



*European Softball Federation*  
*Fédération Européenne Softball*

**Headquarters & Secretary General / Siège et Secrétaire Général**

11 rue de Larchant . 77760 RECLOSES . FRANCE . ☎ 33 (0)1 6424 2636 . 📠 33 (0)1 6424 2211 .

Email : [SecretaryGeneral@europeansoftball.org](mailto:SecretaryGeneral@europeansoftball.org) - Web Site : <http://www.europeansoftball.org>

## **CONGRESS 2005 DOCUMENTS (1)**

**- AMENDMENTS TO THE STATUTES :**

- Proposal by the Executive Council

**- MOTIONS AND OTHER MATTERS :**

- Motions by Czech Republic
- Motions by Germany
- Proposals by Belgium
- Proposals & Motions by Great Britain
- Comments & Recommendations ESF

**- APPOINTMENT OF ORGANIZERS :**

- Nominations of Organizers of Competitions

**- ELECTION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL :**

- Nominations of Officers

*Other Documents released as available*

## **CONGRES 2005 DOCUMENTS (1)**

**- AMENDEMENTS AUX STATUTS :**

- Proposition par le Conseil Exécutif

**- MOTIONS ET AUTRES POINTS :**

- Motions par la République Tchèque
- Motions par l'Allemagne
- Propositions par la Belgique
- Propositions & Motions par la Grande Bretagne
- Commentaires & Recommandations ESF

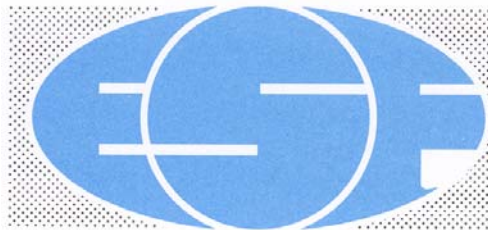
**- DESIGNATION DES ORGANISATEURS :**

- Nominations des Organismes de Compétitions

**- ELECTION DU CONSEIL EXECUTIF:**

- Nominations des Dirigeants

*Autres Documents fournis lorsque disponibles*



European Softball Federation  
Fédération Européenne Softball

# CONGRESS 2005

## PROPOSED AMENDMENT

### to the STATUTES of the ESF

*All changes in bold, italicized, underlined*

Proposed by : ESF Executive Council

Article to change : 4. - EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Proposed change : change as follows :

#### 4.1 – CONSTITUTION

**4.1.2.** The Officers of the ESF are elected by the General Congress for a four year term. They may be re-elected with no limit on the number of terms :

**4.1.2.1. The Officers of the ESF are elected by the General Congress for the following positions : President, Secretary General, Treasurer, six Vice Presidents.**

**4.1.2.2. The First Vice President is then elected by the General Congress from the six Vice Presidents elected**

#### 4.5 - GENERAL ELECTIONS

**4.5.2.** Nominations of candidates to the elections may be proposed :

**4.5.2.3.** by a Member of the Executive Council, who may nominate only himself and for the same position that he **has been elected to under Article 4.1.2.1.**

#### 4.7 - INTERIM REPLACEMENTS AND ELECTIONS

**4.7.2.** In case of vacancy of the position of First Vice President, the Vice President with the longer term of Office automatically substitutes for the position until the **next General Congress entitled to proceed to a new election under the conditions of Articles 4.7.1.1 to 4.7.1.3.** In case of equality in length of term of Office between two Vice Presidents, the older in age has the priority. The Executive Council **may** then proceed to the replacement of the position of Vice President left vacant according to Article 4.7.1.

**4.7.3.** In case of vacancy of the position of President :

**4.7.3.1. If the First Vice President has been elected according to Article 4.1.2.2,** the First Vice President automatically fulfils the Office of President for the remainder of the four year term, **the position of First Vice President becomes vacant, and a replacement is carried out according to Article 4.7.2.**

**4.7.3.2. If the First Vice President has not been elected according to Article 4.1.2.2, the First Vice President temporarily fulfils the interim of the Office of President until the next General Congress entitled to proceed to a new election of the President under the conditions of Articles 4.7.1.1 to 4.7.1.3. During this interim period the position of First Vice President is temporarily filled by a Vice President designated according to Article 4.7.2 .**

Reason for change : In the spirit of the Statutes the First Vice President is called to become President in case of vacancy of this position. Therefore the position of First Vice President is submitted as such to the election by the General Congress, thus legitimating in advance this possible replacement.

However in a very specific situation, in the present writing of the Statutes, an Officer could become President without this prior legitimating by the General Congress :

In case of vacancy of the position of First Vice President, *"... the Vice President with the longer term of Office automatically substitutes for the position until the end of the four year term ..."* (Article 4.7.2).

If after a vacancy of the position of First Vice President, and the substitution as stated in Article 4.7.2, the position of President becomes vacant, then *"... the First Vice President automatically fulfils the Office of President for the remainder of the four year term ..."* (Article 4.7.2).

In such event a Vice President would become President without the expression of the consent of the General Congress.

Proposed change of Articles 4.7.2 and 4.7.3 : To correct this situation : In order to replace the President, the First Vice President shall have been elected by the Congress. If not, the First Vice President may only ensure the interim of the Office of President until a new President is elected by the Congress.

Proposed change of Article 4.1.2 and 4.5.2 : To reflect that the First Vice President emanates from the Vice Presidents elected by the General Congress and not from a separate voting. The First Vice President is a Vice President with a specific legitimacy, and not a specific position by itself.

Effect date : Immediately after Congress (elections of First Vice President and Vice Presidents carried out according to 2004 Statutes)



**Česká softballová asociace**  
**Czech Softball Association**  
**Atletická 100 / 2 P.O. Box 40**  
**160 17 Praha 6**  
**tel. +420 233 356 441**  
**fax. +420 220 513 277**  
**e mail: [softball@cstv.cz](mailto:softball@cstv.cz)**

TO: European Softball Federation  
Secretary General  
Mr. Patrice Bienfait

Prague, November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2004

## MOTIONS

### **MOTION # 1:**

#### **Play off:**

**To established the cross play off instead of present page system in the all ESF competition**

#### Substantiation:

The cross play off is more understandable for the public (media, social and political authorities, sponsors...). Especially for the enlargement of the space in media is very important to present clear and more common system. The game as semifinal or final is comprehensible for all including the players.

