

UNION BELGE DE MINIGOLF

BELGISCH VERBOND VOOR MINIGOLF



A cross-border Minigolf-Youth-Project

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Summary

The goal of the “Cross-border-Youth-Project” is to organize a friendly competition for youth-minigolf-players on at least three days in 2018 in the region Meuse-Rhine. The intention is to combine each of these days minigolf in the morning and a fun-activity in the afternoon.

Context & problems

Regions

In Belgium, but also in other countries, competition-minigolf risks to disappear. The number of youth-players decreases and so, the average age of the players is rising every year. Today, there are nearly no more youth-players in Belgium playing regularly (s. annex 2). In fact, by less than ten young minigolf-players member of a Belgian club, only two of three of them have played an official competition (and mostly only once) the last two years... The number of clubs who are member of the federation is also decreasing and in 2018, there are only four clubs who play the national championship, and with Eupen and Esneux, two from the region Meuse-Rhine. In the Netherlands, in the border region of Limburg the situation is nearly the same and today, with two clubs remaining, there aren't any youth-players in this province. And even in Germany, in the border-region of Aachen, there are no more clubs in opposition of the rest of the land of North Rhine-Westphalia, with dozens of clubs and around two thousands minigolf-players.

Competitions

Trying to analyse the reasons for this decreasing number of youth-players in Belgium, we can find different problems:

- Long competitions days: leaving home early in the morning and coming home late in the afternoon.
- Clubs in Esneux, Eupen, Malonne and Ekeren: long journeys from at least three quart of an hour to more than one and a half hour.
- Competitions with players of an average age of around 55 years aren't an interesting environment for youth-players.
- The difference between beginners and the other minigolf-players is important and so the risk that the beginners lose their motivation is high.
- In term of coaching and support, the problems are similar. The best competitors, with aptitudes to coach other people, play at the same time than the beginners and youth-players. Furthermore the clubs needs all their best players to form a competitive team; they prefer to have a good competitor in the first team than a fulltime coach for the beginners...



Solutions – project ideas

Today, it's nearly impossible to find enough young players in Belgium to organize a youth competition. So the idea is born to create a competition assembling (the last) youth-players from different countries in the region Meuse-Rhine of – if necessary - from clubs near this region, for example from the province of Brabant in the Netherlands or in Germany from the regions of Cologne and Düsseldorf in North Rhine-Westphalia.

- This idea of a cross-border-competition offers the advantage to reduce distances and riding-times.
- At the same time a friendly competition with round a dozen youth-players and for example three rounds can be played in the morning. In the afternoon, we will propose an interesting alternative programme to the youth-players.
- We also want to open this competition to young hobby-players. First, this formula with only three or four days and fun-activities is certainly an easier step towards discovering minigolf for interested people than to go to a "normal" minigolf training or competition. Second, to obtain a competition with 10-15 youth-players coming from the border region, it's certainly necessary to open this competition. Naturally, the final aim is that a maximum young people become member of a minigolf-club.
- The motivation of the young players will be higher because they will play a competition with only kids and adolescents without any "star players".
- Furthermore, we want to adapt the classic score-system for this project, with only three attempts per lane and maybe a bonus-system in function of the age of every participant (18 years: -1 attempts per round, 17 years: -2 attempts,... 10 years: - 9 attempts). Such a "quick-system" will certainly give more chances to weaker players and lead to a higher motivation by everybody because the results will be nearer the scores of the best players of their club.
- A competition reserved for youth-players means that experimented players will have the possibility to coach and to support a youth-team and don't have to concentrate themselves on their own competition. Ideally the project wants to engage a qualified youth-minigolf-coach for these three or four days.
- Other advantages: exchange of people from different regions and countries, speaking different languages and also discover other regions and countries.
- Additionally, the final event from this youth-project is planned to take place in Kettenis, at the (private) home-course of the new youth-manager of the UBMG, who also has created an association ("MGC Kettenis") to promote minigolf and collect funds for the organization "SOS Children's Village" and the project "Kinshasa". So, during this event, a donation box will be placed and the organization team hopes to collect some money for this project.



