



COMPETITION RULES

(valid 1st January 2005)

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COMPETITION RULES

(1st January 2005)

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.
- c. According to these norms the European Baseball Confederation authorises its member Federations to organise International European competitions as follows:
 1. Championships for National Selections
 - European Championship and Qualifier held every 2 years.
 - European Championship JUNIORS and Qualifier held every 2 years.
 - European Championship CADETS and Qualifier held every 2 years.
 - European Championship JUVENILES held annually.
 2. Official Cup Competitions
 - C.E.B. SUPER CUP held annually.
 - EUROPEAN CUP and Qualifier held annually.
 - CUPWINNERS CUP and Qualifier held annually.
 - C.E.B. CUP and Qualifier 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 Club 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 C.E.B. Club Competitions.

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 C.E.B. COMPETITIONS".
- b. Candidature for European Championships must be presented before November 1st four years prior to the year of the competition; for Juniors, Cadets and Juveniles before November 1st two years prior to the year of the competition. For the Qualifier competitions for the European Championship, Juniors, Cadets and Club competitions within the year prior to the competition.
- c. For Championship for National Selections the Congress selects the countries in which the games take place. For Juniors, Cadets and Juveniles Championship, providing no candidature has been received to host such competition at the date of the Congress or should the selected country renounce, 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 Club championship 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 Organising 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 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 6th months prior to the opening day of the Championship, unless exceptional circumstances.
- b. To have availability of ratified playing grounds for the assigned Competition.
- c. 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.
- d. To receive the members of the Technical Commission in charge for the control of the playing grounds for due ratification.
- e. 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.

- f. Ensure against all kind of risks and 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.
- g. To receive the C.E.B. officials before the competition and guarantee their corresponding functions during the event.
- h. Create, print and distribute an official program for the competition.
- i. To supply adequate arrangements for the press, radio and television commentators.
- j. To provide medical aid and police guard at the playgrounds during all games.
- k. 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 scoresheets 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.
- l. To supply a general summary of the technical details of the Competition, immediately after the Competitions has ended, to the persons mentioned under j.

To make available suitable meeting room for the C.E.B. Technical Commission for the full period of the competition.

- m. To select and indicate the best local umpires and scorekeepers in the adequate number required by the C.E.B. Technical Commission. The umpires and scorekeepers should be the most competent and should be approved by the C.E.B. Technical Commission.
- n. 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.
- o. 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 310,-
- p. 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.
- q. 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.
- r. The C.E.B. Executive Committee reserves the right to nullify the site of a country, which does not comply with the established norms.

1. FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS OF THE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

If not otherwise foreseen in the specific competition rules, the financial obligations of the Organizing Committee 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 two days prior to the competition and including one day after its conclusion. Each umpire will receive 9 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 two days prior to the start of the competition and including one-day after its conclusion. The Technical Commissioner(s) and the umpires will be lodged separated from the participating teams.
- d. To provide local transportation for each delegation to and from all practices and games. Obviously the local transportation is meant also to and from the airport. This rule is not applicable for the Cup Qualification competitions.
- e. Assume the cost for travel expenses of the appointed Tournament Director, Technical Delegate(s) and/or Commissioner(s) as foreseen (see item 6).
- f. To provide international transportation for the persons listed in each specific competition rule.
- g. To supply the trophies and awards.

- h. To provide the maintenance, all costs for custodial care required maintaining cleanliness at the fields.
- i. All costs related to doping control (if provided).
- j. Insurance 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
- economy class airlines.

a. Accommodation

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

b. 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 may be ensured to have meals at same hotel where they are booked.

2. **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.
- b. Pay at the prescribed time the fees related to participation, which correspond to each competition.
- c. Arrange payment of the guarantee sum, corresponding to each competition or arrange a guarantee letter stamped and signed by the Federation for the guarantee sum.
- d. Each Federation or Club will register its players following item 8 of these rules.
- e. In the Championships for National Selections all players must have the nationality of the country they represent (see Eligibility item 7). Five (5) officials-technicians are allowed to accompany the team on the playing field. For the eligibility of the players for the official club competitions see specific regulation.
- f. The participating team pays 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.
- g. Each visiting team will bring with them the C.E.B. umpire(s) living in their country, chosen by the Technical Commission from the official list.

Travel expenses for appointed C.E.B. Umpire(s) for European Championships and for the C.E.B. Club competitions are for the account of the C.E.B.

