



FAIR PLAY, TOLERANCE & SAFETY IN SPORTS FOR EVERYONE

8/07: August 2007

EGLSF Newsletter: News & Information from European Gay & Lesbian Sport Federation



Welcome

You are reading the renewed version of the EGLSF newsletter. We hope you like the new content, format and layout. Please send us your comments to eglsf@eglsf.info!

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Charter against homophobia in sports

During EuroGames in Antwerp, a conference entitled "...More than Playing Games" organized by EGLSF in co-operation with HoLeBi (Belgium), Football against Racism in Europe and some other organizations took place. At the end of the conference a charter against homophobia in sports was signed by the Flemish Football Association, the Belgian Football Association, the Flemish government, and the city government of Antwerp. EGLSF considers this a major step forward in the fight against homophobia (and sexism) in sports, and the board requests all member clubs to take account of the charter and use it at local, regional, and national levels.

"You know that you betray the whole world and most of all oneself."

John Blankenstein
FIFA Referee



EU – Poland's refusal to sign the charter of the EU treaty

The board discussed this topic, taking into account that a non-signing of the charter may lead to even worse conditions for LGBT people in Poland as well as in other EU countries, i.e. that the Prides in the Baltic countries, Croatia, Hungary, Russia, and Slovenia were accompanied by attacks from right wing activists. The Advocacy Committee will discuss this highly important issue in order to find out in which way to act, i.e. discuss this topic with ILGA and other organizations in order to make members of the EU and national parliaments act.

EU White Paper on sports

The EU White Paper on sports to which EGLSF has contributed, has been published and is available on the web in 22 languages. The link is <http://ec.europa.eu/sport/> and the document has also been put on the EGLSF website.

Internal affairs & Intl. sports organizations



Structural and Strategic Committee

The Structural and Strategic Committee agreed upon at the AGA in Madrid held its first meeting in Antwerp and agreed upon the first draft of a mandate for the committee, including striving for setting up what kind of organization EGLSF should be in ten years' time, and what challenges we have to face and find answers to. The members present at the meeting were Ole Udsholt (Pan Idraet, DK, Gisela Weil and Anne Jensen, EGLSF), the remainder members, i.e. a member from Fat Cats, Bulgaria, and a member from Tangra, Bulgaria, were not able to participate in the meeting. More information will follow in the next newsletter.

Federation of Gay Games (FGG)

The board met with Emy Ritt, FGG board member, to discuss the future co-operation between FGG and EGLSF. Within the field of advocacy, it was agreed upon looking for the possibility of organizing a conference during the Gay Games 2010 in Cologne. Concerning regional outreach, a sharing of approaches and best practices.

The official FGG liaison responsible for the co-operation between FGG and EGLSF is from now on Emy Ritt, what EGLSF appreciates.

Gay & Lesbian International Sport Association (GLISA)

The board met with Ole Udsholt (board member) and Wessel van Kampen (male Co-President) to discuss the future co-operation between our two organizations. The GLISA board members responsible for the fields of advocacy, regional outreach and sponsoring will share best practices with the corresponding EGLSF board members.

Outgames 2009

The organizers of Outgames 2009 in Copenhagen had invited the EGLSF to a meeting, at which we received a status of Outgames 2009. Among other things, the values of Outgames and the organization were presented, among these is generosity, which encompasses sharing of knowledge and experiences, and the organizers emphasized that this also includes co-operation with the organizers of Gay Games 2010 in Cologne.



It was agreed, that presentations of Outgames 2009 and Gay Games 2010 will be set on the agenda of AGA 2008 in Rome.

Sports

EuroGames 2007



Between July 12 and 15, 2007 the 2007 EuroGames were held in Antwerp, Belgium.

The games were very successful, with over 2,800 athletes participating in 12 sports, and coming from 40 countries. Over 40% of them were females.

More than 600 volunteers are to be congratulated for carrying out this events (many thanks to all of you again).

Participants enjoyed the opening ceremony and the party at the Grote Markt right in the city centre, and many positive feedback was received because of the rich cultural programme that followed the sporting aspect of the games.

The organisers did their best with the parties as well, so the only "complaint" could be the crowds of people partying.

The board wants to express its recognition of and gratitude to the Antwerp 2007 team for the organization and execution of the EuroGames 2007.

You can find more about the Eurogames 2007 at the official website of the event at <http://2007.eurogames.info>.

EuroGames 2008



The next Eurogames are to be held in Barcelona, Spain. The website is already up and running, and you can get some basic information there so be sure to check it out at <http://2008.eurogames.info> and mark your calendars to Come South.

