

European Quidditch Cup 2021 will be reorganized for next year

Dear European quidditch community,

We know you've been waiting for a decision towards European Quidditch Cup Division 1 and Division 2 happening this year. During the last weeks, we, the new elected Quidditch Europe board team, have been discussing and analyzing all the many variables involved for this decision. We agree the most important thing is the safety of both the people (players, officials, volunteers, spectators...) and the sport itself.

For reaching this decision, our thoughts were focused on two main points. On one hand, **general health and safety** of all people involved within the community due to pandemic situation, as well as actual restrictions.

Vaccinations are already happening, but we can't certainly know how they will evolve. Considering the European Quidditch Cup is an international tournament that involves players from many countries, we don't have to consider just the restrictions in Brescia (Italy) and Limerick (Ireland), but also on every NGB. There is the possibility that **travel restrictions differ**; in this scenario, some of the qualified teams might be able to attend and some others may not, which would leave the event in an unbearable situation.

On the other hand, we considered the **sportive and competitive scene**. We believe that to do what is best for our beloved sport, we have to see the whole picture. European Quidditch Cup it's meant to be an event where teams and players can not just compete, but **improve, enjoy and evolve**. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, sportive activity is on standby on many NGBs. We do not think that hosting a tournament where players have not had the opportunity to properly train at the level that is required to do their best at an EQC matches the spirit and essence of the event.

For these reasons, we think the best alternative we have is to assume **it is not safe to host any international tournament this year**. Previously, Quidditch Europe has postponed the European Quidditch Cup 2020 to this year, hoping the uncertain scenario that surrounds this kind of event would be more stable by now. However, we **don't think the level of stability we have reached is enough** to host a safe, prosperous and wholesome event this year.

We are already working on the organisation of European Quidditch Cup 2022 Division 1 and Division 2. Both divisions will take place on the previous venues voted by the NGBs: **Limerick, Ireland** for Division 1 and **Brescia, Italy** for Division 2. We are currently discussing the concrete dates with our event partners and will update you once there is more to share.

We deeply thank you for your patience and understanding! Of course, we remain at your disposal for any further questions or concerns, so feel free to reach out to us at quidditch europe@gmail.com or via our FB page!

Hope you are all safe and well,
Quidditch Europe