



To the board of EMF

Frenkendorf, October 20th 2009

Report Seniors Officer 2008/2009

My first report as a seniors officer will not show great achievements towards the goals of senior players within the EMF. I'd like to call this year "an unfinished inventory". First thing to do was to find out how EMF works internally and to find companions who have to work their way towards the same targets: Install minigolf as SPORT in the mind of those not being involved and increase the number of active players. This had been done by informal discussions during international tournaments or by mail exchange. At present it is not very structured but will be improved until the next summer.

Two international senior tournaments had been held in Lamego (POR). Nations Cup was attended only by few nations but European Championship had a pleasing large number of participants and showed highest quality of minigolfsport. Reports on these events have already been spread.

Fortunately seniors championships are set after the withdrawal of Prievidza (SVK). Next years Nations Cup and European Championship will be in Cheb (CZE), 2011 most probably in Künzell (GER).

Although about 50% of all active players are seniors, in some nations they are only welcome as paying members. Seniors are not seen as top ranking sportsman but they are! The main problem in most countries seems to be the decreasing amount of money from sports federations or governments. Contributions for minigolf, when accepted as sport at all, will be given for juniors or general class, other benefits (e.g. sport groups in army services) certainly not for the old girls and boys... When not being able to gain anything for the seniors in our SPORT – we may ask for support in our work for HEALTH and SOCIAL WORK. In my opinion it doesn't make a difference if the money is spent by the Ministry of Health or the Ministry of Defence. When support for minigolf is only a side effect (e.g. Mini&Golfi increases the number of juvenile minigolf as a side effect on education for environmental protection), similar projects like "Minigolf comes to you" for aged people in Vienna (AUT) may lead to more players and financial assistance too... If donations are fixed for seniors only, they may lead to relief of the other categories. Finding further information and partners and making a project out of it will be the other issue of times ahead.

I'd like to thank all people that helped me to conquer the struggles of last years work, and I ask for pardon not to mention them by name as there have been many and I don't want to put one aside...

I'm looking forward to a challenging year full of great moments

Marcus Wüthrich
Senior Players Officer