

May 2017

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1. Intro

Is time flying in your city as well? Seems in Ghent days are flying by faster and faster as this great event is coming closer and closer! In case you didn't start training yet, it's about time to plan those workouts, shop the last gear and mentally start preparing for the EUROPEAN COMPANY SPORT GAMES! After all you want your company name on that podium don't you? For any updates don't forget to follow us on [facebook](#). The focus for this newsletter is "transportation", unless you are planned to do everything by foot it could be interesting to pay attention now.

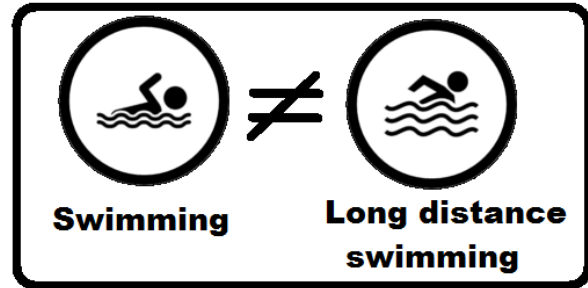
2. Participant info

Things you should carry with you at all times:

- Accreditation, you will receive this from your team coordinator including a nice lanyard. This accreditation gives you access to the meeting center, dinner, public transport, sporting venues, Without this accreditation access to these locations can (and will) be denied. Consider this your ECSG-passport.
- Your real passport, since this is a sport event doping tests can occur. Although this is not likely to happen you will need to be able to identify yourself... just in case.
- Insurance documents, as mentioned in the previous newsletter you are responsible for your own insurance. Please bring the necessary documents with you in case you get injured.
- A nice smile, why? Why not! You have the opportunity to participate in a European sport event. Dinner, sports venues, dozens of volunteers and evening animation are at your disposal. All of this in a country known for beer and chocolates and in a city with more things to offer you can possibly imagine. Besides, seeing participants with a smile on their face is what we are working for so please give us (and the many volunteers) this small return.
Ps. Photographers and cameracrew will be everywhere to immortalize those smiling faces.

3. Sparty news

Pay attention to your sport icons (= the images linked to your sport) those will be communicated everywhere (maps, results, website, bulletin, ...). Extra attention is needed in sports like cycling, swimming, volleyball and football since there are different icons for each discipline. Disciplines could have different locations so in case you don't want to end up with your football 5 team at the football 7 competition: start testing your visual memory and find out which logo is yours. Notice the difference in logo's could be details (fe. number of waves at the swimming logo's, color of the ball at volleyball, ...). Check them out via this [link](#).



ATTENTION: For **golf**, **minigolf** and **orienteering** you have to give up 3 names per team in advance. It is NOT the 3 best final scores per company that will count. There will be no separation between men and women. Of course more teams per company are possible.

If you want to sign up a team, consisting of 3 registered (!) individual players, you can still do this by sending an e-mail to info@ecsgghent2017.be. **DEADLINE May 29th**.

4. Locations/sport facilities

We have different golf and bowling accommodations reserved for the games, so if you subscribed for one of these sports please check the lists on our website to discover where you will be playing. The lists will be online 8th of May but may change during the following weeks (since this depends on the number of participants and as long as not all participants confirmed and payed we can only make assumptions). Follow the facebook event for last-minute changes.

5. Transportation facts

Fact #1: your car is not allowed in the city center

Cars and busses will not be allowed in the city center since this is carfree.

Fact #2: public transport rules

Public transport is free (if you have your accreditation with you). There are a lot of public transport options which is in your benefit since you can get practically everywhere at any time. But be aware to inform yourself (before) jumping on busses if you want to end up at the right spot. For the locations outside Ghent (fe. golf and bowling) that are more difficult to reach by public transport we foresee shuttle busses leaving from some center points in the city. No accreditation = no free transport, so unfortunately also for your arrival we cannot foresee free transport to Ghent.

Fact #3: trains are cheap (if you book)

Using the train for your transport? If your group is with at least 15 you can "reserve" your trainride and benefit 70% discount BUT you need to order this at least 7 days at front via this [link](#).

