

# WBSC Europe VP Baseball Newsletter

## December 2023

Dear Baseball Friends,

As the national and international competitions of 2023 are over, our work is still not over in Europe. In November, Tenerife hosted the annual Euro Baseball Winter League for our players and coaches, coaches met in the Netherlands for the EBSCA Training Camp and our umpires underwent a clinic in France. Earlier this year, during the European Championship in Czechia, the Baseball Commission met in Brno. Among the topics that were discussed were bids for hosting competitions 2024-2027, European Super Baseball League, (which in the end will stay the European Champions Cup) development programs and we also started to prepare our activities to be held at the annual WBSC Europe Congress that will be held in Benalmádena, Spain, 9-11 February 2024. We look forward to seeing you all there.

Petr Ditrich  
WBSC Europe Baseball Vice President

### Competitions 2024-2027

WBSC Europe Baseball Commission published the competition calendar for the following years. Most of the hosting cities and countries are known. We have made big steps forward compared to last year – all European Championships and Qualifiers have their hosting cities. We believe that this higher interest to organize tournaments is caused by changes in the rules that we made, where for example local organizers are not responsible for the local transportation costs any longer.

WBSC Europe Executive Board had its meeting on 8-9 December in Benalmádena and the aim at the meetings from the Baseball perspective was to secure as many organizers for 2024 competitions as possible. The Baseball Commission would like to have all organizers for 2025 at the Congress in Benalmádena.

### CALENDAR 2024

TBA	European Super Baseball League	
TBA	European Super Baseball League Final Four	
June 3 – 9	Baseball European Cup	Valencia (ESP)
June 3 – 9	Baseball European Federation Cup Baseball European Federation Cup	Nomination open Nomination open
June 10 – 16 June 10 – 16	Baseball European Federation Cup Qualifier Baseball European Federation Cup Qualifier	Ljubljana (SLO) Stockholm (SWE)
July 1 – 7	U-12 Baseball European Championship	Padeborn (GER)
July 1 – 7	U-12 Baseball European Championship B Pool	Trnava (SVK)
July 15 – 21 July 15 – 21	U-15 Baseball European Championship B Pool U-15 Baseball European Championship B Pool	Kaunas (LTU) Sisak (CRO)
July 8 – 14	U-18 Baseball European Championship	Regensburg (GER)
August 5 – 11 August 5 – 11	U-23 Baseball European Championship B Pool U-23 Baseball European Championship B Pool	Budapest (HUN) Zurich (SUI)

July 22 – 28	Baseball European Championship B Pool Baseball European Championship B Pool Baseball European Championship B Pool	Ashbourne (IRL) Belgrade (SRB) Kutno (POL)
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## CALENDAR 2025

1 <sup>st</sup> week of July	U-12 Baseball European Championship	Hluboka (CZE) + U12Q EVRY (FRA)
1 <sup>st</sup> week of July	U-12 Baseball European Championship B Pool	Bids received
3 <sup>rd</sup> week of July	U-15 Baseball European Championship	Nomination open
2 <sup>nd</sup> week of July	U-18 Baseball European Championship B Pool U-18 Baseball European Championship B Pool	Nomination open
1 <sup>st</sup> week of August	U-23 Baseball European Championship	Trebič (CZE)
2 <sup>nd</sup> week of August	Women's Baseball European Championship	Nomination open
October TBA	Baseball European Championship	Israel

## CALENDAR 2026

TBD	Baseball European Championship B Pool	Nomination open
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## CALENDAR 2027

September TBD	Baseball European Championship	Nomination open
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Note: \*European Championship is Qualifier for next expected WBSC World Cup

## European Champions Cup ( League)

The Baseball Commission together with the potential participants have been intensely preparing a new European club competition since June. The concept is that it shall start in 2024 and should not affect any national club competitions, unlike the European Cups. The participants will be chosen according to the results of the 2023 Champions Cup and Confederation Cup and one wild card will be awarded. **It was intended** that for the first season, 8 spots were equally offered to 4 countries to simplify the first edition: 2 spots for Italy (instead of 1 team from Spain), 2 spots for The Netherlands, 2 spots for Germany and 2 spots for Czech Republic. Teams will play doubleheaders, four best teams will meet in Final Four. However due to the withdrawal of two of the original intended federations it was decided that there will be a change and we will update you during the Congress.

## Development projects

EBCA (European Baseball Coaches Association), who were an independent entity have made an agreement about collaboration with ESCA (European Softball Coaches Association) and a joint organization EBSCA (European Baseball Softball Coaches Association) was established under the umbrella of WBSC Europe and specifically under the Development Commission. EBSCA

organized its first training camp with Baseball players and coaches in The Netherlands with more than 100 participants from both sports.

## **Euro Baseball Winter League**

Autumn days 18 to 26 of November were traditionally devoted to the Euro Baseball Winter League. The event organized by the trio, Royal Spanish Baseball and Softball Federation, Canary Islands Baseball and Softball Federation and WBSC Europe took place in Tenerife, Spain. 62 prospects aged 17-23, coming from all over the Europe were divided into three teams (Blue Lions, Golden Stars, Red Bulls) led by experienced coaches from Spain, USA and Czechia. Teams played altogether seven games and as in the last season, the tournament was won by the Red Bulls. More information and results can be found [here](#) and [here](#). Rosters are [here](#).

## **All Euro Japan**

After 9 years Japan will host second edition of the Global Baseball Games between Samurai Japan and Team All Euro. The series will take place in Kyocera Dome in Osaka, Japan, on 6 and 7 March 2024. WBSC appointed Marco Mazzieri (ITA) as a manager of the European team. In the first edition in 2015, Mazzieri was a bench coach on Steve Jansen's coaching staff. Team All Euro lost the first game 3-4 and won the second one 6-2. More information about the upcoming series can be found [here](#).

## **Umpiring Clinics**

42 umpires from 14 countries participated in the Umpiring Clinics in Toulouse, France, in mid-November. Two clinics – WBSC Europe Certification Clinic and the Baseball Umpiring Fundamentals' Clinic had both tight schedules with classroom instructions, on field instructions and cage instructions. All candidates who wanted to successfully complete the course and be given WBSC Europe Baseball Umpire Certification had to show the knowledge of variety of specific categories and pass the rules test. 32 umpires have passed the test and have been officially certified. More details about the clinic can be found [here](#).