

Dear juggling community,

For nearly half a century, the European Juggling Convention (EJC) has been our annual home—a place defined by resilience, creativity, and the ability to find a way forward, no matter the obstacles. Today, we are writing to share an important update regarding our plans for the 49th EJC in 2027.

The Bruneck Vision

Around this time last year, the European Juggling Association (EJA) faced a challenge: we had no active applicants for the 2027 festival. In response, we proactively searched for options and turned to a site many of us remember fondly: **Bruneck, Italy**, host of the wonderful EJC 2015.

A dedicated core team of experienced organisers from across Italy, Germany, and Ireland stepped forward. Despite the challenges of working remotely, this team—which includes myself following the end of my term as President—began a close collaboration with the city. The local authorities were thrilled at the prospect of welcoming us back, and at the EJC 2025 in Arnhem, we were elected as the hosts of the 49th EJC 2027. For the last six months, we have worked hard on getting the show on the road.

An Unexpected Hurdle

Our plans centered around the new arena in Bruneck, which we hoped would be the crown jewel of the 2027 site. However, a significant complication has emerged.

Shortly after our initial site visit, a lawsuit was filed regarding potential construction issues with the arena's roof (you can read more about the technical details [here](#)). These structural concerns may now require extensive renovation work - including the site around the arena. Unfortunately, the timeline for these repairs is still unknown, but it is likely going to be in the summer of 2027.

Back to the Drawing Board

Once we knew this, in close collaboration with the EJA, our team focused its energy on a very promising alternative site in Germany. We moved at pace to vet the site's viability, and for a moment, the pieces seemed to be falling into place.

We had secured:

- **Land Agreements:** Enthusiastic confirmation from local farmers to use the land surrounding the site for our campsite.
- **Infrastructure:** Solid commitments from both the electricity and water supply companies, confirming the site could handle a festival of our scale.
- **Facilities:** Access to several large school halls that would have served as the heart of our workshops and shows.

We were closer than we had been in months. However, as we moved into the final stages of due diligence, we encountered a frustratingly familiar hurdle.

Lightning Strikes Twice

In a twist of "renovation deja-vu," last week, we were informed that several of the key school buildings are scheduled for major renovations. While the exact start dates remain fluid, they are currently slated for the summer of 2027, and they will also affect the areas around the school.

Just as in Bruneck, this creates a level of infrastructure risk we simply cannot ignore. We have always maintained that we will not cling to hope at the expense of the festival's viability. After exploring every workaround, we have come to the conclusion that this site, too, cannot be secured with the certainty an EJC requires.

A Difficult Decision

With a heavy heart, we have therefore decided to **withdraw our pursuit of EJC 2027**. This was not an easy choice. However, we believe it is the most responsible one for the future of the convention. By stepping aside now, we want to give another team—perhaps one with a site already vetted or a location less plagued by the "summer of renovations"—a halfway reasonable lead time to step up and make 2027 happen.

We want to thank the European Juggling Association and the whole community for your patience and support since the summer. Our community's strength has always been its ability to adapt and reinvent itself. While we won't be the ones leading the charge into 2027, we remain your biggest fans and will be the first in line to support whoever takes the torch next.

With gratitude and resilience,

The European Juggling Association & The EJC 2027 Team