



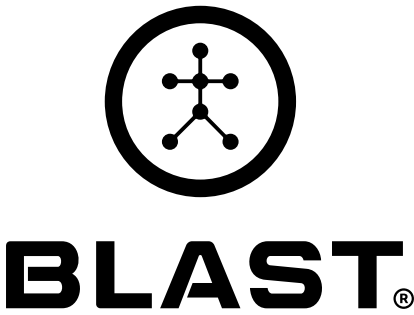
GENERAL PROGRESS REPORT

2022 SEASON

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WBSC EUROPE PARTNERS



CONGRESS PARTNER



WBSC Europe Members - Baseball

Armenia	Finland	Kosovo	Russia
Austria	France	Latvia	San Marino
Belarus	Georgia	Lithuania	Serbia
Belgium	Germany	Malta	Slovakia
Bulgaria	Great Britain	Moldova	Slovenia
Croatia	Greece	Netherlands	Spain
Cyprus	Hungary	Norway	Sweden
Czechia	Ireland	Poland	Switzerland
Denmark	Israel	Portugal	Türkiye
Estonia	Italy	Romania	Ukraine



WBSC Europe Members - Softball

Austria	Greece	Poland
Belgium	Guernsey	Romania
Bulgaria	Hungary	Russia
Croatia	Ireland	San Marino
Cyprus	Israel	Serbia
Czechia	Italy	Slovakia
Denmark	Jersey	Slovenia
Finland	Kosovo	Spain
France	Lithuania	Sweden
Georgia	Malta	Switzerland
Germany	Netherlands	Türkiye
Great Britain	Norway	Ukraine

Dear Member Federations,
Dear Guests,
Dear Friends,

It is my great pleasure to welcome you all to the WBSC Europe Congress 2023 in Belgrade. On behalf of the Executive Board, I extend a warm and heartfelt greeting to each and every one of you who is present at the Congress.

It has been one year since the Elective Congress in Ljubljana where we last met. It has been a year of hard work in planning and implementing new ideas and projects. The transition continues in cooperation and building a new home for our sports and disciplines under one roof.

In 2022 we delivered a full calendar of WBSC Europe Competitions and with your hard work, our Member Federations as organizers and participants, you made this happen. Without you and your enthusiasm, we would not be able to move forward into the future.

We are thrilled to have you all with us to discuss the latest developments, exchange ideas, and share experiences in our sports. This congress will be an opportunity to bring together experts, practitioners, and enthusiasts from around Europe and the World, to share their knowledge and insights, and to contribute to the advancement of our sports.

In addition to the important statutory decisions that are being proposed, there remain other important pieces of business to conduct at this year's Congress, such as the approval of the financial reports and accounts and the validation of the financial plan for 2023.

Despite a busy Congress schedule, beginning with Friday's Baseball and Softball Commissions meetings and then workshops with very interesting subjects that will benefit all of our Member Federations, we will surely have time to spend some moments together in a more social and friendly atmosphere at the Cocktail opening on Friday evening and then at the Gala Dinner Saturday evening.

Let us embrace this opportunity to network, collaborate, and make lasting connections with one another. I am confident that this congress will be a valuable and enlightening experience for all participants.

Once again, welcome to the WBSC Europe Congress 2023.

Kruno Karin
President

World Baseball Softball Federation Europe

Inside WBSC Europe

EXECUTIVE BOARD



Krunoslav Karin
President



Ami Baran
Secretary General



Gabriel Waage
Vice President Softball



Youri Alkalay
Member at large Softball



Jürgen Elsishans
Member at large Baseball



Virmidas Neverauskas
Member at large Baseball



Martina Lackner-Keil
Athlete Representative Softball



Eddy Van Straelen
Tresurer



Petr Ditrich
Vice President Baseball



François Collet
Member at large Baseball



Mette Nissen Jakobsen
Member at large Softball



Kristian Pälviä
Member at large Softball

The WBSC Europe General Congress elected the Executive Board during the WBSC Europe Congress 2022 in Ljubljana, Slovenia, on February 12, 2022.

Mr. Kruno Karin is the first-ever elected President of WBSC Europe. In his first speech as President, Karin thanked the Congress and invited the European baseball, softball, and baseball5 community to be united: "We can be united only if we work together, we are here because we love the greatest games in the world."

Mr. Ami Baran, former WBSC Europe Legal Counselor and ESF Secretary General, has been declared WBSC Europe Secretary General.

Mr. Eddy Van Straelen, ESF Treasurer since 1993, has been elected as WBSC Europe Treasurer.