EuroGames 2011

In 2009 and 2010 no EuroGames are organized due to the Outgames 2009 in Copenhagen and the Gay Games in Cologne 2010. That means that there will be plenty of time for organizing EuroGames 2011. The board strongly encourages all member clubs to considerate bidding for EuroGames 2011. If you have any questions concerning the bidding procedure or anything else, please contact Lou at lou@eglsf.info.

WinterGames

The bidding book for WinterGames has been posted. The board invites all clubs to read it and consider bidding. All questions and comments are very welcome; please contact Juha at juha@eglsf.info.

Outreach

Regional Outreach

The Regional Outreach Committee which was agreed upon at the AGA in

Madrid, had its first meeting in Antwerp, and information about the mandate and the future work of the committee will be available in the next newsletter.

In total, 88 persons benefited from the outreach program set up by the organizers of EuroGames 2007 and the EGLSF funding agreed upon at the AGA in Madrid.

Social Outreach

The board decided that the AGA in Rome 2008 will include a conference on gender issues on Friday, February 29. The conference will strive for enhancing and developing what was initiated at the AGA in Madrid.

News Section

News submitted by our members

World Outgames 2009

19 June 2007



World Outgames 2009 announces preliminary sports program Copenhagen, Denmark -- A preliminary sports program for the World Outgames 2009 was presented to Gay and Lesbian International Sports Association co-presidents Catherine Meade and Wessel van Kampen at recent meeting with World Outgames 2009 organizers in the host city Copenhagen. A present plans are underway for competitions to be held in



more than 30 disciplines ranging from aerobics to volley ball. Registration for both individual and team sporting events begins in 2008. It is possible that the schedule will be expanded to include more events, although the actual number of disciplines contested will be determined by the amount of interest and sports facilities available. "Through a close collaboration with local, national and international sports associations, we will provide the facilities and logistical support to make the World Outgames 2009 in Copenhagen an open, competitive, fair and positive experience for all of the participating athletes, officials, volunteers, fans and sponsors," said Tommy Kristoffersen, sports director for World Outgames 2009. If you would like to know more about the sports program, to see additional sports included or have ideas about workshops or other sports related activities, please feel free to get in touch with sports director, Tommy Kristoffersen. World Outgames 2009 will take place in Copenhagen from July 25 to August 2. For more information or to contact us, visit our website <http://www.outgames2009.org>.

IGLA World Championships

22 June 2007



Outgames 2009 to host world swimming championships Paris – The 2009 International Gay and Lesbian Aquatics (IGLA) world championships in swimming will be held in connection with the World Outgames 2009 in Copenhagen, Denmark. The Danish swimming association Pan Idraet and the official host, World Outgames 2009, will jointly arrange the meet. "A very special thanks to Lars Vestergaard from the Copenhagen Mermates swim club for his work in delivering the winning bid," said Tommy

Kristoffersen, sports director for World Outgames 2009. Swimming is expected to be one of the most popular of the more than 30 sporting events to be featured during the 9-day international festival that will run from 25 July to 2 August, 2009. The World Outgames recognizes the talents, rights and responsibilities of homosexual, bi-sexual and transgender men and women around the world. A wide variety of cultural activities, as well as a conference on human rights round out the program. More info at <http://www.copenhagen2009.org>.

LGBT Sports Youth Network Europe

25 June 2007

The Danish gay sports club in Copenhagen – Pan Idraet - would like to get in touch with young members of other LGBT sports clubs in Europe. Right now we are starting a youth network in Denmark (under the age of 30) and we would like to develop it towards an international perspective. This idea is in process and we would like to meet up with other young gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgenders - under the age of 30 - who think this is interesting.

This is an invitation to a meeting where we will be brainstorming together and also we will develop ideas in relation to how we can start an international gay youth network on the sports scene.

If you are interested, please send an mail to pha@panidraet.dk.

All England Same Sex Dance Day cancelled

2 July 2007

It is with great regret that we have decided to cancel the All England Same Sex Dance Day at the Collesium, Watford on 7th October. Advance payments have been refunded and we stress

that the London Open Championships and the All England Championships on the preceding Friday and Saturday go ahead as planned. We have promoted regular dance competitions for many years and from within the regular dance establishment we have used our influence to promote same sex dance - often in the face fierce opposition. When we were approached by same sex dancers to promote a same sex event it seemed a natural progression. A politically neutral organisation dedicated to the promotion of same sex dance generally and in the UK particularly seemed a great idea.