Partnership

- UBMG and specially the clubs of RMGC Esneux and MGC Eupen (B): project- and team-coordination, youth-players and coaches.
- MGC Zicht Nirve from Nuth (NL): after a first mail-contact, the project- leader has visited the course in Nuth. For the moment, there aren't any youth-players in Nuth, only beginners at the age of 20-40 years and children too young to play a competition. We hope that the club will find some young hobby-players. Other options are a competition-day in Nuth without players of the club of a team of MGC Zicht Nirve with beginners older than eighteen, but normally we want to limit the competition on only youth-players.
- "Minigolf am Indemann" and "Minigolf Kohlscheid" (D): preparing this project, minigolf-courses in the region of Aachen near the border of Belgium were visited and two excellent courses – without clubs – were found. The tenants of both courses agree to organize a youth-competition-day and also to help us to find boys or girls who want participate at this competition. If we don't find enough young interested people from the region Aachen, the idea is to form a team with youth-players of clubs from North-Rhine-Westphalia. A first information-contact was taken with Petra Träger of the North-Rhine-Westphalia minigolf-association and also with Marc Bläsing, youth officer of the club "BGS Hardenberg Pötter".
- The "Euregio Meuse-Rhine": parallel to this demand the project-coordinator has already asked financial support by the Euregio (founds for "little projects in the Euregio"). Normally, the answer to this demand is only given in April-May. Without this support it will be nearly impossible to realize this project with a budget of around 4.150 EUR. We ask a maximum support of 1.705 EUR from the Euregio but an aid of a few hundred EUR is more realistic (in total the Euregio has 5.000 EUR to support 10-20 projects). This financial support is limited to activities organized in the Euregio and for participants of this region.
- WMF: financial support of the WMF will be very important to realize this project even when the Euregio subsidises this project. Without this support it will for example be very difficult to work with a qualified minigolf-coach or to buy some minigolf clubs for beginners. It also can help to reduce the participation-costs of around 40 EUR per day of every youth-player. Even with this interesting programme, this amount is maybe (too) high for some families. WMF can also help us to finance costs that aren't financed by the Euregio (for example for participants coming from outside the Euregio).
- MGC Kettenis: the project idea comes from this association, creates to promote minigolf and collect founds for aiding organizations or NGOs. The project leader of this association, Michael Mockel, member of the minigolfclub MGC Eupen, is owner of a private miniaturegolf-course. Normally, this course will be official approved in the next weeks.



Planned Programme:

Day 1:

Date: to determinate (in function of the answer of the Euregio / WMF)

Location: Inden (D), "Minigolf am Indemann"

<http://www.ausflugsziele-nrw.net/indemann/>

<https://mgc-kettenis.jimdo.com/anlagen-balle/inden/>

Afternoon-activity: football-golf, Inden

<http://www.fussballgolf-inden.de/>

or

Date: to determinate (in function of the answer of the Euregio / WMF)

Location: Kohlscheid (D), Herzogenrath

<https://www.herzogenrath.de>

<https://mgc-kettenis.jimdo.com/anlagen-balle/kohlscheid/>

Afternoon-activity: Adventure golf, Alsdorf

<https://www.facebook.com/bootsmann.vombootshouse/>

Day 2:

Date: to determinate (in function of the answer of the Euregio / WMF)

Location: Esneux (B)

<https://www.facebook.com/Minigolf-Esneux-106836562296/>

Afternoon-activity: Animal Park "Monde Sauvage", Aywaille

www.mondesauvage.be/

or

Afternoon-activity: Caves visit, Remouchamps

<http://www.lesgrottes.be/fr/>

or

Afternoon-activity: Animal Park "Forestia", Theux

<http://forestia.be/fr#!accueil>

Day 3:

(Participation of the partner to confirm)

Date: to determinate (in function of the answer of the Euregio / WMF)

Location: Nuth (NL)

<https://www.facebook.com/MGC-Zicht-Nirve-192254037597514/> (no actualization since 2013)

Afternoon-activity: Climbing Park, Landgraaf

<https://www.snowworld.com/nl/Klimpark/Klimpark-SnowWorld-Landgraaf-Limburg>



Final day:

Date: 15th of September 2018

Location: Kettenis (B)

<https://mgc-kettenis.jimdo.com/anlagen-balle/>

Afternoon-activity: Karting-centre, Eupen

<https://karting-eupen.com/>

or

Afternoon-activity: Bowling, Herbesthal

<http://bowling-67.be/>

Teams:

The goal is to have at least 3-4 players between 10 and 18 years per team and a maximum of 4 teams and 4 competition-days for this first year. At least for the final event, the competition will also be open for other youth-players.

