

COMPETITION RULES

(Release on December 31, 2002)

1. C.E.B OFFICIAL COMPETITIONS

- a. The International Competitions and Championships of the C.E.B. will be organized applying these norms, which are obligatory for the participating Federations, members of the Technical Commission, the Officials, the Local Organizing Committee and all of the people in the administration and direction of C.E.B. Competitions.
- b. The National Federation affiliated to the C.E.B., which manifest interest in organizing any approved, official competition must accept in writing, their acceptance of the established norms and must comply with what is expressed in the Bidding Procedure.
- c. According to these norms the European Baseball Confederation authorises its affiliated Federations to organise International European competitions as follows:
 1. Championships for National Selections
 - European Championships SENIORS, held every 2 years.
 - European Championships JUNIORS, held every 2 years.
 - European Championships CADETS, held every 2 years.
 - European Championships JUVENILES, held annually.
 2. Official Cup Competitions
 - C.E.B. SUPER CUP, held annually.
 - EUROPEAN CUP, held annually.
 - CUPWINNERS CUP, held annually.
 - C.E.B. CUP, held annually.
- d. C.E.B. International Competitions for National Selections will be entrusted by C.E.B. to the Federations or Associations member of C.E.B., while Club Competitions will be assigned to Clubs affiliated to Federations or Associations member of C.E.B. that are entitled. The National Federations or Associations 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 Local Organizing Committees are encharged of the competitions management, including C.E.B. Official Club Competitions.

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

- a. Member 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". (Annex 1)
- b. Candidature for Senior European Championships A Pool must be presented before November 1st four years prior to the year of the competition; for Juniors A-Pool, Cadets and Juveniles before November 1st two years prior to the year of the competition. For the Senior European Championship B Pool, Juniors B-Pool and official Club competitions within the year prior to the competition, following forecast schedule.
- c. For Championship for National Selections the General Assembly 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 General Assembly or should the selected country renounce, the site will be chosen by the Executive Committee.

European Championships Seniors and Juniors cannot be held twice in succession in the same country, unless exceptional circumstances.
- d. The organisation of the Championships is entrusted by C.E.B. to the National Federation in-

volved. The National 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 Organizing 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 full report will be prepared for the C.E.B. Executive Committee by the Organizing Committee within one month 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 one year in advance to the opening day of the Championship, unless exceptional circumstances.
- b. To have availability of ratified playing grounds for the assigned Championship.
- c. To receive the members of the Technical Commission entrusted with the control of the playing grounds for due ratification.
- d. To plan the competition schedule as set up at item 13(h) of these rules for due 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.

- e. Ensure against all kind of risks and general liability 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.

- f. To receive the C.E.B. officials before the competition and guarantee their corresponding functions during the event.
- g. Create, print and distribute an official program for the competition.
- h. To supply adequate arrangements for the press, radio and television commentators.
- i. To provide medical aid and police guard at the playgrounds during all games.
- j. To distribute any communication of the Technical Commission at all time and 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 the representatives of the press, radio and T.V.
- k. To supply a general summary of the technical details of the Championships, immediately after the Championships has ended, to the persons mentioned under j.
- l. 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 and a copy to the Organizing country's Embassies located in the participating country, at the request of the concerned country.
- p. To comply with specific rules and financial obligations established for said competition. The National 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 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.

4. 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 to all B-competitions.
- e. Assume the cost for travel expenses of the appointed Technical Delegate(s) and/or Commissioner(s) as foreseen (see item 6 a.).
- 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 to maintain 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.

5. OBLIGATIONS OF THE NATIONAL FEDERATIONS OR CLUBS PARTICIPATING IN A C.E.B. COMPETITION

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

- a. To subscribe within the term established by each competition rule.
- b. Pay at the prescribed time the fees related to participation, which correspond to each competition.
- c. Each National Federation or Club will register its players following item 8 of these rules.
- d. 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.
- e. The participating team pay their own expenses: international travel, board, and lodging.
- f. 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 Seniors A-Pool and for the official C.E.B. Club competitions A-Pool are for the account of the C.E.B., while travel expenses for Seniors B-Pool, Juniors, Cadets and Juveniles Championships and for other C.E.B. Club competitions B-Pool are at charge of each participating country or participating 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.

- g. 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.
- h. 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.
- i. Supply the Organizing Committee, on arrival, the country flag 2.50 x 1.50 mt. and cassette 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.

- j. 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, Organizing Committee or C.E.B. is responsible for the financial situation of any participating delegation or team.

