

WCA EURO 2020

PROPOSAL

AMSTERDAM ALMERE

JULY
16-19



WORLD CUBE
ASSOCIATION

European
Championship 2020



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Summary

Dear WCA board,

We are proud to offer you our proposal for the European Championship 2020 in Almere-Amsterdam, the Netherlands.

In this proposal we introduce you to our ambitious and professional organisation team. You will learn about the Netherlands, the vibrant cities Almere and Amsterdam and the great venue Topsportcentrum Almere.

✓ Promo video candidacy

And of course we will present our vision, ambitions and plans to make WCA Euro 2020 successful, surprising and unforgettable.



Proposed venue

Topsportcentrum Almere
Pierre de Coubertinplein 4
1362 LB Almere
The Netherlands



Proposed dates

16,17,18 & 19 July 2020
Thursday to Sunday



Number of competitors

800-900 (possibly more)



Host

Speedcubing Nederland



Core team

Hans Bennis

Staff Speedcubing Nederland

Heleen van der Ree

Board Speedcubing Nederland

Henrik Buus Aagaard

Senior delegate for Nordic and Baltic countries

Philippe Virouleau

Senior delegate for Africa

Ron van Bruchem

Co-founder WCA, board Speedcubing Nederland

Ronald Mansveld

Staff WCA, organiser for UKCA

Sandra de Geeter

Chair Speedcubing Nederland



Delegates/Staff team leaders

Alberto Masó Molina, Daniel Vædele Egdal, Laura Ohrndorf, Manu Vereecken, Oleg Gritsenko, Philippe Virouleau, Radu Făciu and Sébastien Auroux



Coordination livestream

James Molloy



Coordination side program

Anja Deij-Provoost



Advisor

Mats Valk

Almere, 27th June 2019

Dear WCA-Board,

We understand that you are organising the World Cube Association European Championship in 2020 and that you are searching for a host country with suitable location. Speedcubing Nederland would be delighted to host and organize this championship in the Netherlands and we believe we have the ideal location for you in Almere. You are welcome in our vibrant city with full use of our fantastic Topsportcentrum area.

You may be wondering why Almere is appropriate for your event? As a city, Almere is only 43 years old; the city was born around the same time as the Rubik's Cube! Both city and cube are a result of smart thinking and innovation. Both of us became world news. Everybody was talking about your cube, which seemed almost impossible to solve. And at the same time, many people thought it impossible that the Netherlands were making an area of sea habitable.

Now 43 years from inception, Almere is a well-established city and the cube has established itself firmly on the world stage. Over this time, the international cubing community has also grown. We'd be delighted to open Almere to that community, and to the wider world to celebrate the European Championship.

Almere is located in the Dutch province of Flevoland, near Amsterdam. It has 209,000 inhabitants. On the outskirts of our fantastic city you will find the Topsportcentrum. Here we have welcomed talented competitors in various branches of sport over the past twelve years. We already have hosted more than 500 events in our halls and we would like to add the European Championship Rubik's Cube to our impressive CV.

The Topsportcentrum is very easy for your international participants to access. Schiphol Airport and Amsterdam are nearby. There is a direct train connection between our Topsportcentrum and Amsterdam Central Station. At one moment you are in the middle of our busy capital, but half an hour later you can be at the venue and hold your magnificent Championship in our peaceful surroundings. Topsportcentrum also has a large, free parking facility for both cars and buses.

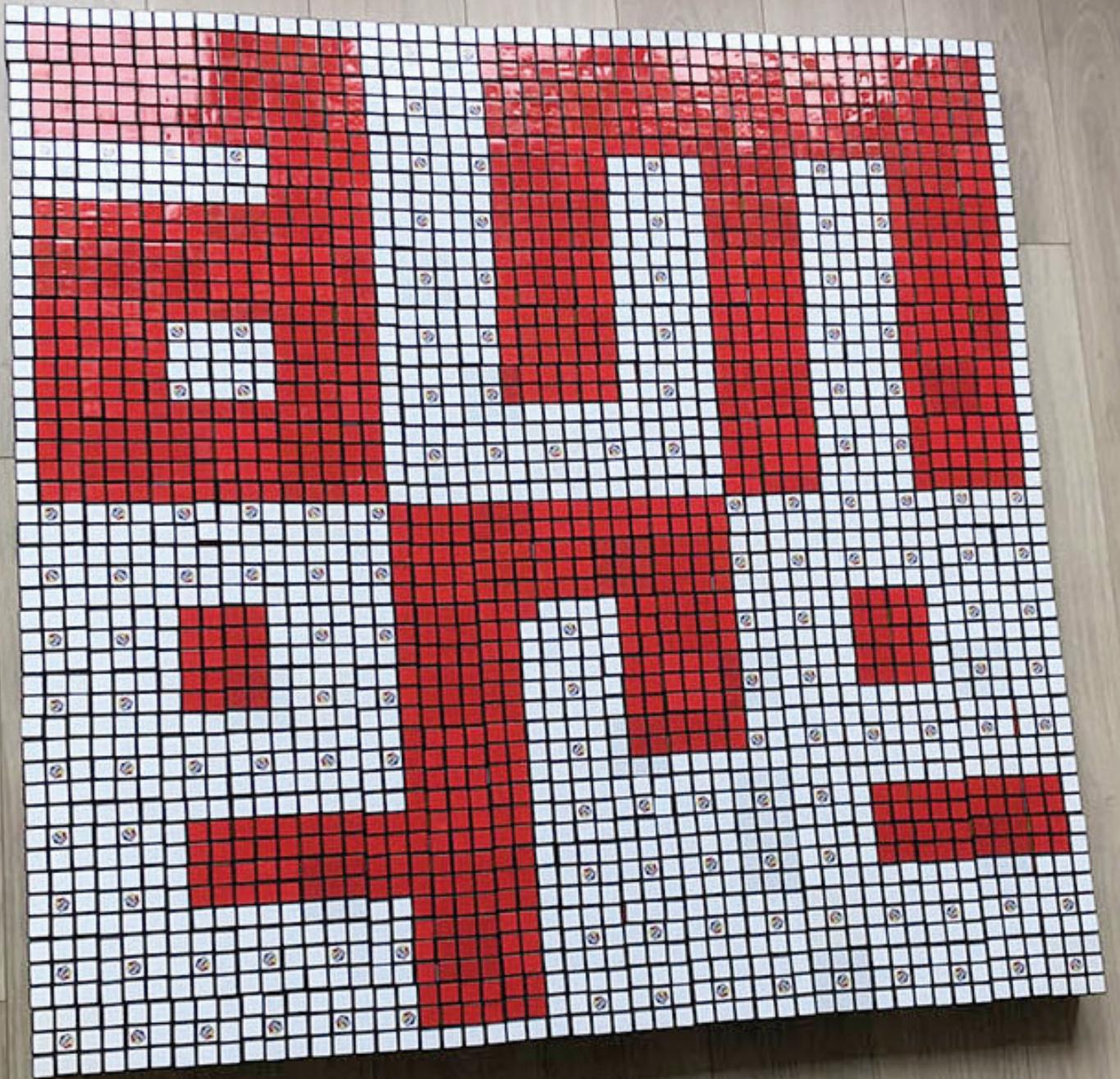
Almere and Speedcubing Nederland would be delighted to help you make WCA Euro 2020 a great success, and we very much hope to welcome you!

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Nik Smit", written over a large, light blue circular scribble.

Nik Smit

Director
Almere City Marketing



Core team Organisation

More important than the country, the city and the venue, is the team that is committed to this championship. These people will make a real difference. Our central organisation committee (core team) consists of four staff and board members of Speedcubing Nederland, reinforced with three valuable and appreciated organisers from abroad. A professional and experienced team with complementary qualities. A top team, if we say so. Meet our team!



Heleen van der Ree

Focus areas: sponsorships, merchandise

Heleen is co-founder and board member of Speedcubing Nederland. She is one of the core organisers of competitions in the Netherlands. In her role as manager of an association for teachers in mathematics, Heleen organises several large conventions every year. Heleen attended the World Championship in Paris and European Championship in Madrid and can't wait to organise WCA Euro 2020 in the Netherlands.