#### Specication of play off:

##### A) one pool

###### - semifinals:

the teams ranked after round robin at the 1<sup>st</sup> place and 4<sup>th</sup> place will play first semifinal, the teams ranked after first round robin at the 2<sup>nd</sup> a 3<sup>rd</sup> place will play second semifinal

###### - bronz medal game

loosers from semifinals will play bronz medal game

###### - final

winners from semifinals will play final

##### B) two pools

###### - semifinals:

winner of pool A and 2<sup>nd</sup> team of pool B after round robin will play first semifinal and winner of pool B and 2<sup>nd</sup> team of pool A after round robin will play second semifinal

###### - bronz medal game

loosers from semifinals will play bronz medal game

###### - final

winners from semifinals will play gold medal game

**MOTION # 2:**

**Umpiring of own teams:**

**To establish the modus operandi by nomination of umpires in the adult ESF competition, that no umpire will be umpiring the team from own country.**

**Substantiation:**

Softball have to look as a "normal" sport before public (media, social and political authorities, sponsors...). No any other amateur sport is using umpires for umpiring the games, where is playing the teams from own countries. This modus operandi also to prevent the no proper press to the umpires.

Gabriel Waage  
CSA President



ESF  
c/o Secretary General

DSB, NOK, DSJ, IBA, CEB, ISF, ESF

**GERMAN BASEBALL AND  
SOFTBALL FEDERATION**

Feldbergstraße 20-22  
D - 55118 Mainz  
Tel. +49(0)6131-618250  
Fax +49(0)6131-618650

<http://www.DBVnet.de>  
[info@DBVnet.de](mailto:info@DBVnet.de)

4 November 2004

**Motion 2005 -1**

Germany proposes the following change to the "Rules for European Competitions".

**10.02.07 with 10 teams:**

Two groups "a" and "b" both of five teams. Each group plays a single round robin.

The teams ranked 1,2 and 3 of both groups play a single round robin "c" in which the games between these teams of the first round robins "a" and "b" will also be considered as a played game for this round robin "c" to determine the places 5 and 6. For the first four teams of round robin "c" the "Page System" finals.  
Teams ranked 4 and 5 of both groups play a single round robin "d" in which the games between these teams of the first round robins "a" and "b" will also be considered as a played game for this round robin "d".  
The final result of this round robin "d" will determine the places 7 to 10 in the Competition.

**10.02.08 with 11 teams:**

Two groups "a" and "b" one of five teams "a" and one of 6 teams "b".

Each group plays a single round robin.

The teams ranked 1,2 and 3 of both groups play a single round robin "c" in which the games between these teams of the first round robins "a" and "b" will also be considered as a played game for this round robin "c" to determine the places 5 and 6. For the first four teams of round robin "c" the "Page System" finals.  
Teams ranked 4 to 6 of both groups play a single round robin "d" in which the games between these teams of the first round robins "a" and "b" will also be considered as a played game for this round robin "d".  
The final result of this round robin "d" will determine the places 7 to 11 in the Competition.

**10.02.09 with 12 teams:**

Two groups "a" and "b" both of six teams. Each group plays a single round robin.

The teams ranked 1,2 and 3 of both groups play a single round robin "c" in which the games between these teams of the first round robins "a" and "b" will also be considered as a played game for this round robin "c" to determine the places 5 and 6. For the first four teams of round robin "c" the "Page System" finals.  
Teams ranked 4 of both groups play a single round robin "d" to determine the places 7 and 8 (toss).  
Teams ranked 5 of both groups play a single round robin "e" to determine the places 9 and 10 (toss).  
Teams ranked 6 of both groups play a single round robin "f" to determine the places 11 and 12 (toss).

**Reasoning:**

In recent years usually teams from the same four countries finished in the first four places in almost all European Competitions. In the interest of development, the system proposed here would give more teams the change to play games against those "top four" teams to develop their skills.

GERMAN BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL FEDERATION



Frank Wagner  
President

ESF  
c/o Secretary General



DSB, NOK, DSJ, IBA, CEB, ISF, ESF

**GERMAN BASEBALL AND  
SOFTBALL FEDERATION**

Feldbergstraße 20-22  
D - 55118 Mainz  
Tel. +49(0)6131-618250  
Fax +49(0)6131-618650

<http://www.DBVnet.de>  
[info@DBVnet.de](mailto:info@DBVnet.de)

4 November 2004

**Motion 2005 -2**

Germany proposes the following change to the "Rules for European Competitions".

**9.01.02.03** *a European Cup "A" with the maximum of nine teams, plus the possible defending champion*

**9.01.02.04** *a European Cup "A" with the maximum of nine teams, plus the possible defending champion*

**9.01.02.05** *a European Cup "A" with the maximum of nine teams, plus the possible defending champion*

**9.01.02.06** *a European Cup "A" with the maximum of nine teams, plus the possible defending champion*

**Reasoning:**

European Championships are played with an A-Pool of ten teams now.

After including the defending champion as additional 9<sup>th</sup> team, European Cups will be played with nine teams which leads to two different groups and an asymmetric schedule. The system for European Competition should be homogenized, playing with ten teams in the A-Pool in every competition.

GERMAN BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL FEDERATION

Frank Wagner  
President



Dresdner Bank  
BIZ 550 800 65  
Konto-Nr. 232 350 300





DSB, NOK, DSJ, IBA, CEB, ISF, ESF

ESF  
c/o Secretary General

**GERMAN BASEBALL AND  
SOFTBALL FEDERATION**

Feldbergstraße 20-22  
D - 55118 Mainz  
Tel. +49(0)6131-618250  
Fax +49(0)6131-618650

<http://www.DBVnet.de>  
[info@DBVnet.de](mailto:info@DBVnet.de)

4 November 2004

**Motion 2005 -3**

Germany proposes the following changes to the "Rules for European Competitions".

**9.04.01.01** *When one team is promoted and one team is relegated: The team ranked 10<sup>th</sup> in the higher division and the first ranked team of the lower division exchange their ratings.*

**9.04.01.02** *When two teams are promoted and two teams are relegated: The two teams ranked 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> in the higher division and the two first ranked team of the lower division exchange their ratings respectively.*

**9.04.01.03** *Teams that withdraw, are retired or do not effectively take part to the Competition are relegated in application of article 09.02.03 but do not influence the ranking of the other teams which take part to that Competition.*

**Reasoning:**

In the present situation, a team which finishes in a place which under normal circumstances does not lead to relegation may be relegated if one (or more) team(s) do(es) not show up at the competition. This is unfair, as this team might have beaten the teams which did not show up. No team should be penalized for other teams not showing up at the competition.

GERMAN BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL FEDERATION

Frank Wagner  
President



Dresdner Bank  
BIZ 550 800 65  
Konto-Nr. 232 350 300

**Koninklijke Belgische Baseball & Softball Federatie (KBBSF vzw)  
Fédération Royale Belge de Baseball et Softball (FRBBS asbl)**



**Secretariaat - Secrétariat : Boulevard d'Avroy, 192/12 -  
B4000 Liège**

Tel. : +32 (0)4 250 06 00 - Fax : +32 (0)4 250 06 06

E- mail : [lucien.destexhe@belgacom.net](mailto:lucien.destexhe@belgacom.net)

Bankrekening - Compte Bancaire : 735-0022452-33

Maatschappelijke Zetel - Siège Social : Boomgaardstraat 22/30 – B2600 Antwerpen  
N° d'association - Vereniging : 481775 – N° d'entreprise - Vereniging : 415130702

---

Antwerp, October 5th, 2004

**Concerning : propositions to the congress 2005**

**PROPOSITION 1**

Knowing it is difficult to find organisers probably for financial reasons I met a problem about lodging the participating teams.