6. COMPETITION OFFICIALS: TECHNICAL COMMISSION-UMPIRES-SCOREKEEPERS

a. 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 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 Delegate(s) or/and Commissioner(s) for all Youth Championships (Juniors, Cadets, Ju-

veniles) 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 Host 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 one hour after the end of the competition the Technical Delegate(s) or Commissioner(s) shall send - via fax - 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 by mail.

b. 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 host country 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 fine of up to 160 Euro to the National Federation of the involved umpire(s) and a suspension of the individual from participation at C.E.B. competitions.

As for European Senior Championships A-Pool and for the official Club competitions A-Pool 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 indication 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 pertaining to him. 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.

c. Scorekeepers

The Host 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 scoresheet 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.

7. ELIGIBILITY

- a. 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.

- b. To establish the nationality of the players, their passport or another official nationality document, issued by the governmental authorities, shall be presented to the Technical Commission.
- c. The players who represent a country shall be citizen of the same country they represent, by birth or naturalisation. In case of naturalisation of a player, he is qualified to represent a country when:
 - He has acquired the nationality of a country and at least a period of three years has passed since his demand for naturalisation.
 - A period of one year has passed since the date he last wore the colours of his former country.

The only exception would be, when the nationality of a player has changed involuntarily, but by an international decision giving independence to a country or making provision for the detachment of a region or part of a country, and which thereby becomes part of another country.

In this case the player may choose to represent the country to which he belongs or belonged. However he may, if he prefers, choose to represent his country or his new Federation. This choice can only be made once.

- d. For players with a dual citizenship the I.B.A.F. and I.O.C. rules will be enforced.
- e. All disputes relating to the determination of the country which a competitor may represent in the C.E.B. competitions shall be resolved by the C.E.B. Technical Delegate(s) or Commissioner(s) appointed to the competition.

Any protest regarding the eligibility of an athlete shall be filed with the Technical Commission prior to the conclusion of the competition.

In any case, it is the duty and responsibility of the National Delegation or Federation, officially protesting the ineligibility of a player, to produce valid proof by documentation and evidence of the violation in written form immediately when filing the protest.

- f. 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 and will not be allowed to participate in any game of the competition. The violation shall be reported to the C.E.B. Executive Committee for further action.

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 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 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 National Federations will send, at least one month before the competition, the list of the selected players for their team to the C.E.B. Secretariat (Annex 2) as follows:

- For 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.
 - For official C.E.B. Club competitions: 30 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.
- c. The National Federation or the Club that sends the list less than one month before the competition will be sanctioned with a fine of 310 Euro for the Cadets and Juveniles Championship and for Senior and Junior Championship 1.000 Euro in A-Pool and 500 Euro in B-Pool.
- 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.
- 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 Secretary General.
- The team-delegate shall present to the Technical Commission at that time the following:
- I. Three copies of the final roster on the C.E.B. approved form. (Annex 3)
 - 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 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.
- e. **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.
- 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 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.
- g. Teams not complying with registration as described above at the indicated date and hour of the accreditation session will be fined with 160 Euro.

9. PROTESTS

- a. **Protests regarding the status of a player who is to participate in the Championships, 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 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 when the protest is rejected.

- d. In case of a 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 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. 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.

11. DOPING CONTROL

For games in which drug testing is used, the following procedures shall be followed:

- a. At the end of the eighth inning (or earlier if the game is a called game) representatives of each team and a representative of the doping control shall assemble at the box of the Technical Commission. Numbers, corresponding to the uniform numbers of each player who has participated in the game from the home team, shall be put on a piece of and a representative of that team shall draw a number from a hat and the player wearing that number shall be tested; the same procedure shall be repeated for the visiting team.
- b. A Technical Delegate or Commissioner shall sign the form of the doping control officer attesting the selection of the player.
- c. Any player who tests positive for doping and/or drugs prohibited by the IOC rules during international

baseball competition, will bring about the following results:

1. All games of the competition in which the athlete participated will be forfeited.
2. In the first offence, the player shall be suspended for the duration of the competition and will be given a two year suspension from all C.E.B. competitions.
3. If a player tests positive a second time following the two year suspension, he will receive a life time suspension from all C.E.B. competitions.

12. 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 preliminary round(s).
- f. The most valuable player (MVP), outstanding defensive player and all-star players shall be selected by the Technical Commission.

For European Championships SENIORS, JUNIORS and CADETS:

First place	Team: 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

First place	Team: Trophy
Second place	Team: Trophy
Third place	Team: Trophy

Due to the age of the participants no award shall be given to players on the basis of comparable skills or accomplishments. Honour certificates, team pictures, inexpensive medals or pins give adequate recognition and provide lasting memento from C.E.B. for all players.

For all European Cups:

First place Team: Trophy

An individual badge for each registered player to put on his own uniform.

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 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 Host 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.

