

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE
CONFEDERATION OF EUROPEAN BASEBALL (CEB)
ORDINARY CONGRESS
HELD ON FEBRUARY 15, 2014
PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC**

The Congress was called to order at 9:30 AM on February 15, 2014 by the President, Mr. Jan Esselman, all members of the Executive Committee were present. In accordance with the Agenda, the following actions were taken:

- 1) **ROLL CALL AND DELEGATE ACCREDITATION:** The Secretary General called the roll of Member Federation. Authorized delegates of thirty (30) Member Federations presented their Accreditation (See attached Roll Call List). Twenty-nine (29) Members were confirmed financial by the Treasurer (Belarus was not financial). Eight (8) Member Federations (Cyprus, Estonia, Georgia, Ireland, Latvia, Malta, Moldova and Serbia) were absent. Belarus was present with a representative of the newly founded federation willing to apply for membership in CEB.

The Secretary General declared that, in accordance with Articles 28 and 76 of the CEB Statutes, a quorum for conducting business was present. In addition to the Executive Committee and Delegates, representatives of the Technical, Scorer and Umpire Commissions as well as the Office Administrator were present.

- 2) **PRESIDENT'S WELCOME OF GUESTS:** The President acknowledged, with appreciation, the presence of Mr. Riccardo Fraccari and Mr. Don Porter, Co-Presidents of the WBSC, Mr. Dale McMann, ISF President, Mr. André van Overbeek, ESF President, Mr. Jason Holowaty of MLB, Little League representatives Ms. Beata Kaszuba, Mr. Daniel Velte and Mr. Bart Sochacki, Mr. Abe Key, President of Pony League, and Jan Bagin.

A very special and warm welcome was given to Mrs. Marga Mateu und Ms. Cristina Mateu, wife and daughter of Xavier Mateu, who died in June 2013. For him and the recently passed away CEB Honorary Secretary Gaston Panaye a minute of silence was held. Afterwards President Jan Esselman presented the first edition of the new “Xavier Mateu Award for Excellence” to Marga and Cristina Mateu. Cristina thanked the audience for this honorable gesture.

The President thanked the Federation of the Czech Republic for hosting the current Congress.

- 3) **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:** The Secretary General requested, but did not receive, any comments or corrections to the Congress Agenda. The Agenda was thereupon **approved by a unanimous vote of the Congress delegates.**

- 4) **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE LAST CEB CONGRESS 2013:** The Secretary General requested, but did not receive, any comments or corrections from the Congress delegates in respect of the Minutes of Meeting of the last CEB Congress, held in Bled, Slovenia on February 16, 2013. **The said 2013 Congress Minutes of Meeting, previously submitted to the Federations (and attached hereto) were thereupon approved as written, by a unanimous vote of the Congress Delegates.**

- 5) **PRESIDENT'S 2013 ACTIVITY REPORT:** The President referred the delegates to the activity report published in the 2013 CEB Yearbook.

He stated that 2013 had been a hard year for the Executive Committee due to the unexpected death of our dear friend Xavier Mateu and the future plans for the office that died with it. A new structure and strategy needed to be found. Secondly the withdrawal of all Italian commission members and TCs was noticed with much regret and forced CEB to find other solutions.

But not to forget the good things that happened in 2013: Italy, Netherlands and

Spain took part in the World Baseball Classic; the World Baseball Softball Confederation was found and developed to a strong body on world level; the 2013 competitions were successfully held and at the end of the season Bologna – as the European Cup Champion – was invited to take part in the Asia Series. The Executive Committee held a strategic planning session and developed a new strategic plan for the coming years. It is planned to release a new CEB Website on March 1st.

Jan Esselman informed the delegates about the closing of the office in Frankfurt and thanked Rhena Landefeld for all her work in the past years, such as her commitment to help to prepare the 2014 Congress even without a working contract.

- 6) **AWARD OF COMPETITION HONORS:** The Executive Committee read the list of competition honors for 2013, as reflected in the list attached hereto, and presented the awards to the Federation representing the Federation or Club team winner of the respective tournament.

