ELF GUIDELINES FOR HOSTING EUROPEAN LACROSSE CHAMPIONSHIPS

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Organization

Host nations of the European Championships will inform the Executive Committee at least 9 (nine) months prior to the event of the number of participating nations. The Executive will put together a format and playing schedule within 3 (three) months after this in discussion with the host, Referee in Chief (RIC) and Head Technical Delegate (HTD) as needed. The playing schedule will be made available to participating nations 6 (six) months in advance of the Championship.

Those with a possibility to influence the outcome of a match may not, by themself or via any other person, bet on the outcome of a match. This means that players, officials, secretariat, coaches, team personnel and board members may not bet on a match where their own team participates. Referees and umpires may not bet on a match, or any match in a tournament, they are part of.

Naming Rights

The European Championship shall be known as the ‘ELF 20XX European Championship’. It is the responsibility of the host country to promote this Championship under the banner of the ELF.

Timing

The European Championship will be conducted every 4 years.

Country Eligibility

The Championships are open to all fully paid up members of the ELF.

Team Entries

A country’s First National Team is the only team allowed to participate in the ELF EC event.

Player Eligibility

30 full days before the first match of the Championship a list of the team delegation, shall be sent to ELF including specifications around how each player meets the player eligibility criteria as set out in section 3 of ELF Championship Rules. The list may consist of up to 30 players from which the final delegation shall be selected. Only those persons included in the final list are entitled to participate in the Championship. Passports or any other internationally accepted ID card shall be checked in connection with the accreditation. Eligibility to participate will be determined by compliance with the ELF Eligibility Criteria.

The player eligibility criteria of the FIL shall apply for all international lacrosse matches or tournaments played under the jurisdiction of the European Lacrosse Federation. If these eligibility criteria are changed less than 10 months before a European Championships, either by the ELF or indirectly by the FIL then the new criteria will not take effect until after that European Championship.

An exception to the FIL rules may be offered to a new and/or developing nation needing support and this is undertaken through being actively sought or offered from outside. An exception may also be made for an individual player wishing to represent any ELF member country who does not meet the FIL eligibility criteria, but this will only be granted in exceptional circumstances. Such applications should be submitted to and considered by the ELF Executive prior to the Championship. The decision of the ELF Executive shall be binding and final.
It is the countries’ responsibility to bring a signed Player’s code of conduct form for all players to the first Managers meeting at the event. If the player is U18, the player agreement must be signed by the parent/guardian.

**Anti Doping**

The host country shall be responsible for all costs and procedures for testing. The ELF Championship Committee shall act as the adjudicators and decide in matters regarding doping during the Championship. Sanctions imposed by the adjudicators are final as far as the duration of the competition to which they apply is concerned.

When taking decisions the valid ELF regulations and the policies and procedures as prescribed by the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) as adopted by FIL are applied.

All players registered for competition agree to undergo doping control test.

Refusal of player to submit to doping test shall be considered as equivalent to positive result. The player is entitled to be accompanied by an official or other member of the team during the test.

In case of a positive doping test the player concerned shall be suspended during investigation and not allowed to participate in any games or where games have been concluded be eligible for selection of any award. If a player is to be sanctioned that decision will be taken after the Championship.

The Competitions Chair will communicate of any drug testing that may take place and conditions.

**Communication**

It is the responsibility of ELF, the host country and participating countries to be punctual with all communications and to meet stipulated deadlines.

**Non-Compliance**

The host country and participating countries must abide by the ELF Championship rules. A penalty may be imposed on any country for non-compliance with Event Bylaws. Penalties will be determined by the ELF Board, and may take several forms including financial.

**Damages**

It is the host country’s responsibility to report any charges/damages/ to the ELF Board up to 90 days after the completion of the event. A decision on these damages will be made, with countries advised not more than 30 days following submission to ELF. Any damages or charges must be paid prior to any future ELF event participation, including women’s or men’s events.

**Conduct of Tournament**

**Playing Rules**

All matches shall be played in accordance with the Federation of International Lacrosse (FIL) Rules unless the RIC/HTD states otherwise.

