

Nyon (SUI) 20.3.2020

TO: LEN Member Federations  
LEN Registered Federations  
Water Polo Clubs still participating in the 2019/2020 LEN WP Cups Competitions  
LEN Technical and Special Committees

## **COVID-19 - HOLDING AND RESCHEDULING OF UPCOMING LEN COMPETITIONS & EVENTS**

Dear Friends,

Following the previous communications of 10 March 2020 and 11 March 2020 linked to the current situation with the coronavirus (COVID-19) spreading throughout Europe, **LEN Bureau has taken some important decision relatively to the upcoming LEN competitions and events.**

**Overall, ALL LEN sports and non-sports Events scheduled to take place before the end of June/beginning of July are being put on hold, postponed or cancelled.**

### **More specifically:**

#### 1. Budapest 2020 European Aquatics Championships

In full agreement and cooperation with the Hungarian Swimming Association and the Operative Executive Board of the Organising Committee for the 2020 European Aquatics Championships – which includes top officials of the Hungarian Government and the City of Budapest – **LEN Bureau decided to postpone to the post-Olympic period the LEN European Aquatics Championships**, currently planned for 11-24 May 2020 in Budapest (HUN).

After consulting with LEN's key stakeholders, the new foreseen "tentative" dates are 17-30 August 2020. It is clear that, given it is very difficult to make any firm mid term planning under the current circumstances, these are only "tentative" dates which will need to be reassessed towards end May/early June 2020.

Should LEN and the Budapest 2020 LOC assess in May/June 2020 that August 2020 is also not feasible, LEN will consider the possibility to move the Championships to an even later date, including up to Spring 2021.

#### 2. LEN European Masters Championships

In line with the decision taken relatively to the postponement of the Budapest 2020 European Championships, **the LEN European Masters Championships, currently planned for 24 May-7 June 2020 in Budapest (HUN), are also being postponed.** The Masters Championships are planned to be held alongside the main Championships. The new dates and the way forward are to be confirmed later.

3. LEN Congress

The outbreak of the COVID-19 virus throughout Europe has impacted also on the **LEN Congress which cannot be held as planned on 10 May 2020 in Budapest (HUN)**.

LEN will assess how to move forward with the re-scheduling of the Congress and inform the LEN Members accordingly, in due time and in full compliance with the Constitution.

4. LEN European Junior Championships (ALL)

Relatively to the various **LEN European Junior Championships** scheduled to happen between end June and early July 2020, it was agreed they **will also need to be postponed**.

LEN will assess with the individual organizers whether such events can be postponed to August-September 2020 or whether a different decision will have to be made. All LEN Members will be duly informed in due time.

5. LEN Water Polo Cups Competition

**All Water Polo Cups Competitions are being put on hold.**

LEN will assess whether all Water Polo Cups Competitions can still happen in the currently planned timeframe, also in view of what will be decided by the IOC relatively to the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games and consequently by FINA relatively to the Olympic Qualification Tournaments, or whether a different decision will have to be made.

Consequently, and once more clarity is achieved with respect to the FINA calendar, the Champions League Final 8 planned for 4-6 June 2020 in Recco (ITA), is being put on hold. LEN will assess in due time if and how, where and when the competition will be held.

All involved WP clubs and organizers will be duly informed in due time.

As we all know we are experiencing an unprecedented situation that is changing on a daily basis. Due to the many uncertainties it is very difficult to make any firm planning and the above can indeed change, should the situation evolve in any different way vs. what foreseen today.

LEN will obviously continue monitoring the situation and adapt as required to unconditionally safeguard the health and safety of the athletes, coaches and of the whole LEN Family.

Let me also take the opportunity to wish the whole LEN Family all the best in this difficult moment.

Kind regards,



Paolo Barelli  
LEN President

Cc: LEN Bureau; LEN Operations Manager; LEN Press Officer