



ESF EC Meeting
Rome, November 30, 2019
Minutes

EC members' attendance:

Gaba Waage ("GW")
Eddy van Straelen ("EvS")
Mette Nissen – Jakobsen ("MN")
Petra Arends ("PA")
Kristian Pälviä ("KP")
Ami Baran ("AB")
Daniela Castellani ("DC")
Youri Alkalay ("YA")

CD: Helena Novotna ("HN")

Tech. Director: Mike Jennings ("MJ") – for a part of the meeting

Not attending with apologies: John Austin (JA)

Agenda

1. Welcome, Quorum and Process

- "GW" called the meeting to order. He noted that a quorum of EC members was present.
- Approval of the EC Meetings Minutes from Sofia (April 2019)
 - *Approved by unanimity*

2. President

- Open meeting and General Update
- WBSC Congress Update (outcome and consequences)
 - Organizer vs participants at World Cups situation
 - Decreasing number of participants at the World Cups; demotivating for European (and most others) National Teams and programs
 - U18 from 16 teams to 12, U15 from 12 teams to 8
 - Issues at the WBSC Congress - no materials available before the Congress (agenda, budget, reports..)
- WBSC Europe – Working relationship with SD, SD Goals.

3. Financial

- Report of financial problems raised during the summer competitions if any (guarantees, fees, penalties)
- Financial Report 2019
 - "KP" to mention income from WBSC not as a sponsorship

Action: EvS will adjust accordingly in the document

- WBSC Europe fee vs ESF/CEB fee – EvS unsure about sending out invoices to NFs in the name of WBSC Europe after information from Lars and Rene



Action: GW to talk to Didier about this and confirm

- Budget 2020

4. VP Operations

- Review of outstanding action items from task form
 - Slowpitch World Cup – Specifications of the event are not ready
 - Possibly spring 2021, most likely not 2020
 - Competitions WBSC meeting **was closed**, MJ wasn't allowed in which did not seem appropriate.

5. Secretary General

- Updates

6. Competitions and Technical

- GW: Was not a successful year for our tournaments.
We had some issues with organizers, standards were low, less streaming, TC vs. EC relations, ESF supported WBSC by lending them our TC staff – which caused some confusion (mixing responsibilities)
- TC issues; importance of ESF staff meeting before the event itself at the venue, communication, everyone involved
- GW: update on WBSC Scoring and management system if ready could start using it in 2020 already (Congress 2020 our deadline)
- GW and EvS: need more communication with Dennis Duin - missing his report 2019
 - MJ: If the new system is amplified, scorers should go to the tournaments one day earlier to learn how to work with the new system
 - MJ: SiCs will need a schooling for the new system

TC Matters by MJ

- TCs, UICs and SIC's List 2020
 - 4 New UIC's appointed by Caroline Stadhouders
 - TCs – Irene Michielan quit, Libby Moss – MJ to inform her
 - No new TCs; MJ will send name of temp TC



Competitions

Review bids/candidatures for ESF 2020/2021 Competitions including World Cups Qualifiers

- All bids reviewed by MJ and Conny Chwojka; there are some fields that are short, with some problematic distances between fields
- Russia – only two fields (WECh, and U18 WECh needs more fields - bids cancelled,
Cups possible - inspection needed
- Inspection to Friuli fields (WECh)
- WECh and MECh dates in June – adults – no school conflict as this is a senior event

Action: MJ add to Regulations the possibility of a date exception by ESF EC decision.

- Date in a calendar/bids shall be written as as “preferred date”
- Possible bid for MSPECh from Parma (one field short, one regular)
- CSPECh possibly Austria

EMRYT and MASTERS

- Propose to discuss with Spain Federation and Barcelona that Masters will be held for the next 3 years – everybody can plan in advance, known location, after season, stabilization, However there might be an issue with costs for Spanish Federation.

Action: Notice to Spanish about the option.

