



NEWSLETTER

2002 Women's World
Championship in Germany
30. August - 15. September

**Berlin - Bremen - Dresden - Leipzig
Muenster - Riesa - Schwerin - Stuttgart**

It is now just a little more than a month before the first World Championship balls will fly over the nets. All staff of the National Organising Committee, VONOG, the Local Organising Committees, LOC, and – of course – the German team are in feverish anticipation of the event. And even the public is now aware that the first World Volleyball Championship in Germany is getting closer: Many media are now "discovering" the sport of volleyball and are interested in the World Championship and the German team. For instance the German magazine STERN. At the beginning of July Germany's best-known magazine arranged a photo shooting with the national team.

Star photographer Andreas H. Bitesnich, who had published impressive photos of some German sports stars before the 2000 Olympics, was engaged for this session. He as well as the German volleyball women were enthusiastic after the photo shooting. The "Volleyball STERN" will be published on August 29, one day before the start of the World Championship.

It is also rather unusual that Sport BILD covers volleyball, but the World Championship media meeting on July 4th prompted Europe's biggest sports newspaper to send a reporter to Heidelberg and to publish a story about the "secret signs" of the German players.

I am particularly pleased about the World Championship Special that will be published by the TV magazine TV-

MOVIE.

Politics is also an important part of sports besides the media. Thus I am particularly pleased that Federal President Johannes Rau, patron of the World Championship, will attend the opening ceremony in Muenster on August 30th. Further prominent politicians have announced their attendance with Otto Schily, Federal Minister of the Interior, and Wolfgang Clement, Minister President of North-Rhine Westphalia, who will give a reception at Halle Muensterland. Federal Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder is expected on the day of the final in Berlin. The German Chancellor will participate in the victory ceremonies.

Opening ceremony: The 60-minute opening ceremony will take place at 15:00 hrs after the opening match between Italy and Japan (12:00 hrs). One of the highlights is the performance of the German top band, Bro'Sis. The show programme should tune in to the first World Championship match of the German team against the Czech Republic.

The World Championship web site

www.volleyball2002.de

recorded its one millionth hit on July 10th. There is just two words for it: absolutely great!



DVV President Werner von Moltke is quite happy with the current stand of preparation. Photo VONOG

Imprint

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2002 World Grand Prix: Eight World Championship competitors prepare for the big event

Approximately seven weeks before the start of the World Championship eight of the participating teams prepare for the big event in Asia. The field of entries in the 2002 World Grand Prix consists of Olympic champions Cuba, Olympic silver medallists Russia, Olympic bronze medallists Brazil, defending Grand Prix champion USA, Grand Champions Cup winners China (2001), Japan, Thailand and World Championship hosts, Germany. The 2002 Grand Prix champions will be determined from July 12–August 4. They play in two groups of four each on the weekends, July 12–14, July 19–21 and July 26–28. The final round of the best four teams will be played in Hong Kong on August 1–4. The German team that achieved only one win (3–2 over South Korea) in 13 matches last year, will meet the

following opponents on the three weekends: Brazil (three times), Japan (twice), Thailand (twice), Russia (once) and China (once). The Germans will not play Cuba and the USA.

German national coach Hee Wan Lee sees the World Grand Prix as an ideal preparation for the following World Championship at home. However, due to lacking match practice and injuries such well-known players as Tanja Hart, Christina Benecke and Hanka Pachale will be missing in Asia. Together with Christin Guhr and Cornelia Dumler they will participate in two training camps (at Heidelberg July 11–18) and Schwerin July 22–August 1) in order to close the gap.

Lee about his goals for the World Grand Prix: "We want to continue preparing for the World Championship and gain match practice against the world's best teams. Naturally, the training programme will remain focused on the WCH, but we should win at least three matches."



