Technical support for juggling conventions

Florian Pesth

Jonglaria e.V. Tübingen (moved last year to Bergisch Gladbach)

25.01.2026

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Overview

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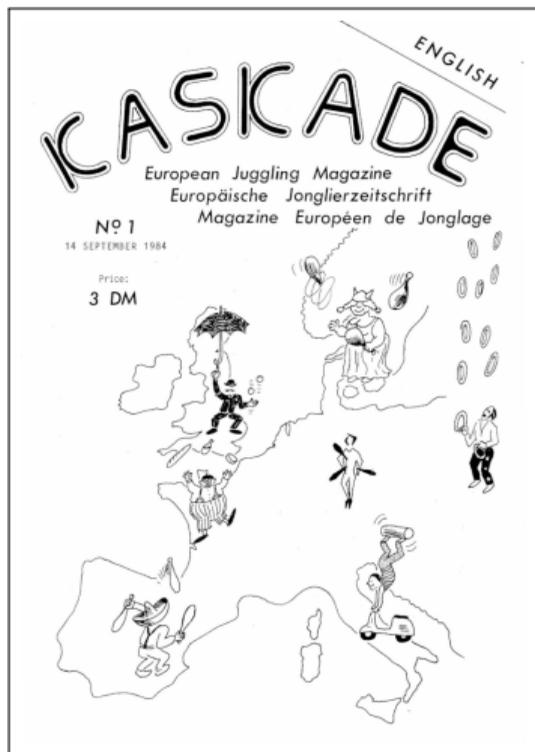
Look back...

Look back…

We must be crazy. As if it were not enough that we've been helping to organise the 7th European Jugglers' Convention for the past year, we've now gone and lumbered ourselves with the job of launching a European Juggling Magazine as well. But then again, it's not so surprising, because the two projects go hand in hand.

Look back...

As Convention organisers, we were getting so many enthusiastic letters and phone calls from jugglers all over Europe. Each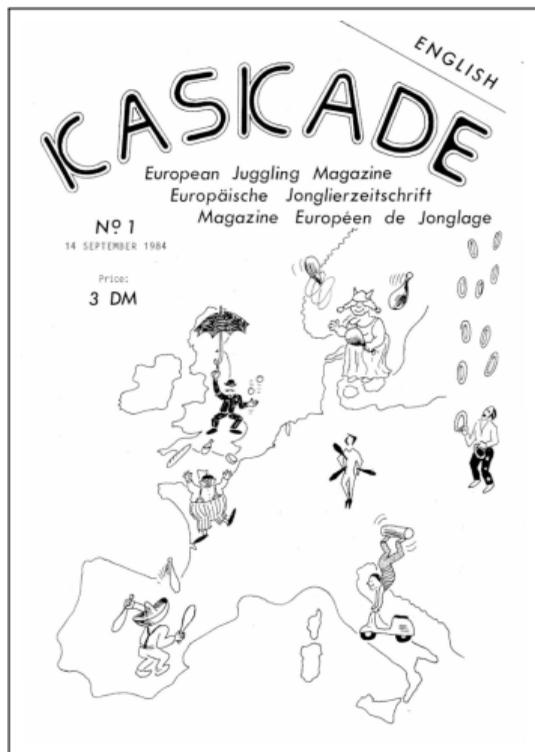 letter was different, each contained a new idea, told us about a show, a tour, a theatre festival here or a jugglers' meeting there (e.g. Covent Garden, Bremen, Copenhagen, Utrecht). The one thing they all had in common was excited anticipation, looking forward to coming together with all those other jugglers.