We were well aware that our successful established regular dance competitions would have to subsidise these events but it was in our view a worthwhile exercise. Same sex dancers have been overwhelmingly supportive and enthusiastic and we had hoped that the "same sex dance profession" and the organisations that purport to represent your best interests would have been equally supportive. In reality the complete opposite is true. It is our opinion that, self-interest, self-promotion and insecurity appear to be major considerations, over and above the best interests of promoting you - the same sex dancers. This attitude is epitomised by the newly formed ESSDA who have sanctioned an event to clash with our competition. At the time of our initial mailshot this event appeared on no calendar of events. Rest assured that although we do not intend to promote further same sex dance competitions we will continue to promote the interests of you - the dancers - from our positions of influence within the regular dance establishment. We wish same sex dancers everywhere success and happiness.

<http://www.the2richards.com>



Football is everything, even gay

8 July 2007

The last taboo in football loosens. The German Football Association (DFB) has recognised homophobia as a recurrent problem in football. At the first DFB Fan Conference in June in Leipzig, the problem of homophobia in German football was discussed for the first time ever. This week, the European Gay and Lesbian Sport Federation (EGLSF) will hold an international conference about homophobia in football in Antwerp. The „...More than Playing Games“ - Conference on July 12, 2007 will be in remembrance of the only openly gay UEFA referee, John Blankenstein. The Dutch referee led international games for 17 years. He died in August 2006 because of kidney ailment. When he was asked in an interview why homosexuality still is a problem in football he said: “Football still is a macho world. The general concept still is that a football player needs a pretty woman. Two kissing men would destroy this ideal world.” At the end of the conference in Antwerp, a declaration will be signed by all conference participants. This declaration is based on the Leipzig Declaration „Fighting Discrimination in Football“ which was supported by the participants of the DFB Fan Conference in June. With the joint signature in Antwerp, all present groups and organizations will express their commitment in the fight against all forms of discrimination as well. With the opening of the 11th EuroGames, the conference in Belgium will be closed. EuroGames are the European Gay and Lesbian Multi-sports Championships. The EGLSF is the licence holder of EuroGames. Today about 3.500 participants from over 30 countries are already registered for 12 sports (from Badminton via Football to Swimming). In addition, the organisers expect over 10.000 visitors. After the summer break,

EGLSF will take more action against all forms of discrimination in sport. For the prelude of the FARE action week (FARE = Football Against Racism in Europe) in October, an event against discrimination in German football is planned in the Berliner Olympic Stadium themed: “Football is everything, eve”

Exchange Partnership Needed

16 July 2007

Fat Cats Sports Club Association is planning a start of exchange of members with partnering organisations in Europe. The launch of the exchange is planned to be around October 2007. We kindly ask all of you to discuss with the members of your club this possibility to travel to Bulgaria and have lots of fun and great chances for establishing new friendships. Sports are included, too :-)) We could treat your members as our guests, so we will do our best to host most of them here. As we have not a great capacity to meet big groups in one time, we would appreciate constantly travelling to Bulgaria small groups in different sports and countries. We are also interested at sending small groups of our members to your clubs for participating in your tournaments, events or just take part in your trainings. We would be happy to receive a hosted housing treatment. For more information about the activities of Fat Cats and our sports section, please refer to our website: www.fat-cats.org. Please, let your willingness to become an exchange partner of Fat Cats arrive to our e-mail fat_cats_us@yahoo.com not later than September 1st, 2007. For sure, the clubs who contact us earlier will have an advantage in our exchange schedule. If you need any more explanation, do not hesitate to immediately contact us.

<http://www.fat-cats.org>

Sports Events Coming up...

Events submitted by our members

Badminton

Northern Flight Badminton Tournament and Pride Weekend

United Kingdom, Manchester
24 Aug – 27 Aug 2007



Northern Flight's third International Badminton Tournament will take place on Friday, 24 August. We invite players of all standards - A, B+, B-, C - for Level Doubles and Singles. As the tournament takes place on the weekend of Pride in Manchester, you get three days of fantastic events, including an opportunity to take part in our Pride Parade! There is also a Team Cup for the most successful club.

<http://www.northernflight.org.uk>
sjgreen81@hotmail.com



Basketball

London Cruisers Basketball Tournament 2007



United Kingdom, London
25 Aug – 26 Aug 2007

The London Cruisers are hosting their 2nd Basketball Tournament in London. The two-day tournament will take place on 25-26 August 2007. Registration is Friday 24th and the brunch will be on Monday 27th (Bank Holiday in the UK). Teams from the US, Russia and Europe will be attending. Book early to ensure your place. Also, if you want hosted accommodation, contact us as soon as possible.

