



CONFEDERATION OF EUROPEAN BASEBALL

C.E.B.

COMPETITION RULES

Valid for 2017

Amendments are marked red.

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C. E. B. COMPETITION RULES

(Valid for 2017 – Amendments are marked red)

1. C.E.B. COMPETITIONS

- a. The International Competitions and Championships of the C.E.B. will be organized applying these norms, which are obligatory for the Federations, members of the Technical Commission, the Officials, the Organizing Committee and all of the people in the administration and direction of C.E.B. Competitions.
- b. The Federation, which manifest interest in organizing any approved, official C.E.B. competition must accept in writing, their acceptance of the established norms and must comply with what is expressed in the bidding procedures. Upon awarded to host a Competition, the Federation must sign a Host Agreement provided by C.E.B. The Host Agreement makes reference to these Competition Rules.
- c. According to these norms the Confederation of European Baseball authorises its member Federations to organise International European competitions as follows:

I. Championships for National Selections

European Championship and Qualifier(s) held every 2 years.

European Championship **U23 and Qualifier** held every 2 years

European Championship U18 JUNIORS and Qualifier held every 2 years.

European Championship U15 CADETS and Qualifier(s) **held every 2 years**.

European Championship U12 JUVENILES held annually.

II. Cup Competitions

European Champions Cup held annually.

C.E.B. Cup held annually.

Federations Cup and Qualifiers held annually.

- d. C.E.B. International Competitions for National Selections will be entrusted by C.E.B. to the Federations of C.E.B., while Cup Competitions will be assigned to Clubs, member of a Federation of C.E.B. The Federation of the country where the competition will be held is responsible to C.E.B. for all what is provided by present rules, even if Organizing Committees are in charge of the competition management, including Cup Competitions.
- e. In the Event of a dispute between C.E.B. and the Federation responsible of hosting the Competition, regarding the application of these Competition Rules and other regulations for the Competition expressed in the Host Agreement, efforts shall be made in the first instance to reach a resolution through negotiation in good faith. In the event that no resolution can be reached in this way, the matter shall be put before the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) based in Lausanne, Switzerland, for mediation or, if necessary, arbitration. Under no circumstances may C.E.B. or the Federation resort to court proceedings. The Parties agree to abide by the rules of CAS and to abide by and accept in good faith any ruling the CAS may hand down.

2. BIDDING PROCEDURES FOR THE C.E.B. COMPETITIONS

- a. Federations of C.E.B. showing interest in organizing any C.E.B. competition must apply for candidature to the Executive Committee, in writing, using the form "Site Request for CEB Competitions".
(<http://baseballeurope.com/rules/forms>)
Federations of C.E.B. can only send one application per competition per year to C.E.B. If more than one club from a federation wants to apply for organizing the same C.E.B. competition in the same year, the federation has to decide itself which application is forwarded to C.E.B.
- b. Candidature for European Championships must be presented before November 1st four years prior to the year of the competition; for U23, Juniors U18, Cadets U15 and Juveniles U12 before November 1st two years prior to the year of the competition.
Candidature for Qualifier competitions for the European Championship, U23, Juniors U18 and Cadets U15 must be presented before November 1st two years prior to the year of the competition.
Candidature for Cup competitions must be presented before November 1st one year prior to the year of the competition.
- c. For Championship for National Selections, U23, Juniors U18, Cadets U15 and Juveniles U12 Championship the site will be chosen by the Executive Committee. European Championships for National Selections cannot be held twice in succession in the same country, unless exceptional circumstances. No more than 1(one) European Cup competition can be held at the same time in the same country, unless exceptional circumstances.
- d. The organisation of the Championships is entrusted by C.E.B. to the Federation involved. The Federation may delegate its duties to a special Organisation Committee, which must be approved by the C.E.B. Executive Committee. C.E.B. rejects all and any financial responsibilities in connection with the organisation and management of the Championships.
- e. The Organising Committee entrusted with the management of the European Championship must take all necessary arrangements subject to approval of the C.E.B. Executive Committee.
- f. For all technical arrangements of the Championships, the Organizing Committee must consult the C.E.B. Technical Commission. A questionnaire will be filled in for the C.E.B. Executive Committee by the Organising Committee directly after the closing day of the competition.

3. GENERAL OBLIGATIONS OF THE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

If not otherwise foreseen in the specific competition rules, the obligations of the Organizing Committee (LOC) are as follows:

- a. Communicate to the C.E.B. the specific dates and a plan of activities for the Championship. The final decision on the date and venues, shall be made at least 6 months prior to the opening day of the Championship, unless exceptional circumstances.
- b. To have availability of ratified playing grounds for the assigned Competition at least one year before the start of the competition and according the requirements set by C.E.B. for each playing level.
- c. To have availability of a WIFI or ADSL Internet connection at the fields and in the hotel of the officials to transmit the reports and results of the competition to the C.E.B. Website in "Play by Play mode". On the fields a dedicated internet connection for the play-by-play is necessary.
- d. To supply the competition balls of a well-known brand and of high quality. For approval 2 (two) balls must be sent three months before the start of the competition to the chairman of the Technical Commission. For all national competitions and qualifiers C.E.B. has the right to supply the game balls to organizers, if a sponsor contract between C.E.B. and a ball manufacturer is agreed.
- e. To receive the members of the Technical Commission in charge for the control of the playing grounds and all other arrangements like hotel, transport etc. for due ratification.
- f. To plan the competition schedule as set up at item 19 of these rules for approval by the Technical Commission. The Organizing Committee provides also adequate training fields for the participating teams. The schedule for the use of the training fields will be prepared by the Organizing Committee and approved by the C.E.B. Technical Commission.
- g. Insure against all kind of risks of general liability of all participating officials and athletes from the arrival until departure, after having completed their obligations in the competition and to submit the documentation to the C.E.B. Technical Commission before the start of the competition.
C.E.B. can never be held responsible for any accident whatever.
- h. To receive the C.E.B. officials before the competition and guarantee their corresponding functions during the event.
- i. Create, print and distribute an official program for the competition.
- j. To supply adequate arrangements for the press, radio and television commentators (this includes e.g. a reserved seating area and adequate and reserved work space).

- k. To provide medical aid and if needed transport to the nearest medical centre or hospital and police guard at the playgrounds during all games.
- l. To distribute any communications of the Technical Commission at all time. Daily communication of the results of the games plus a summary of the official score sheets to the members of the Executive Committee (if present), the Technical Commission, the Umpires, the Managers of the participating teams and to the representatives of the press, radio and T.V. Only the statistics on the C.E.B. website are official and valid. The LOC is not allowed to publish statistics other than ones of C.E.B. on any tournament or local website or publication.
- m. To supply a general summary of the technical details of the competition, immediately after the competitions has ended, to the persons mentioned under l.
- n. To make available a suitable meeting room for the C.E.B. Technical Commission for the full period of the competition.
- o. To reserve seating for the following designated groups:
 - Seating reserved in the first rang, for the members of the C.E.B. Executive Committee (if present).
 - Seating for all other C.E.B. international officials.
 - Seating reserved in the first row for the C.E.B. Technical Commission.
 - Seating behind home plate for coaches of the participating teams and scouts.
 - Seating in a reserved section for the athletes and all other participants.
- p. Within 15 days from the official communication by C.E.B. of the list of participating teams, the Organizing Committee shall send all necessary information and an official invitation to every team. If a visa is required also a copy to the organizing country's embassies located in the participating country with a copy to the concerned federation. Failure to comply with this rule will result in a fine of Euro 400.
- q. To comply with specific rules and financial obligations established for said competition. The federation of the country, in which the chosen city is situated, shall be in a position to ensure that the competition is organized according to the rules and financial regulations for the competition.
- r. To supply and present the competition trophies and awards, with name and logo of C.E.B., as stipulated in these rules under item 12.
- s. The C.E.B. Executive Committee reserves the right to nullify the site of a country, which does not comply with the established norms.
- t. Obligations of the organizer of the European Championship Seniors:
 - The C.E.B. Executive Committee and the Technical Commission shall during the European Championship see to it that the provisions governing the competition as well as the Official Baseball Rules are closely observed.
 - The Organizing Committee provides for its account: room, board and local transportation, as and when needed, for 5 (five) days, for the members of

the C.E.B. Executive Committee and for the full period for the President and Secretary General of C.E.B.

- u. Pay at the prescribed time the fees related to organisation, which correspond to each competition. The fees should be paid the 1st January and received into the account of C.E.B. before the 31st of January in the year the competition is played.
- v. In case of a withdrawal of the Organizer the federation involved will be fined with a maximum of the organizing fee and a minimum of Euro 2.500 to be decided by the C.E.B. Executive Committee.
The federation or club who withdraws as organizer cannot be participant in the same year as the event takes place and relegation is the consequence.
- w. Ensure access of the members of the Technical Commission of the tournament, the C.E.B. Technical Commission and the C.E.B. Executive Committee to all areas of the venues during the tournament (including VIP areas).
- x. Bottled potable water should be provided to the playing teams and C.E.B. officials during their games (including pre-game practice).

4. FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS OF THE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

If not otherwise foreseen in the specific competition rules, the financial obligations of the Organizing Committee (LOC) are as follows:

- a. Assume the costs for travel and hotel of the Technical Commissioner-Controller to inspect the playing grounds where the European competition will be held.
- b. Assume the financial conditions relative to accommodation, food and local transportation necessary for all assigned umpires and scorekeepers, to and from all games. The accommodation and meals for umpires will be paid for a period beginning one day prior to the competition and including one day after its conclusion. Each umpire will receive 9 (nine) Euro for each playing day as indemnity.
- c. Assume the cost of the financial conditions relative to: accommodation, food and local transportation at all time, as stipulated for each C.E.B. competition for Technical Commissioner(s) who carry out functions at the competition for a period beginning one day prior to the start of the competition and including one day after its conclusion. The Technical Delegate shall arrive one day before the scheduled date of the technical meeting. The Technical Commissioner(s) and the umpires will be lodged separated from the participating teams.
- d. To provide local transportation for each delegation from the hotel to and from all practices and games as long as the distance is not more than 30 km one-way.
If organizers decide to play at two or more locations, the transport between those facilities and the hotels is to be provided and on account of the organizers irrespective of the distance. Local transportation is meant also to and from the pick-up airport.
The organizing committee has to agree on the pick-up airport(s) with C.E.B. before the official awarding of the tournament.
- e. To supply the trophies and awards.
- f. To provide the maintenance, all costs for custodial care required maintaining cleanliness at the fields.
- g. All costs related to doping control (if provided).
- h. Insurance against General Liability for all athletes and officials who participate in the competition.

The terms "international transportation" or "travel expenses" always means: 1st class travel expenses railway or boat, including meals en route or boat and Economy class airlines.

Accommodation

It is provided 1st class hotel. The hotel for Umpires, Technical Delegate(s) and Commissioner(s) must not be the same as used by the teams.

Technical delegates/commissioners as well as the scoring director have to be lodged in separate (single) rooms, scorers and umpire can be lodged in double (twin) bedrooms.

Food

Meals are to be provided either in hotel, restaurants or on the field, anyhow arrangements for appointed officials (Technical Commission, umpires, scorers, etc.) are to be made so that meals may be taken at all time, according to the game schedule. Non-appointed officials must be ensured to have meals at the same hotel where they are booked or at a restaurant or at the field provided that adequate transport is arranged

5. OBLIGATIONS OF FEDERATIONS OR CLUBS PARTICIPATING IN C.E.B. COMPETITIONS

If not otherwise foreseen in the specific competition rules, the obligations of the federations or clubs participating in a C.E.B. competition are as follows:

- a. To subscribe by use of the specific form within the term established for each competition (<http://baseballeurope.com/rules/subscriptions>) and anyway before **December 1st** in the year before the competition is played.
- b. Pay at the prescribed time the fees related to participation and organisation, which correspond to each competition. The fees should be paid the 1st January and received into the account of C.E.B. before the 31st of January in the year the competition is played.
- c. If demanded by C.E.B., arrange the payment of the guarantee sum. The guarantee sum should be paid the 1st January and received into the account of C.E.B. before the 31st of January in the year the competition is played.