Mr. Petr Ditrich, former WBSC Europe Member at Large and CEB Vice President, has been declared WBSC Europe Baseball Vice President. Mr. Gabriel Waage, former WBSC Europe Co-President and former ESF President, has been declared WBSC Europe Softball Vice President.

Mr. François Collet, Mr. Juergen Elsishans, and Mr. Vermidas Neverauskas were elected as WBSC Europe Members at Large Baseball. Mr. Youri Alkalay, Ms. Mette Nissen Jakobsen, and Mr. Kristian Pälviä were elected as WBSC Europe Members at Large Softball in the first round.

Ms. Martina Lackner-Keil was elected WBSC Europe Athlete Representative for Softball during the Women's Softball European Championship 2022 in Barcelona, Spain.



WBSC Europe Baseball Commission

Petr Ditrich
Vice President Baseball

Oleg Boyko <i>Member</i>	František Bunta <i>Member</i>	Darja Grimšic <i>Member</i>
Stephen Lesfargues <i>Member</i>	Marco Mannucci <i>Member</i>	Jorge Miqueleiz Cortés <i>Member</i>

WBSC Europe Baseball Competitions and Technical Committee

František Bunta <i>Chair</i>	Stephen Lesfargues <i>Competition Chief</i>
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WBSC Europe Baseball Umpiring Committee

Marco Screti <i>Director</i>	Zdeněk Židek <i>Umpire in Chief</i>	Serge Makouchetchev <i>Umpire in Chief</i>
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WBSC Europe Baseball Scoring Committee

Linda Steijger <i>Chair</i>	Stephanie Winkler <i>Member</i>
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WBSC Europe Softball Commission

Gabriel Waage
Vice President Softball

Daniela Castellani <i>Member</i>	Conny Chwojka <i>Member</i>	Petra Čizmić Pokrajac <i>Member</i>
Mike Jennings <i>Member</i>	Sophie Khidasheli <i>Member</i>	Kostis Liarommatis <i>Member</i>

WBSC Europe Softball Competitions and Technical Committee

Mike Jennings <i>Chair</i>	Conny Chwojka <i>Competition Chief</i>
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WBSC Europe Softball Umpiring Committee

Nacho Pardo <i>Director</i>	Hans Hornstra <i>Umpire in Chief</i>	Raoul Machalet <i>Umpire in Chief</i>	Gian Paolo Pelosi <i>Umpire in Chief</i>
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WBSC Europe Softball Scoring Committee

Dennis Duin <i>Chair</i>	Marco Battistella <i>Member</i>
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WBSC Europe Legal Commission

Lars Sundin Chair Ainars Birulis Member Brian Aron Member Vladimir Richter Member Colum Lavery Member

WBSC Europe Integrity Commission

Bjørn Christian Thode Chair Marko Mrdjenović Member Dagmar Voith Leemann Member Peter Ström Member

WBSC Europe Baseball5 Commission

Youri Alkalay Chair Vladislav Belčić Member Arnoldas Ramanauskas Member

WBSC Europe Medical Commission

Melanie Cunningham Chair

WBSC Europe Disciplinary Commission

Jürgen Elsishans Chair

WBSC Europe Development Commission

Mette Nissen Jakobsen Chair Petra Čizmić Pokrajac Member Darja Grimšić Member

Krunoslav Karin Senior Advisor Ami Baran Senior Advisor Petr Ditrich Senior Advisor Gabriel Waage Senior Advisor

WBSC Europe Funding Subcommittee

Samuel Covaci Chair Daniel Goeke Member Petcu Costin Member

Adi Mirescu Senior Advisor Gabriel Garais Senior Advisor Sergiu Stan Senior Advisor

The World Baseball Softball Confedartion Europe (WBSC Europe) is the European governing body of Baseball, Softball and all National Team & Club competitions.

WBSC Europe was established on February 10th, 2018, during an extraordinary congress of the Confederation of European Baseball and the European Softball Federation in Val d'Europe, France. Walking in the footsteps of the World Baseball Softball Confederation, Europe became the first continent to merge its baseball and softball organizations into one single entity.

The following entities are established to govern and administer WBSC Europe:

- the Congress;
- the Executive Board;
- such Commissions as the Executive Board may deem appropriate.

Five Departments operate under the WBSC Europe Executive Board:

- the Corporate Activities Department, led by Mr. François Collet and Ms. Kristina Uroić;
- the Governance Department, led by Ms. Mette Nissen Jakobsen, Mr. John Boyd, Mr. Elliot Fleys, and Mr. Bjørn Christian Thode;
- the Marketing Department, led by Mr. Jukka Ropponen and Ms. Elda Ghilardi;
- the Communications Department, lead by Mr. Kristian Pälviä and Ms. Elda Ghilardi;
- the Events Department, led by Mr. Jürgen Elsishans, Mr. Virmidas Neverauskas, and Mr. Kristian Pälviä.

