IFBT International Beach Tennis

ISCA International Sport and Culture Association

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# International Beach Tennis

## NEWSLETTER No. 6 — 25 November 2022

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*Consells Esportius de Catalunya*

# 2022 PanAmerican Beach Tennis Championships

The Pan-American Championship returns again to Porto Seguro - Brazil. The last Championships were held in 2018 in Santa Cruz Cabralia, and in 2019 in Porto Seguro. This is a good opportunity for players from the American continent to face each other in the most important continental tournament.

Tennis Championships will take place from December 1st to 4th, in Porto Seguro – Ba (Brazil The 2022 Pan-American Beach). IFBT invites all players and national teams to participate in this event.

Read more about the tournament here.

In case you have any questions regarding the tournament, the contact person for questions is Luis Pedreira +55 (73) 98836-1380 and the contact person for communication and social media purposes is Jorge Bierrenbach +55 (13) 98142-8848.


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# *"When we stood on the podium with my sister, the national anthem was played. It was an unforgettable experience!"* - Interwiev with Zsuzsanna Kovбcs

During the 2022 European Beach Tennis Championships in Muravera, Sardinia, Zsuzsanna Kovács from Hungary won the bronze medal in Women's Doubles Over 30 and Women's Doubles Pro category. Of course it was only warm up – she came back home also with gold medals in Mixed Doubles Pro and Women's Doubles Over 40 categories. The talented Hungarian multi-medalist shared with us her memories from this tournament.

– Could you do a short presentation of Zsusanna as a sports woman and give us your total numbers of medals in all sports, including Beach Tennis?

Zsuzsanna Kovбcs [Z.K.]: As a child, I started playing basketball at the age of 10, tennis at the age of 13, graduated from a physical education university, and have been working as a physical education teacher and tennis instructor since the age of 22. I love all ball games, I have a lot of medals and cups, they don't fit in my apartment anymore, I still compete.

I have been playing Beach Tennis for 13 years, I have become the Hungarian champion almost every year, and in the summer of 2019 I won the IFBT World Championships and European Championships titles. In total, I won 13 medals, 7 gold, 2 silver and 4 bronze at the World Championships, 10 medals at the European Championships, 2 gold, 4 silver and 4 bronze medals.

– Do you remember how you heard about beach tennis in general? What was your story with Beach Tennis?

Z.K.: In 2009, while buying a tennis ball, they asked me if I had heard of this new sport, they told me where to try it, I went to train, I felt that this sport was invented for me. After the fifth training, I won an international competition in Vienna.

– How did you like the last European Championships? Could you please share with us 3 strengths and 3 improvement opportunities?

Z.K.: The European Championships was in Sardinia, which is a wonderful place. I love it and I have been there several times. It was an atmospheric competition, everyone was helpful, the people

were very nice and in general I felt great.
The biggest strengths of the tournaments were the beautiful environment, organized friendships and lovely gifts. When it comes to areas to improve, I would point to the schedule following that could help to avoid empty courts. Less dead time, less waiting would increase the dynamic of competition. Also, the height of the net should be the same on all courts.

– What were your favorite memories from this IFBT tournament or from another IFBT one?
Z.K.: My favorite competition was in Castelldefels, Catalonia in the summer of 2019. My sister and I became world champions in Women's Doubles Pro, and also this year in Sardinia at the European Championships, I have played with partners that enjoyed the game as much as I do. That made me really happy and I was smiling the whole day.

– Can you tell how many times you played in IFBT tournaments and why?
Z.K.: Since 2018, I have participated in three World Championships and three European Championships, in addition to this, I was also in a smaller competition in Barcelona, Spain. The Polish players recommended the IFBT tournament because the organization is good, you can play a lot and everyone is friendly.

– What advice would you give to the young and amateur players?
Z.K.: To enjoy the game and do everything for themselves and their teammates. Fair and honest play always pays off!

