliers and streaming the games of the European championships through the ESF website.

## **Finance**

The 2009 finance is proceeding according to our budget. Our Treasurer reconciled all expenses to income which makes it possible to get an overview of the ESF financial situation on a daily basis.

## **Operations**

The VP Operations provide us with an internal evaluation on EC's performance and conformance to regulations and procedures, by reviewing records, reports and documents pertaining to all ESF activities and accountable to the EC to verify details, monitor work activities and evaluate performance and recommend to the EC any foreseeable changes that are needed. This will include a detailed review of our Statutes, codes, regulations and procedures.

## **Website, Athletes, Medical and Anti-doping**

In 2009, the ESF website continues to improve and become more user friendly. All changes must have a final result that our website will be interesting for all softball fans with live streaming, pictures and tournament results. The website features special restricted areas for our member Federations and the EC.

We asked in the 2009 questionnaire the names of athletes who want to participate in the ESF Athletes Commission. We plan to have a meeting before the end of this year or at the 2010 Congress.

André van Overbeek  
President  
European Softball Federation



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## ESF 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Report 2009

The first year of this new four-year period was marked by the exclusion of our sport from the Olympic Games, also for the year 2016.

The decision of the IOC, taken in the October session in Copenhagen, will certainly affect our future.

Many federations have already declared that they will have significant difficulty in promoting and developing the sport of softball in the coming years.

This possibility was discussed after the establishment of our group and for this reason we decided to immediately accelerate the activity of the executive body in order to be an ever increasing support for our affiliated countries.

For this reason, along with a series of activities which will certainly be in my colleagues' executive reports, we made a series of requests for information which may lead us to find out, above all, who we are and what we need.

To do this, we decided to subdivide the ESF into 7 groups - of which 5 are geographical areas and two are sectors (Eastern Europe, Northern Europe, Central Europe, Balkan Europe, Southern Europe, men's softball and slow pitch softball).

However a good development plan also had to be done through the search for new resources. For this reason we also forwarded our project to the ISF from whom we also requested financial support.

Unfortunately, the replies of the federations were not always forthcoming, and still today some haven't answered, although it should be added that the first installment of the ESF funds was received in the second half of the year, and so our development plan can be definitively put into practice next year.

In any case, in order to gain a lot of information that will be useful for next year, we ran some clinics in Croatia and in the Ukraine for the fast pitch, and in Bulgaria for the slow pitch.

With regard to the clinics, we considered building a Coach committee, asking for the free assistance of those who wished to help the development of softball in Europe. Mr. Andre Prins was chosen to be the Chair of this committee and was asked to create a working group.

We also decided to create the scorekeeper committee and to activate the play-by-play in the ESF tournaments.

In this way we will have the chance to make the results and the live games known in real time, for all of the ESF's events. The Chairman of this committee is Mr. Maurizio Ronchi.

Regarding the Team Europe 2009 we had a wonderful opportunity to organize a tournament with participation of Team Japan, the gold Olympic medalists.

Despite a significant contribution received from the ISF, the National softball federations could not meet the costs required, which is why the tournament never took place and Team Europe was never put together. Hopefully we may be able to organize something in next years.

In August, in my capacity as executive officer, I attended the European Cup Women B pool which took place in Dupnitsa, Bulgaria.

I believe that our federation has found another organizational hub for our events, considering the excellent organization, even if not supported by the optimum structural conditions.

The executive board of the ESF which met in Frankfurt in the last week of November assigned me the task of leading the Development Commission.

For this reason I am preparing the guidelines of the plan which I intend to develop at beginning of the next season.

These guidelines will be presented during the next meeting and I hope they will be taken on board thanks to the contribution of the federations present.



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I finish by thanking all the ESF Federations for their cooperation and all my colleagues on the executive board with whom I have shared the year 2009.

Totoni Sanna  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President  
European Softball Federation



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

### **Review ESF competitions 2009**

#### **Sources:**

This report is written based on TC reports of each tournament, on UIC report including reports of all tournaments UIC and also Player Licences Report. Let me thank to all of them for the service for ESF during 2009.

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

In total 11 ESF competitions were played in 2009. All competitions have the locations and all competitions were completed on the field with final ranking.

ESF Tournament	Abbrev	Date	Location
European Championship Junior Boys	EChJB	01.-04.07.	Ledenice (CZE)
European Championship Cadet Girls	EChCG	13.-18.07.	Alkmaar (NED)
European Championship Women A	EChWA	27.07.- 01.08.	Valencia (ESP)
European Championship Women B	EChWB	27.07.- 01.08.	Hoboken (BEL)
European Cup Women A	ECWA	17.-22. 08.	Legnano (ITA)
European Cup Women B	ECWB	17.-22. 08	Dupnitsa (BUL)
European Cup Winners Cup Women A	ECWCWA	17.-22. 08	Parma (ITA)
European Cup Winners Cup Women B	ECWCWB	17.-22. 08	Edirne (TUR)
European Cup Men	ECM	24-29. 08.	Arsa Bagnaria (ITA)
European Cup Winners Cup Men	ECWCM	24-29. 08.	Spijkensisse (NED)
European Cup Coed Slowpitch	ECCS	26.-29. 08.	Dupnitsa (BUL)

## **Allocation of the tournament:**

Several problems occurred before the tournaments. Firstly I would like remind the problems with allocation of the tournaments. Three problems were detected with allocation – EChCG, EChWA and ECWCWB. EChCG was originally planned to San Sebastian, because of the decision of ESF Congress 2008 in Athens. This decision was made unfortunately without any information about the fields. San Sebastian withdrew the candidature for hosting this event due the no more support from local government to built new field. It happened on beginning of April, just 3 month before the tournament! This is absolutely unacceptable for ESF. Fortunately Alkmaar offered their hospitality immediately and the tournament was relocated to Dutch. Let me really thank to Alkmaar on behalf of ESF and all participants.

Second problematic location was Valencia. Much critical information mostly from Dutch coaching management was sent to ESF and to other participants. The field conditions were definitely unacceptable for the level of the tournament, even it was approved via inspection. It is not anything against to organizers; it is only about adequacy of field conditions for the most important tournament in the 2009. The problem was already solved with new field conditions approved for future bids.

Third problematic location was Edirne. We faced two kinds of the problems there. Firstly organizers didn't know anything how is running the ESF tournaments, what is important for ESF and participants. Secondly the distance from Europe was almost killing for the tournament, because from 8 entered participants including organizer remained finally 4 teams, which is the minimum for running of the ESF tournament. Teams are always and in the current year especially very seriously thinking about the expenses. Because mostly they are paying themselves all expenses, the expenses are especially for the teams from B pools key point for decision to travel or not. We had already similar situation in 2005, When EChCG was allocated to Moscow and only 5 participants remained from 10 entered. We are not able, and of course it is not legally and ethically possible, to eliminate any candidates for organizing the ESF tournaments. But if the tournament will be allocated into destination, which is far a way and due the distance also expensive, we have to be prepared to be faced withdrawals of the participants.

Other reason for withdrawal of the participants is the relocation of the tournament at the last moment. It happened in 2008 (EChMG was switched from Poland to Czech) and also in this year (EChCG was switched from Spain to Dutch). The relocation at the last moment has the connection to the number of the participants. Relocation also doesn't look so professionally and the ESF like the highest body of softball in Europe looks like the body, who doesn't control it. We have to be really strict on it and if anything happened like this we have to give to failure federation and to all other, that the allocation of the ESF tournament is very serious duty and expectation of all is to keep it.

## Game schedules:

The big discussion was made about the game schedule in this year from several reasons. Here are key points, why:

- We wanted to have game schedule earlier than in the past, when sometimes the game schedule was known just before the tournament. More than 5 years ago was usual, than game schedules were published in the first half of May and we wanted to come back to this time schedule. We agreed about it at TC meeting in Lausanne and we installed following deadlines:
  - o March 31<sup>st</sup> – deadline for final entries
  - o April 6<sup>th</sup> – prepare game schedules according the mathematic formula and send it to organizer for review
  - o April 30<sup>th</sup> – deadline for discussion with organizers
  - o May 1<sup>st</sup> – publishing the game schedules

And how it worked?

- Two problems were found out by the procedure of preparing of game schedules. Unfortunately more obvious criteria missed by preparation game schedule, especially with the time between the games, dividing the games between two fields, gap during the hot weather in south countries, order of the games for each team etc... Second problem was with understanding of mathematic formula of second, third, fourth part of the competition. It was good from mathematic point of view, but not so clear for participants. It was the reason why the teams rather waited for exact naming of the teams in the slots for next part of the tournament to be sure.
- Really big problem was in communication with organizers. They didn't respond on time generally and if, they started communicate just before the tournament. Especially communication with Legnano regarding the schedule was so terrible, because they did not respect anything.
- We wanted to satisfy to organizers with their requests and it was the reason so many changes. We tried to react immediately and publish the news, but other requests to same tournament came again from organizers. I can accept some changes due to unexpected issue, like withdrawal of the team or other thing, but the primary communication with the organizers has to be closed during adequate period.

