

Baseball Commission Meeting

BRNO, CZECH REPUBLIC

September 30th/ October 1st 2023

Attendance

František Bunta, BC Member („FB“)
Kuipers, BC Member („JK“)
Boyko, BC Member („OB“) – on September 30th

Stephen Lesfargues, BC Member („SL“)Jan
Darja Grimšić, BC Member („DG“)Oleg
Jorge Miqueleiz, BC Member („JM“)

Kruno Karin, President („KK“)
Petr Ditrich, BB Vice President („PD“)
Jukka Rapponen, Head of Marketing Department – on the 1st October
Linda Steijger, BB Chairwomen Scorers in Chief – on the 1st October
Zdenek Zidek, BB Umpire in Chief – on the 1st October
Secretariat: Coorporative Activities Director, Kristina Uroić („KU“), Communnications Director Elda Ghilardi („EG“)
Guest: WBSC Executive Director Michael Schmidt („MS“)

1. Jan Kuipers - new member of Baseball Commission

KK:

Welcome to all, we are in full power. We have a new Baseball Commission Member, Jan Kuipers. I believe he is a great addition to the Commission.

2. Virmidas Neverauskas situation

PD:

It was good that Juegen was at this tournament and he did a great job with this situation. The case was sent to the Integrity Commission and Virmidas resigned from the Board in the meantime.

3. Competitions 2023

FB:

All the tournaments are done except of the European Championship. We only had a problem with the Lithuanian team at U18 Qualifier.

Proposal:

To have an overview after each tournament by the Technical Committee.

Decision:

It is agreed that the overviews will be sent to the Baseball Commission.

4. Competitions 2024

FB:

We need to finish the Calendar by tomorrow, because the Federations need to know to send in the Bids for the tournaments.

KK:

We had a meeting with the strong countries regarding the Champions League. We will have the video meeting with the clubs in 2 weeks.

PD:

We have a problem with the EC U18. We don't have the organizer for this tournament; it's hard to find the organizer. If we don't get the host, we need to think about changing the system of the tournament.

Competition Rules 2024

FB: Ami wants to have the group with softball to try to have the similar rules. We have the WBSC Competition Rules now and we need to go through it.

SL:

We would like to have the Calendar with all the disciplines (baseball, softball, baseball5) together.

Champions League

PD: The discussion with the teams will be on the October 10th. The Baseball Commission will lead the league after it will be decided that it will happen in 2024.

Winter League

JM: We have 50 players from more federations this year. We will have the media coverage this year as well.

5.000,00 EUR will be covered from the Development fund.

1st October

9:00 hrs

Proposal:

It was proposed to start using the Dropbox again, because there was a lot of miscommunication last year and we should get back to the system that worked.

Decision:

It was unanimously agreed to use the Dropbox again.

Proposal:

Calendar 2024-2027 will be made as follows:

- For 2024 – we will use the dates
- 2025-2027 – it will be done by weeks in the months.

If something will be necessary to change, it can be changed at the meetings.

Decision:

The proposal was unanimously approved.

Calendar will be sent to the Federations with the Bid form.

Competition Rules

The Working group will be formed, which will work with the stakeholders.

Proposal:

Working group members:

František Bunta, Jan Kuipers, Stephen Lesfargues, Juergen Elsishans.

Decision:

The working group was unanimously approved.

Champions League:

MS:

You need to be careful because the name “Champions League” is protected by UEFA and “Baseball Champions League” is protected by WBSC.

JR:

We are looking at the different ideas how to monetize the League. We will look into the issue of the name.

PD:

For now, the League is in the hands of the Executive Board, but when it will be given a green light, it will be in the hands of the Baseball Commission.

5. Winter League

JM gave the update on the Winter League.