Each federation or club will register its players following these rules:

- d. In the Championships for National Selections all players must have the nationality of the country they represent (see Eligibility item 7). Six (6) officials-technicians are allowed to accompany the team on the playing field. For the eligibility of the players for the cup competitions see the specific regulations.
- e. The participating teams pay their own expenses: international travel, board & lodging and have to arrange a travel and accident insurance for their players and officials valid from departure till return from/to their home country.
- f. The C.E.B. Insurance Form (Affidavit) should be, undersigned by the participating club or federation delivered together with the F.T.R. at the Technical Meeting the day before the start of the tournament. Failing of delivering of this insurance document will cause removal of the team from the event. (<http://baseballeurope.com/rules/forms>)
- g. Each visiting team will bring with them the C.E.B. umpire(s) living in their country, chosen by the C.E.B. Technical Commission from the official list. Only umpires chosen by the C.E.B. Technical Commission will be allowed to officiate in the tournament. Instead of these national umpire(s) the C.E.B. Technical Commission has the right to nominate umpire(s) from other countries than those participating, should it be deemed necessary to maintain a certain level of umpires. In such case, C.E.B. will cover the travel expenses for said umpire.

In case the participating team cannot or does not bring the appointed international umpire(s), the federation will be charged by C.E.B. with a fine of Euro 400.

Travel expenses for appointed C.E.B. Umpire(s) for the European Championship (A-level), the European Champions Cup and C.E.B. Cup are on account of C.E.B.

Travel expenses for appointed C.E.B. Umpire(s) for European Championships U23, Juniors U18, Cadets U15, Juveniles U12 and all national team Qualifier competitions, Federations Cup and FC Qualifier are on account of each participating federation or club.

The C.E.B. Technical Commission has the right to appoint umpires from other countries than those participating.

- h. Supply at least 30 days before arrival to the competition a complete list of the official delegation including its directors and the projected arrival and departure times to the host country.
- i. To be present at the venue the day before the start of the competition at the meeting with the Technical Commission. In case this obligation is not fulfilled a sum of 200 Euro will be fined by C.E.B. to the transgressor.
- j. Supply the Organizing Committee, on arrival, with the country flag 2.50 x 1.50 meter and compact disc (CD) with a short version of the national anthem. The flag and the anthem of each country, as approved by the International Olympic Committee, will be used in each competition.
- k. Any damage incurred by any member of a delegation to installations, baseball stadiums, transportation vehicles or any other competition area or any logistic category will be the responsibility of the federation that person or persons represent.

Neither the host country, Organising Committee nor C.E.B. is responsible for the financial situation of any participating delegation or team.

6. COMPETITION OFFICIALS

a. Technical Delegate

For every C.E.B. Competition, the C.E.B. Technical Commission will designate a Technical Delegate.

The functions and responsibilities of the Technical Delegate are:

- The Technical Delegate, designated by the C.E.B. Technical Commission, is the highest authority of the C.E.B. at the competition. His duties begin with arrival to the competition venue one day prior to the Pre-Competition Technical meeting and last until the end of the competition. The Technical Delegate is chairman of the Technical Commission working at the competition.

The responsibilities of the Technical Delegate are:

- Ensure that C.E.B. rules are complied with.
- Supervise, upon his arrival, the final arrangements with organizers, which include all logistical aspects related to the competition, such as transportation, food in special cases, technical information, results, etc.
- Harmonise the interests represented by the Organizing Committee and the Technical Commission working at the competition and to mediate between them to reach agreements whenever it should prove necessary.
- Act as the official C.E.B. spokesperson with the media in all matters relative to the competition, with the exception of changes to the competition schedule.
- Advise the Technical Commission working at the competition on any necessary changes to the competition schedule due to games that have been suspended or postponed.
- Prepare the official final report at the end of the competition for the consideration of the C.E.B. Executive Committee.

b. Technical Commission

For every C.E.B. competition, the C.E.B. Technical Commission will designate the Technical Delegate(s), the Technical Commissioner(s), ~~and~~ the Umpire Director **and the Scoring Director** as required for the control of the games.

The functions and responsibilities of the Technical Commission are:

- Control of the eligibility and credentials of the players.
- Designate the umpires and scorekeepers.
- Reschedule suspended games.
- **Apply competition rule 13. i. (Equality of games) including calculating the TQB.**
- Judge protests and rules violations.
- Disciplinary cases involving players and coaches.
- Control the respect of the obligations of the Organizing Committee.
- All other tasks mentioned in these rules for the Technical Commission.

Travel expenses for appointed Technical Delegate(s) and Commissioner(s) for Championships for National Seniors selections and all Youth Championships (**U23**, Juniors U18, Cadets U15, Juveniles U12) and all Cup competitions are on account of C.E.B.

At least one member of the Technical Commission for the competition shall be present at each game to supervise all technical aspects of the game and the fulfilment of the present rules.

The name(s) of the Technical Commissioner(s) assigned for each game shall be announced on the list of assigned umpires. The Organizing Committee shall provide a French-English translator at the disposal of the Technical Commission if requested.

During the development of the competition, the Technical Commission will make the decision regarding any topic that is not specifically covered in the Statutes, Rules and Norms as approved.

If the Technical Commission has to judge protests or rule violations and there is a TV coverage of the game, the Commission may evaluate the TV recordings to get the right decision.

Within two weeks after the end of the competition the Technical Delegate shall send to the Chairman of C.E.B. Technical Commission, the game results and the final standings. The general complete report will be sent within one month.

c. Umpires

All member federation must submit their list of international umpires to the Technical Commission no later than November 15th every year. If a member federation fails to submit their list before January 1st of the current season, the federation will be charged by C.E.B. with a fine of Euro 400. In addition to that, the C.E.B. Technical Commission can nominate umpires from other federations as substitutes.

The panel of umpires shall consist of a number of umpires from various countries together with a sufficient number of umpires supplied by the federation of organizers to make up the total number needed for the competition. All umpires for the competition must be chosen and appointed by the C.E.B. Technical Commission.

Umpires shall arrive on the day of the settled date of the Technical Meeting or in case a clinic is provided before the competition, the same date stated in the convocation. As a rule, Umpires must wear dark blue shirts in the games.

Participation to the clinic is mandatory for all umpires assigned to the competition. The C.E.B. Technical Commission may inflict a disciplinary action against absent umpires.

Each umpire must make the commitment to stay for the duration of the competition, including play-offs if needed. Failure to abide by this rule may result in a suspension of the umpire from participation at C.E.B. competitions. Umpires must be able to talk and understand the English language.

For the European Championship Seniors, the European Champions Cup and the C.E.B. Cup the travel expenses will be paid by C.E.B., while for all other competitions and qualifiers each federation or participating club will pay on its own.

As a rule, an umpire shall not be allowed to take part as plate umpire in a game where his country is taking part. The appointment of the umpires for each game will be done by the Technical Commission, as a rule, the day before the game starts. Per game, in principle, three or four umpires of a different nationality of the teams involved will be appointed by the Technical Commission.

At the end of each game, the chief umpire must fill the game-report-form unless the forms are established electronically by the Technical Commissioner. In case of disciplinary action, the umpire involved must draw up, at the end of the game, a report about the happening by describing precisely the circumstances.

In every competition one of the members of the Technical Commission shall be nominated by C.E.B. Technical Commission as Umpire Director. The responsibilities of the Umpire Director are:

- Prepare the umpire assignments for the Technical Commission.
- Submit the proposals for these assignments 24 hours before game time to the Technical Commission, if possible.
- Notify the Umpires about their approved assignments at least 12 hours before game time, if possible. Assignments should only be distributed maximally for the following two tournament days.
- Hold an umpire meeting together with the Technical Delegate and the nominated umpires before each tournament (e.g. right before or after the Technical Meeting). A representative of the LOC should also attend this meeting.
- Hold daily umpire meetings (as chair), if required.
- Complete the umpire evaluation forms, if needed. The Technical Commissioner on duty is still responsible for filling out the umpire evaluation form after each game.
- Ask the Technical Commission for general impressions about the work of the umpires (on and off the field).
- Submit a complete report approved by the Technical Delegate to the Chairman of the C.E.B. Technical Commission and the Chairman of the C.E.B. Umpire Commission.

d. Scorekeepers

All member federations must submit their list of international scorekeepers to the C.E.B. Technical Commission no later than November 15th every year.

The Organizing Committee must be aware of the importance of the scorekeeping and have the responsibility to select capable and trained scorekeepers to assume correct and uniform decisions, using the C.E.B. Scoring System. All scorers for the competition must be chosen and appointed by the C.E.B. Technical Commission.

The board of scorekeepers shall consist of a sufficient number of qualified and trained scorekeepers to cover the competition. Bearing in mind the daily game schedule, at least 2 scorers (one for the paper scoring, one for the data entry) are mandatory in all C.E.B. competitions. For European Senior Championship A level, 3 scorers are mandatory. For each game the role of scorekeepers will be appointed by the Technical Commission of the tournament.

The following number of scorers is recommended:

Games per day	Fields	Minimum Scorers	Optimum Scorers
2	1	3	6
3	1	4	6
3	2	6	6
4	2	4	8
5	2	6	8
U12 Championships	1 -2	6 (3 per game are necessary)	8

For every tournament the LOC has to propose two months before the start of the tournament to the C.E.B. Scorers Commission (scorer@baseballeurope.com) a list of the selected scorekeepers - who will be available during the whole competition - for approval. If the LOC does not propose the numbers of scorers needed for the competition, the C.E.B. Scorer Commission will appoint other international scorer(s) to cover the competition on account of the LOC.

To publish the game in Play-by-Play on the C.E.B. website, the Technical Commission will nominate a Scoring Director who is part of the scorer group within the competition.

For each game at least two scorekeepers (one for paper scoring, one for data-entry) will be appointed by the Technical Commission of the tournament.

The score sheets will be transmitted to the Scoring Director immediately after the game. After the tournament the score sheets have to be sent to the Scorers Commission as well as the TAS file.

The Scoring Director is in charge of the organization and supervision of the work of all scorekeepers during the tournament (in coordination with and according to the guidelines given by the C.E.B. Scorers Commission). The Scoring Director is responsible for the management of the competition website, play by play and the daily reports (initial, daily and final reports) in accordance with guidelines of the C.E.B. Scorers Commission and subject to approval by the Technical Delegate.

- e. No C.E.B. official mentioned in this article may serve in a function for his club or his national federation in the same tournament he is appointed as an C.E.B. official.

7. ELIGIBILITY

Nationality of Competitors

- a. A player in any C.E.B. competition including the Olympic qualifying competitions must be a national of the country of the federation that is entering him.

Any competitor in any European Championship for national selections must be a national of the country of the federation and must have the stipulated age during the calendar year of the competition; however, the minimum age required to play in any adult competition is 15 (fifteen) years in the year of the competition.

For Cup competitions, what is provided in the specific competition rules will apply.

To establish the nationality of the players, their valid passport or identity card with photo that mentions the nationality, issued by the governmental authorities including a photocopy of said document, shall be presented to the Technical Commission.

- b. All disputes relating to the determination of the country, which a competitor may represent in the C.E.B. competition or in qualifying competitions for C.E.B. Competitions shall be resolved by the C.E.B. Executive Committee.
- c. A competitor who is a national of two or more countries at the same time may represent either one of them, as he may elect. However, after having represented one country in the Olympic Games, in Continental or Regional Games or in World or Regional Championships recognized by the C.E.B., he may not represent another country unless he meets the conditions set forth in the following paragraph that apply to persons who have changed their nationality or acquired a new nationality.
- d. A competitor who has represented one country in the Olympic Games, in the Baseball World Cup, in Continental or Regional Games or in World or Regional Championships recognized by the C.E.B., and who has changed his nationality or acquired a new nationality shall not participate in the Olympic Games, in the Baseball World Cup, in the Continental or Regional Games or in World or Regional Championships recognized by the C.E.B. to represent his new country until three years after such change or acquisition. This period may be reduced or even cancelled with the agreement of the initial national federation and the approval of the C.E.B. Executive Committee. The request to waive the three year waiting time must be received by C.E.B. before 30th April in the year the player wants to represent his new country. This particular choice may only be made once
- e. If an associated state, province or overseas department, a country or colony acquires independence, if a country becomes incorporated within another country by reason of a change of border, or if a new NOC is recognized by the IOC, a competitor may continue to represent the country to which he belongs or belonged. However, he may, if he prefers, choose to represent his country or be en-

tered in the C.E.B. competition or the Olympic qualifying competitions by his new federation or NOC if one exists. This particular choice may only be made once.