German national coach Hee Wan Lee demands three victories for his team. Photo GES

Schedule Grand Prix 2002

1st weekend 12.-14. July

Pool 1 in Tokyo/Japan
Brazil - Germany 3:2
Japan - Thailand 3:0
Brazil - Thailand 3:1
Japan - Germany 0:3
Germany - Thailand 3:0
Japan - Brazil 0:3

Pool 2 in Chengdu/China

USA - Russia 2:3
China - Cuba 3:0
Cuba - Russia 1:3
China - USA 3:0
Cuba - USA 2:3
China - Russia 0:3

2nd weekend 19.-21. July

Pool 1 in Manila/PHI
Japan - Brazil
Russia - Germany
Russia - Japan
Germany - Brazil
Germany - Japan
Brazil - Russia

Pool 2 in Nakhon Ratchasima/THA

USA - China
Thailand - Cuba
Cuba - China
Thailand - USA
Cuba - USA
China - Thailand

3rd weekend 26.-28. July

Pool 1 in Macau
Brazil - Thailand
China - Germany
Brazil - Germany
China - Thailand
Thailand - Germany
China - Brazil

Pool 2 in Miao Li/China

USA - Cuba
Russia - Japan
Japan - USA
Cuba - Russia
Cuba - Japan
USA - Russia

4th weekend 01.-04. August: Final round of the best four teams in Hong Kong

1. August: 1st - 2nd
China - 3rd
2. August: 2nd - 3rd
China - 1st

3. August: 1st - 3rd
China - 2nd
4. August: Place 3/4
Final

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Partner & News

Credit Suisse new partner of FIVB and the WCH!

The FIVB (Federation Internationale de Volleyball et de Beach Volleyball) and Credit Suisse have agreed to join forces in marketing and business. The prestigious international Banking Group will become the "Official banking partner" to the FIVB, the sport's governing body, whose mission it is to bring volleyball in all its forms to as many people as possible throughout the world.

"We are delighted with this partnership," said FIVB President Dr. Rubén Acosta. "A dynamic, prestigious international bank like Credit Suisse shares many common values with the FIVB

German Telekom Frankfurt provides mobile phones for World Championship!

Communication during the World Championship has now been assured: Deutsche Telekom Frankfurt will provide altogether 100 mobile phones for the National Organising Committee, VONOG.

The phones including cards are provided free of charge, VONOG only has to pay for the calls.

The contract was concluded due to the long-term outline agreement between

MIKASA, DVV and Bundesliga signed a four-year exclusive contract!

The German Volleyball Bundesliga will play from the 2002-2003 season through 2006 with MIKASA balls. Procured by World Championship event director Franz Schmied, the German Volleyball Federation, DVV, the Bundesliga clubs and MIKASA recently signed an exclusive contract.

Thus the yellow-blue-white MIKASA ball "MVP 200" will be the official

and I am sure we will work closely together to promote those values - particularly performance, excellence, fairness, teamwork and global cooperation," the President added.

In providing major support for the FIVB properties of the US \$15 million Men's World League, the Women's 2002 World Championship Germany, the Women's Grand Prix and the Beach Volleyball World Tour, Credit Suisse will be able to work with a dynamic sport with the hallmark of fairness, while pursuing its own expansion goal.

As one of the world's leading financial services companies, Credit Suisse offer first-class financial services to more

German Telekom and the German Sports Federation, DSB, and its member organisations. DVV or VONOG benefited from this agreement.

The mobile phones will be used mainly for "internal communication" and will be allocated to the FIVB officials, team guides, the shuttle service and VONOG staff.

VONOG Executive Director Juergen Lamberty said: "We are happy about this welcome support by which we were able to take some strain off our budget".

playing ball in all championship matches of the 1st and 2nd Bundesliga plus in all Cup events as from the upcoming season.

MIKASA is also the official ball at all events of the International Volleyball Federation, FIVB, and of the European Volleyball Federation, CEV. The tri-coloured will be played at the 2002 Women's World Championship (August 30-September 15) and the 2003 Men's European Championship (September 6-14) in Germany.

