

EUROPEAN FIREFIGHTER FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION




AGBF bund
im Deutschen Städtetag

 **DEUTSCHER
FEUERWEHR
VERBAND**

European Firefighters
Nations-Cup 2026

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Foreword

Dear sports enthusiasts, dear comrades,

we warmly welcome all participating teams, coaches, and our guests from across Europe to this special football tournament for professional firefighters. This tournament is more than just a sporting competition – it is a place for meeting, exchanging ideas, and experiencing true camaraderie across national borders.

Football unites us in its passion, just as our daily service to others unites us in our calling. Here, team spirit, fair play, and dedication come together – values that sustain us not only in action but also on the pitch.

Our special thanks go to the German Firefighters Association and The International Association of Fire Services for their invaluable support and commitment.

Without this assistance, organizing a competition of this scale would not be possible.

We wish all players exciting matches, injury-free encounters, and many new friendships. May the spirit of sportsmanship inspire and unite us all.

With sporting and comradely greetings,

The Organizing Committee of the German Firefighters Sports Promotion

History of the competition

Firefighters meet football – Europe competes for the Nations Cup!

From firefighting to scoring goals: When professional firefighters from all over Europe meet, it's about more than just the ball. Camaraderie, passion, and the European ideal burn brighter than any floodlight.

Europe in flames – but only on the football pitch.

Whistles? Not a chance. Instead, the rhythmic clapping of goals and cheers in various languages fills the air. On the pitch: professional firefighters from all over Europe – in jerseys instead of turnout coats, with shin guards instead of breathing apparatus.

What many don't know: This is a very young competition. A team led by the German National Firefighters Team organized the first tournament in Gelsenkirchen in 2019. Back then, they envisioned an ambitious plan: The event was to take place every two years – in keeping with the European tradition of promoting sports. But reality intervened. Several nations withdrew from the original alliance, and the first official Nations Cup, originally planned for 2021 in France, was delayed by the COVID-19 pandemic. It finally took place in 2024 in Montrichard Val de Cher – and with all the more passion.

The goal is clear: to bring firefighters from across Europe together and to embody the European ideal both on and off the field. Because this is about more than just goals – it's about friendship, respect, and the invisible bond of camaraderie that transcends borders.

At the closing ceremony in France, the big news arrived: Germany will host the event in 2026. Behind the scenes, the excitement is already palpable. The organizing committee plans not only to shine on the pitch as hosts but also to create a celebration of the international firefighting family.

Whether on duty or on the field – the same principle applies: team spirit saves lives, unites, and inspires. And when the whistle blows in Germany in two years, it will become clear once again: These flames are not burning on rooftops, but in the hearts of those who continue to play the European idea with their football boots.

Reception of the delegations

The reception for delegations and organizational units will take place on Thursday, April 9, 2026, at 3:00 p.m.

at the Übigau Fire and Rescue Station, Washingtonstr. 59, 01139 Dresden.

See link:

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/48ZFNyU1WorKiH2U7>

There, the following will be checked:

- Identities/Player registration forms
- Liability waiver
- Image rights/Data protection
- Medical certificate

The welcoming ceremony and the draw will then begin..

Supply

The Dresden fire brigade will provide refreshments at the sports ground, offering snacks and various drinks.

Competition

The draw will take place on Thursday, April 9, 2026, with all delegations present at an opening ceremony. The group composition and the competition schedule will depend on the number of national teams participating.

Germany, Great Britain, and France have already confirmed their participation.

Further invitations will be sent to other nations via the German Firefighters Association (DFV e.V.).

The competition begins on Friday, April 10, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. at the Ostrapark sports complex, Rudolf-Harbig-Weg.

The final is expected to take place at the Heinz-Steyer-Stadium.

The playing surface will primarily be grass, but also artificial turf.

See link: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/1vH9g4kQUBY2KN97>

Referees are appointed by the German Football Association (DFB) via the relevant district. All referees are licensed by the DFB.