What happened in Praha is probably an example which happens in other tournaments as well, although the organisers (in Praha) didn't complain about it, I think it is a serious problem

**FACT**

An offer of three hotels, nearby the field and at low prices, was sent to every participating team. On the tournament web-side ([skradotin.web3.cz](http://skradotin.web3.cz)) the hotels were even showed by pictures, but there was little response.

**PROBLEM**

Teams are booking their own hotel on different places which causes problems and extra expenses for the organiser, which those teams don't realise. Although the distance from the hotel to the field is reasonable, some times transport can be difficult by traffic jams. Sometimes transport is difficult because they have to pick up the teams on different places (sometimes at great distance from each other).

**PROPOSITION**

Organisers have to offer at least a choice of three hotels to the participating teams at reasonable prices. The organisers will provide transport from those hotels to the field.

If a team wants to stay in another hotel, then the organiser is no longer obliged to take care of the transport from that hotel to the field.

## PROPOSITION 2

From my experience in the past the most interesting days for organisers are Saturday and Sunday.

In the past tournament started later and ended on Sunday. We played in two groups and then we got the cross semi-finals and the final (best out of three). So during the weekend we got at least 4 important games, with sometime (in Belgium, Holland, The Czech republic or Italy) a lot of spectators.

With the new system during the weekend we only got one or two important game on Saturday.

It is my believing that at least for the organisers the old system was a lot more interesting.

Maybe we have **to go back to the future**. It is not always so that what is good for the USA is also good for Europe.

## PROPOSITION 3

We (all the countries in the Eurozone) now have a lot of problems and costs to transfer money to the Swiss account.

Isn't it possible to have a bank account somewhere in the Eurozone countries, so that once again we easily and without costs can transfer money the ESF account

For KBBSF

Gilbert Tobback  
president

# MOTIONS AND PROPOSALS FROM THE BRITISH SOFTBALL FEDERATION TO THE 2005 ESF CONGRESS

*The British Softball Federation would like to submit the following requests, motions and proposals to the 2005 ESF Congress:*

## **Agenda Request**

The BSF requests that an item be added to the 2005 Congress Agenda titled: **Slowpitch Development**. The intention is that two topics will be discussed under this item:

- **EUROPEAN SLOWPITCH CHAMPIONSHIPS.** Proposals set out below concerning the European Slowpitch Championships will be briefly outlined and their rationale explained: ie, to make the tournament less expensive and thus more accessible without diminishing the number of games or the status of the tournament, and to make play more rewarding, especially for women. The location of the tournament for 2006 will be confirmed (if possible) and countries encouraged to attend.
- **SLOWPITCH DEVELOPMENT IN EUROPE.** Following consultations with ESF/ISF Development Worker Pavel Prachar and the ESF Development Commission, a strategy for assistance with Slowpitch development will be outlined, along with reasons why Continental countries should be interested in this programme and what they need to do to access it.

## **Motions to Congress**

- **EUROPEAN TOURNAMENT CALENDAR.** The BSF proposes that the new ESF/ISF Development Worker and the ESF Webmaster be jointly charged with compiling and publishing each year on the ESF website a Calendar of all Junior and Senior Fastpitch and Slowpitch tournaments to be held in European countries in the following year where such tournaments are open to entry by national and/or club teams from other countries. Such a Calendar would include dates, venue, type of tournament and e-mail link or contact for each event, and would be published initially in the autumn of each year, with changes and additions through the winter. Our motion is that this task be formally added to the job descriptions of these individuals, although other ESF Executive members can no doubt assist with the task.

**Reason:** To encourage more international competition experience in Europe at all levels and in all formats and to foster contacts and friendship among ESF members.

- **EUROPEAN CO-ED SLOWPITCH CUP.** The BSF proposes that the ESF introduces a European Co-ed Slowpitch Cup competition for club teams, run on the same lines as the current Men's and Women's Fastpitch Cup competitions. Like those competitions, this should become an annual event – but to start with it could run in odd-numbered years, between European Co-ed Slowpitch Championships. If the ESF deems it possible, the first such competition could be organised in 2005.

We further propose that for this ESF competition only, eligibility rules regarding non-nationals should be changed to allow up to six non-nationals per team, with no distinction between non-nationals who are permanent residents and those who are not. Rosters for this competition should be set at a maximum of 18, with a maximum of three female non-nationals and three male non-nationals allowed on the roster.

**Reason:** To encourage increased Slowpitch competition at club level across Europe.

- **EUROPEAN TOURNAMENT VENUES.** The BSF would like every reasonable effort made to ensure that European Championships are bid for, and the dates and venue confirmed, at the Congress in the **year before** these events are to take place. This is specified in ESF Tournament Regulations, but does not always happen. We therefore propose that it be a condition of bidding that dates, venue and information on accommodation possibilities are submitted as part of any bid. In the event that no bids are received for a European Championship event at that Congress, the ESF Executive is to make every reasonable effort to identify dates and venue for that event by the end of the **year before** the event is to take place.

**Reason:** To give participating countries the maximum possible time to make the cheapest possible travel and accommodation arrangements, and to give tournament hosts the maximum possible time to prepare for the competition, including achievement of local support and sponsorship.

## **Proposals to Technical Commission**

The BSF wishes to make the following proposals to the Congress regarding European Co-ed Slowpitch Championships, but is happy for these proposals to be referred to the ESF Technical Commission after presentation at Congress:

- **LENGTH OF TOURNAMENT.** Traditionally, European Championships are scheduled over six days. The Commission should look at scheduling European Slowpitch Championships over a smaller number of days – but not so few as to devalue the status of the tournament or to make countries feel they are not getting “value for money”.

**Reason:** A shorter tournament will reduce costs for countries attending, as well as making the tournament more attractive for new countries to enter, in that players won’t have to take a full week off from work (and family) to compete. Shortening this tournament will also help Fastpitch players to participate on National Co-ed Slowpitch Teams, since they can still save holiday time to play in European Fastpitch competitions, where a six-day event is the norm.

- **LENGTH OF GAME SLOTS.** Traditionally, European Championships are scheduled with 120-minute or 150-minute game slots. The Commission should look at reducing the length of game slots for European Slowpitch Championships.

**Reason:** Slowpitch games almost always take far less time than Fastpitch games to complete, especially at Championship level. Shortening the length of time between games will help to condense the tournament and will mean less down time for players, since recovery time is less of an issue in Slowpitch Softball.

- **NUMBER OF FIELDS.** All four European Slowpitch Championships held to date have been at venues with only one competition field. Future Championships should be played at venues with two competition fields.