Bundesliga spokesman Michael Evers

than 2.6 million private and corporate customers.

The FIVB is affiliated with five Continental Confederations and 217 National Federations throughout the world. According to surveys by those federations, there are some 33 million licensed players throughout the world, with almost one billion people having played the game recreationally or competitively. The FIVB is also proud to be active in the area of Sports Aid and Development Programs for Developing Countries, as well as cooperating with international organizations like the United Nations and WHO in campaigns to promote sport as a tool for international peace and human well-being.

Kaethe Kruse

**Kaethe Kruse:
Five life-size
mascots for the
World Cham-
pionship!**

World Championship mascot "Casper" will get five life-size big brothers. They should create the right atmosphere in the competition halls during the World Championship. Kaethe Kruse Company is currently manufacturing the big mascots. The first has now been finished and should be presented shortly. The small "Casper" is available on the World Championship web site.

from Schweriner SC said about the conclusion of the contract: "We are happy that we now have a partnership with MIKASA for a long term. And in addition, we will now be playing with the same balls in national and international competitions which of course is an advantage."

Gerhard Unseld, product manager of MIKASA Germany, said: "The contract with DVV is a further important step towards fulfilling our mission: to lastingly mark the development of volleyball world-wide."



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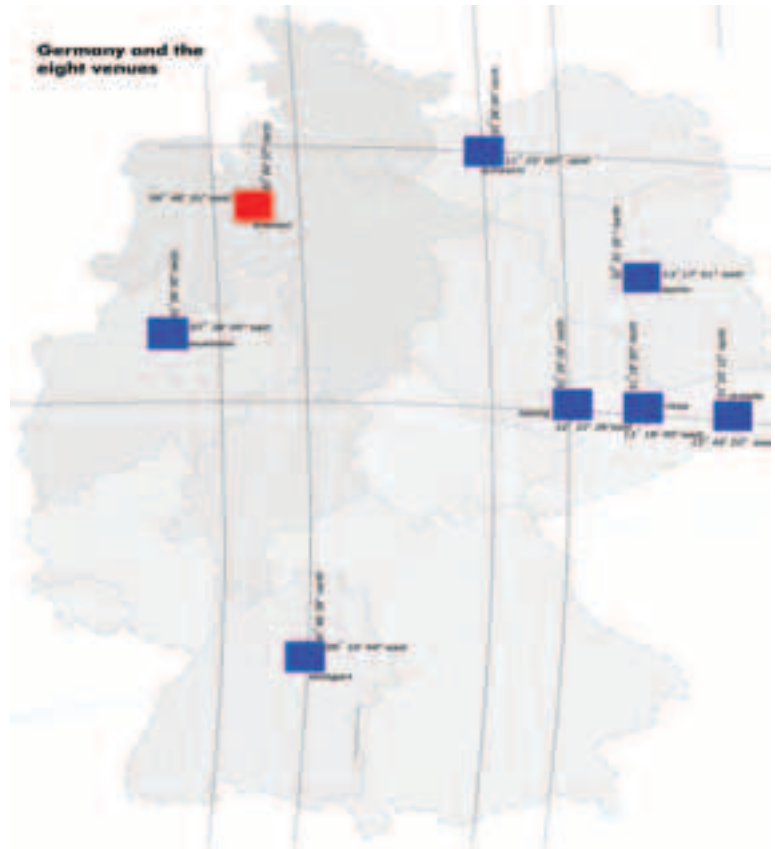
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**SPORTSTADT
RIESA**

The good spirit of the Hanseatic City of Bremen

The good spirit of Bremen appears consistently every two years. In 1996 it helped the German national women's team to qualify for the Atlanta Games, in 1998 for the World Championship and in 2000 for the Sydney Olympics. This year, 2002, the Hanseatic City will host nine matches of the World Championship. And that's a great opportunity for the spirit of Bremen to return to the Stadthalle (City Hall) arena.

