



The 29<sup>th</sup> Nordic Baltic Gathering will be hosted in Goteborg, Sweden Friday, 24 August – Tuesday, 28 August 2018!



In October 2016, at the Europe Conference in Tours, France, Doris Stockmann (Finland), representative of the NBSR in Europe Committee, was elected Chairman of the Europe Committee 2016-2019



Profile NBSR last update January 2017



October 2014, at the 27<sup>th</sup> World Conference in Sydney, Alf Runar BAKKE (Norway) was elected World Committee member 2014-2020, Oct 2014



The 28th Nordic Baltic Gathering took place in Scandic Bygholm Park, - Horsens, Denmark, Friday, 26 June 2015 – Tuesday, 30 June 2015 with 79 participants from

8 countries



Profile NBSR last update January 2017 The Nordic countries are a geographical and cultural region in Northern Europe and the North Atlantic. Baltic region is the North-eastern region of Europe containing the countries of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania, on the eastern shores of the Baltic Sea.





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last update January 2017

### HISTORY

The cooperation of the Nordic St. Georges Guilds **Denmark, Finland, Norway, Sweden and Iceland** has always been very good. It has been reinforced by the meetings of the Nordic National Guild Presidents.

**In 1956** The Nordic National Guild Presidents had a meeting during a Nordic Guild assembly in Finland, where amongst other things it was resolved to hold annual meetings to discuss issues of mutual interest. These meetings continued to be held every year at different Nordic locations until the year 1981.

**In 1981** IFOFSAG (later ISGF), proposed that this arrangement be formalised and a Nordic

Regional Committee (NRK) be established. The Nordic St. Georges Guilds agreed and the NRK was established. The Committee was composed of the National Guild Presidents of the five Nordic Nations and active from then on until 1994.

In 1986 The Nordic Guild Fellowship and the Nordic Regional Committee (NRK) were formally founded , after having received an official approval from the World Committee (about 1984). The inaugural meeting took place in Aalborg, Denmark, in June 1986, and was chaired by Odd Hopp the well known Scout leader and National Guild President of Norway. The Nordic Guild Fellowship adopted the name Nordic Sub-region and the alias (NUR); the alias being derived from the Nordic name "Nordisk Under-Region".

It was agreed that the new organisation should be governed by a Joint Committee (JC), consisting of the five National Presidents and the five International Secretaries to give each of the five NSGFs equal voice and weight in any discussions and decisions taken. Statutes were agreed and Kerstin Benè elected the first NUR chairperson.

**In 1986** also the statutes of the Nordic Sub-Region (NUR) were agreed and adopted.

*In 1997* the establishment of the European Region relegated the Nordic Regional Fellowship (NUR) to a sub-regional ISGF organisation.

*In 2005* at a meeting between all the National Guild Presidents of the five Nordic countries, *the Baltic NSGFs* were invited to join in a new wider Nordic Baltic Sub-region. A

draft constitution was also agreed. At the JC meeting held during the ISGF World Conference in Lillehammer, Norway, it was decided to put this resolution to the Conference for discussion and approval.

In 2006 the first Nordic Baltic JC meeting was held during the first Nordic Baltic Sub-Region's Assembly in Bodø, Norway and chaired by Hanne Borgstrøm and Steen C. Andersen. Hanne Borgstrøm was unanimously elected the first chairperson of the NBSR at that meeting.

**In 2006** at the Nordic Baltic Sub-Region (NBSR) seminar in Oslo 25/26 January , the NBSR Committee decided to publish a **NBSR Newsletter** twice a year in May and November



#### CONSTITUTION

The NBSR is organised according to its "Constitution"

#### **Revision history**

*Version 1 adopted 26<sup>th</sup> June, 1986.* 

Version 2 adopted 6<sup>th</sup> July, 1988.

Version 3 adopted 29<sup>th</sup> June, 1994

*Version 4 adopted 27<sup>th</sup> June 1997.* 

*Version 5 adopted 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2000.* 

Version 6 adopted 5<sup>th</sup> March, 2005.

Version 7 adopted 21<sup>st</sup> Aug., 2006.