**EC ESF discussed whole issues about the game schedules and EC ESF decided on the autumn meeting based on experience of current year following instructions:**

- **Keep the deadlines of procedure of game schedule, maybe slightly postpone it. Middle of the May is OK for publishing of final version.**
- **Install the criteria for preparing of the game schedules including improvement of mathematic formula to be more understandable**
- **Strongly clear inform and strictly keep the predestinate time for communication with organizers regarding their requests**



## Player Licences:

The Player Licences Report very clear described the whole situation with player licences. Two National Federations (Dutch and Denmark twice) and four club teams (Moskovia Marino, Koksai Toptan Gernclik, Magos Tenerife and BCF Paris) violated deadline date.

In total eight duplicates were in 2009 for various tournaments. There are listed in the report. All duplicates were solved via e-mail communication. There are several Federations which don't know what PUP is and also at least one federation, which deliberately violated PUP rules. The situation with marking player Valentina Marazzi like "N" for Legnano is typical example of deliberately violation.

Two new things will be prepared for 2010 ESF Competitions. With respect to Libby Moss the default N will be changed on the Application Form – to leave it blank so that forces the Federations and Club to put in the correct one. Also new PUP fee 50 € will be charged with intention to reduce number of the duplicates and also to force the participating club teams to more serious work with selection of PUP.

## ESF tournaments 2009:

All 11 tournaments were played and finished on the fields and no any big problem was recognized during 2009 season. Some of the problems, which were occurred before the tournaments, were mentioned already above and all tournaments run more or less OK. During the tournaments Technical Commissioners recognized slight violations in Ledenice (ECHJB) and in Dupnitsa (ECWB and ECCS). Ledenice organized ESF tournament for first time and slight violations are because of this, but Dupnitsa already organized ESF tournament in the past and they repeated same problems. But all those problems are quite easy resolvable with helpfulness of organizers. Unfortunately the motivation of Legnano (ECWA) to host ESF event was quite different than expectation of ESF and most of the problems developed from this disproportion. Situation about the field in Valencia was already mentioned before.

New country was registered into to list of organizing country – Turkey. The problem with distance was already mentioned before. Tournament itself went finally even sometimes the question, which is more important – players and game itself or politics and all background around it – was on the table. We have to tolerate and accept the culture differences, but the EC will have to discuss this for future tournaments, as in our past the players were always more important.

## Umpires:

Very interesting point is mentioned in the assignment part of UIC report **"For fastpitch in the end 65 umpires were linked to participating teams and extra 37 extra neutral ESF umpires were assigned."** This is seriously key information about all procedures with umpires. It means than 36 % of all assignments don't reflect participating teams and consequently doesn't reflect the CR

36.03. about sending of umpires. The best example is EChJB – 4 teams and 4 umpires, but only one (ISR) was linked to participating team. Rest of them didn't. Where are the reasons why the percentage is so high?

- Economic crises: umpires have to be more careful with their work. But don't hide away the economic crises.
- Undisciplined umpires
- Personal management with umpires – the question is the affectivity of communication with national UIC and umpires, how the communicating ways are running, how is the power of national UIC with respect to regional, political and traditional differences etc.
- The implication is really high number of “negative points” for violation of umpire's regulations. Our goal is not to have so high the number of negative points. We have to have sufficient tools for adequate cover of ESF tournaments.
- ESF doesn't offer anything to umpires.

Another crucial issue is the categorization of umpires. Generally is good to have categories for selecting of umpires. But also criteria for using categorized umpires are needed. Also the umpires in each category have to be known. It is not secret information. Because if it is secret, some suspicion can occur. We have to have our categories like motivation for umpires to be better. Consequently to this also the selecting criteria for the tournaments have to be clearer and also differences between levels of the tournaments have to reflect kind of the categories of used umpires.

## Final words:

Finally let me thank to all of organizers to host the ESF tournaments in 2009. 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 2009! Your work is invaluable help!

Special thank to ESG Technical Director Mr. Bob Milosavljevic, UIC in Europe Ms. Marlies Struyvé and UIC assistant Mr. Gilbert Tobback for their excellent contribution.



Gabriel Waage  
ESF VP Technical



## *European Softball Federation* *Fédération Européenne Softball*

# **2009 Annual Report** **Président**

This first year of my second term as ESF Vice President has been very different from the past ones due to various reasons: It has been different because I have had new colleagues on the Executive Board, including the President. It has been different because the structure of some of the most important commissions of the ESF have been under revision to adapt them to a better quality of tournaments. But over all, it has been different because during most of the year we have been working and hoping for the best with regards to the Olympic Games and during the last quarter of the year we have been regretting the worst decision possible from the IOC and planning the future according to this decision. I guess many things will change for all the European softball family but we need to keep working and help each other to overcome the difficulties.

In the following paragraphs I will update you with the main activities that I have carried out during this year which include, but are not limited to, the Website and the Athletes commission.

### **ESF Website**

As responsible of the website I have been maintaining it by publishing more than 70 posts in the front page and many documents in the different sections of the site. The information posted is related not only to official information of the ESF but also to softball events from member federations and clubs. For this particular reason, a new section called "across Europe" was created to give a space for publication of any softball story in Europe. This is one of the differences in the website with regard to previous years since the idea is to make the site the main tool of official communication between the ESF and its affiliates and also make it more friendly to all softball fans and visitors.

The core of the website is not seen but of course there are many things that need to be done specially when having new colleagues on board. It means among other things, new accounts for email, new adjustments on the system and new instructions to be given. Due to new projects, new spaces need to be provided to host related information. This has been the case of the section "Newsletters" and it will be the case of the section "Umpires" in the near future together with other sections yet to be defined.

Even though some of this year's competitions have had results online with the play-by-play functionality through the organizers websites, the ESF through the Technical Commissioners of competitions has continued to publish in its website daily official results so everyone had access to results in the shortest possible period of time. The organization of this process was another success thanks to Mr. Gilbert Tobback who prepared the files for results prior to competitions.

As you can see, the website is continuously changing to improve and the number of visits are increasing tremendously. In 2008 we had 26,512 visits and during 2009 we have had twice as many visits as the previous year with a total of 50,165 visits and 197,965 pages visited.

For your information, I have included some data about website statistics for 2009 as Appendix 1 that I am sure you will find quite interesting. Maybe you think that the ESF website is only visited by

Europeans but you will discover that there are visits from the five different continents in the world. And if you look at visits per country you will see how many people near you visit our website. Statistics are a never ending story so I have chosen the ones I think you will enjoy more but of course, I stay at your disposal for any further information you would like to have about any other statistics or about the website itself.

### **ESF athletes commission**

A couple of months after the conclusion of last year's Congress, the ESF sent a questionnaire to member federations and one of the questions included asked for the nomination of an athlete representative to be included in the ESF Athletes Commission. Only 17 federations provided a name and e-mail and out of those, only 12 athletes representatives accepted the nomination. Thus, we have started working with this small group with the hope that more federations will nominate one athlete representative in the future. The only requirement to join this group is to be able to communicate in English to follow the communication net already created.

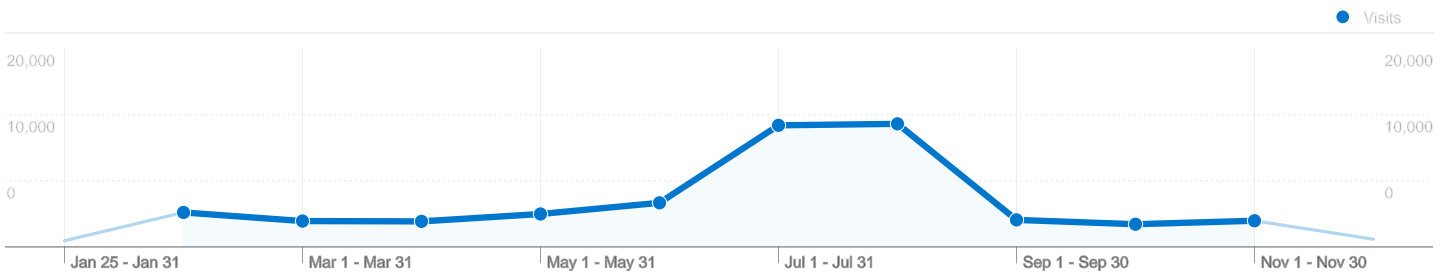
For your information, I am attaching a document with the objective and aim of the ESF Athletes Commission as Appendix 2.

In the following months, the ESF will continue working towards the growth of softball in Europe and the Website and Athletes Commission will be there ready to contribute to it.