**Reason:** Having two fields will allow teams to play more games in a shorter period of time (which will help to reduce the number of days required) and will encourage teams stay at the venue for most of the day, which creates a better atmosphere. If the number of participating countries increases, as we hope and expect, two fields will become a necessity.

- **MAKING THE GAME MORE EQUAL FOR WOMEN.** There are a number of ways to equalise Co-ed Slowpitch Softball for women. Here are some possibilities, none of which are mutually exclusive:

- **Alternate balls – 11” for women and 12” for men.** With the women hitting a smaller ball, the ball comes off the bat harder and goes farther, causing outfielders to play further back. This gives women more opportunities to reach base when they hit the ball solidly, which makes for a more competitive game and makes the game more fun for women.
- **Have an outfield arc line.** An arc is drawn across the outfield from foul line to foul line at a distance anywhere from 150-200 feet from home plate, and

all outfielders must stay behind this line until the ball is hit. This gives women more space in which to hit the ball and prevents outfielders crowding in to unduly limit that space.

- **Women batter-runners cannot be thrown out at first base by an outfielder.** Such a rule may not be necessary if one or both of the first two suggestions (above) are implemented.

**Reasons:** With the conditions that prevailed at the 2004 European Slowpitch Championships in Austria (soft balls, slow infield, wind in the batters' faces etc), the game became very difficult for women from an offensive point of view. Even when a woman hit the ball hard in those conditions, more often than not it was an out – and that isn't fair.

- **USING SLOWPITCH BALLS.** Balls made for Slowpitch have particular characteristics suited to the game and should be used in preference to Fastpitch balls (which were used at the 2004 European Slowpitch Championships). Balls used should be .47 COR and with compression characteristics that create a balance between safety and performance.
- **MAKING ISF RULES UNIFORM ACROSS EUROPE FOR SLOWPITCH SOFTBALL.** Slowpitch leagues in Europe appear to use different rules, which affect the way the game is played. For example, some countries do not use the current ISF “walk rule” for men, so men are often walked intentionally. Other countries use a “strike zone mat”, which changes the definition of balls and strikes. Still other countries use an alternate home plate for runners scoring in order to avoid collisions with catchers. It would be better if all countries played Slowpitch with the same rules, and the ISF rules seem the logical ones to adopt for Slowpitch, as for Fastpitch.

**Reason:** Using ISF rules across Europe will standardize the game and create a level playing field for countries sending teams to European Co-ed Slowpitch Championships and European Co-ed Slowpitch Cup competitions.



# **CONGRESS 2005**

## **MOTIONS AND PROPOSALS BY AFFILIATED FEDERATIONS COMMENTS & RECOMMENDATIONS OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL & COMMISSIONS**

### **MOTION 1 CZECH REPUBLIC :**

Recommendation Executive Council : *The ESF EC does not favour this motion. The ESF wishes to keep the playoff system consistent with that of the ISF.*

### **MOTION 2 CZECH REPUBLIC :**

Recommendation Executive Council : *The ESF does not favour this motion. It is already agreed with the TC and UIC that, wherever possible, umpires should not officiate games with teams from their home Federation, but at times it is not always possible. At times, however, situations may arise that there is no option but to have umpires from Federations of the participating teams officiating (European Co-Ed Slowpitch Championships is prime case).*

### **MOTION 1 GERMANY :**

Recommendation Executive Council : *The ESF EC is neutral regarding this motion. The President of the TC has worked out that the schedules can be changed to accommodate the change and show it could be done. However, the changes would mean:*

- 1) Teams would play 2 games per day.*
- 2) Teams would sometimes have to play double headers i.e. back-to-back games.*
- 3) There would be very little scope for games delayed due to rain.*
- 4) There would be more games for the top 6 teams on Thursday, Friday and Saturday.*

### **MOTION 2 GERMANY :**

Recommendation Executive Council : *The ESF EC is in favour of this motion and agrees with the reasoning for the change.*

Comment Legal Commission : *What will be the effect date ? If effective for 2006 Competitions, no consequences. If made effective for 2005 Competitions, ratings and entries for Cup Women will have to be altered (B1 becoming A9).*



### **MOTION 3 GERMANY :**

Recommendation Executive Council : *The ESF EC already recognized this and is submitting its motion to clarify the rules.*

Comment Legal Commission : *See amendments of Competitions Regulations already approved by the Executive Council.*

*Proposed modification of article 09.04.01.03 is not sufficient to reach the objective of the motion.*

*Proposed modifications of articles 09.04.01.01 and 09.04.01.02 do not take into consideration the fact that competitions may be played with more or less than 10 teams. The writing "last ranked" is more appropriate to the situation.*

### **PROPOSAL 1 BELGIUM :**

Recommendation Executive Council : *The ESF EC agrees with this proposal and recommends it is discussed at the Tournaments Commission at the Congress. The ESF recommends that a limit on distance from the game venue be placed, but consideration must be given that some venues may not always have abundant and affordable accommodation for teams and negotiation by the teams and hosts must take place to resolve problems.*

Comment Legal Commission : *See the existing provision for limit distance in the Competitions Regulations : Obligations of Organizers - article 33.04. "Local transportation for the teams from the hotel(s) to the fields within a radius of 25 km"*

### **PROPOSAL 2 BELGIUM :**

Recommendation Executive Council : *The ESF does not favour this proposal. The ESF EC acknowledges that it tournament hosts are more likely to get more spectators to games on Sunday. However, teams arrive on Sunday for a Monday start. If the ESF allowed tournaments to start on Tuesday for a Sunday finish this would mean that teams would arrive on Monday prior to the tournament start and would not be allowed to leave until the Monday after the tournament and would have to take extra days holiday.*

### **PROPOSAL 3 BELGIUM :**

Recommendation Executive Council : *The ESF does not favour this proposal. The ESF bank account is set up in Euros and there should not be a problem with transferring money to that account. The ESF recommends the ESF Treasurer discuss with the Belgian Federation the problems they are having with transferring money to the ESF account.*

### **MOTION 1 GREAT BRITAIN :**

Recommendation Executive Council : *The ESF cannot mandate this as a regulation. The ESF will provide links on the Website to tournaments and always endeavours to obtain information about member's international tournaments and is happy to publicise these tournaments.*

## **MOTION 2 GREAT BRITAIN :**

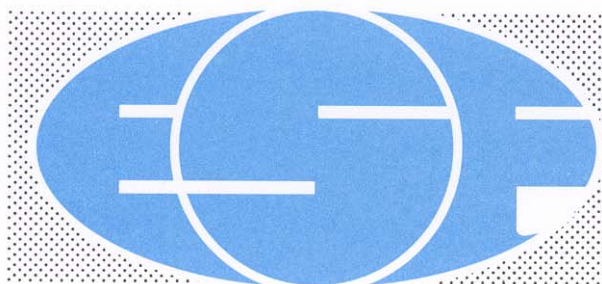
Recommendation Executive Council : *The ESF EC favours the 1<sup>st</sup> part of this motion, regarding the European Co-Ed Slowpitch Cup. The ESF favours the tournament to be held in late May of each year because of the schedule at the end of the season is so full it would not be possible to provide sufficient umpires etc. Also, the ESF would recommend the tournament be held over 3 days. At the 2005 Congress the ESF EC will endeavour to ask teams to commence this competition in 2005 or in 2006, with the next competition taking place in 2007.*