- f. In all cases not expressly addressed in this rules, in particular in those cases in which a competitor would be in a position to represent a country other than that of which he is a national or have a choice as to the country which he intends to represent, the C.E.B. Executive Committee may take all decisions of a general or individual nature, and, in particular, issue specific requirements relating to nationality, citizenship, domicile or residence of the competitors, including the duration of any waiting period.
- g. Should an eligibility violation occur and a player be proven to be ineligible prior to any games being played, the player is automatically removed from his team roster and will not be allowed to participate in any game of the competition. This player cannot be replaced. The Technical Commission of the Competition will notify the C.E.B. Executive Committee for further action.
- h. Should a violation be discovered during the competition and after the athlete has played in one or more games, the player is automatically removed from the roster, and any game in which he participated shall be considered a forfeited game for his team. The team shall continue to play in the competition and the infraction shall be reported by the Technical Commission of the Competition to the C.E.B. Executive Committee for further action. A player removed for any eligibility violation cannot be replaced by another player.

8. REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS FOR COMPETITIONS

a. Each year the federations will send, at least 30 days before the national team competitions, the list of the selected players for their team to the C.E.B. as follows:

- For the European Championship Seniors and Qualifiers Seniors: 40 players, from which 24 will be allowed to participate in the competition.
- For all other national selections: 40 players, from which 20 will be allowed to participate in the competition.

A minimum of 15 players is obligatory for national selection teams. Teams with less than 15 players at the time of registration are banned from the competition.

b. Each year the federations will send, at least 30 days before the Cup competition, the list of the selected players for the Cup competitions to the C.E.B. as follows:

- For official Cup competitions: 40 players, from which 24 will be allowed to participate in the competition.

A minimum of 12 players is obligatory for club teams. Teams with less than 12 players at the time of registration (FTR) are banned from the competition.

c. The federation or the club that sends the list after the respective deadline will be sanctioned with a fine of 400 Euro for the U23, Junior U18, Cadets U15, Juveniles U12 Championship and all Qualifier competitions. For the European Championship the fine is 1000 Euro.

For Cup Competitions see art. 26 e.4.

No player will be allowed to the competition when he has not been registered at the C.E.B.

d. The Technical Commission shall meet with the team-delegate of each participating federation on the day before the start of the competition at a time to be announced to the Technical Commission.

The team-delegate shall present to the Technical Commission at that time the following:

- I. The final team roster (FTR) on the C.E.B. approved form including all personal details of the players like passport number, birth date and uniform numbers. (<http://baseballeurope.com/rules/forms>)
- II. A valid passport or EU Identity Card with photo, which confirms the nationality for each athlete for verification by the Technical Commission. Upon request from the Technical Commissioner, the manager must present

the valid passport(s) or Identity Card and his player(s) at any time during the tournament.

Following verification of athletes and validation of the registration forms, there will be no changes of roster permitted under any circumstances for the duration of the competition.

- e. Other members of the delegation such as officials, managers, coaches, trainers, equipment manager, doctor, masseur etc. shall appear on the final roster. All players and coaches must wear a specified number on the back of the uniform. If players have different numbers for different uniforms, the number by colour of uniform must be specified. Numbers cannot be changed during the competition unless exceptional circumstances justifying such changes arise. Any changes must immediately be announced to the Technical Commission for approval and, before the next game, be informed to the chief umpire and the Technical Commissioner(s) of the game.
- f. The Technical Commission will obtain from each delegate during the Technical Meeting the colour of the uniforms to be used as the visiting team. The home team shall wear light tops and the visiting team a shirt of darker colour. There will be no changes allowed to the established uniforms without prior approval of the Technical Commission.
- g. Teams not complying with registration as described above at the indicated date and hour of the accreditation session will be fined with 200 Euro.

9. PROTESTS

- a. Protests regarding the status of a player who is to participate in the competitions, must be made to the Technical Commission at the moment of the irregularity has been discovered and in any case within the end of the competition. The decision of the Technical Commission is final.
- b. Protest relating to organisational matters and the aspects of the game, out of the baseball field, should be made to the Technical Commission and be decided in accordance with the Official Rules of Baseball of the previous year and these Competition rules.
- c. A responsible official shall make any protest in writing in English to the Technical Commission accompanied by a guarantee sum of 200 Euro, or its equivalent, before action is taken.

The guarantee sum will be forfeited if the protest is rejected.

- d. In case of protest relating to the technical aspects of the game over a misapplication or misinterpretation of the official rules, the protest shall be made immediately to the umpire in chief. The written protest, mentioning the number of the rule related to the protest, must be handed over, with the guarantee sum, to the Technical Commissioner within 5 minutes. The Technical Commissioner(s) will after consulting the umpires, take a decision before the game can continue. The decision is final.

10. EJECTIONS AND PENALTIES

List of the penalties to be imposed:

- a. Player, manager, coach or technician sent from the field for having insulted another player, manager, coach or technician:
 - first time in the competition – warning and a fine of 50 Euro
 - second time in the competition - suspension for one game in the competition and a fine of 100 Euro
 - third time in the competition - suspension for the rest of the competition and a fine of 200 Euro

- b. Player, manager, coach or technician sent from the field for having insulted an umpire, a C.E.B. official or the public:
 - first time in the competition – suspension for one game in the competition and a fine of 100 Euro
 - second time in the competition – suspension for three games in the competition and a fine of 200 Euro
 - third time in the competition – suspension for the rest of the competition and a fine of 400 Euro

- c. Player, manager, coach or technician sent from the field for attempting aggression (with no physical contact) towards another player, manager, coach or technician:
 - first time in the competition – warning and a fine of 50 Euro
 - second time in the competition – suspension for one game in the competition and a fine of 100 Euro
 - third time in the competition – suspension for three games in the competition and a fine of 200 Euro

- d. Player manager, coach or technician sent from the field for attempting aggression (with no physical contact) towards an umpire, a C.E.B. official or the public:
 - first time in the competition – suspension for one game in the competition and a fine of 100 Euro
 - second time in the competition – suspension for three games in the competition and a fine of 200 Euro
 - third time in the competition – suspension for the rest of the competition and a fine of 400 Euro

- e. Player manager, coach or technician sent from the field for using physical violence at another player, manager, coach or technician:
 - first time in the competition – suspension for two games in the competition and a fine of 200 Euro
 - second time in the competition - suspension for the rest of the competition and a fine of 400 Euro

- f. Player manager, coach or technician sent from the field for using physical violence at an umpire, a C.E.B. official or the public:
- first time in the competition – suspension for four games in the competition and a fine of 400 Euro
 - second time in the competition - suspension for the rest of the competition and a fine of 800 Euro
- g. Player sent from the field for using or attempting to use an illegal bat according to rule 6.03 (a) (5) of the Official Baseball Rules:
- first time in the competition – warning and a fine of 50 Euro
 - second time in the competition - suspension for one game in the competition and a fine of 100 Euro
 - third time in the competition - suspension for the rest of the competition and a fine of 200 Euro
- h. Player sent from the field for unsportsmanlike conduct during a collision at home plate:
- first time in the competition – warning and a fine of 50 Euro
 - second time in the competition - suspension for one game in the competition and a fine of 100 Euro
 - third time in the competition - suspension for the rest of the competition and a fine of 200 Euro
- i. For any violation/suspension not mentioned above, the Technical Commission may decide which penalty and fine would be appropriate.
- j. Any suspension that cannot be executed during the present competition will remain valid and will be executed in the next competition/s the player is registered for.
- k. In case any competition participant is charged with any kind of conduct that requires any sanction, or the Organizing Committee does not fulfil the general and/or financial obligations for the competition, the Technical Commission shall send a report to the C.E.B. Executive Committee, accompanied, if necessary, by the umpire(s) report(s), for further sanction.

The accused party will have the right to defend itself at a hearing. After the decision of the C.E.B. Executive Committee the accused party can appeal, within one month, to the I.O.C. Tribunal of arbitration for Sports (T.A.S.). Its decision will be final.

11. DOPING CONTROL

- a. In CEB competitions selected for doping tests, testing will be conducted in accordance with these doping-rules and applicable international rules and standards.
- b. The CEB Anti-Doping Delegate is responsible for the selection of players to be tested. Players may be randomly selected. In games selected for doping tests, one or more players from each team shall be selected for testing.
- c. For games in which an anti-doping control will be made, the following procedure shall be followed:
 - At the end of the first half of the fourth inning the Doping Control Officer (DCO), the CEB Anti-Doping Delegate and the Technical Commissioner(s) in charge of the game shall assemble in the box of the Technical Commission or in the Doping Control Station with an interpreter (when needed).
 - Selections will be made based on the Final Team Roster (FTR).
 - If random selection is made, a mobile app or numbered cards shall be used.
 - If two players from the team are to be tested, the first selection will be made from the players listed on the starting line-up. The second selection will be made from the FTR. If only one player is to be tested, the selection will be made from the FTR.
 - The names of the players selected shall not be communicated before the end of the game.
 - A player may be subject to doping control on more than one occasion during the competition.
- d. If a player selected gets seriously injured and needs to be immediately hospitalized, another player of the same team shall be randomly selected at the end of the game. In such case medical evidence on the serious status of the injury has to be given to the CEB Anti-Doping Delegate.
- e. If a player selected is not on the site of the game, his team delegate shall advise him using all means available, to appear in due time to undergo the anti-doping control. If the player cannot be found and therefore does not undergo the anti-doping control, he shall appear at the place, date and time as officially advised by the CEB Anti-Doping Delegate to undergo the control, which in any case will be considered as a competition control for all purposes.
- f. If a player tests positive, the following sanctions shall apply:
 - On the first occasion in a competition that a player is found positive in a doping test, the player concerned shall be suspended and expelled from the competition and the player shall not be replaced on the team roster.
 - If on a second occasion, within the same competition, another player within the same team is found positive in a doping control, that player shall be suspended and expelled from the competition and shall not be replaced on the team roster. In addition, the team shall be penalized by recording a forfeit (losing by 9-0) for the game or games in which the player concerned took part, at or since the game in which his doping control showed a posi-

tive result. The team penalty must be imposed even if that second player has not actually taken part in a game.

- If on a subsequent occasion, within the same competition, another player within the same team is found positive in a doping test, that player shall be suspended and the team shall immediately be expelled from the competition, and all titles and possible medals won by the players or the team concerned shall be lost and/or returned.

g. For results management, the WBSC Anti-Doping Rules shall apply.

12. TROPHIES AND AWARDS

- a. The leading hitter of the competition shall be determined by rule 9.22(a) of the Official Baseball Rules. Candidates for the batting title must have as many or more total plate appearances as for cadets the number of games played by the team multiplied by 2.4. For all other categories 2.7 times multiplied by the total number of games played by their team. In case of a tie, the decision shall be based on the slugging average according to rule 9.21(c) of the Official Baseball Rules.
- b. The pitcher with the best won and loss record of the series shall be determined in accordance with rule 9.21(a) of the Official Baseball Rules. Candidates for the pitcher with the best earned run average title must have at least as many innings pitched as the number of games played by their team in case of the European Championship Seniors, **the European Championships Cadets U15 and Qualifier for the European Championships Cadets U15**. In all other tournaments, candidates for the earned run title must have at least as many as 150% innings pitched as the number of games played by their team. In case there is a tie for this title, the pitcher who has pitched more innings shall win the title.
- c. If there is a tie for the title of most runs batted in, the one with fewer trips to bat wins the award.
- d. In case there is a tie for the title of most runs scored and most stolen bases, the award shall go to the player with less times at bat and the one with the best average based on the times he tried to steal and the number of times he successfully stole (Official Baseball Rules 9).
- e. Determination of the awards mentioned above shall be based on the statistics at a point when all teams have played the same number of games. In case of tournaments played in two robins (round robin and quarterfinals/semi-finals/finals; or round robin and second robin + finals), all games played during the round robin will be included in the account for the final stats.
- f. The Technical Commission shall select the most valuable player (MVP), best pitcher of the tournament, outstanding defensive player and all-star players. The best pitcher shall be chosen by the Technical Commission according to his performance in the games, his relevance in the tournament and crucial games, as well their stats and earned runs.