Chiqui Vázquez  
ESF Vice President  
Athletes Commission & Website

## 2009 STATISTICS REPORT

Jan 25th - Dec 10th



## Site Usage

50,165 Visits

31.03% Bounce Rate

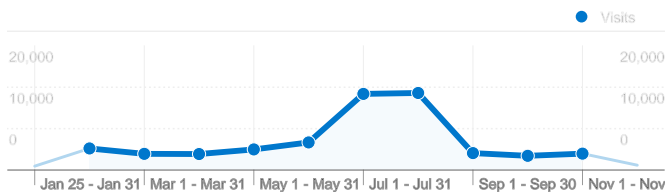
197,965 Pageviews

00:03:20 Avg. Time on Site

3.95 Pages/Visit

38.48% % New Visits

## Visits for all visitors

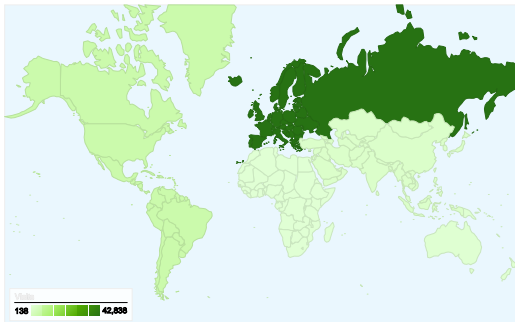


Visits  
50,165

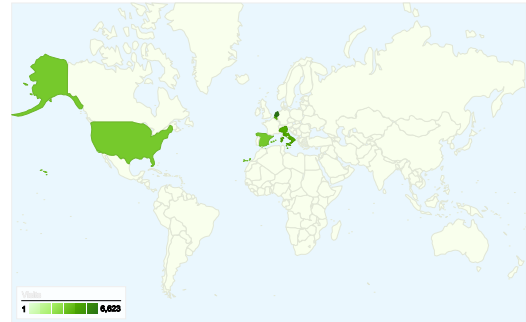
## Top Content

Page	Pageviews	% visits
/ = Home page	50,266	25.39%
/node/103 = Calendar of Events	20,087	10.15%
/node/272 = EChWA, Valencia (ESP)	8,505	4.30%
/node/169 = EChWB, Hoboken (ESP)	6,025	3.04%
/node/4 = Documents Library	4,952	2.50%

## Map Overlay world

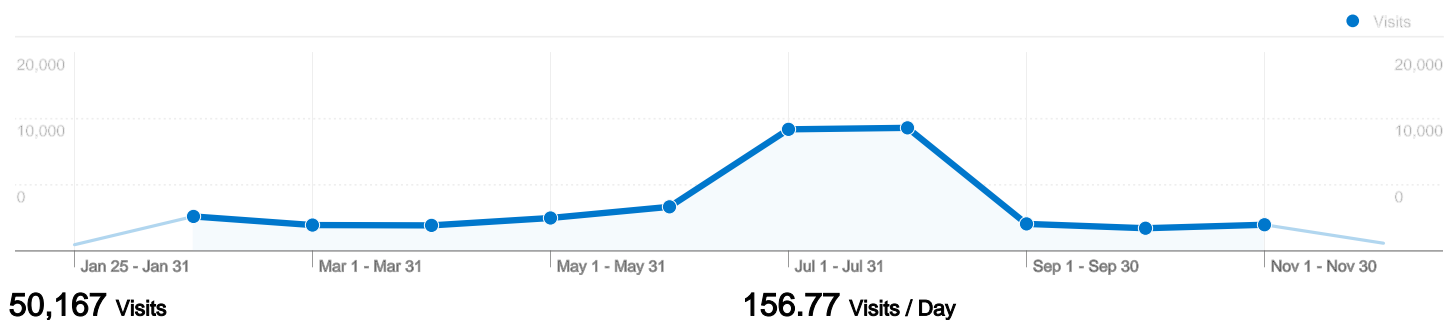


## Map Overlay world



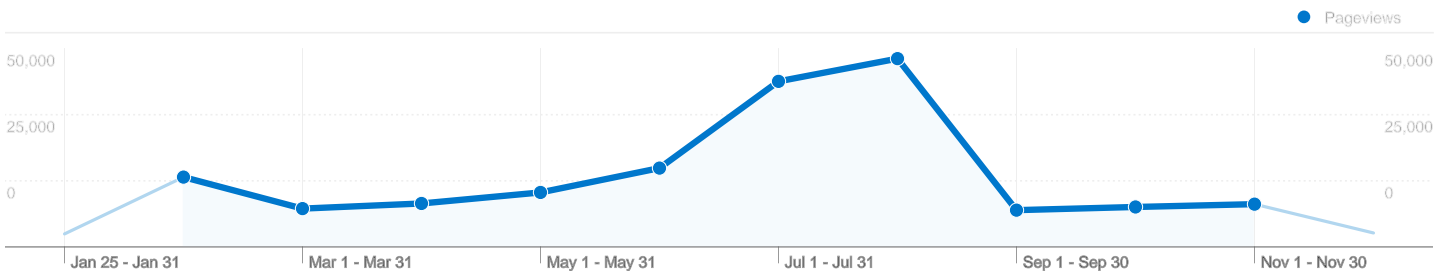
# Visits for all visitors

Jan 25th - Dec 10th



Jan 25, 2009 - Jan 31, 2009	1.25% (627)
Feb 1, 2009 - Feb 28, 2009	6.93% (3,478)
Mar 1, 2009 - Mar 31, 2009	5.20% (2,608)
Apr 1, 2009 - Apr 30, 2009	5.14% (2,576)
May 1, 2009 - May 31, 2009	6.62% (3,321)
Jun 1, 2009 - Jun 30, 2009	8.87% (4,448)
Jul 1, 2009 - Jul 31, 2009	24.45% (12,263)
Aug 1, 2009 - Aug 31, 2009	24.74% (12,411)
Sep 1, 2009 - Sep 30, 2009	5.43% (2,726)
Oct 1, 2009 - Oct 31, 2009	4.56% (2,289)
Nov 1, 2009 - Nov 30, 2009	5.26% (2,640)
Dec 1, 2009 - Dec 10, 2009	1.55% (778)

# Top Content



3,795 pages were viewed a total of 197,965 times

## Content Performance

Pageviews	Unique Pageviews	Avg. Time on Page	Bounce Rate	% Exit	
<b>197,965</b> % of Site Total: 100.00%	<b>142,178</b> % of Site Total: 100.00%	<b>00:01:07</b> Site Avg: 00:01:07 (> 0.00%)	<b>31.12%</b> Site Avg: 31.12% (-0.01%)	<b>25.27%</b> Site Avg: 25.27% (-0.00%)	
Page		Pageviews	Pageviews		
/	= Home page	50,266	<div></div>	<b>25.39%</b>	
/node/103	= Calendar of Events	20,087	<div></div>	<b>10.15%</b>	
/node/272	= EChWA, Valencia (ESP)	8,505	<div></div>	<b>4.30%</b>	
/node/169	= EChWB, Hoboken (ESP)	6,025	<div></div>	<b>3.04%</b>	
/node/4	= Documents Library	4,952	<div></div>	<b>2.50%</b>	
/node/330	= ECWB, Dupnitsa (BUL)	4,125	<div></div>	<b>2.08%</b>	
/node/17	= Directory	3,983	<div></div>	<b>2.01%</b>	
/node/329	= ECWA, Legnano (ITA)	3,618	<div></div>	<b>1.83%</b>	
/node/331	= ECWCWA, Parma (ITA)	3,599	<div></div>	<b>1.82%</b>	
/node/333	= ECM, Bagnaria Arsa (ITA)	3,181	<div></div>	<b>1.61%</b>	
1 - 10 of 3,795					



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## **ESF Athletes Commission**

November 2009

### **OBJECTIVE**

The role of the Athletes Commission is to make sure that the interests of athletes are protected by getting input from them and formulating procedures or rules that advance athletes' participation and representation in the development and administration of the sport. The ESF is interested to addressing concerns and issues that affect athletes. Therefore, the ESF encourages this commission to make recommendations to the Executive Council.

The Athletes Commission is composed of athletes' representatives appointed by the ESF member federations. This appointed group forms an information net that will help the ESF to hear the voice of all athletes throughout Europe.

Therefore, every softball athlete in Europe is welcomed to contact the athlete representative in his/her country to share any ideas or concerns with them.

### **RESPONSIBILITIES**

The work of these Athletes Commission members is based but not limited to the following:

- Get input and reviewing issues raised by softball athletes in Europe.
- Act as a link between them and the ESF.
- Make recommendations to the ESF Executive Council to improve all kinds of European competitions as well as the administrative aspects of our sport.
- Promote sportsmanship, ethical behavior and a drug free sport both in and out of competition.
- Reflect the values of the European Softball Federation as well as the Olympic Movement in all their actions.

### **WORKING PROCEDURE**

The members of the Athletes Commission stay in contact via e-mail and free software connections to discuss the different issues raised by European softball players. If recommendations are made they will be reported by the chair of the commission to the Executive Council who will approve and implement them whenever possible.

### **NOTE**

This is a non-political consulting body whose purpose is to offer advice and assistance to the ESF and in no way should be used as a tool for political positioning.

The Athletes Commission really has to have an impact on the sport and has to make it even more attractive to everyone: spectators, mass-media, managers, officials but specially players.





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## **Financial Report 2009**

It is clear from the 2009 results that one of the main goals, that have been achieved by the EC during the last year, is the contract concerning financial help from the ISF for the development of softball in Europe in the near future. Of course we regret that this was only established at the very end of 2009, so after all our competitions had finished, but it will give us a positive start for 2010.

