

**Report C.E.B. Congress**  
Stockholm, 25<sup>th</sup> February 2006

**PRESENCE**

**Austria:** Jorg Breyer, Peter Ferak  
**Belarus:** Alexandr Davydov, Aliaksandr Sechka  
**Belgium:** Johan Dille, Jerome Legris  
**Bulgaria:** Mario Primdzanov  
**Croatia:** Krunoslav Karin  
**Denmark:** Bo Orla Jensen, Andres Kirkebaek Jensen  
**Finland:** Milton Jones  
**France:** Jean Patruel, Eric Elsensohn  
**Georgia:** Ramaz Goglize  
**Germany:** Jürgen Elsishans, Bernard Schmeilzl  
**Great Britain:** Tom Gillespie, John Boyd  
**Greece:** Panagiotis Mitsiopoulos  
**Hungary:** Attila Vamos, Gyorgy Simany  
**Ireland:** Mick Manning, Ann Murphy  
**Israel:** Haim Katz  
**Italy:** Massimo Fochi, Riccardo Schioli  
**Lithuania:** Petras Vilcinskas, Edrundas Matusevicius  
**Malta:** Mario Debono  
**Moldova:** Roman Ostapenko, Vladilena Timus  
**Netherlands:** Guis Langervoort, Rinus Paardekooper  
**Norway:** Ole Christian Abrahamsen, Bjorn Christian Thode  
**Poland:** Waldemar Szymanski, Waldemar Decowski  
**Portugal:** Sandra Monteiro  
**Rep. Czech:** Radim Kepak  
**Rep. Slovak:** Stanislav Horacek  
**Romania:** Gabriel Adumitrachioaie  
**San Marino:** Maurizio Gasperoni  
**Serbia and Montenegro:** Nikola Vucevic  
**Slovenia:** Igor Veselinovic, Vojko Korosec, Boris Vehovec  
**Spain:** Luis Melero  
**Sweden:** Ulf Steinvall  
**Switzerland:** Carmen Schaub, Monique Schmitt  
**Turkey:** Tuncay Bender  
Total of 33 countries.  
Credential Forms filed in Secretary General

**Absent:**  
**Armenia**  
**Ukraine**  
**Russia**  
**Cyprus**  
**Estonia**  
Total of 5 countries.

**Executive Committee**

Martin Miller  
Riccardo Fraccari  
Gerard Vaandrager  
Petr Ditrich  
René Laforce  
Attila Borbély  
Eric-Pierre Dufour  
Ake Halvarson  
Samuel Pelter

**Technical Commission**

Jan Esselman  
Xavier Mateu  
František Bunta  
Angelo Fanara  
Roland Hoffmann  
Jean Marie Meurant

**Legal Commission**

Bernhard Schmeilzl  
Leo Smallegange  
Lars Sundin

**Medical Commission**

Gijs Langevoort  
Günther Effinger

**Umpires Sub Commission**

Marco Screti  
Edwin van den Berk

**Scorers Workgroup**

Giampaolo Reiter  
Pablo Carpio Navarro  
Linda Steijger

**AGENDA**

1. Roll Call (with accreditation)
2. Welcome of Authorities by the President
3. Report of the President
4. Rewarding distinctions
5. Activity report 2005
6. Financial Report and Audit Report 2005
7. Technical Commission Report of Competitions 2005
8. Change of Statutes (English version of C.E.B. name)
9. Budget 2006
10. Plans 2006
11. Annual Congress 2007
12. New Business

## 1. Roll Call

32 countries present, 6 countries missing.

Portugal presented from item 9 - 33 countries present, 5 countries missing.

Hungary and San Marino gave Credential Form during session.

## 2. Welcome of Authorities by the President

M. Fransson, SBSF President

Welcomed all delegates and guests, reminding history of Swedish baseball (50<sup>th</sup> anniversary on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2006, trial sport in the Olympic Games in Stockholm) and expressing believe in light future.

M. Miller

He awarded small gift to M. Fransson, thanking him for Congress organisation.

Bulgaria, Poland joined this thanks giving.

M. Miller

Welcomed special guests of the Congress:

- Leif Larsson, Swedish Sports Confederation
- Aldo Notari, IBAF President
- Gaston Panaye, CEB Honorary Secretary General
- John Ostermeyer, IBAF Continental Vice President
- Mike Jennings, European Softball Federation President
- Pat Doyle, Major League Baseball International
- Jason Holowaty, Major League Baseball International
- Beata Kaszuba, Little League
- Pat Wilson, Little League
- Jan Bagin, Prague Baseball Week
- Abraham Key, Pony Baseball
- Jon Konigsberg, Easton Sports
- Geoff Applebaum, EBCA

## 3. Report of the President

M. Miller

Full text of the Presidential Report is in CEB Yearbook 2005.

