



Foto: Manfred Schür

Foto: Georg Thum

Welcome!

„We work towards a climate in the regular sports where people can freely be, according to their will and wishes, gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender or straight.“

Countries with EGLSF member clubs

Countries where contacts have been established



LGBT sports

You may think: „Why is it necessary to have special events and sports groups just for the LGBT community?“ The reasons vary from one country to another, since every country in Europe is different. However, most of us know it is not easy to come out about your sexuality in a „regular“ sports group. Some may even have got into situations where they felt harassed, were called names, or worse. They may have felt that by being gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender they were not accepted by their fellow club members.

EGLSF... who we are?

The European Gay and Lesbian Sport Federation (EGLSF) was founded in 1989 as a network of LGBT sports groups. Unlike today, it was then difficult to get into contact with other groups. Today, the EGLSF links over 100 groups, providing them with „tools“ to announce sport events, exchange information, discuss sports and much more!

Let's get in touch

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us by e-mail or regular mail. We would also appreciate any ideas you may have to further improve the working of our federation. If so, please, send your suggestions to the addresses shown below.

European Gay and Lesbian Sport Federation

c/o NCS – Meeuwenlaan 41 –
1021 HS Amsterdam - The Netherlands

eglsf@eglsf.info
Press Contact: media@eglsf.info

EGLSF has more than 100 member clubs representing over 10,000 athletes in Europe. The Annual General Assembly is held every year on the first weekend in march. A board of up to 8 people cares for the daily business.

Check out our web sites and services:

- www.eglsf.info**
Here you can find, among other things, information about EGLSF and its activities - e.g. how to become a member - as well as a members area with our newsletter and other subjects of interest.
- www.eurogames.info**
Information about EuroGames, past, present and future.
- www.gaysport.info**

Online Portal on European LGBT sport. Check out the European tournament calendar, find addresses of local sport clubs and read the latest news.

EGLSF enjoys participatory status with the COUNCIL OF EUROPE



Fair play, tolerance and safety in „sports for all“



A brief history of the EuroGames

- 1992** The Hague, The Netherlands
- 1993** The Hague, The Netherlands
- 1994 Gay Games, New York, USA
- 1995** Frankfurt, Germany
- 1996** Berlin, Germany
- 1997** Paris, France
- 1998 Gay Games, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
- 1999 no EuroGames, event withdrawn from Manchester
- 2000** Zurich, Switzerland
- 2001** Hanover, Germany
- 2002 Gay Games, Sydney, Australia
- 2003** Copenhagen, Denmark
- 2004** Munich, Germany
- 2005** Utrecht, The Netherlands
- 2006 Gay Games, Chicago, USA
Outgames, Montréal, Canada
- 2007** Antwerp, Belgium
- 2008** Barcelona, Spain

EuroGames - The basic idea

Once a year the EGLSF celebrates a huge European LGBT sport event: EuroGames, the European Gay & Lesbian Championships. There are two levels of EuroGames: small-scale EuroGames (max. 3,000 participants) and large-scale EuroGames which are held every 4 years. In 2004 Munich hosted large EuroGames with 5,000 participants in 30 sports. The basic idea of EuroGames is to support gay and lesbian athletes in their coming out, increase the awareness of gay and lesbian sport in the greater public. Hence, everybody can participate. Bring your friends and family!



Foto: Bethel Fath

Let's play together

EGLSF and sports groups

By becoming members of our federation, European sports groups take an active part in our network. They benefit from services ranging from an extensive, up-to-date database with addresses of all known LGBT sports groups in Europe to the co-ordination of tournaments so there are no two sporting events at the same time in the same area. The federation is there to make life easier for our members when organising events, or to help them run their club on a day-to-day basis.

A special benefit of being a member of the EGLSF is that all members of a sports group affiliated to the EGLSF get a substantial reduction on the participation fee for the EuroGames.

EGLSF and you

As a network of sports groups, we focus on their needs, but we also offer many services to individual athletes in Europe. Here's a short list of what we do:

www.gaysport.info, www.eglsf.info, www.eurogames.info

These are our popular websites with over 350,000 visits per month. Our homepages provide extensive information on LGBT sports in Europe including several databases like:

- **News** Read the latest news about European LGBT sport.
- **Tournament Calendar** We publish a calendar of all scheduled events in Europe. If you check out the on-line version, you will also find events outside Europe.
- **Links** Find links to sports groups in your area or at your new website to this fine collection of links to LGBT sports groups.
- We research, monitor and document cases of homophobia and good practices. Find out about the work of the association or visit the special members area.



Foto: Georg Thum

Against discrimination

Advocacy work of the EGLSF

Discrimination: Regrettably it still is a common issue for the gay and lesbian sport community!



In October 1994 the EGLSF published: „A Documentation on the Discrimination of Gays and Lesbians in Sports.“ In this report a total of 25 examples of discrimination were outlined. The range of discrimination varies from excluding gay and lesbian athletes from participating in sports events up to open or hidden violence, mobbing and psychological pressure.

Since then many additional cases have been reported. These cases were published in an update of the document called „Offside“ in 1999. It was presented at the „Building Bridges“ conference in The Hague. „Offside“ was distributed to all sport federations, the European Committee, the European Parliament, the European Council in Strasbourg and the organizers of the European Conference on Sport and Tolerance. One of the EGLSF's main tasks is to put its finger on those cases of discrimination and homophobia and to raise awareness on this important issue in the world of sports. The EGLSF lobbies for setting and acknowledging the rights of lesbians, gays, bisexuals and transgenders in sports and therefore strives to be involved in all international declarations or agreements to fight discrimination of all sorts and against anyone, no matter whether he or she is gay, bi- or heterosexual.