**Field Size**

The size of the field is determined by current FIL Rules. It is the host country’s responsibility to mark the game fields with correct lines as defined in the current FIL Rules book. If the size differs to FIL rules, all teams need to be informed at least two months prior the event. Yellow color is not recommended to mark the game fields.
The Team
Women’s team may consist of a maximum of 18 players. A Men’s team may consist of a maximum of 23 dressed players and 4 coaches according to FIL rules. At the managers’ meeting the final roster is confirmed.

Women’s staff: Each country may have a staff of 6 which should include one person trained in the physical care of their athletes (for example, a physiotherapist, athletic trainer).

Men’s staff: the number to be confirmed by Championship committee at the beginning of the event.

Interpreter: An interpreter may be utilized by countries where English is not the first language. This staff member will be in addition to the staff. Countries must report the use of this person to the Competition Chair at the first Manager’s meeting.

Total team: A maximum of 24 (18 players plus 6 staff) in women’s team and a maximum of players confirmed by Championship committee in men’s team may be on the sidelines of a game. (An interpreter is above and beyond this number). Player and staff names are to be confirmed at the first Managers’ meeting, held one day prior to the first game of the event. No player or staff may be added to any team following the conclusion of the first Managers’ meeting.

Playing Uniform

It is each country’s responsibility to advise the Competition Chair of exact uniform details, including a picture of the playing uniform no later than 2 months prior to the event. Teams are required to bring shirts (home and away) to the first managers’ meeting. If a shirt is non-compliant the offending country will be required to have plain shirts printed at their cost, and be ready for their first day of play.

Each team shall have 2 “blood” shirts in each color available.

Playing Numbers
Numbers on the players’ uniforms must meet the size dimensions in the FIL Rule book.

Playing Ball
The color of the ball to be used for the event is determined in accordance with the FIL Rules.

Women’s rules - yellow ball, Men’s - white or orange.

Schedule
The EC Competitions Committee, in consultation with the EC coordinators, will determine the tournament schedule subject to the number of competing countries.

The daily schedule must allow sufficient time for all matches to be played to a clear winner.

The first game of the day should not commence before 9am. The final game of the day must not commence later than 8pm. (exceptions: Lighting rule, OT)

The schedule must be as even as possible, with a balance of late/early matches.

Each team will participate in not more than one game per day.

Night games may be included in game schedule. Ideally, countries should play equal number of matches under lights.

The competition chair will liaise with the host country and circulate to all countries at least 5 months prior the event.

It is the responsibility of each country to advise the Competitions Chair of comments/suggested alterations to schedule 4 months prior to the event.

The final schedule will be circulated 4 months prior to the event.

The teams will play each other in a Round Robin contest or in groups (depending on the number of entrants). In the Women’s tournament Round Robin/Group stage, two points will be awarded for a win, one for a tie and none for a defeat. In the Men’s Tournament, one point will be awarded for a win and no points for a defeat. Note: there are no tied games in
the Men’s tournament (in the event of a tied score at the end of normal time in a men’s game the FIL overtime rules come into operation). Positions in the Round Robin (or groups) will be determined by the number of points won.

In the event two or more teams finishing with equal points then positions will be determined:

a) the win record taking into account those games in which the teams on equal points have competed against each other
   if not conclusive then
b) by the Goal Difference taking into account those games in which the teams on equal points have competed against each other
   if not conclusive then
c) the decider will be the “fewest goals conceded” taking into account the games between the tied teams
   if not conclusive then
d) the decider, between the tied teams, will be the Goal Difference taking into account all the games in the Round Robin Qualifying round
   if not conclusive then
e) In the event of the above being inconclusive then the Championship Committee will decide on the order. This will also apply in the event of any games being abandoned or unable to take place (because of inclement weather etc.).

**Meetings**
Immediately prior to the start of the tournament a *technical* meeting shall be held where the organizing committee, the coach of each team, the referees/umpires and the ELF Championship committee shall be present. Code of conduct, Players Agreement from, Event Bylaws, Championship rules will be signed.
Once nominated, players’ shirt numbers may not be changed without reference to the Championship Committee.
The nominated teams rosters will be made available to all other competing nations by the Committee as soon as practicable.

Immediately prior to the start of the tournament a meeting for *managers* shall be held where the organizing committee, the head of delegation of each team, the RIC/HTD and the ELF Championship Committee shall be present.

