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13th WUC Futsal kicks off!

NEWSLETTER FUTSAL 2012

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The 6th WUC of Futsal in 1998 took place at University of Minho. 14 years later, Braga hosts again this competition. The world best male and female nation's teams came here to claim the World University Champion title.

University of Minho has two campi, in Braga and Guimarães. The other campus receives, starting tomorrow, the 12th World University of Chess, an organization integrated in the European Cultural Capital program.

There can only be one!

Portugal faces France today at 9.30pm, in the open game of 13th World University Championship of futsal.

14 years later, University of Minho, Braga, hosts this competition again. Until 25th August, more than 400 players from 21 teams will discuss who will be male and female world champion.

In female competition, 5 countries will be present: Portugal, Spain, Brazil, Russia and France.

The 14 male participants countries are Azerbaijan, Brazil, Oman, Spain, Russia, Czech Republic, Nigeria,

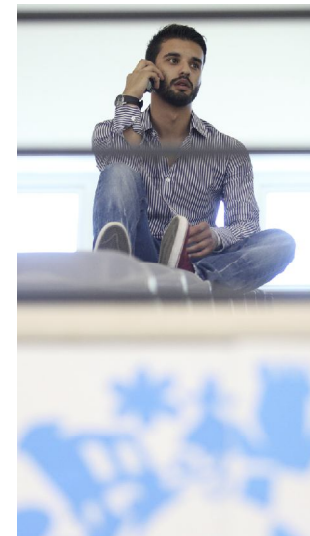


China, Ukraine, Thailand, Israel, Portugal, France and Poland. The matches will be played in Gualtar Campus, Parque de Exposições and Pavilhão Municipal de Lamações, in Braga.

The women's competition will be played in group stage, in which last matches are on 25th August at 2pm and 4.15pm in Parque de Exposições de Braga and Gualtar Campus, respectively.

In men's tournament, group phases will take place until 21st August, before the free day. In 23rd, starts final phases. The final male game is schedule to 25th August at 8.30pm in Gualtar.

The world best male and female nation's teams came here to claim the world University Champion title, but in the end there can only be one. All the matches are free pay.



Great performances ahead!

The Organizing Committee for World University Championship (WUC) of Futsal has good expectations for the competition they host. "I'm confident of the organizational and competitive success of these world cham-

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pionships. I'm sure that we'll see great exhibitions of futsal because the quality of the participants is undeniable", words from Luís Rodrigues, president of Organizing Committee for WUC. According to him, University of Minho Student's Union and University of Minho have "bet strongly on sport", cause it allows a "complementary extracurricular development of students' academic education". In a special year to Braga – European Capital of Youth - the president of Organizing Committee believes that this event will "promote the growth of sport". This competition has 14 male teams

and only five female. Luís Rodrigues justifies this due to the fact that "there are few countries with national leagues". "University sport is a reflection of this situation. However, the participating selections are from countries where female futsal is very strong and where the best worldwide practitioners originate", add. These events are a "window of best practice", that can promote female variant growth. Organizing Committee recruited volunteers, in order to support and guide all the teams, a process made easier due to support from European Youth Capital. The first international sports competition organized by University of Minho was, curiously, the 6th Futsal WUC. After that, this University hosted one other WUC, in case, the 2008 Badminton championship. At an European level, Minho received the Volleyball Championship (2004), Basketball (2006), and Taekwondo (2009 and 2011).



Open ceremony

The open ceremony starts at 7pm. There will be buses in Gualtar Campus at 6.45pm, that will transport all the teams to the meeting place. The entourages will parade since Raio street until Arcada. Some personalities from Organizing Committee, FISU, University of Minho, Portuguese Soccer Federa-

tion and others local authorities will be present. After the oath of the referees, judges and athletes, a cultural performance will end the ceremony. The moment is sponsored by the European Youth Capital, that this year takes place in Braga.