Regulate

Article 1:

Name of the Tournament:

**EUROPEAN FIREFIGHTERS
NATIONS CUP 2026**

The tournament is scheduled to begin on Friday, April 10, 2026, at 9:00 AM. The final is scheduled for Saturday, April 11, 2026, at 3:00 PM.

The tournament format will be announced after the draw during the opening ceremony on Thursday, April 9, 2026, starting at 6:00 PM. This procedure may be modified by the Organizing Committee depending on the number of registered teams.

Article 2:

Each registered national team may field a maximum of 18 players during the tournament. A certificate issued by the President of the Federation or a representative of the nation confirms that all players are licensed firefighters/members of their respective federation or association for the current year and that they are medically fit to play football. Only adult players may participate.

... Article 3: Participation in this tournament requires specific documents for each federation or nation, which must be submitted before the start of the competition during the organizational briefing.

Article 4: For each match, the 18 players are entitled to appear on the team sheet, with each team having the option to make 5 substitutions during the match. A substituted player may not, under any circumstances, re-enter the match.

Article 5: In the event of an injury during either of the first two matches for each team (goalkeeper and one outfield player) that prevents the latter from continuing the competition, each national team has the option to add one additional player (EM).

Article 6: Each nation must appear with at least two sets of different colored jerseys (including the goalkeeper jersey). If two teams with similar or confusing colors meet, the referee will decide by drawing lots which team must change colors.

Article 7: The organizing committee will verify the identity of all players from each nation before the start of the tournament. Personal identification cards and player registration forms must be presented. A player without a personal identification card cannot participate in the tournament.

Article 8:

For all matches in the competition, the referees must be exclusively officials of the German Football Association (referees and assistant referees).

Article 9:

Any player sent off by the referee after receiving two yellow cards must serve a one-match suspension (the next match) before returning to the competition. The same applies to any player who receives two yellow cards in two different matches. Any player sent off by the referee after receiving a straight red card must serve a one-match suspension (the next match). The penalty may be increased by the Disciplinary Committee after review of the facts, depending on the reason. Any aggression by a player towards referees or officials will result in the player's permanent exclusion from the competition for the remainder of the tournament.

Article 10:

The Organizing Committee is the sole judge who decides on specific cases. Two commissions will be established: Sports (3 members from team officials or captains) and Discipline (5 members from the Organizing Committee and referees). An appeals panel consisting of one representative from each country is possible.

Article 11:

The competition may be held in two formats (depending on the number of teams):

- 1. Championship format, in which all nations compete according to a general ranking (points conditions as per Article 13).**
- 2. Tournament format with two groups. The top two teams from each group qualify for the semifinals: the winner of Group A against the runner-up of Group B, and the winner of Group B against the runner-up of Group A. The final will be contested by the winners of the semifinals.**

The third-place match will be contested by the two teams defeated in the semifinals.

Article 12:

All matches will be played in two 30-minute halves with a 10-minute break at halftime. In the event of a draw at the end of regulation time, the matches will be decided by a penalty shootout. A series of five penalty takers will be designated. The referee will decide which goal the penalty will be taken at. At the end of this first series, a second series will be held using the "sudden death" principle with the players who have not yet taken a penalty.

The organizer reserves the right to change the match duration depending on the number of participating nations.

Article 13:

Points Distribution:

Win = 4 points

Win in penalty shootout = 2 points

Loss in penalty shootout = 1 point

Loss = 0 points

In the event of a tie at the end of the group stage according to the tournament formula, the ranking will be determined as follows:



Team registration

Per Mail an: mlegler@dresden.de

Nationality:

Team Leader's Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Mobile Phone Number: _____

1st Kit

Jersey Color: _____

Pants Color: _____

Sock Color: _____

Goalkeeper Kit: _____

2nd Kit

Jersey Color: _____

Pants Color: _____

Sock Color: _____

Goalkeeper Kit: _____

Participation Fee

Amount per person: €125.00 x _____ people = _____ €

Return Deadline: February 1, 2026

Name of Responsible Party Association Stamp

Payment instructions

By registering as a team, the nation agrees to transfer the participation fee of €125.00 per person to the following account:

Recipient: German Firefighter Sports Federation e.V.

