

# Confederation of European Baseball



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TO: All the Federations

Dear friends,

The Confederation of European Baseball and the Deutsche Baseball und Softball Verband have agreed on moving the 2018 European Baseball Championship to 2019 to serve as a pre-qualifier for the Olympic Qualification Tournament of the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games.

The rescheduling comes after a demand from the World Baseball Softball Confederation which is currently working on the Olympic Qualification system. Still to be confirmed, the qualification process for European teams would get through a March 2020.

6 teams OQT gathering the best team from Africa and the first five teams of the 2019 EC. The OQT runner-up would get a second chance to go to Tokyo by participating to a final OQT with teams from other regional qualification tournaments.

The 2018, now, 2019 European Baseball Championship was awarded in September 2015 to Germany, the Bonn Capitals and Solingen Alligators being the two support clubs.

Gathered in Zagreb, Croatia on March 25th and 26th the Executive Committee of CEB also decided to bring changes to the competition format, keeping the first round unchanged with two groups of 6 teams playing a round robin, but replacing the second round which consisted of a new round robin with the top 3 teams of each group by a single elimination bracket of ¼ finals, ½ finals, 3rd place and Championship Game.

CEB voted the change to bring more intensity to the competition and create a better environment for teams, fans and sponsors.

## European championship "A" 2019 - 12 teams

- Day 1 - 5 - 2 groups per 6, round robin ( 6 games a day)
- Day 6 - Quarterfinals, 4 games
- 9 -12 place, double elimination, 5th -5th. 6th – 6th (6 games)
- Day 7 - Semifinals, losers of quarterfinals, loser of 5th – 5th game, winner of 6th-6th game ( 5 games)
- Day 8 - Final, bronze medal game, 5th place game (3 games)

Already qualified teams for the 2019 European Baseball Championships are the 10 best teams of the 2016 EBC: The Netherlands, Spain, Italy, Germany, Czech Republic, Belgium, France, Sweden, Great Britain and Croatia. The two remaining spots have to be decided by EBC Qualifiers to be played in 2017, 2018 and 2019.

Because of that, we were force to modify system of qualifications for the 2019 "A" pool., because we will have 2, "B" pool championships, before 2019. "A" pool championship.

In order to make it possible this year "B" pool winners in Serbia and Poland will play best of 3 series in summer of 2018. Dates will be announced, after we have find out which 2 teams are involved. Loser of that series will play "B"pool in 2019, and winner will be qualified for the "A" pool in 2019.

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Last teams from both “B” pools will be relegated to the “C” pool.  
In 2018. We will start our Olympic qualification process with the European championship “C” pool. 3 teams will be relegated to the “B” pool in 2019.

In early July of 2019. We will be playing “B” pool, and one team will be promoted to the “A” pool in same year.

With this system we are guarantee that 22 nations in 2019. and 5 countries in 2020. are still in the qualifying process, for the Olympic Games, which should result with the better funding from National Olympic committees, for those countries.

At the end here is small recap of all the seniors competitions from 2017. – 2021. In Europe.

- 2017. “B” pool in Serbia and Poland ( 12 teams)
- 2018. “C” pool
- 2018. Play off (winners of the 2017. “B” pools)
- 2019. “B” pool (July)
- 2019. Play off (winners of the 2019. “B” pools, or “B” pool in one country)
- 2019. European championship in Germany (August or September)
- 2020. “B” pool
- 2021. “A” pool
- 2021. “C” pool

If you have any questions about this system please don't hesitate to contact our office in Zagreb.

Krunoslav Karin,  
CEB Secretary General