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 Host 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, a draw will be held to 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 Host 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 Host 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 the team is willing to do so. In all the schedules the Home team is mentioned in the first place except when it concerns play-off games. In this case the Home Team will be indicated by the Technical Commission 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 one team is selected for the higher or lower position the order to settle the tie between the 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
- 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

I. 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.

14. COMPETITION REGULATIONS (PLAYING RULES)

The games will be played following the Official Rules of Baseball of the year prior to the year the Championships 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 B Pool and youth competitions.

c. 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 the Juveniles see the specific regulations).

Only for Cadets, in addition of previous rules if there is a 20 runs score difference between the teams after 5 (five) complete innings or after 4½ innings with the home team ahead the game is ended.

d. Dug-outs

During the Technical meeting, the Technical Commission will decide, together with the competing teams, where the home team will be stationed: 1st or 3rd base dugout.

Usually 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.

e. 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 and agreed upon by both teams affected by this measure.

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.

f. 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.

g. Protective equipment

Double ear-flap helmets will be mandatory for the hitter and the baserunners.

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 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.

16. 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 or one at the back
- NO publicity on the caps
- For the warm-up jackets the same as for the shirt

17. GENERAL DISPOSITION

a. Transportation

The terms "international transportation" or "travel expenses" always means:

- 1st class travel expenses railway or boat, including meals en route or boat
- economy class aircraft (not pex or superpex and shall allow change of booking).

b. Accommodation

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

c. Food

Meals are to be provided either in hotel, restaurants or on the field, anyhow arrangements for ap-

pointed 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.

d. Transfer of players from one country to another

A player registered with a National 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.

18. APPLICATION OF THESE RULES

Any matters not provided for in these rules, shall be decide by the C.E.B. Executive Committee.

19. C.E.B. COMPETITION SYSTEMS

a. Senior National Team Competition A-Pool

Teams Competition System

12	<u>First Phase:</u>	Group 1	Group 2
11	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.	1	1
		2	2
		3	3
		4	4
		5	5
		6	6

Second Phase:

the top four teams of each group play as follows:

- (a) 1st G1 - 4th G2 1st G1 is home team
- (b) 2nd G2 - 3rd G1 2nd G2 is home team
- (c) 1st G2 - 4th G1 1st G2 is home team
- (d) 2nd G1 - 3rd G2 2nd G1 is home team
- (e) W(a) - W(b) Home team is decided by drawing of lots
- (f) W(c) - W(d) Home team is decided by drawing of lots
- (g) L(a) - L(b) Home team is decided by drawing of lots
- (h) L(c) - L(d) Home team is decided by drawing of lots

The last two teams of each group will form a new group and will play a single round-robin (two games in two consecutive days) for positions 9 to 12. The teams that finish 11 and 12 will be relegated to the B-Pool. The result of the former game between the two teams of the same group is valid: these teams do not play against each other any further in this phase. These teams are finished playing after this phase. The games are played as follows:

- 5th G1 - 6th G2 5th G1 is home team
- 5th G2 - 6th G1 5th G2 is home team
- 5th G1 - 5th G2 Home team decided by drawing of lots
- 6th G1 - 6th G2 Home team decided by drawing of lots

Third Phase

- (i) W(e) - W(f) Game for gold and silver medals
- (j) L(e) - L(f) Game for bronze and fourth place

- (k) W(g) - W(h) Game for fifth and sixth place
 (l) L(g) - L(h) Game for the seventh and eighth place

Formation of groups:

Each group will be formed according to the standings of the previous competitions. The two promoted teams 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

Teams Competition System

10 **First Phase:**

the teams will be divided into two groups. Each group plays a single round-robin (4 games in 5 consecutive days). At the end of this phase the standings will be made. No extra rest day will be provided since all teams have already had a rest day each.

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

Second phase:

the teams that finished third to fifth in each group play each other for positions 5 to 10 as follows:

- 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

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

- 1st G1 - 2nd G2
 1st G2 - 2nd G1

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). The home team of the crossover game is the first of each group, while the home team for the final and the bronze-match will be decided by drawing of lots.

Formation of groups:

The groups are formed according to the 12-team system.

b. Youth National Team Competition (Juniors, Cadets, Juveniles)

Teams Competition System

12 **First Phase:**

10 The teams will be divided into two groups. Each group plays a
 8 single round-robin (without a day of rest). At the end of this phase, and before the next phase begins, a rest day will be provided (except with ten teams). At this stage the standings will be made.

Group 1	Group 2
1	1
2	2
3	3
4	4
5	5
6	6

Second phase:

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

- (a) 1st G1 - 2nd G2 1st G1 is home team
 (b) 1st G2 - 2nd G1 2nd 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 games (c) and (d) is decided by drawing of lots.