You will find the ISF help in the amount of Sponsoring, in which amount is also included the help that on top of the above mentioned contract was given by the ISF in buying the high quality game balls that have been used during our 2009 tournaments.

As agreed by the new EC at the start of 2009 the penalties that have been in our rules for a long time already, need to be applied more strictly. This seems a less kind move, but it proved to be the only way to achieve a higher quality of our total administration. Not respecting dates, time limits and other rules can only damage our beloved sport.

You will understand that in the budget 2010 a high amount for development can be spent. The high quality that the EC and TC expect concerning game balls and awards, also require a substantial amount in this budget. However the new Rules and proposals concerning marketing and merchandising will hopefully cover an important part of this.

I am very happy to be able to say that the financial situation of the ESF has become much more stable again, but improving this in the future stays our target.

Eddy van Straelen  
E.S.F. treasurer



De Permentier Mark  
Boekhoudingen - fiscaliteit  
Granvellelaan 33  
2150 Borsbeek  
BTW BE 870.141.369  
Tel 0494/922.536  
Fax 03/295.62.11  
KBC 408-0090971-50

Aan: ESF  
Eddy Van Straelen / treasurer

Antwerp (Belgium), 13-11-2009.

Dear Sir,

After our meeting on Friday the 13 th of November 2009, in my office in Antwerp Belgium, I confirm the following ;

Your bookkeeping was established according to the Belgian legislations. My work was to establish the balance sheet (assets - liabilities) and income/expenses, bank statements.

All documents were at my disposal on this day.

Please note that i am prepared to do the same check next year.

Kind regards,

  
Mark De Permentier  
Bookkeeper BIBF



*European Softball Federation*  
*Fédération Européenne Softball*

11 rue de Larchant – 77760 RECLOSES – FRANCE – Tel. +33.5574.53508 – Fax +33.5577.89900448  
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# DOCUMENTS

<b>Motions Belgium (XII. 1)</b>
<b>Motions Great Britain (XII. 1)</b>
<b>Information Executive Council (XII. 2)</b>
<b>Motions Executive Council (XII. 2)</b>
<b>Amendments to the Statutes (XI)</b>
<b>Nominees for Organization of Competitions (XIII)</b>
Written Matters by Congress Committees (if any) will be communicated after the Congress Committees Meetings



*European Softball Federation  
Fédération Européenne Softball*



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

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

#### **Motion BEL 1 :**

Recommendation Executive Council: The EC does not favour this motion. The EC has proposed a new system for competitions and this Motion has no real affect on the number of games played.

#### **Motion BEL 2 :**

Recommendation Executive Council : The EC does not favour this motion. This is an internal NF affair and there cannot be any intervention by the ESF

#### **MOTION GBR 1 :**

Recommendation Executive Council : The ESF EC favours the following Articles proposed in this motion:

***9.01 An area designated for Press and Media use shall be available at each field of competition and for the entire duration of the competition, and located so as to provide a good and unobstructed view of the field of play.***

And:

***9.05. Copies of line-up sheets for each game in the competition shall be made available to press and media representatives in the Press and Media area or at a location designated by the Technical Commissioner not less than 15 minutes before the designated start time of each game.***

As to the other provisions in the Proposal the EC feels this is yet a provision needed.

#### **MOTION GBR 2 :**

Recommendation Executive Council: The ESF EC favours this motion

#### **MOTION GBR 3 :**

Recommendation Executive Council: The EC does not favour this proposal.

The ESF EC acknowledges that it is important to have adequate lighting for night games at ESF Tournaments, however, the costs and the difficulty of implementation of such measures is beyond the scope of the ESF.

#### **Comments by Legal Commission :**

All motions implying a change in writing of the Regulations subject to re-wording after approval.

# Belgium Softball Division

[info@belgiumsoftballdivision.be](mailto:info@belgiumsoftballdivision.be)

[www.belgiumsoftballdivision.be/cms](http://www.belgiumsoftballdivision.be/cms)

## E.S.F. Congress 2010

### Amendment to Rules and Regulations

#### PROPOSED CHANGE

Competition System 10.02.7

##### Curent text

*10.02.07. with 10 teams : Two groups "a" and "b" both of five teams.*

*Each group plays a single round robin.*

*Then teams ranked **1, 2 and 3 of both groups** play a single round robin "c" in which the games between these teams of the first round robins "a" and "b" will also be considered as a played game for this round robin "c".*

*Teams ranked 4 and 5 of both groups play a single round robin "d" in which the games between these teams of the first round robins "a" and "b" will also be considered as a played game for this round robin "d".*

*Teams ranked 1 to 4 of round robin "c" then play the "Page System" finals.*

*Teams ranked 5 and 6 of round robin "c" will respectively be 5th and 6th in the Competition.*

*The final results of round robin "d" will determine the places 7 to 10 in the Competition.*

##### New Proposal

*10.02.07. with 10 teams : Two groups "a" and "b" both of five teams.*

*Each group plays a single round robin.*

*Then teams **ranked 1 and 2 of both groups** play a single round robin "c" in which the games between these teams of the first round robins "a" and "b" will also be considered as a played game for this round robin "c".*

*Teams ranked 1 to 4 of round robin "c" then play the "Page System" finals.*

*Teams ranked **3, 4 and 5 of both groups play a single round robin "d" in which the games between these teams of the first round robins "a" and "b" will also be considered as a played game for this round robin "d"***

*The final results of round robin "d" will determine the places **5** to 10 in the Competition.*

##### Rationale:

In all competitions the "Page System" starts afther the first round or afther a second round with the top 4 teams (1 and 2 of each group)

There is a discrepancy in the system because the logical build-up is changed in the schedule for 10 teams,

here the second round robin is played with the top 6 teams.

This is not only illogical but gives a overloaded programme.

This means that Thursdays and Fridays are heavily overloaded and give no possibility for rain delayed games

which brings the "Page System" in danger of not being played or finished



# Belgium Softball Division

[info@belgiumsoftballdivision.be](mailto:info@belgiumsoftballdivision.be)

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## E.S.F. Congress 2010

### Amendment to Rules and Regulations

#### PROPOSED CHANGE

“Administration Regulations” **New article n° 11**

or

“Competition Regulations” **New article n° 14.04**

**A player is not allowed to play in two countries in the same year.**

**But a player can act as a pick-up player for another team (neither of the same country or another country) in a European Cup Competition.**

Jacques Reinenbergh  
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British Softball Federation  
PO Box 62664  
LONDON EC1R 4WW

## **Motions for Congress**

### **PROPOSING FEDERATION:**

British Softball Federation

### **CURRENT REGULATION (if applicable):**

Technical Regulation extension.

### **PROPOSED REGULATION CHANGE:**

9.01 An area designated for Press and Media use shall be available at each field of competition and for the entire duration of the competition, and located so as to provide a good and unobstructed view of the field of play.

9.02. A sign saying "Reserved for Press and Media" shall be displayed at this area and the area shall be reserved for persons with media accreditation for the tournament or others at the discretion of the tournament organisers or the Technical Commissioner.

9.03. This Press and Media area shall be protected from the weather and shall consist (at a minimum) of a table large enough for use by two people and two chairs.

9.04. If possible, the Press and Media area should be equipped with electrical connections and a broadband internet connection or wi-fi reception. Where this is not possible, these facilities shall be available for press and media use elsewhere within the tournament complex.

9.05. Copies of line-up sheets for each game in the competition shall be made available to press and media representatives in the Press and Media area or at a location designated by the Technical Commissioner not less than 15 minutes before the designated start time of each game.

9.06. Where access to competition fields for filming of games is required (as opposed to print or website journalism), tournament organisers, provided they are given sufficient notice, will make every effort to comply with the technical requirements of the company or organisation doing the filming.

### **REASON FOR CHANGE:**

This section is a logical outcome of the fact that many ESF tournaments require and issue media accreditation. If adopted all subsequent Technical Regulations shall be renumbered accordingly.

### **DATE OF EFFECT OF CHANGE:**

Competitions in 2010



British Softball Federation  
PO Box 62664  
LONDON EC1R 4WW

## **Motions for Congress**

### **PROPOSING FEDERATION:**

British Softball Federation

#### **CURRENT REGULATION (if applicable):**

01.04. The European Cups for Women shall be played each year in the third complete week of August. The European Cups for Men shall be played each year in the fourth complete week of August. If special reasons require so, the Executive Council may change these dates.

#### **PROPOSED REGULATION CHANGE:**

01.04. The European Cup for Co-Ed Slowpitch shall be played in the first complete week of August. The European Cups for Women shall be played each year in the third complete week of August. The European Cups for Men shall be played each year in the fourth complete week of August. If special reasons require so, the Executive Council may change these dates.

#### **REASON FOR CHANGE:**

Each year the ECCS is on a different date. This can cause stress for teams wishing to enter as they are not sure of the dates. If teams are aware that the competition will be held at the same time each year, players can plan their vacation 8 months in advance (given that the competition entries are submitted before 1 January of the year of competition).