Travel expenses for appointed C.E.B. Umpire(s) for European Championships Juniors, Cadets, Juveniles and all Qualifier competitions are at charge of each participating country or club.

In case the participating team does not bring an umpire, it will be charged by C.E.B. for the travel expenses for another neutral C.E.B. umpire.

- 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 C.E.B. Technical Commission. In case this obligation is not fulfilled a sum of 160 Euro will be fined by C.E.B. to the transgressor.
- j. Supply the Organizing Committee, on arrival, 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.

3. COMPETITION OFFICIALS

a. Tournament Director

For every C.E.B. Competition, the C.E.B. Executive may designate the Tournament Director.

The functions and responsibilities of the Tournament Director are:

The Tournament Director, designated by the C.E.B. Executive Committee is the highest authority of the C.E.B. at the competition. His duties begin immediately after the Pre-Competition Technical meeting and last until the end of the competition.

The responsibilities of the Tournament Director 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 C.E.B. 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 Delegate(s) 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 Executive Committee.

b. Technical Commission

For every C.E.B. Competition, the Chairman of the Technical Commission will designate the Technical Delegates and the Technical Commissioners 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
- judge protests and rules violations
- disciplinary cases involving players and coaches
- control the respect of the obligations of the Organizing Committee
- all other functions expected in these rules for the Technical Commission

Travel expenses for appointed Tournament Director, Technical Delegate(s) or/and Commissioner(s) for all Championships for National Seniors selections are on the account of the Organizing Committee, while travel expenses for appointed Tournament Director, Delegate(s) or/and Commissioner(s) for all Youth Championships (Juniors, Cadets, Juveniles) and all the official Club competitions are on the 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 Delegate(s) or 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 C.E.B. Technical Commission will make the decision regarding any topic that is not specifically covered in the Statutes, Rules and Norms as approved.

Within 24 hours after the end of the competition the Technical Delegate(s) or Commissioner(s) shall send to the C.E.B. Secretary General and 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

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 Technical Commission.

Umpires shall arrive at least one-day prior of the settled date of Technical Meeting or in case a clinic is provided before the competition, the same date stated in the convocation.

Participation to the clinic is mandatory for all umpires assigned to the competition. The 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.

As for European Championships and for the Cup competitions are concerned, the travel expenses will be paid by C.E.B., while for all other competitions 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 Commissioner present, 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 C.E.B. Technical Commission.

At the end of each game, the chief umpire must fill the game-report-form. 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.

d. Scorekeepers

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 official scorer system approved by C.E.B.

The board of record-keepers shall consist of a sufficient number of qualified and trained scorekeepers to cover the competition, chosen and appointed by the Technical Commission from the list of International C.E.B. scorekeepers.

For each game the scorekeepers will be appointed by the Technical Commissioner present. The score-sheet will be transmitted to the Technical Commissioner immediately after the game.

At the end of the competition, in accordance with what has been established, the official scorekeeper shall indicate the name of the players who have excelled individually.

4. 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 Championships 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 Senior competition is 16 (sixteen) years in the year of the competition.

For official C.E.B. Club competitions what is provided in the specific competition rules will apply.

To establish the nationality of the players, their passport or identity card 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 canceled with the agreement of the initial National Federation and the approval of the C.E.B. Executive Committee (respectively the initial NOC and the Executive Board of the International Olympic Committee whenever it concerns the Olympic Games).
- 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 entered 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.

5. REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS FOR COMPETITIONS AND C.E.B. LICENCES

- a. The "C.E.B. INDIVIDUAL PLAYER REGISTRATION FORM" is obligatory for all the players participating in the official C.E.B. competitions.
 - b. 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. Secretariat as follows:
 - For the European Championship : 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 are banned from the competition.
 - c. Each year the Federations will send, at least 30 days before the club competition , the list of the selected players for the club competitions to the C.E.B. Secretariat as follows:
 - For official C.E.B. Club competitions: 40 players, from which 20 will be allowed to participate in the competition.

A minimum of 12 players is obligatory for Club teams. Teams with less than 12 players are banned from the competition.
 - d. The Federation or the Club that sends the list after the respective deadline will be sanctioned with a fine of 310 Euro for the Cadets and Juniors Championship and for European and Junior Championship 1.000 Euro and 500 Euro for all Qualifier competitions.
- The C.E.B. Secretariat will send in due time a sufficient number of individual registration forms (licences) to the participants. The participating teams will fill out the forms clearly (typed or printed letters).
- No player will be allowed to the competition when he has not been registered at the C.E.B. Secretariat.
- e. 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 Secretary General.