The teams that finished third to sixth in each group play each other for positions 5 to 12 as follows:

- 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
- 6th G1 - 6th G2 Home team in games is decided by drawing of lots

Formation of groups:

Each group will be formed according to the standings of the previous competition as follows:

A-Pool: the promoted teams will be placed in one group each by drawing of lots

B-Pool: the relegated teams 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

In case the B-Pool 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 crossover games in the B-Pool are promoted to the A-Pool. In case the B-Pool Competition is played in two different countries, the winner of each group is promoted to the A-Pool. The two last teams of the A-Pool are relegated to the B-Pool.

Teams Competition System

11 **First Phase:**

9 the teams will be divided into two groups. Each group plays a
7 single round-robin (without a day of rest).

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
5	5
6	

Second phase:

The teams that finished third and fourth in each group play each other for position 5 to 8 as follows:

- 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

The two last teams in group 1 (with one more team) and the last team of group 2 play a single round-robin (two games in two consecutive days) for the last three places in the final standings. The result of the former game between the two teams of the same group is valid: these teams do not play against each other any further in this phase. The games are played in the following order:

The last classified of Group 2 plays the last classified of Group 1 and the last classified of Group 2 plays the second last classified of Group 1.

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
- (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 games (c) and (d) is decided by drawing of lots.

Formation of groups:

The groups will be formed according to the system with 12, 10 or 8 teams above.

In case the B-Pool competition 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 crossover games in the B-Pool are promoted to the A-Pool. In case the B-Pool Competition is played in two different countries, the winner of each group is promoted to the A-Pool. The last two teams of the second round-robin in the A-Pool are relegated to the B-Pool.

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 positions, without a day of rest.	1
4		2
		<hr style="width: 100%;"/>
		3
		4
		5
		6

Second phase:

the first two teams play a best-of-three final series for the gold and silver medals. The result 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 4 teams participating the two last classified teams play the best of three and the result of the former game between the two same teams counts.

Promotion and relegation:

The last team in the A-Pool is relegated to the B-Pool.

With 6 (or fewer) teams in the B-Pool, only one team will be promoted to the A-Pool. Consequently, in the corresponding competition of the A-Pool, only one team will be relegated to the B-Pool. 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 A-Pool of the corresponding competition.

c. Senior National Team Competition B-Pool

Teams Competition System

12	<u>First Phase:</u>	Group 1	Group 2
10	the teams will be divided into two groups. Each group plays a	1	1
8	single round-robin (without a day of rest)	2	2
	At the end of this phase, and before the next phase begins a rest	<hr/>	<hr/>
	day will be provided. At this stage the standings will be made.	3	3
		4	4
		5	5
		6	6

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 sixth in each group play each other for positions 5 to 12 as follows:

- 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
- 6th G1 - 6th G2 Home team in games is decided by drawing of lots

Formation of groups:

Each group will be formed according to the standings of the previous competition.

The two relegated teams will be placed in one group each by drawing of lots.

Group 1	Group 2
Relegated team	Relegated team
4 th	3 rd
5 th	6 th
8 th	7 th
9 th	10 th
12 th	11 th

In case the B-Pool competition 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:

The first and second team in the B-Pool are promoted to the A-Pool. In case the B-Pool competition is played in two different countries, the winner of each group is promoted to the A-Pool.

Teams Competition System

11	<u>First Phase:</u>	Group 1	Group 2
9	the teams will be divided into two groups. Each group plays a	1	1
7	single round-robin (without a rest day). At the end of this phase	2	2
	the standings will be made. No extra rest day will be provided.	3	3
		4	4
		5	5
		6	

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 games (c) and (d) is decided by drawing of lots.

The teams that finished third and fourth in each group play each other for positions 5 to 8 as follows:

- 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

The two last teams in group 1 (with one more team) and the last team of group 2 play a single round-robin (two games in two consecutive days) for the last three places in the final standings. The result of the former game between the two teams of the same group is valid: these teams do not play against each other any further in this phase. The games are played as follows:

Last classified of Group 2 plays last classified of Group 1 and last classified of Group 2 plays second last classified of Group 1.

Formation of Groups:

The groups will be formed according to the system with 12, 10 or 8 teams above.

In case the B-Pool competition 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 B-Pool are promoted to the A-Pool. In case the B-Pool competition is played in two different countries, the winner of each group is promoted to the A-Pool. The last two teams of the second round-robin in the A-Pool are relegated to the B-Pool.

