



# NEVZA News #3 –Feb-Mar 2023

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## President's words



Dear NEVZA members. After a year spent on getting back after the pandemic, the invasion of Ukraine, and, on top of that, the earthquakes in southeast Turkey, we still have to work hard to get back to normality in our daily life. The CEV supports Ukrainian and Turkish volleyball, as do our governments and inhabitants.

In our member countries, the days are rapidly getting longer and brighter, and we can look forward to an interesting season with a lot of competitions on all levels. Things are already started with national cup finals and the two

beach volleyball teams we mentioned in the last issue of the NEVZA Newsletter who have gotten the best possible start on the Olympic Qualification. Norway's team Mol/Sørum won the first final in Dubai against the Swedish challengers Åhman/Hellvig, while the Swedes replicated and won the second Pro Tour Elite16 in Mexico.

## News from CEV and FIVB

### FIVB Zonal Presidents' Meeting

On March 9<sup>th</sup>, the 22 Presidents of all FIVB Zonal Associations gathered for a two-hour session. FIVB President Ary Graça expressed the need for developing and encouraging the on-going and possibly new activities throughout the world. At the latest General Assembly, in Arnhem (NED) in 2022, the Empowerment Dashboard was presented. Today, there are 695 development projects and 18 million CHF spent. Despite this, we all still need to work to increase the projects significantly using the resources made available by the new CVC partnership. The President emphasized the role for the zonal Presidents to reach out to all 222 national member federations. With good examples and cooperation with other federations, we can foresee a strong growth for our beloved sport.

Three working groups are initiated by the FIVB Development and Empowerment Commissions. WG1 will work with the current status of the zones, by reviewing 2020-2022 annual activity reports. The second group will focus on project enhancement and onsite audits, to develop zonal activities. Finally, WG3 will look into facilities and resources that can develop national teams, players and encourage knowledge transfer and exchange programmes. This meeting was the startup for this work, the next meeting will be in May.

### One volleyball family

There are several reasons to emphasize that we are part of the Volleyball Family committed to work in tight cooperation within our zone, our confederation and the world organization. We must work hard not only looking into our local activities, but to reach out and both get and give inspiration to other members. The best mean we have is a strong communication. A first step is to encourage all NEVZA member federations to have easily accessible links to NEVZA, CEV

[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](#).



and FIVB on their homepages. Another thing is to forward news through mailing lists, homepage and social media. This year we can use the CEV 50-year anniversary as one of many ways to strengthen our brand.



*The European Volleyball Confederation was officially established on September 9<sup>th</sup> 1973, in The Hague. A number of events will be special highlights of the celebration year.*

## International Events

Many supporters and leaders are currently planning to travel to the different major events in Europe later this year. Let's work together to communicate supporter packages and other means to follow our teams.

### NEVZA cities and countries in EuroVolley pool play

Coordinate and organize fan journeys. The organizers of the final games recommend the participating countries to include the second phase in their planning.

#### Women

16/08-24/08 Finland in Tallinn, EST; Sweden in Düsseldorf, GER; Phase 2 in Brussels, BEL and Firenze, ITA.

The tournament runs from August 15<sup>th</sup> -September 3<sup>rd</sup>

#### Men

28/08 - 06/09 Denmark in Skopje, MKD; Finland in Varna, BUL; Phase 2 in Bari, ITA and Varna, BUL.

The tournament runs from August 28<sup>th</sup> -September 16<sup>th</sup>

### EuroBeachVolley Vienna

With several NEVZA teams having high ambitions in place, [EuroBeachVolley Vienna](#) will be an attractive travel goal for supporters on August 2<sup>nd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>.

## Volleyball

### Youth

The Northern European Zonal Under-Age Volleyball Regulations are updated and will soon be sent out for approval to our members via their volleyball coordinator and General Secretary. At the Technical Meeting later this spring, there will be a good opportunity for an in-depth discussion of the content and the consequences of the changes.

Preliminary dates for upcoming youth tournaments are found in the calendar, to be finally confirmed at the Technical Meeting.



## Senior

There has been a strong wish for the comeback of NCC, the Northern European Club Volleyball Championships. The tournament form was accepted at the General Assembly in Arnhem last year, but the tournament form and requirements for the participating teams and member federations wasn't fully communicated. A final proposal for NCC 2024 will be presented and hopefully accepted at the Technical Meeting this spring.