Budget:

(→ Detail in annex 6)

- Travel cost (per km): 965 EUR for 4 days, 4 partners & technical-coach
- Drinks and food: 935 EUR (= maximum 15 EUR/day/person)
- Technical coach: 200 EUR (= 50 EUR per competition / half-day) & other costs
- Course fee: 90 EUR (7.50 EUR/person/half-day in Inden or Kohlscheid)
- Parking: about 45 EUR (in average +/-10.00 EUR/day for all teams & technical coach)
- Equipment Minigolf: 300 EUR (1 minigolf-club for beginners per team)
- Administrative & other costs: 165 EUR (print costs / poster, promotion costs & other basic costs like for example medals): 25 EUR/team, 50 EUR for the coordinator and 15 EUR for the technical coach.
- Prizes: 150 EUR minimum financed by sponsors and/or the association MGC Kettenis.

Note: The programme can be adapted in function of the financial support of the Euregio and the WMF. The budget is a maximum budget. In function of the activities chosen and other options, the participation fee ranges between 25 EUR and 45 EUR per day (all included) with a hypothesis of 50% financial support. The minimum budget for only three partners is around 2.000 EUR The association MGC Kettenis will also organize a company tournament begin June 2018 with the aim to collect money for this cross-border-Youth-project and to reduce the costs of the participants.

Annex 1: Map of the courses

- 1) MGC Zicht Nirve
- 2) Minigolf Kohlscheid - Herzogenrath
- 3) Minigolf « Am Indemann » - Inden
- 4) MGC Kettenis
- 5) RMGC Esneux



Annex 2: Belgium: statistics official competitions – minigolf-players - clubs: evolution

Competitions in Belgium - UBMG				
UBMG member clubs	Belgian minigolf-players in official competitions	Belgian minigolf-players < 19 years in official competitions	Participations of Belgian youth-players in official competitions	
2007	7	120	9	67
2008	6	93	5	50
2009	6	103	7	56
2010	6	100	11	69
2011	6	129	7	55
2012	5	80	4	16
2013	5	72	4	11
2014	5	71	3	7
2015	5	61	6	11
2016	5	60	3	4
2017	5	58	3	3
2018	4			

Annex 3: Pictures of potential courses for the youth-competition

RMGC Esneux



Minigolf < Am Indemann



Minigolf Kettenis



Minigolf Kohlscheid



MGC Zicht Nirve



LOGO  LOGO

**Minigolf im Dreiländereck:
Projekt 2018**

Wir suchen ein Team Region-Aachen!

Bist Du zwischen 10 und 18 Jahre alt?
Lust mal etwas Anderes auszuprobieren?
Dann bewirb Dich doch einfach!

 

4 Spieltage in der EUREGIO
(Daten festzulegen: am Wochenende Frühjahr/Sommer 2018)

**Vormittags Minigolf
Nachmittags Ausflüge - Freizeitaktivitäten**

Programm:

- Tierparks (Aachen, Kerkrade, Aywaille, La Reid)
- Fußball- und Adventure Golf (Inden, Alsdorf)
- Kletterpark, Höhlenbesichtigungen, Karting, Bowling,...
(Landgraaf, Remouchamps, Eupen, Lontzen,...)



Einschreibungen bis zum 2018

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Konzentration & Präzision! Spiel, Spass & Spannung in 3D!

Annex 5: Extract website "SOS Children's Village" / MGC Kettenis: project "Kinshasa"

A cross-border minigolf-youth-project

(EURÉGIO : maximum 1.705,00 € or 50% & WMF: 1.000,00 €)

Partners	Partner 1 - coordination	Partner 2	Partner 3	Partner 4
Name	Team Ostbelgien	Team Province de Liège	Team Provincie Limburg	Technical coach to determine
Course	MGC Kettenis	MGC Esneux	MGC Zicht Nirve	Inden
Address	Hoeschhof 49 - 4701 Kettenis	Rue Lavaux 40 - 4130 Esneux	Molenveld 30 - 6361 EP Nuth	Am Indemann, 52459 Inden
Activities	Karting-centre Eupen	Monde sauvage Aywaille	Climbing park Landgraaf	Football-golf Inden
Youth-players	3	3	3	-
Coach	1	1	1	1
Journey-costs	155,00 €	215,00 €	182,50 €	170,00 €
Km partner 1 full-trip	0,3460 €/Km	-	55 Km - 0h55 x2	38,06 €
Km partner 2 full-trip	0,3460 €/Km	41,52 €	- x2	0,00 €
Km partner 3 full-trip	0,3460 €/Km	60 Km - 0h55 x2	-	41,52 €
Km partner 4 full-trip	0,3460 €/Km	50 Km - 0h35 x2	34,60 €	44,98 €
Km detours activities	0,3460 €/Km	35 Km - 0h30 x2	24,22 €	65 Km - 1h05 x2
Meetings	0,3460 €/Km	35 km budget	12,11 €	80 km budget
			27,68 €	85 km budget
			29,41 €	30 km budget
				10,38 €
				50 Km budget x2
				41,52 €
				60 Km budget x2
				41,52 €
				60 Km budget x2
				41,52 €

