

The German Shuffleboard Association currently has more than 150 members.

Our Association celebrated its 10th anniversary with some great events throughout the year. The highlight of our celebrations was our grand anniversary tournament which was followed by a banquet with members, friends and families.

We currently play 6 national tournaments per year, both indoors and outdoors. This year, we added a new event. For the first time, we organized a German National Youth Championship in which boys and girls between the ages of 8 and 15 competed for the win. The Youth Championship was a lot of fun for the kids and we are looking to include it into our regular tournaments.

Being in talks with a sports club in the town of Ludwigshafen, located in the Southwest of Germany, we hope to add another location for our tournaments. It is exciting to see that more and more young German families play Shuffleboard on a regular basis, especially in Limburg.

Therefore, the GSA wants to further support the excitement exhibited in Limburg, which is why we are planning the first German Challenger tournament in 2017. This tournament is mainly for those Shufflers who are not yet experienced enough to participate in our National tournaments but who want to start their competitive Shuffleboard career. We hope that the Challenger tournaments will help these participants hone their Shuffleboard skills while gaining vital experience.

The GSA's main focus this year will be the 1st European Championship to be held in Hohenroda, Germany, in March 2017. Together with our friends from the UK and Norway we will meet at the venue of the 2010 World Championship and search for the best European male and female Shuffler among 48 participants.

Promotion has always been important to the GSA. In 2016 we succeeded in presenting Shuffleboard at many regional events but also on the European level.

In September, the President and the Treasurer of the GSA participated in an European sports conference, where no less than 25 European countries were represented, making it a major Europe-wide event in Sport for All. The conference was held in the capital of Slovenia, Ljubljana.

As the GSA presented a full Shuffleboard court, the participants had the chance to give it a try and get hooked on our game. There was much interest and we are in touch with people from different countries.

Representatives came from Ministries of Sport and Tourism, Governmental bodies, National Olympic Committees, National Sport Unions, Municipalities, Regional Sport Authorities and various Clubs and Associations.

As a first result we agreed to organize the first Dutch Open Shuffleboard tournament in August of 2018. The tournament will be embedded in the Sport for All Games, a week long event to be held in the town of Leeuwarden, Friesland. Prior to that tournament we will travel to Friesland and hold Shuffleboard workshops with pupils, students and seniors in order to create further interest in Shuffleboard in the Netherlands.

When we have all the details about size and duration of the tournament we will provide further information, so that you can join us in participating in that tournament.

In addition, we were contacted by a gentleman from Austria, Peter Krappel, who is interested in Shuffleboard. Together with Jim Allen and Peter Davis, we offered him assistance in establishing Shuffleboard in Austria. At this time, we are happy to inform you that he has founded the Austrian Shuffleboard Association. The GSA, together with our friends from Norway and the UK have offered Austria two slots in our upcoming European Championship early next year in order to further extend our relationship.