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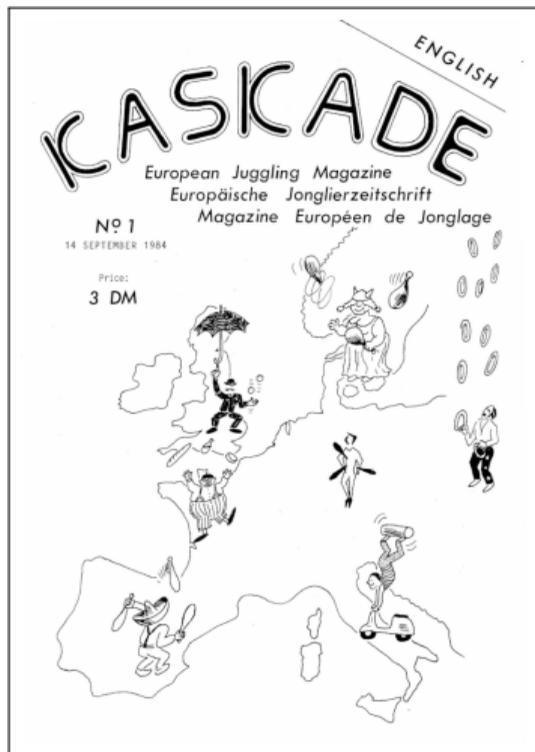
An idea then occurred to us that was already being rumoured at the last Convention in Laval. "It would be good if there were a jugglers' magazine in Europe so that we could keep in touch beyond the few days of the annual Conventions and keep informed on where and what jugglers are getting up to. All it would need is someone to organise it."

Look back...

Current internet landscape, self hosted, still (somehow) alive

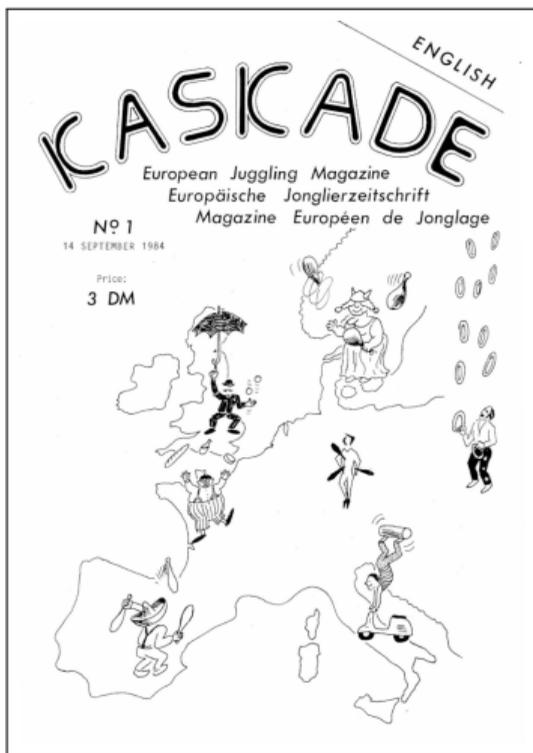|	
thebigtop.de	Forum / Wiki
conlender.org & contools.org	convention calendar / -registration / -planning
jugglingedge.com	convention calendar / juggling clubs / forum
passing.zone	passing patterns / -videos / juggling clubs
eja.net	EJA webpage
juggle.org	IJA webpage
juggling-records.com	collection / registration juggling records
fightnightcombat.com	Club Combat registration of competitions, ranking list
conventiontickets.de	convention registration
jonglaria.org	mailing lists
jugglingpatterns.de	passing patterns with learn hints
skilldex.org	juggling patterns with learn hints
juggling.family	social network
libraryofjuggling.com	juggling patterns with learn hints

Early internet landscape, really dead

rec.juggling	Usenetgroup, exists but practically dead
kaskade.de	juggling magazine
inbaz.de & inbaz.org	convention calendar / forum / social network
jugglingdb.com	convention calendar / juggling clubs / wiki / "forum"
jugglewiki.org	wiki
juggling.tv	hosting of juggling videos
manipeo.com	curated juggling videos
objectepisodes.com	forum
passingdb.com	passing patterns / -videos
passingwiki.org	passing wiki
jugglejunction.org	convention calendar / juggling clubs / "forum"
thebritishjugglingconvention.co.uk	wiki on how to organize a BJC

What is really needed?

- Where can I meet other jugglers? → convention calendar / list of clubs
  examples: conlender.org jugglingedge.com passing.zone

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- Where can I meet other jugglers? → convention calendar / list of clubs
  examples: conlender.org jugglingedge.com passing.zone
- How can I organize conventions? → convention registration
  examples: contools.org conventiontickets.de

research and planning. All major
newspapers in the above mentioned
countries have been contacted and
we have already got positive re-
sponses from Norway. Anybody who
is interested is welcome, but we
will focus on Scandinavia.