Allowance technical coach €/ day		Day Kettenis		Day Esneux		Day Nuth		Day Inden	
Course fee	€/person	0,00 €	12	0,00 €	0,00 €	12	0,00 €	12	90,00 €
Parking teams / coach	€/team	0,00 €	5	0,00 €	0,00 €	5	0,00 €	5	15,00 €
Drinks	€/person/day	2,50 €	17	42,50 €	7,50 €	17	127,50 €	17	127,50 €
Food	€/person/day	7,50 €	17	127,50 €	7,50 €	17	127,50 €	17	127,50 €
Activities	€/person/day	32,00 €	16	512,00 €	20,00 €	16	320,00 €	21,75 €	7,50 €
Parking teams	€/team	0,00 €	4	0,00 €	4,00 €	4	16,00 €	2,50 €	16,00 €
Equipment minigolf	75 € / partner	75,00 €		75,00 €		75,00 €		75,00 €	
Administration costs	25 € / partner	25,00 €		25,00 €		25,00 €		25,00 €	
Prices youth-players	sponsors	150,00 €	-	1.021,88 €	-	989,38 €	-	976,88 €	-
Costs per day:		1.011,88 €							
MAXIMUM		MINIMUM support		Costs per day		Ø		Ø	
EURÉGIO:		support WMF		MGC Kettenis & sponsors		including km-costs Ø:		15,05 €	
Total costs:	4.150,00 €	2.445,00 €	1.000,00 €	Budget prizes:	150,00 €	26,98 €	including km-costs Ø:	15,05 €	
↓ without coach:	3.634,50 €	1.705,00 €	1.929,50 €	Budget prizes:	150,00 €	16,24 €	including km-costs Ø:	15,05 €	
↓ without equipment:	3.334,50 €	1.667,25 €	1.667,25 €	Budget prizes:	150,00 €	10,78 €	including km-costs Ø:	15,05 €	
↓ without food and drinks	2.399,50 €	1.199,75 €	1.199,75 €	Budget prizes:	150,00 €	1,04 €	including km-costs Ø:	15,05 €	
50% EURÉGIO & WMF		Difference:		Budget prizes:		43,23 €		15,05 €	
Total costs:	4.150,00 €	2.075,00 €	2.075,00 €	Budget prizes:	150,00 €	50,83 €	including km-costs Ø:	21,39 €	
↓ without coach:	3.634,50 €	1.817,25 €	1.817,25 €	Budget prizes:	150,00 €	43,98 €	including km-costs Ø:	21,39 €	
↓ without equipment:	3.334,50 €	1.667,25 €	1.667,25 €	Budget prizes:	150,00 €	39,81 €	including km-costs Ø:	21,39 €	
↓ without food and drinks	2.399,50 €	1.199,75 €	1.199,75 €	Budget prizes:	150,00 €	30,18 €	including km-costs Ø:	21,39 €	
3 competition-days		Difference:		Budget prizes:		37,86 €		15,05 €	
Total costs:	2.745,00 €	1.372,50 €	1.372,50 €	Budget prizes:	150,00 €	50,83 €	including km-costs Ø:	21,39 €	
↓ without coach:	2.374,91 €	1.187,46 €	1.187,46 €	Budget prizes:	150,00 €	43,98 €	including km-costs Ø:	21,39 €	
↓ without equipment:	2.149,91 €	1.074,96 €	1.074,96 €	Budget prizes:	150,00 €	39,81 €	including km-costs Ø:	21,39 €	
↓ without food and drinks	1.629,91 €	814,96 €	814,96 €	Budget prizes:	150,00 €	30,18 €	including km-costs Ø:	21,39 €	