Teams Competition System

6	<u>First Phase:</u> The teams play a single round-robin to decide the winner and all other positions, without a day of rest.	Group 1
5		1
4		2
		<hr style="width: 100%; border: 1px solid black;"/>
		3
		4
		5
		6

Second phase:

The first two teams play a best-of-three final series for the gold and silver medals.

The result 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 4 teams participating the two last classified teams play the best of three and the result of the former game between the two same teams counts.

Promotion and relegation:

The winner in the B-Pool are promoted to the A-Pool.

The last team in the A-Pool is relegated to the B-Pool. 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 A-Pool of the corresponding competition.

d. Club Competition A-Pool and B-Pool

Teams Competition System (A- and B-Pool)

8	<u>First phase:</u> 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.	<table border="0"> <tr> <td style="border-right: 1px solid black; padding-right: 5px;">Group 1</td> <td style="padding-left: 10px;">Group 2</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border-right: 1px solid black; padding-right: 5px;">1</td> <td style="padding-left: 10px;">1</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border-right: 1px solid black; padding-right: 5px;">2</td> <td style="padding-left: 10px;">2</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border-right: 1px solid black; padding-right: 5px;">3</td> <td style="padding-left: 10px;">3</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border-right: 1px solid black; padding-right: 5px;">4</td> <td style="padding-left: 10px;">4</td> </tr> </table>	Group 1	Group 2	1	1	2	2	3	3	4	4
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 A-Pool, 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:

- 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

Formation of Groups:

In A-pool each group will be formed according to the standings of the previous competition as follows:

Group 1	Group 2
1 st	2 nd
4 th	3 rd
5 th	6 th

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 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 B-Pool the two relegated teams from the A-Group 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 B-Pool 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 B-Pool are promoted to the A-Pool. In case the B-Pool competition is played in two different countries, the winner of each group is promoted to the A-Pool.

The teams that finished 7th and 8th in the A-Pool are relegated to the B-Pool. (See also "Formation of Groups")

Teams Competition System (A- and B-Pool)

7 **First phase:**

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

Group 1	Group 2
1	1
2	2
3	3
4	

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

No extra rest day will be provided.

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 A-Pool, 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 B-Pool. 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

Formation of Groups:

In A-pool each group will be formed according to the standings of the previous competition as follows:

Group 1	Group 2
1 st	2 nd
4 th	3 rd

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

promoted teams will also be placed in one group each by drawing of lots..

In the B-Pool the two relegated teams will be placed in one group each by drawing of lots. The rest of the teams will be placed in the groups according to 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 B-Pool 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 winner of the cross-over games in the B-Pool are promoted to the A-Pool. In case the B-Pool competition is played in two different countries, the winner of each group is promoted to the A-Pool.

The last two teams of the second round-robin in the A-Pool are relegated to the B-Pool.

Teams Competition System (A- and B-Pool)

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

The last two teams of the A-Pool are relegated to the B-Pool.

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

Teams Competition System (A- and B-Pool)

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

No more than 5 days can be used for a club competition. In the B-Pool, with only 6 teams, there cannot be a second phase (no final best-of-three series).

e. 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
-------	-----------------

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 SENIORS

The European Championships Seniors are open only for national selections of the National Federations members of C.E.B. and are divided in A-Pool and B-Pool and will play according to the competition system of art. 19a.

a. **A-Pool**

1. **Period**

The European Championships Seniors A-Pool takes place every two odd years.

2. **Participants**

The participants are the 10 first classified of the previous A-Championship and the 2 first classified of the last B-Championship. The two teams promoted from the B-Pool will be placed each in a group by drawing of lots.

Group 1

1st previous Championship A
 4th previous Championship A
 5th previous Championship A
 8th previous Championship A
 9th previous Championship A
 Previous Championship B

Group 2

2nd previous Championship A
 3rd previous Championship A
 6th previous Championship A
 7th previous Championship A
 10th previous Championship A
 previous Championship B

3. **Registration**

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

- registered letter to the C.E.B. Secretary General, with copy to the Organizing Committee
- payment of the entry-fee to C.E.B. of 2.500 Euro and the guarantee of 6.250 Euro.
- a team which does not fulfil all its obligations will pay to C.E.B. a fine of 630 Euro

The Federation which organises the European Championship Seniors A-Pool is furthermore due to C.E.B. organisation tax of 31.250 Euro.

In case of withdrawal, without notification at least two years before the start of the competition the Federation will be suspended for 4 (four) years of all international activity.

4. Penalties

In case of a withdrawal of a team, without notification of no attendance at least three months before the start of the competition, the Federation involved will lose the guarantee of 6.250,- Euro.

Further the team (Federation) in question will be suspended of all Senior international activity for 2 (two) years.

5. Obligations of the Organiser of the A-Pool

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 Seniors A-Pool 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.