The spirit must live somewhere in the narrow, picturesque lanes of the Schnoors district, where the Middle Ages are still alive. This is the classic picture of a Hanseatic City that has preserved its old-time spirit without forgetting modern times. On one side of the historic Market Square with the almost 600 years old statue of Roland and the Town Hall lies fascinating Boettcher Street and the famous Stadtmusikanten from a fairy tale. On the other side is the high-tech location, the Universum Science Centre and the newly designed "Schlachte" on the Weser river. Bremen



– a very pleasant town full of contrasts.

Population & structure

Bremen is the smallest Federal State of Germany with 540,000 people living in Bremen and 125,000 at Bremerhaven. The Two-City State Bremen-Bremerhaven forms a geographical triangle with Hamburg and Hannover with both cities 120km away from Bremen. Bremen's International Airport is just 15 minutes from the city centre and connects Bremen with 14 national and international airports. The main railway station is located just opposite of Stadthalle.

City & history

The Hanseatic City of Bremen is now more than 1,200 years old. The buildings, roads and squares bear witness to those many centuries. But Bremen is also cosmopolitan and modern; a city

of short distances with many parks. Stadthalle Bremen is a brand mark and a symbol for the city's versatility. This complex consists of several halls providing lots of space for events of any kind. Be it concerts, shows or sport, Stadthalle Bremen is the event centre of the north.

Sports & culture

Bremen is a city of sports boasting numerous clubs for any kind of sport, Bundesliga football and exclusive events such as the Bremen Six Days in cycling and indoor show-jumping events. The international women's volleyball tournament has been a sporting highlight for more than 20 years.

Tourist attractions

The Market Square with its historic buildings has been the heart of the Han-



World famous: The "Bremer Stadtmusikanten" from the fairy tale.



Venues – Bremen

seatic City for centuries and is certainly one of the most beautiful squares in the world. But the city has more to offer: galleries, museums, concert halls, theatres and musical theatres, parks and gardens, Romanesque squares and covered malls. Special attractions are being offered since September 2000 in a spectacular building, the Universum Science Centre. Visitors turn into interactive scientists and discover the world.

Hotels & Tourism

Bremen boasts any kind of accommodation, from luxury to small hotels, guest houses and Bed&Breakfasts with old facades and charming furniture, all in walking distance from Stadthalle. Further information can be obtained from "Bremer Touristik-Zentrale Gesellschaft für Marketing und Service mbH" (see information to the right).

Volleyball in Bremen

Volleyball in Bremen – that's volleyball of international reputation. In 1980,

when the Bremen Volleyball Association celebrated the tenth year of its foundation, the Women's Nations Tournament was inaugurated. But volleyball in the smallest regional German association also means national attraction.

At the end of the nineties, the club TVdB Bremen even played for two years in the Bundesliga, but has been relegated since. TV Eiche Horn, TuS Arsten and 1860 Bremen are now playing in the third division.

For two years Bremen's Volleyball Association have been implementing a new youth programme which is unique in Bremen's sport. Under the name of VC Bremen a women's team of the whole association has been competing in the women's league. Coach Martin Schattenberg's work has proved to be highly successful: Annika Legenhausen plays in the national youth team, and Sandra Assmann made it into the Bundesliga team of USC Muenster.

Further information about the World Championship in Bremen can be obtained: www.bremer-volleyball.de

Park Hotel Bremen



Maritim Hotel Bremen



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Concerning hotel reservations and further tourist information, volleyball fans please contact Bremer Touristik-Zentrale Gesellschaft für Marketing und Service mbH Tel: +49-1805-101030 and E-Mail: btz@bremen.tourism.de



A visit to the Universum Science Centre is a must for every tourist in Bremen.

Photo LOC Bremen



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Will Russia finally achieve a major intercontinental title again?

When the top favourites for the 2002 Women's World Volleyball Championship title are considered, Russia is often mentioned. Arguably no other nation has been so consistently among the world's top teams as that from Eurasia. Neither Cuba that advanced to the top only in the nineties, Japan that ruled women's volleyball in the sixties and seventies, nor China that called the tune in the eighties, has shown such consistency. All these top nations had to fight in their time against the tall athletes from the USSR/CIS/Russia.

