



ESF EC Fall Meeting
Vienna, 24-26, November 2017
Minutes

EC members' attendance:

Gaba Waage ("GW")
Mette Nissen – Jakobsen ("MN")
Ami Baran ("AB")
Eddy van Straelen ("EvS")
Petra Arends ("PA")
Kristian Pälviä ("KP")
Daniela Castellani ("DC");
John Austin ("JA")
Youri Alkalay ("YA")

Welcome, Quorum and Process

- "GW" called the meeting to order. He noted that a quorum of EC members was present.
 - The EC approved unanimously the EC Meetings Minutes from Rotterdam

1. President

- Open meeting and comments
- General Update and WBSC Outcome. Congress was prepared very well. Now is the time to move forward with the new movement.
Had discussions with Fraccari and Beng at the ANOC.
Michael Schmidt will be in Prague to meet in December.
- Team Europe- we will start based on the proposal on putting together Men's Team Europe based on proposal for the 2018 Intercontinental Cup

2. Financial

Report of financial problems raised during the summer competitions if any (guarantees, fees, penalties)

- Lithuania and Slovenia have not paid their fees.
- Team Mirlos have a penalty but will not be able to pay.

Proposal:

- Extra penalty for Team Mirlos from Spain not to be eligible for two years in and ESF Tournament and remove the monetary fine.

EC Decision: 9-0 Approved

Financial Report 2017

- ESCA camp went over budget by 5,000 Euros over the 5,000 euros allocated [and additional 4,000 euros was 'donated' by the owner of the facility over that amount] There will be a thorough evaluation together with Craig Montvidas and EvS. EC needs to control the budget process.

Action: AB , Craig M. and EvS will make full evaluation and prepare for any future ESCA training camps with no loss to ESF or with more income to cover all costs.

Budget 2018 - We have asked for a WBSC grant for ESF Development

3. VP Operations

- Review of outstanding action items from task form

Action: Mette will fill in the task form. Look to the working plan.

4. Secretary General

- update on general and specific issues
- Situation in Europe – WBSC Europe, time line, principles:
 - Structure and Statutes of WBSC Europe with proposed organizational chart for 2018 – 2021 – specifics on the divisions
 - Establish WBSC Europe in Paris as a proclamation – both Congresses must approve

AB made Presentation on the possible organizational structures.

5. Competitions and Technical

- **VP Technical and Competitions**
 - Operate in order to reduce costs for inspections.
 - Bollate: two games were not played (agreed by coaches). This will not be acceptable in the future with the result being exclusion of teams, if a team decides to forfeit a game.
 - Malta would like to arrange a tournament again. They were responsible for the Caserta tournament which were below required standards during the competition and were not satisfactory and under the standard we require.

Proposal:

- Exclude Malta from organizing a tournament for two years.

EC Decision: 7-0-2 Approved

Action: Ami check our regulations as to standards.

Proposal:

- Use 12 inch ball for the Sport division (Emryt).

EC Decision: 7-0-2 Approved

- Use 11 inch hard ball for Future division.

EC Decision: 7-0-2 Approved

Action: Ami send out email to federations involved in the Future division to get their opinion before the Congress.

- **DoU Position – Discussion , Caroline said she cannot be the DoU**

Proposal:

- Place responsibility under the TC Director.

EC Decision: 9-0 Approved

- Hans Hornstra to plan assignments.

EC Decision: 9-0 Approved

Action: Gaba send out email to Pavel thanking him for his work and to the national federations.

- Blue Convention 2018

Dates: March 9-11, 2018.

Action: Eddy and Mike will prepare the invitations and registrations , Gaba will inform Mike

TC Matters

- TCs, UICs and SIC's List 2018 – shown

Competitions

- WECh structure review – Petra

New structure suggested for 2019 and beyond:

To have an A and B tournament for European Championships at the same venue.

Allow two B teams to play in the A tournament for the title.

Example of development at the championship: Plan training sessions for the B teams during the tournament.

EC agrees on the concept and is the base that can be used during the World Championships.

Action: Petra prepare a presentation for the TC meeting at the Congress with the proposal of the new structure.

- Review bids/candidatures for ESF 2018/2019 Competitions

Riccione and La Loggia did not pay the organizer guarantee.

