

WBSC Europe VP Softball Report, Issue 18

April 20, 2022

TO: Softball Europe National Federations

Dear Friends,

As our new organization has been established we are looking into new ways to move forward and create opportunities. Communication with our member federations is essential and so my Baseball counterpart, WBSC Europe VP baseball Mr. Petr Ditrich and I have agreed to use this channel to provide direct information to you, our stakeholders. 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 Commission:

I am happy to announce to you the WBSC Europe Executive Board approved the Softball Commission nominations. The Softball Commission will oversee all matters for Softball, guided by myself and supervised by the WBSC Europe Executive Board. The Softball Commission (softball Europe) is consisting of six members: Ms. Daniela Castellani (ITA), Ms. Conny Chwojka (AUT), Ms. Petra Čizmić Pokrajac (CRO), Mr. Mike Jennings (GBR), Ms. Sophie Khidasheli (GEO), and Mr. Kostis Liarommatis (GRE) – see [here](#). The very first meeting of Softball Europe is scheduled for Wednesday April 27, 2022.



Outcome from Softball Europe Window at Congress:

The 2022 Softball Europe Window took place in Ljubljana, Slovenia, on February 11, 2022. The WBSC Europe Members took part in the 2022 Softball Europe Window presented during the WBSC Europe Congress by Softball Europe Directory and Officials. USA Softball Executive Director and WBSC 2nd Vice Chairman Craig



Cress also took part in the meeting, reassuring the support for the European Softball and Baseball Community. Softball Europe Officials gave an overview of the work carried out in the past two years, 2020 and 2021, in subjects such as competition, finance, media, and development. Details of the new structure of WECh were also announced in the meeting – see [here](#). Based on several proposals new regulations were adopted. The new [age structure of youth competitions](#) and also the age limit for MASTERS was updated from 35+ to 40+ for both, men and women – more [here](#).

Softball Europe Officials Biennial:

Softball Europe Officials - Technical Commissioners, Umpires in Chief, Scorers in Chief, and Head of Media Officers – gathered in Prague, Czech Republic, on March 25 – 27, 2022 for a weekend of training and development courses. Baseball Europe representatives attended with the intent to collaborate and compare as we move into the new structure of the WBSC Europe. The session was partly joint and partly specific oriented as the group was broken down to face more technical and specific topics. An important part of this weekend was an interactive session focusing on team communication more [here](#).



New WBSC Europe Director of Softball Umpires:

Luis Ignacio Pardo Lozano, known as Nacho Pardo, was appointed WBSC Europe Director of Softball Umpires. Nacho is an outstanding person, and is much respected within the European umpiring community. One of his main tasks will be to improve communications within the umpiring community that has suffered significantly due to the pandemic. For this same reason, the Softball Europe Blue Convention was organized in February, but was cancelled due to the Covid situation – more [here](#)



Euroleague is back in calendar:

The Central Europe Women’s Softball Euroleague will be played in 2022. Seven teams will be fighting for the title of Euroleague Champion. The Softball Euroleague is a Fastpitch competition for women and juniors played on a cross border regional level. It was played in Central Europe for six years in a row from 2014 to 2019 and then suffered a two-year break due to covid-19 in 2020 and 2021. Last weekend in March, the Croatian team from Zagreb, hosted the first round of the 2022 Euroleague. The next round of the Central Europe

Women’s Softball Euroleague is scheduled in Hungary from April 30 to May 1, 2022. Then, two more weekends of games will take place in July and in September, both in Slovakia – more [here](#).

WBSC Europe Softball Competitions Regulations now available:

WBSC Europe Softball Technical and Competitions Committee released the WBSC Europe Softball Competitions Regulations for the 2022 season. Alongside, the player age table and the deadlines for participants in WBSC Europe Softball Championships and Cups for the upcoming season have been published – more [here](#). Game schedules are being published now. The season is ready!



Future activities in Softball Community:

As the Euroleague already started more regional development events are on the calendar. Balkan Triple Ball is scheduled for the last weekend in April and the Baltic Cup will take place on the beginning of June. Softball Europe official competitions will commence, starting with the Men's Slowpitch European Championship in Colorno in middle of June. Entries call for the EMRYT and MASTERS competitions will be out soon. Induction of three new members to Softball Europe Hall of Fame will occur on Saturday May 21 in National premiere facility of BSF in London. It will be my pleasure to make the honorary inductions.

If you have any questions, suggestions, feel free to contact me anytime.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. Waage".

Gabriel Waage

WBSC Europe Vice-President Softball