

## June 2017

[Newsletter May 2017](#)

[Newsletter April 2017](#)

[Newsletter March 2017](#)

### Deadlines connected with this newsletter:

- A. From now on teams that cancel will remain included in the playing schedule and will be programmed as forfeited-games.
- B. There is no guarantee that team changes send from this day on will be processed and included in the final playing schedules.
- C. No more subscriptions are allowed (except for the Green Run on Saturday, you can register until the 21<sup>st</sup> of June or on the event itself, 24<sup>th</sup> of June).

### 1. Intro

After months of preparation we are getting more and more excited to welcome all five thousand of you in our lovely city of Ghent. The European Company Sport Games have already been labelled as "The biggest sport event ever in Ghent" by newspapers! Now we know we already are the biggest one, we are doing everything we can to make it the coolest, funniest, best, most memorable, ... sport event too! We are quite sure with such a nice participants we will be able to reach those goals ☺!

### 2. Who are we?



In order to reach the above-mentioned goals we mobilized an army of volunteers to help you as much as they can. Do not hesitate to reach out for them in case you have any questions. Please be aware that not everybody will be able to speak your mother tongue and not all volunteers are aware about everything that is going on for the games. What all volunteers do have in common: they are all here to



make this event memorable for you and all of them are investing a lot of time and effort in this project. Needless to ask you to treat them with respect (e.g. no littering is one way to show them your respect). Volunteers can be recognized by the white shirts they are wearing, the event coordinators will wear black shirts. In case you have questions about the schedule, program, ... turn to the volunteers in a black shirt. For general questions the people with white shirts will be happy to help you.

### 3. About the games

Wednesday:

#### 3.1 About accreditations

We want your team coordinators to check in at the Meeting Center, only by showing a valid ID-card they will receive the team packages. A few extra people are allowed in to help your team coordinator carry the packages. Please limit the number of people so we can maintain overview. Your team captain will receive the goodiebags, team accreditations, dinner tickets, ... Team packages can only be picked up at Wednesday from 9 a.m. until 9 p.m. at the Meeting Center (Bijloke, Godshuizenlaan 2, 9000 Ghent) there is only limited parking available at the Meeting Center. Any team changes (fe. due to last minute injuries) can 'only' be processed on that day at the Meeting Center. **Please be aware payments on Wednesday are not possible, if your team hasn't paid by Wednesday your team will not be allowed to participate!**

#### 3.2 General

Your team can make use of the free shuttle from the railway station to the Meeting Center. From this day on we advise you to wear your accreditation with you at all times, this is your entrance ticket for the Meeting Center, sports venues, public transport, dinner, ... If you lose it or don't have it with you you will need to buy day passes and new food vouchers. In front of the Meeting Center taxi's will be waiting to bring you to your hotel (fee not included). All necessary information, plans, etc. will be in your goodiebag. We expect you back at the Meeting Center at 6 p.m. for dinner and an astonishing opening ceremony. Bringing along extra people who don't participate in the games? Press is offered free entrance if they show a valid press card, visitors can buy entrance tickets and food tickets at the spot.

Thursday, Friday:

During these sporty days you can contact us in the Meeting Center from 4 p.m. until 9 p.m. or you can come in to consult playing schedules, results, tourist information, transport information, ... We are at your disposal via sms, mail, phone and even on whatsapp from 9 a.m. until 9 p.m. . You can add us on whatsapp with the following number: 0032 492 85 89 08 (going live 21<sup>st</sup> of June 😊 ). The results and playing schedules will be available on our website or printed out in the meeting center.

Saturday:

Sports competitions and the green run are scheduled on saturday with an amazing closing ceremony and award ceremony to close the 21<sup>st</sup> edition of the European Company Sport Games.

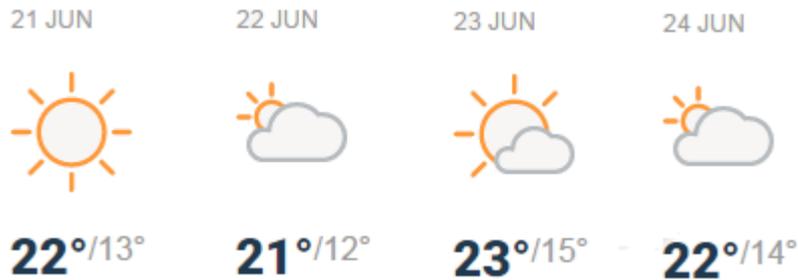
During the games we invite you to use Instagram, Facebook and Twitter with the hashtag

**#ECSG2017**

Let the world know you are here and let's get trending!



## 4. About Ghent



Although weather in Belgium is hard to predict we already took a sneak peek which is quite promising! For the sensitive-skinned amongst you, some sunscreen and sunglasses could come in handy. Public intoxication, glass bottles and littering are forbidden in public places so keep this in mind if you are exploring the city center. Ghent is also (one of) the biggest student cities in Belgium and final exams are finished end of June so you might bump in to some overly crowded pubs (especially in "the Overpoort"; you might want to avoid this party street if you don't like big crowds). Also the Blaarmeersen, where a lot of sports will take place, is a well-known hangout spot during summer, it could be crowded here as well. Currency is € and compared to other European countries we are nor expensive, nor very cheap. Fe. €2 for a beer is a good deal (I want to bet some Scandinavian people are getting a smile on their face now 😊). Country dial code for Belgium is (00)32.