#### **DATE OF EFFECT OF CHANGE:**

Competitions in 2010





British Softball Federation  
PO Box 62664  
LONDON EC1R 4WW

## **Motions for Congress**

### **PROPOSING FEDERATION:**

British Softball Federation

### **CURRENT REGULATION (if applicable):**

New Regulation

### **PROPOSED REGULATION CHANGE:**

A clause should be added to the **Playing Field Requirements** section of the **ESF Technical Regulations 2009** as follows:

**13.04** Where fields used for ESF Championship fastpitch competition are floodlit and are used for games at night, minimum lighting levels as measured on the field must be 500 lux in the infield and 300 lux in the outfield with a maximum/minimum ratio of 1.5 or less.

### **REASON FOR CHANGE:**

At this year's EChWA competition, the lighting levels at both fields were poor. It is important that lighting is of an acceptable standard.

These levels are Class II levels as drawn up by Philips for GAISF, and are recommended for "regional" competition with no television coverage, which would seem to be a desirable level for ESF Championship competition. However, Class III levels are 300 and 200 lux in the infield and outfield respectively, so this is within minimum levels of acceptability as far as safety is concerned. Perhaps the Class III standard could be specified as the minimum requirement for ESF Cup fastpitch competition and for Championship and Cup slowpitch competition.

### **DATE OF EFFECT OF CHANGE:**

Competitions in 2010



*European Softball Federation*  
*Fédération Européenne Softball*



## **INFORMATION**

### **Amendment Nr. 1 to the C.R.**

### **Adopted by the Executive Council**

**Subject : SLOWPITCH**

**C.R. 41.01 and 41.02 (amended); 41.03 (41.03.01- 41.03.09 ), 41.04 (41.04.01–41.04.06) (added)**

**Author : Technical and Competitions Commission**

#### **Present writing :**

##### **41.01. PLAYERS**

The number of Players is ten (10) : Same as Fastpitch plus an extra fielder. Ten Players, five (5) males and five(5) females : Two (2) males and two (2) females in both the infield and outfield, and one (1) male and one (1) female as pitcher and catcher.

#### **Proposed writing :**

##### **41.01 PLAYERS**

The number of Players is ten (10): the same as Fastpitch plus an extra outfielder. The ten Players must consist of five (5) males and five (5) females: two (2) males and two (2) females in both the infield and outfield, and one (1) male and one (1) female as pitcher and catcher.

ooo

#### **Present writing :**

##### **41.02. BATTING ORDER**

The Batting Order shall alternate the genders.

#### **Proposed writing :**

##### **41.02 Batting Order**

The batting order shall alternate male and female batters, but can start with either gender.

ooo

#### **Present writing :**

None

#### **Proposed writing :**

##### **41.03. - COMPETITION SYSTEM [amended]**

###### **41.03.01.**

Four teams: triple round robin.

Teams ranked 1-4 play the Page System Playoff.

Minimum/Maximum Games per Team: 10/12

Round Robin Games: 18

Total Games: 22

###### **41.03.02.**

Five teams: triple round robin.

Teams ranked 1-4 play the Page System Playoff.

Team ranked 5 will be fifth in the competition.

Minimum/Maximum Games per Team: 12/15

Round Robin Games: 30

Total Games: 34



**41.03.03.**

Six teams: double round robin.

Teams ranked 1-4 play the [Page System Playoff](#).

Teams ranked 5 and 6 play against each other to determine places 5 and 6.

Minimum/Maximum Games per Team: 11/13

Round Robin Games: 30

Total Games: 35

**41.03.04.**

Seven teams: double round robin.

Teams ranked 1-4 play the [Page System Playoff](#).

Teams ranked 5-7 play a single round robin to determine places 5, 6 and 7.

Minimum/Maximum Games per Team: 13/15

Round Robin Games: 42

Total Games: 49

**41.03.05.**

Eight teams: single round robin.

Teams ranked 1-4 play the [Page System Playoff](#).

Teams ranked 5-8 play a Page System to determine places 5, 6, 7 and 8.

Minimum/Maximum Games per Team: 8/10

Round Robin Games: 28

Total Games: 36

**41.03.06.**

Nine teams: single round robin.

Teams ranked 1-4 play the [Page System Playoff](#).

Team ranked 9 will be ninth in the competition.

Teams ranked 5-8 play a Page System to determine places 5, 6, 7 and 8.

Minimum/Maximum Games per Team: 8/11

Round Robin Games: 36

Total Games: 44

**41.03.07.**

Ten teams: single round robin.

Teams ranked 1-4 play the [Page System Playoff](#).

Teams ranked 5-6 play each other to determine places 5 and 6.

Teams ranked 7-8 play each other to determine places 7 and 8.

Teams ranked 9-10 play each other to determine places 9 and 10.

Minimum/Maximum Games per Team: 10/12

Round Robin Games: 45

Total Games: 52

**41.03.08.**

Eleven teams: two groups – one of five teams “a” and one of 6 teams “b”.

Each group plays a single round robin.

Teams ranked 1, 2 and 3 in both groups play a single round robin “c” in which the games between these teams in the first round “a” and “b” will also be considered as played games for this round robin “c”.

Teams ranked 4, 5 and 6 of both groups play a single round robin “d” in which the games between these teams in the first round “a” and “b” will also be considered as played games for this round robin “d”.

Teams ranked 1-4 in round robin “c” then play the [Page System Playoff](#).

Teams ranked 5 and 6 in round robin “c” play each other to determine places 5 and 6.

Teams ranked 1-4 in round robin “d” then play a Page System [Playoff](#) to determine places 7, 8, 9 and 10.

The team placed fifth in round robin “d” will be placed 11<sup>th</sup>.

Minimum/Maximum Games per Team: 7/11

Round Robin Games: 40

Total Games: 49

**41.03.09.**

Twelve teams: two groups “a” and “b”, both of six teams.

Each group plays a single round robin.

Then teams ranked 1 and 2 of both groups play a single round robin “c” in which the games between these teams in the first round robins “a” and “b” will also be considered as played games for this round robin “c”.

Teams ranked 3 and 4 in groups “a” and “b” play a single round robin “d” in which the games between these teams of the first round robins “a” and “b” will also be considered as played games for this round robin “d”.



# European Softball Federation Fédération Européenne Softball

Teams ranked 5 and 6 in groups "a" and "b" play a single round robin "e" in which the games between these teams of the first round robins "a" and "b" will also be considered as played games for this round robin "d".

Teams ranked 1-4 in round robin "c" then play the [Page System Playoff](#).

Teams ranked 1-4 in round robin "d" play a Page System [Playoff](#) to determine Places 5, 6, 7 and 8.

Teams ranked 1-4 in round robin "e" play a Page System [Playoff](#) to determine Places 9, 10, 11 and 12.

Minimum/Maximum Games per Team: 8/10

Round Robin Games: 39

Total Games: 51

ooo

## Present writing :

None

## Proposed writing

### **41.04 FIELD, SCHEDULE AND COMPETITION REQUIREMENTS**

All ESF slowpitch co-ed competitions shall be conducted according to the following regulations:

**41.04.01:** Play in ESF slowpitch co-ed competitions shall begin no earlier than Tuesday of the competition week and can, at the discretion of the Technical Commission, begin on Wednesday or (in the case of a four-team competition with two available competition fields only) on Thursday.

**41.04.02:** Games will be scheduled at intervals of one hour and fifty minutes.

**41.04.03:** Any competition that consists of more than four entries will require two competition fields. The assumption is that a maximum of 6 games per field per day can be played, or 12 games per day in total, assuming no disruption by weather or other circumstances. If Saturday is reserved for Page Playoff and other placing games, then the maximum number of round robin games that can be played is as follows:

- |  |    |
|--|----|
| ➤ In a competition beginning on Thursday:    | 24 |
| ➤ In a competition beginning on Wednesday: " | 36 |
| ➤ In a competition beginning on Tuesday:     | 48 |

**41.04.04:** The minimum number of games that a team can be scheduled to play on one full competition day (not shortened by weather or other circumstances and apart from the final day of competition) is two. The maximum number of games that a team can be scheduled to play on one full competition day is four.

**41.04.05:** The minimum outfield fence distance from home plate (unless special compensation is granted by the Technical Commission) will be 275 feet (83.82 metres).

**41.04.06:** All ESF slowpitch co-ed competitions will be conducted with 11-inch balls when females are batting and 12-inch balls when males are batting.

## Reasons for change

The development of slow-pitch tournaments and the growth of the slow-pitch community brings us to the point where organizing slow-pitch tournaments consists of several elements, which are different than fast pitch. Facilities, number of the games a day and during the whole tournament for each team, duration of the competition, balls etc.

The Slow-pitch community has different expectations and different requirements than fast pitch. These differences conflict with the existing ESF Competitions Regulations. The most visible is it in article 10.02, which determines the competition system.

Slow-pitch Development Commissioner Bob Fromer was asked to review the ESF CR and he prepared the redefinition of article 41 **SPECIFIC REGULATIONS FOR SLOWPITCH COED COMPETITIONS**. This newly formulated article 41 will be valid from season 2010.