6. Obligations of the National Federations participating

See what is stated by item 5 of these competition rules

7. Umpire clinic

The Organizing National Federation has the obligation to organise a clinic for umpires above all to standardise and to conform 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 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. B-Pool

1. Period

The European Championship Seniors B-Pool is played the year before the A-Pool on condition that at least 3 (three) National teams participate.

2. Participants

The B-Pool is composed of the teams which are not playing in the A-Pool.

3. Registration

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

- registered letter to the C.E.B. Secretary General, with copy to the Organizing Committee
- payment of the entry-fee to C.E.B. of 440 Euro and the guarantee of 1.880 Euro.
- a team which does not fulfil all its obligations will pay to C.E.B. a fine of 630,- Euro

The Federation, which organises the European Championship Seniors B-Pool, is furthermore due to C.E.B. an organization tax of 440 Euro.

4. Penalties

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 of 1.880 Euro.

Further the team (Federation) in question will be suspended of all senior international activity during 2 (two) years.

5. Obligations of the Organiser of the B-Pool

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 Seniors B-Pool see to it that the provisions governing the competition as well as the Official Baseball Rules, are closely observed.

6. Obligations of the National Federations participating

See what is stated by item 5 of these competition rules

7. Umpire clinic

The Organizing National Federation has the obligation to organise a clinic for umpires above all to standardise and to conform 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 championship are for the Organizing Committee.

21. EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS JUNIORS

The European Championships Juniors is open only for National Junior teams of the National Federations members of C.E.B. and are divided in two Pools: A and B.

b. A-Pool

1. 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.

2. Participants

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.

The 10 teams are divided in the groups based on the final standings of the previous championship as follows:

Group 1

1st previous Championship A
4th previous Championship A
5th previous Championship A
8th previous Championship A
Previous Championship B

Group 2

2nd previous Championship A
3rd previous Championship A
6th previous Championship A
7th previous Championship A
previous Championship B

3. Registration

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

- registered letter to the C.E.B. Secretary General, with copy to the Organizing Committee
- payment of the entry-fee to C.E.B. of 280 Euro and the guarantee of 630 Euro
- a team which does not fulfil all its obligations will pay to C.E.B. a fine of 630 Euro

The Federation which organises the European Championship Juniors A-Pool is furthermore due to C.E.B. an organisation tax of 440 Euro.

4. Penalties

In case of a withdrawal of a team, without notification three months before the start of the competition, the Federation involved will lose the guarantee of 630 Euro.

Further the team (Federation) in question will be suspended of all junior championships during 2 (two) years.

5. Rules of baseball

Restrictions: rule 6.10 DESIGNATED HITTER is not applicable for European Championships Juniors.

6. Obligations of the Organisers of the A-Pool

See what is stated by items 3 and 4 of these Competition Rules

7. Obligations of the National Federation participating

See what is stated by item 5 of these Competition Rules

c. B-Pool

1. Period

The European Championships Juniors B-Pool 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.

2. Participants

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

A maximum of 3 (three) players of 15 years will be allowed in the junior competition. All teams not classified in the A-Pool can participate.

3. Registration

The closing day for entries shall be not later than December 31st prior to the start of the championship.

Requirements for registration are as follows:

- registered letter to the C.E.B. Secretary General, with a copy to the Organizing Committee
- payment of the entry-fee to C.E.B. of 280 Euro and the guarantee of 630 Euro.
- a team which does not fulfil all its obligations will pay to C.E.B. a fine of 630 Euro

The Federation which organises the European Championship Juniors B-Pool is furthermore due to C.E.B. organisation tax of 440 Euro.

4. Penalties

In case of a withdrawal, without notification of no attendance at least three months before the start of the competition, the Federation involved will lose the guarantee of 630 Euro.

Further the team (Federation) in question will be suspended of all Junior Championships during 2 (two) years.

5. Rules of baseball

Restrictions: rule 6.10 DESIGNATED HITTER is not applicable for European Championships Juniors.

6. Obligations of the Organisers of the B-Pool

See what is stated by items 3 and 4 of these Competition Rules

7. Obligations of the National Federation participating

See what is stated by item 5 of these Competition Rules

22. EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS CADETS

The European Championships Cadets is open only for National Cadet teams of the National Federations member 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 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.

The participants are divided in two groups.

c. Registration

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

- registered letter to the C.E.B. Secretary General, with a copy to the Organizing Committee
- payment of the entry-fee to C.E.B. of 280 Euro and the guarantee of 630 Euro.
- a team which does not fulfil all its obligations will pay to C.E.B. a fine of 630 Euro

The Federation which organises the European Championship Cadets is furthermore due to C.E.B. an

organisation tax of 440 Euro.

d. Penalties

In case of a withdrawal without notification three months before the start of the competition, the Federation involved will lose the guarantee of 630 Euro.