– What can we, as a Beach Tennis Community, can do to make Beach Tennis more popular?
Z.K.: Today's people live in the online world, where you can share as much news, pictures and videos as possible to spread the news about this super sport.




IFBT

# Executive Committee meeting

On November 15th, 2022 IFBT Executive Committee met to discuss ongoing matters.

One of the main meeting points was approval of the new Competition and Discipline rules. Issuing those documents is a big step toward international unification of the beach tennis rules and standardization of tournament levels.The new arrangements were consulted with all IFBT full members.

The new Competition Rules document explains issues such as tournament rules and game regulations. course of the game, logistics, rankings, IFBT and tournament organizers responsibilities any much more.

The disciplinary rules describe infringements of the rules from IFBT regulations, determine the sanctions incurred, regulate the organization and function of the IFBT judicial bodies responsible for making decisions and the procedures to be followed before said bodies.

You can find all IFBT Norms and Rules here.




IFBT

# IFBT European Members Meeting

On November 19th, 2019 in Barcelona IFBT was pleased to host the first official IFBT European Members Meeting. It was an extraordinary opportunity to meet our members outside the tournament environment to discuss key issues for development of European Beach Tennis.

IFBT President Joan Egea-Anduix officially welcomed new Full Members approved by the Executive Committee in the last meeting on November 15th Beach Tennis Sports Azores from Azores-Portugal represented by its president Mr. André Nóbrega, and Adrenaline Bach Tennis from England-UK represented by its president Ms. Suzy Twigg.

New Members received the diplomas certifying that they are Full Members. In the same act they also received certificates Ms. Edita Joléliené from Papludimio Teniso Lyga (Lithuania) and Jaume Domingo from Union of Sports Councils of Catalonia.

During the meeting our members from England-UK, Lithuania, Catalonia, Civitavecchia, Sardinia, Azores-Portugal and Belgium had a chance to learn more about IFBT history and objectives that were presented by IFBT President Joan Egea-Anduix. He also introduced guests to the topic of IFBT international visibility toward presenting the concept of cooperation with TAFISA, ISCA and CSIT.

IFBT Global Advisor Othmane Mouhssine had moderated discussion about the idea of organizing the European Tour 2023. The continental tournament would involve our members in promoting Beach Tennis and physical activity in general.

Joan Egea-Anduix, IFBT President, also presented the official IFBT App and its features that allow our members to maintain and manage the tournaments as well as players' profiles. IFBT Telematic Engineer Carlos Andres Ortiz Galindo launched many options to make the national delegates work easier. The official IFBT App is available for full members for free.

Since Erasmus + 2023 call was launched with 64 billion to support mobility and cooperation in education, training, youth and sport, IFBT Projects & Membership Coordinator Paulina Godlewska presented Erasmus + Sport Programme and its opportunities for IFBT development. Erasmus+ actions in the field of sport promote participation in sport, physical activity, and voluntary activities. They are designed to tackle societal and sport-related challenges. Erasmus + Programme Guide is currently available in 23 languages, you can downloads extra materials here.

Between the official parts of the meeting, the participants also had the opportunity to talk about their passion for Beach Tennis, exchange good practices from their organizations and share a lot of inspiring stories.

First official IFBT European Members Meeting was very successful and the IFBT team is looking forward to more similar opportunities.




*Papludimio Teniso Lyga*

# Open 2 Tournament in Lithuania

November 19, 2022 was not only a day of IFBT European Members Meeting, but also the 6th birthday of "Smėlio Arena" located in Vilnius, the capital of Lithuania.

Our new Lithuanian member Papludimio Teniso Lyga has organized a tournament where about 100 participants played on the 6 courts indoors from 9 a.m to 9 p.m.

Categories:

- Mix OPEN
- Mix ADVANCED
- Womens ADVANCED
- U-14

The size of the latter group was especially impressive - 18 young players participated in the U-14 category.

It was the last tournament of the year in Lithuania, but in January 2023 they will come back with tournaments around the country.

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