## Date of effect

30<sup>TH</sup> October 2009



*European Softball Federation*  
*Fédération Européenne Softball*



## **INFORMATION**

### **Amendment Nr. 2 to the C.R.**

### **Adopted by the Executive Council**

**Subject :** EUROPEAN ELITE CUP WOMEN (EECW)  
C.R. 01.03.03 ( European Elite Cup Women), 01.04.01, 04.05, 04.05.01 (all new articles)

**Author :** Technical and Competitions Commission

**Present writing :**

None

**Proposed writing :**

**01.03.03** The European Elite Cup Women (EECW) for 4 National Teams in Europe and 4 from the rest of the World

**01.04.01** The EECW shall be played every other year starting from year 2010 at dates to be determined insofar the do not conflict with Cups and Championships

**04.05** The EECW for maximum eight (8) teams, maximum four (4) European and maximum four (4) non European teams.

All participants of the EECW are responsible for their own expenses (travel costs, accommodation and meals)

All other responsibilities are according to the Competitions Regulations for ESF tournaments.

The Entry Fee is the same as the Entry Fee for the European Championship Women A (EChWA).

**04.05.01** European participating teams are determined from EChWA in previous year according following procedure:

Top four teams from previous EChWA participate in European Elite Cup Women is guaranteed

If any team from the top four teams declines this right, may be replaced by another team according to the final standings of the previous EChWA

Maximum up to sixth place of the final standing of the previous EChWA will be allowed to participate

If the organizer approved by the ESF Congress is not among top of four teams with the right top participate in the European Elite Cup Women, the number of European teams will increase up to five, but the number of participating teams in total shall stay eight

**Reasons for change**

The 1<sup>st</sup> attempt in having the European Elite Cup Women was unsuccessful as we were unable to find a federation willing to Organize the Competition. The conditions that were in place were too much of a monetary burden on the Organizer.

The objective is to enable the top four European teams to play in a competitive tournament with potential overseas teams. This will enhance European teams to achieve world class level.

The Organizers were charged with the costs of room and board for all the teams, a burden no organizer could carry out, thus we have decided to change the obligations and leave them as they are for all other Competitions in Europe.

These conditions for the European Elite Cup Women will be valid from season 2010 and will be enforced for European Elite Cup Women 2010.

**Date of effect**

30<sup>TH</sup> October 2009



*European Softball Federation*  
*Fédération Européenne Softball*



## **INFORMATION**

### **Amendment Nr. 3 to the T.R.**

### **Adopted by the Executive Council**

**Subject : ADDITIONS TO PLAYING FIELD REQUIREMENTS**  
**Technical Regulation, 09.01**

**Author : Technical and Competitions Commission**

**Present writing :**

**09.01.** All playing fields must conform to I.S.F. and ESF Rules.

**Proposed writing :**

**09.01** All Playing fields must conform to ISF and ESF Rules and will be divided into three (3) Levels of Competition ratings as follows:

Level A – Elite ESF Competitions

Competitions: EChWA, ECEW, ECWA, EChM

Necessary conditions for potential organizers:

two regular size diamonds

both fields have clay sand infield and grass outfield

both fields have complete fences

both fields have roofed dugouts

main field have electronic scoreboard

main field is lighted

main field have stand for minimum 400 spectators

venue have special space for warming and batting

venue have infrastructure for spectators

Level B – High ESF Competitions

Competitions: EChWB, EChU22G, EChJG, EChCG, ECWCWA, ECWB, ECM, ECWCM

Necessary conditions for potential organizers:

two regular size diamonds

main field have clay sand infield and grass outfield

main field have complete fences

both fields have roofed dugouts

main field have electronic scoreboard

main field have stand for minimum 200 spectators

venue have infrastructure for spectators



# *European Softball Federation* *Fédération Européenne Softball*

## Level C – Development ESF Competitions

Competitions: EChJB, EChMG, ECWCWB

Necessary conditions for potential organizers:

one regular size diamond

space for second field at disposal

field have complete fences

field have roofed dugouts

stand for spectators

## Reasons for change

ESF is organizing during two years period in total 11 kinds of European Championships and in total 7 kinds of European Cups. This number of competitions counts with both kinds of tournaments, fast-pitch and slow-pitch, and also A and B pools, if those pools are played. The differences between those competitions are very big and from those differences follow several needs. Also expectations and demands of players, coaches and spectators are different. Those differences are not only level of the performance, but also quality of the venue and conditions of organizers.

The division into three levels is in according to the prestige of the tournament including necessary conditions, which has to be completed or guaranteed before allocation of the tournament. An independent group will be the slow-pitch competitions, which have more specifics announced in article 41 CR.

The Form for bids for organizing ESF tournaments will be upgraded according previous principles. Integral part of bidding procedure is fully filled Inspection Form.

## Date of effect

**30<sup>TH</sup> October 2009**



*European Softball Federation*  
*Fédération Européenne Softball*



## **MOTION PROPOSED BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL Nr. EC-01-a**

**Subject : NEW STRUCTURE OF ESF COMPETITIONS 2010 – 2012  
DOCUMENT FOR DISCUSSION**

**Author : Technical and Competitions Commission**

The discussion about the restructuring of ESF competitions started already several years ago, most recently, during the Tournament and Technical Committee at the 2008 ESF Congress in Athens and at the 2009 ESF Congress in Lausanne.. In Lausanne it was promised that comprehensive materials will be published in the middle of this year. Drafts of this proposal was introduced at the ESF Executive Council in April and detailed at the TC meeting in May. We are now presenting this proposal to our National Federations for their opinions. Please feel free to give us your comments. We will be discussing the proposal between now and the forthcoming 2910 Congress where, at the Competition Committee meeting prior to this Congress, the final decisions will be made.

This proposal consists of a new structure for ESF Competitions in 2010 – 2012. The proposal consists of following items:

- New structure of European Championships
- Structure of European Cups

The EC ESF approved at its meeting in Valencia during the European Championship Women A changes in the ESF Competition Regulations, which will take effect for competitions in 2010:

- Specifics for slow-pitch tournaments –article 41 Competition Regulations
- Elite Cup
- Conditions for organizers of ESF tournaments





*European Softball Federation*  
*Fédération Européenne Softball*



## **MOTION PROPOSED BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL Nr. EC-02**

**Subject : NEW STRUCTURE OF EUROPEAN CUPS  
DOCUMENT FOR DISCUSSION**

**Author : Technical and Competitions Commission**

For several reasons, European Cup competitions are run differently from European Championships. The reasons include, among others, the number of teams participating and the frequency of the events. Because of this, and due primarily to the fact that Cups draw more teams than Championships, holding a larger tournament – as is the case with our proposal for a New Structure of European Competitions 2010-2012 – is not on the table. The format of Cup competitions will remain unchanged and no changes to CR 09.01.02 are proposed.

The following will, however, change:

1. the competitions system;
2. all other consequences will follow, in particular, cross play offs will be implemented (what we propose for New Structure of European Championship will apply); and
3. promotions and relegations will also come into force, as will be the case with the New Structure of the European Championships.

### **Date of effect**

At the close of the 2010 Congress



*European Softball Federation*  
*Fédération Européenne Softball*



## **MOTION PROPOSED BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL Nr. EC-03**

**Subject : EUROPEAN COMPETITIONS DEFINITIONS - C.R. 01.00 (amended)**

**Author : Executive Council**

### **Present writing :**

**01.00.** The ESF organizes, in accordance with its Regulations, the Softball Competitions in Europe, to be referred to as the "European Competitions":

### **Proposed writing :**

**01.00.** The ESF organizes, in accordance with its Statutes and Regulations, Softball competitions in Europe, to be referred to as "ESF Competitions". ESF Competitions include the following:

- "European Championships": Softball competitions involving national teams from Affiliated Federations;
- "European Cup Competitions": Softball competitions involving Club teams from Affiliated Federations;
- "European Elite Cup Competitions": Softball competitions for qualifying national teams from Affiliated Federations and, depending on the Competition, non-European National teams.

### **Reasons for change**

Clarify types of ESF competitions

### **Date of effect**

At the close of the 2010 Congress



*European Softball Federation*  
*Fédération Européenne Softball*



## **MOTION PROPOSED BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL Nr. EC-04**

**Subject : CHOICE OF ORGANIZERS OF EUROPEAN COMPETITIONS (Experimental)**

**Author : Secretary General**

According to the Statutes the choice of Organizers of Competitions is decided by the whole Congress. This means that the organizer of Competition is decided by at least 2/3 of Federations which will not participate to said Competition.

This situation has been debated with participating Teams to Competitions, the Technical Commission, and the Executive Council.

It is true that in the ideal Organizers should be chosen by the Teams which will participate to the Competition and not by all the ESF. However, this is in contradiction with the Swiss Law for which "one Member one Vote".

We therefore propose, ON AN EXPERIMENTAL BASIS, the following procedural change :

There will be, in case several candidatures have been received for the organization of a Competition, a pre-selection of the Competition Organizer during the Congress Competitions and Technical Committee meeting. For each Competition to select, the Selection Committee will be made of the Federations being rated in the relevant division for said Competition (Reserve ratings excluded).

Organizers will have the possibility to make a presentation to the appropriate selection Committee before the selection.