Further the team (Federation) in question will be suspended of participation in all Cadet Championships during 2 (two) years.

e. Rules of baseball

Restrictions: rule 6.10 DESIGNATED HITTER is not applicable for European Championships Cadets.

Only for Cadets, in addition of "run difference rule" (art. 14c) if there is a 20 runs score difference between the teams after 5 (five) complete innings or after 4½ innings with the home team ahead the game is ended.

f. Obligations of the Organiser

See what is stated by items 3 and 4 of these Competition Rules

g. Obligations of the National Federation participating

See what is stated by item 5 of these Competition Rules

23. EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS JUVENILES

The European Championships Juveniles is open only for National Juveniles teams of the National Federations member 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. The participants is divided in two groups

c. Registration

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

- registered letter to the C.E.B. Secretary General, with copy to the Organizing Committee
- payment of the entry-fee to C.E.B. of 280 Euro and the guarantee of 630 Euro.
- a team which does not fulfil all its obligations will pay to C.E.B. a fine of 630 Euro

The Federation which organises the European Championship Juveniles is furthermore due to C.E.B. organisation tax of 440 Euro.

d. Penalties

In case of a withdrawal without notification three months before the start of the competition, the Federation involved will lose the guarantee of 630 Euro.

Further the team (Federation) in question will be suspended of all Juveniles Championships during 2 (two) years.

e. 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 6 (six) 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.

3.03 Player in the starting line-up who has been removed for a substitute, may re-enter the game once. If 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 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.

- 4.12 a. A regulation game consists of six innings, unless extended because of a tie score, or shortened:
1. because the home team needs none of its half of the sixth inning or only a fraction of it, or
 2. because the umpire calls the game.
- b. If the score is tied after six complete innings, play shall continue till:
1. the visiting team has scored more total runs than the home team at the end of a completed inning, or
 2. the home team scores the winning run in the uncompleted inning.
- c. If a game is called is a regulation game:
1. if four innings have been completed
 2. if the home team has scored in three and a fraction half inning 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.
- d. If a game is called before it has become a regulation game, the umpire shall declare it "No Game".
- 4.12 The score of a regulation game is the total number of runs scored by each team at the moment the game ends.
- a. The game ends when the visiting team completes its half of the sixth inning if the home team is ahead.
 - b. The game ends when the sixth inning is completed if the visiting team is ahead.
 - c. If the home team scores the winning run in its half of the sixth inning (or its half of an extra inning after a tie), the game ends immediately when the winning run is scored.

EXCEPTION: If the last batter in a game hits a homerun out of the playing field, the batter-runners on base are permitted to score. In accordance with the base-running rules and the game ends when the batter-runner touches home plate.

APPROVED RULING: the batter hits a homerun out of the playing field to win the game in the last half of the sixth or an extra inning but is called out for passing a preceding runner. The game ends immediately when the winning run is scored.
 - d. A called game ends at the moment the umpire terminates play.

EXCEPTION: If the game is called during an uncompleted inning, the game ends at the end of the last previous completed inning in each of the following situation:
 1. the visiting team scores one or more runs to tie the score in the uncompleted inning, and the home team does not score in the uncompleted inning
 2. the visiting team scores one or more runs to take the lead in the uncompleted inning and the home team does not tie the score or retake the lead in the uncompleted inning.

- e. A regulation game that is tied after four or more completed innings and halted by the umpire, shall be resumed from the exact point that play was halted. The game shall continue in accordance with rule 4.10 a and 4.10 b.

When a TIE game is halted, pitcher of record may continue pitching in the same game on any subsequent date provided said pitcher has observed the required days of rest and has pitching eligibility in the calendar week in which the game is resumed.

For scorekeeping purpose, it shall considered the same game and all batting, fielding and pitching records will count.

Example:

	1	2	3	4	5	6
VISITORS	0	0	0	4	1	
HOME	0	0	0	5		

Game is called in top of the fifth inning on account of rain. Score reverts to last complete inning (4th) and the home team is winner 5 to 4.

- 4.12 Tie games halted due to weather, curfew or light failure shall be resumed from the exact point at which they were halted in original game. It can be completed preceding the next scheduled game between the same teams. A pitcher can pitch in both games the same day subject to the six innings per week limitation provided in regulation VI(b). The line-up and batting order of both teams shall be the same as the line-up and batting order at the moment the game was halted, subject to the rules governing substitution. Any player may be replaced by a player who was not in the game prior to halting the original game. No player once removed before the game was halted may return to the line-up unless covered by rule 3.03.