Contact: Per Nielsen
Studsgårdsgade 64, 2
DK-2100 Kobenhavn Ø
Tel.(01)20 56 57

or: Marcus Mandel
Tel. (01) 260 260

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- How can I teach juggling to others? → wikis / pattern collections / videos
  examples: `passing.zone jugglingpatterns.de skilldex.org`

`libraryofjuggling.com`

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- How can I compete against others? $\rightarrow$ ranking lists / performance measurements
  examples: `juggling-records.com fightnightcombat.com skilldex.org`
  `thewjf.com`

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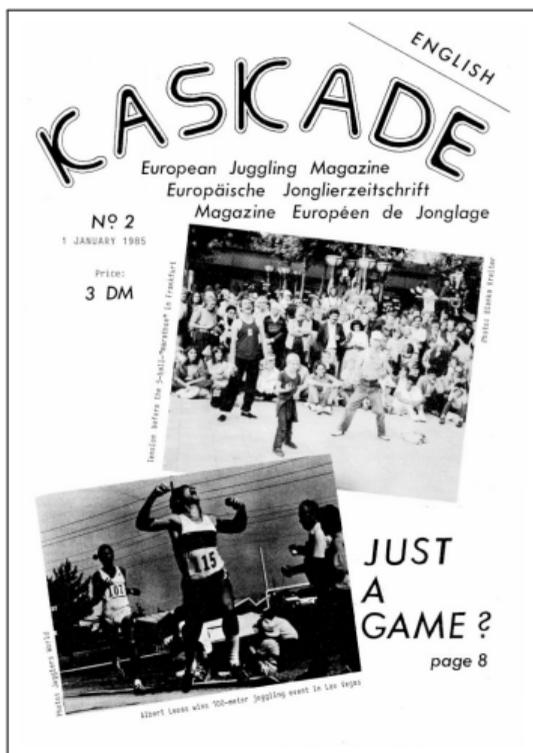
What is really needed? infrastructure!

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- How can I socialize with others? → social networks / mailing lists
  examples: `thebigtop.de juggling.family jonglaria.org`

What is really needed? infrastructure!

Technical support for jugglers
└─ Problem definition
   └─ Possible reasons for failure

Where might our ancestors have failed?

rec.juggling	Eternal september / Failure of webpages with interface
kaskade.de	Collapse advertising market / finance
inbaz.de & inbaz.org	Memory / CPU usage (.de) / priorities? (.org)
jugglingdb.com	Old code hard to maintain
jugglewiki.org	Technical problems / maintanance problems
juggling.tv	hosting cost
manipeo.com	?
objectepisodes.com	vision for something bigger?
passingdb.com	maintanance problems
passingwiki.org	maintanance problems
jugglejunction.org	maintanance problems? (server error)
BJC Wiki	Lost access data "behind couch"

Technical support for jugglers
└─ Problem definition
  └─ Possible reasons for failure

Who is Who in the "old" internet?

rec.juggling	internet providers & universities
kaskade.de	Gabi Hartmann & Paul Keast
inbaz.de & inbaz.org	Michael Weigert (.de) → Andreas Nitsche (.org)
jugglingdb.com	Colin E.
jugglewiki.org	Scott Dossey → Jack Boyce
juggling.tv	Team of british jugglers / Oddballs
manipeo.com	Daniel Simu
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jugglejunction.org	?
BJC Wiki	Emily Winch

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Who is Who in the "old" internet? lone fighters!

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Who is Who in the current internet?

`thebigtop.de`	Simon & Hoschy?
`conlender.org` & `contools.org`	Tobi?
`jugglingedge.com`	Orinoco
`passing.zone`	Team around Juli
`eja.net`	Recently they were looking for someone...
`juggle.org`	Team
`juggling-records.com`	Tom Whitfield
`fightnightcombat.com`	Luke Burrage
`conventiontickets.de`	Florian
`jonglaria.org`	Florian
`jugglingpatterns.de`	Karsten
`skilldex.org`	Timothy Ross & Ian Borukhovich
`juggling.family`	Richard Loxley
`libraryofjuggling.com`	Single anonymous person?

