

**EUROPEAN  
SOFTBALL  
FEDERATION**

# NEWSFLASH

August 2012

## LITHUANIA SOFTBALL IS JUST AT THE OPENING OF ITS HISTORY

by Diana Pupininkiene

It was the first time, this July that the Lithuanian National Softball team participated in the Junior European Softball Championship.

The girls first discovered softball two years ago when the first team in Vilnius was established.

It took another year for a softball team in the town of Radviliškis to be formed. However, the players still have no coaches, they play without professional umpires, and some rules are learned during the international tournaments when the girls commit errors which innocently result from not knowing the rules.

We wish to extend our heartfelt gratitude to the ESF president, Secretary General and other responsible officials for their enormous help, patience and understanding, and for making our participation in the Championship a reality;

to Gryphons Club for their hospitality and warm reception;

to Hans Snell and Maurice Soeters, who kindly agreed to be our coaches, for giving us so generously their time and knowledge;

to Coaches Andre Prins and Henk van Zijtveld for the most helpful and enjoyable softball practice;

to all who believed in us, supported us and wished us success!

The European Championship gave us the opportunity to learn, experience and grow. We hope the name of Lithuania will soon be well known in the Softball World.



## FASTPITCH PITCHING CLINIC IN AUSTRIA

by Michael Schmidt

From August 13th until August 15th the ESF hosted a Fastpitch Pitching Clinic in Hard, Austria.

Instructor Calixto Mijar Soca, Member of the ESF coaching committee welcomed during the different training days a total of 16 Pitchers and Catchers at the Austrian Softball Training Center West.

The Participants came from three different countries.

Calixto Mijar Soca, who is also the Pitching coach of the Italian Softball National team, taught in different lessons and hours the Pitching - for beginners as well as for advanced players.

A big Thank to Calixto Mijar Soca as well as to the Organizers of the clinic and the ESF Development Committee for supporting this Clinic.



## PAN AMERICAN MEN FASTPITCH CHAMPIONSHIPS

We are proud to announce that the Pan American Men's Fastpitch Championships, will be held on September 15-23 in Medellin, Columbia.

The Championship is also the Qualifier for the Men's World Championships to be held in New Zealand.

The countries participating are:

ARGENTINA  
BAHAMAS  
CANADA  
COLOMBIA  
CUBA  
ECUADOR  
GUATEMALA  
MEXICO  
PANAMA  
PUERTO RICO  
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC  
USA  
VENEZUELA

The competition will be exciting and hopefully provide even more excitement from our last Championship which was held in Hermosillo, Mexico where Venezuela took the Gold, Canada, Argentina and the USA following in that order with 6 other teams participating.

We invite all of you, if you have the chance to visit and come to the Championships to enjoy our beautiful city Medellin, which is 1,400 meters above sea level with an expected 22 degree climate.

The city also hopes to host the 2018 Youth Olympic Games.

We would also like to take this opportunity to remind you that the 2013 World Games will be held in Cali, Columbia with Softball as one of the sports and in October 2013 the ISF Congress will be held in Cartagena, Columbia.

Hope to see you all soon!!

TONY MORALES  
ISF Vice President for Latin America

## ESF INFO

### Follow ESF games on-line: Play by play LIVE!

Like it happened already last playing season, the ESF is covering all games with the play-by-play software so action can be followed live on-line.

Click on the Play by play & Statistics 2012 LIVE! icon of the left side of the ESF website to follow all ESF tournaments of this season.




<http://competition.europeansoftball.org/2012/esf12.php>

### Follow ESF games livestream at the Supercup Men

During the last two days of the European Super Cup Men in Prague there will be a livestream of the games via the ESF webpage.

You will find the livestream at <http://www.europeansoftball.org/video> starting on August 31st 2012.





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