Example:

The games halted due to weather, curfew or light failure shall be resumed from the exact point at which they were halted in the original game

	1	2	3	4	5	6
VISITORS	0	0	0	0	4	5
HOME	0	0	0	0	4	

Game is called in top of the sixth inning, visiting team batting with two outs, no base-runners. This is a tie game. Resume the game in top of sixth inning, visiting team at bat, two outs.

5.09 ABROGATED (h)

6.05 A batter is out when:

- c. a third strike caught or not by the catcher
- j. after hitting a fair ball, the batter-runner or first base is tagged before said runner touches first base

ABROGATED (n)

6.09 ABROGATED (b)

- g. any fair fly ball is deflected by the fielder into the stands, or over the fence into foul territory, in which case the batter shall be entitled to advance to second base; but if deflected into the stands or over the fence in fair territory, the batter shall be entitled to a homerun. However, should such a fair fly ball be deflected at a point less than 50,30 m. from home plate, the batter shall be entitled to two bases only. If deflection occurs of fielder's glove below the fence that batter shall be entitled to two bases.

7.04 ABROGATED (d)

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-runners shall affect all other base-runners.

a. When a base-runners 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.

b. When a base-runners leaves the base before the pitched ball reached the batter and the batter hits the ball, the base-runners 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.

If 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 third base, which 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 (see rule 4.12). 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. Run difference rule

If there is a 20 runs score difference between the teams after 4 (four) completed innings or after 3½ innings with the home team ahead the game is ended.

7. 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.

f. Obligations of the Organizer

See what is stated by items 3 and 4 of these Competition Rules

g. Obligations of the National Federations participating

See what is stated by item 5 of these Competition Rules

24. EUROPEAN CUPS

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, A and B, established in function of the technical level and development of baseball of the C.E.B. member countries.

- The European Cup for national champion teams of the highest division, of the previous year, plus the winner of the former European Cup.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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 A and B-Pools of the Cups 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

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

- b. Will be allowed to participate in the B Cups, all teams qualified in their respective categories from the countries not participating in the A-Pool.

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

- c. The National Federation of the Clubs which have the right to participate in the A-Pool will enforce the participation of their Club in the A-Pools.

In case a subscription to the A-Pool 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.

- d. In case a country renounces to participate in the A-Pool it will be replaced by a country (Club) of

the B-Pool, following the classification in the previous competition and the renouncing country (Club) will go to the B-Pool 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 A-Pool, this country cannot organise a B-Pool the next year, unless it is the only candidate.

e. The European Cups B-Pool will be organized each year on condition that at least four teams subscribe.

f. The two last classified of the A-Pool will play the next year in the B-Pool.

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

g. In the mounting and descending to another Pool, the two countries that promote to the A-Pool will take the place of the two descending teams in the rotation list of the organisers of the A-Pool.

For the B-Pool there is no rotation list.

c. Registration

The closing day for the entries (A and B-Pool) shall be not later than December 31st of the year prior to the year the Cups are played. Requirements for registration are as follows:

- a special form to the C.E.B. Secretary General

- payment of the entry-fee to C.E.B.

A-Pools: 1.500 Euro and the guarantee of 3.130 Euro

B-Pools: 440 Euro and the guarantee of 1.2550 Euro

Super Cup: 310 Euro

- a team which does not fulfil all its obligations will pay to C.E.B. a fine of 630 Euro.

d. Penalties

The club which subscribes to the A-Pool and does not participate in the competition as foreseen by these rules, without notification three months before the start of the competition, will lose the guarantee of 3.130 Euro for competition not played.

The club which subscribes to the B-Pool and does not participate in the competition as foreseen by these rules, without notification three months before the start of the competition will lose the guarantee of 1.250 Euro for competition not played.

Furthermore the club will be suspended for 2 (two) years of all international.

e. Organizing country

The indication of the Organizing country to the A-Pools 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 A-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 B-Cups 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 congress, of the exact date of the start and the end of competition and the exact date, hour and site of the Technical Meeting.

f. Players

a. Eligibility

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 Cup competition

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

b. 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.

c. 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 regular team of the national competition without limitation of foreign players (with an official C.E.B. transfer) shall be received at the C.E.B. Secretariat at least one month before the starting date of the competition.

Team not complying with this rule will have to follow the old rule, will pay a fine of 1.000 Euro for the A-Cups and 500 Euro for the B-Cups.

Maximum two foreign players will be admitted at the same time on the line-up. They can be substituted by other foreign players.

g. 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 A and B-Pools 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.

h. Obligations of the Organiser

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

i. Obligations of the National Federation participating

See what is stated by item 5 of these competition rules.