Team Trophies and Medals for all European Championships:
(A-, B-, C-Pool, **U23**, U18, U15, U12)

First place: Team: Trophy
 C.E.B. Challenge Trophy (if existing)
 Individual: Gold Medal (30)

Second place: Team: Trophy
 Individual: Silver Medal (30)

Third place: Team: Trophy
 Individual: Bronze Medal (30)

Individual Awards European Championship (A-Pool):

Leading hitter with the highest batting average	Trophy
Pitcher with the best earned run average	Trophy
Pitcher with the best won-loss average	Trophy
Most runs batted in (RBI)	Trophy
Most home runs	Trophy
Most stolen bases	Trophy
Most runs scored	Trophy
Outstanding defensive player	Trophy
Most valuable player (MVP)	Trophy

Individual Awards European Championships U23, Juniors U18 and Cadets U15:

Leading hitter with the highest batting average	Individual Award
Best Pitcher	Individual Award
Most valuable player (MVP)	Individual award

Individual Awards European Championships Juveniles:

Due to the age of the participants no individual award shall be given to players on the basis of comparable skills or accomplishments.

For all Cup Competitions including Qualifiers and all National Team Qualifiers:

First place Team:	Trophy
Leading hitter with the highest batting average	Individual Award
Best Pitcher	Individual Award
Most valuable player (MVP)	Individual award

All awards must bear the name and the logo of C.E.B.

13. TECHNICAL ASPECTS

a. Competition venues

All competition venues and installations will have the requirements established by the C.E.B. and the C.E.B. Technical Commission will control the playing ground where the European competitions will be held, on dimensions established etc.

It is allowed to play on playing grounds with artificial turf under permission of the C.E.B. Executive Committee.

For Adults, Juniors and Cadets competitions the baseball field's dimensions are those approved by WBSC and C.E.B.:

- Official dimensions: 98 - 122 and 98 meters
- It is mandatory that the distance from home base to the backstop, and from base lines to the nearest fence, stand or other obstruction on foul territory shall be 18,25 meters or more

For Juveniles are as follows:

- Official dimensions: 61 - 76 and 61 meters
- Exceptional (minimum): 61 - 61 and 61 meters
- It is mandatory that the distance from home base to the backstop, and from base lines to the nearest fence, stand or other obstruction on foul territory shall be of 7,65 meters or more

b. Ground rules

Ground rules related to the stadium(s) will be approved by the Technical Commission prior to the start of the competition. These rules shall be printed in both English and distributed to all coaches and umpires and discussed thoroughly at the Technical Meeting prior to the start of the competition.

c. Scoreboard message

A scoreboard, which follows the course of the game, in cooperation with the official scorer, is obligatory adjacent to the playing field. The use of the scoreboard and public address system for the purpose of arousing the public shall not be allowed.

d. Bat boys

For all games the Organizing Committee shall furnish the bat boy(s). The bat carrier of each team shall be kept close to the dugout when the team is at bat. They must wear uniforms and double earflap helmets. Infraction may result in ejection of the bat carrier. Minimum age of the batboy/girl must be 12 years.

e. Cameramen and photographers

No cameramen and photographers shall be allowed to enter the playing field when a game is underway. Cameramen are allowed to enter the playing ground only when opening and closing ceremonies are held and before and after the game is played. A special section shall be reserved at the stadium for cameramen.

f. Interpreters

Each team shall designate prior to the game a person who speaks the language of the team and French or English and who will act as interpreter during games. This person shall sit in an assigned seat in the stands close to the dugout.

g. Practice schedule

I. Pre-competition practice

The Organizing Committee shall set a pre competition schedule for all teams (when foreseen), approved by the Technical Commission.

The practice should be a two-hours period and should be arranged for the last two days prior to the start of the competition. If more than one stadium is to be used, the Organizing Committee will assign the stadium to be used for practice. Assignments can be made based upon arrival of the competing teams.

II. Pre-game practice

1. *If held on the field of the competition:*

a) First game of the day, starting 2 (two) hours before game time:

Home team 40 minutes batting practice
Visiting team 40 minutes batting practice
Home team 10 minutes infield practice
Visiting team 10 minutes infield practice
Field maintenance and Umpire/Coaches meeting

b) Additional games of the day:

As soon as the previous game is completed, the groundskeepers shall begin to repair the field. When the chief-groundskeeper announces the field is ready, if 2 hours or more remain until game time, the schedule in II.1. a) shall prevail. If less than 2 hours remain, the time from that moment until 30 minutes prior to game time shall be divided equally between the home team and visiting team. If less than one hour remains until game time, there will be no batting practice on the field.

2. *If held on alternate field(s):*

- a) The starting time shall be determined by the length of time needed to get the team from the batting practice site to the competition site at least 15 minutes before they are scheduled to take infield practice.
- b) The home team will hit first for 40 minutes followed by the visiting team for 40 minutes.
- c) If two batting practice sites are used, the teams may be scheduled for practice simultaneously.
- d) Infield practice will be held at the competition site as outlined in II 1a.
- e) If alternate practice fields are used, the Organizing Committee shall recommend practice schedules to the C.E.B. Technical Commission at least 1 month in advance of the competition. After approval by the C.E.B. Technical Commission, the C.E.B. shall circulate the practice schedules to all the participating teams.

h. Games schedule

The game schedule based upon the C.E.B. Competition Rules art 19. shall be proposed by the Organizing Committee to the C.E.B. Technical Commission at least six months in advance for Championships for national selections and three months in advance for Cup competitions.

Between the Organizing Committee and the C.E.B. Technical Commission the proposed schedule will be studied and changes will be made if necessary and then approve the schedule within one month.

Subsequently the C.E.B. shall then circulate the approved schedule to all participating teams.

The C.E.B. Technical Commission will decide on the program regarding the hour on which the games start. The decision will be taken after consult with the Organizing Committee.

In case the organiser does not dispose of a playing field with light installation, the last game of the day will begin at least 4 (four) hours before sundown, local time.

With two or more games scheduled on the same day, on the same field, there shall be at least 30 minutes' interval between games. It is suggested that a minimum of four hours' time period be scheduled for the practice and playing of all competition games.

The games of the competition will be played in one or more cities that have a distance between them, as a rule, of no more than 100 kilometres.

No team must be obliged to play two games on the same day, unless special circumstances for instance postponed games. In all the schedules the home

team is mentioned in the first place except when it concerns play-off games. In this case the Technical Commission will indicate the home team by drawing of lots.

In case of withdrawal of one or more team(s) before the start of the competition, the C.E.B. Technical Commission, may scratch the games concerned or revise the original schedule according to the competition format as laid out in these rules. In any case, no draw of lots will be made.

If a team is not represented at the Technical Meeting or has not arrived at the venue of the competition without prior notification to the Technical Commission or organizer, the team will be taken out of the competition.

i. Equality (Ties) of games

All ties after the preliminary round will be settled as follows (in order):

1. The team that won the game(s) between the teams tied shall be given the higher position;
2. The team that has the best Team's Quality Balance (TQB*)
3. The team that has the best Earned Runs Team's Quality Balance (ER-TQB).
4. Highest batting average in games between the teams tied
5. A coin flip.

* Teams Quality Balance (TQB) is the sum of runs scored divided by the number of innings played on offense minus the number of runs allowed divided by the number of innings played on defense. $(RS/IPO)-(RA/IPD)=TQB$. The TQB is calculated with four decimal places. The fifth decimal place is used to round up or down.

When applying point 2, 3 or 4 and one team is selected for the higher or the lower position and the remaining teams are still tied with the same result of TQB, ER-TQB or batting average the order to settle this tie between these remaining teams starts again at point 1. When applying this rule 1(one) out is 1/3rd of an inning.

When calculating the TQB only the games between the teams tied in the specific playing round (e.g. round robin) have to be included.

For TQB Calculation Examples please refer to Appendix I.

j. Starting line-up

Managers shall file a tentative line-up with the official scorer at least 60 minutes before the scheduled start of the game; this line-up is for publicity purposes only. This shall include the name, uniform number and field position of each player in the starting batting order plus the pitcher. All other players on the approved roster will be considered as possible substitutes for all the games. The official scorer shall have a copy of the approved roster of each team. The official line-up will be given to the umpire in chief at the meeting at home plate just prior to the start of the game, copy that shall be given to the

official scorer and Technical Commissioner in charge of the game. The team that does not observe this rule has to pay a fine of 200 Euro.

After the tentative line-up has been entered into the scoring software, the LOC should provide a printed version of this line-up to the press as soon as possible (mandatory for European Championship and European Champions Cup, recommended for all other competitions).

k. Technical meeting

Following verification of the athletes, the Technical Commission shall discuss with the team delegate and representatives of the coaching staff the following:

- Relationship of the Technical Commission, umpires, coaches and delegates
- conduct of the game
- Competition Rules
- Official ball - the official competition ball must be of high quality see point 3d.
- Practice schedule
- Speed-up rules
- handling protests
- handling ejections
- Team transportation
- Sanctions / penalties against teams or players
- Information on play-offs and finals
- Communication between the Technical Commission and the teams
- General information

l. Forfeited games

A game won on forfeit shall have the final result 9-0 or 7-0 (for Juveniles U12 & Cadets U15). All statistics (except winning and losing pitcher) up to the point that caused the forfeit shall be valid for that game.

14. COMPETITION REGULATIONS (PLAYING RULES)

The games will be played following the Official Rules of Baseball of the year prior to the year the competitions are played (except for Juveniles U12).

a. Designated hitter

Rule 5.11 – Designated hitter is applicable only for all adult, **U23** and U18 competitions.

b. Wooden Bats

The use of an aluminium bat is permitted only in Cadet U15 and Juveniles U12 competitions.

For the use of wooden bats, the C.E.B. announces a list of approved bats. **This list contains wooden bats only. The use of composite bats is not permitted.** (http://www.baseballeurope.com/rules/competition_rules)

Use of a non-approved bat will be considered the same as using an illegal bat according to rule 6.03 (a) **(5)** of the Official Baseball Rules.

The brand and type number of the bat must be readable on the bat in case of a control in order to be able to clearly identify the bat (e.g. if composite or not). If the bat cannot be clearly identified by the umpire(s) or Technical Commissioner(s), the team of the player who used or tried to use the bat has to prove to the Technical Commissioner(s), that the bat is legal according to this rule.

Bats for Juveniles U12:
See art. 25 C f.

c. Number of Innings and Run Difference Rule

For Seniors, U23, U21 and Juniors U18.

For Seniors, U23, U21 and Juniors U18, a regulation game consists of 9 innings.

If after 7(seven) complete innings for the visiting team or 6½ innings for the home team, there is a 10 (ten) runs score difference between the teams, the game is ended.

If after 5(five) complete innings for the visiting team or 4½ innings for the home team, there is a 15(fifteen) runs score difference between the teams, the game is ended.

For Cadets U15 and Juveniles U12:

For the Cadets U15 and Juveniles U12 a regulation game consists of 7 innings.

If after 5(five) complete innings for the visiting team or 4½ innings for the home team, there is a 10 (ten) runs score difference between the teams, the game is ended.

If after 4(four) complete innings for the visiting team or 3½ innings for the home team, there is a 15(fifteen) runs score difference between the teams, the game is ended.

If after 3(three) complete innings for the visiting team or 2½ innings for the home team, there is a 20(twenty) runs score difference between the teams, the game is ended.

d. Winning Pitchers, Saves for Relief Pitchers

Rules 9.17 and 9.19 (d) of the Official Baseball Rules will be modified as follows:

OBR 9.17 modification

- the winning pitcher is that pitcher whose team assumes a lead while such pitcher is in the game or during the inning on offense in which such pitcher is removed from the game, and does not relinquish such lead, unless:

- * such pitcher is a starting pitcher and
- * such pitcher has completed:

For U15 tournaments:

- four innings of a game that lasts seven innings or
- three innings of a game that lasts four, five or six innings or
- two innings of a game that lasts three innings.

For U12 tournaments:

- three innings of a game that lasts six or seven innings or
- two innings of a game that lasts four or five innings or
- 1.2 innings of a game that lasts three innings.

OBR 9.19.d 3 modification

A save for a relief pitcher will be credited:

In U15 tournaments:

- when he pitches for at least two innings of a game that lasts four, five, six or seven innings.
- In a three inning game no save will be credited.

In U12 tournaments

- when he pitches for at least two innings of a game that lasts five, six or seven innings or
- when he pitches for at least one inning of a game that lasts four innings.
- In a three inning game no save will be credited.

e. Dug-outs

Home team is to be located at 3rd base dugout and the visitors in the 1st base dugout.