- 7) **ANNUAL AWARDS:** The President announced the following winners of the 2013 CEB Annual Individual Awards:
 - Scorer of the Year – Stephanie Winkler (GER)
 - Umpire of the Year – Arnoldas Ramanauskas (LTU)
 - Coach of the Year – Oleg Boyko (UKR)
 - Federation of the Year – Switzerland

- (8) **NEW MEMBER/S:** The Secretary General advised the Congress that there is a pending applications from 2013 for CEB membership from Belarus Baseball Association. As there had been some rumors on beforehand, an explanation of the situation was given. The new Belarus federation has been asked for a clear statement from Belarus Olympic Committee that the old federation is no longer accepted. Such a declaration has recently been provided and is accepted by the EC of CEB. It's now under scrutiny by IBAF.
The application of Belarus was thereupon **approved by a unanimous vote of**

the Congress delegates. As soon as IBAF approves the Belarus membership, they will also be a full member within CEB.

- (9) **2013 FINANCIAL AND AUDIT REPORT:** The Treasurer reported that due to the early Congress date it had not been possible to receive the 2013 Audit Report of Price Waterhouse Coopers in time. He advised the Congress that Price Waterhouse had informed him in writing that he may still present the figures and request approval providing the official PWC approval.

The Treasurer then presented the CEB 2013 Financial Report, including that of the Development Commission. He indicated that CEB continues to encounter financial difficulties, but that money will from now on be saved by the closing of the CEB office in Frankfurt.

Following the Treasurer requested the Congress' approval of the 2013 Financial Report and therewith the discharge of the Executive Committee. **The Congress voted unanimously in favor.**

-- COFFEE BREAK -

- (10) **2013 DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION REPORT:** There being no questions respecting the DC Report published in the 2013 Yearbook, the Delegates, upon request of the President, unanimously approved the report.

- (11) **2013 TECHNICAL COMMISSION REPORT:** There being no questions respecting the TC Report published in the 2013 Yearbook and the sports meeting held the day before the congress, the Delegates, upon request of the President, unanimously approved the report.

(12) **2013 TOURNAMENTS:** There being no questions respecting the TC Report published in the 2013 Yearbook, the Delegates, upon request of the President, unanimously approved the report.

(13) **2014 PROPOSED BUDGET:** The Treasurer made a brief explanation of the proposed 2014 Budget, which was presented in writing to the Delegates beforehand.

There being no further questions the Treasurer requested the approval of the proposed budget. **The Congress voted unanimously in favor.**

(14) **ELECTION OF CEB SECRETARY GENERAL:** The CEB Legal Commission chairman Mr. Lars Sundin and Ms. Rhena Landefeld, took control of the Congress for purposes of carrying out the election of the position for Secretary General. Thereupon the Chairman of the Legal Commission advised the Congress of the manner, as specified in the By-Laws Regarding Elective Positions, in which the election would be conducted.

Both candidates Monique Schmitt (SUI) and Krunoslav Karin (CRO) held a brief presentation on their candidacy. Afterwards a secret ballot vote was held between the two candidates with the following results: 29 votes were cast, 18 for Krunoslav Karin and 11 for Monique Schmitt. The Chairman of the Legal Commission declared Mr. Karin elected as CEB Secretary General, having received an absolute majority of votes.

Krunoslav Karin took the oath of office.

(15) **VENUE AND DATE OF 2015 ORDINARY CONGRESS:** The President, Mr. Jan Esselman, notified the Congress that it was up to the European Softball Federation to decide upon the venue of the 2015 CEB Congress at a time, during the first quarter of 2015, to be notified to the Federations.

(16) **NEW BUSINESS:** President Jan Esselman and Abraham Key (President of PONY League) signed an agreement which recognizes PONY as an official partner of CEB.

Little League representative Daniel Velte presented the “LLB Federation of the Year” award to Lithuania, appreciating all their support in the past years.

There being no further business of the Congress, Lucie Cubikova of the CBA invited everybody to the gala dinner and Jan Esselman declared the Congress concluded and closed.

Mr. Jan Esselman
President

Mr. Lars Sundin
Secretary General