Their last major title - that is at Olympic Games or World Championships - dates some time back, however. In 1990, Russia, then still the Soviet Union, won their last major title at the World Championship in China, the last time Nikolai Karpol's team won Olympic gold was in Seoul 1988. Even the amassed 17 European titles - Russia was defeated only five times in 22 tournaments - are no comfort with regard to intercontinental

success. The World title must be grabbed again, that's the clear goal for the Russian team and many indications are hinting to a possible realisation of this aim:

1. While the other top teams such as Cuba, China and Brazil have initiated a change, the Russian team is almost identical with the silver medal team from Sydney 2000. "Only" setter Elena Vasilevskaya and universal player Liou-

bov Chachkova might be missing although both are among the 18 players named for the World Championship.

2. The physical dominance of the Russians has even increased. Elena Gamova, a 2.01m tall player, has established herself as a regular player. She became MVP at the Volley Masters at Montreux 2002. The other athletes are almost all 1.90m and taller.

3. At the Volley Masters at Montreux at the beginning of June the Russian team won the first important test against seven of best teams in the world. This victory may have boosted their confidence further

The strong points of the current Russian team are as always their hard attacks and a block that is like a wall. Setter Tatiana Gratcheva can also rely on solid and precise receiving and digging which is the result of excellent technical basic training.



They want to grab a major title again: the Russian team with coach Nikolai Karpol (in the centre).
Photos: FIVB

Top-Teams – Russia

Russia in brief:

Olympic Games:

Gold - 1968, 1972, 1980, 1988

World Championship:

Gold - 1952, 1956, 1960,
1970, 1990

European Championship:

Gold 17x

*including all medals of its preceding States

The coach is the star

The coach is a further strong point. Nikolai Karpol whom you sometimes hear before you see him, demands high performances from his players. His tantrums at the sideline which earned him his nickname "The Bear", are legendary and are grinned at by fans all over the world. Karpol has become an institution in Russia and the world of volleyball. After serving his first term as national coach from 1979 to 1982, he is currently responsible for the women's national team for the second time.

His results are impressive: Under his leadership the team won two Olympic gold (1980 and 1988) and two silver medals (1992 and 2000).

At World Championships his team achieved the title in 1990 plus two bronze medals (1994 and 1998). In addition his record also includes seven European titles and two victories each at the World Grand Prix and the Grand Champions Cup.

In 1989 and 1991 the

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Top-Teams – Russia

Russia - Montreux 2002

RUS - BRA 3:2
 RUS - ITA 3:2
 RUS - JPN 3:0
 RUS - NED 3:1
 RUS - ITA 3:2

FIVB awarded him the title "Coach of the Year".

The 2002 World Grand Prix in Asia will certainly give further insights about Russia's chances for the World title. In the preliminary rounds in Asia, Russia will meet the USA (twice), Cuba (twice), Japan (twice), China (once), Thailand (once) and Germany (once).

The World Grand Prix will also show whether Nikolai Karpol's comment is right which he made at the end of last year: "According to the World rankings

Cuba and Russia are still the best teams in the world, and I think these teams will prove that at the World Championship too."

The 18 Russian players on the World Championship squad: Tatiana Gorchkova, Natalia Morozova, Anastasia Belikova, Elena Tiourina, Liubov Chachkova, Elena Godina, Natalia Safronova, Evguenia Artamonova, Elizaveta Tichtchenko, Elena Vassilevskaia, Ekaterina Gamova, Tatiana Gratcheva, Elena Plotnikova, Anjela Gourieva, Kira Iakimova, Olga Tchoukanova (all Uralochka Ekaterinburg), Elena Konstantinova (CSKA Moscow), Alexandra Korukovets (University Belgorod)



A height of 2.01m is an advantage in the block – Ekaterina Gamova.

