



EUROPEAN
SOFTBALL
FEDERATION

NEWSFLASH

February 2012

THE XXXVII ESF CONGRESS

The XXXVII ESF Congress, hosted by Malta Baseball and Softball Association, took place in the beautiful background of Mellieha on February 3rd-5th, 2012.

Twenty-two Member Federations and two observer federations were present to this important annual meeting: Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Spain, France, Great Britain, Germany, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Malta, Netherlands, Russia, Slovenia, San Marino, Serbia, Switzerland, Sweden, Turkey, Ukraine and the two observers Cyprus and Lithuania.

Don Porter, President of the International Softball Federation attended the Congress and made a brief speech during the first session on Saturday morning, updating the Congress on the ISF activities and plans for the future.

Friday Committees proved once again to be a crucial moment of dialog both between the different delegates and between the delegates and the ESF board members.

The Financial Committee confirmed that the ESF finance is proceeding according to the budget that was analyzed by Eddy Van Straelen, treasurer and chairman, who went through the situation in 2011 and the potential sources of income for the future.

1st Vice-president and chairman Totoni Sanna, lead an important presentation of the upcoming projects and budget of the Development Commission stressing that fifty percent of the 2012 budget will be used for the juvenile category growth mainly through the Beeball program which will start in the spring and the school manual.

New members of the Commission were introduced: Anton Kops will follow the Beeball program, Jens Terkelsen will be responsible for the fastpitch men and John Austin will lead the growth of the slowpitch.

The agreement between ASA and ESF, first presented during the

last Congress in Antwerp, has taken great steps forward. The co-operation will involve the majority of ESF Federations that will be adopted and helped by one of ASA states in terms of equipment and clinics for coaches, players and umpires.

The Technical and Competitions Committee, after reviewing the 2011 tournaments, allotted the European Cup Women A to Enschedene (NED) and the European Cup Winner Cup Women B to Trieste (ITA).

Drawings were made for the 21 teams participating to the huge European Super Cup Men that will take place in Prague. Teams will be divided into 4 pools:

Pool A: Eagles (CZE), Bulls (DEN) Richings Park (GBR) Braschaat (BEL) Indians (SVK) Travellers (GER)

Pool B: Havlíčkov Brod (CZE) Odense Giants (DEN) Storks (NED) Pessac (FRA) Lupi Roma (ITA)

Pool C: Chomutov (CZE) Hørsholm (DEN) DVH (NED) Cavigal (FRA) Medvenica (CRO)

Pool D: Spectrum (CZE) Vikings (DEN) Spikes (NED) Chicaboos (BEL) Mask (SVK)

During the Congress sessions on Saturday drawings were made, live streaming on the ESF web site, also for the European Champion Junior Girls, European Championship Girls 22 and Under and the European Championship Men.

European Championship Junior Girls: Pool A – RUS, NED, BEL, LTU Pool B - ITA, FRA, CRO, DEN Pool C – CZE, GBR, ISR, GRE Pool D – GER, ESP, AUT, UKR

European Championship Girls U22: Pool A - CZE, FRA, UKR, BUL and Pool B – RUS, POL, SVK, GRE

European Championship Men: Pool A: DEN, NED, ISR, CRO and Pool B: CZE, GBR, BEL, SVK

2013 Congress has not been awarded yet.



INVITATION FOR A FRIENDLY JUNIOR GIRLS TOURNAMENT IN ZAGREB, CRO

As part of preparation for softball European championship U-19 for girls this year the Croatian national team is planning to organize a friendly tournament in Zagreb from 6 till 8 July this year.

Our plan is to have 6-8 teams in this event. We would prefer having national teams but club teams are also welcome.

The Tournament will be held on nice fields with lights and with club house with locker rooms.

Participation fee will be 100 Euro per team.

We can also arrange low price food and drinks at the field.

Please let me know if you are interested in participating in this event.

Please contact us for any questions at: peraja55@yahoo.com

Thank you.

Best regards,
Robert Kovacevic
Croatian national team U-19 girls



LONDON CUP TOURNAMENT SEEKS ONE MORE TEAM

The annual London Cup International Women's Fastpitch Tournament, for junior and senior national and club teams, is looking for one more entry to complete this year's line-up.

The tournament will be played on the weekend of June 2-3 on the outskirts of London, near Heathrow Airport.

Teams already signed up include the GB Under-19 Women's

Team, the Danish National Women's Team, the Swiss club team Barracudas and the British club team London Angels, plus the GB Under-19 Men's Team.

To enter or for more information, contact Bob Fromer (bob.fromer@bsuk.com).