Only persons permitted by rules and registered on the roster are allowed to stay in the dugout.

It shall be the responsibility of the 1st and 3rd base umpire to make sure that unauthorised persons do not occupy the dug-out and that the players and the coaches stay in the dugout during the game.

f. Suspended games

Exception to OBR 7.01 (e): If a game is called for any reason before it has become a regulation game, it shall always become a suspended game.

If a game scheduled for 7 innings (e.g. Cadets U15 and Juveniles U12) is called, it is a regulation game:

- (1) If four innings have been completed;
- (2) If the home team has scored more runs in three or three and a fraction half-innings than the visiting team has scored in four completed half-innings;
- (3) If the home team scores one or more runs in its half of the fourth inning to tie the score.

All suspended, tied or games not played shall be rescheduled by the Technical Commission and the Organizing Committee in order to resume or start them following the suspension order. The scheduling of these games shall be given priority by the Technical Commission in order to complete them as soon as possible.

Nevertheless, if there are difficulties concerning the closing date, only the important games shall be scheduled. No team shall be asked to play more than two games on the same day, unless the case warranted by exceptional circumstances, for instance postponed games and decided by the Technical Commission.

If a play is in progress at the moment of a failure of the field's lighting system and any additional action is impossible, the game is considered suspended.

Whenever the lights are restored, the game shall continue at the same situation that existed at the beginning of the play, which was interrupted due to the lack of the lighting. According to C.E.B. regulations, no time limit shall be set on a game and every game shall be played to a decision.

For the Juveniles, the Technical Commission will, under extraordinary circumstances in conjunction with the Organizing Committee, adjust the game schedule as necessary.

g. Speed up rules

The need to speed up the play of international competition games must be constantly enforced in an effort to keep the game moving quickly: (Speed Up Rules are not valid for Juveniles U12 competitions)

- I. The 12-second rule for the pitcher must be enforced.
- II. The hitter shall be required to remain in the batter's box unless he makes a request for time and the umpire feels that the request is reasonable. Only then shall the umpire grant time out.
- III. The pitcher shall be allowed 8 warm-up pitches to start the first inning and on any pitching change, or 4 pitches between innings and the plate umpire shall ensure that the pitches are thrown without undue delay. If a team fails to complete the warm-up pitches in a reasonable length of time, the umpire may terminate them and call "Play Ball". Teams shall be directed to have a catcher ready to warm up the pitcher as soon as an inning is completed.
- IV. When a batter hits a home run, members of his team shall not be allowed to contact the hitter until he has passed on home plate. Failure to observe this rule will result in a warning and if it occurs again, the manager of the team shall be ejected from the game.
- V. Only one infielder at a time can go the pitcher's mound, and only one such a trip per inning shall be allowed. In this context, the catcher is not considered an infielder.
- VI. Coaches shall be allowed three free trips to the mound during the game to talk with the pitcher (a free trip is one in which the pitcher is not removed from the mound). After the third trip, each subsequent trip to the mound must result in the removal of the pitcher from the game. If the game goes into extra innings, one additional trip shall be allowed for each extra three innings.
- VII. Two trips to the mound in the same inning, to the same pitcher, must result in the removal of the pitcher from the game.
- VIII. Only one infielder can go to the mound when the coach does and if one infielder goes to the mound at the time, it is considered the "infielders trip" to the mound for the inning as stated in rule VI. In this context, the catcher is not considered an infielder.
- IX. Teams are allowed a maximum of 3 "offensive meetings" per game. An offensive meeting shall be charged any time a coach delays the game for any length of time to talk with an offensive player, whether it be the hitter, a base-runner or an on-deck batter going to the plate, or to another coach. If the game goes into extra innings 1 additional "offensive meeting" shall be permitted for each 3 extra innings. If this rule is violated the coach may be ejected.

h. Extra Inning Rule

If the game remains tied after the completion of nine (9) innings, the following procedures will be implemented during extra innings (For Cadets U15 & Juveniles U12 after seven (7) innings):

- Each team will begin the 10th inning (and any subsequent necessary extra innings) with a player on first and second, no outs.
 - The batting order in any extra inning will be determined by how the previous inning ended. That is, if the 9th inning ends with the #6 hitter having the last plate appearance (PA), then the 10th inning begins the #7 hitter at bat, and the #5 hitter at 2B and the #6 hitter at first base.
 - With the exception of beginning the inning with runners on 1B and 2B with no one out, all other “Official Rules of Baseball” and “C.E.B. Competition Rules” will remain in effect during extra innings required to determine a winner.
 - No player re-entry is permitted during extra innings.
 - The traditional system of the visiting team hitting in the top of the inning and the home team hitting in the bottom of the inning (if needed) will remain in effect until a winner is determined.
- i. Protective equipment

Double earflap helmets will be mandatory for the hitter and the base runners.

It is recommended that base coaches wear a protective helmet, with or without ear flaps.

- j. Collisions at Home Plate

OBR Rule 6.01 (i) has to be applied in all C.E.B. competitions.

15. FINES

Infraction of specific C.E.B. Competition Rules will automatically incur a fine. The violator will have two months from the date of modification to either pay the fine or appeal to the C.E.B. Executive Committee for the review of the infraction.

All infractions fall under two categories:

1. "A" level - are infractions of rules that are considered pivotal for competition success, those that cause serious negative effects on international baseball.

The monetary penalty for an "A" level infraction is 400 Euro.

2. "B" level - are infractions of rules which are logistical and/or routine in nature.

The monetary penalty for a "B" level infraction is 200 Euro.

"B" level fines will be for violation of these rules: starting line-up, no regular registration to the Technical meeting, absence to the Technical meeting, umpires, etc.

16. PUBLICITY AND T.V. RIGHTS

- a. Radio and T.V. rights

The C.E.B. owns the rights to radio, recording, film, television and internet at each of its official competitions.

The right can be transferred to the Organizing Committee by a written agreement between C.E.B. and the involved federation.

The organizer is obliged to present all the contracts to C.E.B. for the liquidation of the financial agreements.

- b. Publicity on uniforms and equipment

The WBSC Executive Committee has approved the freedom for the continents to have publicity on uniforms and helmets for continental competitions.

The C.E.B. rules on this behalf are:

- name of the country and uniform number must be on the shirt
- name of the sponsor (max. 16 x 40 cm)
- on each sleeve of the shirt one publicity
- on the helmet one publicity each side or one at the back
- NO publicity on the caps
- for the warm-up jackets the same as for the shirt

17. GENERAL DISPOSITION

Transfer of players from one country to another

A player registered with a federation to a club who desires to play in another country, federation or club, for a reason whatever, will be obliged to ask his transfer from the last federation he played in.

For such transfer the C.E.B. transfer form must be used.
(<http://www.baseballeurope.com/rules/forms>)

If C.E.B. does not receive the copy of the official transfer the player(s) will be deleted from the roster for the C.E.B. tournament.

The form must be received by the C.E.B. at the latest one month before the start of the respective Cup competition of the year of transfer.

If a player transfers to another country, federation or club, but is not participating in any of the Cup competitions during the year of the transfer, only the national rules of the involved federations will apply. Registration is in this case for administrative purposes only.

18. APPLICATION OF THESE RULES

The C.E.B. Executive Committee shall decide any matters not provided for in these rules. In case of qualification competitions for WBSC World Cups and/or Championships and Olympic games the WBSC regulations will be strictly applied.

19. C.E.B. COMPETITION TERMS

A a.1 Registration

The closing day for entries shall be not later than **December 1st** prior to the start of the competition. Requirements for registration is to sent the fully signed C.E.B. subscription form to the C.E.B.

(<http://www.baseballeurope.com/rules/subscriptions>)

a.2 Organizing fee

European Championship A-Pool:	Euro 40.000
European Championship B-Pool:	Euro 1.500
European Championship C-Pool/ U23 :	Euro 1.000
European Championship U18, U15, U12:	Euro 500
Qualifier Europ. Champ. U18, U15, U12:	Euro 500
European Champions Cup:	Euro 2.000
C.E.B. Cup:	Euro 1.000
All other competitions:	none

a.3 Participating fee

European Championship A-Pool:	Euro 3.000
European Championship B-Pool:	Euro 1.000
European Championship C-Pool/ U23 :	Euro 500
European Championship U18, U15, U12:	Euro 350
Qualifiers for Europ. Champ. U18, U15, U12:	Euro 350
European Champions Cup, C.E.B. Cup:	Euro 2.000
Federations Cup and Qualifier:	Euro 500

a.4 Guarantee fee of the Federation.

If there is a reason of doubt about the participation of a national team or a club team, C.E.B. will demand from the federation or the club a guarantee sum of Euro 6.000 for the European Championship A-Pool and for all other events Euro 2.000 per team. Payment should be received by the C.E.B. Treasurer latest on 31st January before the annual C.E.B. Congress.

In case of a withdrawal of a team after the 31st of January in the year of the competition, the federation or club involved will be fined with Euro 6.000 for the European Championship A-Pool and Euro 2.000,- for the other events. The federation has to pay the fine on first demand of C.E.B. The fine will be paid by C.E.B. to the Organizer.

Furthermore, the club team in question will be suspended of all international activity in respective competition level during 2 (two) years and in case of a national team the federation will be suspended of all international activity in the respective category.

If European Baseball is harmed by a withdrawal after the 31st of January from any C.E.B. Competition of any national team, the C.E.B. Executive Committee can take

additional suspension against the federation or against teams of the involved federation.

If a game is forfeited due to early departure of the team, the extra fine is losing (or to pay) the guarantee sum for the respective level.

B Formation of groups

For all competitions in which the teams are split-up, the following system must be used:

Each group will be formed according to the standings of the previous competitions. The promoted or relegated teams and teams not participating in previous competitions will be placed in one group each by drawing of lots.

Group 1	Group 2
1 st	2 nd
4 th	3 rd
5 th	6 th
8 th	7 th
9 th	10 th

C Schedule system

For the starting Round Robin, the Organizing Committee must use this schedule system to propose to the C.E.B. Technical Commission for approval.

Teams	Schedule system			
6	1 st day	5-1	4-2	3-6
	2 nd day	1-3	2-5	6-4
	3 rd day	1-4	2-6	3-5
	4 th day	1-2	3-4	5-6
	5 th day	2-3	6-1	4-5
5	1 st day	1-4	5-3	Rest 2
	2 nd day	4-5	2-3	Rest 1
	3 rd day	1-2	3-4	Rest 5
	4 th day	3-1	2-5	Rest 4
	5 th day	5-1	4-2	Rest 3
4	1 st day	1-4	2-3	
	2 nd day	3-1	4-2	
	3 rd day	1-2	3-4	
3	1 st day	1-3	Rest 2	
	2 nd day	2-1	Rest 3	
	3 rd day	3-2	Rest 1	

20. EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

CHAMPIONSHIP (A-level)

A Period

The European Championship takes place every two years.

B Participants

The participants are:

- the first 9 classified countries of the previous championship
- the organizer country
- the winner of each of the 2 (two) qualifiers groups

If the organizer of the European Championship is in the 9 classified countries of the previous championship, then the #10 of the previous championship is classified.

Players have the minimum age of 15 years in the year the competition is played.

The games for the competition will be played in one or more cities, which have a distance between them of no more than 100 kilometres.

The European Championship will be played with C.E.B. approved bats only and with one of the Official Ball for Qualifier Competitions to be listed by C.E.B.

C Competition System

First Phase

The teams will be divided into two groups as follows:

Group A	Group B
1 st . Classified prev. EC	2 nd . Classified prev. EC
4 th . Classified prev. EC	3 rd . Classified prev. EC
5 th . Classified prev. EC	6 th . Classified prev. EC
8 th . Classified prev. EC	7 th . Classified prev. EC
9 th . Classified prev. EC	Organizer or #10 th . Prev. EC
1 st . Classified qualifier	1 st . Classified qualifier

If the organizer country is in the 10 classified of the previous championship, then it will remain in his position, otherwise it will be in the fifth position in group B. If not, this position will be for the organizer country.

Winner of the two qualifiers will be placed in a group by drawing of lots.

Each group plays a single round-robin (5 games in 5 consecutive days). At the end of this phase the standings will be made.

Second Phase

On the day 6th of the competition, the #4th classified in each group will play one game to decide the final ranking of position 7th and 8th. Home team is decided by drawing of lots. After this game the teams don't play anymore.