Ron van Bruchem



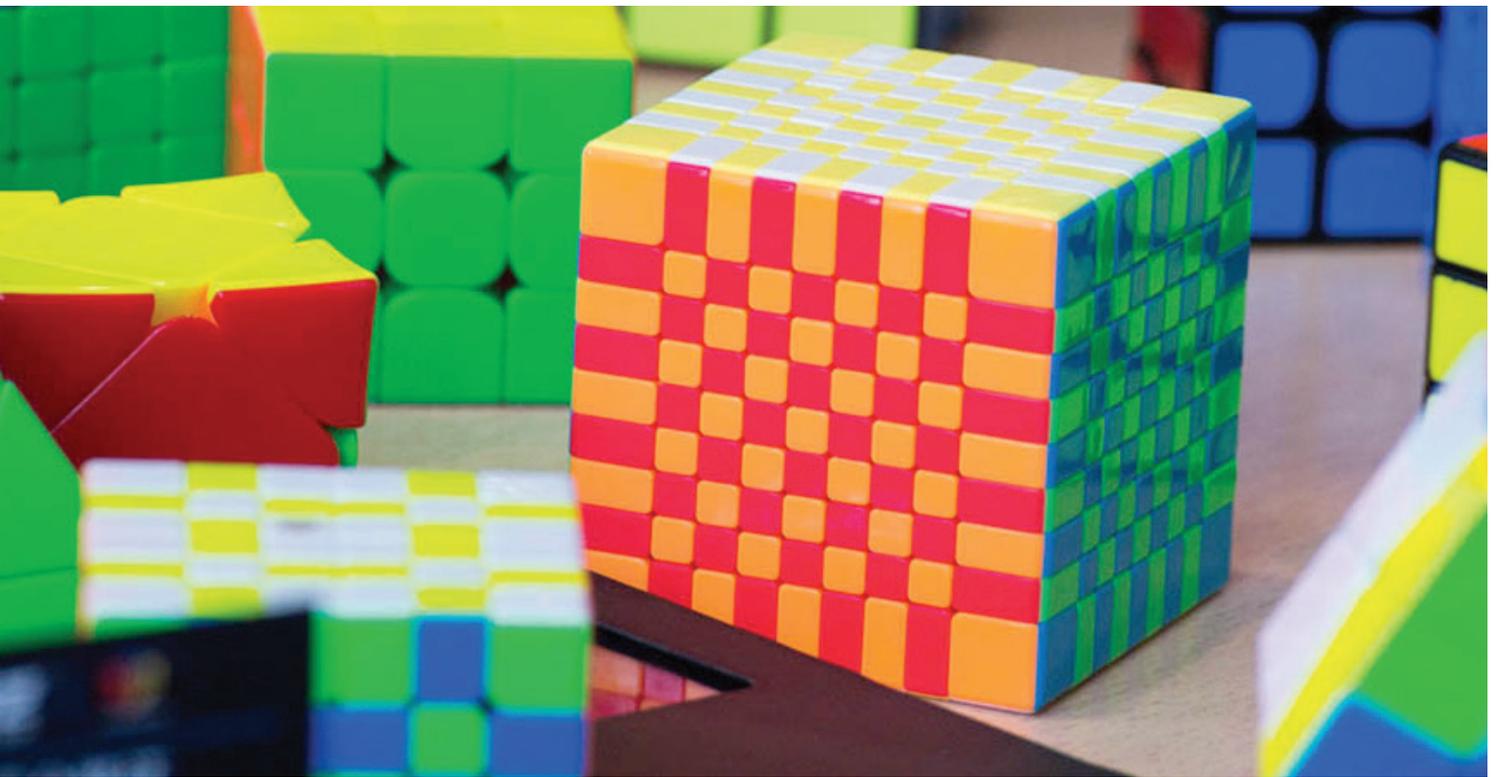
Focus areas: staffing, set up venue

Ron is one of the founders of the WCA and served as a board member from 2004 until July 2018. He is still serving WCA as a delegate. Ron is also a co-founder and board member of Speedcubing Nederland. He organised and/or delegated over 150 competitions worldwide in over 50 countries, including 5 World Championships and 5 European Championships. Ron works as an IT strategist at a large bank.

Sandra de Geeter

Focus areas: overall coordination, communication

Sandra is co-founder and chair of Speedcubing Nederland and one of the main organisers of cubing competitions in the Netherlands. She attended the European Championships in Madrid and Prague and the World Championship in Paris and is ambitious to bring WCA Euro 2020 in the Netherlands to a higher level. Sandra works as a marketing and communication specialist and has professional experience in organising large events. Sandra is the leader of the core team.

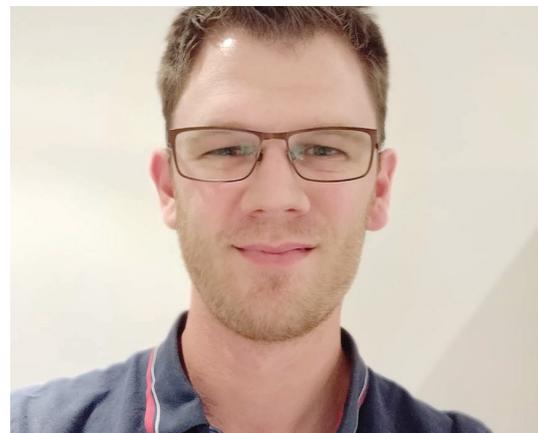


Hans Bennis

Focus areas: registration, finances

Hans has been active in the cubing community since 2017. First as father of a cubing son and now as competitor. He assists Speedcubing Nederland with organising competitions in the Netherlands. Hans is one of the content managers of the Dutch website. He works as a global IT project manager. He has an extensive background in triathlon (active as an athlete and in management).

Henrik Buus Aagaard



Focus areas: equipment, logistics

Henrik has been a speedcuber since 2006. He started speedcubing in Denmark in 2008 and has attended all competitions in Denmark so far. He has been a WCA delegate since 2011 and senior delegate for Nordic and Baltic countries since the implementation in 2013. Henrik was organiser of the European Championship in 2014 and is leader of the WCA Competition Announcement Team (WCAT). Henrik works as a project leader and is head of purchase at a packaging company.



In addition to our core team, a number of volunteers are (or will be) active, both in the organisation and during the championship. Later in this proposal you will already get to know some of them.



Ronald Mansveld

Focus areas: score taking, accommodation

After his first few competitions in 2015, Ronald quickly started helping the UKCA with running and organising competitions. He co-organised several UK Championships, and was a staff member at the World Championship in Paris and at the European Championship in Madrid. Ronald is also leader of the WCA Data Protection Committee and member of the WCA Software Team. In his daily life Ronald is a senior front-end developer.



Philippe Virouleau

Focus areas: schedule, personal schedules

Philippe has been a WCA delegate for France since 2011 and is the senior delegate for Africa since 2018. He has organised and/or delegated the World Championships in 2017 and 2019 and the European Championship in 2018, among roughly 60 other competitions. He works as a research scientist in Bordeaux, France. Philippe aims to bring his experience with competition's schedule (from both a competitor and staff point of view) to make this European Championship a success.

Date: July 16 - 19, 2020

We propose to organise WCA Euro 2020 from Thursday 16 till Sunday 19 July 2020. Previous European Championships also took place in this period. This period is relatively favorable in terms of school holidays in many European countries. The World Cup football has ended by then (final on July 12). The Olympic Games will start on July 24, so in the week after WCA Euro 2020.



Photo: Koen Smilde

July is also one of the most attractive periods to stay in the Netherlands. It is summer, the temperature is usually pleasant (around 20-25°C). In most Dutch regions, school holidays have started. The atmosphere is relaxed and the traffic (which can be challenging in the Amsterdam region) is relatively quiet. During this period many events and festivals will be organised. The sun goes down around 10 PM, so it is great to hang out with other cubers on one of the terraces in the city in the evening.



Photo: Koen Smilde

The Netherlands

Amsterdam and Almere

The Netherlands is a compact, open minded country with an active cubing community. The country is easily accessible for competitors from all over Europe, both by air, by train and by car. About one third of the Netherlands lies below sea level, with the lowest point being almost 7 meters below sea level.

This chapter introduces you to the Netherlands, the vibrant cities Amsterdam and Almere, our growing and dynamic community - and shows you more reasons to choose for the Netherlands. Welcome to the lowest WCA European Championship ever!

The Netherlands and the water

About one third of the Netherlands lies below sea level, with the lowest point being almost 7 meters below sea level. The Netherlands stays above water through a complex system of dikes and pumps and through sand dunes along the coast. In fact, the Netherlands has one of the most sophisticated anti-flood systems of the world.



Photo: Cris Toala Olivares

More reasons to choose for the Netherlands



Compact

The Netherlands is a relatively small country. Due to the short distances, almost every place within the Netherlands can be reached quickly. Public transport and the road network are of high quality.



Internationally oriented

The Netherlands is known as a tolerant and internationally oriented country. Almost all Dutch people speak English, many also speak German and/or French.



Good price / quality ratio

The price-quality ratio of Dutch products and services is favorable. Visitors from abroad can get VAT returns (21%) on some services and products.



No visa

There is no strict visa requirement for most people (Schengen agreement).

Amsterdam, the place where everyone wants to be



A metropolis full of history and vibrant culture.

The Dutch capital Amsterdam is open minded, unique and a bit stubborn. Narrow houses that exude history through their crooked and diverse constructions, canals, bridges here and there. But you also see and feel innovation and energy. Modern districts, hip cafes and exuberant festivals. A metropolis full of history and vibrant culture.

Amsterdam is politically and economically stable, which means that you can attend an event and travel without risk. The city ranks high in the global safety index and is known as the safest capital in Europe.

The city center of Amsterdam can be reached in 15 minutes from Schiphol Airport. Public transport works smoothly, both towards and from the city.