- Proposal to leave the Masters age groups as they are 35+ in Male and Female Competition and will review after next year

Decision - Approved

Other Proposals:

- ESF will provide
 - o 1 TC
 - o Umpires 50:50 – 6 from ESF + 6 locals (or teams can bring official)
 - o Host will accommodate all ESF staff – meals and food (umpires in double room)
 - o Donation by ESF – 100 Euros per team
- Proposal to divide EMRYT future divisions to U13 and U11 (coach pitching)

Decision - Approved

Action GW to add Masters on the Calendar

Action MJ to update Masters Regulations

Action MJ to update EMRYT regulations – proposal approved

MESC

- Czech Softball proposes to allocate this event for the years 2020 - 2022 to Prague in order to stabilize the event with good fields and organization

Action: MJ to bring this up and recommend at the TC commission at the Congress



- Format of ECh – Stays as decided.
 - European ranking – Continue European Rankings (no change)

Other Issues in Competitions and Technical

- Communications at the Tournaments (Apps, Phones, emails)
Action: MJ will notify everyone on the usage of Whatsapp for communication at competitions
- Conflicts / differences between WBSC and ESF running of events
 - MJ: lineups are final when given to the scorers (60 min ahead of the game), any other changes at the plate are substitutions!
Action : MJ to recommend to organizers not to use plastic bottles – tap water is good enough
- PA – ESF players from ESF Federations is problematic
Action: “PA” and “DC” to prepare discussion paper on this issue and we will have a discussion in the Congress- send to AB for review prior to the Congress
- CSPECh problems with organization – Budapest
 - Proposed to give penalty of 1500 eur
Decision: approved
Action: GW and AB sent a letter to Hungarian Federation
- MESC problems with organization – Nettuno
 - Penalty issue.
 - Proposed to withhold the Fee from Original Organizer.
Decision- Approved
Action: AB to send letter of notification

7. Marketing / Media and Promotion

- Kappa - Clothes for ECs, TCs and UICs
Action: GW will try and negotiate with Kappa as to costs deal
Action: GW and EvS to discuss budget for clothing and find the funding for this
Action: GW to order New shirts (red and blue), new badges.
Action: MNJ to prepare the amounts of what is needed.
- Streaming – the future
Action: GW to add live-streaming plans to bidding form
Action: AB to introduce Pixellot to GW
- Umpires gifts 2020
Action: GW to order New shirts (red and blue), new badges
- Team Europe Men and Women
Action: AB and GW to organize Teams
- Super 6 – Regensburg wants to organize it during the Olympics
 - Will take place in 2022 (organizer bid open)
- Photo contest 2019/2020 – proposal by HN
Decision: Approved
- Media coverage manual by HN
Action: MJ to include in Regulations + officials Media Staff



- Helena – situation and future
 - HN will stay until the Congress, then pass the position onto someone else

8. Development

- 2019 activities review
 - Once a month HN to send an email to EC asking for news
- ESCA training camp
 - ESCA TC should take place once in 2 years, not every year
 - Decision - approved**
 - Possibility of holding ESCA Training Camp during the Ayelet Eilat Games
- Running Regional Events
 - YA: regional tournaments should be more than promotion of softball in the region (something like pre-qualification for European Competitions)
 - More discussion in next meetings
- AJ Proposal – an American player who offered her services to do clinics in Europe
 - Action: AB to follow up**
- LL agreement with WBSC Europe – KP working on it
 - Action: KP to finish it in time for Congress and to pass on to Legal of WBSC Europe**

9. Website, Facebook, Newsletter

- Emails WBSC Europe work well, we want to move europeansoftball.org emails there

Action: AB will talk to Kruno and change the emails for all

Action: HN will talk to europeansoftball.org and discontinue cooperation

Action: HN shall prepare new business cards WBSC Europe

10. Legislative

- Motions/proposals/changes in Statutes and Regulations

By Federations

Proposals

- Motion by BSF – Page System in Coed Slowpitch
 - EC recommendation is not to approve
 - Action: AB to prepare EC answers for the proposal**
- Proposal from Ukraine (non-European players on National Teams vs. development)

Action: GW to prepare the topic for discussion at the TC commission and to send to AB for legal view prior to the Congress



By Executive Council and/or Committees

11. WBSC Europe Statutes, and Code of Divisions to be sent out

December 8 **2020 General ESF/CEB Congress preparation**

Date: 7-9.2.2020

Program:

- Arrival of the EC on Thursday, and Pre Congress meeting 6.2.2020
- Pre-Congress Meetings of Committees on Friday 7.2.2020 (Tech &Comp, Financial, Development, Marketing and Media)
- Post-congress meeting on Sunday morning (do not leave before 12:00)
- Agenda
- Reports
- Hall of Fame Committee
- Invitations: TCs, UICs, WBSC, Guests speakers

Guests to be invited;

Mike Jennings

Carolein Stadhouders

Connie Chwojka

Petra Cizmic

New person from Helena

Invitation to Patrice and Andre – EvS and AB to discuss.