Communication among EC members.

Cooperation with softball, necessity to work together.

Lot of work, new organisation, EC worked together with individual tasks and responsibilities.

All commissions involved into CEB work.

Difficult year, lose of Olympics, necessity to have a plan how to go on without the Olympics, success in Europe is crucial.

Legal dispute between me and IBAF is finished. Court confirmed my position of CEB President. I made a mistake, IBAF did not follow rules. I am excluded from any baseball position on IBAF level for 6 months. I fought like CEB President, result is the compromise.

G. Vaandrager

Executive Committee discussed this matter together with Legal Commission, without persons involved, judging all arguments. M. Miller acted not only for himself, but also for CEB. The proposal is to bear portion of Miller's legal fees, up to one-half of Mr. Miller's total legal fees, but not to exceed Euro 30,000. The proposal was accepted by EC.

M. Miller

Thanks to EC and Congress for help.

#### **4. Rewarding Distinctions**

M. Miller

Rewarded trophies.

Absent winners (Russia, Kirovograd) will be rewarded later.

#### **5. Activity Report 2005**

M. Miller

Written reports are included into CEB Yearbook 2005. Many points discussed in workshops on Friday.

No questions regards the year of 2005.

#### **6. Financial Report and Audit Report 2005**

R. Laforce

Reported financial matters, financial report and audit made by Price Waterhouse Coopers enclosed.

Since double-entry accounting system was used for the first ever time, PWC audit was made.

The first quarter was cash base registered. Double-entry accounting gives a possibility to analyse all incomes and outcomes in detail.

Thanks for help to G. Panaye.

PWC audit report; PWC checked everything whole day and gave positive report.

Year 2005 was finished with positive balance 4,434 Euros.

All information in electronic files, stick, on CEB web site.

No questions regarding to finances of 2005.

#### **7. Technical Commission Report of Competitions 2005**

R. Fraccari

Full text of the Technical Commission Report is in CEB Yearbook 2005. Nothing to be added.

No questions regarding to competitions 2005.

#### **8. Change of Statutes (English version of C.E.B. name)**

Small and technical matter, English version of the name is proposed to be changed from "European Baseball Confederation" to "Confederation of European Baseball". The purpose is to have the same abbreviation (C.E.B.) both in French and English version.

#### **Break**

K. Pälviä

Made some organisation remarks.

Legal Commission

Asked to vote all matters of 2005.

CEB Congress 2005 Minutes – approved unanimously.

Financial Report 2005 – approved unanimously.

Price Waterhouse Coopers Audit Report 2005 – approved unanimously.

Bear portion on Miller's legal fees, up to one half, but not to exceed Euro 30.000 – approved unanimously.

Change of CEB Statutes mention in item 8 – approved unanimously.

M. Miller

Thanks for CEB Yearbook 2005 preparation to P. Ditrich and J. Votinsky.

P. Ditrich

Offered another copies and asked for all suggestions.

Asked delegates to return materials distributed during workshops, along with the questionnaire of the Congress format.

## **9. Budget 2006**

R. Laforce

Budget is based on financial data of 2004 and 2005. In future, every EC member will prepare his field of responsibility.

The balance is minus 45,260 Euros, similar like in 2004; incomes are smaller due to Euro Seniors is not played.

Budget was distributed by e-mails and is on stick.

Netherlands

Budget of Medical Commission is missing.

M. Miller

It will be solved within EC.

CEB Budget 2006 – approved unanimously.

## **10. Plans 2006**

M. Miller

CEB wants to follow rules and regulations. Three points were expressed.

1) Subscription fees must be paid, but many countries have not yet done it. Last deadline is on March 31<sup>st</sup>, exceptionally. If subscription is not paid, team cannot play. For 2007, the deadline is really December 31<sup>st</sup>.

2) IBAF development money was distributed, preferably to countries of B+C category. This system was stopped and substituted by special development plan. R. Laforce checked current status of countries' accounts, positive balances will be returned back by the end of 2006.

3) Congress expenses of delegates will not be covered by CEB in future, especially with regard to court decision, there will be again 5 regional meetings, CEB will help countries with their expenses.

### **10.1. Future competitions**

R. Fraccari

Asked for questions and suggestions.

Croatia

To play qualifier with wooden bats from 2006 is proposed. Everything is played with wood (Euro, U21, Juniors).

Voting – 26 for, 3 against, 4 abstentions.

S. Pelter

Question if the countries voting against play in the tournament 2006. New voting.

Ireland

Too short time for change, competitions start in April. Nothing against wood, but it needs more time.

Slovenia

It is not fair to change now, maybe for next year.

R. Fraccari

TC or EC not decided wooden bats for 2006, but Federations cannot be limited in their right to give proposals.

Hungary

Too short time for decision. Asks new voting in this point.