[amsterdam.nl](https://www.amsterdam.nl)

Almere: as old as the Rubik's Cube

Almere, considered the youngest and most innovative city in the Netherlands, is located just across the IJmeer from Amsterdam. Almere has only existed for almost 45 years. Almere is as old as the Rubik's Cube! The town of Almere was built on reclaimed land: the place used to be sea. Almere lies 3 to 5 meters below sea level. Almere is the location we propose for WCA Euro 2020.

Although we expect that a part of the competitors will be focused on Amsterdam, Almere itself is absolutely interesting. With more than 200,000 inhabitants, it is one of the biggest cities in the Netherlands. Almere has an outstanding modern architecture, bicycle routes over the seabed, a lot of shops, cafés and restaurants and of course its fascinating history.

almere.nl

How low can you go?

To do in Almere



Beaches

Almeerderstrand and Zilverstrand for swimming, playing, lunching, dining in a beachclub. 2,5 km from the venue.



Canoe and boat

Marina Muiderzand. 2,5 km from the venue.



Climbing forest

Fun Forest Almere: climbing courses by means of ropes, bridges and ropeways, right through the trees (till 18m).



Escape rooms

6 locations in Almere



Outdoorparc Sec

Survival and bushcraft activities, archery and canoe trips.



Citymall Shopping

With a cinema, theatre, culture, catering and a wide range of shops.



Cablepark View

Waterskiing, wakeboarding or suppen, a sensational experience for young and old.



Almere Jungle Zoo and Botanic Garden.



Oostvaardersplassen

Large swamp area on the former seabed, with reed beds, rugged grasslands, ponds, surrounded by forests: a true bird paradise of international importance.

Ample opportunities

Accommodation

We realise that the Amsterdam region is not the cheapest region in Europe to spend the night. That being said, it is still possible to find an affordable place to sleep!

In Amsterdam

Competitors can opt for a hostel or hotel in Amsterdam. Downtown in the vibrant city centre or in one of the other neighbourhoods. The preference will be very personal! The Amsterdam area has over 450 hotels and hostels, so competitors and their families will absolutely be able to find a convenient location that fits their wishes and budget. There is also a large number of apartments on airbnb. A bed in a hostel in Amsterdam is possible from €26 pp/pn in high season.



In Almere

Cubers can also choose to stay in Almere, relatively close to the venue. There is a limited range of hotels, cottages and campsites. Here they will have a better price/quality ratio. We have started to reach out to different hotels in the vicinity of the venue to look at opportunities for discounted prices for competitors. While prices for next year are not yet available, the Bastion Hotel Almere (one of the hotels closest to the venue) has already offered us the possibility to create a personalized portal, where competitors can book with a discount. This could be a real cuber hotel! For the budget traveler: a place on the brand new campsite Waterhout (10 km from the venue) is available from €15 for two persons per night (need to bring own tent). *A bicycle (for rent at every campsite or hotel) is an excellent way to travel to the venue.*

Soon after the decision of the WCA board to organise WCA Euro 2020 in the Netherlands, we will continue to reach out to different hotels and campsites to secure more discounted options for competitors and their family.



The Dutch cubing community

The Netherlands has an active and growing cubing community, with both veterans and young talent. Although the Netherlands is a small country, we host competitions almost every month, usually with 100-150 participants. This gives speedcubers a chance to compete in many competitions and also attracts many starting cubers.



In the community there are multiple cubers of international top level, as Mats Valk (reigning European champion 3x3x3), the Dutch-Greek Antonie Paterakis (former World and reigning European champion 2x2x2), Tijmen van der Ree (second best worldwide in square-1), former world record holder Erik Akkersdijk and Melbourne-finalists Francisco Hamlin, Robin Verstraten and Reinier Schippers.

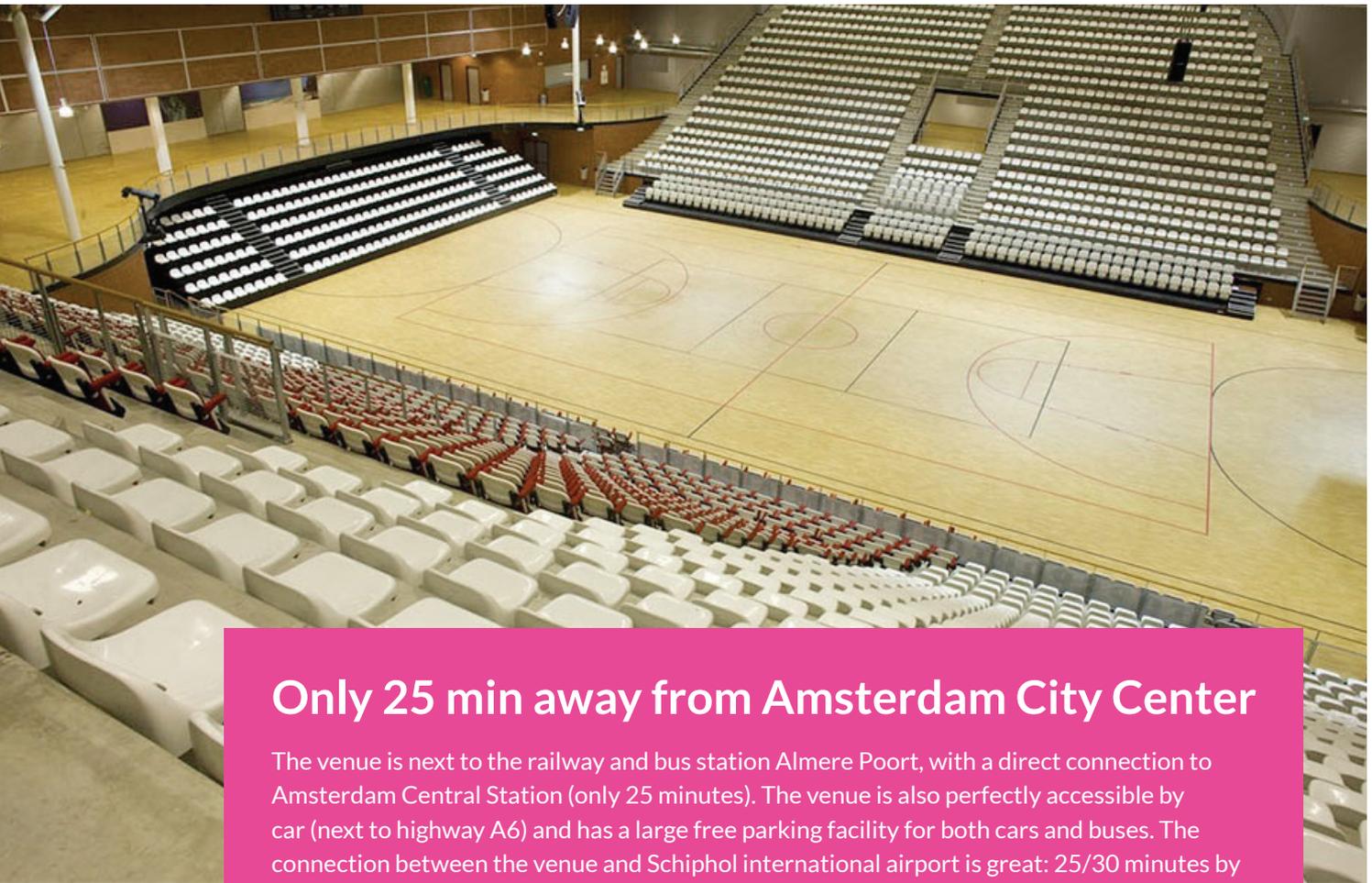
Speedcubing Nederland (founded in 2017) plays an important role in the growth and professionalization of competitions and in strengthening the community. Much attention is paid to the training of judges and organisers.

Within the Dutch community there has always been a lot of willingness to volunteer at competitions, both from cubers and from their parents and even other relatives and colleagues. *Many people have already indicated that they would like to volunteer for WCA Euro 2020 in Almere-Amsterdam.*

Proposed venue

Topsportcentrum Almere

In the shadow of Amsterdam, we found a particularly suitable venue: Topsportcentrum Almere, a multifunctional indoor sports accommodation. The venue has hosted national championships, European Championships (indoor hockey, rollerskate, twirling, dancing), international competitions (indoor soccer, volleyball, basketball, handball, juggling, World Fighting League) and congresses. It is therefore a professional, well equipped, reliable and experienced partner for WCA Euro 2020.



Only 25 min away from Amsterdam City Center

The venue is next to the railway and bus station Almere Poort, with a direct connection to Amsterdam Central Station (only 25 minutes). The venue is also perfectly accessible by car (next to highway A6) and has a large free parking facility for both cars and buses. The connection between the venue and Schiphol international airport is great: 25/30 minutes by car or 35/40 minutes by train.

Topspportcentrum Almere

When you enter the building, you immediately notice the pleasant atmosphere. The venue is spacious, but compact. Half way up the stands is an extra floor all around the venue. This floor gives a lot of extra space, brings dynamics (people can walk completely around) and gives a great view on the competition. There are also multiple catering points and a cafeteria on this floor. We will use the main hall there for all regular events. Two rooms on the first and second floor will be used for the quiet events. Right next to the main hall, at only 25 meters, there is a second sports hall which we will set up as our Fun Zone.