On the day 7th and 8th of the competition the number fifth and sixth of each group plays a single round-robin (counting the game already played between the two teams from the same group) to decide the final ranking of position 9th till 12th.

The number 11th and 12th will be relegated to the B-level immediately, while the relegation of number 10th is depending from the earlier qualification of the organizer of the next European Championship.

On the day 7th and 8th, a single round-robin will be played as follows:

7 th day	A5	-	B6	A5 is home team
	B5	-	A6	B5 is home team

8th day	A5	-	B5	Home team is decided by draw of lots
	A6	-	B6	Home team is decided by draw of lots

On the day 7th, 8th and 9th of the competition, the top three teams of each group will form a new group and play a single round-robin, three games, in three consecutive days starting at day 7th.

The results of the former games between the three teams of the same group are valid. These teams do not play against each other any further in this phase.

The games are played as follows:

7 th day	A1	-	B1	Home team is decided by drawing of lots
	A2	-	B2	Home team is decided by drawing of lots
	A3	-	B3	Home team is decided by drawing of lots

8 th day	A1	-	B2	A1 is home team
	A2	-	B3	A2 is home team
	A3	-	B1	A3 is home team

9 th day	B1	-	A2	B1 is home team
	B2	-	A3	B2 is home team
	B3	-	A1	B3 is home team

At the end of this phase the standings will be made. For the teams classified in the places from 3rd to 6th, the standing is final. The top two teams will play the third Phase.

Third Phase

The two top teams will play the final game on the 10th day of the championship. The winner is the European Champion.

QUALIFIERS B-LEVEL

A Period

The Qualifiers Competitions B-Level for the European Championship will take place the year prior of the European Championship, during July. The date will be decided by the C.E.B. Technical Commission.

B Participants

The subscriptions for the Qualifier Competitions B-Level is open to the 10 qualified countries and the two relegated countries of the previous European Championship.

Before November 1st of the year when the EC is played, countries must apply to organize and/or to participate in the Qualifier Competition B-Level of the next year. The C.E.B. Technical Commission will nominate the organizing countries and the formation of the groups.

C Formation of the groups

The participating teams will be divided in 2 groups.

Relegated teams who have played the previous EC must play in different groups.

The participating teams will be divided in two groups by results from previous competitions and if possible based upon regional arguments. The C.E.B. Technical Commission has the task to give at all the groups the most similar strength configuration as possible.

The two winners of each B-level Qualifier are qualified for the next EC.

D Competition System

Each of the groups of 6 teams will play a single round robin. After the preliminary of five days there will be on the 6th day the final between the numbers 1 and 2 of the ranking at the end of the preliminary.

The last ending team in the ranking as number 6th will relegate to the qualifier C-level.

The Qualifier Competitions will be played with C.E.B. approved bats only and with one of the Official Ball for Qualifier Competitions to be listed by the C.E.B.

QUALIFIERS C-LEVEL

A Period

The Qualifiers Competitions C-Level for the European Championship B-Level will take place in the same year as the European Championship during July. The date will be decided by the C.E.B. Technical Commission.

B Participants

The subscriptions for the Qualifier Competitions C-Level is open to all countries not qualified for the European Championship and the B-level Qualifier. Additional participants are the two relegated countries from the previous European Championship B-Level.

Before November 1st of the year when the European Championship B-level is played, countries must apply to organize and/or to participate in the Qualifier Competition C-Level of the next year.

The C.E.B. Technical Commission will nominate the organizing countries and the formation of the groups.

C Competition system

The C.E.B. Technical Commission will decide about the format of the competition based upon the number of subscriptions. If there are 5 or more participants, 2 (two) teams of the Qualifier C-level qualifies for the next EC Qualifier B-Level. If less than 5 participants only 1 team qualifies.

The Qualifier Competitions will be played with C.E.B. approved bats only and with one of the Official Ball for Qualifier Competitions to be listed by the C.E.B.

21. EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS U23

The European Championships U23 is open only for U23 national teams of the federations of C.E.B.

A Period

The European Championships U23 takes place every two years.

From 2019 on, the games for the championship will be played in one or more cities, which have a distance between them of no more than 100 kilometres.

For 2017 the venues for the championship will be determined by the C.E.B. Technical Commission.

B Participants

The players have the maximum age of 23 years and a minimum age of 15 years in the year the competition is played.

This competition is played with wooden bats, which are approved and mentioned on the approved bat list of C.E.B.

The DH rule is allowed.

C Competition System

For 2017 the competition system is as follows:

First Phase

The teams will be divided into four groups (A-D) by the C.E.B. Technical Commission.

Each group plays a single round-robin (3 games in 3 consecutive days). At the end of this phase the standings will be made.

Second Phase

The 4th day of the competition is "traveling day".

The teams who finished 4th in their group after the first phase will form group F (A4 will be F1, B4 will be F2 and so on). They play a single round robin (played on 4th, 6th and 7th day of the competition). At the end of this phase the standings in this group will be made for determination of 13th to 16th place of the tournament.

The teams who finished 3rd in their group after the first phase will form group E (A3 will be E1, B3 will be E2 and so on). They play a single round robin (played on 5th to 7th day of the competition). At the end of this phase the standings in this group will be made for determination of 9th to 12th place of the tournament.

The teams who finished 1st and 2nd in their group after the first phase will play quarter-finals on the day 5th day of the competition as follows:

QF = quarter-final

5 th day	QF1	A1	-	B2	A1 is home team
	QF2	B1	-	A2	B1 is home team
	QF3	C1	-	D2	C1 is home team
	QF4	D1	-	C2	D1 is home team

Third Phase

The winners of the quarter-finals play semi-finals, after that the game for 3rd place and the final game. The losers of the quarter-finals play a cross-over game as depicted below and after that the games for 5th and 7th place.

W = winner

L = loser

SF = semi-final

CO = cross-over game

6 th day	SF1	W QF1	-	W QF3	Home team is decided by drawing of lots
	SF2	W QF2	-	W QF4	Home team is decided by drawing of lots
	CO1	L QF1	-	L QF3	Home team is decided by drawing of lots
	CO2	L QF2	-	L QF4	Home team is decided by drawing of lots

7 th day	7 th place	L CO1	-	L CO2	Home team is decided by drawing of lots
	5 th place	W CO1	-	W CO2	Home team is decided by drawing of lots
	3 rd place	L SF1	-	L SF2	Home team is decided by drawing of lots
	final	W SF1	-	W SF2	Home team is decided by drawing of lots

D Promotion and relegation

The teams that finish 7th to 16th place in the tournament will be relegated to the U23 Qualifier in 2018.

22. EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS JUNIORS U18

The European Championships Juniors U18 is open only for national junior teams of the federations of C.E.B.

A Period

The European Championships Juniors U18 takes place every two years.

The games for the championship will be played in one or more cities, which have a distance between them of no more than 100 kilometres.

B Participants

The participants are the 8 first classified of the previous championship and the 2 first classified of the last Qualifier.

The junior players have the age of 16, 17 or 18 years in the year the competition is played.

This competition is played with wooden bats which are approved and mentioned on the approved bat list of C.E.B.

A maximum of 3 (three) players of 15 years will be allowed in the junior competition.

C Competition System

First Phase:

The teams will be divided into two groups. Each group plays a single round-robin. At this stage the standings will be made.

Group 1	Group 2
1	1
2	2
3	3
4	4
5	5

Second phase:

The first two teams of each group will play cross-over game and final as follows:

(a)	1 st G1	-	2 nd G2	1 st G1 is home team
(b)	1 st G2	-	2 nd G1	1 st G2 is home team

(c)	W(a)	-	W(b)	Game for gold and silver medals
(d)	L(a)	-	L(b)	Game for bronze and fourth place

Home team in the games (c) and (d) is decided by draw of lots.

The teams that finished third in each group play each other for positions 5 and 6 as follows:

3 rd G1	-	3 rd G2	Home team in games is decided by drawing of lots
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The teams that finished fourth and fifth in each group play a single round-robin (counting the game already played between the two teams from the same group) to decide which teams will be relegated to the qualifier.

The single round-robin will be played as follows:

4 th G1	-	5 th G2	4 th G1 is home team
4 th G2	-	5 th G1	4 th G2 is home team
4 th G1	-	4 th G2	Home team to be decided by drawing of lots
5 th G1	-	5 th G2	Home team to be decided by drawing of lots

D Promotion and relegation

The teams that finish 9 and 10 will be relegated to the Qualifier.

23. EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS CADETS U15

The European Championships Cadets U15 is open only for National Cadet teams of the Federations of C.E.B.

A Period

The European Championships Cadets U15 takes place every **two years**.

The games for the competition will be played in one or more cities, which have a distance between them of no more than 100 kilometres.

B Participants

For 2017: The participants are the first six classified teams of the previous championship and the first classified team of the last qualifier. In addition to that, the national teams of Italy, The Netherlands and Spain will get a wild card for the championship.

From 2019 on: The participants are the first six classified teams of the previous championship and the two first classified teams of the last Qualifier.

The Cadet players will have the age of 13, 14 or 15 years in the year the competition is played.

A maximum of 3 (three) players of 12 years will be allowed, in the cadet competition.

C Competition System

For 2017 the competition system is as follows:

First Phase:

The teams will be divided into two groups. Each group plays a single round-robin. At this stage the standings will be made.

Group 1	Group 2
1	1
2	2
3	3
4	4
5	5

Second phase:

The first two teams of each group will play cross-over game and final as follows:

(a)	1 st G1	-	2 nd G2	1 st G1 is home team
(b)	1 st G2	-	2 nd G1	1 st G2 is home team

(c)	W(a)	-	W(b)	Game for gold and silver medals
(d)	L(a)	-	L(b)	Game for bronze and fourth place

Home team in the games (c) and (d) is decided by draw of lots.

The teams that finished third in each group play each other for positions 5 and 6 as follows:

3 rd G1	-	3 rd G2	Home team in games is decided by drawing of lots
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The teams that finished fourth and fifth in each group play a single round-robin (counting the game already played between the two teams from the same group) to decide 7th to 10th place of the tournament.

The single round-robin will be played as follows:

4 th G1	-	5 th G2	4 th G1 is home team
4 th G2	-	5 th G1	4 th G2 is home team
4 th G1	-	4 th G2	Home team to be decided by drawing of lots
5 th G1	-	5 th G2	Home team to be decided by drawing of lots

From 2019 on the competition system will be as follows:

First Phase:

The eight teams will be divided into two groups. Each group will play a single round-robin (3 games in 3 consecutive days).

At the end of this phase the standings will be made.

Group 1	Group 2
1	1
2	2
3	3
4	4

Second phase:

The first two teams of each group will play cross-over game and final as follows:

(a)	1 st G1	-	2 nd G2	1 st G1 is home team
(b)	1 st G2	-	2 nd G1	1 st G2 is home team

(c)	W(a)	-	W(b)	Game for gold and silver medals
(d)	L(a)	-	L(b)	Game for bronze and fourth place

Home team in the games (c) and (d) is decided by drawing of lots.

The teams that finished third and fourth in each group play a single round-robin (counting the game already played between the two teams from the same group) to decide which teams will be relegated to the next qualifier.

The single round-robin will be played as follows:

3 rd G1	-	4 th G2	3 rd G1 is home team
3 rd G2	-	4 th G1	3 rd G2 is home team
3 rd G1	-	3 rd G2	Home team to be decided by drawing of lots
4 th G1	-	4 th G2	Home team to be decided by drawing of lots

D Promotion and relegation

For 2017: The teams that finished 6th to 10th place are relegated to the next qualifier. The winner and the runner-up of the 2018 Qualifier is promoted to the next championship.

From 2019 on: The teams that finished 7th and 8th place are relegated to the next Qualifier. The winner and the runner-up of the Qualifier in the following year are promoted to the next Championship.

24. QUALIFIER FOR THE EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS JUNIORS U18, CADETS U15 AND CHAMPIONSHIPS JUVENILES U12

A Competition System

For these qualifying competitions the C.E.B. Technical Commission will decide yearly the format of the competition based upon the number of subscriptions. These competitions will usually be played in a single round robin with 'best of three' games between the numbers 1 & 2 and further the games to establish the ranking of the remaining teams. Based upon the number of participants the C.E.B. Technical Commission can decide to play in two or more groups and schedule crossover games, half-final and final games.

In case the qualifying competitions for the Championship Juniors and/or Cadets are played in two different countries, the C.E.B. Technical Commission will form regional groups.