<http://www.cruisers.org.uk>
laura.ich@virgin.net
kasper_pallesen@hotmail.com

Beach Volleyball

Varna-Tangra-Open



Bulgaria, Varna
31 Aug – 2 Sep 2007

3. Beach-Volleyball-Tournament at the Black Sea. Tournament is for men in C and B level. EUR 25,00 fee incl. accreditation, free entrance for party on Friday and winner-celebration in disco on Saturday, free drinks during the competition day, farewell brunch.

<http://www.tangra-sport.org>
pmoews@pm-engineering.com

Multisports

15th anniversary of SLS Leinebagger Hannover



Germany, Hannover
7 Sep – 9 Sep 2007

SLS Leinebagger Hannover celebrates its 15th anniversary with diverse sports activities. At the moment, the following sports are offered: badminton, football,

and volleyball.

<http://www.leinebagger.de>
juergen@leinebagger.de

Multisports

Brussels Games

Belgium, Brussels
7 Sep – 9 Sep 2007



16th International Brussels Tournament

<http://www.bgs.org>
info@bgs.org

Volleyball

Mamma Mia 2007

Italy, Milan
7 Sep – 9 Sep 2007



International volleyball tournament "Mamma Mia 2007" Milano

<http://www.gatevolley.it>
info@gatevolley.it

Basketball

4th International Men's Basketball Tournament Berlin



Germany, Berlin
7 Sep – 9 Sep 2007

All European Men's Basketball teams are invited to our 4th Tournament, also to compensate the fact that Basketball is excluded in the Eurogames for the 4th Time in a row... Come and play with us. Individual players without a team are Welcome too!

<http://vorspiel-berlin.de/index.php?pcid=22&pdid=122>
oranjemarcel@web.de

Multisports

Beach Football



Bulgaria, Kamchia
7 Sep – 9 Sep 2007

International LGBT Beach Football Championships during 2007 VARNA PRIDE Week (2nd to 9th September). Participation fee: 20EUR. Outreach.

<http://www.outsport-bulgaria.com/en/home/blog.php?id=4>
info@outsport-bulgaria.com

Running

Run for life 2007

Germany, Munich
9 Sep – 9 Sep 2007



Sports club Team Munich invites all runners and Nordic walkers (lesbian, gay and their family/friends) to join the 10km or 5.8km run in Munich's beautiful English Garden.

<http://www.runforlife.de>
juergen@teammuenchen.de



Synchronized Swimming

Men's Cup2

Sweden, Stockholm

21 Sep – 22 Sep 2007



Second Male World Synchronized Swimming Cup Solo and team registration before 30th April 2007.

<http://www.menscup.org>
menscup@sksh.se

Volleyball

Barbie & Ken Volleyball Cup

Germany, Berlin

21 Sep – 23 Sep 2008



<http://vorspiel.le-dimanche.de>
pweissert@gmx.de

Football/Soccer

IGLFA World Championship 2007

South America, Buenos Aires

23 Sep – 30 Sep 2007



World Championship for Gay and Lesbians. Both 11 and 7 a side teams.

<http://www.iglfa.org>
bjarne.lundis@webspeed.dk

Badminton

9th International gay-lesbian badminton tournament Hamburg

Germany, Hamburg

28 Sep – 30 Sep 2007



Startschuss Hamburg invites you to join its 9th international gay-lesbian Badminton tournament!

<http://www.badmintonturnier-hamburg.de>

Volleyball

Volleyball Tournament Barcelona 2007

Spain, Barcelona

28 Sep – 30 Sep 2007



Panteres Grogues Barcelona is preparing a male volleyball tournament for next September. On the 22nd of April our website will be updated and you'll be able to do the registration. We wait you all!

<http://www.panteresgrogues.org/volleyball07>
volei@panteresgrogues.org

Golf

3rd German-Rainbow-Open

Germany, Hamburg/Schwerin

29 Sep – 30 Sep 2007



The international German gay & lesbian golf championship 2007.

We expect up to 120 participants for this 2-days 36 holes tournament. Please check our website for further information.

<http://www.german-rainbow-open.com>
german_rainbow_open@yahoo.de



Multisports

London Meet

United Kingdom, London
29 Sep – 30 Sep 2007



London Meet Swim and Water Polo Competition - a two-day event.

<http://www.outtoswim.org>
committee@ots-comms.org



All photos by Dimitri Devuyt
<http://www.dimitridevuyt.be>

Contact Us

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