The competitions are run by the Baseball, Softball and Baseball5 Commissions, whose Technical Commissions are responsible for the successful running of the WBSC Europe tournaments. The Technical Commissions prepare all the necessary documents for each competition and members of the TC physically supervise the WBSC Europe tournaments.

The Umpires Committees are responsible for umpiring schedules at tournaments and for the organization of umpire clinics.

The Scoring Committees are responsible for scorekeeping of all games at the WBSC Europe competitions and also for scorekeeper clinics.

The WBSC Europe Office take care of all the operations that make the events possible.

The WBSC Europe Communications Department, together with the events Media Officers, make European Championships and Cups visible, keeping the community informed.

All WBSC Europe events would not be possible if it were not for the events' Local Organising Committees and all the Volunteers.



Competitions 2022

Thirty-three European Championships and Cups have been played in the 2022 baseball and softball season.

The four European Baseball Cups took place at the beginning of the season:

- In Bonn, Germany, Parma (ITA) won the **Baseball European Champions Cup**, defeating L&D Amsterdam (NED) in the final, 7-6, and claiming the title of European Champion.
- The Rouen Huskies (FRA) defeated the Hoboken Pioneers (BEL), 6-5, in the final game of the **Baseball European Confederation Cup** on their home field in France. With the victory Rouen secured a spot in the European Champions Cup for France for next year.
- The Astros Valencia (ESP) won the **Baseball European Federation Cup** in Brasschaat, Belgium, shutting out the Brasschaat Braves (BEL), 10-0, in the final to earn a berth for the Spanish Baseball and Softball Federation in next year's Confederation Cup.
- The Rattvik Baseball and Softball Club (SWE) has won the **Baseball Federation Cup Qualifier** in Kutno, Poland; the Apollo Bratislava (SVK) claimed the Federation Cup Qualifier in Belgrade, Serbia; the Zurich Barracudas (SUI) won the Men's Baseball Federation Cup Qualifier held in Sofia, Bulgaria. All three teams earned a spot for their Federation at next year's Federation Cup.



Great Britain confirmed its lead on the Softball Slowpitch in Europe, first winning the **Men's Slowpitch European Championship** in Colorno, Italy, after a thrilling gold medal game against the Dutch. One month later, the British also won the **Coed Slowpitch European Championship** in Ljubljana, Slovenia, topping Germany, 12-7. The British, German and Dutch teams qualified for the for the first-ever WBSC Coed Slowpitch World Cup.

Ten Baseball qualifying tournaments have been played throughout the summer:

- Belgium defeated Ukraine, 6-5, in Trnava, Slovakia, and Great Britain won against Sweden, 5-1, in Sundbyberg, Sweden, to qualify for the **U-18 European Baseball Championship 2022**.
- Great Britain won the U-12 European Baseball Championship Qualifier, in Vienna, Austria, defeating Ukraine. With the victory Great Britain promotes to the **U-12 European Baseball Championship 2023**.

- In July, three **Qualifiers** took place for the **Baseball European Championship 2023**. Qualifiers winners Hungary, France and Switzerland advanced to the main tournament.
- Hungary and Spain won the **U-15 European Baseball Championship Qualifier** to earn a spot in next year's U-15 European Baseball Championship.
- Austria shut out Ukraine 1-0 in the final of the **U-23 European Baseball Championship Qualifier** in Ljubljana, Slovenia, while Belgium shut out Switzerland, 0-7, in the final of the other pool in Utena, Lithuania. Both Austria and Belgium qualified for next year's U-23 European Baseball Championship.



Four Softball Fastpitch European Championships have been played in 2022:

- In late June, Italy won the **U-22 Women's Softball European Championship** in Kunovice, Czech Republic, topping Czech Republic, 2-3, in the Championship game.
- Later, Czech Republic won the first-ever **U-23 Men's European Championship** in home soil. Gold and bronze medallists, Czech Republic and Israel qualified for the 2022 WBSC U-23 Men's Softball World Cup.
- The Czech also won the **U-15 Women's European Championship** in Enschede, Netherlands, topping Italy in the gold medal game. Both finalists qualified for the next expected WBSC World Cup.
- To end the softball European Championship season, the Netherlands won the **Women's Softball European Championship**, defeating Great Britain, 7-0. The medalists - Netherlands, Great Britain and Italy - qualified for the first stage of the WBSC World Cup.