B Promotion and Relegation

b.1 Qualifier for the European Championships U23, Juniors U18, Cadets U15

The winner and the runner-up of the qualifier competition is promoted to the next championship. In case the qualifier is played in two different countries, the winner of each group is promoted to the championship.

b.2 Qualifier for the European Championships Juveniles U12

The winner and if the qualifier has more than 6 subscriptions, also the runner-up of the qualifier competition is promoted to the championship. In case the qualifier is played in two different countries, the winner of each group is promoted to the championship.

25. EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS JUVENILES U12

The European Championships Juveniles U12 is open only for national juveniles teams of the Federations of C.E.B.

A Period

The European Championships Juveniles U12 takes place every year.

The games for the competition will be played in one or more cities, which have a distance between them of no more than 100 kilometres.

B Participants

The Juveniles players will have the age of 10, 11 or 12 years in the year the competition is played.

A maximum of three players of 9 years will be allowed, in the juveniles competition.

C Rules of Baseball

The games will be played according these C.E.B. Competition rules for Juveniles.

We point out the following dispositions:

a. Protective equipment

- use of helmets by the batter, on-deck batter and all base runners is mandatory
- each helmet shall have a double ear-flap
- all players must wear metal, fibre or plastic type cup
- catchers must wear long model chest protector with neck collar, throat guard, shin guards and catcher's helmet
- catchers must wear a mask, throat protector and catchers helmet during practice, pitcher warm-up and games
- the use of metal spikes is not allowed.

If the umpire observes any violation of these rules, he shall direct the violation to be corrected. If the violation is not corrected within a reasonable time in the umpire's judgement, the umpire shall eject the offender from the game, and disciplinary action, as appropriate, will be recommended.

b. Pitch count rule

Each pitcher must observe a day(s) rest as follows:

- 1 - 30 no rest
- 31 - 45 1 day
- 46 - 60 2 days
- 61 - 75 3 days
- max 85 4 days

The Technical Commissioner will ultimately determine the accurate pitch count by using all the information gathered from the official scorers plus his own work and render any final decisions on protests.

Note:

1. Pitch count is to be accurately recorded by official scorers and non active players will be listed in a daily report.
2. Pitch count thrown by the same pitchers in games on the same day will be added to determine non active pitchers.
3. Pitcher cannot pitch 3 consecutive days if pitcher's first 2 days combined exceed 30.
4. If pitcher's day 1 + day 2 exceeds 30, they require at least 1 day rest. Pitcher cannot pitch 4 consecutive days. One (1) days rest is needed.
5. Violating pitch count rules will cause the forfeit of the games.
6. If a pitcher reaches the max number of pitches, he is allowed to finish the same batter.

Examples of Pitch Count Rule:

	Day					
	1	2	3	4	5	6
Pitcher 1	25	20	X			
Pitcher 2	35	X				
Pitcher 3	50	X	X			
Pitcher 4	65	X	X	X		
Pitcher 5	82	X	X	X	X	
Pitcher 6	15	12	30	X		
	= <i>Pitcher availability</i>					
55	= <i>sample number of pitches</i>					
X	= <i>mandatory rest day</i>					

c. Differences for Juveniles to Official Baseball Rules

Bats cannot have more than 33 inches in length.

5.10 Player in the starting line-up who has been removed for a substitute, may re-enter the game once. In any position in the batting order, provided:

1. the substitute has completed one time at bat and
2. has played defensively for a minimum of 6 (six) consecutive outs.
3. a pitcher may not re-enter the game as a pitcher
4. only a player in the starting line-up may re-enter the game.

When two or more substitute players of the defensive team enter the game at the same time, the manager shall immediately before they take their position as fielders designate to the umpire in chief such player's position in the batting order and the umpire in chief shall notify the official scorer. The umpire in chief shall have the authority to designate the substitute's places in the batting order, if this information is not immediately provided.

Should injury or illness prevent, a manager from fielding 9 (nine) players the manager may, without penalty of forfeiture, replace injured or ill players with

players previously in the line-up, but only if use of all other eligible players has exhausted the roster. This provision does not apply with respect to a player or players ejected from the game. If a team is unable to field 9 (nine) players for reason of ejection of a player and no eligible substitute is available, previously used players may not enter the game.

5.06(b)(4)(I) One base, if the batter becomes a runner on a ball four when the pitch passes the catcher and lodges in the umpire's mask or paraphernalia.

If the batter becomes a runner on a wild pitch, which entitles the runner to advance one base, the batter-runner shall be entitled to first base only.

5.06(d) (in addition to the OBR) When a pitcher is in contact with the pitcher's plate and in possession of the ball and the catcher is in the catcher's box ready to receive delivery of ball, base-runners shall not leave their base until the ball has been delivered and has reached the batter.

The violation by one base runner shall affect all other base runners.

When a base runner leaves the base before the pitched ball has reached the batter and the batter does not hit the ball, the runner is permitted to continue. If a play is made on the runner and the runner is out, the out stands. If said runner reaches safely the base to which the runner is advancing, that runner must be returned to the base occupied before the pitch was made, and no out results.

a) When a base runner leaves the base before the pitched ball reached the batter and the batter hits the ball, the base runner or runners are permitted to continue. If a play is made and the runner or runners are put out, the out or outs will stand. If not put out, the runner or runners must return to the original base or bases or the unoccupied base nearest the one that was left. In no event shall the batter advance beyond first base on a single or error, second base on a double or third base on a triple. The umpire in chief shall determine the base value of the hit ball.

b) When any base runner leaves the base before the pitched ball reached the batter and the batter bunts or hits a ball within the infield no run shall be allowed to score. If three runners were on the bases and the batter reaches first base safely, each runner shall advance to the base beyond the one they occupied at the start of the play except the runner on third base, this runner shall be removed from the base without a run being scored.

EXCEPTION: if at the conclusion of the play there is an open base, paragraph (a) and (b) will apply.

6.02(a)(13) ABROGATED

d. Schedule

No team shall be scheduled to play two games in one day unless the case warranted by exceptional circumstances, for instance: postponed games and decided by the Technical Commission. If two games involving four teams are played on the same field, the first game must be completed before the second game starts (exception under condition of rule 7.02).

e. Night games

Juvenile games may be played after sundown under artificial light. In any case, no inning shall start after 10.00 p.m. prevailing time. It will be held that an inning starts the moment that the third out is made, completing the preceding inning.

f. Field dimension

From home-plate to fence: 61 m.

Pitcher's plate: 15,20 cm. A pitching mound is mandatory.

Distance from the back of home plate (point) to pitcher's plate: 14,00 m.

From home-plate to backstop: 7,60 m.

From home-plate to second base: 25,85 m.

Distance between bases: 18,30 m.

g. Bats

The bat shall be made of wood or of other materials as it comply with the WBS specifications as written in this rule.

- It shall be a smooth, rounded stick with a constant radius at any point.
- There must be a direct line from the center of the knob to the center of the large end.
- The knob and the end plug, if any, must be firmly attached.
- The bat shall not be more than 33 inches (83.82 cm) of length.
- The diameter of a bat shall not be more than 2 5/8 inches, nor less than 2 1/4 inches.
- The bat should be labeled with a BPF (Bat Performance Factor) of 1,15 or less, if it is not made of solid wood. If the label is not legible, the bat cannot be used and shall be removed from the game.

NOTE: An illegal bat must be removed. Any bat that has been altered shall be removed from play.

PENALTY: If a batter entering the batter's box is discovered with an illegal bat, or is discovered having used an illegal bat prior to the next player entering the batter's box, the plate umpire has to warn the manager of the offensive team, in case it would be the first violation. At the second violation the manager of the team will be ejected from the game.

If the batter hits the ball using an illegal bat he should be called out, however the manager of the defensive team may advise the plate umpire of the decision to decline the penalty and accept the play. This decision shall be communicated immediately at the end of the play.

26. EUROPEAN CUP AND QUALIFIER COMPETITIONS

European Cup Competitions

The European Cups are competitions of European Baseball on the highest club level, organized by C.E.B.

The European Cups are played in four categories: European Champions Cup, C.E.B. Cup, Federations Cup and Federations Cup Qualifier.

The European Cups are for National Champion teams of the highest division and/or for the runner-up of the national championship of the highest division. The National Federation decides which teams are allowed to subscribe.

A Period

The Cup Competitions will be played during the month of June.

The games of the competitions will be played in one or more cities, which have a distance between them of no more than 100 kilometres.

B Participants

a. European Champions Cup

- Teams from federations which teams finished 1st to 7th place in the European Champions Cup of the previous year.
- A team from the federation which team won the C.E.B. Cup of the previous year.

b. C.E.B. Cup

- Teams from federations which teams finished 2nd to 7th place in the C.E.B. Cup of the previous year.
- A team from the federation which team finished 8th place in the European Champions Cup of the previous year.
- A team from the federation which team won the Federations Cup of the previous year.

c. Federations Cup

- Teams from federations which teams were not promoted to the C.E.B. Cup or relegated to the Federations Cup Qualifier due to the results of the Federations Cup of the previous year.
- A team from the federation which team finished 8th place in the C.E.B. Cup of the previous year.
- Teams from federations which teams were promoted to the Federations Cup due to the results of the Federations Cup Qualifiers of the previous year.

d. Federations Cup Qualifiers

- Teams from federations which teams were not promoted to the Federations Cup due to the results of the Federations Cup Qualifier of the previous year.
 - Teams from federations which teams were relegated to the Federations Cup Qualifier due to the results of the Federations Cup of the previous year.
 - Runner up of the Federations that have only one representative in the Champions Cup or C.E.B. Cup or Federations Cup,
 - Champions of all other Federations which are not participating in Champions Cup or C.E.B. Cup or Federations Cup,
 - Runner up of the best ranked Federations which are not participating in Champions Cup or C.E.B. Cup or Federations Cup.
- e. A team can only subscribe for the level of competition it is qualified for. It cannot subscribe for a lower level of competition
- f. In case a team renounces to participate it can be replaced by another team of the country concerned.
- g. The federation of the clubs which has the right to participate in one of the Cup competitions will enforce the participation of their club.
- h. In case a subscription for one of the Cup competitions does not arrive at C.E.B. before the fixed date foreseen by these rules, C.E.B. will warn the president of the national federation involved and consequently the team of that federation will be replaced.
- i. In case a country renounces to participate in one of the Cup competitions it will be replaced by a country qualified for the competition of the next lower level and the renouncing country (club) will go to next lower competition level for the following year.
- j. In case a country refuses to participate in the one of the Cup competitions, this country cannot organise a Cup competition the next year, unless it is the only candidate.

C Organizing country

For the Cup competitions all participating countries can enter the candidature for organisation by their entitled club before November 1st. In case of more than one candidature for the same competition the C.E.B. Technical Commission will, based on vast criteria, assign the organiser.

The organisers will inform C.E.B., before the 1st of January, of the exact date of the start and the end of competition and the exact date, hour and site of the Technical Meeting.

D Promotion-Relegation system

- From the European Champions Cup the last ending team's federation relegates to the C.E.B. Cup in the next year.
- From the C.E.B. Cup the best placed team's federation is promoted to the European Champions Cup in the next year.
- From the C.E.B. Cup the last ending team's federation relegates to the Federations Cup in the next year.
- From the Federations Cup the best placed team's federation is promoted to the C.E.B. Cup in the next year.
- From the Federations Cup the last 1, 2, 3 or 4 team's federations relegate to the qualifier in the next year (pending on the number of pools played in the Qualifier in the same year).
- From the Federations Cup Qualifiers, the federations of the winners of each pool are promoted to the Federations Cup in the next year.

E Players

e.1 Eligibility

Players must have the minimum age of 15 years in the year the competition is played.

All the players participating in the European Cups shall be:

- regularly registered with their club.
- regularly registered in the national competition with their club the running year, with which they participate in the European Cup competition.

All the players mentioned on the Preliminary Team Roster (PTR) are not allowed to play for another team, worldwide, in the period between the delivery of the PTR till the start of the European Cups. **For players mentioned on the PTR who play at college level in the USA there is the possibility to get a waiver from the former mentioned restriction. In order to get a waiver, the national federation has to send a list to the CEB office together with the PTR. The list has to include: name of the college player, date of birth, member of the club since when, college team in the USA.**

e.2 Team composition

Each team will be composed of a minimum of 12 (twelve) players and a maximum of 24 (twenty-four) players.