Versatile for cubers & visitors

The venue is well equipped. Professional lighting, sound equipment and several large screens are included at a really affordable price. The standard lighting seems to be more than sufficient. There is air conditioning and free WiFi. We will work together with



the regular suppliers of this venue, if extra equipment (cameras, screens, extra light and sound for the ceremonies) is needed.

The venue is owned and managed by the municipality of Almere. The managers are pleasant to work with. They are flexible, ambitious, experienced and helpful. Most of the costs that other venues ask to pay separately, are included in the price for this venue.



Main hall

As the pictures show, there are several possibilities as it comes to the layout of the main hall. We will work out the optimal design for the championship, competitors and visitors. The 45 individual competition tables (5 areas of 9 tables) will probably be placed in 2 rows across the full width, so that all tables are clearly visible to the public. The areas will be differentiated by color.

Probably, we will also place a number of training tables on this (covered) ground floor.



Also on the floor connecting the stands we will place training tables. We prefer to use these tables mainly for competitors. For the atmosphere, we think it's preferable to combine (partially) these functions: competing and training/chilling.

We will use the stands on one side only, opposite the stage, which gives around 1,200 seats. The stands behind the solving stations will be hidden by a curtain. This curtain will be the background of a large screen which we will use to broadcast the live stream and other relevant information for competitors and visitors. There are also large screens (part of the inventory) on both short sides of the hall. The stands on the short sides are foldable. We assume that we will not use them.





- ✓ Very attractive main hall
- ✓ Plenty of space
- ✓ Separate Fun Zone
- ✓ Professional and reliable
- ✓ Well equipped
- ✓ Very affordable

More than
enough
space

Entrance

There is a representative entrance with cash registers for the registration and the reception of our competitors and guests. Probably we'll extend the box with separate counters.



Side rooms for quiet events

A spacious meeting room on the first floor will be used to host the quiet events FMC, 4x4x4 blind, 5x5x5 blind and multi blind. Because we would like to give many competitors the opportunity to participate in FMC, we will also use the business lounge on the 2nd floor for this event.



Extra rooms

On the ground floor, we have access to various rooms, like the changing rooms, first aid room, board room and players home. We will use these for score taking, the organisation team and storage.

Decoration

We will provide an appropriate decoration of the venue. The decoration is primarily intended to create a real cubing and WCA Euro 2020 atmosphere. We are thinking of flags of the participating countries, pictures, a WCA Euro 2020 wall/banner behind the competition stations, boards for the competition tables (also attractive for pictures and live stream!) and a wall/board where (groups of) cubers could take pictures. We will also ensure that our sponsors will receive enough exposure in the venue.

Cafeteria and catering points

On the first floor, with a view to the main hall, there is a cafeteria. Participants and visitors can buy their refreshments, snacks and lunch here, at reasonable prices. Thanks to the extended PA system, all announcements by the master caller will also be heard here. In the corners of the first floor, extra catering points will be operational.



Fun Zone



Directly next to the main hall, at only 25 meters, there is a second sports hall ('breedtesporthal') with even a larger surface, which can be divided into smaller parts. This will be a great meeting point for the competitors. We will provide more than enough tables and chairs for chilling and training/preparation for the competition. This zone will also be the place for sales stands (merchandise, cubes), non-commercial stands and a range of activities. In this hall we will also set up a separate staff area. We will place two screens and extend the PA system to the Fun Zone so that cubers and visitors don't have to miss anything that happens in the main hall. Further on in this proposal you will read more about our ambitions for the Fun Zone.

Next to the venue

Although the Topsportcentrum is not located in a vibrant neighbourhood, the immediate surroundings do have something to offer. There is a swimming pool right next to the venue, there are several restaurants and within a few minutes walking distance, competitors will find a supermarket and shopping centre.

Meeting old en new friends



Impression

The video '10 years Topsportcentrum' gives you a great impression of the venue.

- ✓ 25 min from Amsterdam center
- ✓ Next to the railway station
- ✓ Free parking space

We visited all possible suitable locations in the Amsterdam region, 8 in total. Although most are certainly interesting and suitable, the Topsportcentrum was our absolute favorite. The atmosphere, the possibilities, flexibility and accessibility make it a great venue for WCA Euro 2020. And it turned out to be - by far - the cheapest venue in the region!

Level 0



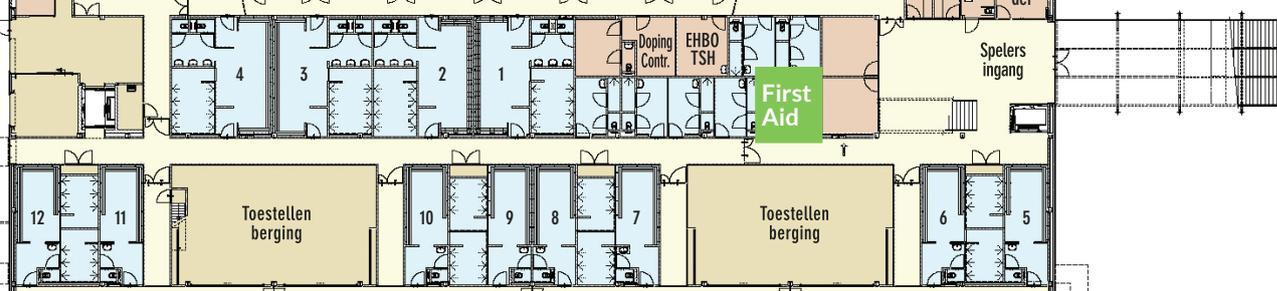
Organisation room

- Speelveld
- Kledruimte
- Complexgebondenruimte
- Opslagruimte
- Techniekrimte
- Verkeersruimte

Main competition area



100 m.