The bid for these two tournaments stay open.

Balls: approx. 2000 balls in storage. Sufficient for next season. Must consider balls for 2019 season.

Offer for balls by Team Mate. Will be considered.

Visit by Austrian Baseball and Softball Federation President Rainer Husty.

Explanation of how ABSF works and their numbers.

- **400 players softball, 2400 players baseball. In rankings softball higher in Europe.**
- **Youth academy and Junior Academy working well.**
- **Slow-pitch in companies and fun teams.**
- **6 clubs in A division, 6 clubs in B division all except one are combined with baseball**
- **Planning new goals now for the next 6 years**
- **They have difficulties with umpiring**
- **Working in schools with once a year a school tournament.**
- **The Final Four format for championships wrks out very well**

6. Marketing and Media

Marketing presentation by John.

Rainer: CEB workday in December. Will invite Helena and possibly John.

Action: JA will be in contact with Rainer about this

Possibly have a Joint Baseball/Softball marketing workshop for the Congress with the possibility of the first part will be baseball , second part softball and Petra suggested having a speaker she knows about this.

Action: JA will work with Rainer on this for the Congress and will contact PA for the information of the speaker if needed.

John presented a provisional budget request of 10.000 €

Discussion on the Marketing concept

Action: JA and HN prepare a detailed budget including ideas for income to cover costs and for a future discussion prepare the ESF Concept and "dream" of ESF Marketing .

Proposal:

- **New Regulation Proposal that from 2019 the Organizers must pay the cost that is negotiated with the company chosen by ESF for streaming.**

EC Decision: 9-0 Approved

Action: GW or MJ will add to regulations and notify the teams.

- **Merchandise presentation on Eshop by YA.**
- **Supplier will maintain the web shop and will take the risk of overproducing.**
- **ESF will receive a percentage of the revenue. (10-15 %)**

- Possible to have the web shop running approx. Dec. 15th. GW ask to wait until after the Congress in February.

7. Development

- Status of WBS Development funding
- Players exchange portal – Daniela task

Presentation by Ami

2017 Review

- Interleague/Euroleague
- ESCA next steps
- Little League Cooperation project

2018 Plan

- Build more in the Euroleague
- Men's Development – go to 12 teams
- Continue with equipment distribution
- YA in Balkan development
- Big Brother plan PC
- Redoing the short questionnaire PC

BeeBall.

Action: PC make a follow up survey

ESCA:

Action: AB make evaluation. Ready in January – send to EC.

8. Website, Facebook, Newsletter

- Update

9. Legislative

- Motions/proposals/changes statutes and regulations

By Federations

Proposals

By Executive Council and/or Committees

Suggested motions submitted by Secretary General for discussion.

10. 2018 General ESF/CEB Congress preparation (general information)

General Organisation (timeline of sending out all information to Members)

Date: 9-11.2.2018

Program:

- Arrival of the EC on Thursday, and Pre Congress meeting 8.2.2018
- Pre-Congress Meetings of Committees on Friday 9.2.2018 (Tech &Comp, Financial, Development, Marketing and Media)
- Post-congress meeting on Sunday morning (do not leave before 12:00)
- Agenda
- VPs reports
- Hall of Fame Committee
- Invitations: TCs, UICs, WBSC, Guests speakers

Action: MN to make changes in the excel program

Program.

Change times.

Thursday:

19:00 pre EC meeting

Friday:

10:00-11:00 Development Committee

11:15-12:45 Technical and competition

12:45-13:45 Lunch:

14:00-15:30 Marketing committee + workshop [joint with CEB]

16:00-17:00 WBSC Europe

18:30: Dinner

Saturday

15:00-16:00 Post EC meeting

Invitations: Mike Jennings, Andre Van Overbeek, Patrice Parfait, Craig Montvidas, Petra Crimic

WBSC President, WBSC Executive Director, WBSC SD President, others and USA Softball

11. AOB

- **JA and PA: Need for more clarification on the role of Marketing in all projects.**
- **Eddy: Licenses – need for more control of the information provided on the license form.**
- **Warmer jackets for TC's? GW will make an inventory for TC apparel.**

Meeting closed 17:45