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

- I. Three copies of the final team roster on the C.E.B. approved form.
- II. A valid passport or identity card, which mentions the nationality for each athlete for verification by the Technical Committee.
- III. The allowed number of individual registration forms (licences) for each player on the final team roster.

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

- f. Other members of the delegation, such as officials, managers, coaches, trainers, equipment manager, doctor, masseur etc. shall appear on the final roster but do not need an individual registration form. All players 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 C.E.B. Technical Commission for approval and, before the next game, be informed to the chief umpire and the Technical Commissioner(s) of the game.
- g. 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 white 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.
- h. Teams not complying with registration as described above at the indicated date and hour of the accreditation session will be fined with 160 Euro.

6. PROTESTS

- a. Protests regarding the status of a player who is to participate in the Competitions, must be made to the C.E.B. 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 C.E.B. Technical Commission and be decided in accordance with the Official Rules of Baseball of the previous year and these Competition rules.
- c. Any protest shall be made in writing in English or French by a responsible official to the C.E.B. Technical Commission accompanied by a guarantee sum of 160 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.

7. EJECTIONS AND PENALTIES

List of the penalties to be imposed:

- a. Player or technician sent from the field for having insulted another player or technician:
 - first time in the competition - warning
 - second time in the competition - suspension for one game in the competition
 - third time in the competition - suspension for the rest of the competition.

-
- b. Player 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
 - second time in the competition – suspension for three games in the competition
 - third time in the competition – suspension for the rest of the competition.
 - c. Player or technician sent from the field for attempting aggression (with no physical contact) towards another player or technician:
 - first time in the competition – warning
 - second time in the competition – suspension for one game in the competition
 - third time in the competition – suspension for three games in the competition.
 - d. 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.
 - e. 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 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 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.

8. DOPING CONTROL

- a. 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 medical Officer, the Medical Official named by the C.E.B. (if any) and the Technical Commissioner(s) in charge of the game shall assemble in the box of the Technical Commission with an interpreter (when needed).
 - The numbers and complete names of each player included in the Final Team Roster (FTR) corresponding to both teams will be written in paper sheets.
 - The home team slips of paper will be folded, and the number of slips required by the regulation corresponding to each case shall be drawn by lot. The slips drawn will be given to the doping control medical Officer.
 - The same procedure will be repeated for the visiting team.
 - The slips drawn by lot shall be signed by the different parties and put into an envelope sealed by the doping control medical Officer, the C.E.B. Medical Official or the representative of the IBAF.
 - The names of the players drawn by lot 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.
- b. If a player drawn by lot gets seriously injured and needs to be immediately hospitalized, another player of the same team shall be drawn by lot at the end of the game. In such case medical evidence on the serious status of the injury have to be given to the C.E.B. Medical Officer.
- c. If a player drawn by lot is not on the site of the game, his team delegate shall advise him using all means available, so that the player appears 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 in the place, date and time as officially advised by the C.E.B. Medical Official to undergo the control, which in any case will be considered as a competition control for all purposes.

d. 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 positive result.

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.

e. During an official competition of any Baseball event under C.E.B. control, the frequency of doping controls shall be as follows: in the preliminary phase one game per day at random, one player per team at random. In the quarterfinal games, the semifinal games and the final games, two players per team at random.

f. As for the complete procedure and sanctions to apply in each case, the IBAF Anti Doping Rules shall apply.

9. TROPHIES AND AWARDS

- a. The leading hitter of the competition shall be determined by rule 10.23(a) of the Official Baseball Rules. Candidates for the batting title must be at bat 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 10.23(c) of the Official Baseball Rules.
- b. The pitcher with the best earned run average, and the pitcher with the best won and loss record of the series shall be determined in accordance with rule 10.23(b) of the Official Baseball Rules. Candidates for the earned run title must have the least as many as 80% 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 (baseball rule 10)
- e. Determination of the awards mentioned under a, b, c and d shall be based on the statistics at the end of the phase in which all teams have played the same amount of games.
- f. The most valuable player (MVP), outstanding defensive player and all-star players shall be selected by the Technical Commission.

For all European Championships:

First place	Team: Trophy + C.E.B. Challenge Trophy	Individual: Gold Medal (25)
Second place	Team: Trophy	Individual: Silver Medal (25)
Third place	Team: Trophy	Individual: Bronze Medal (25)

Individual Awards:

Leading hitter	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

For 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 European Cups:

First place Team: Trophy An individual remembrance for each registered player.