*The ESF does not favour the 2<sup>nd</sup> part of the motion relating to the change in player eligibility. The ESF would like all competitions to be equal and giving special rules for one competition would create a divide within the European Softball community.*

## **MOTION 3 GREAT BRITAIN :**

Recommendation Executive Council : *The ESF EC favours this motion. General dates for tournaments are already in the ESF Competition regulations and agrees that the candidates must provide the information when bidding.*

*The ESF already does make every effort to identify hosts if none are forthcoming and this part of the motion is not favoured by the ESF EC*



*European Softball Federation*  
*Fédération Européenne Softball*

## **CONGRESS 2005**

### **ORGANIZERS OF COMPETITIONS**

### **ADMISSIBLE NOMINATIONS**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Competition</b>	<b>Candidate</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Note</b>
<b>2005</b>	<b>Championship Men</b>	<b>Nijmegen (NED)</b>	<b>Jul. 4-9</b>	<b>2</b>
	<b>Cup Women A</b>	<b>Macerata (ITA)</b> <b>Prague (CZE)</b>	<b>Aug. 15-20</b> <b>Aug. 15-20</b>	<b>1</b>
	<b>Cup Women B</b>	<b>Torre San Patrizio (ITA)</b>	<b>Aug. 15-20</b>	<b>1</b>
	<b>Winners Cup Women A</b>	<i>No candidature received</i>	<b>Aug. 15-20</b>	<b>2</b>
	<b>Winners Cup Women B</b>	<i>No candidature received</i>	<b>Aug. 15-20</b>	<b>2</b>
	<b>Cup Men</b>	<b>Stabroek (BEL)</b>	<b>Aug. 22-27</b>	
	<b>Winners Cup Men</b>	<b>Prague (CZE)</b>	<b>Aug. 22-27</b>	
<b>2006</b>	<b>Championship Junior Girls</b>	<b>Lucca (ITA)</b>		<b>4</b>
	<b>Championship Junior Boys</b>	<i>No candidature received</i>		<b>2</b>
	<b>Championship Minime Girls</b>	<b>CZE</b>	<b>Aug.</b>	<b>3, 4</b>
	<b>Championship Coed Slowpitch</b>	<i>No candidature received</i>		<b>2</b>

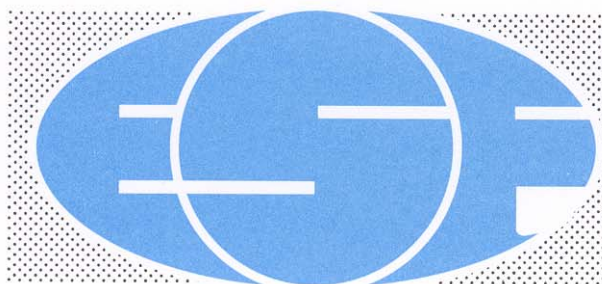
Notes :

1 - Joint organizations

2 - Nominations still open

3 - Exact location to be announced

4 - Exact dates to be announced



*European Softball Federation*  
*Fédération Européenne Softball*

# **CONGRESS 2005**

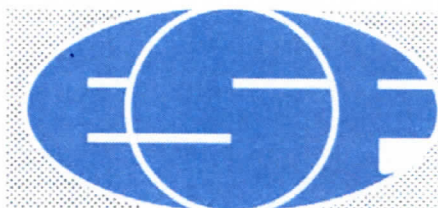
## **ELECTIONS TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

### **ADMISSIBLE NOMINATIONS**

<b>Position</b>	<b>Candidate</b>	<b>Nominated by :</b>
<b>PRESIDENT</b>	<b>Mike JENNINGS (GBR)</b>	<b>GBR</b>
<b>SECRETARY GENERAL</b>	<b>Patrice BIENFAIT (FRA)</b>	<b>S.4.5.2.3</b>
<b>TREASURER</b>	<b>Fredy STEGER (SUI)</b>	<b>S.4.5.2.3</b>
<b>FIRST VICE PRESIDENT</b>	<b>Robert MILOSAVLJEVIC (CRO)</b> <b>Massimo ROMEO (ITA)</b> <b>Giovanni SANNA (ITA)</b>	<b>CRO</b> <b>S.4.5.2.3.</b> <b>ITA</b>
<b>VICE PRESIDENTS</b> <b>(5 seats)</b>	<b>Youri ALKALAI (BUL)</b> <b>Bob FROMER (GBR)</b> <b>Andres IBORRA (ESP)</b> <b>Robert MILOSAVLJEVIC (CRO)</b> <b>Libby MOSS (GBR)</b> <b>Giovanni SANNA (ITA)</b> <b>Ruud van ZETTEN (NED)</b> <b>Gabriel WAAGE (CZE)</b>	<b>BUL</b> <b>GBR</b> <b>ESP</b> <b>CRO</b> <b>S.4.5.2.3.</b> <b>ITA</b> <b>NED</b> <b>CZE</b>

**ALL NOMINATIONS ACCORDING TO ARTICLES 2.2.2 & 4.5.2 OF THE STATUTES OF THE ESF**





*European Softball Federation*  
*Fédération Européenne Softball*

## **President's Report**

Dear ESF Federation Members:

I'm writing in advance of our 2005 Congress, generously hosted by the Czech Federation, to raise some issues to prepare for discussion there, and to report on the years past and future.

### **2004**

Following our 2004 Congress in Madrid our friends there suffered the appalling impact of the bombings of March. Our thoughts and prayers were with them and their city then and in the months that followed.

In March I visited an ESF / ISF Umpiring Course for slowpitch Blues in preparation for the SP Coed event in Linz. Rene Sterkenberg, funded by the ISF and in collaboration with the GB trainer endorsed by the ESF, did an outstanding job for us. Marlies Struyve, our Umpire Commissioner who then acted as UC in Linz, is very aware that more slowpitch umpires will be needed as this discipline grows. Marlies will be with us in Prague, as will Guller Eriksen, secretary of the TC. Please make every effort to discuss with them where your Federation stands in its development of Blues, and confirm your attendees for 2005 training.

During the last week of March I acted as a local ISF TC for the Pre-Olympic Facilities Test event in Athens, played by teams from Czech, GB, Russia and the Hellenic national squad in training for the real thing.