**Filming**
During Practices: Filming is permitted under certain conditions. Practices will defined as open or closed (dependent upon the nature of the facility). Filming may occur at an open session, where the public has free entry. No filming may take place during a closed session, where public entry will be denied.
During Event: Filming is permitted for public and teams for their own purposes. Any other filming must be liase with EC organisers.

**Gift exchange**
It is recommended to each country’s to have sufficient gifts (pins or equivalent) for exchange after the game.

**Organizing Personnel**

**Championship committee**
A Championship Committee shall be appointed and carry out duties associated with these Rules to ensure the fair and smooth running of the Championships.
The Championship Committee decision in all instances shall be final.

As required, at joint events, two sub committees (men’s and women’s) may be formed to consider matters that are relevant to playing or tournament matters (where these are different between the men’s and women’s games)

The committee(s) shall consist of minimum 5 individuals from ELF member nations with sufficient knowledge of lacrosse as well as experience from similar events. In addition, two substitute candidates should be elected in case of any of the committee members not being able to carry out their duty. The Championship Committee members and substitutes are elected at the last ELF Annual General Meeting prior to the event or, if for any reason this has not occurred, shall be appointed by the Executive Committee.

Each member of the Championship Committee(s), including the Chairman shall have one vote. If a separate Chairman is appointed he/she shall not have a vote except in a tied position. In the event of a tied vote the Chairman shall have a casting vote.

**Championship committee 2012**

Competititon Chair - Steph Migchelsen
Women’s Competition Chair - Barbara Bazantova
Men’s Competition Chair - Andreas Rossband
HTD - Dorothy Hirsh
RIC - Matthias Lockemann
EC board members - Guy Kessels, Jorge Alvarez

**Disciplinary committee**

The Championship Committee members shall form the Disciplinary Committee with the RIC and HTD acting as a technical consultant wherever needed.

The Committee shall have the powers to deal with any player, coach, official or team who is alleged to have breached the Championship rules or otherwise to have brought the game or the tournament into disrepute as it sees fit. This may include suspension from one or more games in the Championship.

Any player who is expelled from a game will be referred to the Disciplinary Committee for consideration of further action.

An appeal against any decision of the Disciplinary Committee from a participating team or individual must be written, signed and accompanied by the amount of 100 EUR, which will be returned only if the appeal is approved.

In the event that an appeal is received, the Championship Committee shall appoint an appeal panel consisting of at least 3 persons who were not members of the Disciplinary Committee formed to consider the original allegation. That appeal panel shall deal with the appeal as it sees fit and shall determine its own procedure for doing so.

**Liaison Officers**

It is the responsibility of the host country to appoint a separate Liaison Officer to each country and brief on job requirements.

The host country should provide contact details of the respective Liaison Officers to participating countries 2 months prior to the event.

**Tournament Medical Staff**

It is the recommendation of the host country to provide athletic trainer/physiotherapist care for the umpires.

**Officials (Umpires and Technical Delegates)**

Officials uniform to be determined by Fil Rules.

Umpire selection for finals will be overseen by the Head Technical Delegate and Referee in Chief. Input may be sought from Technical Delegates, Umpires and Coaches.

The host country will provide and pay for 100% of accommodation, as well as meals for the Officials. This will include one night after closing of Event. The host country shall arrange the accommodation.
Direct transport for the officials are to be shared equally by all participating countries, including the pre-event Officiating clinic. A Referee in Chief (men’s lacrosse) and Head Technical Delegate (women's lacrosse) will be appointed by the ELF Executive Committee confirmed by a 2/3 majority of the member nations of the ELF at least 12 months prior to the Championship. The RIC is responsible for determining the number of referees required to run the event and for selecting and assigning those referees. The HTD is responsible for determining the number of technical delegates and umpires required to run the event and for selecting and assigning those umpires and technical delegates.

Each participating country with appropriate running program for umpires/referees will be invited to nominate referees and umpires/technical delegates for the Championship. These must be passport holders or be eligible for passports of the nominating country. The RIC/HTD will have the option to invite further nominations from those countries competing and other countries that may not be competing to ensure sufficient skilled officials are available. The appointment of referees, technical delegates and umpires is within the discretion of the RIC/HTD, and they are not obliged to accept any nominated individual.

Given the nature of the tournament, need of qualified officials and to foster International spirit, some appointments may be made by the RIC and HTD of officials from non-European countries.

