



EUROPEAN  
POCKET BILLIARD FEDERATION

EPBF · Clercstr. 2 · 6441 CT Brunssum Netherlands



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Brunssum : August 2020  
To : EPBF members  
Cc : EPBF Board  
Concern : EC's Turkey – November 2020

Dear all,

Before the undersigned gets to the main point of this letter, I hope that all of you, and all your loved ones, are in good health. At the moment there is still an upward trend worldwide in the numbers of people infected with the Covid-19 virus, but the first signs are also starting to emerge that the increases in the numbers maybe alarming, but they are not growing as fast as expected. Of course, it is still very alarming and sad that people are still dying from this disease. Our thoughts, of course, go out to all these families that mourn about their losses.

One of the biggest problems for all of us is the fact that we all cannot see into the future. The statements of governments, virologists and other specialists vary, not only from country to country but even from person to person. All of this makes it very, very difficult.

The main reason for my letter concerns the planned European Championships and the Euro Tour events which are scheduled for November 2020 in Antalya - Turkey. As you know, we as the EPBF board did send the official Invitation with the corresponding wish lists a few weeks ago. In the attached letter we have attempted to explain the purpose of submitting the wish lists, whether in combination with the opinion from the respective member.

The deadline to respond has ended at 25.08.2020. I would first like to take this opportunity to thank all the EPBF members who, in whatever way, did respond to the question. The EPBF board understands better than anyone else that it is certainly not easy to issue a statement in these difficult times.

Looking at the numbers, I can mention that out of the 37 members, at the end 32 EPBF members responded, with 30 members indicating that they would, if the situation at the time of the above-mentioned events permits, send a team of athletes to these events. This means that about 80% of our members have responded positively to the question asked. Only 2 members did state clearly that they don't send athletes no matter what the situation is.

**Address:** European Pocket Billiard Federation · Clercstr. 2 · 6441 CT Brunssum Netherlands

**President:** Gre Leenders · Phone: +31.45.5275854 · Fax: +31.45.5640610 · Mobile: +31.6.53314637 · E-Mail: gre.leenders@planet.nl

**Treasurer:** Ine Helvik · Phone: +47.952.292.59 · E-Mail: ine\_epbf@outlook.com

**Bank Details:** ING Bank Sittard · Acc.-Nr.: 66.47.94.386 · IBAN Nr.: NL53INGB0664794386 · BIC Nr.: INGBNL 2A

**Chamber of Commerce:** Nr.: 40190010



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Obviously, this does not automatically mean that the events will be held and therefore I would like to ask you **not** to start any preparations yet and certainly **not** to book flights.

The outcome only indicates that there is, in principle, a big interest in sending athletes at the moment.

For us as the EPBF board, this result does mean that there are enough positive reactions to take the next step and to look deeper into the possibilities and any other open questions that, in certain cases, have been raised by our members. That is what we as a board will be doing in the coming days and weeks. We will now start a lively discussion with our local organizer in Turkey to see what measures need to be taken to have a safe event. This not only concerns the measures that we can take in advance or the preparation of the events, but also which measures and consequences arise if infections occur during the event.

As already communicated, September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020 is the date that we will make a final decision. Together with the Turkish Billiard Federation, we will decide whether the preparations will enter the next phase or whether we should definitively decide to cancel the events. Until then, I would ask you to give us the time to examine all facets and come to a well-considered decision. We will of course also take into account the covid-19 pandemic developments in the coming 3 weeks within Europa and the countries outside Europe that concerns our event.

Should we eventually come to a positive decision, which of course we hope, we will tell the group that did answer positive, how we think a safe event can be guaranteed.

Of course, you as an EPBF member have the final say regarding a definitive participation after 15.09.2020. It is then up to you to assess whether the plan presented is adequate and whether the situation in your country is in a way that participation is justified. It goes without saying that there will be no financial consequences, should a cancellation after the 15.09.2020 prove necessary due to the corona developments and rules in your country and in Turkey.

It remains for me to thank you all again for your responses. It certainly helped to get a sense of the opinions and we will try to deal with them responsibly.

Yours in Sport,

Gre Leenders  
President EPBF.



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