Three Baseball European Championships have been played in 2022:

- Germany won the **U-12 European Baseball Championship 2022** in Vienna, Austria, defeating Czechia 10-9 after nine dramatic innings. Germany and Czechia have qualified for the WBSC U12 Baseball World Cup in 2023.
- France defended its title at the **Women's European Baseball Championship 2022**, defeating the Czech Republic, 13-3. The Netherlands finished in third place in the final standings ahead of Great Britain in fourth, which had played its first international competition in Women's Baseball.
- Spain defeated the Netherlands, 6-2, in a rain-shortened final in Brno at the **U-18 European Baseball Championship** in the Czech Republic to claim their first ever gold medal in this age category.

In Softball Fastpitch, eight more cups were played in August:

- In Collecchio, Italy, eight teams took part in the U-13 European softball cup: the **European Massimo Romeo Youth Trophy**. Seleccion Navarra (ESP) won the future division trophy, while Italy 1 (ITA) took home gold in the sport division.
- Olympia (NED) won the forty-fourth **Women's Softball Premier Cup**, topping Forlì (ITA), 4-3, in the championship game held in Bollate, Italy, to be crowned European Champion for the first time.
- Chicaboo's (BEL) won the **Women's Softball European Cup** defeating the home team Avigliana Rebels in Italy. Belgium, gold medal with the Chicaboo's, and Austria, bronze medal with the Vienna Wanderers, qualified for the 2023 Women's Softball European Premiere Cup
- Saronno (ITA) won the **Women's Softball Cup Winners Cup A** in Viladecans, Spain, topping Sparks Haarlem (NED), 2-3, in the championship game.
- Les Pharaons d'Evry-Courcouronnes (FRA) won the **Women's Softball European Cup Winners Cup B** in front of their home crowd, defeating the Wittenbach Panthers (SUI), 2-0.
- To wrap up the August cups, the Oslo Alligators (NOR) won the **Men's Softball European Super Cup**, defeating the Stenløse Bulls (DEN) in the championship game in the first extra inning, 1-2.
- The Stabroek Chicaboo's from Belgium won the **Men's Softball Europe Cup 2022**, the lower pool of the Men's Softball European Super Cup.



The Cechie Carrots (CZE) triumphed in the Women's Softball European Masters Cup, and the Denmark Old Stars (DEN) prevailed in the Men's Softball European Masters Cup. The Masters Cups, the 40+ European fastpitch competitions, were played in Barcelona, Spain, from October 26 to 29, 2022.

In November, France defeated Türkiye in the gold medal game to win the title of European champions at the U-17 Baseball5 European Championship. Being the top two finishers, France and Türkiye qualified for the 2023 WBSC Youth Baseball5 World Cup. Lithuania won the Bronze medal.



Calendar 2022

Tournament	Discipline	Dates	Where
Federation Cup Qualifier 2022 - Pool A	M Baseball	June 6 to 11	Kutno (POL)
Champions Cup	M Baseball	June 7 to 11	Bonn (GER)
Confederation Cup	M Baseball	June 8 to 12	Rouen (FRA)
Men's Slowpitch European Championship	Slowpitch	June 14 to 18	Colorno (ITA)
Federation Cup	M Baseball	June 20 to 25	Brasschaat (BEL)
Federation Cup Qualifier 2022 - Pool B	M Baseball	June 21 to 26	Belgrade (SRB)
Federation Cup Qualifier 2022 - Pool C	M Baseball	June 21 to 26	Sofia (BUL)
U-22 Women's Softball European Championship	W Softball	June 26 to July 2	Kunovice (CZE)
U-18 Men's Baseball European Championship Qualifier - pool A	M Baseball	July 4 to 9	Sundbyberg (SWE)
U-18 Men's Baseball European Championship Qualifier - pool B	M Baseball	July 4 to 9	Trnava (SVK)
U-12 Men's Baseball European Championship Qualifier	M Baseball	July 5 to 9	Vienna (AUT)
U-12 Men's Baseball European Championship	M Baseball	July 5 to 9	Vienna (AUT)
U-23 Men's Softball European Championship	M Softball	July 6 to 9	Sezimovo Usti (CZE)
European Championship Qualifier - pool A	M Baseball	July 11 to 16	Blagoevgrad (BUL)
European Championship Qualifier - pool B	M Baseball	July 12 to 17	Belgrade (SRB)
European Championship Qualifier - pool C	M Baseball	July 13 to 16	Utena (LTU)
Coed Slowpitch European Championship	Slowpitch	July 12 to 16	Ljubljana (SLO)
U-15 Women's Softball European Championship	W Softball	July 18 to 23	Enschede (NED)
U-15 Men's Baseball European Championship Qualifier - Pool A	M Baseball	July 18 to 23	Valencia (ESP)
U-15 Men's Baseball European Championship Qualifier - Pool B	M Baseball	July 18 to 23	Budapest (HUN)
Women's Softball European Championship	W Softball	July 24 to 30	Sant Boi (ESP)
Women's Baseball European Championship	W Baseball	August 3 to 6	Montpellier (FRA)
U-23 Men's Baseball European Championship Qualifier - Pool A	M Baseball	August 7 to 12	Utena (LTU)
U-23 Men's Baseball European Championship Qualifier - Pool B	M Baseball	August 8 to 13	Ljubljana (SLO)
European Massimo Romeo Youth Trophy	Y Softball	August 10 to 13	Collecchio (ITA)
U-18 Men's Baseball European Championship	M Baseball	August 13 to 20	Czech Republic
Women's Softball European Premiere Cup	W Softball	August 15 to 20	Bollate (ITA)
Women's Softball European Cup	W Softball	August 15 to 20	Avigliana (ITA)
Women's Softball European Cup Winners Cup A	W Softball	August 15 to 20	Viladecans (ESP)
Women's Softball European Cup Winners Cup B	W Softball	August 15 to 20	Evry-Courcouronnes (FRA)
Men's Softball European Super Cup	M Softball	August 22 to 27	Prague (CZE)
European Masters Cups	Softball	October 26 to 29	Barcelona (ESP)
U-17 Baseball5 European Championship	Baseball5	November 16 to 19	Sofia (BUL)