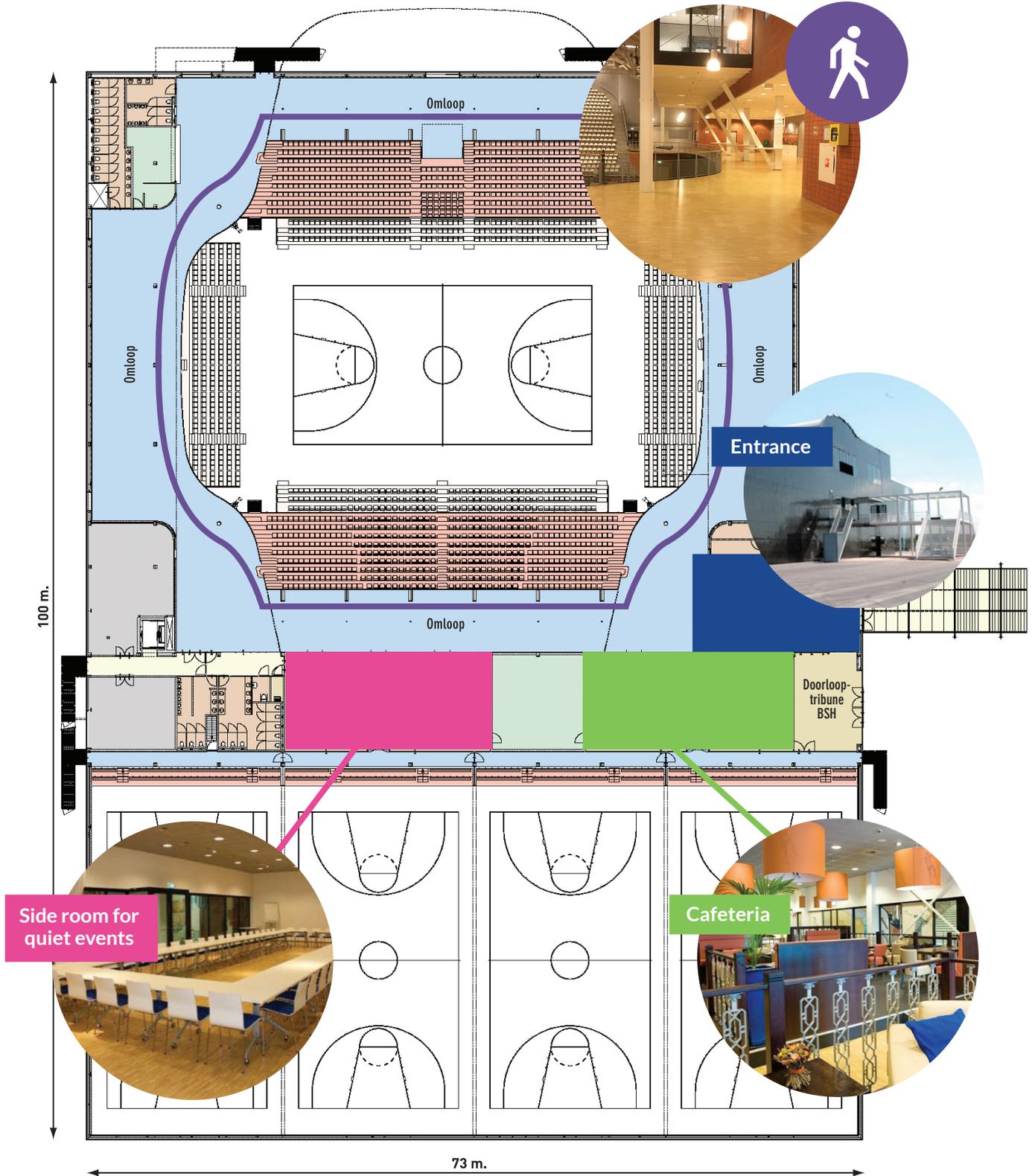
Staff area



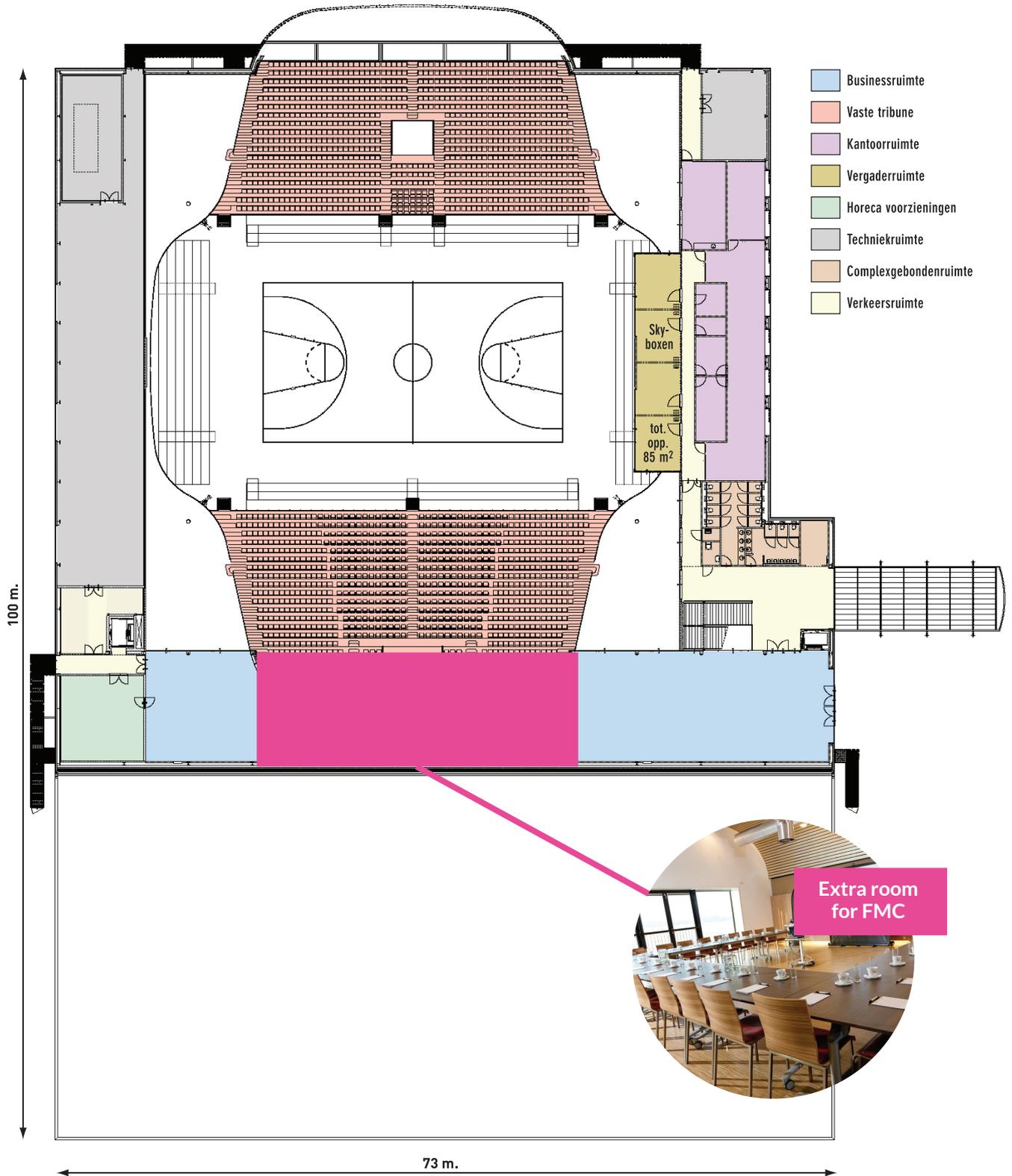
Fun Zone

73 m.

Level 1



Level 2



Competition program

For optimal performance

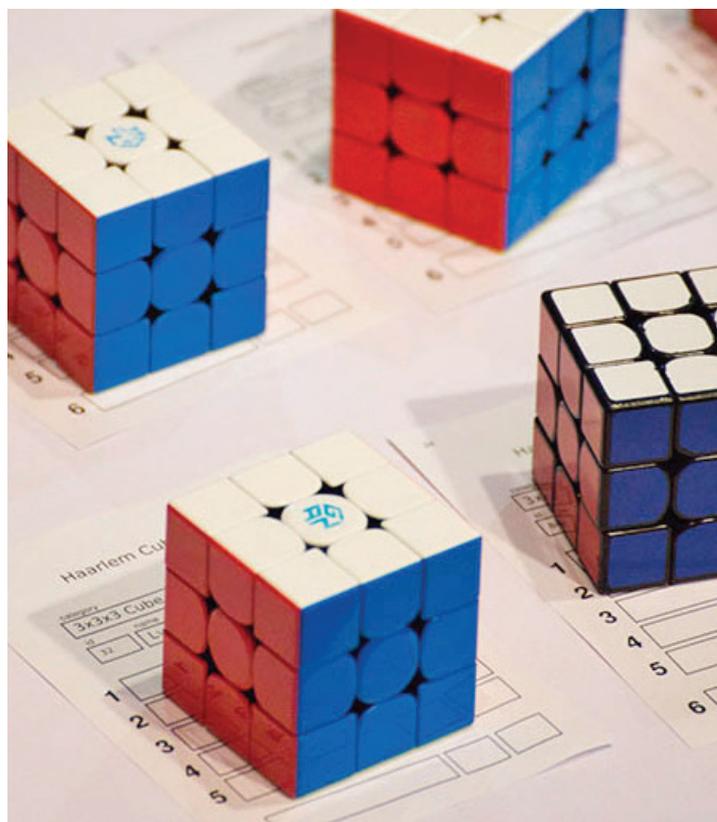
Our first priority is organising a thorough competition, where competitors can perform at their best. We hope for many personal, national, continental and world records! The competition has to be attractive for both top cubers and more recreational participants. Our goal is to host 800-900 competitors.

In this chapter you will find our proposal for the competition schedule and the qualification requirements.

Provisional schedule

We have put together a provisional schedule for WCA Euro 2020. It is based on 45 (5x9) competition stations in the main hall and two side rooms for the quiet events.

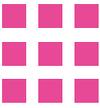
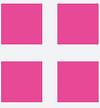
The schedule is vastly inspired by previous major competitions, namely European Championship 2018 and World Championship 2019. The number of registrations is very relevant and can lead to important changes to the schedule such as the duration of rounds and cumulative time limit. Eventually we will add a cutoff limit, which will most likely be the case for 2x2x2, 3x3x3, skewb and pyraminx.



Qualification requirements

For most events, we will set qualification requirements. For the so-called popular events (2x2x2, 3x3x3, skewb and pyraminx) we only require a WCA result for the specific events. At the moment we assume these requirements.

3x3x3	Any WCA result on 3x3x3	3x3x3 Blindfolded	Single < 2:30
2x2x2	Any WCA result on 2x2x2	3x3x3 One-Handed	Ao5 < 30.00
Pyraminx	Any WCA result on pyraminx	3x3x3 With Feet	Ao5 or Mo3 < 1:00
Skewb	Any WCA result on skewb	Clock	Ao5 < 12.00
4x4x4	Ao5 < 1:10	Megaminx	Ao5 < 2:00
5x5x5	Ao5 < 2:00	Square-1	Ao5 < 30.00
6x6x6	Mo3 < 3:30	4x4x4 Blindfolded	Single < 10:00
7x7x7	Mo3 < 4:30	5x5x5 Blindfolded	Single < 30:00
3x3x3 <i>Fewest Moves</i>	Top 150 registered (maybe more)	3x3x3 Multi-Blind	Top 40 registered

Event	Round	Format	Time limit	Proceed
	First round	Ao5	10:00.00	Top 240
	Second round	Ao5	10:00.00	Top 72
	Semi Final	Ao5	10:00.00	Top 12
	Final	Ao5	10:00.00	
	First round	Ao5	10:00.00	Top 180
	Second round	Ao5	10:00.00	Top 80
	Semi Final	Ao5	10:00.00	Top 18
	Final	Ao5	10:00.00	
	First round	Ao5	10:00.00	Top 64
	Second round	Ao5	10:00.00	Top 18
	Final	Ao5	10:00.00	
	First round	Ao5	10:00.00	Top 64
	Second round	Ao5	10:00.00	Top 18
	Final	Ao5	10:00.00	
	First round	Mo3	10:00.00	Top 18
	Final	Mo3	10:00.00	
	First round	Mo3	10:00.00	Top 18
	Final	Mo3	10:00.00	
	First round	Bo3	10:00.00	Top 48
	Second round	Bo3	10:00.00	Top 18
	Final	Bo3	10:00.00	
	Final	Mo3	1 hour	
	First round	Ao5	10:00.00	Top 48
	Second round	Ao5	10:00.00	Top 18
	Final	Ao5	10:00.00	