In April, the technical Commission launched a innovative training event in Chocen, Czech Republic, by integrating Technical Commissioners' training alongside trainee umpires. This ensures that our Competitions are run by TCs and officials all working to the same high standard of understanding of the sport and its rules. All future TCs will be required to attend such a Course. I was privileged to present the awards after this course and to meet all the TCs. Congratulations to Marlies and Gilbert Tobback, the clinicians, for the success of the Course.

In June I inspected the Linz venue for the Coed Championships, and attended as EC in August. The Executive met in Paris in July, at the Juniors Competitions, and this was a good opportunity to see our young talent being developed by committed coaches and managers, whom we thank for their efforts. The Minimes Competition in Collecchio was another success for those committed to the grass-roots growth of the sport.

At the end of July, Prague hosted a pre-Olympic Cup Competition, which I combined with the inspection of the Moscow Region venue for the Women's CWCA in September. I was sorry not to have attended this event itself: all reports describe it as a credit to the

organizers and a great success, despite serious doubts expressed by some in advance due to the terrorist incident in Beslan.

The Olympics in August gave many softball fans the opportunity to see the game played at the highest level: fine weather and impressive facilities combined to make it truly memorable. The ISF kindly hosted me at the event and I was able to meet many of the ISF VPs as they arrived for their Executive meeting. Ways to make use of the Olympic legacy facilities in Athens should be part of our planned activities for next year, for the benefit of players locally, from across the ESF and internationally.

September saw the end of my 2004 Competition season, as EC at the Men's Cup in Haarlem followed by the Women's CWCB in Brasschaat.

Throughout the year I have been particularly impressed by the enthusiasm and commitment of our member Federations, Clubs and their volunteers in hosting competitions, and I extend my personal thanks for the hospitality they showed me. Without their efforts we would not be able to sustain the impressive range of Competitions we provide to all our athletes, Junior and Senior, Men and Women. They deserve the gratitude and thanks of every ESF player, coach and fan.

More recently, I have been appointed a VP of the ISF, replacing Pavel Prachar who resigned his position on accepting his present role as ESF / ISF Development Facilitator. I would like to thank him for the efforts he made on behalf of the European softball community whilst on the ISF Executive. Alongside Cindy Bristow, ISF Development Director, he has worked steadily to bring ISF resources to Europe, collectively and to individual Federations, and attended and facilitated ISF events in Europe in preparation for and during the Olympics.

My appointment runs only until the ISF Congress in November, at which time I hope to be elected as a VP for Europe for a full four-year term. The support of ESF Federations at the Kaohsiung meeting will be critical if this hope is to succeed: we also need to spend time at our Prague Congress to discuss what strategy we should follow in selecting a candidate for the second European VP position.

During 2004, Development help from the ISF has included Umpire clinician support, equipment donation and providing coaches for Training Courses in Europe. Cindy worked throughout the year with Pavel Prachar and Massimo Romeo: all three will be part of the Development Commission workshop to review 2004 activities prior to Congress and to pre-plan 2005, perhaps including a new age-group category and new ESF competition formats to encourage more, and more affordable, international events. Finally establishing the position of Development Facilitator, with Pavel Prachar as the first contractor, was a great satisfaction during 2004 after months of discussion and collaboration with the ISF: it will be of critical importance to our development.

Another activity which has generated more frustration than success for a long time is our upgrading of the ESF website, but I have every hope that the extra efforts put in over the last few months are at last producing results. See more below on this issue.

## **CONGRESS**

I ask all delegates to come to Congress prepared to contribute and decide on the motions from Federations which have all been circulated, but in addition to them we have to address other important issues; during Congress, in Commissions and through many informal meetings beside.



## FINANCIAL

Treasurer Steger has highlighted his concerns on the future level of our reserves if annual deficits continue. Whilst some expenses cannot be avoided, 'discretionary' expenditures such as Development must be compromised in the medium term if we don't generate the resources to fund them, despite the welcome support of ISF's joint funding of our Development Facilitator. The expenditure budget for 2005 needs to be fully debated, but by far the most important aspect of our financial viability is how we derive our income. We are well aware that most Federations suffer from decreasing, or non-existing, support from Government or Sports funding bodies, but the ESF must first look to our members to plan our financial future.

General Secretary Bienfait prepared a survey in 2004, detailing the extent to which our membership and Tournament charges had lagged behind the inexorable increases, year by year, of the general inflationary level of costs. I have asked him to re-circulate those figures to remind us of the consequences of ignoring this issue, and we ask you to support a realistic update of our charging structure, for membership and tournament fees.

## COMPETITION HOSTS

We already know several hosts for our 2005 championships and Cups, and hope that others will emerge at the Congress itself. We have arranged an information session on the Sunday morning to allow **hosts** to hand out maps and other information to teams, and for **teams** to ask any questions they may have about accommodation options, travel arrangements, local amenities and all those other important things they need to know when planning involvement in an ESF competition. Last year many of these details were communicated too late to allow for timely planning: we hope this session will ease the 2005 experience. *If you represent a Federation hosting an event this coming year, or one of your Clubs is hosting, please bring enough copies of the relevant maps etc with you.*

## WEBSITE

Tony Iligems, working on the websites for both the Belgian Federation and the ESF, will be at the Congress to show member Federations some aspects of our new website. This will include the facility for all Federations to amend & update contact data via your own password access: *please bring all your current data with you to ensure this can be done at Congress.*

One important intended facility of the new site is an events Diary. The ESF will of course be using these pages to record all our events, as in the past. The new function should enable Federations and Clubs to publish any events you run which are open to others. This should allow all Federations to be aware of your competitions and hopefully increase participation. Without your input this will have NO value: *please bring your event details with you to Prague.*

We also want to collect the annual input of statistical data which is going to be critical if we are to make any progress with Marketing and Sponsorship. We have had disappointing responses to previous requests: we need solid data on the number of clubs, teams & players, by gender and age, across our entire area. We also need to know what efforts we are already making in respect of developing the sport in schools, a critical area for the development of the sport across Europe. *How many courses, how many schools, how many students, what results? At the moment we have no such numbers: we need to know what YOU are doing.*

## **PROSPECTIVE VPs**

For this Election Congress we have asked re-standing VPs to include a brief 'manifesto' statement in their reports, and new prospective VPs to prepare a page or so detailing the skills they intend to bring to the ESF if elected. We hope these statements will help you cast your votes.

## **2005**

### **OLYMPIC STATUS**

2005 is a critical year for decisions to be made by the IOC, both for Softball's continued inclusion beyond Beijing, and the choice of venue for 2012. Statistically, Europe has a 4 in 5 chance of hosting that event: we have to help ensure that Softball is still then an Olympic sport. Whether London, Madrid, Moscow or Paris becomes the venue, I hope the ESF community will give every support to the ISF's continuing efforts to maintain Softball's Olympic status.