Votes of each selection Committee will be controlled by the Chair of the Congress Technical & Competitions Committee.

The Selection made during the Congress Technical & Competitions Committee meeting shall be presented to the Congress as the Committee recommendation and shall not be subject to additional voting.

However, should a Candidate Organizer wish to contest the decision of the Selection Committee, than there should be a motion to propose a vote by the General Congress in accordance with the Statutes.

### **Date of effect**

Effective for Congress 2010



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## **MOTION PROPOSED BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL Nr. EC-05**

**Subject : CANDIDATES FOR ORGANIZING A COMPETITION**

**C.R. 24.01.01 (amended), 24.01.01.01 (added), 24.01.01.02 (added), 24.01.01.03 (added),  
24.01.02 (amended), 24.01.02.01 (added), 24.03 (amended)**

**Author : Executive Council**

### **Present writing :**

24. 01. 01. The Federation or Club that wishes to host a European Competition shall present its candidature to the ESF Headquarters, together with a payment of a bona fide deposit of 20 per cent of the guarantee sum specified for organizing this Competition at least 90 days prior to the date of the Annual General Congress which shall decide of the appointment of Organizers. The Competition should have two fields, except for Minime and Cadets Competitions where, depending on the expected number of teams that will enter the competition, candidatures with only one field may be accepted. In case of having only one field it should be provided with artificial light.

### **Proposed writing :**

**24.01.01.** Every candidature to host a European Competition must 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 at least 90 days prior to the date of the Annual General Congress, which shall consider and act upon any nomination duly presented for consideration.

**24.01.01.01** Every candidature to host a European Competition shall be on the forms prescribed by the Executive Council and shall be signed by the candidate (organizer) and the Affiliated Federation. The forms shall contain all relevant information required by the Executive Council, acting in its sole discretion, to enable an informed decision to be made.

**24.01.01.02.** The performance of the competition host shall be endorsed by the Affiliated Federation involved, which may include appropriate insurance to cover those contingencies notified to the Affiliated Federation by the Executive Council or the Technical Commission.

**24.01.01.03.** Every competition venue must conform to T.R. 09.01.

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### **Present writing :**

**24.01.02.** The Candidature must clearly propose a date and the exact location where the competition will take place if appointed so in case of a vote among various bids to host a competition, Delegates can choose not only the country but also the city and date.



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### **Proposed writing :**

**24.01.02.** Every candidature for a European Championship must clearly propose a date and the exact location where this competition will take place. Every Candidate for a Cup Competition must give the exact location where this competition will take place.

**24.01.02.01.** All properly completed forms with the correct fee shall constitute a Nomination for purposes of the Statutes and shall be considered as provided for in the Statutes and these Regulations.

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### **Present writing :**

**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 before February 15th of the year in which the Competition is played. The balance of 50 per cent of this guarantee sum shall be paid at the latest forty days before the starting date of the Competition.

The guarantee sum paid by the candidate Organizers not appointed, will be refunded.

### **Proposed writing :**

**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 in which the Competition is played. The balance of 50 per cent of this guarantee sum shall be paid at the latest forty days before the starting date of the Competition.

The guarantee sum paid by the candidate Organizers not appointed, will be refunded.

### **Reasons for change**

In order to upgrade our Competitions to higher standard of professionalism

### **Date of effect**

At the close of the 2010 Congress



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## **MOTION PROPOSED BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL Nr. EC-06**

**Subject : SCOREKEEPING SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS  
C.R. 30.01 (amended)**

**Author : Technical & Competitions Commission**

### **Present writing :**

**30.01.** The host Federation or Club shall appoint at least one official scorekeeper for each game and provide them with softball-specific scoring sheets. Scorekeepers shall be experienced in softball and qualified for their function. The List of assigned Scorers shall be sent to the Technical Commission at least one month before the beginning of the Competition.

During the scorekeeping they shall be accommodated in a "Scoring House" near the field as mentioned in the Technical Regulations.

Immediately after each game the scorecards shall be available for the Technical Committee.

### **Proposed writing :**

**30.01.** The host Federation or Club shall appoint at least one official scorekeeper for each game ~~and provide them with softball-specific scoring sheets.~~ Scorekeepers shall be experienced in softball and qualified for their function. The List of assigned Scorers shall be sent to the Technical Commission at least one month before the beginning of the Competition. From 2010, softball-specific scoring sheets or electronic scoring/score-keeping systems may be used. From 2011, only electronic scoring/score-keeping systems may be used.

During the scorekeeping they shall be accommodated in a "Scoring House" near the field as mentioned in the Technical Regulations.

Immediately after each game the scorecards shall be available for the Technical Committee.

### **Reasons for change**

In order to upgrade our Competitions to higher standard of professionalism

### **Date of effect**

At the close of the 2010 Congress



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## **MOTION PROPOSED BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL Nr. EC-07**

**Subject : BATS CONTROL PROCEDURE**

**Author : Technical and Competitions Commission**

**Proposal:** Use ISF bat control procedure only at all ESF competitions since season 2010.

### **Rationale:**

1. ISF Congress 2009 didn't integrate both procedures (ISF and ASA), like was declared to European Federations with application of ASA non approved list of the bats. The Congress has announced that only ISF bat control procedure will be used at all ISF events during next 4 periods
2. ISF Congress changed the schedule of ISF World Championships, which will be played every 2 years. It means all European Championships men's, women's, junior men's and junior women's will be qualifier for world championships since 2011 (ECHJG 2010 is also qualifier for World Championship 2011). More players will be faced to dual procedure.

Note:

This issue is not technical issue. This is typical political issue.

If adopted the C.R. will be amended accordingly.

### **Date of effect**

At the close of the 2010 Congress



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## **MOTION PROPOSED BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL Nr. EC-08**

**Subject : EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP U22 GIRLS IN ODD YEARS**

**Author : 1<sup>ST</sup> Vice President**

**Proposal:** To move the Championship from the even to the odd years, starting from 2011.

**Rationale:**

1. Different players of the U22 are the same players of the U19. Shifting the EChU22 competition in the odd year, we support every year the youth program in two very close age-groups.
2. Since the EChU22G and the EECW have been created there are four female competitions in the even year (EChEW, EChU22W, EChJG, EChMG) and only two in the odd years (EChWA-B and EChCG).

If adopted the C.R. will be amended accordingly and the bid will be opened for 2011 Championship.

**Date of effect**

At the close of the 2010 Congress.





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## **MOTION PROPOSED BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL Nr. EC-09**

**Subject : PLAYERS – Add Fee for Pick-Up Players – C.R. 14.06.05 (new article)  
FINANCIAL APPENDIX - Competition Entry Fee (new fee)**

**Author : Executive Council**

### **Present writing :**

None

### **Proposed writing:**

**14.06.05** For each Pick-Up Player listed in the Application Form for Licences (C.R. 16.02), the Club has to pay a fee, which amount is indicated in the Financial Appendix. The sum shall be received by the ESF Treasurer at the latest forty five (45) days before the opening date of the tournament. Late payment of the fee is subject to the assessment of a penalty, which amount is determined by the Executive Council.

### **FINANCIAL APPENDIX**

#### **II – COMPETITION ENTRY FEES**

b) European Cups	3) Pick-Up Players (per player)	50.00 €
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### **Reasons for change**

To help ensure registration of each Pick-Up Player for one team only.

### **Date of effect**

At the close of the 2010 Congress



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## **MOTION PROPOSED BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL Nr. EC-10**

**Subject : RATINGS – C.R. 09.05.02 (amended)**

**Author : Executive Council**

### **Present writing :**

**09.05.02.** Teams that subscribe for the first time in a given European Competition receive a specific N rating, their rank within this rating being defined in the order of arrival of subscriptions.  
Hierarchically the N rating is below the rating of the lowest existing Division for said Competition, but above the rating of the Reserve Division.

### **Proposed writing :**

**09.05.02.** Teams that subscribe for the first time in a given European Competition receive a specific N rating, their rank within this rating being defined in the order of arrival of subscriptions.  
Hierarchically the N rating is below the rating of the lowest existing Division for said Competition, and below the rating of the Reserve Division.

### **Reasons for change**

More logical that a new subscribing entry be below a reserve who might not have played one year but has played in the past .

### **Date of effect**

At the close of the 2010 Congress



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## **MOTION PROPOSED BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL Nr. EC-11**

**Subject : STATUTES – Secretary General**  
**5.2.3 (amended), 5.2.4 (deleted) and 5.2.5 (renumbered as 5.2.4 and amended)**

**Author : Secretary General**

### **Present writing :**

**5.2.3.** The Secretary General shall draw up and keep the Official Minutes of the General Congresses and Meetings of the Executive Council.

**5.2.4.** The Secretary General shall keep copy of all Official correspondence to and from the ESF.

**5.2.5.** In general, the Secretary General shall ensure of and control the regularity and the legality of the procedures and acts of the Members and Institutions of the ESF with respect to the Statutes and Regulations of the ESF. Ipso facto the Secretary General is by right Chairman of the Legal Commission

### **Proposed writing :**

**5.2.3.** The Secretary General shall ~~draw up and~~ keep the Official Statutes and Regulations, the Official Minutes of the General Congresses, the Minutes of the Meetings of the Executive Council and the Official correspondence to and from the ESF.

