



NEVZA News #2 – Jan-Feb 2023

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President's words



Dear NEVZA members. The second time to organize something is always special. To maintain the energy from the first time while not yet establishing routines, that makes things easier. We are now taking the challenge, starting up 2023 with the second issue of the NEVZA Newsletter. As luck would have it, there are quite a few things to report.

First a correction, the date for the CEV and NEVZA General Assemblies was wrong in the last issue. The correct date is Saturday the 2nd of August in Brussels.

In this issue we will focus on celebration, awards and inductees. But also, the important strategic work planned for the coming period and preliminary dates for coming events.

STOP THE PRESS: The thoughts of the global Volleyball Family are with those affected by the tragic earthquakes in Türkiye. The World Tour event scheduled last weekend in February in Kahramanmaraş is cancelled.

News from CEV and FIVB

The European Volleyball Confederation was officially established on September 9th 1973, in The Hague. This anniversary is an opportunity to look back on many memories and achievements, while also looking forward to the modernization of the organisation, where 2023 is expected to focus specifically on innovation and digitalization.



The iconic 50th anniversary logo will accompany us throughout the coming months and will be used extensively across all digital channels, as well as at CEV's events and competitions. This is to celebrate the legacy we have inherited from the founding fathers of European Volleyball, as well as the continuous strive for excellence, progress, and modernization characterizing CEV!

International Events

There are numerous international events this year and we look forward to a year when we can enjoy volleyball in all its forms. Snow Volleyball in Türkiye and Austria, Champions League Super Finals, EuroBeachVolley in Austria, and the flag ships, EuroVolley Women and Men in four nations – all of these are the CEV top events during the anniversary year 2023. Time to start planning for your vacation and arrange supporter packages.

[NEVZA](#) (North European Volleyball Zonal Association), one of six zones 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](#).



NEVZA cities and countries in EuroVolley pool play

Women: 16/08-24/08 Finland in Tallinn, EST; Sweden in Düsseldorf, GER

The tournament run from August 15th –September 3rd

Men: 28/08 - 06/09 Denmark in Skopje, MKD; Finland in Varna, BUL

The tournament run from August 28th –September 16th

Volleyball

Youth

The FIVB and CEV have updated and added age groups. This will of course have an impact also on the NEVZA activities. Work has started to go through the consequences of these changes and the regulations will be updated accordingly.

Senior

The comeback of the NEVZA Club Championships was unfortunately cancelled this winter. The overall ambition is still to present an attractive tournament form that will be appreciated by the member club teams and will be held in 2024. We expect to present the final proposal at the Technical Meeting this spring.

Beach Volleyball

Organization

The NEVZA Beach Volleyball coordinator David Cox has called for a meeting with our member federations for a two-day workshop in Copenhagen on the 9th and 10th of February. Regulations and organizers for both senior and youth for coming years are important topics to be discussed.

Youth

England has presented a proposal for organizing the U17 and U19 youth championships in July. The place for the venue, actual dates, the final age groups to be invited and the number of teams from each member country will be discussed during the meeting in Copenhagen. A proposal will be sent to NEVZA's President and General Secretary for consideration. Upon approval, the information about these championships will be sent to all member countries via their beach coordinator and General Secretary.

Senior

At the moment, Norway, through the promoter Vegard Høidalen, has a proposal to organize a senior event in Oddnesand. The same venue as previous years. However, the proposed dates are the same as the Danish Summer Games which is their national championships. Dialogue with Høidalen has been started to try and find alternate dates so that Denmark will be able to participate with their best teams.

Snow Volleyball

Several snow volleyball tournaments were cancelled during the pandemic, but this season our youngest discipline has started to come back. Most of the activities will be taking place in central Europe and Türkiye. In February-March, World Tour will come back with two tournaments in



Türkiye. Also announced thus far are two European Tour events in March, one in Türkiye and the second in Austria. FIVB Snow Volleyball Commission has set up an ambitious time plan, and so has the CEV. It includes European and World Championships, as well as participation in major multi-sport events. We look forward to see NEVZA players to be part of this development.

Development Programs, Technical Meeting and General Assembly

Information regarding the development programs will be communicated in the next issue.

The place and date for the technical meeting is not yet decided. We will inform about this separately and in the next issue.

General Assembly

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

News from the member countries

Awards



So well deserved, so fine... There was a standing ovation and strong feelings when Mr. Volleyball Ivar Bakken (75), received the King's Medal of Merit by NVBF President Eirik Sjørdahl. Ivar has served voluntarily as coach for both club and national teams for sixty years. He's been awarded with numerous tournament victories. He has also contributed to Norwegian volleyball as referee, leader and member of the board.



Swedish Jump Set team, from left: Rasmus Jonsson, David Åhman, Jonatan Hellvig and Anders Kristiansson. Foto Haide Westring.



The Norwegian Vikings, Anders Mol and Christian Sorum.



Scandinavia has dominated beach volleyball during 2022. The Norwegian Vikings have been dominant on the World Tour and within one year excelled by winning Olympic Gold and the World Championships. But they are now challenged by the Swedish jumpset team, who took the European title.

Both teams were acknowledged by the Sports organization in their respective country's gala. The jumpset team, players Åhman/Hellvig with coaches Jonsson/Kristiansson were awarded by SVT, the Swedish National broadcaster and Mol/Sørum got their second Norwegian Best team award. Anders Mol was also awarded Fair Play by the Norwegian Volleyball Federation.

The Swedish Hall of Fame was inaugurated in conjunction with the federations 60th year anniversary in 2021. Due to the pandemic, the formal banquet was held on January 21st this year, with 12 inductees. Sweden has now joined Denmark, England and Finland with a national Hall of Fame.

Calendar

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

Apr/May	NEVZA Technical Meeting. Date and place TBD
May 20/21	Champions League Super Finals
Jun 23-25	NEVZA Beach Oddanesand, NOR Dates TBC
July	NEVZA Under-Age Beach Volleyball Championships (ENG). Date and place TBD
Aug 2-6	EuroBeachVolley, Vienna, AUT
Aug 15–Sep 3	EuroVolley Women, BEL, ITA, GER, EST
Aug 28–Sep 16	EuroVolley Men, ITA, BUL, MKD, ISR
Sep 2	NEVZA General Assembly Brussels, BEL
Sep 2	CEV General Assembly Brussels, BEL
Oct 16-18	NEVZA U17 Ikast, DEN TBC
Oct 27-29	NEVZA U19 Rovaniemi, FIN TBC
Nov 3-5	NEVZA Beach Gothenburg, SWE TBC

Comments: TBC Preliminary date and/or site, to be confirmed; TBD unspecified date and/or site, to be decided

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