### **DEVELOPMENT**

I want to see us come out of Congress 2005 with a solid Development Plan geared to our priorities and delivered in large part by the ESF / ISF Facilitator. These efforts should help individual Federations build their sport locally and feed into a series of ESF Competitions at every age level, for single-sex and co-ed players. We must be a sport which seeks out new players and delivers enjoyment and competition to all.

### **EXECUTIVE**

I thank all in the ESF Executive and the Commissions who have given their time and energy to make things happen in 2004. Without their efforts, European softball would not be the active network which we now enjoy and are committed to develop. Our future success will depend in large part on the quality of time and effort the new Executive invest as willing volunteers. Their selection is in your hands!

I look forward to meeting many of you in Prague, and I want us all to look forward to 2005 as year in which we all commit to develop Softball in every discipline in every Member Federation:

***All of Softball across all of Europe!***

**Mike Jennings**

---





## *European Softball Federation Fédération Européenne Softball*

### **REPORT TREASURER ESF ON FINANCIAL REPORT 2004 + BUDGET 2005**

#### **BALANCE 31.12.04**

The Bank accounts moved from Belgium to Switzerland. All bank details for payments you will find on the ESF homepage under Documents (ESF Financial Appendix).

The most important matter is the financial future of the ESF. Since 31.10.2001 with a capital of about EUR 86'000.--, we find us on 31.10.2004 with a capital of EUR 47'384.63. If we continue to spend as in the past, and in addition increase expenses as in our budget, our reserves will have used up during 2006. All administration and tournament costs are in a normal range for the size of the ESF and the work of the functionaries to do. But the incomes are not sufficient to cover all these expenses. It's not a professional work to ask the Member Federations to cover the expenses, just before all reserves are used, with an extraordinary payment in 2006, instead to look more forward and to find a solution now. I will present you the details and a possible solution at the Congress (see also Budget 2005).

#### **RESULT (Lost + Profit Statement) 1.11.03 - 31.12.04**

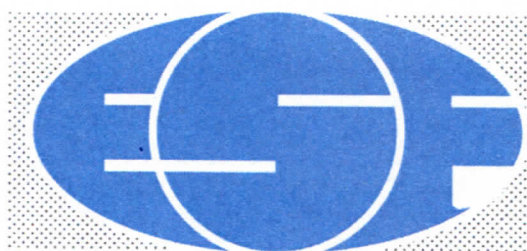
Most expenses and incomes are according to the Budget +/- (+EUR 3000.--), except for development where we spent about EUR 4'000, being 16'000 less than in the Budget. Instead of a budgeted loss of about EUR 32'000.-- we closed with a loss of about EUR 19'000.--.

The reason for the small change of the Result and Budget format was to allow more detail and clearer comparisons between amounts budgeted and spent, better grouped by activity/responsibility.

#### **BUDGET 2005**

The Budget 2005 for the expenses corresponds with the actual (Real) expenses 2004, with the exception of the development. For which we took the same amount as in the Budget 2004 (EUR 20'000.--). Our plan for development will be explained in detail at the Congress. So the total Budget for expenses 2005 complies to the actual (Real) 2004 + diff. on development (EUR 65'000 + 16'000 = 81'000.--).

The Budget 2005 for the incomes (aff.+entry+licence fees) has risen markedly, to respond the financial situation explained above. Without big sponsoring, we have to finance ourselves with our own incomes, there is no other way. Which of these fees should rise more or less, is less important. Enclosed you will find the proposal for the new fees on the Financial Appendix 2005. We will explain the Budget for the incomes detailed at the Congress.



*European Softball Federation*  
*Fédération Européenne Softball*

*The Secretary General*  
*Le Secrétaire Général*

*11 rue de Larchant - 77760 RECLOSES - FRANCE - Tel : 33 (0)1 64242636 - Fax : 33 (0)1 64242211*  
*email : SecretaryGeneral@europeansoftball.org - Web : <http://www.europeansoftball.org>*

## **SECRETARY GENERAL REPORT 2004**

### **GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS**

This Report closes the four-year term of the Secretary General. In the same time, it closes our third term in this position, representing twelve years of service in the duty of Secretary General, following two years as Third Vice President.

During this period, the ESF has seen, under four Presidents, seventeen new Federations affiliating, the number of European Competitions expanding from three, including one Championship, to fourteen, including eight Championships, and the number of teams in Competition growing from two dozens to more than hundred.

This period has been, for our part, a source of intense satisfaction for doing things and having things done, and in the same time a source of frustration for the things that could or should have been done and that still remain to do. This has also been a source of great contentment for having worked with persons dedicated to the sake of European Softball, but sometimes a source of bitter disappointment when mean personal interests took precedence of the common good.

Nevertheless, we are proud of having brought our humble contribution to the development of the ESF during this period.

### **OVERALL SITUATION**

We concluded our 2003 Report with this sentence : *"It will become essential, in a very near future, for all Members of the ESF to consider what should be the appropriate means for the ESF administration to fulfill its duties, because the ESF, or at least the Headquarters, can respond to the increase of the demands and to the growing - and often justified - requirements and exigencies of its Members only if it has the corresponding possibilities."* We could leave this sentence unchanged to depict this year's situation.

The Secretary General's Office represents a full time work, without potential manpower reserves, thus any incident, hazard, or unexpected event generates delay. As we already pointed out in previous Reports, the Headquarters remain too vulnerable to exceptional circumstances, and we devote, by necessity, too much time to basic "paperwork" tasks and not to the strategic or political duties of the Office.

The Executive Council has started to discuss the possibility to create a Deputy or Assistant Secretary General Position, this could be a way to solve part of the problem.

### **PAID ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF**

The 2004 Congress approved the allotment of € 10,000 from the budget of development for the creation of a "Paid Administrator" position. From this, a "Development Facilitator" contractual position has been created during the year, to be used by the Development Commission, but this



does not cover the need of the Secretariat General for some "basic administration" additional manpower. So this may be beneficial for the development but not for the administration.

## **COMPUTER SYSTEM**

Considering that this year was the final year of the elective term we did not proceed to the budgeted investment on a new laptop until it became probable that - depending on the vote of the Congress - we could have the opportunity to use it for another term. So a new laptop has been purchased for the Secretariat General in the end of 2004.

## **WEB SITE**

We have broken in early 2004 the limits of the present resources of the Web Site, as well in terms of storage capacity than traffic. This has generated periods of unavailability, and we have not been able to update the Web site as frequently as we wished. However, we have managed to keep a "minimum service" and to provide all relevant information, even with "technical acrobatics".

For reasons that only professionals and specialists in "Computer Science" can set forth and understand, our Web Responsible could not in 2004 implement the new hosting with highly extended capacity and traffic allowance. However, this should be ready for this year's Congress and the first online application should be presented to the Federations on this occasion.

The implementation of this New Web Site, together with the installation of ADSL (high speed internet) at the Secretary General's Offices, should result into spectacular improvements of the ESF internet offer in 2005.