Stars – Evgenia Artamonova

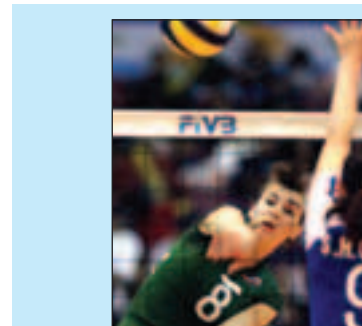
Evgenia Artamonova – Fearless and Fearsome for Russia

Russian tour de force Evgenia Artamonova



The real strong point of Evgenia Artamonova (in the block) is the attack.

Artamonova is perhaps the best evidence of Russian coach Nikolai Karpol's claim that Russians are preprogrammed by their speed, agility and build to be exceptional Volleyball players. Discovered at just 8 years old in 1982, she has gone on to become one of the great talents of the Russian side. "Zhenja" has become one of the most fearsome outside hitters in international competition. Artamonova, a towering 191 cm, has learnt to use her elevation and reach skills to perfection and observers say that she makes contact with the ball, perhaps higher and harder than any other player. Her impressive list of achievements includes two Olympic silver medals (1992 and 2000), One World Championship silver and one bronze and four European Championship titles. She has also collected a bunch of personal awards for Most Valuable Player and Best Attacker in international tourna-



Name:	Evgenia Artamonova
Age:	17.7.1975
Place of birth:	Ekaterinburg
Height:	191 cm
Nickname:	"Zhenja"
Position on court:	wing spiker
Club:	U. Ekaterinburg

ments. She is only missing a major title. Perhaps at the 2002 World Championship?



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Cuba: Yumilca Ruiz has been playing in the successful Cuban team for six years. Despite her young age of only 24, she has already become somewhat of a mother figure of the team. That may sound surprising, but the reason for this is mainly the fact, that the two times Olympic Champion (Atlanta 1996 and Sydney 2000) is one of the few players, left from the Cuban dream team. As main attacker on the position four she is the legitimate successor of legendary Mireya Luis. The big goal of Yumilca Ruiz: She wants to win her third Olympic gold medal in Athens in 2004. An interview with Ruiz:

What are the main goals for the Cuban team this year?

Ruiz: "We want to present and warm up our new team at the Grand Prix, the Norceca Championships, at international games and tournaments, to come on a high technical, conditional and tactic level, so that we will present a team at the World Championship in Germany that is according to Cuban standards."

What do you think, how good are the chances for Cuba to win the title again?

Ruiz: "It might be too early to talk about such a big thing. To claim the first place at such an early time would be too much. We will try to win a medal. This goal seems to be realistic with a lot of work during the training sessions."

Who does the co-ordination with the young players work?

Ruiz: "There aren't any problems between us, despite the difference in age of almost six years. We were all young."

Your role as a leader can be seen during the training sessions, especially when it comes to talking about mistakes and your happy personality. Was it a hard step from the player to a leader?

Ruiz: "I like to be in the position of a leader. It is fun, to look after my team mates. And I talk about all kind of problems. I am able to use my strength as a happy game leader on court and also to push the team's performance."

German Volleyball Magazine
























Yumilca Ruiz is confident to play a good World Championship.

Bulgaria: After a long search, the Bulgarian Volleyball Federation finally found a new coach: Stefan Panchev will coach the national team at the World Championship.

Argentina: Argentina will play some friendly matches versus Mexico.

Claudio Cuello, its coach expressed "I am very happy we can play some test matches looking forward to our performance in the 2002 World Championship. We are working hard but these matches, plus the ones we will play in Poland and Bulgaria just before the big tournament will help us set some details". "On the other side, it makes me happy that volleyball is growing in Argentina, to take it to new places means getting more players, more supporters and that is great" he added.

News from the Teams

-  Egypt
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-  Poland
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-  Romania
-  Russia
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-  Czech Republic
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