Planning 2023 - 2029

WBSC Europe announced the 2023-2029 Baseball, Softball, and Baseball5 European Championships planning.

Baseball

All Baseball European Championships are based on a two-year cycle, apart from the U-12 Baseball European Championship which will take place every year.

The Baseball European Championships Qualifiers also take place on a two-year cycle, the year before the Championships.

	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
U-12 Baseball European Championship	X	X*	X	X*	X	X*	X
U-15 Baseball European Championship	X*		X*		X*		X*
U-18 Baseball European Championship		X*		X*		X*	
U-23 Baseball European Championship	X*		X*		X*		X*
Women's Baseball European Championship		X		X		X	
Baseball European Championship	X		X		X		X
U-12 Baseball European Qualifier	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
U-15 Baseball European Qualifier		X		X		X	
U-18 Baseball European Qualifier	X		X		X		X
U-23 Baseball European Qualifier		X		X		X	
Baseball European Qualifier		X		X		X	



* European Championship is Qualifier for next expected WBSC World Cup

Softball

In the Softball European Championships presented in October 2021, only one addition has been made the 2024 Women's Softball European Championship, shortening the three years gap originally present.

	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
Women's Softball European Championship		X	X*		X		X*
U-22 Women's Softball European Championship		X		X		X	
U-18 Women's Softball European Championship	X*		X		X*		X
U-15 Women's Softball European Championship		X		X*		X	
Men's Softball European Championship	X*		X		X*		X
U-23 Men's Softball European Championship			X*		X		X*
U-18 Men's Softball European Championship	X*			X*		X	
U-16 Men's Softball European Championship	X			X		X	
Coed Slowpitch European Championship		X		X*		X	
Men's Slowpitch European Championship		X		X		X	
Coed Slowpitch European Cup	X		X		X		X

Baseball5

The Baseball5 European Championships will take place every two years: the Youth Baseball5 European Championship will take place on even years and the Senior on odd years.

	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
Baseball5 European Championship	X*		X*		X*		X*
Youth Baseball5 European Championship		X*		X*		X*	

* European Championship is Qualifier for next expected WBSC World Cup

Development

Agreement with Synergy Sports

WBSC Europe and **Synergy Sports**, a division of Sportradar, signed a **partnership agreement** granting Synergy access to film, analyse and store data and video from all WBSC Europe tournaments to use within the range of products and services it offers.

Under the terms of the new agreement, Synergy will provide teams and national sides access to a cloud-based Application service for **scouting** and **player development** purposes with the goal of supporting the further development of European baseball and softball through **technologically advanced tools**.

Agreement with Blast Motion

WBSC Europe and **Blast Motion**, the industry leader in sensor-based swing analysis, signed a partnership agreement to advance player development throughout Europe.

The Blast Motion hitting improvement platform combines powerful **swing analytics** with a mobile app and cloud-based software services and insights to provide organizations, coaches, and players with **real-time player development feedback**, personalized hitting assessments, and much more.

