



**21st Congress of the
European Society
for Surgery of the
Shoulder and Elbow
(SECEC - ESSSE)**

www.SECEC2008.org



**Deadline for Abstract Submission:
31 March 2008**

17-20 September 2008

Brugge, Belgium

FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT

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Executive Committee

Peter Habermeyer (Germany) - *President*
Jaap Willems (The Netherlands) - *General Secretary*
Frank Gohlke (Germany) - *Treasurer*
Alessandro Castagna (Italy)
Pascal Boileau (France)
Ralph Hertel (Switzerland)
Jeno Kiss (Hungary)
Rolf Norlin (Sweden)
Andrew Carr (UK)

Programme Committee

Alessandro Castagna (Italy)
Geert Declercq (Belgium)
Peter Habermeyer (Germany)
Ralph Hertel (Switzerland)
Jaap Willems (The Netherlands)

Local Organising Committee

Members of the FLESSS (Flemish Elbow and Shoulder Surgeons Society) and
Groupe Épaule
Geert Declercq, *Congress President*

Welcome Address by the Congress President

Dear Colleagues,

It is a great pleasure for us to invite all shoulder and elbow surgeons to the 21st SECEC-ESSSE Congress in Bruges, Belgium, from the 17th until the 20th of September 2008.

As in previous SECEC congresses the format will include 9 instructional courses and two symposia. The Executive Committee of the SECEC has selected two subjects. The first symposium will focus on “Articular cartilage lesions in young patients”, and the chairman of this symposium will be Dr. Alessandro Castagna. The second symposium will be chaired by Prof. Christian Gerber and will give special attention to “Subacromial impingement revisited”.

For the first time a “Specialty day for physiotherapy of the shoulder and the elbow” will be organised on Saturday, 20 September 2008.

Another major change will be the organisation of two sessions on Saturday afternoon on “Tips and tricks in arthroscopic surgery” and “New techniques and developments in shoulder surgery”. These two items promise to be very exciting since early and preliminary results are accepted and the abstracts for this session have to be submitted separately.

As you can see the scientific programme will be attractive to all surgeons interested in shoulder and elbow surgery and an equally interesting social programme will be organised in Bruges with its impressive cultural heritage.

We are looking forward to welcome you all to Bruges in September 2008.

Geert Declercq
Congress President

Welcome Address by the SECEC President

Dear members, colleagues and friends of SECEC,

When the General Assembly of SECEC decided to select Bruges as host for its 21st Congress, this happened because of the charm of the “Venice of the North”, its medieval character and the sympathy for Geert Declercq and his Flemish colleagues.

Since our last congress in Athens we have started restructuring the society, which became necessary to meet the clinical and scientific needs in shoulder and elbow surgery. In Bruges, SECEC will offer a newly developed concept regarding contents and organisation, presenting the participants the full spectrum of our special field of interest.

We expect the collaboration with the physiotherapists to be highly beneficial to both the surgeons and the therapists. Also the strong group of arthroscopic surgeons will find their field more and more respected and appreciated by a special session on arthroscopic topics. Inventions, new materials and techniques will be presented as well as two highly specialised symposia in order to come up with a state-of-the-art agreement on articular cartilage damages and on impingement.

The Executive and the newly installed Programme Committees will support the organising committee to the maximum in performing a scientifically fastidious congress.

I would like to invite you to Flanders to experience a successful scientific exchange and share moments of amicable contacts and I thank Geert Declercq and his team for the tremendous effort they will put in organising our 21st Congress.

I am looking forward to welcoming you in Bruges and remain,

Yours sincerely,

Peter Habermeyer
President of SECEC

Programme at a glance

Wednesday, 17 September 2008

12.00	Registration
18.00	Official Opening
20.00	Welcome Reception & Concert

Thursday, 18 September 2008

07.30 - 09.00	Instructional Courses I, II & III
09.00 - 12.30	Scientific Sessions
12.30 - 14.00	Lunch Workshops
14.00 - 17.30	Scientific Sessions

Friday, 19 September 2008

07.30 - 09.00	Instructional Courses IV, V & VI
09.00 - 12.30	Scientific Sessions
12.30 - 14.00	Lunch Workshops
14.00 - 17.30	Scientific Sessions
17.30 - 19.00	General Assembly
20.00	Belgian Evening

Saturday, 20 September 2008

07.30 - 09.00	Instructional Courses VII, VIII & IX
09.00 - 12.30	Scientific Sessions
12.30 - 14.00	Lunch Workshops
NEW 14.00 - 17.30	Scientific Sessions Tips & tricks in arthroscopic surgery New techniques and developments in shoulder surgery
17.30	Award Session and Closing Ceremony
NEW 09.00 - 17.00	Specialty Day: Physiotherapy of the elbow and shoulder

Topics

Symposium: "Articular cartilage lesions in young patients"
Chairman: A. Castagna

Symposium: "Subacromial impingement revisited"
Chairman: Ch. Gerber

NEW Contrary to previous years, two scientific sessions will take place on Saturday, 20 September 2008 afternoon on "Tips and tricks in arthroscopic surgery" and "New techniques and developments in shoulder surgery".

