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EDITORIAL

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The year 2015 was full of softball competition, development progress and new projects, both within European softball and worldwide. For the ESF, 2015 marked our first year of extensive social media activity and I've spent a good deal of time this year gathering and sharing news about softball in Europe, with so much more to achieve in the years to come.

Keep following us, keep liking us and let's all support each other in promoting our sport. We're always growing!

From all of us at the ESF, let me wish you the most beautiful and magical of holidays with your families and friends, and most of all we wish you all the best for 2016!



EUROPEAN BASEBALL/SOFTBALL STEERING COMMITTEE

The European Baseball/Softball Steering Committee (EBSSC) was created to form a regional alliance which will provide guidance on key issues around the development and operations of the two sports throughout Europe.

The agreement between the two organizations called for establishment of three joint committees for Development, Marketing and Media, and General Operations. At the ESF Executive meeting held in Haarlem on November 25th, CEB President Jan Esselman presented baseball's nominations for these committees, and members of the ESF Executive added their nominations.

With that, the committees have come into being, along with a further committee to promote the delivery across Europe of a youth development programme known as BeeBall. The members of these committees are:

Development

Chair: Ami Baran (ISR - Softball)

Youri Alkalay (BUL - Softball)

Mick Manning (IRL - Baseball)

John Boyd (GBR - Baseball)

BeeBall

Monique Schmitt (SUI - Baseball)

Eddy Van Straelen (BEL - Softball)

Anton Kops (Marketing) (NED - Softball)

Clinicians to be named

Marketing and Media

Chair: Peter Kurz (ISR - Baseball)

John Boyd (GBR - Baseball)

Slobodan Djuric (SRB - Softball)

Helena Novotná (CZE - Softball)

Operations

Chair: Gabriel Waage (CZE - Softball)

Mette Nissen Jacobsen (DEN - Softball)

Monique Schmitt (SUI - Baseball)

Kristina Uroic (CRO - Baseball)

These committees have been given the task of proposing joint projects in their respective areas, with the option of establishing skills-based project teams with members recruited from around Europe.

MORE DETAILS ABOUT THE COMMITTEES CAN BE FOUND [HERE](#).

UNOFFICIAL COMPETITIONS FOR 2016

The "Unofficial Competitions" section on the ESF website is now open for information on any international tournaments in 2016 to be published. All information should be sent to hnovotna@europeansoftball.org.

You can place your invitation to an international event in this section, and you can also look for a tournament, where your team might like to participate.

NATIONAL CHAMPIONS OF 2015

Before the year 2015 runs out, here is a final summary from the 2015 season. The graphic below shows the National Champions from countries all across Europe in women's fastpitch, men's fastpitch and co-ed slowpitch. Check out the teams that earned their spot in European Cups for 2016.

2015 EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS

WOMEN

AUSTRIA DORNBIRN SHARX	GERMANY WESSELING VERMINS	RUSSIA CARROUSEL
BELGIUM HOBOKEN PIONEERS	GREAT BRITAIN LONDON ANGELS	SAN MARINO TITANO HORNETS
BULGARIA BABES	HUNGARY ERD WILDCATS	SERBIA ARENA
CROATIA PRINC	ISRAEL TEL-AVIV TIGERS	SPAIN ATLÉTICO S. SEBASTIAN
CZECH REPUBLIC JOUDRS	ITALY BUSSOLENGO	SWEDEN SKÖVDE SAINTS
DENMARK ODENSE GIANTS	NETHERLANDS SPARKS HAARLEM	SWITZERLAND LUCERNE EAGLES
FRANCE TOULON COMANCHES	POLAND WARSAW DIAMONDS	UKRAINE WESTERN FIRE RIVNE

PHOTO: TOMASZ SZEWCZUK

2015 EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS

MEN

 BELGIUM
BRASSCHAAT BRAVES

 FRANCE
PESSAC PANTHERES

 CROATIA
GIANTS

 GREAT BRITAIN
METEORS 1

 CZECH REPUBLIC
SPECTRUM

 ISRAEL
GEZER 09

 DENMARK
STENLØSE BULLS

 NETHERLANDS
HOOFDDORP PIONIERS

PHOTO - JAROSLAV KORČÁK

2015 EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS

SLOWPITCH

 AUSTRIA
LINZ WITHCES & BANDITS

 GREAT BRITAIN
CHROMIES

 BELGIUM
TITAN

 IRELAND
TNT SOFTBALL

 BULGARIA
AKADEMIKS

 SAN MARINO
TIGERS SC

 CZECH REPUBLIC
DNACE

 SERBIA
ALLIGATORS

 GERMANY
UCE TRAVELLERS

 SWITZERLAND
ORCAS ZURICH

PHOTO - LIBOR MATĚJKA



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