Game appointments and advice to teams will be as per FIL criteria. However, the RIC and HTD each have an absolute discretion to deal with issues arising in the course of the event as they see fit.

### Pre-Event Officiating Clinic

The Pre-Event Officials Clinic will be held prior to start of an event.

It is the responsibility of the host country to make arrangements for accommodation for nights and meals per day for all officials selected for event.

### Officials meetings

Officials will meet daily during event.

It is the responsibility of the host to provide a room for those meetings.

### Table Officials (Scorers and Timers)

It is the responsibility of the host country to provide Table Officials (at least 6 per field) and to make sure they are fully conversant with the FIL Rules. It is the responsibility of the host country to provide the Table Officials with breakfast and lunch and accommodation (if they are not local) at the host country expense.

It is the responsibility of the Head Table Official to ensure a copy of all score sheets are given to the Competition Chair and TD, RiC at the completion of each day’s play.

### Hospitality

#### Accommodation

The ELF is to pay 100% of accommodation for the ELF Board. The host country shall arrange the accommodation. All countries are responsible for 100% of the cost of accommodation for their team and officials (umpires, TDs, RiC, 3xCompetition Chairs)

The following to be housed together: - Teams with Liaison Officers - Officials - FIL Board - Country Presidents

Note: The teams should be housed separately from the Officials, FIL Board and Country Presidents.

There must be: - a bed for each person - desirably not more than 2 people per room - a bathroom between not more than 4 people

laundry facilities available for a reasonable price

#### Meals

It is the responsibility of the host country to: - arrange for provision of meals/meal package options - ensure meals are nutritionally balanced and culturally acceptable - request that 'special' dietary needs be advised by countries not later than 90 days prior to the event
All countries are responsible for 100% of the cost of meals for their team. It is the responsibility of each country to advise the host country no later than 90 days prior to the event of the special dietary requirements in (ie., vegetarian)

**Transportation**
The host country will arrange and pay for transportation from arrival point to tournament residence and from residence to departure point (if leaving immediately following the Championship) only for: Teams accommodated with EC, Officials (umpires and officials) The host country will provide transportation for teams to games and official functions as required. It is preferable that teams have their own buses. If sharing buses, match opponents on that given day must not travel with each other. It is the responsibility of each country to advise the host country of exact details of arrival of team and officials - arrival point, date, time and mode of arrival. If a visiting team does not meet the deadline for informing the host country of arrival times, they risk forfeiting their right to transportation.

**Refreshments & Ice Baths**
It is the responsibility of the host country to:- provide injury ice and water at the playing venue 30 minutes prior to the commencement of each match, following each match, and to be replenished throughout the daily schedule.- provide 4 ice baths for women’s tournament and 4 ice bath for men’s tournament.

It is the responsibility of each country to notify the host country of additional ice orders within the specified time. Extra ice ordered by teams above the contracted amount will be billed to the individual countries.

**Meeting Rooms**
It is the responsibility of the host country to have meeting rooms available for teams and officials with video/dvd facilities. (Teams accommodated with EC) It is the responsibility of the host country to schedule allocation of rooms and times, following requests provided from countries, RIC and TD

**Media Coverage**
It is the responsibility of the host country to appoint a media co-ordinator for the event who is conversant with the ELF Bylaws. Publicize the event within own country both pre tournament and during the tournament. Provide IT facilities for use by country media officers. Inform competing countries of media coverage expected to maximize media link-up opportunities.

It is the responsibility of each country to inform host of official media representatives as soon as known. Be responsible for pre-event media promotion in their own country It is the responsibility of the host country to publish an event programme. It is the responsibility of each country to meet all deadline requirements.

**ELF Logo**
The ELF logo may not be used on sales items without written permission of ELF

**Sales Items**
It is the responsibility of the host to provide at no charge to each country and ELF Event Committee, the necessary facility to sell items. Sales items are the choice of each country. A country will confirm that they will require space to sell items by not later than 3 months prior to the event.

It is the responsibility of the host country to permit/sell “sales space” to others, eg sponsors as well as ensure “sales area” is adequate, with provision for security.
Sponsored Items
Sponsored items to be worn/used/promoted by participating countries must be advised to the host country no later than 6 months before the event. Where such items may conflict with a country sponsored items, the latter shall prevail.