## Beach Volleyball

### Organization

The NEVZA Beach Volleyball coordinator David Cox gathered with representatives from Denmark, England, Norway and Sweden in Copenhagen on February 9-10 2023. The group discussed not only the NEVZA beach regulations and competition schedule, but also new competition formats. Important factors are the initiatives from CEV on how to develop the beach volleyball discipline and the ambition to elevate the cooperation between the NEVZA members. The meeting resulted in a number of proposals to the administration and the forthcoming Technical Meeting later this spring.

For more information, see news on [NEVZA](#) and/or [CEV](#) homepage.



*Picture: Participants from left Simon Dahl, SWE, Sebastian Mikelsons, DEN, Jonathan Moore, ENG and Beate Sodal, NOR. Photo David Cox*

The regulations for both Under-Age and Seniors are currently being updated and will soon be sent out for approval to our members via their beach volleyball coordinator and General Secretary. At the Technical Meeting later this spring, there will be a good opportunity for an in-depth discussion of the content and the consequences of the changes.

## Youth

NEVZA and Volleyball England are working hard in order to stage all Under-Age classes, U17, U18, U20 and U22 during week 28 in England. A minimum of four member countries, representing both genders, is required for each class to be organized.

A proposal will, upon approval, be communicated with all member countries via their beach coordinator and General Secretary. The final decision will be made at the Technical Meeting.

## Senior

The national championships are now scheduled for most member countries. There are conflicting dates between the Danish Championships and the classical NEVZA Oddanesand tournament. Unfortunately, this couldn't be solved this year as the Danish Championships is part of a multi-sport event and the time frame for moving the NEVZA tournament was too short. See the calendar for more details.

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Club Championships is a new competition format. It will not be feasible to organize a zonal event this summer, but a test event is suggested in November/December in Sweden. A result of this test event will hopefully be the start of club competitions in 2024, both national and zonal.

## Snow Volleyball

Fourteen nations have or are going to organize their National Championships in Snow Volleyball this year. While several tragic circumstances have slowed down the development of our young discipline, it's expected to find paths for a strong development in Europe and on a World basis. We encourage especially the Swedish, Finnish and Norwegian Federations to start preparing for the next season, so as not to miss the growth of the sport. In Sweden, we find two interesting events. Östersund organized the 4<sup>th</sup> consecutive Snow Volleyball Festival, see [news post](#). Another Snow Volleyball Festival is planned for [Malå on April 15<sup>th</sup>](#).

## Development Programs, Technical Meeting and General Assembly

During 2022, the new streaming project was initiated with a workshop at the U17 Volleyball Championships in Denmark, with participants from Sweden, Denmark, Faroe Islands and Finland. The following period included streaming on the same level from U19 Volleyball Championships and Gothenburg Beach. The aim is now to find a stronger economic base in order to both develop the content, engage more participants and deliver streaming at least at the same level as 2022.

Information sharing and the webpage are still under development. The NEVZA homepage is updated with relevant information and the calendar will be continuously updated. Another important work is this newsletter.

Projects for “Young Leadership” and “Common Highest Level (3/4) Coach Education Program” will continue. Material and presentations will be communicated before and during the Technical Meeting.

## Technical Meeting

The next Technical Meeting will be on May 22<sup>nd</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> in Malmö, SWE (TBC). Information will be sent out separately.

## General Assembly

The NEVZA General Assembly and the CEV General Assembly will be back-to-back in Brussels on September 2<sup>nd</sup>. It is the weekend when the Women's EuroVolley Championship finals are played, with the Men's EuroVolley pool played running in parallel.

## News from the member countries

Sweden's first President, Einar Hamberg, passed away on February 22<sup>nd</sup>. The funeral is on 31<sup>st</sup> March. Read more at the [CEV homepage](#).



## Calendar

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

March 9	FIVB Zonal Association Presidents' Seminar
May 20	CEV BoA Meeting
May 21	Champions League Super Finals, Torino, ITA
May 22-23	NEVZA Technical Meeting. Malmö, SWE TBC
June 9-11	Norwegian Beach Volleyball Championships
June 22-24	NEVZA Beach Oddanesand, NOR
June 22-25	Denmark Beach Volleyball Championships
July 10-16	NEVZA Under-Age Beach Volleyball Championships (ENG). Date and place TBD
Jul 27-28	Swedish King & Queen of the Court Championships, Tylösand, SWE
Jul 30-Aug 6	Swedish Beach Volleyball Championships, Tylösand, SWE
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
Sep 8-10	England Beach Volleyball Championships
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.