**5.2.4** Deleted

Old 5.2.5 renumbered:

**New 5.2.4** In general, the Secretary General shall ensure of and control the regularity and the legality of the procedures and acts of the Members and Institutions of the ESF with respect to the Statutes and Regulations of the ESF. Ipso facto the Secretary General is by right Member of the Legal Commission

### **Reasons for change**

Clarify the responsibilities of the Secretary General.

Art. 5.2.5 was tailored for a Secretary General who was also a Lawyer. It is possible that the next Secretary General do not have a specific legal background, and in this case their chairing of the legal Commission may prove difficult. We may also have in the panel of volunteers somebody specialized in law who could ensure the chairmanship of the Legal Commission. In any case the Secretary General would remain a member by right of the Legal Commission.

### **Date of effect**

At the close of the 2010 Congress.

It would be one the first tasks of the Executive Council to appoint the Chairman of the Legal Commission.



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## **MOTION PROPOSED BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL Nr. EC-12**

**Subject : STATUTES – Treasurer - art. 5.3.4 (amended)**

**Author : Secretary General**

### **Present writing :**

**5.3.4.** The Treasurer receives and gives receipts, prepares the annual budget for approval of the Executive Council, prepares the annual financial statements, reviews accounts in order to regulate income and expenditures, and prepares periodical financial statements for the Executive Council. Ipso facto the Treasurer is by right Chairman of the Financial Commission.

### **Proposed writing :**

**5.3.4.** The Treasurer receives and gives receipts, prepares the annual budget for approval of the Executive Council, prepares the annual financial statements, reviews accounts in order to regulate income and expenditures, and prepares periodical financial statements for the Executive Council. Ipso facto the Treasurer is by right **Member** of the Financial Commission.

### **Reasons for change**

By parallelism of form with the proposed amendment considering the Secretary General, it is logical to introduce the same modification for the Treasurer but not for the same reasons.

The Treasurer must have good knowledge in bookkeeping and accounting, but on a mechanical point of view. He should not be responsible of preparing the budget and foreseeing/judging its execution, which are highly political acts.

As the Treasurer he should be part of the Financial Commission, because he will have a very valuable input, however he should not be made responsible of the Financial Commission as he would in this case be in the same time judge and party.

### **Date of effect**

At the close of the 2010 Congress.

It would be one the first tasks of the Executive Council to appoint the Chairman of the Financial Commission.



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## **MOTION PROPOSED BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL Nr. EC-13**

**Subject : STATUTES - 1.8.3 (amended), 1.8.4 (deleted) and 1.9 (new definition added)**

**Author : Executive Council**

### **Present writing :**

**1.8.3.** The Official Emblem and the Official Denominations of the ESF are protected and are the exclusive property of the ESF. They can not be used in any manner without the prior formal authorization of the Executive Council, and without prejudice of an equitable compensation.

**1.8.4.** The Rights on the Official Emblem and the Official Denominations belong exclusively to the ESF.

### **Proposed writing :**

**1.8.3.** The Official Emblem, the Official Denominations and the Intellectual Property of the ESF are owned by and are the exclusive property of the ESF. They cannot be used in any manner without the prior written consent of the Executive Council, on such terms as the Executive Council may require and without prejudice of an equitable compensation to the ESF.

**1.8.4** Deleted

**1.9** Interpretations and Definitions (**Addition of new definition**)

"Intellectual Property" includes (a) the Official Emblem and the Official Denominations and (b) any patents, know-how and information (confidential or otherwise), designs, registered designs, design marks, copyrights, rights, trademarks, service marks, business names, moral rights, registrations of and/or applications to register any of the aforesaid, rights of any kind in the nature of the aforesaid in any country, rights in the nature of unfair competition rights and rights to enforce rights in any country or territory, as developed, acquired or used or being developed or acquired by the ESF from time to time.

### **Reasons for change**

Clarify the ownership of ESF intellectual property; provide for the licensing or use of Intellectual Property for value; and define "Intellectual Property"

### **Date of effect**

At the close of the 2010 Congress



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## **MOTION PROPOSED BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL Nr. EC-14**

**Subject : STATUTES – 5.4.3 (new article)**

**Author : Executive Council**

**Present writing :**

None

**Proposed writing :**

**5.4.3** The First Vice President shall be an ex-officio member of all Commissions and Committees and in the absence of the President in such Commissions or Committees shall have full voting rights.

**Reasons for change**

Clarify the role of the First Vice President as ex officio member of Commissions and Committees and in the absence of the President shall have a vote

**Date of effect**

at the close of the 2010 Congress



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## **MOTION PROPOSED BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL Nr. EC-15**

**Subject : STATUTES – 1.6.4 (amended)**

**Author : Executive Council**

### **Present writing :**

The financial year shall start on October 1<sup>st</sup> and shall end on September 30<sup>th</sup> of the following year.

### **Proposed writing :**

#### **1.6.4 - FINANCIAL YEAR**

The financial year shall start on November 1st and shall end October 31st of the following year.

### **Reasons for change**

Date agreed to be changed for financial purposes

### **Date of effect**

At the close of the 2010 Congress



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## **MOTION PROPOSED BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL Nr. EC-16**

**Subject : STATUTES – 6.6.1 (amended)**

**Author : Executive Council**

### **Present writing :**

**6.6.1.** The Technical Commission: establishes, defines and enforces the Rules and Standards governing the ESF Competitions, establishes and enforces the training programs for Umpires, Scorers and Technicians, administers the ESF Umpires, proposes to the Executive Council the appointment of the ESF Umpire-In-Chief, the Technical Commissioners and Umpires in European Competitions, and ensures the good running of ESF Competitions.

### **Proposed writing :**

**6.6.1.** The Technical Commission: establishes, defines and enforces the Rules and Standards governing the ESF Competitions, establishes and enforces the training programs for Umpires, for Scorers and Technicians, administers the ESF Umpires, proposes to the Executive Council the appointment of the ESF Umpire-In-Chief, the Technical Commissioners and Umpires in European Competitions, and ensures the good running of ESF Competitions.

### **Reasons for change**

Clarify the responsibilities of the Technical Commission and release the responsibility of Umpires

### **Date of effect**

At the close of the 2010 Congress





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## **MOTION PROPOSED BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL Nr. EC-17**

**Subject : OBLIGATIONS AND DUTIES OF PARTICIPATING TEAMS – UMPIRES  
C.R. 36.03 (amended)**

**Author : Executive Council**

### **Present writing :**

**36.03.** Each team is responsible for the traveling expenses of one Umpire.

### **Proposed writing (or New writing):**

**36.03.** Each National Federation is responsible for the travelling expenses of as many Umpires as the teams under this National Federation are entered in the current year.

### **Reasons for change**

Regarding the problems with nominations according to this rule we believe that it is necessary to link the total number of the spots (same as the number of the participants) to the National Federations.  
This modification will allow a better distribution of the Umpires throughout all the competitions in Europe

### **Date of effect**

At the close of the 2010 Congress.



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## **MOTION PROPOSED BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL Nr. EC-18**

**Subject : ELIGIBILITY – CUPS COMPETITIONS**  
**C.R. 05 (renumbered as 05.01 and amended), 05.02, 05.03 and 05.04 (new articles)**

**Author : Executive Council**

### **Present writing :**

**05.** In the practical application of articles 3 and 4 above in respect of eligibility, the European Champions Cup takes precedence over the European Winners Cup. This means that when a team subscribing to enter in a European Competition would normally be eligible for both the European Champions Cup and the European Winners Cup, the team will only be accepted to play in the European Champions Cup.

### **Proposed writing (or New writing):**

**05.01.** In the practical application of articles 3 and 4 above in respect of eligibility, the European Champions Cup takes precedence over the European Winners Cup with the following dispositions :

**05.02** When a team subscribing to enter in a European Cup Competition would normally be eligible for both the European Champions Cup and the European Winners Cup, the team will only be accepted to play in the European Champions Cup.

**05.03.** When only one team is representing its country in a Cup Competition, this team has the possibility to choose to enter either the European Champions Cup or the European Winners Cup.

**05.04** When only one team is representing its country in a Cup Competition, this team has the right to request to change its entry from one Cup to the other at the following conditions: a) the team has regularly submitted the Entry Form as per CR art. 08.02; b) the request must be received by the ESF Secretary General at latest 15 days before the limit dates to pay the Entry Fees (dates contemplated in articles CR 08.03.01 and CR 08.03.02).  
The change is subject to the approval of the ESF Executive Council.

### **Reasons for change**

To have more balanced number of participants in the Cups (especially the B group).  
The Teams have to enter before the 1<sup>st</sup> January of each year, sometimes prior to the decision of the location of a tournament is decided at the Congress. This new rule, will allow the teams to change the competition they have entered if they cannot afford the expenses of a location that is has been decided at the congress. The alternative is they would have to withdraw

### **Date of effect**

At the close of the 2010 Congress.