Version 8 adopted 31<sup>st</sup> May , 2008

Version 9 adopted

According to the version (adopted in 2008):

- The executive committee of the NBSR is the NBC which comprise the following committee members the National President (NP) and the International Secretary (IS) of each member NSGF.
- ✤ The post of NBC Chairman shall rotate between the NPs of the member NBSRs.
- The NBSR holds a Nordic Baltic Fellowship Gathering (NBFG) every third year starting from the year 2009 and in the following order: Finland (2009) – Lithuania -Denmark – Estonia (now belonging to CESR) - Sweden – Iceland - Norway.
- The NBSR Committee assigns one of the Committee members as the NBSR representative on the ISGF Europe Region Committee.
- The official language of communication adopted for the NBSR is English

# On St George's Day (23 April) Scouts, Guides and Fellowship members remind themselves of their Promise and of the Scout/Guide Law

#### The Mission of NBSR:

 To strengthen networking and friendship between the guild members of the National Fellowships.

#### The Vision of NBSR:

Through networking and friendship the guild members of the National Fellowships take an active part in spreading the understanding that the guild movement is an International Movement working for peace and understanding across borders all over the world.

#### The Strategy of NBSR

- To let the NBSR Committee meet twice in every three year period, i.e.
  - In due time before the ISGF Conference in order to discuss the Conference agenda and papers with a special view on the NBSR activities and

• To let the NBSR Committee meet in connection with the NBSR Gathering to discuss the progress of the NBSR Vision and any other matters of mutual interest

Prepared at the NBSR seminar in Vilnius 2007 and adopted by the NBSR Committee in Vasteraas, 31.5.2008

#### NUR Chairpersons

- 1993 1996 Atte Luome, Finland,
- 1996 1998 Jan K. Svendsen, Norway
- 1998 2002 Margareta Fromholtz, Sweden
- 2002 2005 Harald B. Pettersen, Norway,
- 2005 2006 Steen C. Andersen, Denmark,
- 2006 2008 Hanne Borgstrøm Denmark.
- 2009 2012 Gunilla Engvall Sweden

Committee of the Nordic Baltic Sub Region 2014-2017 The chairmanship changed as from February, 2014, as follows Chairman: Liv Aure Olli Secretary/ Representative in Europe committee/Chairman: Doris Stockman

## COUNTRIES AND MEMBERSHIP

Country /admission ISGF/ Flag	Logo/Structure Status	full name/abbreviation /communication	membership	census
Denmark				
1953 (founder member)	Single Association Independent	Sct. Georgsgilderne i Danmark SGG <u>www.sct-georg.dk</u>	6300 5461 5212 5017 4753 4654 4427	2006 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015
Finland				
1953 (founder member)	Single association Independent	Suomen Pyhä Yrjänän Partiokillat – St. Görans Scoutgillen I Finland r.y., Finland SPYP – SGSF www.spyp.fi (in Finish)	691 590 587 603 597 576 575 565	2006 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015
Iceland				
1953 (founder member)	Single association Independent	St. Georgsgildin á Íslandi Landsgildið The Nationalguild <u>www.stqildi.is/</u>	340 283 251 249 242 242 233	2006 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015

Lithuania				
		Under revision		
		onder revision	65	2006
		Lithuania Scout and Guide	58	2009
		Fellowship	60	2010
		renowsnip		2011
				2012
2002 associated			60	2013
member			60	2014
				2015
Norway			1	
			1700	2006
		Norwegian Scout and Guide	1440	2009
	$\sim$	Fellowship	1481	2010
	a(b)	(St Georgs Gildene i Norge)	1464	2011
			1370	2012
	SUG	SGGN	1370	2013
	SAMMEN STØTTER VI SPEIDERSAKEN		1326	2014
			1295	2015
1953 (founder		www.sggn.no		
member)	Single Association			
	Independent			
Sweden				
			1300	2006
		S:t Georgs Scoutgillen i	948	2008
		Sverige	948 802	2009 2010
			726	2010 2011
	Single Association	SGSS	682	2011
1052 (foundar	Independent		659	2012
1953 (founder	macpenaent	WWW.GILLE.SCOUT.SE	596	2013
member)			598	2014
	<u> </u>		550	2013