Blast has hosted a series of introductory webinars with virtual product demonstrations to showcase how easy it is for the European National Federations to implement the Blast solution in their program.

WBSC Coaches Certification Clinic and ESCA Training Camp

From October 26 to 30, 2022, the WBSC and the European Softball Coaches Association (ESCA) shared the facilities in the Netherlands, during the 5th ESCA Training Camp.

Thirty-four players and twenty-seven coaches participated in the **fifth ESCA Training Camp** with the goal of “getting better together”. The training camp was led by ESCA Director Craig Montvidas.

Thanks to an agreement with **WBSC Coach Commission**, the coaches taking part in the ESCA Training Camp could test to become licensed coaches (level 1) according to the WBSC international standards.

Fourteen baseball coaches from Sweden, Poland, Bulgaria, Great Britain, Türkiye, Czech Republic, Belgium, Germany, and Romania took part in the baseball preparation course led by **Coaches Mauro Mazzotti and Marco Mazzieri** for the WBSC Coach Licensing tests.



U-12 Baseball European Championship and EMRYT

Like every year, the leading **development events** for baseball and softball took place in 2022: the U-12 Baseball European Championship and the European Massimo Romeo Youth Trophy (EMRYT).

The **U-12 Baseball European Championship** saw the participation of over 130 players divided into eight teams. Four more teams played in the **U-12 Baseball European Championship Qualifier**, counting 70 young athletes. In total, over 200 baseball players under 12 years old gathered in Vienna, Austria, thanks to these two events.

In 2022, **EMRYT** only allowed eight teams due to health reasons. A total of 115 softball players under the age of 13 competed in Collecchio, Italy, representing six countries: Croatia, Czechia, Great Britain, Israel, Italy, and Spain.

Thanks to an agreement between WBSC Europe, Collecchio Baseball and Softball Club, and the Italian Baseball and Softball Federation (FIBS), **Collecchio, Italy**, is confirmed as the home of the EMRYT in 2023, 2024, and 2025.



Funding Sub Commission

The WBSC Europe Executive Board established the **Funding Sub Commission**, responsible for attracting funding to European Baseball, Softball, and Baseball5.

The main goal is to engage WBSC Europe National Federations and clubs in European Union (EU) funding, and **International Olympic Commission (IOC)** funding, attract **sponsorships** and identify other financing options for the development of European Baseball, Softball, and Baseball5.

The Sub Commission organised workshops for the National Federations and supported several projects.

The Sub Commission also established a promising cooperation with the **European Olympic Committee**.

Central Europe Women's Softball Euroleague

The Central Europe Women's Softball Euroleague came back in 2022 after a two-year break. Seven clubs took part in the fastpitch competition played at **cross border regional level**, playing over 30 games in three countries. From March to September 2022, four weekends of games took place in Croatia, Hungary, and Slovakia.

The 2022 one was the **seventh edition**: previously, the Central Europe Women's Softball Euroleague was played for six years in a row from 2014 to 2019.

The Central European Softball Euroleague will be implemented the Euroleague concept in different parts of Europe for both **women's and men's fastpitch club teams**. The organisers of the Softball Euroleague, along with the WBSC Europe Development Committee, are inviting National Federations and European Clubs from Europe to **join the Euroleague**.



Softball European Masters Cups

The **third** Softball European Masters Cups were played in 2022 in Barcelona, Spain. Starting this year, the players' minimum age was raised from 35 to 40.

In fact, the tournament's goal is to bring retired players back to the field in a **competitive fastpitch environment**. At the same time, a great emphasis has been put on the **social part** of our sport, meeting old friends of the European Softball family.

Co-operation with Little League and Pony League

WBSC Europe international partners **Little League** and **Pony League** host each year tournaments in our continent growing the games of baseball and softball in Europe. Youth players are given the

opportunity to play more games and competing on an **international playing field**.

New agreements are being prepared for further cooperation between Little League, Pony League and WBSC Europe.

European Baseball Winter League

Fifty-four prospects from Bulgaria, Croatia, Czechia, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, and Spain gathered in Tenerife, Spain, for the second edition European Baseball Winter League.

The event took place from November 19 to 27, 2022, and was organised by WBSC Europe, together with the Royal Spanish Baseball and Softball Federation and the Canary Islands Baseball and Softball Federation.

The three teams - Golden Stars, Blue Lions, and Red Bulls - practiced and played friendly games every day, led by **Coaches Pete Caliendo, Boris Bokaj, and Aritz Garcia**.

WBSC Europe, the Royal Spanish Baseball and Softball Federation, and the Canary Islands Baseball and Softball Federation might expand the European Winter League to **softball** as well.