Event	Round	Format	Time limit	Proceed
	First round Final	Ao5 Ao5	10:00.00 10:00.00	Top 18
	First round Final	Ao5 Ao5	10:00.00 10:00.00	Top 18
	First round Final	Ao5 Ao5	10:00.00 10:00.00	Top 18
	First round Second round Final	Ao5 Ao5 Ao5	10:00.00 10:00.00 10:00.00	Top 80 Top 18
	First round Second round Final	Ao5 Ao5 Ao5	10:00.00 10:00.00 10:00.00	Top 80 Top 18
	First round Final	Ao5 Ao5	10:00.00 10:00.00	Top 18
	Final	Bo3	20:00.00 cumulative	
	Final	Bo3	40:00.00	
	Final	Bo2	10:00.00 per cube, up to 60:00.00	

● Main Hall ● Side rooms

Start	End		Activity	Format	Time limit	Proceed
08:45	09:45		3x3x3 Fewest Moves Final, <i>Attempt 1</i>	Mo3	1 hour	
09:55	10:20		3x3x3 With Feet First round	Ao5	10:00.00	Top 18
10:30	11:30		3x3x3 Fewest Moves Final, <i>Attempt 2</i>	Mo3	1 hour	
11:45	13:00		6x6x6 Cube First round	Mo3	10:00.00	Top 18
11:45	12:00		3x3x3 With Feet Final	Ao5	10:00.00	
12:45	13:00		Multi #1 - Puzzle submission			
13:00	14:00		Lunch			
14:00	15:15		7x7x7 Cube First round	Mo3	10:00.00	Top 18
14:40	15:55		3x3x3 Multi-Blind Final, <i>Attempt 1</i>	Bo2	10:00.00 per cube, up to 60:00.00	
15:15	16:30		Megaminx First round	Ao5	10:00.00	Top 18
16:30	17:30		Clock First round	Ao5	10:00.00	Top 18
17:30	18:30		3x3x3 Fewest Moves Final, <i>Attempt 3</i>	Mo3	1 hour	
18:40	19:40		Opening Ceremony			

Schedule Thursday, July 16, 2020

● Main Hall ● Side rooms

Start	End		Activity	Format	Time limit	Proceed
08:45	09:00	✓	Multi #2 - Puzzle submission			
09:00	10:30		5x5x5 Cube First round	Ao5	10:00.00	Top 64
09:45	11:00		3x3x3 Multi-Blind Final, <i>Attempt 2</i>	Bo2	10:00.00 per cube, up to 60:00.00	
10:30	11:30		4x4x4 Cube First round	Ao5	10:00.00	Top 64
11:30	12:20		Square-1 First round	Ao5	10:00.00	Top 18
12:20	12:45		7x7x7 Cube Final	Mo3	10:00.00	
12:45	13:45	✓	Lunch			
13:45	14:05		6x6x6 Cube Final	Mo3	10:00.00	
14:05	15:15		Skewb First round	Ao5	10:00.00	Top 80
14:45	16:00		5x5x5 Blindfolded Final	Bo3	40:00.00	
15:15	16:45		3x3x3 One-Handed First round	Ao5	10:00.00	Top 48
16:45	17:45		3x3x3 Blindfolded First round	Bo3	10:00.00	Top 48
17:45	18:05		Square-1 Final	Ao5	10:00.00	
18:05	18:25		Clock Final	Ao5	10:00.00	
18:30	20:00	✓	Social Event			

● Main Hall ● Side rooms

Start	End		Activity	Format	Time limit	Proceed
09:00	12:00		3x3x3 Cube First round	Ao5	10:00.00	Top 240
10:30	11:30		4x4x4 Blindfolded Final	Bo3	20:00.00 cumulative	
12:00	12:40		5x5x5 Cube Second round	Ao5	10:00.00	Top 18
12:40	13:40		Lunch		10:00.00	
13:40	15:10		Pyraminx First round	Ao5	10:00.00	Top 80
15:10	16:40		2x2x2 Cube First round	Ao5	10:00.00	Top 180
16:40	17:20		Skewb Second round	Ao5		Top 18
17:20	18:00		Pyraminx Second round	Ao5	10:00.00	Top 18
18:00	18:30		4x4x4 Cube Second round	Ao5	10:00.00	Top 18

Schedule Saturday, July 18, 2020

● Main Hall ● Side rooms

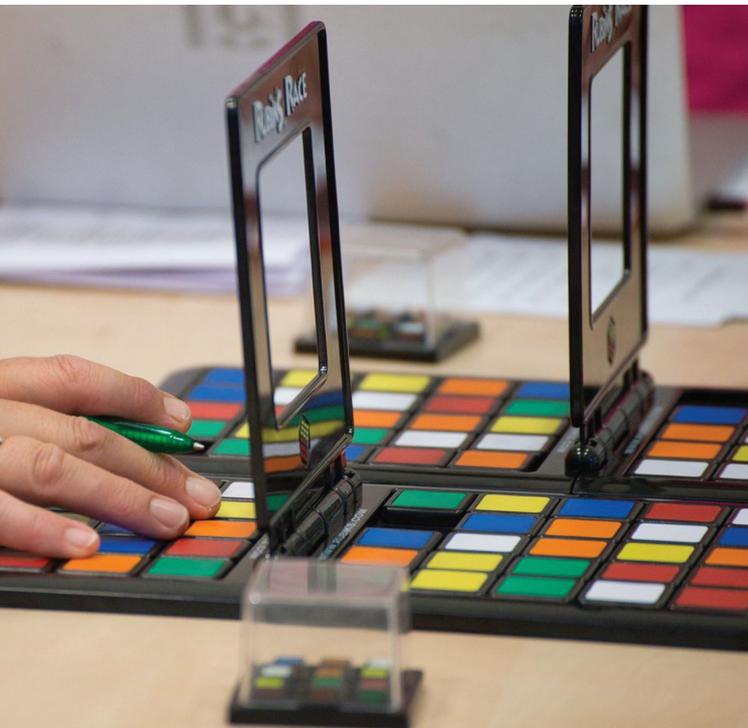
Start	End		Activity	Format	Time limit	Proceed
09:30	10:30		3x3x3 Cube Second round	Ao5	10:00.00	Top 72
10:30	11:10		2x2x2 Cube Second round	Ao5	10:00.00	Top 80
11:10	11:30		3x3x3 One-Handed Second round	Ao5	10:00.00	Top 18
11:30	11:50		3x3x3 Blindfolded Second round	Bo3	10:00.00	Top 18
11:50	12:10		2x2x2 Cube Semi Final	Ao5	10:00.00	Top 18
12:10	12:30		3x3x3 Cube Semi Final	Ao5	10:00.00	Top 12
12:30	13:30		Lunch			
13:30	13:45		Pyraminx Final	Ao5	10:00.00	
13:45	14:05		Megaminx Final	Ao5	10:00.00	
14:05	14:20		Skewb Final	Ao5	40:00.00	
14:20	14:40		5x5x5 Cube Final	Ao5	10:00.00	
14:40	15:00		3x3x3 One-Handed Final	Ao5	10:00.00	
15:00	15:20		3x3x3 Blindfolded Final	Bo3	10:00.00	
15:20	15:40		4x4x4 Cube Final	Ao5	10:00.00	
15:40	15:55		2x2x2 Cube Final	Ao5	10:00.00	
15:55	16:10		Setup final			
16:10	17:10		3x3x3 Cube Final	Ao5	10:00.00	
17:10	18:10		Awards			

Side program

More than a competition

WCA Euro 2020 Almere-Amsterdam will be more than 'just a big competition'. We want competitors, their families and spectators to have an unforgettable time: meeting friends, making new friends, discovering the Netherlands and learning new things about cubing.

So we will not only provide a superb competition program, but also a variety of other activities. In the Fun Zone, the main hall and in/around the city.



Time to chill

In the Fun Zone, we intent to place table football XL, table tennis, board games and computer games (for example Racing Simulators of Formula One Max Verstappen). We will also place enough chairs/couches/bean bags/beach chairs/standing tables for chilling.

Chess

We will make room for one or two big size chess 'boards' on the ground. We also would like to have some other, normal size boards and maybe some chess players who can be challenged.

Escape room board games

Almere happens to be a city with a lot of real escape rooms and a city where a very large board and card gaming company is located. We intend to have different escape room board games at our venue, during the whole event, accompanied by a democrew.

Climbing wall

A small climbing wall is already there. We intend to arrange professional guidance so that competitors and guests can attempt to reach the top.