Bank: Deutsche Bank Lübeck

IBAN: DE65 2307 0700 0500 3017 00

BIC Code: DEUTDEDB237

Reference: Name of nation, participation fee for the Nations Cup 2026

Travel and accommodation must be arranged by the participating nation. These costs are to be borne by the nation itself and are **not included** in the participation fee.

Hotel list

Possible team accommodations listed here. No guarantee.

Aparthotel Mitte Dresden

[Aparthotel Dresden Zentrum » Aparthotel Mitte](#)

Prize by Radisson, Dresden Mitte

[Hotel in Dresden, Deutschland | Prize by Radisson, Dresden-Mitte](#)

B&B Hotel Dresden Messe

[Erkunde Dresden gemeinsam mit dem B&B HOTEL Dresden-Messe | B&B HOTELS](#)

Holiday Inn Dresden-Am Zwinger

[Dresden Stadtzentrum Hotel | Holiday Inn Dresden - Am Zwinger](#)

Penck Hotel Dresden

[Penck Hotel Dresden im Stadtzentrum. 4* Design Hotel in der Innenstadt.](#)

Image Rights and Data Protection

This document must be printed, individually signed, and submitted for each participant.

These documents will be destroyed after the tournament (on the next business day) or stored with your consent.

Last Name, First Name _____

Address _____

Street: _____

City: _____

Mobile Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Storage ☐ Agree ☐ Do not agree

*If no symbol is entered, the document will be destroyed.

The German Fire Service Sports Promotion Association (DFS e.V.) authorizes the use of images depicting the team or team members for informational and illustrative purposes, as well as for communication in media distributed across departments, nationally, and internationally, without any financial compensation. This authorization is valid indefinitely. The image caption must not harm my privacy or reputation.

Read and approved on (date): _____

Signature: _____

Player registration form

Submission deadline: April 9, 2026

for the 2nd Nations Cup in Germany

Nation: _____

No.	Name First Name	Date of Birth	Game 1	Game 2	Game 3	Game 4	Game 5	Game 6
1								
2								
3								
4								
5								
6								
7								
8								
9								
10								
11								
12								
13								
14								
15								
16								
17								
18								
NM								

Teammanager:

Name: _____

Mobil: _____

Supervisor:

Name: _____

Mobil: _____

Disclaimer (Group Insurance)

This document must be printed by each nation and presented at the welcome ceremony on April 9, 2026.

Participation is not possible without this proof!

Team Manager Name _____

Address

Street: _____

City: _____

I undertake to conscientiously respect the regulations and ensure their compliance, that my team is covered by liability and personal injury insurance, and waive any claims for recourse against the organization in the event of loss, theft, or accidents that may occur before, during, or after the competition.

The organization cannot be held liable for damage to equipment that occurs during the event.

★ I agree that any member of my delegation may be admitted to the local hospital if they are unable to make decisions for themselves, and I authorize any qualified person to provide the necessary medical or surgical treatment. ★

Date and Signature

(And the words "read and approved")

Medical certificate

Nation: _____

Name of the responsible physician: _____

I hereby confirm with my signature that all players are medically fit for fire service sports/ firefighting.

There are no contraindications, and they are eligible to participate in competitive football at the 2026 European Nations Cup.

Date, Signature, Organization Stamp



Contacts and memories

Contacts:

Overall organization: DFS e.V.

Dennis Strewginski

Mobile: +49 17621241678

Email: dennis.strewginski@web.de

Frank Gies

Mobile: +49 1633169173

Email: frankgies@web.de

Documents to be completed:

Page 11 Team registration by: February 1, 2026 to be sent to:

Email: mlegler@dresden.de

★ Page 12 Image rights/Data protection

on the day of the event or in advance by email

Page 13 Player registration form

on the day of the event or in advance by email

Page 14 Liability waiver

on the day of the event or in advance by email

Page 15 Medical certificate

on the day of the event or in advance by email