## Nordic Baltic Sub-Regional gatherings:

	Year	Venue	Country	Date	Participants
1	1954	Hanko Bad	Norway	29-30 May	
2	1956	Otnäs	Finland		
3	1958	Vallekilde	Denmark		
4	1960	Sigtuna	Sweden		
5	1962	Trondheim	Norway		
6	1964	Helsingfors	Finland		
7	1966	Krogerup	Denmark		
8	1968	Mariefred	Sweden		
9	1970	Reykjavik	Iceland		107
10	1972	Skinnarbu	Norway		
11	1974	Runsala	Finland		
12	1976	Nyborg	Denmark		
13	1978	Stockholm	Sweden		
14	1980	Reykjavik	Iceland		
15	1982	Lillehammer	Norway		
16	1984	Espo	Finland		311

17	1986	Bornholm	Denmark		450
18	1988	Skoevde	Sweden		
19	1990	Reykjavik	Iceland		300
20	1992	Molde	Norway		460
21	1994	Aulanko	Finland		300
22	1997	Faaborg	Denmark	23-28 June	250
23	2000	Mora	Sweden	26 June – 1 July	
24	2003	Akureyri	Iceland	25-29 June	400
25	2006	Bodoe	Norway	21-25 June	
26	2009	Mariehamm, Åland	Finland	10-14 June	165
27	2012	Birstonas	Lithuania	14-17 June	98
28	2015	NBSR GATHERING NORSENS 2015	Horsens Denmark	26-30 June	79
29	2018	Goteborg	Sweden	24-28 August	

#### Comments :

- ✓ The Sub-Region consists basically of ISGF founding country members
- ✓ Nordic Guild cooperation with Baltic counterparts: Amongst the Nordic nations there has long been great interest in the Baltic nations, particularly Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania.

Finland has always had close relations with Estonia, and in ancient times the history of the Baltic and Nordic countries had much in common. This interest in assisting the Baltic countries to revitalize Scouting culminated in Sweden in 1991 with a unanimous resolution on how the NSGF-members of NUR should share between them the work with guilds in the Baltic countries and in Poland. According to this agreement Denmark became responsible for the work in Poland, Finland for Estonia, Sweden for Latvia, Norway and Iceland for Lithuania. By 1993 the Danish NSGF had made successful inroads in Poland. The Finnish NSGF's cooperation with the Estonian Guilds, was doing quite satisfactorily. The Swedish efforts in Latvia were well on the way, but had encountered financial deficit which the NUR agreed to refund. It was also made clear that the NSGFs of Norway and Iceland have had serious problems in Lithuania, and that it might be necessary for the other Nordic NSGFs to lend a hand in order to avoid giving up on Lithuania. Denmark took up the challenge and succeeded in establishing a very active National Guild, which has been formally accepted by the ISGF.

Within the Baltic countries there is quite serious conflict between the "old guard", i.e. the Scouting organizations which were established before the Soviet occupation, and those working towards forming new scout organizations and gaining acceptance for them from WOSM, WAGGGS and the ISGF. There is also quite a serious language barrier to overcome, the older generation having mostly Russian, and German as second language, whilst the younger one is becoming increasingly versatile in English. A consequence of this is that the "old guard" prefers cooperation with the Central and Southern Sub-region over the Nordic one, and the "young guard" prefers the opposite. Everyone is, however, happy with the cooperation with Sweden and all the Latvian Guilds have a twin guild in Sweden.

In Estonia five guild scouts took part in the meeting, and two of these were young women. Estonia had like Lithuania already in June 2003 declared their desire to continue the cooperation with NUR and become a part of an expanded Nordic Baltic region. They are very happy with the cooperation with Finland and surprised that Estonia has decided to stay with the Central European Sub-region.

In June 2013 the 2 Groups in Lithuania **1.** The "Lietuvos skautija" (LS) and **2**. The "Lietuvos Suaugusių Skautų Bendrija" (LSSB) decided for the first time in Lithuania to form a union of the former adult scout- and guide-groups LS and LSSB, under the name "Federation of adult Guides and Scouts of Lithuania – FaGSL".

The aim of this union is to unite all adult scout- and guide-groups in Lithuania in the international fellowship of the "International Scout and Guide Fellowship" – ISGF.

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