



# EUROPEAN SOFTBALL FEDERATION

## PRESS RELEASE

### 2015 EUROPEAN SOFTBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

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#### **EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP WOMEN (EChW)**

GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE
<b>ITALY</b>	<b>NETHERLANDS</b>	<b>CZECH REPUBLIC</b>

EChW was held in Rosmalen, Netherlands July 19<sup>th</sup> – July 25<sup>th</sup>. A solid number of 20 national teams took part in the championship and placed as follows: **1.** Italy, **2.** Netherlands, **3.** Czech Republic, **4.** Russia, **5.** Great Britain, **6.** Austria, **7.** Germany, **8.** Spain, **9.** France, **10.** Greece, **11.** Sweden, **12.** Ukraine, **13.** Denmark, **14.** Slovenia, **15.** Poland, **16.** Slovakia, **17.** Croatia, **18.** Switzerland, **19.** Ireland, **20.** Israel.

After six years of Dutch dominance, the level difference among the top teams is disappearing; as a proof, all the medal games were very close with only one or two deciding runs. Italy won the Championship and deserved the title of European Champion. EChW has been played since 1979, both Italy and Netherlands won 9 times. With this year's win, Italy has become the most successful European team with 10 European Championship titles.

#### **EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP CO-ED SLOWPITCH (EChCS)**

GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE
<b>GREAT BRITAIN</b>	<b>CZECH REPUBLIC</b>	<b>IRELAND</b>

EChCS was held in Dupnitsa, Bulgaria July 28<sup>th</sup> – August 1<sup>st</sup>. The six participating teams played a double round robin (all the teams played each other twice). Due to adverse weather, some games had to be cancelled and the final standing was decided according to the round robin results. Great Britain became an undefeated champion for the tenth time in a row. In fact, no other team has ever won the EChCS.

Final standings: **1.** Great Britain, **2.** Czech Republic, **3.** Ireland, **4.** Germany, **5.** Bulgaria, **6.** Lithuania.

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### **EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP JUNIOR MEN (EChJM)**

GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE
<b><i>CZECH REPUBLIC</i></b>	<b><i>DENMARK</i></b>	<b><i>CROATIA</i></b>

EChJM was held in Most, Czech Republic July 13<sup>th</sup> – July 18<sup>th</sup>. There were two strong competitors; Czech Republic and Denmark. Both nations have been dominating in European men's fastpitch for years. Four more teams attended the EChJM; Croatia, Israel, Poland and Great Britain. All these teams are developing their men's fastpitch programs and there was a good number of tight games at the championship. Czech Republic won the final game on a run-ahead rule and completed their hattrick in this category.

Final standings: **1.** Czech Republic, **2.** Denmark, **3.** Croatia, **4.** Israel, **5.** Great Britain, **6.** Poland

### **EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP CADET GIRLS (EChCG)**

GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE
<b><i>ITALY</i></b>	<b><i>CZECH REPUBLIC</i></b>	<b><i>RUSSIA</i></b>

EChCG was held in Nuoro, Italy June 29<sup>th</sup> – July 4<sup>th</sup>. The two strongest teams have met three times during the tournament. Czech Republic won the first time, but wasn't strong enough to repeat that performance against the 2015 girls U16 European Champion - Italy.

Final standings: **1.** Italy, **2.** Czech Republic, **3.** Russia, **4.** Great Britain, **5.** Belgium, **6.** Spain.