

# Quarter Report, Issue 17

January 18, 2022

TO: Softball Europe National Federations

Dear Friends,

During my entire term as President I tried to keep you informed with my Quarterly Reports. Now it is time to send you my last issue as Softball Europe President (formerly the ESF) as we will be taking our final steps to merging at the Congress in February. As always, I would like to take this opportunity to update you on our activities and operations with the intent to keep you informed of what is being accomplished within Softball Europe.

### **Softball Europe Competitions 2022:**

In 2022, Softball Europe will be organizing six European Championships and seven European Cups – the overview of all events you can find [here](#). In total, four of the six European Championships 2022 will be qualifiers for the World Cups – Calendar 2022 – 2024 see [here](#).

I am glad that we have all our SE events 2022 covered and pleased to see next to our traditional organizers (Italy, Czech Republic, Netherlands, and Bulgaria) also another country, which will host international softball in 2022. Fast Pitch will be played in France and Spain and Slow Pitch will be played in Slovenia. European softball has to be visible in every corner of our continent.



## 2022 PLANNING Softball European Championships

June 14 – 18	Men's Slowpitch European Championship	Colorno (ITA)
June 27 – July 2	U-22 Women's European Championship	Kunovice (CZE)
July 4 – 9	U-23 Men's European Championship *	Sezimovo Usti (CZE)
July 11 – 16	Coed Slowpitch European Championship *	Ljubljana (SLO)
July 18 – 23	U-15 Women's European Championship *	Enschede (NED)
July 24 – 30	XXIII. Women's European Championship *	Sant Boi (ESP)

\* European Championship is Qualifier for next expected WBSC World Cup




The end of December was the deadline for entries for all SE Competitions. The entries for the 2022 European Championships and Cups are now official and you can see the overview [here](#). It is truly inspiring to see the high interest in our SE Competitions 2022 and I strongly hope we will proceed and compete without restrictions to participate. In total twenty-three teams have entered, the WECh and eighteen for the U22 WECh and this will be a big challenge for the organizers. We shall be using the approved new schedule for WECh and I am sure both organizers will take all the measures to have a successful competition. The U23 MECh is new to our calendar and will actually be the qualifier for U23 MWC in October. Teams may withdraw before **February 1**, and late entries can be submitted until **January 31**. The final list of participants will be announced at that date. Entries for [EMRYT](#), and [Masters](#) will be announced at a later time.

## 2022 PLANNING Softball European Cups

August 10 - 13	European M. Romeo Youth Trophy	Collecchio (ITA)
August 15 - 20	Women's European Premiere Cup	Bollate (ITA)
August 15 - 20	Women's European Cup	Avigliana (ITA)
August 15 - 20	Women's European Cup Winners Cup - pool A	Viladecans (ESP)
August 15 - 20	Women's European Cup Winners Cup - pool B	Evry-Courcouronnes (FRA)
August 22 - 27	Men's European Super Cup	Prague (CZE)
October 26 - 29	European Masters Cup	Sant Boi (ESP)




### **Softball Europe Competitions 2021 overview:**

Softball Europe organized five European Championships and six European Cups in 2021 to restore International Softball throughout Europe – overview is [here](#). It was not easy to organize those events as we did in the past, as several restrictions, mandatory testing etc. were imposed per the requirements of the countries during the Pandemic. The hardest part was those restrictions which changed on a daily basis and nothing was predictable. Despite all those obstacles, you made it. I would like to thank all the organizers from bottom of my heart, who took it upon themselves and created the best atmosphere through such difficult times. You deserve all our respect, as you brought to life Softball Europe in 2021.



## A RETROSPECTIVE 2017- 2021

**Finnish Baseball and Softball celebrated 40 years:**



Finland in Europe in 2022.

*Finnish Baseball and Softball celebrated 40 years in the middle of December and I was there representing WBSC Europe along with Kruno Karin, our WBSC Europe SG and Lars Sundin, Swedish Baseball and Softball President. It was an excellent event prepared by new President Jukka Rapponen of Finnish Baseball and Softball, which overviewed 40 years of Baseball and Softball in Finland and started a new era, with close co-operation with the Pesäpallo Federation. The potential is there. Pesäpallo is one of Finland's top sports with many of the fundamentals of the games of Baseball and Softball. This move of has also given rise to the creation of a National Team representing*

**Congresses in Rome and Ljubljana:**

*The WBSC Europe Congress week took place in Rome, Italy from 18 – 21 November with the Extraordinary Congress taking place on Friday November 19 in the Salone D'Onore at the headquarters of the Italian Olympic Committee (CONI). European Baseball & Softball leaders confirmed a new era for the sports on the European continent with the approval of a new World Baseball Softball Confederation (WBSC) Europe Statutes, uniting the baseball (CEB) and softball (ESF) continental bodies into one organization – WBSC Europe - starting from 2022.*

*The ESF Extraordinary Congress took place in Rome, Italy, on November 20, 2021. This Congress reviewed the last five years (2017–2021) – see [here](#) – and authorized current leadership to transfer legally to WBSC Europe.*

*The next Congress is around the corner – Ljubljana, Slovenia will host WBSC Europe Congress on February 11 – 13, 2022. This Congress will elect a new leadership for next three years. The results of the Congress including elections are not only about individual persons, who will be representing and leading our sport in Europe. It is also a signal of a strong united Europe, which is more important than any other 'side effects'.*

*We all need Europe with strong leadership representing all movements, streams and differences throughout Europe. Only this comprehensive leadership can bring Europe adequate attention. I truly hope that this will happen, because I do not see any other way going to success.*

*If you have any questions, suggestions, feel free to contact me anytime. I am looking forward to work for our sport in the next new board, as you all know me.*

Best regards,



Gabriel Waage  
Softball Europe President