Who is Who in the current internet? lone fighters? Teams?

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Infrastructure which depends on lone fighters is not robust
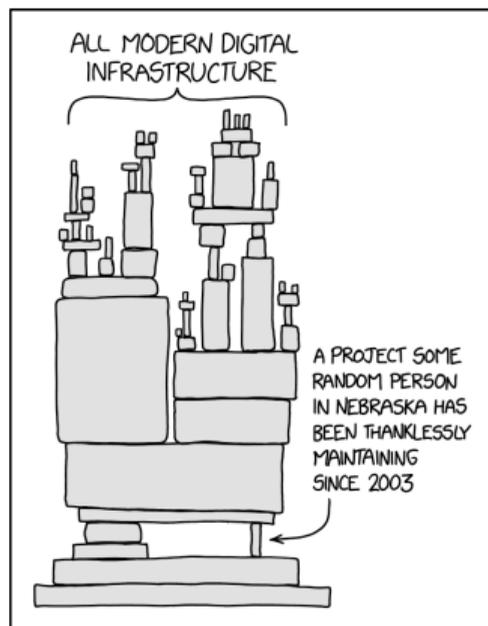
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Infrastructure which depends on lone fighters is not robust

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Juggling is not software development

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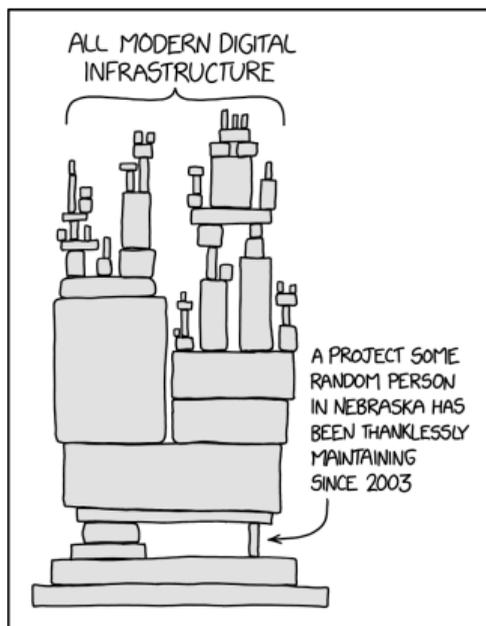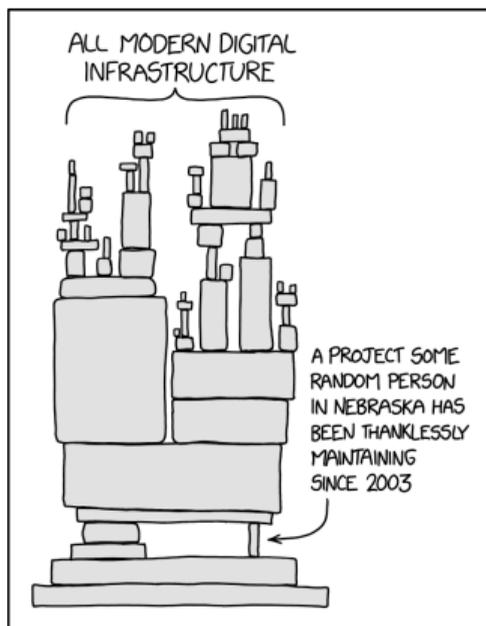
Juggling is not software development, but
jugglers use (and develop) software!