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

10. 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 Executive Committee.

For Seniors, Juniors and Cadets competitions the baseball field's dimensions are those approved by I.B.A.F. 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 C.E.B. Technical Commission prior to the start of the competition. These rules shall be printed in both English and French 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 bat carrier shall be furnished by the Organizing Committee. 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 the 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	- 45 minutes batting practice
Visiting team	- 45 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 (1a) 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 45 minutes followed by the visiting team for 45 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 Technical Commission at least 1 month in advance of the competition. After approval by the Technical Commission, the Secretary General shall circulate the practice schedules to all the participating teams.

h. Games schedule

The game schedule 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 official club competitions.

Between the Organizing Committee and the 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. Secretary General shall then circulate the approved schedule to all participating teams.

The 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 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 teams

All ties shall be settled as follows (in order):

1. The team that won the game between the teams tied, shall be given the higher position
2. The lowest runs allowed divided by the number of innings played in defence in the games between the teams tied

3. The lowest earned runs allowed divided by the number of innings played in defence in the games between the teams tied
4. Highest batting average in the games between the teams tied
5. A coin flip

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 lowest runs divided by innings played or lowest earned runs allowed divided by innings played or batting average the order to settle this tie between these remaining teams starts again at point 1.

j. Starting line-up

Managers shall file a tentative line-up with the official scorer at least 30 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 160 Euro.

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:

- reimbursement of the guarantee to the teams present and forfeits to the organizer
- 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 also point 3c.
- 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 (juveniles). All statistics (except winning and losing pitcher) up to the point that caused the forfeit shall be valid for that game.

11. 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)

a. Designated hitter

Rule 6.10 – Designated hitter is applicable only for the senior competitions.

b. Bat

The use of an aluminium bat is permitted only in Qualifier competitions and youth competitions.

c. Number of Innings for the Cadets qualifier and Juveniles

For the Cadet qualifier and Juveniles a regulation game consists of 7 innings.

d. Run difference rule

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 (for Juveniles see the specific regulations).

If after 5(five) complete innings for the visiting team or 4½ innings for the home team, there is a 20(twenty) runs score difference between the teams, the game is ended.

For Cadet qualifier and Juveniles: 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.

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

All games called because of darkness (no matter if it is a regulation game or not) must be suspended at any point after they have been started.

In case a game is called because of weather it must be taken into consideration, first of all, if the game has progressed long enough to become a regulation game: any game called because of weather before it becomes a regulation game, must be replayed from the beginning. If the game becomes a regulation game, it must be taken into consideration if the visitors have either tied the game or taken the lead in the uncompleted inning, and the home team has not had the chance to tie the game or retake the lead: in this case the game is a "suspended" game and will be continued at a later date established by the Technical Commission. If the called game is a regulation game the final score shall be the one of the last completed inning.

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 for the final three first teams placing 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:

- I. The 20-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.
- 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 game). 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. Two trips to the mound in the same inning, to the same pitcher, must result in the removal of the pitcher from the game.
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 V.
- VII. 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. Protective equipment

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

12. 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 310 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 160 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.

13. PUBLICITY AND T.V. RIGHTS

a. Radio and T.V. rights

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

The right can be transferred to the Organizing Committee on condition of a 30% participation for C.E.B. of the gross income.

The organiser is obliged to present the contract to C.E.B. for the liquidation of the account.

b. Publicity on uniforms and equipment

The I.B.A.F. 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

14. GENERAL DISPOSITION

Points a,b,c moved to 4. Obligations of Organizers page 5 point 4k

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.

The transfer given in writing by this Federation will include the information mentioned in the Annex 4.

If C.E.B. does not receive the copy of the official transfer, in accordance with Art. 25 of the Internal Rules, the player(s) will be deleted from the roster.