Teams with less than 12 (twelve) players are rejected from the competition.

e.3 Foreign players

The participation of foreign players in the Cup competitions is regulated as follows:

The players who have a different nationality than that of the country the team represents and have a different nationality than one of the C.E.B member federations, are considered foreign players.

e.4 Team Rosters

The Preliminary Team Roster (PTR) shall be received at the C.E.B. at the latest one month before the start of the competition.

The limitation of foreign players on the Final Team Roster (FTR) is maximum 3 (three). The Federation is signing the roster and confirms herewith that the players are regularly registered according to C.E.B. rules.

Teams not complying with this rule to submit the forms will pay a fine of 1.000 Euro for the European Champions Cup and CEB Cup and 500 Euro for the Federations Cup and the Federations Cup Qualifier.

F Competition system

f.1 European Champions Cup and C.E.B. Cup

Two groups of four teams.

The competitions will start on Tuesday to end on Saturday or will start on Wednesday to end on Sunday, which means five consecutive playing days without a day of rest.

The competition system follows the rules of chapter 19.

First phase:

Each group plays a single round-robin (three games in three consecutive days). At the end of this phase the standings will be made.

Second phase:

The first two teams of each group (G) will play cross-over games and final as follows:

(a)	1 st G1	-	2 nd G2	1 st G1 is home team
(b)	1 st G2	-	2 nd G1	1 st G2 is home team

(c)	W(a)	-	W(b)	Final Game
(d)	L(a)	-	L(b)	Game for 3 rd Place

Home team in the games (c) and (d) is decided by draw of lots.

The last two teams of each group (G) will play cross-over games and game for 7th place as follows:

(e)	3 rd G1	-	4 th G2	3 rd G1 is home team
(f)	3 rd G2	-	4 th G1	3 rd G2 is home team

(g)	L(e)	-	L(f)	Game for 7 th Place
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Home team in game (g) is decided by draw of lots.

The winners of games (e) and (f) finish both 5th place, if they did not play against each other in the first phase of the tournament. If they played against each other in the first phase, the result of that game will determine 5th and 6th place of the tournament.

f.2 Federations Cup

One pool of six teams.

The competition will start on Monday to end on Saturday will start on Tuesday to end on Sunday, which means six consecutive playing days without a day of rest.

The competition system follows the rules of chapter 19.

First phase:

The teams play a single round-robin to decide all positions without a day of rest.

Second phase:

The first two teams play one final game for the gold and silver medals. Home team will be the winner of the single round robin.

f.3 Federations Cup Qualifiers

Up to four pools with up to six teams.

The C.E.B. Technical Commission will decide on the number of pools and number of teams per pool every year pending on the number of federations that have subscribed for the Qualifiers.

The competition will start on Monday to end on Saturday or will start on Tuesday to end on Sunday, which means six consecutive playing days without a day of rest.

The competition system follows the rules of chapter 19.

First phase:

The teams of each pool play a single round-robin to decide all positions without a day of rest.

Second phase:

The first two teams of each pool play one final game for the win of the pool. Home team will be the winner of the single round robin.

27. ALTERNATE DETERMINATION OF CHAMPION

In case of rain during the championship round, the following will be made:

If rain disrupts the championship round before completion, all efforts will be made to determine a champion by playing only the game(s) which remain to determine the title. If a decision regarding a medal must be made without playing a game, the tie breaking criteria TQB shall apply (see art. 13 i). The same procedure will be followed for subsequent positions if necessary.

If two or more teams did not play each other, the TQB will be applied, including all the games played in the tournament, to establish the final standings.

APPENDIX I: Six Examples of the application of the Tie Breaker Criteria

Scenario 1:

Game 1: Team A - Team B 5 - 4
 Game 2: Team D - Team E 9 - 1

Standings after single round robin:

Team A	3 Won, 1 Lost	*
Team B	3 Won, 1 Lost	*
Team C	2 Won, 2 Lost	
Team D	1 Won, 3 Lost	**
Team E	1 Won, 3 Lost	**

* Criterion 1: Team A finishes higher than Team B, because of the result of game 1.

** Criterion 1: Team D finishes higher than Team E, because of the result of game 2.

Scenario 2:

Game 1: Team A - Team B 5 - 4 (8 ½ innings)
 Game 2: Team C - Team A 2 - 0 (8 2/3 innings)
 Game 3: Team B - Team C 8 - 2 (8 ½ innings)

Standings after single round robin:

Team A	3 Won, 1 lost *
Team B	3 Won, 1 lost *
Team C	3 Won, 1 lost *

* Criterion 1: No decision between any of the teams A, B and C.

Criterion 2: Team B finishes higher than A, which finishes higher than C, because of the **TQB** in games 1, 2 and 3.

Team	Runs Scored	Offens. Innings	Ratio	Runs Allowed	Def. Innings	Ratio	TQB
A	5	17	0.2941	6	17.67	0.3396	-0.0454
B	12	17	0.7059	7	17	0.4118	0.2941
C	4	17.67	0.2264	8	17	0.4706	-0.2442

Team B: 12 runs scored in 17 offensive innings = 0.7059; 7 runs allowed in 17 defensive innings = 0.4118 → TQB = 0.2941

Team A: 5 runs scored in 17 offensive innings = 0.2941; 6 runs allowed in 17.67 defensive innings = 0.3396 → TQB = -0.0454

Team C: 4 runs scored in 17.67 offensive innings = 0.2264; 8 runs allowed in 17 defensive innings = 0.4706 → TQB = -0.2442

Scenario 3:

Game 1: Team A - Team B 6 - 4 (8 ½ innings)
 Game 2: Team A - Team C 0 - 2 (9 innings)
 Game 3: Team B - Team C 8 - 2 (8 ½ innings)

Standings after single round robin:

Team A 3 Won, 1 lost *
 Team B 3 Won, 1 lost *
 Team C 3 Won, 1 lost *

* Criterion 1: No decision between any of the teams A, B and C.

Criterion 2: Team B finishes higher than A, which finishes higher than C, because of the **TQB** in games 1, 2 and 3.

Team	Runs Scored	Offens. Innings	Ratio	Runs Allowed	Def. Innings	Ratio	TQB
A	6	17	0.3529	6	18	0.3333	0.0196
B	12	17	0.7059	8	17	0.4706	0.2353
C	4	18	0.2222	8	17	0.4706	-0.2484

Team B: 12 runs scored in 17 offensive innings = 0.7059 8 runs allowed in 17 defensive innings = 0.4706 → TQB = 0.2353

Team A: 6 runs scored in 17 offensive innings = 0.3529; 6 runs allowed in 18 defensive innings = 0.3333 → TQB = 0.0196

Team C: 4 runs scored in 18 offensive innings = 0.2222; 8 runs allowed in 17 defensive innings = 0.4706 → TQB = -0.2484

Scenario 4

Game 1: Team A - Team B 3 - 4 (11 2/3 innings)
 Game 2: Team A - Team C 8 - 5 (9 2/3 innings)
 Game 3: Team B - Team C 3 - 7 (9 innings)

Standings after single round robin:

Team B 3 Won, 1 Lost *
 Team C 3 Won, 1 Lost *
 Team A 3 Won, 1 Lost *

* Criterion 1: No decision between any of the teams A, B and C.

Criterion 2: Team C finishes higher than A, which finishes higher than B, because of the TQB in games 1, 2 and 3.

Team	Runs Scored	Of. Innings	Ratio	Runs Allowed	Def. Innings	Ratio	TQB
A	11	21.67	0.5076	9	21.67	0.4153	0.0923
B	7	20.67	0.3387	10	21	0.4762	-0.1375
C	12	19	0.6316	11	18.67	0.5892	0.0424

Team A: 11 runs scored in 21.67 offensive innings = 0.5076; 9 runs allowed in 21.67 defensive innings = 0.4153 → TQB = 0.0923

Team C: 12 runs scored in 19 offensive innings = 0.6316; 11 runs allowed in 18.67 defensive innings = 0.5892 → TQB = 0.0424

Team B: 7 runs scored in 20.67 offensive innings = 0.3387; 10 runs allowed in 21 defensive innings = 0.4762 → TQB = -0.1375

Scenario 5:

Game 1: Team A - Team B 7 - 4 (8 ½ innings), in earned runs 3 - 4
 Game 2: Team B - Team C 7 - 4 (8 ½ innings), in earned runs 5 - 2
 Game 3: Team C - Team A 7 - 4 (8 ½ innings), in earned runs 5 - 1

Standings after single round robin:

Team A 3 Won, 1 Lost *

Team B 3 Won, 1 Lost * **

Team C 3 Won, 1 Lost * **

* Criterion 1: No decision between any of the teams A, B and C.

Criterion 2: No decision between any of the teams A, B and C.

Team	Runs Scored	Offens. Innings	Ratio	Runs Allowed	Def. Innings	Ratio	TQB
A	11	17	0.6471	11	17	0.6471	0.0000
B	11	17	0.6471	11	17	0.6471	0.0000
C	11	17	0.6471	11	17	0.6471	0.0000

Criterion 3: Team B finishes higher than Team C and Team A because of the TQB in games 1, 2 and 3.

Team	Earned Runs Scored	Of. Innings	Ratio	Earned Runs Allowed	Def. Innings	Ratio	ER-TQB
A	4	17	0.2353	9	17	0.5294	-0.2941
B	9	17	0.5294	5	17	0.2941	0.2353
C	7	17	0.4118	6	17	0.3529	0.0588

Team B: 9 ERuns scored in 17 offensive innings = 0.5294; 5 ERuns allowed in 17 defensive innings = 0.2941 → TQB = 0.2353

Team C: 7 ERuns scored in 17 offensive innings = 0.4118; 6 ERuns allowed in 17 defensive innings = 0.3529 → TQB = 0.0588

Team A: 4 ERuns scored in 17 offensive innings = 0.2353; 9 ERuns allowed in 17 defensive innings = 0.5294 → TQB = -0.2941

Scenario 6:

Game 1: Team A - Team B 5 - 4 (9 innings)
 Game 2: Team B - Team C 5 - 0 (8 ½ innings)
 Game 3: Team C - Team D 8 - 4 (8 ½ innings)
 Game 4: Team D - Team E 9 - 0 (8 ½ innings)
 Game 5: Team E - Team A 5 - 2 (8 ½ innings)
 Game 6: Team A - Team C 1 - 3 (9 innings)
 Game 7: Team B - Team D 3 - 5 (9 innings)
 Game 8: Team C - Team E 1 - 3 (9 innings)
 Game 9: Team D - Team A 0 - 8 (9 innings)
 Game 10: Team E - Team B 3 - 7 (9 innings)

Standings after single round robin:

Team A	2 Won, 2 Lost	*	
Team B	2 Won, 2 Lost	*	
Team C	2 Won, 2 Lost	*	**
Team D	2 Won, 2 Lost	*	**
Team E	2 Won, 2 Lost	*	

* Criterion 1: No decision between any of the teams A, B, C, D and E.

Criterion 2: Teams B finishes higher than Team A, C, D and E because of the TQB in games 1 thru 10.

Team	Runs Scored	Of. Innings	Ratio	Runs Allowed	Def. Innings	Ratio	TQB
A	16	36	0.4444	12	35	0.3429	0.1016
B	19	35	0.5429	13	36	0.3611	0.1817
C	12	35	0.3429	13	35	0.3714	-0.0286
D	18	35	0.5143	19	35	0.5429	-0.0286
E	11	35	0.3143	19	35	0.5429	-0.2286

Team B: 19 Runs scored in 35 offensive innings = 0.5429; 13 Runs allowed in 36 defensive innings = 0.3611 → TQB = 0.1817

Team A: 16 Runs scored in 36 offensive innings = 0.4444; 12 Runs allowed in 35 defensive innings = 0.3429 → TQB = 0.1016

Team C: 12 Runs scored in 35 offensive innings = 0.3429; 13 Runs allowed in 35 defensive innings = 0.3714 → TQB = **-0.0286**

Team D: 18 Runs scored in 35 offensive innings = 0.5143; 19 Runs allowed in 35 defensive innings = **0.5429** → TQB = **-0.0286**

Team E: 11 Runs scored in 35 offensive innings = 0.3143; 19 Runs allowed in 35 defensive innings = **0.5429** → TQB = -0.2286

** Criterion 1: Team C finishes higher than Team D, because of the result of game 3.