

Competitions



Preparations for TWG 2029 underway

On 21 and 22 October, I attended the first Competition Managers Meeting for The World Games 2029 in Karlsruhe as the Competition Manager for Fistball. Around 120 representatives from International Federations, the IWGA and the Local Organising Committee came together to take the first important steps in preparing for this major event.

Karlsruhe is making history: After hosting The World Games in 1989, the city will become the first ever to host the event for a second time in 2029. For fistball, this also marks a return to one of its key markets. From 19 to 29 July 2029, a total of 4,075 athletes will compete for medals across 36 sports.

The two-day meeting focused on organisational matters and further competition planning. Among the key topics was the presentation of the five planned venue clusters, with fistball currently scheduled to take place in the "Europa Hall" cluster. These clusters will serve as the basis for further venue planning.

The visit concluded with the official launch of the **1,000-day countdown**, marking another important milestone on the road to The World Games 2029.

By IFA Head of Events – Sönke Spille

Sport for All



IFA Masters 2027 - Registration is open

Registration for the IFA Masters World Cup 2027 in Novo Hamburgo, Brazil, is now officially open! The IFA has published the first official bulletin, providing club teams with detailed information on registration, competition regulations, accommodation and transportation. After a nine-year break, the Masters World Cup will return from 21–24 October 2027, bringing together players from around the world in seven age categories. Each category will be held if at least five teams register.

Club teams from all IFA member nations are invited to register by 15 January 2027. With the Men's World Championship taking place just days earlier, this is a great opportunity to combine international competition with a unique fistball experience in Brazil! Don't miss out – register your team and be part of the comeback!

By IFA Head of Events – Sönke Spille

Calendar

IFA	Club World Cup	29 Oct – 1 Nov	Llanquihue	CHI
PAFA	Pan American Championships	4-8 Nov	Santiago	CHI
OFA	Asia-Pacific Championships	4-8 Nov	Prebbleton	NZL

News



Save the Date: IFA Congress 2027

On **14 October 2027**, the international fistball community will gather in Novo Hamburgo, Brazil, for the Ordinary IFA Congress, taking place alongside the IFA 2027 Men's Fistball World Championship. The official invitation and preliminary agenda have been sent to all IFA member federations. As the highest decision-making body of the IFA, the Congress plays a crucial role in shaping the future of our sport.

Key topics include the election of the new IFA Board of Directors, possible amendments to the IFA Statutes, financial matters, and strategic decisions for the coming years. Member federations are invited to submit proposals at least 16 weeks before the Congress.

Following the last Ordinary Congress in 2023, I see this as another important opportunity to strengthen our international fistball community, engage in constructive discussions and jointly shape the future of our sport. I encourage all member federations to actively participate and contribute their ideas!

By IFA President – Gastão Englert

Strategic



IFA Strengthens International Connections

The leadership of the International Fistball Association attended the **SportAccord Forum 2026** in Lausanne in early October – one of the most important meeting points for international sports federations. President Gastão Englert, Vice President Roger Willen and Secretary General Christoph Oberlehner used the opportunity to promote fistball on the international stage and strengthen valuable connections.

Throughout the forum, numerous discussions took place with international sports organisations such as the IOC, The World Games and AIMS, as well as potential partners. The focus was on exploring new collaborations and further strengthening fistball's international position.

Under the theme "When the Playbook Changes: Leading Sport in a New Reality", participants discussed key topics shaping the future of sport, including digitalisation, innovation and marketing. Personal exchanges and building international partnerships are essential to ensuring the long-term growth and development of fistball.

By IFA Secretary General – Christoph Oberlehner

Athletes



In conversation with...

This month, we're putting the spotlight on one athlete's voice from this summer's U18 World Championship: Austrian player **Livia Sternbauer** (FBV Grieskirchen), who made history by winning gold at both the U18 World Championship in Chile and in Reiden. For her, the team trip and bonding experience in Chile stood out as an unforgettable highlight, while in Reiden it was staying together with all nations at the castle, which served as the athletes' accommodation for the tournament, that created a special sense of international connection.

Looking back on her double title, Livia admits: "I still can't really wrap my head around it." She also had great praise for the organizers, and with that the IFA, describing both events as excellently organized from start to finish, with passionate volunteers making sure the experience was one to remember. Looking ahead, her wish is for fistball to keep growing worldwide, so future events can welcome even more nations to the table.

By IFA Athletes Commission – Antonia Woitsch