

Motion by Frankfurter Volleyball Verein for the 2009 Annual General Meeting of the EGLSF
Version 2.0 (replaces p. 46 in the AGA papers)

Preface:

In the existing EGLSF bylaws, the frequency of the EuroGames is regulated as follows:

4.4.1. EuroGames will roughly alternate between its full and limited formats depending upon the proposed bids. This will be decided by the General Assembly on a case by case basis.

In the past, the practice within the EGLSF has been to alternate between big and small EuroGames every 2 years. Through the division within the international LGBT sports movement, the EGLSF has been confronted with 2 world wide LGBT sporting events: the Gay Games and the Outgames. In 2009 and 2010 Europe is hosting both events. The consensus is that, in the years when Europe hosts the Gay or Outgames, that no EuroGames shall be held. In a voting by mail, the board indicated on October 9, 2008, that in every year in which no big EuroGames, Gay Games or Outgames are held, small EuroGames are to be held.

Motion:

Article 4.4.1 of the bylaws should be amended as follows: „During the years, in which no „full EuroGames“ are held, the board may determine that „limited EuroGames“ are held. At the same time, it is to be observed that in the time since the previous EuroGames, Outgames or Gay Games, at least one year should transpire in which none of the previously mentioned events has taken place in Europe.”

Article 4.4.2 can therefore be abolished.

Grounds:

The number of large international tournaments has measurably increased, partially due to the split between the Gay Games and Outgames. The same applies to the number of local multi-sports tournaments held by members of the EGLSF. Unfortunately the number of potential participants has not increased though.

Only few sportsmen and even fewer sportswomen of our clubs can afford the time and the costs of participating each year in one or more of these tournaments. This applies especially to women, who generally suffer from economical discrimination.

For the organizers – the clubs and EGLSF itself – this means a constantly increasing risk factor in the number of visitors and a decrease in the number of participants with the corresponding financial consequences.

This development will implicate a smaller participation of women at EuroGames, Outgames and Gay Games because for many the inflation of big tournaments will not be affordable.

The public image of these tournaments will also suffer. Through the inflation of LGBT tournaments, the public more and more loses interest in these events. The increase in frequency of the EuroGames would lead to a loss of appeal and uniqueness for this valuable asset in our alliance. We can observe already today, that the public is not anymore capable to distinguish between Gay-, Out- or EuroGames. As a comparison: The Olympic Games would loose there uniqueness as well, if they would take place every year.

Is a more in quantity congruent to a more in quality? Will a higher number of EuroGames make them better? Will more EuroGames lead to more participants? Will more EuroGames increase the share of women in the Games? We should not replace the special charm of the EuroGames by an inflationary system.