



**EUROPEAN
SOFTBALL
FEDERATION**

NEWSFLASH

April 2011



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

ALL WE WANT FOR CHRISTMAS...

...is to be back in the Olympics. Unfortunately it doesn't work like that. We need to play a lot of "finals" before it can happen. The ISF will play these finals together with the IBAF, which took an unanimous decision at their congress early November in Dallas to go ahead with our "mother" organisation.

On the road to be accepted as a core sport in the Olympics 2020, we have to take a many steps. The first important date is coming January when the two organisations will discuss the working plan what the Joint bid should incorporate. If the IOC will accept the joint bid, we will know in May next year. If accepted, the finalised joint bid must be presented to the IOC Program Commission at the end of 2012. We will keep you updated on the progress.

At the ISF congress in Oklahoma, it was our intention to bring the 2013 ESF congress to Prague in order to bring as much as possible softball events to Europe to show the many European IOC members that we are a global sport and not only a "cultural event" in the USA. Cartagena in Colombia won with 1 or 2 votes and of course we will be happy to go in 2013 to our friends in

South America but we lost a chance to get the exposure we had in mind with the Prague bid.

December is the month to look back and in doing that we can see that it was a great ESF year. We would like to congratulate the Champions with their titles and thank all the organisers of the Tournaments, volunteers, game officials and of course the participating teams.

Many of you spent a lot of free days to make it happen and without you it is not possible to organise all these European Tournaments year after year.

Early November we had our Board meeting in Milan and for the first time in our history, part of our meeting was together with the Board of the CEB as result of our Joint agreement for cooperation between both Confederations. The results of this meeting will be discussed at our Annual Congress in Malta from 3 till 5 February 2012.

This annual congress in Malta will be the first time we meet next year and we would like to discuss with the european federations our plans for the coming year in development, marketing, the new formats of our European competitions and everything else you like to share with us.

We are looking forward to exiting Tournaments like the new format in the Men's Fastpitch club competition and the Women Junior Championship in Belgium which we hope will be both big Tournaments with many participants.

With this last issue of the Newsflash in 2011, I wish you and your family a Merry Christmas and a great New Year.

Your President
Andre van Overbeek

37TH ESF CONGRESS IN MALTA

by Secretary General

The 2012 General Congress will be held on February 3rd – 5th, at Mellieha, MALTA.

Arrival of Delegates is foreseen on Thursday the 2nd, all Committees will take place on Friday 3rd and the General Congress on Saturday 4th.

Departure of Delegates on Sunday 5th. The Registration Form and other documents are available on the ESF website.

Registration to be done through Malta Baseball & Softball Association, email: romina@baseballsoftball.org.mt not later then Dec. 30th, 2011



GOZO TRIUMPH IN OPEN SLOW PITCH TOURNAMENT

by Malta Baseball & Softball Association

The second and final day of the tournament provided great softball as the team from Gozo took home the trophy.

Winning their three games of the day gave the Gozo Tornadoes an unbeaten tournament having won all six of the games.



The Northenders and Mustangs both provided a mix of good defence with strong offence, whilst the Devils once again proved they have one of the most solid defences in the tournament.

With Gozo having won their first two games of the day, pressure was put on the Mustangs to maintain their winning form.

This came to an end in their first game of the day against the Devils. The 8-4 loss effectively meant that Gozo had won the tournament.

Results Day 2

Northenders vs Gozo Tornadoes 2 -4

Gozo Tornadoes vs Devils 5-2

Mustangs vs Devils 4-8

Northenders vs Mustangs 3-5

Gozo Tornadoes vs Mustangs 5-0

Devils vs Mustangs 7-4

Devils vs Northenders 4-7

EASTER FASTPITCH TOURNAMENT IN NICE, FRANCE

by Nataly Chanut, Cavigal Nice

Every year the Cavigal Nice Sport Organisation run an international female and male fastpitch tournament during the weekend of Eastern, 7th - 9th of April 2012.

In the past Teams from France, Italy, Spain, Czech Republic, Netherlands, US and Canada participated.

For 2012 there are still 3 spots in the female as well as an in the male competition available.

Find more information and pictures of the previous tournaments on our Facebookpages:

Cavigal Softball-Baseball : <http://www.facebook.com/#!/cavigal.softballbaseball?sk=photos>

Fan club du Cavigal softball : <http://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Fan-club-du-Cavigal-softball/226038932913>

Do not hesitate to contact me to have all the information about

the tournament. I am also at your disposal for you help to find accommodation in Nice.

Nataly CHANUT, natalycavigalsoft@yahoo.fr



CLINIC GROMACKY

by FIBS, Italy

Cal State Fullerton Head Coach Michelle Gromacky held a Clinic for 40 softball coaches in Tirrenia (Italy).

The coaches came not only from Italy, but also from Switzerland, Croatia and Ukraine.

After answering to a long series of questions, Gromacky commented that she was impressed by the level of knowledge of the coaches.



2012 ITALIAN COACH CONVENTION

by FIBS, Italy

The Parc Hotel in Peschiera del Garda, close to Verona, will host the 27th edition of the Italian baseball and softball Coach Convention. The Convention will happen in 2012, from January 20th to 22nd.

The speakers will be:

Craig Montividas (the head coach of the Dutch Senior Team), Marina Centrone (the head coach of the Italian Senior Team), Paola Marfaglia (the head coach of the Italian Under 22 It-Team) and Enrico Obletter (the head coach of the Italian Softball League Champions DES Caserta).

The organizers are still speaking with Lisa Fernandez, who may be a last minute addition to the softball program.

The coach convention is open to all coaches that are interested. For more information you can write to cnt@fibs.it



ESF OFFICE

We wish you and your family a Wonderful Christmas and an Healthy, Peaceful and Successful 2012!

The ESF office will be closed from the 24th till the 5th Jan. During this period emails will be checked occasionally.

Kind regards,

Francesca Fabretto, Secretary General