NEW A Specialty Day on "Physiotherapy of the shoulder and the elbow" will be organised on Saturday, 20 September 2008.

Important dates

Deadline for Abstract Submission: 31 March 2008

Deadline for Early Registration: 15 June 2008

Deadline for Pre-Registration: 31 August 2008

Congress Dates: 17 - 20 September 2008



General Information

The City - www.brugge.be

You will find Brugge to be an exquisitely small but very lively city.

The historic city centre is a paradise for pedestrians: cars are banned as much as possible, so you can stroll around in all tranquillity. Bicycles are popular, not only for city exploration, but also for making bigger trips in the countryside. You can take a city tour in horse-ridden coaches, or go on a boat-ride on Brugge's famous canals - it is not by coincidence that Brugge is called 'the Venice of the North'.

Brugge has always been at the heart of Flanders' political and cultural history, and the remains of this impressive heritage are preserved in an extraordinary manner. You can spend days in museums (Groeninge Museum, Gruuthuse museum, Memling museum, Brangwyn and Lace museum), historic buildings (Belfry, Town Hall), or quiet green areas (Beguinage, Lake of Love). All of these enchanting places are located within walking distance from the Congress Centre!

And... for the gourmands... do not forget that Brugge is also known as a culinary highlight hosting the largest number of high quality restaurants per km².

How to get there

Brugge is easily accessible by train, plane or road.

By train: 2 direct trains per hour from Brussels (50 minutes).

From London and Paris, Brugge can easily be reached by Thalys & Eurostar.

www.b-rail.be

By car: Brugge is located near the E40 highway and has excellent road access to all over Europe (3 hours from Paris, 2 hours from Amsterdam, 1 hour only from the Channel).

By plane: Brussels airport is a major European airport and has plenty of connections. It has direct highway and train access.

Congress Centre

The venue for the Congress will be the Concertgebouw which is located on the „t Zand" Square in Brugge, Belgium - www.concertgebouw.be

The Concertgebouw has its proper underground car park facilities (Parking Het Zand for 1,500 cars) and is located at only a 5 minutes' walk from the railway station where another car park for about 1,500 cars is available.

Hotel Accommodation

Only a few cities have the same attraction as Brugge. Brugge has a great number of tourist assets: a magnificent historic centre, many museums and remarkable monuments, a green recreation belt and hundreds of restaurants and colourful pavement cafes.

All hotels are within walking distance and the short walk to the Concertgebouw will give delegates a general impression of Brugge's architectural and historic splendour.

As Brugge is intensively visited by tourists throughout the year, the Organising Committee has taken options on a large number of rooms, in several hotels. You will find that all of these hotels offer quality lodging including breakfast. Most hotels have car park facilities.

Brugge is also very popular with youngsters and a large number of cheap youth hotels and private houses offering bed and breakfast are available.

Social Activities

Welcome Reception & Concert - Wednesday, 17 September 2008

The Official Opening will be followed by a Jazz evening where famous local artists perform for your pleasure and entertainment. Drinks and snacks will also be served after the show. This evening is included in the registration fee for participants (pre-registration is mandatory).

Belgian Evening - Friday, 19 September 2008

The congress organisers intend not to organise a classic Gala Dinner but to invite all congress participants to a big surprise evening called the "Belgian Evening". The purpose is to gather informally with local drinks and food and good music. It will be a walking dinner with a lot of enjoyment and entertainment. The historic and impressive Belfry of Brugge will be the perfect setting for the "Belgian Evening". The official carillon player of the city of Brugge will welcome us with a private aperitif concert.

Partner Programmes

Cultural Highlights of Brugge

The guided visit will start from the “ZAND” square just in front of the Congress Centre. Guides will carry a sign indicating the language in which the guided tour will be made (approx 4-5 languages will be provided according to the participants' native languages).

Cultural Highlights of the Belgian Coastline

This tour will include a visit of the Permeke museum, the Delvaux museum and the Museum for Modern Art in Oostende.

In Flanders' Fields

This museum located in the city of Ieper (Ypres) is one of the most spectacular WWI museums ever.

The lively evocation of the terrors of war will leave no visitor untouched.

Excursion to the city of Gent

A one day excursion to the city of Gent will be part of the partner programme as well. Gent is located half an hour from Brugge and the trip will be made by train.



Brugge on bicycle

Brugge is a bicycle-minded city: there are more than 50 one-way traffic streets in the heart of the city where the cyclists can cycle in both directions. Do you fancy a tour in the countryside, or through the backstreets of Brugge, or why not 'Brugge by Night on a bike'? For further details on tours and addresses, go to:

www.brugge.be/internet/en/toerisme/sightseeing





*See you in Brugge in 2008 but be aware...
you might fall in love with this city*