



european
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newsletter

ISSUE 004
NOVEMBER 2013

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All correspondence to: info@europeansoftball.org

ISF ELECTS NEW PRESIDENT, WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP SITES AND NEW HALL OF FAME MEMBERS AT 26th ISF CONGRESS

World Baseball Softball Confederation Executive Board Meets and Holds Forum

CARTAGENA (COL) - The 26th International Softball Federation Congress concluded last week at the Hilton Cartagena, following three days of commission meetings. Delegates from 62 countries were on-hand for meetings covering both on- and off-field activity. A new Board of Directors was elected, as well as elections for the 2013 Hall of Fame class and three world championship sites.



ISF President
Dale McMann

Dale McMann, Canada, was elected as the third ISF President, after Don Porter, United States, announced his retirement from the position. Porter joined the ISF as Secretary General in 1965 before being elected President in 1987. Porter has been instrumental in developing the sport of softball throughout his tenure, including softball's presence in the Olympic Games from 1996 to 2008.

McMann comes in with many years of Softball experience, beginning at the national level and then with the ISF. He served as President of Softball British Columbia from 1986 to 1990 before serving as President of Softball Canada from 1990 to 2001. He acted as North American Vice-President of the International Softball Federation from 1993 to 2009 before being elected First Vice-President in 2009.



ISF Vice President
Europe
André van Overbeek



ISF Vice President
Europe
Francesca Fabretto

For Europe the two Vice President's will be Andre Van Overbeek (President of the ESF) and Francesca Fabretto who was until last year the ESF Secretary General.

The ISF Congress elected the following Board of Directors, which carries a four year term:
President: Dale McMann (CAN)
Secretary General: Beng Choo Low (MAS)
1st Vice President: Darryl Clout (AUS)
2nd Vice President: Jesus Suniaga (VEN)
Treasurer: Javier Anaya (COL)

Good Luck to all!!!



ISF XIV
WORLD
CHAMPIONSHIP
FASTPITCH
WOMEN
2014
HAARLEM
HOLLAND

FROM THE EDITOR

The ESF Newsletters will be published every four weeks and will contain a wide range of information about softball in Europe. If you want to publish an article, message or announcement on a softball topic in the Newsletter (on events, rules, equipment or anything else), please send your copy (in Word), preferably accompanied by pictures, to: info@europeansoftball.org.

COLOFON

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IN MEMORIAM Martin de Jonker



It is with great sorrow that we have to inform you that Martin de Jonker, the secretary and team manager of the women softball-team of Hotel Ambassador Haarlem Terrasvogels (Netherlands), has passed away.

Martin was diagnosed with a severe illness early August, but traveled with the team to Montegranaro in Italy, where Terrasvogels won the Cup Winners Cup. Unfortunately, Martin had to be hospitalized two days before the final, but followed the game from the hospital via play-by-play.

Back home in the Netherlands, Martin underwent surgery, but unfortunately, his condition worsened last week and he passed away last Friday-evening. Martin would have turned 60 next Thursday.

To Geri, Mike and Eddy, we would like to express again our thanks for your supportive cooperation during the difficult days for the team when Martin was hospitalized during the tournament. Your assistance was and is much appreciated by us.

*On behalf of the board of Terrasvogels,
Marco Stoovelaar*

FROM THE EDITORS DESK



BeeBall Workshop/Clinic in Bulgaria

On the invitation of the Bulgarian Baseball and Softball Federation, ESF Development Commissioner Anton Kops presented a three-day clinic and workshop on BeeBall recently at a large school complex in Sofia, Bulgaria, attended by several local teachers and baseball/softball coaches. The clinic was organized by Mr Youri Alkalay, ESF Board member from Bulgaria, and a special guest was Mrs Mariana Prins-Atanasova, a native Bulgarian who has experience of BeeBall activities in the Netherlands and well known as International ESF-umpire.

The first day consisted of instruction and presentation to adult participants, to explain what BeeBall is all about, but most of all how to use the BeeBall game as a method of selling a fun baseball/softball project to children. At the end of the session, the adults received the official ESF/CEB Certificate of participation.