WBSC Europe branding

In January 2023, WBSC Europe updated its brand outlook to make its **disciplines** recognisable through its logos.

This update targets three goals:

- Give WBSC Europe a **common brand identity** as one organisation governing its disciplines in the European continent.
- Give WBSC Europe the needed elements to make its disciplines **recognisable** when seeing its new logos.
- Align WBSC Europe with the global **WBSC brand** as part of the worldwide organisation.

Two versions of the current WBSC Europe logos will be maintained and used in the future, and three new versions will be added. These new versions will be with the “BASEBALL SOFTBALL” text and with a home plate shape outline to help identify the WBSC Europe disciplines.



version
Extended



version
Plate



version
Plate extended



version
Arch



version
Globe

Over the past five years, European baseball and softball governing bodies have **transformed their structure**. The Confederation of European Baseball (CEB) and the European Softball Federation (ESF) merged into the World Baseball Softball Confederation Europe to be better aligned with the global top organisation WBSC and drive its Olympic agenda for baseball, softball, and baseball5.

As part of this process, WBSC Europe has **updated its brand outlook** to meet today's requirements, in cooperation and alignment with WBSC.

The WBSC Europe Marketing Commission is working with the **Local Organising Committees** so that the WBSC Europe branding is reflected during its events.



example 1



example 2



example 3



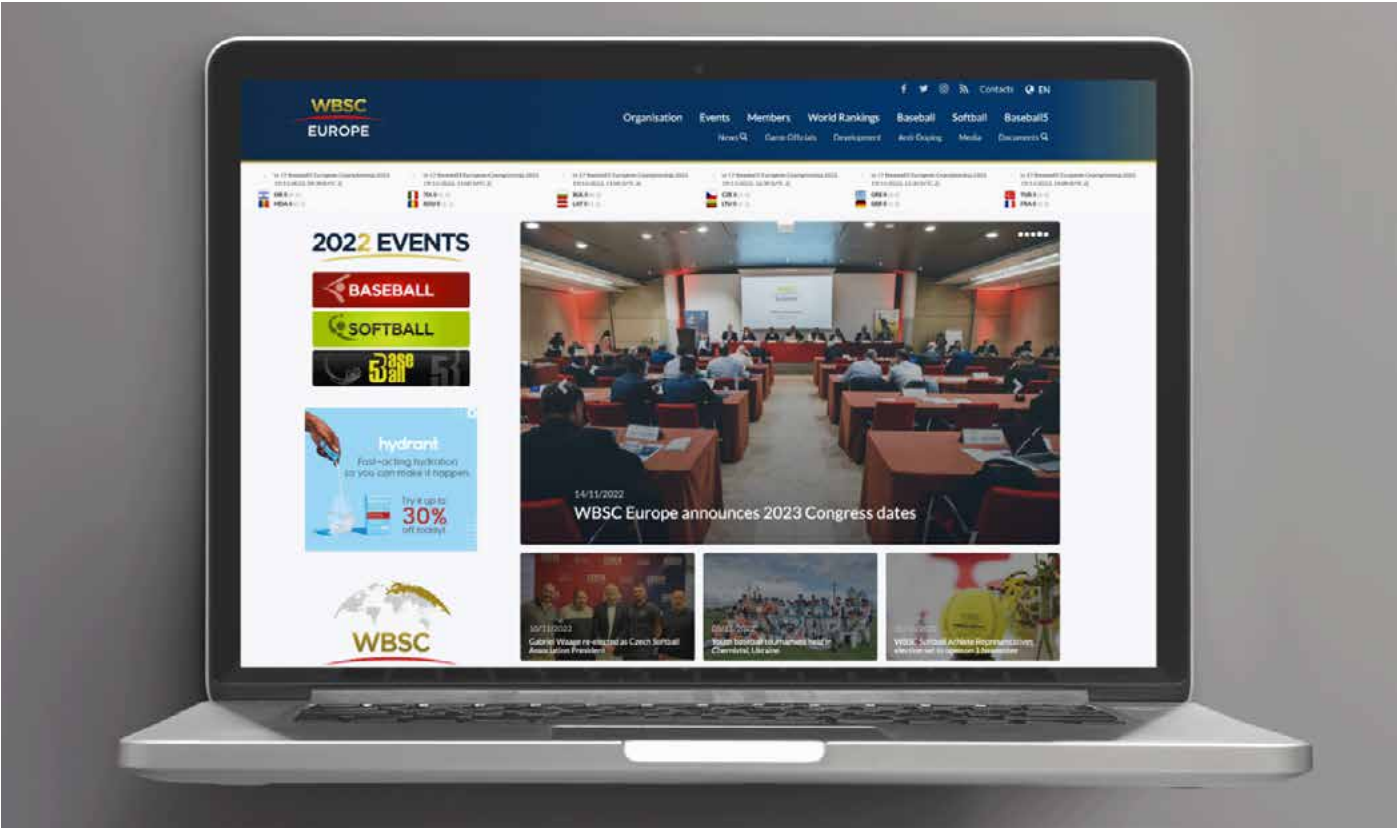
example 4

Online World

WBSC Europe website

Launched in June 2021, www.wbsceurope.org is the official website of WBSC Europe and all Baseball, Softball, and Baseball5 National Team & Club competitions.

The website has the goal to keep the European community informed on all WBSC Europe events and initiatives. Mainly, during the season months, the baseball and softball competitions can be followed on www.wbsceurope.org. Schedules, results, standings, and stats are shared live for every event thanks to the scoring committees' work.



Starting in 2021, the National Federations has inputted the teams' rosters through the WBSC Europe online system (my.wbsc.org). Thanks to this improvement, more info can be shown to fans and scouts about the athletes such as their playing position(s), whether they are left-, right-handers, or switch-hitters, and more.