Fact #4: taxi's all charge the same

Taxi's in Ghent all have the same prices, so don't worry about contacting the cheapest one. All will charge €8.5 for the first 3 km and €2.2 per extra km. Fe. a ride from the station (Ghent Sint-Pieters) to the city center will cost approximately €12.

Fact #5: free rides during your arrival

On the day of your arrival we foresee shuttle busses from the train station to the meeting center (make sure to travel to Ghent Sint-Pieters, the biggest railway station in Ghent). No reservation needed since the busses will drive back and forward and it's only 1.5 km by car. If you want to be active after hours of sitting you can off course walk as well, then it's only 1.2 km and you will pass the beautiful Citadelpark.

Fact #6: there is no airport in Ghent

We have been begging for an airport without positive result so please don't blame us.

Is your plane landing in Zaventem (Brussels Airport)?

Perfect, there is a railway station at -1 where you can take a direct train to Ghent Sint-Pieters (if this doesn't ring a bell: make sure to read fact #3 again, reserve your spots to make use of a discount).

Is your plane landing in Charleroi?

Unfortunately there are no trains leaving from this airport, you might consider taking a bus to a nearby station or arrange a bus directly from the airport to Ghent. For more options or transport from other airports, find more info via this [link](#).

6. Musts*

** Actually we don't really oblige you, it would just be a pity if you miss these things out!*

Must-see suggestions

Actually this one is a bit hard to mention here since you cannot see it during your actual stay in Ghent but consider this as a "once in a lifetime must-see": De Gentse Feesten. This is a 10-day party all over Ghent and together with Oktoberfest in Munchen and Las Fallas in Valencia one of the three biggest national feasts of Europe! "10 days?" Exactly! Since 1843 the entire city transforms into one big party area with music, bars, shows and animation on every corner of the street, citizens of Ghent manage to survive 10 days with little to no sleep and all city personnel is pardoned for their work. No more words to describe this event and atmosphere therefore it definitely earns a spot in this "must-see" selection. (Actually it's must-see, must-do, must-taste, must-experience, ...)

Must-do suggestions

Did we already mention we really advice you to do sports? Please respect our schedules and your competitors and show up at your game. Especially the first day keep in mind that you still have to search for your sports venue. There is plenty of time in the evening to wander around in Ghent and enjoy everything else we have to offer. Sure give yourself a treat after the games but make sure you gave everything at the field to deserve it.

Must-taste suggestions

Our dinner (off course), our cooks are composing some great dishes for you. Every evening we offer you no less than 9 different options and give you three vouchers so you can taste three of them. There will be offered 3 meat dishes, 3 fish dishes and 3 veggie dishes. Drinks during dinner will be available at the bar but are not included in the participant fee so do not forget to bring your wallet if you come to the meeting center for dinner.

7. Who is who?

The person we want to present to you this time is planning the evening shows, ceremonies, catering, ... Summarized: everything that will occur at the meeting center. Therefore, since a few weeks, people are getting to know him as "Micha Meeting Center". Since you are with 5.000 and most likely you will be hungry at the same time and want to be entertained at the same time this job is crucial. Ps. He likes smiling people so if you see him rushing by at "The Bijloke" make sure to treat him with your biggest smile!



8. Who makes this possible?

Since we would need a lot more newsletters to thank everybody who is helping us out I will start combining some s here. Thank you for all partners who make it possible to use some great sporting facilities and the nice cooperation. A big round of applause to: Ghent University (ps. Happy birthday!), Hogeschool Gent, S&R Rozebroeken en Provincie Oost-Vlaanderen. Organizing an event is one thing but the facilities for sure have a huge impact on this event, these credits go to you! A well deserved thank you for Arena as well, a partner of the organising committee for several years now, thank you for your trust and cooperation the last couple of years!



21ST EUROPEAN COMPANY SPORT GAMES

21-25 JUNE 2017 GHENT

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