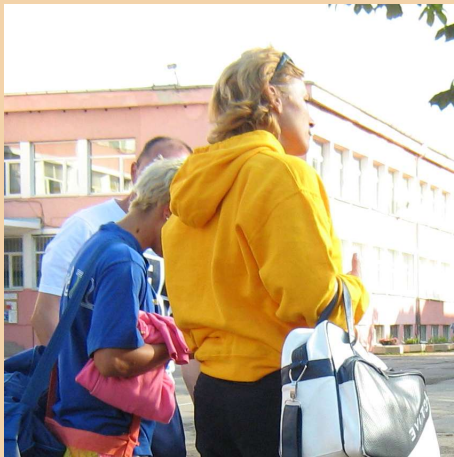


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Mariana Atanasova, native Bulgarian, was the excellent interpreter for the ESF Development instructor.

It was then a big surprise for both Anton Kops and Mariana Prins-Atanasova to see how BeeBall sessions were delivered by teachers at the school during 40-minute lessons. There was no sports hall or gym available for the youngest children, so the first attempt was to improvise in the classroom by making some space between the tables and seats. After two lessons, it was decided to go outside on the square in front of the big school (over 1,000 pupils!) to try to play BeeBall games.

The second day was partly cloudy with occasional rain, but this didn't prevent both of the ESF/CEB instructors staging exciting and fun games between three enthusiast teams of kids. A lot of kids begged us to return the following days to play BeeBall again.

After the sessions, there were meetings with Bulgarian baseball and softball coaches/players to discuss further possibilities for developing the sports in Bulgaria. Thanks to Youri Alkalay, Gerry, Irina and Mrs Teddy, Headmaster of Sports.



BeeBall is a game of FUN and FUNDamentals for baseball and softballkids, explained by ESF-Development Commissioner Anton Kops during the Clinic in Ulm



BEEBALL WORKSHOP IN GERMANY SUCCESSFUL

At the invitation of Mr Florian Steinborn, representative of the Baden-Wuerttemberger Baseball und Softball Verband (BWBSV), ESF BeeBall Development Commissioner Anton Kops gave a very successful BeeBall workshop recently in Ulm (Germany). Around 25 representatives from several clubs and sports organisations were present in the large sports hall in Ulm, including people who had travelled all the way from Munich.

The most important goal for the session was marketing the BeeBall programme, and a brand new presentation was delivered by Anton in the morning. After lunch, the participants played various BeeBall games in four teams of six players each, led by former Dutch international player Henriette van de Heykant, where the subject of "fun" played a major role.

After the six-hour session, participants received the ESF/CEB Certificate of Participation. Five free starter kits were given to Florian Steinborn for further Beeball activities in the area.



During the BeeBall Clinic a 45 minutes overview Presentation was given by Kops and Florian Steinborn (BWBSVerband)



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BARCELONA... THE PLACE TO BEE



Many adult participants from all over Spain visited the two-days clinic BeeBall on the playgrounds of Barcelona. Inclusive a lot of teams with kids and... parents played BeeBall for the first time.

A BeeBall clinic in Spain had been planned for the spring of 2013, but had to be cancelled due to the passing of Xavier Mateu. However, the Spanish Federation was determined to pursue the concept and through the initiative of Mr Jordi Garcia Mendes, Anton Kops, accompanied by Corinne van de Griendt (KNBSB BeeBall representative), gave a two-day workshop recently in Casteldelfels (Barcelona).

Arrangements for the workshop were perfect and the weather excellent. On the first day, over 25 adults attended and were rewarded by being designated Ambassadors for BeeBall in Spain. On the second day, 45 children played a BeeBall Tournament under the supervision of the "new" ambassadors. The session was visited by many parents, who were invited to play a "final" game against the children.

The weekend was very successful. Within two days after returning home, Anton Kops received an order for an extra 20 Beeball starter kits. In Spain, BeeBall will be a great investment in the future of the sport.