Infrastructure which depends on lone fighters is not robust

ALL MODERN DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE

A PROJECT SOME RANDOM PERSON IN NEBRASKA HAS BEEN THANKLESSLY MAINTAINING SINCE 2003

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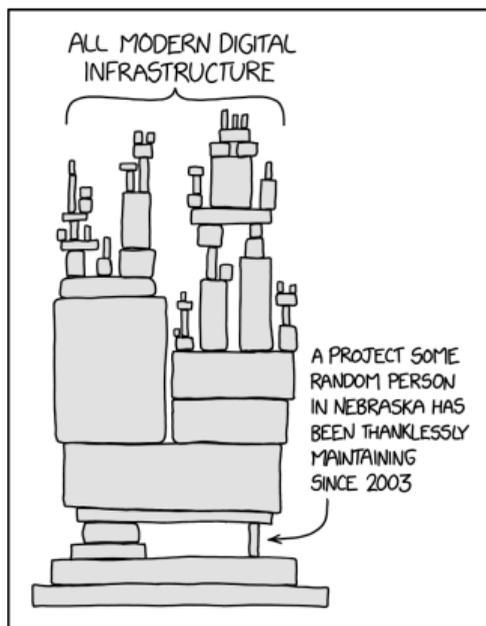
Juggling is not software development, but jugglers need? software!

What is the situation on my server?

- One virtual server, which powers `pesth.org` `jonglaria.org` `conventiontickets.de` and `lheurebleue.xyz`, costs are around 11€ per month + costs for the domains
- Convention registration software pretix, 2024 it was used for 11, 2025 for 12 conventions, the biggest one was Nürnberg
- Own mail server
- Mailing lists of 3 juggling clubs as well as three themed mailing lists (Passout / Con-Orga-All Stars / Server information list)

- Especially for jonglaria
  - Bengelsystem for the planning of volunteer shifts
  - Fileserver (Nextcloud) incl. video conferencing (currently quite restricted)
  - Dudle to coordinate meeting dates
  - Wiki
- Experimentally
  - Self hosted Openstreetmap vector map
  - Car- / public transport / pedestrian routing
  - Geocoding (reverse as well)

What worries me about my server?

- A lot of sensitive data at one place (contact data and banking numbers of >1000 jugglers!)
- GDPR issues
- Bus factor
- Backup concept
- Update concept
- In general no clear liability

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- **Umbrella organization of "Gemeinnützige Vereine"**
  The umbrella organization would be "gemeinnützig" i.e. accepted as organization
  for the public good in germany automatically

Tax-privileged purposes

1 science and research

2 religion

3 healthcare

4 help for young/old

5 art and culture

6 protection of heritage sites

7 education

8 nature protection

9 general welfare

10 help for the persecuted

11 rescue from mortal danger

12 disaster control

13 international mindset / tolerance / international understanding

14 protection of animals

15 development cooperation

16 customer protection

17 Care for prisoners

17 equality

18 protection of marriage/family

19 prevention of crime

20 sport

21 preservation of local heritage

22 animal breeding, customs

23 democratic sytem of government

24 civic engagement

25 preservation of historical monuments

26 non-profit housing purposes

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Recognition as a sport

- There are no hard rules by the law, what should be recognized as a sport n the sense of tax privileges (except chess), a lot of tax offices are probably orienting themselfes on the criteria of the "Deutscher Olympischer Sportbund" (german olympic sports confederation).

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  - 10000 members

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- unicycling seemes to be easier recognized as a sport than juggling (?)

Non-profit association types

- **Independent association**
  Support for the general public does not exist if the group of persons benefiting from the support is fixed, for example, membership of a family or the workforce of a company, or if, as a result of its demarcation, in particular according to geographical or professional characteristics, it can only ever be small. Support for the general public does not exist solely because a corporation transfers its funds to a public corporation.

- **umbrella organization**
  All member associations must be non-profit organizations. As soon as a member loses its non-profit status, it must be expelled from the association.

Who's in?

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  Software developers, People interested in data protection, design oriented persons, ...?

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  Software developers, People interested in data protection, design oriented persons, ...?
- **Clubs as legal entity members**
  Financial support, set goals
- **Other interested members**
  Small financial support (?), wishes, ideas, ...?

contact / discussion

Mailinglist / forum:

To join, please send and empty mail to juggleit-join@jonglaria.org

List is archived and is usable as kind of forum at jonglaria.org/lists

Questions? - Juggling convention in Tübingen probably at 3./4.-6.9.2026?

Foto: Junya Inoue, Coninfos: https://jonglaria.org/conventions/mailinglist