



EUROPEAN SOFTBALL FEDERATION EC MEETING MINUTES

Rotterdam, March 31 – April 1, 2017

EC members' attendance:

Gaba Waage ("GW")
Mette Nissen – Jakobsen ("MN")
Ami Baran ("AB")
Eddy van Straelen ("EvS")
Petra Arends ("PA")
Kristian Pälviä ("KP")
Daniela Castellani ("DC"); (arrived for the afternoon meeting)

Apologies on March 31:

John Austin ("JA")
Youri Alkalay ("YA")

Apologies on April 1:

Eddy van Straelen ("EvS")

Directors:

CD: Helena Novotná ("HN")
CTD: Mike Jennings ("MJ"); (March 31 only)

Welcome, Quorum and Process

- "GW" called the meeting to order. He noted that a quorum of EC members was present.
 - The EC approved unanimously the EC Meetings Minutes from Serbia
 - "EvS" Minutes (in general) should be more detailed

Action: "HN" to create a new section on the ESF website to publish minutes

1. President

- Express of satisfaction that last ESF boards have been going in the same direction
- Draft of a four-year plan is prepared, ready to be discussed, and approved

2. Financial

- Income is higher than expected (less withdrawals)
- Assignments should be ready in the beginning of January (because of holidays)
- Umpires assignments must be ready till January 31 (federations send list of their umpires and availabilities till December 31)

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EUROPEAN SOFTBALL FEDERATION EC MEETING MINUTES

Proposal:

- write off the amount 1250 EUR for Spanish men's team Granadilla
- Suspension from ESF tournaments till 2018 (including)

EC Decision: Approved

- Sponsor agreed with Andrea, agreement should be signed at the WECh

Proposal:

- Esports.cz – website provider – amendment to the original agreement
450 euro/ year

EC Decision: Approved

Action: Helena checking the men-hour and penalizations

- Bownet – partnership offer (training nets)

Action: "GW" to tell Pavel Prachar and Mike Jennings, that umpires have to send more the one date of availability

Action: "MJ" Assignments should be sent to NFs too (not just national UiC)

Action: Pavel Prachar should inform also TCs and all umpires of that event about the complete assignments for that tournament

3. ESF CEB co-op

- "GW" and "AB" CEB meeting update
- Constitutions are done, but not published
- Next meeting
 - Possibly in May (Constitutions should be published by then)

4. Competitions and Technical

- TCs and UICs meeting was held in Rome
- MJ summary off the Rome meeting
 - Discipline policy – updated process prepared and agreed, players' suspensions database will be created over time (TCs responsibility), decision of suspension will be made by an umpire on the first level, by a TC on the second level, the TC must announce to the present EC (who agrees or recommends change)

Proposal:

- Accept new disciplinary Code

EC Decision: Approved

Action: "HN" to publish Disciplinary Regulations on the website (next to the CR, TR)



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- Two categories of accreditation “priority” and “regular”
Action: “HN” to prepare and publish description incl. obligations

Proposal:

- o Accept TC assignments
EC Decision: Approved
- James O’Farrel withdrew from his position of the slowpitch UiC,
- Francois M. will be sent as an assistant UiC to Canada (to gain experience)
- Competitions – game schedules will be published before April 15
- MESC – update by “PA” – Amersfoort needs help to organize the event from the Dutch Federation, all is set, if necessary Dutch Federation would take over
Action: “MJ” will go to Amersfoort to inspection asap
- Balls – Teammate offered 1200 balls for free
 - We have already balls for this season – we’ll play with those
 - When we receive the sponsored balls, we’ll have some countries test these balls to check the quality during this season
- Candidatures
Proposal: 2019 WECh organization by Ostrava and Rybnik (CZE+POL)
EC Decision: approved
 - 2018 U22WECh – Netherlands (Enschede) vs. Slovakia (Trnava)
 - Decision by Congress would be too late
 - EC agreed that the bids are complete and ready for procedure of decision
 - Last participant of the tournament will vote on the organizer**Action: “MJ” to send proposals with a deadline within 2 weeks**
 - WECWC organizer Caserta/Malta
 - Team Mediterraneo switched from WEPC to WECWC
 - Malta is the official host of the event, they are financially responsible
- Streaming – Playo.tv offer was sent to the organizers
 - WECh interested
 - WEPC not interested



EUROPEAN SOFTBALL FEDERATION EC MEETING MINUTES

5. Marketing and Media

- Softball Europe – a new brand to promote softball as a sport aimed to softball community and non-softball community

Action; "JA" and "HN" to prepare a proposal and send for approval

6. Working plan

- Goals
 - Increase the self-confidence of the softball community, especially in joint federations
 - Continue streaming, support the top events
 - Promote the sport through Softball Europe brand
 - Regional events, Top 6 event ("Euro Elite")
 - Organizer top softball events in Europe
 - Become a stronger international body in co-op with CEB

- Organizational chart (att.)

Action: "KP" to contact a person for our vacant Medical and Anti Doping Commission

- EC members responsibilities reviewed
 - EC members are not representatives of their NF, but of Softball Europe in general
 - Summary for EC's from the ESF Statutes

7. Website

- Update
 - Umpires website
 - Volunteers Section
 - Photo gallery

8. Development

- Joudrs International Cup
- Euroleague, regional tournaments (umpires, balls)
- Clinics at tournaments
- EU funding – Malta, Netherlands, Croatia
- Request funding from WBSC Development Commission
- Triple Ball



EUROPEAN SOFTBALL FEDERATION EC MEETING MINUTES

9. Guests

- “GW” welcomed Ron Schel, KNBSB President, Roderick Balk, CEB representative, Andre van Overbeek, former ESF president
- Ron Schel gives update of new issues in Netherlands
- European “Top 6” tournament possibly in June/July 2018 was discussed and further discussions will be held
Action: GW to discuss with Ron Schel what KNBSB can do for the “Top 6” tournament after their Monday meeting
- Men’s Fastpitch in the Netherlands is rather isolated part
 - The Dutch should talk to their men’s fastpitch teams and help them communicate their needs
- ESCA creating a group of coaches willing to help in other countries, the ESF is interested in Dutch coaches for this group
 - The Netherlands is interested in “buddy system”
- As a top country, the Dutch are willing to invest more into European development, not by paying higher fee, but by investing into executive under the ESF (or CEB)
 - The ESF will also ask Italy and the Czech Republic
- Roderick Balk – baseball championship is moved to odd years, not official yet
- “MN” everything shouldn’t be on standby because of the Olympics, since there will only be one team from Europe

10. Legal

Action; “AB” to send out WBSC constitutions with comments

11. Balkan region update

- WBSC promised support to the Balkan association depending on WBSC SD approval (recommendation)
- Cooperation with CEB (Didier Seminet)
- **Action: “GW” + “AB” ESF to send a letter to WBSC that the ESF fully supports the Balkan tournaments**

12. AOB

- “YA” online application for candidature of the ESF event (idea presented)
 - “AvO” the same for rosters?
 - “GW” – we NEED the stamp and the signature of the responsible federation – must be legalized!!!



EUROPEAN SOFTBALL FEDERATION EC MEETING MINUTES

13. President

- “GW” closed the meeting with a good hope for future
- All projects should be presented in time before each meeting
- Dropbox
- Next meeting in November, location not decided yet
- Next spring meeting in Sofia, Bulgaria
- Unofficial meeting in Bollate for those who are present
- Thank you to Andre van Overbeek

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