



# NEVZA News #1 2022

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## President's words



Dear NEVZA members. It is with a great pleasure I write this abstract for the first modern time NEVZA News. My and GS Jussi's ambition is to present one news' letter every month. Sometimes not so much will have happened, but always enough when we'll need your attention and your participation to fulfil our ambitious plans within our zonal association.

The period since I was elected President at the extra assembly 2020 could be described with three lines: Pandemic, Start-up energy and Communication shortage.

1. **Pandemic:** The pandemic maybe hit NEVZA harder than other zonals, because the borders were closed most of the time. A very unusual situation here in the Nordic countries, where we've had open borders for so long. But on the positive side, we had a chance to pause a little and reflect on our aim with the organization.
2. **Start-up energy:** The relief and energy that we met at the 2021 U17 and U19 Championships was overwhelming and it continued in 2022. It was clear that we all had missed getting together and join with both competition and togetherness.
3. **Communication shortage:** All NEVZA structures and channels needed a restart. Many persons have new roles, suddenly organizers and federations realized that it was possible to stage the competitions we've been waiting for. But the communication and responsibilities also need to be updated, in order to get homologation, find the fundings, communicate with teams, etc.

After this first year with several competitions staged and development programs initialized, me and General Secretary Jussi wish each and every one a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We look forward to 2023 with good events completing the calendar of each National Federation.

## News from CEV and FIVB

You should all have received from the CEV General Assembly. In 2023, the confederation will celebrate its 50 years anniversary. One event in each discipline will enhance this fact, but it should also be mirrored throughout the entire organization.

## Volleyball

Missig communication and late decision for the Women's tournament was probably the most important reasons that so few teams registered for the restart of NEVZA Club Championships. It was a similar situation in beach volleyball, but it's easily understood that the planning for a two-member team is much simpler than for a complete mid-season volleyball team. Our hope is that this will not be the end of the NCC, just postponing it as we been used to during the pandemics. Final decision on the new dates will be made on the coming Technical Meeting.

[NEVZA](#) (North European Volleyball Zonal Association), one of six zonals within the [CEV](#) (Confédération Européenne de Volleyball) and [FIVB](#) (Fédération Internationale de Volleyball). NEVZA gathers the national federations of [Denmark](#), [England](#), [Faroe Islands](#), [Finland](#), [Greenland](#), [Iceland](#), [Norway](#) and [Sweden](#).



Youth tournaments were successfully hosted by [Ikast, DEN](#) and [Rovaniemi, FIN](#). Follow the links to NEVZA home page for more information.

Sven Brix' role as Under-age volleyball coordinator is taken over by Sebastian Mikelsons.

## Beach Volleyball

### Youth

The most important step for beach volleyball is the comeback of the youth tournament. It was not possible in 2021 but our ambition is that it must be in place 2022. Volleyball England has shown an interest to organize a U17/U19/U21 event, we hope to be able to come back with more information in the next newsletter.

### Senior

Two senior competitions, Oddanesand in June and Gothenburg in November, were completed 2022, despite late decisions and short-comings with the information. For next year, we hope that this can be extended with at least one more competition and we'll work hard for a better prepared organization.

### King & Queen of the Beach

King & Queen of the Beach is coming as a strong alternate tournament form, acknowledged by the CEV. National tournaments have been performed as qualifiers and it will be part of the Icelandic multi-sport event in January. This match form is not by today acknowledged on Zonal level, but we have taken initiatives in this direction.

## Snow Volleyball

FIVB and CEV has declared a strong position for developing snow volleyball, with a four-year plan aiming at Confederation Championships and World Tour events in all continents, aiming for the World Championships in 2026. The discipline is mostly of interest for Finland, Norway and Sweden, but Cameroon showed earlier that players from all the world can make success. We should all encourage players to participate on the European Tour and in national events.

The coming season Norway plans their National Championships in Gausta. We hope for exhibition events in Finland and Sweden.

## Development Programs

### Web site, information and streaming development

During the last six months, we have been active on updating the NEVZA homepage to better view today's organization and activities. There is still work to be done and we appreciate all feedback. We also ask our member federation to promote the page, both as a direct link from your homepage and with information. Use it when you are working with NEVZA events and send us information when you have activities that can be of interest for other members.

After feedback from important and engaged stakeholders, the parents of the youth volleyball team players, we took a lot of actions to improve the level and accessibility of video coverage. A small-scale streaming workshop was held in Ikast, with representatives from Denmark, Faroe Islands, Finland and Sweden. Our expert Magnus Gripenhammar then went to Rovaniemi, an



impressive “round-trip” of more than 4000 km with all the equipment in the car. We are now engaged in how to secure and develop the future of this project.

## Technical Meeting and General Assembly

### Technical Meeting

We have started to investigate possible organizers. If you are interested to organize, please contact Jussi.

### General Assembly

Next year's General Assembly and the CEV General Assembly is proposed to be back-to-back in Bologna, at the EuroVolley Men's Championship final matches.

## News from the member countries

Here we want to gather and spread information that is of interest for other members. For example, giving the players a possibility to participate in an open competition. It can also be to gain interest for spectators to travel to events, maybe in combination with tourism.

For next year, we know that Denmark will participate in EuroVolley Men, Sweden Women and Finland in both genders. Iceland will be co-organizer of Reykjavik International Games in January. It is a multi-sport event with beach volleyball King & Queen of the Court.

## Calendar

This News' Letter is a new initiative to increase the awareness of NEVZA as an important complement to CEV and NF activities.

Jan 28-29	Reykjavik International Games
TBD	Norwegian Snow Volleyball Championships
Apr/May	NEVZA Technical Meeting. Date and place TBD
Jun 23-25	NEVZA Beach Oddanesand TBC
	NEVZA Under-Age Beach Volleyball Championships. Date and place TBD
Sep 15/16	NEVZA General Assembly Bologna
Sep 15/16	CEV General Assembly Bologna
Oct 16-18	NEVZA U17 Ikastr
Oct 27-29	NEVZA U19 Rovaniemi
Nov 3-5	NEVZA Beach Gothenburg TBC

It's our ambition to provide you with accurate information. Please inform us if you find anything in error or if you can complete the current information.