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

15. 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 IBAF World Cups and/or Championships and Olympic games the IBAF regulations will be strictly applied

16. C.E.B. COMPETITION TERMS

a. a.1 Registration

The closing day for entries shall be not later than December 31st prior to the start of the competition. Requirements for registration are as follows:

f. registered letter to the C.E.B. Secretary General, with copy to the Organizing Committee.

a.2 Organizing fee

European Championship - Euro 31.250

European Championship Juniors, Cadets and Juveniles and all Qualifier Competitions for National teams - Euro 440

a.3 Participating fee

European Championship - Euro 2.500

Qualifier for the European Championship - Euro 440

European Championship Juniors, Cadets, Juveniles and Qualifier competitions for National youth teams - Euro 280

European Cup - Euro 1.500

Qualifier for the European Cups competitions - Euro 440

Supercup - Euro 310

a.4 Guarantee fee or letter of Federation (only for participants not for Organizers)

European Championship - Euro 6.250

Qualifier for the European Championship - Euro 1.880

European Championship Juniors, Cadets, Juveniles and Qualifier competitions for National youth teams - Euro 630

European Cup - Euro 3.130

Qualifier for the European Cup competitions - Euro 1.250

In case of a withdrawal of a team, without notification at least three months before the start of the competition, the Federation involved will lose the guarantee. In case of a Federation guarantee letter, the Federation has to pay the guarantee sum on first demand of C.E.B. The Guarantee will be paid by C.E.B. to the Organiser.

Further the involved 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.

c. Formation of groups

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

Formation of groups:

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

d. Schedule system

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

Teams	Schedule system
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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

1. **EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS**

The European Championships are open only for national selections of the Federations of C.E.B. and are divided in Championships and Qualifier competitions and will play according to the competition system of art. 19.

a. **Championship**

1. **Period**

The European Championship takes place every two odd years.

2. **Participants**

The participants are the 10 first classified of the previous Championship and the 2 first classified of the last Qualifier.

3. Obligations of the Organiser of the Championship

See what is stated by item 3 and 4 of these competition rules. The 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.

In order to enforce these provisions, the Organizing Committee will cover the transportation expenses of the Executive Committee and the Technical Commission, from the country where they live to the place where the games are held, and back.

The Organising Committee also provides for its account: room, board and local transportation, as and when needed, for 5 (five) days, for the members of the Executive Committee and for the full period for the President and Secretary General of C.E.B.

The travel expenses shall be paid to them by the Organizing Committee, prior to their departure to the venue.

4. Umpire clinic

The Organizing Federation has the obligation to organise a clinic for umpires above all to standardise and in accordance with the umpiring mechanics.

This clinic will be held on the 3 (three) days preceding the start of the Championship. The Technical Commission will insure that the appointed C.E.B. umpires and national umpires of the country where the championship is held will participate at this clinic.

The costs for board and lodging of the one or two person(s) nominated by the Technical Commission, charged to make the clinic, and the appointed umpires for the championship are for the Organizing Committee.

b. Qualifier

1. Period

The Qualifier for the European Championship is played the year before the Championship on condition that at least 3 (three) National teams participate.

2. Participants

The qualifier is composed of the teams, which are not playing in the championship.

3. Obligations of the Organiser of the Qualifier.

The Executive Committee and the Technical Commission shall during the Qualifier for the European Championship see to it that the provisions governing the competition as well as the Official Baseball Rules, are closely observed.

4. Umpire clinic

The Organizing Federation has the obligation to organise a clinic for umpires above all to standardise and in accordance with the umpiring mechanics.

This clinic will be held on the 3 (three) days preceding the start of the Championship. The Technical Commission will insure that the appointed C.E.B. umpires for the competition as well as other international umpires from other countries and national umpires of the country where the championship is held will participate at this clinic.

The costs for board and lodging of the one or two person(s) nominated from the Technical Commission, charged to make the clinic, and the appointed umpires for the competition are for the Organizing Committee.

c. National Team Championships

Teams Competition System

12 First Phase:

The teams will be divided into two groups. Each group plays a single round-robin (5 games in 5 consecutive days). At the end of this phase and before the next phase begins, a rest day will be provided. At this stage the standings will be made.

Group 1 (A)	Group 2 (B)
1	1
2	2
3	3
4	4
5	5
6	6

Second Phase:

The top three teams of each group will form a new group and will play a single round-robin (three games in three consecutive days). 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 top two teams from this phase go on to play the third phase (see below). Team 5 & 6 do not play any more after this second phase. The games are played as follows:

1 A1 - B2 A1 is home team
 1 A2 - B3 A2 is home team
 1 A3 - B1 A3 is home team

2 B1 - A2 B1 is home team
 2 B2 - A3 B2 is home team
 2 B3 - A1 B3 is home team

3 A1 - B1

Home team is decided by drawing of lots

3 A2 - B2 Home team is decided by drawing of lots
 3 A3 - B3 Home team is decided by drawing of lots

The last three teams of each group will form a new group and will play a single round-robin (three games in three consecutive days) for positions 7 to 12. The teams that finish 11 and 12 will be relegated to the qualifier. 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. These teams will not play any more after this second phase. The games are played as follows:

1 A4 - B5 A4 is home team
 1 A5 - B6 A5 is home team
 1 A6 - B4 A6 is home team

2 B4 - A5 B4 is home team
 2 B5 - A6 B5 is home team
 2 B6 - A4 B6 is home team

3 A6 - B6

Home team is decided by drawing of lots

3 A5 - B5 Home team is decided by drawing of lots
 3 A4 - B4 Home team is decided by drawing of lots

Third Phase - (the 10th day of the Championship) :

Final game between the numbers 1 & 2 of the 2nd Phase for the gold and silver medal.
 Winner of this game is the European Champion.
 Final game between the numbers 3 & 4 of the 2nd Phase for the bronze medal

2. EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS JUNIORS

The European Championships Juniors is open only for National Junior teams of the Federations of C.E.B.

Championships

A Period

The European Championships Juniors take 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.

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

Teams Competition System

10 **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) 1st G1 - 2nd G2 1st G1 is home team
- (b) 1st G2 - 2nd G1 1st 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 to fifth in each group play each other for positions

5 to 10 as follows: The teams that finish 9 and 10 will be relegated to the Qualifier.

3rd G1 - 3rd G2

Home team in games is decided by drawing of lots

4th G1 - 4th G2 Home team in games is decided by drawing of lots

5th G1 - 5th G2 Home team in games is decided by drawing of lots

3. EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS CADETS

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

a. **Period**

The European Championships Cadets take 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**

The participants are the 6 first classified of the previous Championship and the 2 first classified 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.

Teams **Competition System**

8 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 and a rest day will be scheduled.

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

Second phase:

The first two teams of each group will play crossover game and final as follows:

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

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

The winners will play for gold and silver medals and the losers play for bronze and fourth place (two games in two consecutive days, including the semi-final).

(c) W(a) - W(b)

Home team is decided by drawing of lots.

(d) L(a) - L(b)

Home team 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 B-Pool.

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

Promotion and relegation:

The teams that finished 7th and 8th are relegated to the next Qualifier.

4. QUALIFIER FOR THE EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS, JUNIORS ,CADETS ,AND JUVENILES

A For these qualifying competitions the Technical Commission will decide yearly the format of the competition based upon the number of subscriptions. These competition 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 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 Technical Commission will form regional groups.

B Promotion and Relegation:

The winner and runner-up of the Qualifier competition are promoted to the Championship. In case the Qualifier is played in two different countries, the winner of each group is promoted to the Championship.

5. EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP JUVENILES

The European Championship Juveniles is open only for National Juveniles teams of the Federations of C.E.B.

a. Period

The European Championships Juveniles take 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.

c. Rules of Baseball

The games will be played after the Official Baseball Rules for Juveniles, planned by C.E.B. However we point out the following dispositions:

1. 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.

2. Pitchers

- any player on a team roster may pitch
- if a player pitches less than 4 (four) innings, one calendar day of rest is mandatory
- if a pitcher pitches 4 (four) or more innings, three calendar days of rest must be observed
- a player may pitch in a maximum of 9 (nine) innings in a calendar week, Sunday through Saturday. Delivery of a single pitch constitutes having pitched in an inning. Example:

if a player pitched in four or more innings on:	And is still eligible, that Player can pitch again on:
Sunday	Thursday
Monday	Friday
Tuesday	Saturday
Wednesday	Sunday
Thursday	Monday
Friday	Tuesday
Saturday	Wednesday

- if a pitcher pitches before the allowed date the team concerned will lose the game
- a player once removed as a pitcher may not pitch again in the same game.

3. Differences for Juveniles to Official Baseball Rules

Bats: no more than 33 inches in length.

1.00 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.

7.05 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.

7.13 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.

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.

c. 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.

8.05 ABROGATED (m)

4. 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 4.12)

5. 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.

6. Field dimension

From home-plate to fence: 61 m.

Pitcher's plate: 15,20 cm. Above home-plate level

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

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

Distance between bases: 18,30 m.

6. EUROPEAN CLUB COMPETITIONS AND QUALIFIER COMPETITIONS

European Cup - Cupwinners Cup - C.E.B.-Cup - Super Cup

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

The European Cups, except the Super Cup, are played in two categories, Championship and Qualifiers and established in function of the technical level and development of baseball of the C.E.B. member Federations.