## 5. Transportation

Transportation tips:

- #1 : Make sure to look for your hotel address and check out the connection between your hotel and the meeting center + your hotel and your sports venue. Public transportation is free with your accreditation but will not be available around the clock. Participants for the golf and bowling can make use of our own (free) shuttles. If you want to make use of the shuttle, please indicate it via [this link](#). (Only available for golf and bowling since these sports are located outside Ghent and hard to reach by public transport).
- #2 : Avoid cars and busses in the city center since you will get fined as you enter the city center as a non-resident. Cameras are registering your license plate in [certain areas](#) and a ticket will follow. If you don't have another option, be aware of the signs, they show you where you are allowed to drive and where not. Besides, finding parking spots will be a challenge! Golden rule: make use of public transport whenever you can.

#3 : Is your hotel close to the Meeting Center and your sports venue? Best possible alternative for you is a bike! Reservation in advance is obligatory via [this link](#).

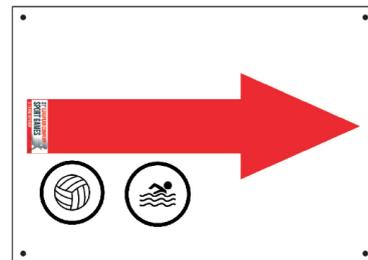
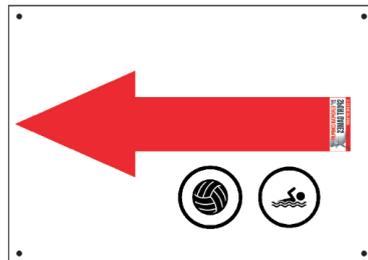
**1. Rent your bike.**

**2. Pay in advance.**

**3. Receive your bike the 21<sup>st</sup> at the Meeting Center and return it the 24<sup>th</sup>.**

#4 : Don't follow the crowd, we have mentioned the best suited bus connection to the sports venues in the bulletins but this doesn't mean there is no alternative. Some sports venues are served by 6 different busses! However, if everybody takes the one we mentioned it will be overcrowded. Check the website or the city plan and use alternatives to save time and comfort.

#5 : Keep your eyes open for the plates below, they will show you directions from every bus stop to your sports venue. Example, volleyball and swimming to the left, beachvolleyball and long distance swimming to the right (sorry for the tricky example, check the website to make sure which one is yours).



#6 : Using trains? Then remember your accreditation pass is **not valid here** and you will need to pay for your trainride. Make sure to [book in advance](#) to reduce the price and guarantee your spot (only for groups).

## 6. Musts

In case of any questions our nice colleagues from the tourist department will be present at the Meeting Center to answer all your questions. Additional city maps, leaflets, booklets, ... are at your disposal. More info at <https://visit.gent.be>.

ps. Lucky you; Ghent was recently titled "[the surprise European city-break sensation of 2017](#)" by the American travellers guide Condé Nast Traveler!

## Must-see suggestions

Two more suggestions to put on your todo-list:

1) "The adoration of the Mystic Lamb", a painting of the Van Eyck brothers and the highlight of the Flemish Primitives, a milestone in art history! Already getting too enthusiastic to see it? You can take a look [here](#).

2) St Michael's Bridge, a breath-taking spot that offers you a unique view on our lovely city!

## Must-do suggestions

I hope I will be able to convince you for this suggestion, it is called "[going out](#)". Ghent has a lot to offer you, from pubs to parks and castle's to disco's and everything in between. Let the city do its magic on you!

## Must-taste suggestions

A visit-worthy spot is the Great Butchers' Hall. This 15<sup>th</sup> century building isn't only a treat for the eyes, the impressive medieval and covered Great Butchers' Hall houses the centre for the promotion of local East Flemish products. The ideal base to discover the East Flanders' cuisine from appetizer to dessert. Arrangements for groups are also available.



## 7. Who is who?

Actually there still are a lot of people in our team you haven't met yet such as: Katja Vranckx and Jurgen Dewulf (commanders of our army of volunteers), Dirk Van Haelter (project coordination), Bente Peeters (responsible for the website and accreditation center), Martine Verheyen (our VIP and press responsible), Gert Van Hoof (transportation expert), Chris Vanderoye (financial control), Leen Vanderheyen (IT specialist) and of course myself, Simon Plasschaert. Forgive me my impoliteness of not introducing me from the beginning ☺. Besides writing these newsletters I helped you find sleeping accommodation, took care of promotion and visibility of the event and had contact with sponsors.



**All of us are looking forward to meet you the 21<sup>st</sup> in Ghent!**

### 8. Who makes this possible?

Time to honour some more sponsors for their much appreciated contribution. With the ones mentioned below you will definitely come into close contact. You will touch them, feel them, smell them, taste them and maybe buy them as a souvenir for the homefront (everybody likes souvenirs right?). Thank you very much for the delightful cooperation!

**Geldhof**

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## #ECSG2017 checklist

- Save this number in your cellphone to reach the organization in case of emergency: 0032 492 85 89 08
- Print out all newsletters to re-read them during your travel.
- Passport
- Insurance papers
- Cellphone + charger
- Medication (if required) & sunscreen
- Wallet and cash (euro)
- Travel tickets
- Sporting clothes
- Sporting shoes
- Sporting gear (fe. golf, bowling, tennis, squash, ...)
- Towels (if not available in hotel/hostel/b&b)
- City exploration clothes
- Country shirt/ company shirt
- Toiletry (toothbrush, soap, razer)
- Fresh underwear
- Keep in mind your luggage weight if you travel by plane
- Sporting bag or backpack
- Rainjacket (just in case)
- Glasses, contact lenses
- Sunglasses
- A lot of gifts for the organization crew 😊
- Sensitive for sugar drops whilst doing sports? Bring some sugar/cookies to the sporting venue
- Check-out how your sports icon looks like (difference is in the details!)
- Reserve your bike in advance if you want one (first come first serve)

# 21<sup>ST</sup> EUROPEAN COMPANY SPORT GAMES

21-25 JUNE 2017 GHENT

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