In the Fun Zone

The second hall in the venue will be the area for meeting friends, fun activities, presentations, merchandise and non-official events. We could possibly split the hall into four parts. *We intent to place two screens and extent the PA system to the Fun Zone so that everyone can stay in touch with what's happening in the main hall.* One part of this hall will be set up as a staff area.

Variety of stands

Stands for sponsors, WCA, cube sale and the sale of WCA Euro 2020 shirts, sweaters, clogs and merchandise will attract the attention of competitors and visitors. We would also like to accommodate non-commercial stands such as collectors, creators and artists with cube art (as with our annual successful Dutch Cube Day).

Training/preparation

In this hall we will place tens of training tables for competitors (in addition to the tables that are already in the main hall), so that they can prepare themselves properly for their official events.



Cube and non cube related lessons and lectures

We would like to offer a series of lessons and lectures that are interesting for cubers or their accompanying family. We are thinking of subjects like (multi) blind solving, roux, math, math-art, cube-art or juggling with cubes. There will probably be more ideas!

Game for international mixed teams

We want to encourage participants to make new friends. We plan to develop a game/event in which mixed teams (with minimum x nationalities) can participate.

(team) competition cube mosaic teams

Of course we would love to have fantastic designs of cube mosaics. We think of giving the mosaic competition a theme and we invite competitors (alone, or as a team) to make a nice mosaic. We provide the cubes and take photos of the end results, so we can have a photo Wall of Fame and make a top 3 to be awarded. Competitors can subscribe to a time slot in advance.

Unofficial event: Magic & Master Magic

Since Almere and the Rubik's Cube are of the same age, we would like to bring back the memories of 'solving' the Magic and Master Magic, as two Blast From The Past Events. Those two puzzles can be solved while one judge is watching and writing down the solving times. Competitors can come and make their solves in a time they aren't competing in the regular events. During this day, we can update the standings as they play. Other unofficial events could be, for example, re-scramble or team-blind.

In the main hall

Opening ceremony

Our ambition is to organise a dynamic opening ceremony. We plan to do this at the end of day one. An attractive start of our adventure, with a presentation/pitch of the program, the competing countries, something spectacular, maybe a role for the reigning European champions, surprising Dutch elements and of course music.

Award/closing ceremony

On Sunday there will be the award/closing ceremony. In our opinion, it has to be one of the highlights of the championship. We want to put the new European champions in the spotlight and pay attention to their fantastic results. There will be attention for any new continental or world records, which we hope will be achieved. And of course, we will also reward any non-European cubers that have ended up in the top 3. An attractive ceremony will do justice to their efforts. Moreover, it will be a great conclusion of 4 intensive and unforgettable days.

Evening program

In our schedule, we've taken into account an evening's activity on Friday night. We have several ideas about this (for example something like a Nations Cup), but have not yet made a decision. We could combine this with a joint meal, in the venue or near the venue (at the beach?). A BBQ, a buffet, a real Dutch dinner...

We will work this out at a later stage. We are also considering organising a WCA delegate meeting, for example on Saturday evening.

The side program will be managed by

Anja Deij-Provoost

Since her grandfather gave Anja a Rubik's cube (1990) she found the patterns fascinating. Since then, the cube has been in Anja's life. She has participated at the Worlds in Düsseldorf in 2009 together with her brother; and at the Worlds in Paris in 2017 together with her son. For Anja, solving the cube, the pyraminx or any other puzzle, is all about fun.



Anja is a communication specialist and a project manager. She has much experience organising large events, including competitions of Magic the Gathering, strategic board games and chess. When she heard of a WCA Euro 2020 in the Netherlands she immediately offered her professional help to get the fun-part of the competition to a higher level.

In and around the city

Escape rooms in Almere

Almere happens to be a city with a lot of real escape rooms. We intend to make a special deal with one (or more) of the Almere escape rooms for our competitors, so that they can join their rooms in the evening, making international friends and puzzling together.

Official Guinness World Records attempt

We would love to organise an official Guinness World Record with our cubes. We will contact the Application Process Consultancy to find out which record, or which attempt, is most suitable for our event. We believe it will be an international and national attraction with a lot of (free) exposure and publicity. We are also in contact with Almere City Marketing, which sees good opportunities for this. We are investigating the possibilities and cannot yet guarantee that this will actually happen.

Rijksmuseum Amsterdam

One of the most popular museums of Europe is the Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam. Famous for the painting De Nachtwacht (Nightwatch) of Rembrandt van Rijn. We are investigating the opportunity to get an exclusive entrance for our competitors.

The day after: a day tour

Many participants will stay a few days longer to discover the Netherlands. Some very interesting places are less easily accessible for the individual traveller. That's why we have the ambition to organise a day tour on the Monday after the championship, for example to the polder pumping stations.

Equipment & materials

Precondition for success

In the previous chapters you have read about the advantages of the Netherlands and in particular Almere-Amsterdam as a location for WCA Euro 2020. You have been introduced to the Topsportcentrum, the proposed venue. We have presented you an attractive program with a solid competition part and a nice side program.

But ultimately, the success of WCA Euro 2020 depends on the competition equipment and materials used, like the tables, chairs, timers and displays on the solving stations. Our equipment team will organise that all materials are in the right place at the right time and will manage them during the competition.

Competition equipment

The competition equipment (such as timers, displays and stopwatches) has to be reliable and of high quality. We will need equipment for the 45 solving stations in the main hall, for the quiet events as well as some spare materials. As we don't have that amount of competition equipment in the Netherlands, we are really happy with the commitment of Denmark, Germany, France and Spain to lend us their professional equipment. We have the intention to customize all displays with a WCA Euro 2020 sticker. We will only use GEN4 timers (with o-rings) and GEN3 displays that are in good condition. Of course we will take care of all other supplies, such as batteries, cube covers (in different colors, to match the 5 competition areas), clock covers, sheets for blind and pens.

Equipment for score-taking

For the score-taking we need several laptops and a quick and high-quality printer in order to print the results and the scorecards for later rounds. We will ask the people in the score-taking team to bring their own laptop. We are sure that we could also arrange enough (spare) laptops and a printer within the Dutch community. As we expect WCA Live to be up and running by then, no local servers should be necessary.



Furniture

For the tables, chairs and other furniture we will work together with a reliable rental company. The Topsportcentrum also has a number of tables and chairs available for our championship. We need (individual) tables and chairs for the 45 solving stations and waiting area in the main hall and for the quiet events in the side room. We will also hire furniture for training/preparation, for the score taking team and for activities in the Fun Zone.



Lost & found

In every competition, no matter how small, people lose stuff or leave it behind. We will set up a lost & found. We will work out a system where as much stuff as possible will be returned to the rightful owner.

Communication

Our full attention

Communication, with (future) participants, visitors, the community and media, has our full attention. Before the championship we want cubers to have a positive feeling about the Netherlands as location for the WCA Euro 2020. During the championship we want competitors and guests to know everything they need to know. And we want to ensure a high level of exposure: 'everyone' needs to know that the European Championship exist and what is happening!

For this we have developed a preliminary communication approach. If the WCA board makes a final decision in favour of Almere-Amsterdam, our communication team will get to work on the implementation.



Logo WCA Euro 2020

Our fresh and modern logo is available in different colors. The logo is suitable for our online communication, decoration in the venue, cube covers, merchandise (such as t-shirts) and for the use by our sponsors.

Positive feeling

Before the championship we want cubers to have a positive feeling about the Netherlands as location for the WCA Euro 2020. They need to be well informed about the competition, the side program and how to stay and travel in the Netherlands. Volunteers have to be well informed about their role in the competition. Our communication approach is also important to get media attention, to attract spectators and to be attractive to our sponsors.

Everything they need to know

During the championship we want competitors to know everything they need to know about the schedule, activities and where to be. Also guests need to know the most important things about the competition and to cubing in general. We want to share results and celebrate records. We want the cubing community and other interested people to be able to follow the competition and the highlights through social media and live stream. Journalists need to have enough information (such as results) to pay attention to WCA Euro 2020. And of course we want our sponsors to be happy with a high level of exposure.

Promotion & media

Website

When the final decision has been made by the WCA board to host Euro 2020 in the Netherlands, potential competitors and staff will soon have a great need of information. We will publish as soon as possible the website www.wcaeuro2020.com with the available information about the championship, the side program, travelling to the Netherlands and accommodation. The website should also appeal to possible spectators, who are not or hardly familiar with speedcubing. We will make a content plan for the period between start registration and WCA Euro 2020 itself, with news, practical information, interviews, information about sponsors etc.

Master caller

During WCA Euro 2020 a master caller will play an important role in the communication with the competitors and guests. He/she will manage the pace of the competition and entertains the audience. The master caller will:

- announce all events, rounds, groups, formats etc
- tell highlights about (top)cubers, facts & figures
- announce new records and other special results
- give information about the side program
- manage the opening, winners and closing ceremonies

Press approach

In the weeks before WCA Euro 2020 we will get in touch with regional and national and some international media. Last year we had a lot of press attention (including national television) for speedcubing in the Netherlands, so we expect there will be a good amount of visibility. We will distribute a press kit (in different languages) with information about speedcubing, the WCA, reigning champions etc.