- g. The European Cup for national champion teams of the highest division, of the previous year, plus the winner of the former European Cup.
- h. The Cupwinners Cup for the champion teams of the National Cup competition, or if not organized, for the runner-up of the national championship of the highest division of the previous year, plus the team that won the former Cupwinners Cup.
- i. The C.E.B.-Cup for the runner-up or the third classified team of the national championship of the highest division, of the previous year, plus the team that won the former C.E.B.-Cup.
- j. The Super Cup for the winner of the European Cup A-Pool and the winner of the Cupwinners Cup A-Pool of the previous year.

a. Period

The Cup Competitions will be played in the week, ending the third full weekend of the month of June. The games of the competition will be played in one or more cities, which have a distance between them of no more than 100 kilometres.

The date and site of the games of the Super Cup will be decided by the two participating teams before the Annual Congress and approved by the Technical Commission. In case no agreement between the two teams has been reached, the decision will be taken by the Technical Commission.

If a team does not accept the decision the other team will be declared champion. If both teams do not accept the decision there will be no Super Cup that year.

b. Participants

B1 The respective category of the Cups are composed of 8 (eight) teams; the 6 (six) first classified of the previous year, including the winner of the previous Cup, plus the first two classified countries of the Qualifier of the previous year. In case the team which won the previous Cup qualifies at the same time as participant, the next classified team of that country will participate.

B2 Will be allowed to participate in the Qualifier, all teams qualified in their respective categories from the countries not participating in the Cup.

If a team qualified for the Cup it will not be allowed to subscribe for participation in the Qualifier.

In case a team renounces to participate, in writing, it can be replaced by the following team in the classification of the country concerned.

B3 The Federation of the Clubs which has the right to participate in the Cup will enforce the participation of their Club.

In case a subscription to the Cup does not arrive at the C.E.B. Secretariat before the fixed date foreseen by these Rules the C.E.B. Secretary General will warn the President of the National Federation involved, to enforce the participation or subscription of the team.

B4 In case a country renounces to participate in the Cup it will be replaced by a country (Club) of the Qualifier, following the classification in the previous competition and the renouncing country (Club) will go to the Qualifier the next year. If this happens, the two countries concerned will go to the last place in the organisation-rotation-list of the new Pool.

In case a country refuses to participate in the Cup, this country cannot organise a Qualifier the next year, unless it is the only candidate.

B5 The Qualifier for the European Cups will be organized each year on condition that at least four teams subscribe.

B6 The two last classified of the Cup will play the next year in the Qualifier.

The two first classified of the Qualifier will play the next year in the Cup, provided there is only one group. In case of two Qualifier groups the winner of each group goes to the Cup.

B7 The two countries that promote to the Cup will take the two last places in the rotation list of the organisers of the Cup.

For the Qualifier there is no rotation list.

c. Organizing country

The indication of the Organizing country for the Cups will be done by rotation. This means that each year another country will be chosen.

The official rotation list for the organisation will be published separately each year.

The countries listed as organisers for the Cups shall confirm the intention of their entitled club to organise the respective Cup and indicate the venue(s) before November 1st. Without confirmation at this date the organisation will go to following listed country.

For the Qualifier 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 Cup the Technical Commission will, based on vast criteria, assign the organiser.

The organizers will inform C.E.B., before the end 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. Players

D1 Eligibility

All the players participating in the European Cups shall be:

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

In case of a complaint, the information asked by C.E.B. to the National Federation, will rule.

D2 Team composition

Each team will be composed of a minimum of 12 (twelve) players and a maximum of 20 (twenty) players. (See art. 14).

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

D3 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, are considered foreign players.

The roster with the regular team of the national competition and in which the players must have played for their club in the year the cup is held, shall be received at the C.E.B. Secretariat at the latest one month before the start of the competition. There is no limitation of foreign players (with an official C.E.B. transfer) as long as the foreign player has played for the club in the year the cup is held. The Federation is signing the roster and confirms herewith that the players are regularly registered in the national competition with their club the running year of participating in the cup competition

Team not complying with this rule will pay a fine of 1.000 Euro for the Cups and 500 Euro for the Qualifier.

e. Competition system

The competition of the Cups will start on Tuesday to end on Saturday or Wednesday to end on Sunday, which means five consecutive playing days without a day of rest. Respectively Sunday or Monday will be used for rescheduled games, if any.

The competition system follows the rules of chapter 19.

