

WBSC Europe Softball Commission Meeting

Videoconference

May 31th, 2023

Attendance

Gabriel Waage, WBSC Europe Vice President Softball; ("GW")
Cornelia Chwojka; ("CC")
John Michael Jennings; ("JMJ")
Petra Cizmić Pokrajac; ("PCP")
Sophie Khidasheli; ("SK")
Daniela Castellani; ("DC")

Also present:

Kruno Karin, President WBSC Europe ("KK")
Ami Baran, Secretary General WBSC Europe; ("AB")
Eddy van Straelen, Treasurer WBSC Europe; ("EvS")
Martina Lackner-Keil, Athlete Representative WBSC Europe; ("MLK")
Elda Ghilardi, WBSC Europe Communications and Marketing Director ("EG"),
Kristina Uroić; WBSC Europe Corporative Activities Director ("KU")

1. Welcome:

Welcome by Kruno Karin, WBSC Europe President

2. Minutes

WBSC Europe Softball Commission Minutes from the Congress in Belgrade, February 10th, 2023 and the WBSC Europe Softball Window Minutes from the Congress in Belgrade, February 10th, 2023 were approved.

3. Information by Gaba

- We had a hard time to find the organizers for this year. 4 tournaments were not allocated after the Congress and we are not sure why.
For the Maters, we finally signed the agreement with 2 clubs. It was not possible to sign with Catalunya.
We canceled U11 category at EMRYT.
- Kostis got promoted to the Executive Board and now we need one more Commission member. We have to think about the profile of the person we need.
- The Women's World Cup 1st stage is very soon and we would like to have some media cover of the European teams in Italy, Spain and Ireland.
- Softball will be played at the World games 2025, both women and men.

4. Softball Competitions 2023

GW:

The entries were sent to the Commission.

There were minor changes in the Regulations regarding the face masks and cleats.

CC:

There were some difficulties to find the organizers.

Men's Super Cup situation is not ideal. It's against our regulations. We need to think about changing it for the next year. It would be better to have it in 2 tournaments/competitions.

GW:

We need to come up with the relegation rule for the MSC.

EvS:

We could have 10 best teams in one group and others in the second group.

GW:

We still have the time to decide. We will see each other at the tournaments so we can discuss.

JMJ:

The survey that Sofie will conduct will give us the clue why we have problems with finding the organizers.

GW:

We will have reusable, recyclable bottles for the officials.

T-shirts ordered for the officials will be in turquoise color.

EG:

Media: I'm in contact with the organizers. They have provided the logos and info packs. All is going well.

KK:

We are trying to get the WBSC scoring system for free for the Federations. This would be good for the development and for the insight of the number of players in Europe.

Request by Czech National Men's

3 options are on the table:

1st: to allow later arrival for 2 players for Czech NT

2nd: to extend the arrival for all until Wednesday

3rd: to extend the arrival for all players until Tuesday evening.

The proposals were put to the vote:

1st proposal: 0 yes, 4 against

2nd proposal: 1 yes, 4 against

3rd proposal: 4 yes, 0 against

3rd proposal to extend the arrival for all the players until Tuesday evening is approved. The players need to be present on Tuesday and hand in their passport/ID cards to the Technical Commissioner.

5. Development

GW:

Peġra Ćizmić Pokrajec was approved as a Chairwomen of the Development Commission.

PCP:

- I'm in process of producing the relevant documents for the Commission.
- ESCA Camp will be held in Diessen (NED). The budget needs to be done.

GW:

We will have 2 umpires' clinics this year.

EvS:

We need to see how this is going to be done in the future with baseball umpires in mind.

6. Survey

SK:

We would like to find out why clubs are not participating at the tournaments and why are the clubs/Federations reluctant to organize the tournaments.

The aim is to have the answers from the clubs and from the Federations.

GW:

I propose to look at the questions for the survey and send the ideas to Sophie and Mike. Petra can help because she has an experience with this type of surveys.
Video conferences could be arranged to prepare the survey.

7. Other Issues

GW:

The Executive Board will have the meeting first weekend of December, so I would like to have in person meeting of the Softball Commission in October/beginning of November.

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