During WCA Euro 2020 interested media will receive a daily press update. Other media will receive a press release right after the finals with headlines. Our communication team will be available for all questions and requests and assist/support journalists who visit the competition.

Social media

Facebook and Instagram are important channels to stay in touch with the (potential) competitors, (potential) staff, cubing community and others. We will start communicating via social media direct after the decision to organise WCA Euro 2020 in the Netherlands. Of course we will continue to do this during the European Championship. We want to give the highlights, such as new records and new champions, a lot of attention.

Helpdesk

Before the championship, our communication team will be available for all questions by mail, via website and social media, from (potential) competitors, staff, families, spectators and press.

The live stream will be managed by

James Molloy

“For WCA Euro 2020 in the Netherlands, I hope that we can provide a level of streaming with high quality. I have worked with a team at WCA Euro 2018 and the World Championship in Melbourne, and I will be bringing that experience to bring a high quality production for both the experienced competitor as well as the absolute beginner! I’ll be looking to take everything I learned to bring a top quality stream to WCA Euro 2020 in Almere-Amsterdam.



My intention is to work with a small team of experienced cubers to make sure there is always some content available throughout the entirety of the competition. We would have an individual working with a camera crew to make sure that we are catching the best action throughout as well as having focussed commentary from two people at all times. Between rounds and during downtime we will use that time to advertise the WCA, sponsors, getting involved and talk about upcoming/previous rounds and competitors.”

Live stream

The competition will be live streamed. The goal is twofold. With the live stream we give the opportunity to the cubing community and other interested persons all over the world to follow the championship. It will help create exposure!

The live stream is also of great value for the competitors and guests in the venue. They will be able to follow the video on a big screen behind the competition tables, as well on screens in the Fun Zone. This gives them a much better view of the competitors. We will not only broadcast the live video, but also slides with information about new records and other important results, highlights about (top)competitors and facts & figures. During the finals, we will try to present live results. We are very glad with the commitment of James Molloy (UK) to coordinate the live stream.

Online magazine

During WCA Euro 2020, we have the ambition to publish and maintain an ‘online magazine’ on the website. It will be a great addition to the live stream. In the online magazine competitors, visitors, press and other interested people will find nice articles, interviews, pictures, facts & figures etc. It will be a dynamic magazine: news will appear throughout the day.

Result wall

Not everybody has permanent access to the online result program. For both competitors and visitors it’s important to also have a physical place with all results of the competition. This could be with prints, and maybe also on screens. We could combine this with information about the groups, starting times etc.

Registration

Competitors and guests

In a competition of this size, the registration requires special attention. This concerns the registration of competitors for the championship in advance, as well as the registration on arrival in the venue of both the participants and the guests.

We are currently assuming 800-900 participants. If the number of registrations is much higher than expected, we will consider increasing the limit. Our registration team coordinates everything related to the registration.



Participants & guests

Registration in advance

The WCA Euro 2020 website will be used to register and pay for the competition, buy companion tickets and register as staff member. For registration we will use the same portal/system as Madrid and Melbourne. We have already made agreements with Luis J. lanez about this.

Registration will start around January and will close around one month before WCA Euro 2020. We will charge a basic fee for all competitors + a fee per event. In our preliminary calculation we have assumed a basic fee of €40 and €5 per event. To motivate participants to register as early as possible, we consider a differentiated participant contribution: the earlier they register, the less they pay. We will work this out in a later stage. From previous championships we learned that we will need to be very specific and clear about possible refund policies.

Check in at the venue

During the competition days a dedicated box office at the competition location will be available. Registered competitors and guests need to check in (one-off). Unregistered visitors can buy their tickets. All competitors and visitors will receive a wristband (we will use a color system) that gives access to the venue. The competitors will also receive their badge, lanyard, personal schedule and a gift pack.

The box office will be operational from Wednesday, so one day in advance. We will encourage competitors to come to the venue on Wednesday, get a taste of the atmosphere, pick up their badge and gift pack and avoid queues. We will staff the box office all day, with extra people during peak hours.

Volunteers

Before and during WCA Euro 2020

A large number of volunteers (around 200) will help the core team to make this European Championship to be a great success. Some of them are already (or will be) involved in the preparations. Others will only be active during the championship itself.

For some jobs we will actively and specifically look for people with specific qualities, for example copywriting, commentating or judging/scrambling. For other positions, motivation is particularly important. A good basic knowledge of the English language and a sufficient sense of responsibility is a requirement for all volunteers.



Perks of being a volunteer

Some perks will be provided in exchange for contributing to WCA Euro 2020. This will probably be free registration (if the volunteer is also competitor), a competitor gift pack (for the non-competing volunteers), free drinks and t-shirts. We will set up a separate staff area (next to the Fun Zone) where the teams can meet, have their drinks, discuss and receive instructions.

Recruitment of volunteers

We will recruit volunteers for WCA Euro 2020 in different ways.

- Some team leaders themselves will look for people they would like to have in their team (especially for specific tasks such as communication and live stream).

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- When registering for the European Championship, competitors may indicate that they wish to volunteer. They can tick which positions they are interested in. This is especially important for the positions in the staff teams (judges, scramblers, runners), as we won't have enough qualified people for this in the Netherlands.

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- Via the websites and social media accounts of WCA Euro 2020 as well as Speedcubing Nederland, we will place calls for specific vacancies.

Staff teams

Team leaders: Alberto Masó Molina, Daniel Vædele Egdal, Laura Ohrndorf, Manu Vereecken, Oleg Gritsenko, Philippe Virouleau, Radu Făciu and Sébastien Auroux.

For judging, scrambling, running and delegating, we will form 8 staff teams. We are looking at an international crew of people, mostly WCA delegates and other experienced staff. We will select staff based on the feedback of trusted community members. The competition area will be divided into 5 stages and 2 side rooms, which allows for team rotation, so people can have breaks and are able to compete.

Each staff team would consist of 14 (or maybe 15) people, including the team leader/ delegate. A staff team is responsible for one area of 9 solving stations. The role of the staff members may vary per event: judge (9), scrambler (usually 3) or runner (usually 2). This all adds up to 112 staff members for the 8 teams.

Each staff team will have one WCA delegate who will lead the team and perform the operational delegate tasks during the competition, like making decisions on incidents. Some of these delegates will be performing the preparatory and finishing delegate tasks, such as generating the scrambles and sending in the results. We are very pleased with the commitment of 8 WCA delegates for these positions. Most of them did a great job in a similar position in previous championships.

Although this will not be complete yet, you will find here an overview of the volunteers and the teams we have in mind. In addition, there are of course a lot of activities that will be done by the core team.

Judging, scrambling, running & delegating



Score taking team

Team leader: Ronald Mansveld

In this team we need around 10 people. This will be the same number of people as was used for WCA Euro 2018 in Madrid, allowing for a schedule with enough breaks and free time for score-takers, as it's mentally a very intensive job. These volunteers will be working as a duo, where one can enter results and one can check what is entered as it's happening. This method of working proved to be very successful in Madrid, based on the low level of mistakes entered, as well as the speed of entering. Since some events will be in parallel, additional score takers will be needed for the quiet events.



Master caller

Probably two persons. We've already talked to a number of people about this, but we can't give names yet.

Build-up/clear-up team

On Wednesday July 15th we will set-up the venue: furniture, decoration etc. On Sunday evening (and maybe Monday morning) we will clear the venue. For this we need some volunteers. These will mainly be people who are already in one of the other teams.

Communication team

Team leader: Sandra de Geeter

This team will be responsible for the website, social media, helpdesk, emails, collecting facts & figures, pictures/video, monitoring results, interviews, copywriting, online magazine and supervising journalists. We are very glad with the commitment of design agency Madco (designed our logo and this proposal) and Irene Driessen (cinematographer, produced the promo video of our candidacy <http://www.vimeo.com/ipsovideo/wcaeuro2020>) to contribute. 4-6 persons.

Equipment team

Team leader: Henrik Buus Aagaard

Our equipment team is responsible for all competition equipment, like timers, displays and stopwatches. The team will organise that all materials (which partly comes from other countries) are in the right place at the right time. During the competition the team will take care of the logistics, repairing or replacing defective equipment and replacing batteries of timers and displays. 3 persons.

Registration team

Team leader: Hans Bennis

This team will be responsible for the registration via the website. During WCA Euro 2020 the team will be manning the ticket office, welcoming and registering the competitors and guests, providing information and the lost & found. 2-3 persons before and around 12 persons during the competition.

First aid team

The first aid team will consist of 2 volunteers from the Red Cross in Almere.

Live streaming team

Team leader: James Molloy

This team will run the live stream: directing, commentating and interviewing. For the camera work and switching (for the live stream as well the screens in the venue), we try to find qualified volunteers, otherwise we will hire professionals. 5-6 persons.

Side program team

Team leader: Anja Deij-Provoost

Organisation and running of the Fun Zone, lectures, activities, mosaic team competition, excursions and so on. 8-14 persons.

Thank you for your attention



**WORLD CUBE
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European
Championship 2020