On the pick of the season, the website reaches over one million three hundred thousand page views per month, seventy-five thousand users per month, and six and half minutes average session duration.



These numbers made it possible for the Funding Sub Commission to close sponsorship agreements for the banners now shown on the website.

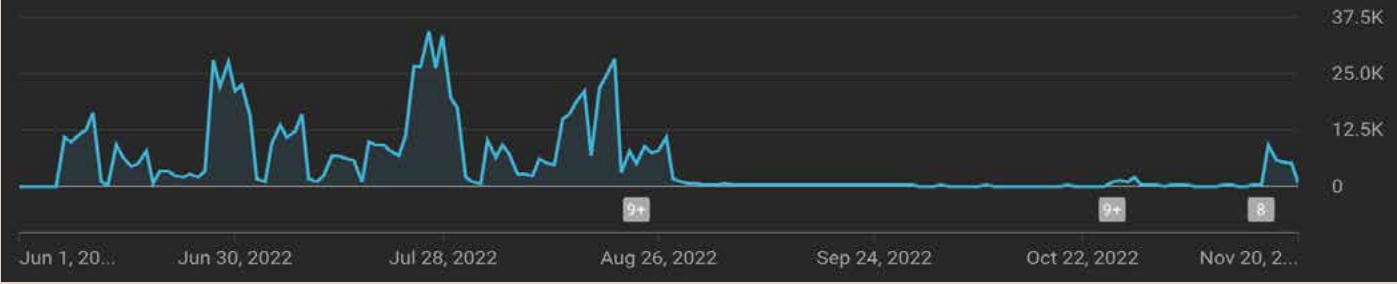
To increase the insights and focus the work of the media team, the CEB and ESF websites will be closed and redirected to the WBSC Europe website, as soon as all info migration is completed.

From June 2021 to January 2023, almost 500 news pieces have been published to keep the community engaged and updated.

Streaming

The WBSC Europe Communications Department has been working on the streaming aspect together with each tournament organizing committee, resulting in the main 18 events being streamed on the WBSC Europe YouTube channel. The games at the European Championships and Cups have been streamed, either through a fixed camera or multiple cameras, depending on the LOC's budget.

The WBSC Europe YouTube channel grew in numbers reaching 6.7k subscribers. During the season, the views were over nine-hundred thousand (shown in the graphic) reaching over two-hundred thousand hours of watch time and almost nine million impressions.



Media Coverage

All official competitions of 2022 were covered by the WBSC Europe Communications Department.

The social media were taken care of by the media officers' team, present at the top events, in collaboration with the Local Organising Committees. Posts, stories, articles, and more were shared for all the 2022 events. Instagram, Facebook, YouTube, and Twitter are the social media channels used by WBSC Europe.

The Media Officers made sure to share on the WBSC Europe social media channels videos and photos to show the great atmosphere at the European Championships and Cups.

As for the news, in 2022 alone, Philipp Würfel, Petra Čizmić Pokrajac, and Elda Ghilardi wrote over 250 pieces for the WBSC Europe website covering all thirty-three events and more. The reports were shared on the WBSC Europe social media channels to keep the community updated.

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Grega Valančič
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Tomáš Icík
Photos Schmel
Alex Lisztes
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Lenka Brožová
Valerio Origo
Àdam Elias Lopez
Lorena Puškarić
Collecchio Softball

editor
Elda Ghilardi

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