The organisers of the Cups and Qualifiers can change the order of a day, on condition that the change is announced to the Technical Commission 30 (thirty) days before the competition.

Changes in the schedule by transferring games from one day to another are not allowed.

In the Super Cup, the two clubs play for the winner of "two out of three games". The first game shall be played on the field of the winner of the Cup winners Cup, and the second, and eventual the third game, on the field of the winner of the European Cup.

Teams Competition System (Cups and Qualifiers)

8 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.

No extra rest day will be provided.

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

Second phase:

The first two teams of each group will play crossover game and final as follows:

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

In the Cups, the winners will play for gold and silver medals and the losers play for bronze and fourth place (two games in two consecutive days, including the semi-final).

(c) W(a) - W(b)

Home team is decided by drawing of lots.

(d) L(a) - L(b)

Home team 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 Qualifier.

The single round-robin will be played as follows:

3rd G1 - 4th G2 3rd G1 is home team

3rd G2 - 4th G1 3rd G2 is home team

3rd G1 - 3rd G2 Home team to be decided by drawing of lots

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

If one or more teams withdraw or do not participate the final standing of the previous year will be adapted accordingly. The two promoted teams will be placed in one group each by drawing of lots.

With two teams from one country in the same Cup, the following rules must be observed:

1. The two teams will be placed in one group each according the final standing of last year or by drawing of lots.
2. The winner (country) of the previous Cup will always have the right to have two teams in the next Cup even if the second team from that country was relegated. If the second team finished 7th or 8th, three teams (6th, 7th and 8th) will be relegated that year.
3. If the champion of the previous Cup does not participate, that country can still be represented by two teams.

In the Qualifier the two relegated teams from the Cups will be placed in one group each by drawing of lots.

The rest of the teams will be placed in the groups according of the draw of lots between the teams finishing in the same position in the two groups (3rd G1 – 3rd G2 etc.) in the previous competition. New teams will be placed in the groups according to the draw of lots.

In case the Qualifier is played in two different countries, regional groups will be formed by the Technical Commission. The competition system designed for that number of teams will be used.

Promotion and relegation:

The winners of the cross-over games in the Qualifier are promoted to the Cups. In case the Qualifier is played in two different countries, only the winner of each competition is promoted to the Cup.

The teams that finished 7th and 8th in the Cup are relegated to the Qualifier.

Teams Competition System.

7	<u>First phase:</u>	Group 1	Group 2
	The seven teams will be divided into two groups. Each group will play a single round-robin (3 games in 3 consecutive days)	1	1
	At the end of this phase the standings will be made.	2	2
	No extra rest day will be provided.	3	3
		4	

Second phase:

The first two teams of each group will play crossover game and final as follows:

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

In the Cups, the winners will play for gold and silver medals and the losers play for bronze and fourth place (two games in two consecutive days, including the semi-final).

- (c) W(a) - W(b)

Home team is decided by drawing of lots.

- (d) L(a) - L(b)

Home team is decided by drawing of lots.

The teams that finished third in each group and the team that finished fourth play a single round-robin (counting the game already played between the two teams of the same group) to decide which teams will be relegated to the Qualifier. The second round robin will be played as follows:

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

Promotion and relegation:

The winner of the crossover games in the Qualifier are promoted to the Cup. In case the Qualifier is played in two different countries, only the winner of each competition is promoted to the Cup.

The last two teams of the second round robin in the Cup are relegated to the Qualifier.

Teams Competition System

6	<u>First phase:</u>	Group 1
5	The teams play a single round-robin to decide the winner and all other position without day of rest.	1
4		2
		3
		4
		5
		6

Second phase:

The first two teams play a best-of-three final series for the gold and silver medals. The results of the former game between the two teams is valid, and home team in the other two games is decided as follows:

- 2nd game Home team will be the team that was not home team in the former game
- 3rd game Home team will be decided by drawing of lots

In case of four teams participating the two last classified teams play the best of three and the result of the former game between the same teams counts.

Promotion and relegation:

The winner of the Qualifier is promoted to the Cup.

The last two teams of the Cup are relegated to the Qualifier.

With only 6 (or fewer) teams in the Qualifier, only one team is promoted to the Cup. Consequently, in the corresponding competition of the Cup, only one team will be relegated to the Qualifier. Therefore the final standings will be used.

Teams Competition System

- 3 Double round-robin
- 2 Best-of-three series
- 1 Best-of-three series, against the last team of the Cup of the corresponding competition.