Netherlands

Two choices, wood since 2006 or 2007.

#### Croatia

16 countries play Qualifier, only 3 of them with aluminium. Slovenia plays Interliga with wood. Aluminium bats are expensive.

#### Georgia

List of bats was approved, both types can be used.

*5 minutes break, consultation with Legal Commission.*

After negotiation with countries playing Euro Qualifier, Belgian proposal to play with wooden bats from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2007.

Approved – 30 for, 2 against, 1 abstention.

#### Netherlands and Legal Commission

Question if these proposals from workshops can be included into program and voted about, because of respect to Statutes and regulations.

#### Legal Commission

Recommended to vote about including these proposals into program.

Including voting about new proposals was approved.

#### Greece

The first ever volume of U21 Championship, we need stronger teams. Proposal – to give a possibility of 3 players 23&under.

Not approved – 13 for, 13 against, 7 abstentions.

#### Belgium

Surprised by new rules of foreign players in CEB competitions, better to make a limit 3 players outside CEB countries.

#### R. Fraccari

Reason was impossibility to control individual countries.

#### San Marino

Exception for small countries. Principle of Europeanism.

#### Netherlands

CEB affiliated members should not be considered as foreigners, support to Belgium – up-to-date, 3 players outside CEB per team.

#### J. Esselman

National teams play only with citizens (according to passport), San Marino also. For San Marino in cup, number of Italians is unlimited.

Conclusion –EC made decision in Rome, valid for 2006, to unify rules to 3-foreigners-regulation. All teams applied according to current rules, it is difficult to change rules for 2006.

Another decision will be made by EC for 2007. Federations can send their proposals to this point.

## 10.2. Development Plan

### G. Vaandrager.

Almost all was discussed in workshop.

Every event should be open for surrounding countries, like for example clinic in Athens.

Needs of communication, contact data should be sent to Secretary General and updated.

The first year for discussion, preparation, meetings.

Year of 2006 is setup for implementation.

Clinics for all activities – umpires, coaches, scorers.

Baseball promoters clinics.

Cooperation with softball, similar sport.

Cooperation with Major League. Progress with Little League.

New initiative with Cuban baseball professors, challenge of this year.

Regional meetings in October, travel expenses, important, initial inputs.

Questionnaire with 4 questions.

October – Common clinic of MLB, LL and CEB. CEB is proud of being the first ever common project of MLB and Little League.

Information to right people in organisation must be ensured.

## 10.3. Marketing activities

### M. Miller

To use information, to give information to clubs of all levels.

School academies, training centres.

Correct and up-to-date information, everybody have to use more information. More information of tournaments.

Small stick with Power-Point presentation. We need information.

## 11. Annual Congress 2007

### M. Miller

Explained situation. Country hosting Euro – Spain, Barcelona. IBAF intends to play like Olympic Qualifier under IBAF jurisdiction (2 fields of MLB standard, higher demands with hotels etc.). Spanish are not interested in hosting Congress, to spare money. Croatia is interested to host it. Together with softball, but not on the same day. Discussion with ESF.

CEB is responsible for Euro 2007. Discussion with IBAF. One tournament is the best solution.

### Netherlands

Support for one tournament, season is full, CEB is the owner of the tournament, support to CEB policy. Positive approach, the worst thing is to have two tournaments.

### M. Miller

Possibility Spain will not host Congress 2007. Proposal - for 2007 only, EC can decide another host country.

Approved (30 for, 1 against, 2 abstentions).

## 12. New Business

### Belgium

Asked to discuss carefully regulations, which decisions should be made by the Congress, responsibilities of the Congress and EC.

### M. Miller

Negotiated with Legal Commission. EC will discuss this point carefully to be more clear to all.

### P. Wilson

Letter of intend signed, enclosed.

### L. Larsson

Invited delegates for a dinner.

Israel

Information of international tournament Maccabia, the first ever tournament in ISR, thanks for help to Germany, Czechia, Major League. Example of good cooperation.

G. Apfelbaum

Need of good coaches, help to development, website, help with clinics, to work together.

Netherlands

Calendar meeting should be organised, season is busy.

Good relations with Swedish Federation, gifts.

A. Key

Pony League in Germany, Czechia, Great Britain. In April, there will be Pony League in Prague.

P. Doyle, J. Holowaty

Major League Baseball International projects, Baseball Tomorrow Fund, Envoy Coaches. Administrative work, good experience to be here, regards from London office.

Thanks to guests, commissions, organisers, to K. Palvia and his team.

Recorded by:

Petr Ditrich, Secretary General

Prague, March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2006

Approved by:

Martin Miller, President

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CEB Yearbook 2005 completes this report.

Enclosures – PWC Audit report, CEB budget 2005 and 2006, letter of intend.

Tape record is provided, can be used.