Photographic Session
It is the responsibility of the host country to have photos taken preferably on the day prior to commencement of Championship for the following: Teams, Officials. CD of photographs to be forwarded to Competition Chair with winners photographs to be held in ELF Archive.

Uniform Advertising
Women: A maximum of four sponsor logos may be displayed on the field of play on the body or playing uniform (the country logo does not count as a sponsor), none of which may exceed 40 square centimeters.
Men:
No tobacco advertising permitted.
It is the responsibility of each country to advise Competition Chair of any uniform advertising 3 months prior to the event.

Videos
It is the responsibility of the host country to provide opportunity for coaches to review each game.
The cost of videos for member nations/individuals is to be determined by host country.

Post Game Media Policy
There shall be a ten minute cool down period between the end of the game and the beginning of an interview by the media. The technical delegate or her/his appointee shall communicate the names of the players and coaches requested for interview to team managers.
There shall be no interview with any referee/umpires prior, during and after his match he is refereeing.
The requested players/coach from each country must accept the invitation to speak to the media with the exception of a medical concern.

Trophies
It is the responsibility of the reigning champion to ensure the trophy is kept clean and in good condition; transported at all times travel in the trophy box from the end of the presentation ceremony from one event to the next. ELF recommends that insurance be taken out by the holder to cover the safety, repair and replacement costs and any other risks.

It is the responsibility of the host country to display the trophy during the event and have the trophy at all official functions.

Ceremonies and Functions
All ceremonies and functions are organised upon EC organisers.
ELF party to be organised by ELF board.
It is the responsibility of the host country to: ensure the official guest list is complete and guests are invited to the appropriate event. (not ELF party)
It is each country’s responsibility to advise the host country of VIPs from within their own country attending the event.

Opening Ceremony
Every Euro event should include an Opening Ceremony.

Closing Ceremony
Every Euro event should include an Closing Ceremony.

Participation certificates
The host country shall provide a participation certificate to all team members, umpires, technical delegates and significant others.

Match awards
It is recommended that Player of the Match awards be presented. It is the responsibility of the host country to determine and provide the award. Player of the match awards to be selected by a combination of participating match table officials, coaches and umpires. (After all matters of keeping the match safe)

Finance
The Financial arrangements shall be as laid down by the Host Organisation with each competing nation paying its own way, accommodation and possibly local transport. The costs of playing facilities (for games and practice) and referees/umpires and their accommodation will be shared equally amongst the competing teams. The shared basis means that the costs of the referees for the men’s event are shared by the competing men’s teams and the cost of the umpires by the competing women’s teams. Accommodation in this respect covers “full board” (accommodation incl. breakfast, lunch, dinner).

Accounts of all income and expenditure must be maintained and the final position communicated to the ELF within six months of the Championship /Event conclusion.
Any surplus from the Championship / Event will be divided equally between the host Governing Body and the ELF.
Participants shall be responsible for taking out the appropriate insurance to cover their delegations.
ELF is not responsible or any loss of the tournament.
2 months after the tournamnet host country has to provide the finacial report.

Postponed Games
The final decision to postpone games is to be made by the assigned HDT or RIC, the Event Co-ordinator, the Competition Chair and the head game person.
The schedule will include provision for postponed games.

Pre match schedule
It is the host country’s responsibility to:- ensure all bench officials have written instructions of pre-match schedule - provide timers and scorers - prepare a proposal of pre-game line-up and to inform dignitaries in advance of requirements to participate

Post match schedule
It is the host country’s responsibility to prepare the post match schedule and to inform dignitaries in advance of requirements to participate.

Practice Schedule
Practice fields must be the same surface as games where possible.
Practice goals must be supplied at site of games.
It is the host country’s responsibility to solicit practice schedule requests from the countries within three months prior to the event and to advise countries and Competition Chair of
Only the official team members are allowed on the practice field from the time the final roster is confirmed at the managers’ meeting until the end of the event.
Teams are entitled to practice for at least 60 minutes per day on a location near playing venue.
Practice sessions shall be conducted according to the official practice schedule.
Teams shall bring their own balls and other equipment to practice sessions.

**Venue**

It is the responsibility of the host country to schedule the locker rooms including toilets to ensure that only one team is in the locker room at any one time.
Any team member may leave the field at any time during the game to go to the locker room according to the FIL rulebooks.
It is the responsibility of the host country to provide shelters on the pitch for teams and officials.