



EUROPEAN
POCKET BILLIARD FEDERATION

EPBF · Clercstr. 2 · 6441 CT Brunssum Netherlands

Brunssum : 26.02.2020
To : EPBF Members
Concern : EPBF future events and the Corona Virus outbreak.
Send by : E-mail.



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Dear members,

Hope this letter do reach you all in good health.

May we ask your attention in the above mentioned matter.

Last weekend, during the Euro Tour events in Treviso, we, as EPBF and IBPF, were confronted with the consequences of the corona virus outbreak in some regions in the north of Italy. Not so much confronted with the disease itself but with the consequences that such an outbreak can have by the decisions of the local- as well as the national authorities.

In no time, entire villages were cut off from the outside world, events were canceled and drastic measures were taken. Even in the hours after the outbreak became known, the measurements did follow each other quickly. The closure of airports, train stations were mentioned and also surrounding countries did discuss all options, such as the closing of national borders.

In the meantime it has been established that this contagious disease has arrived in Europe, which means that we too, as the umbrella body for our sport, have the obligation and responsibility to look seriously at what influence this outbreak can have on our events.

The first measures are also being taken from the world of sport. Football competitions are stopped and many international events are on the nomination to be canceled or have already been canceled. Even at the very highest level, IOC, it is suggested that if the corona virus is not under control, then the Olympics are in danger. The next 3 months will determine the outcome of a final decision, according to a senior member of the IOC.

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What is the situation for the EPBF events? It is now too early to have a final decision in this matter and today I will start discussing with the EPBF board what is the right thing to do. Nobody from us can look in the future but this doesn't mean that we can be prepared.

The European Championships Men, Women, U23 and Wheelchair Athletes is planned early May and as the EPBF, our members are preparing for this event. This letter is not meant to stop all preparations but is just meant to ask you to try to take an insurance or something in that direction, if that is possible anyway, to get the risks covered in case of such cancellation or measurement.

As mentioned, I do not know whether all risks (Financially) can be insured at all, but it is certainly worthwhile to be prepared and to investigate the possibilities of minimizing financial losses in the event of a cancellation. Therefore please try to look into this matter before you do make final bookings.

The EPBF Board, together with the host in Finland, which in turn is in close contact with local and national authorities, will continue to follow developments closely and, where necessary, will take final decisions in due time.

We hope, of course, that this outbreak will soon be under control so that our European Championships can take place, but it does not hurt to be prepared for another decision. We will keep you all posted.

With kind regards,

Gre Leenders
President EPBF.



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