## **ON LINE INFORMATION**

Two main reasons have brought us to increase the on-line information provided to Federations : Being established that the management of "paper" documents generated a load of manpower - what we are in chronic shortage - and important costs - what we try to minimize - we have taken the option to provide the maximum of information in electronic form. Consequently, we have on a regular basis sent all important information by electronic mail, and for the 2004 Competitions all Forms and Documents have been made available to Federations in electronic format. This has saved a lot of time and also had a significant impact on the budget. This trend will be continued, the objective being to suppress most paper documents and to work whenever possible by direct online update, the only restrictions being there of legal order.

The only constraint of this policy is that it obliges Federations to have an internet connection. In our knowledge today only one Federation has a specific problem with this.

## **HISTORICAL AND ARCHIVES RESEARCH**

We have been very glad to achieve a long process of more than five years of research on a multiplicity of sources, and to recover and publish all data on the European Competitions since the birth of the ESF. If we have most archives since our arriving at the Secretariat General, for previous years information is often dissimilar or missing. Our next objectives in this area will be to find out the details (game by game) of each Competition, and to continue our researches on the Congresses for the period 1976 - 1990. We miss many of the documents for this period, and any help from the Federations will be welcome.

## **RATING SYSTEM**

With the changes in the Executive Council in 2004 we lost very experienced persons in the Competitions management area. Especially, all the method and procedure of entry and allocation of teams in Competitions was not easy to understand and implement in a simple way. We therefore have created a "Rating System" whose purpose is to ease the determination of the sporting rights of

participating teams in Competitions. This system is tested for the 2005 Competitions and until now works satisfactorily.

## **LEGAL COMMISSION**

After a very important work for the 2004 Statutes, the Legal Commission had far less activity during this year. We advised the Executive Council on changes in Regulations , and worked on the Contract for the Development Facilitator.

At several occasions we had to call the attention of the Executive Council and Commissions on the provisions of the Statutes and Regulations and the necessity to enforce them. This is certainly not one of the most "popular" duties of the Secretary General and the Legal Commission, however this can not be ignored.

## **RELATIONS WITH NATIONAL ADMINISTRATIONS**

The same breaches as already pointed out in last years Reports can be repeated again :

- The lack of answer from too many National Administrations to the requests for information made by the Headquarters;
- The lack of communication of the changes in National Administrations, with a new phenomenon, the "unknown email address", which, added to the "unknown postal address" and the "never connecting fax" , make some National Administrations almost unreachable.
- The tendency not to respect due dates - for one National Administration late, all a process can be paralyzed

Once more we encourage Federations to make more efforts to improve these points.

We also urge ALL Federations to have an Internet access for the reasons that we already gave.

## **INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

We already pointed out that we had no feed-backs from International Vice-Presidents relating to the contacts that they might have with the National Administrations in Europe, and mainly when relating to non-ESF Members. It seems that in 2004 there have been no such contacts at all, as we received no feed-back at all.

## **SECRETARIAT GENERAL BUDGET**

Hereafter the 2004 expenses for the Headquarters and the 2005 budget, together with the evolution of the expenses of the Secretariat General since 2001.

Figures differ from them given in the Financial Report of the Treasurer, as the expenses hereafter represent the real expenses of the Headquarters and of the Secretariat General only. In the Financial report all other expenses incumbent to the administration, but not under the responsibility of the Secretariat General are also included.

Not only have we kept the 2004 expenses under control, but we have anytime when possible tried to reduce them. The result is a 16% reduction of the year's operating costs.

The online documentation policy has allowed the reduction of printing and copying and of a part of the office supplies. For 2005, these reductions should continue, together with a reduction of telephone costs thanks to ADSL technology. The counterpart is however an increase of internet fees, for the ADSL subscription. Nevertheless, our objective for the operating costs for 2005 is to keep a 15 % reduction of the budget compared with 2004 budget.



Considering outstanding costs, the Executive Council agreed to spend more for a better computer system than initially planned. In 2005, computer system expenses will constitute of new software.

	2001 realized	2002 realized	2003 realized	2004 budget	2004 realized	2004 balance	2005 budget
<b>Operating Costs</b>							
Telephone and Fax	1,241.13	1,538.92	1,592.85	1,650.00	1,540.08	-109.92	1,200.00
Postage	586.93	473.58	489.15	550.00	544.10	-5.90	400.00
Office Supplies	801.50	1,042.63	904.64	900.00	590.65	-309.35	700.00
Printing and Copying	55.49	302.39	374.14	450.00	354.14	-95.86	300.00
Internet Fees	262.14	284.55	305.18	350.00	247.55	-102.45	700.00
<b>S/Total Operating Costs</b>	<b>2,947.19</b>	<b>3,642.07</b>	<b>3,665.96</b>	<b>3,900.00</b>	<b>3,276.52</b>	<b>-623.48</b>	<b>3,300.00</b>
<b>Outstanding Costs</b>							
Official Paper	304.49						
Reparing Copier	352.51						
Computer System	1,449.64	570.20		1,000.00	1,558.90	558.90	900.00
<b>S/Total Outstanding Costs</b>	<b>2,106.64</b>	<b>570.20</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>1,000.00</b>	<b>1,558.90</b>	<b>558.90</b>	<b>900.00</b>
<b>Total Costs</b>	<b>5,053.83</b>	<b>4,212.27</b>	<b>3,665.96</b>	<b>4,900.00</b>	<b>4,835.42</b>	<b>-64.58</b>	<b>4,200.00</b>

## GENERAL BUDGET

Last year, we specifically called the attention on the lack of balance between incomes and expenses in the ESF budget and its inexorable consequences, and we provided an analysis of the contributions of Federations. We must admit that there have been very few - to say the least - reactions. We have therefore been very sensitive to the fact that the present Treasurer reached the same conclusions and will present solutions to the Congress. On the request of the ESF President, we append to this Report the Analysis of Contributions already issued last year.

Objective elements have also brought us to question the present membership fees system. We are convinced that the existing system, based on a variable fee proportional to the number of members, presents redhibitory defects and that a much more simple flat fee system could advantageously substitute for it. However, this is not yet mature and need further consideration.

## TERM 2005 - 2008

In case of re-election by the Congress, the program of the Secretariat General for the next term is clearly defined :

On the long range and as a general orientation : To continue the modernization of the administrative procedures and the general management of the ESF and implement a productive and cost-efficient administration for the benefit of the affiliated Federations.

On the short range :

- To implement the New Web Site and all on line documentation and information
- To finalize the re-writing of the Regulations in accordance with the modernized procedures
- To enforce the "Corporate Image" of the ESF
- To coordinate and facilitate the administrative work of the ESF Officers
- To assist and support the Affiliated Federations in their management and administration needs

Of course this does not constitute a restrictive list.

**Patrice BIENFAIT**  
**Secretary General ESF**