



EUROPEAN HANDBALL  
FEDERATION

## EHF Competitions Commission

(Meeting no. 11 of the period 2012 – 2016)

EHF Office in Vienna / AUT                      4 September 2015                      09:00 – 18:30 hrs.

### Participants:

Leopold Kalin	Chairman CC
Martin Hausleitner	Men's Competitions
Carmen Manchado Lopez	Women's Competitions
Dragan Nachevski	Refereeing
Radek Wasiak	Representing Clubs/FCH

EHF Office Staff                                      according to the agenda

### Excused:

Sándor Andorka                                      Club Competitions

### Agenda:

#### **1. Welcome**

Kalin welcomes the members of the CC for this last meeting in 2015 including Radek Wasiak representing the Clubs/FCH.

#### **2. Minutes and Reports of Meetings and Task Groups**

As there were some remarks concerning point 5.6 "Men's EHF EURO 2020 Qualification" in the minutes of the last CC meeting (24 to 25 April 2015) the CC decided on a small clarifying addition (bold and italic):

5.6. Men's EHF EURO 2020 Qualification (Additional)

According to the proposals of the NB and the EURO Delegation (only one qualification phase, perpetuation of the current standards and of the current system of playing periods –National Team Weeks-, open discussion of direct qualifiers and creating alternatives for direct qualifiers) two examples (one on the basis of 40 and one on the basis of 44 registrations **as well as the possibility to qualify 4 respectively 8 teams directly to the EURO 2020**) for further discussions were presented to the CC.

#### **3. Information on Meeting Technical Delegation / CAN**

Kalin provides a summary of the topics to the CC. The respective issues were discussed at the individual points of the agenda.

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#### **4. Club Competitions**

##### **4.1. Men's Champions League 2015/16**

The new season is well prepared, there were no withdrawals or any other really serious topics with any of the registered clubs.

The new playing system with a different number of matches in groups A/B resp C/D will be in use for the first time. Explanations were provided by the EHF on many different occasions over the past months and weeks.

There is only one Qualification Tournament in Banja Luka/BIH parallel to the current meeting. The event is well prepared by the club of Borac, no problems are expected.

Site visits were carried out to several clubs, especially to newcomers or clubs using a new venue for the first time in the Champions League.

A workshop was held on 25 August in Vienna with the presence of all clubs offering a good occasion to provide information and talk individually about certain issues with some clubs.

Glaser informs on the PluriScout system of the EHF, which will be used in both Men's and Women's Champions League starting with the qualification for the first time. The system is well known from the Men's EHF Cup and the National Team competitions and will now be introduced also for the Champions League.

##### **4.2. Women's Champions League 2015/16**

There are no changes in the playing system and also no withdrawals or major topics with the registered clubs.

There are two qualification tournaments on 12/13 September, one hosted by Glassverket in Drammen (NOR) and the other hosted by Baia Mare (ROU).

##### **4.3. Men's EHF-Cup 2015/16**

There are no changes in the playing system and also no withdrawals or major topics with the registered clubs. The draw for Round 1 and 2 was held on 21 July 2015 in Vienna, all matches are expected to take place according to schedule.

##### **4.4. Remaining European Cups 2015/16**

The draw for the first rounds in the different competitions took place on 21 July 2015 in Vienna. The participating clubs in those competitions are as follows: Men's Challenge Cup 42 clubs (31 in 14/15); Women's EHF Cup 46 clubs (41 in 14/15); Women's Cup Winners Cup 24 clubs (20 in 14/15); Women's Challenge Cup 25 clubs (31 in 14/15).

The CC discussed the issue of the Men's Challenge Cup games in Round 2 between Kastrioti (KOS) and Kragujevac (SRB). Under the given circumstances the CC agrees that the carrying out of these matches on a neutral ground with two matches on two days on one venue seems to be a useful alternative to the home and away schedule.

FRA registered the team of Mios-Biganos for the Women's EHF Cup and informed after the draw about a legal procedure within FRA which disallows the club from participating in the European Cup obviously due to financial reasons. The case was forwarded to the EHF Legal Department and is currently pending.

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#### 4.5. Club Competitions 2016/17

The issue of clubs having more than one team in the EHF Club competitions is becoming more and more an issue and needs to be tackled in view to the 2016/17 season. The office staff provides information to this topic and will work on adapted or new regulation points together with the legal department resp. legal bodies.

All important issues of the newly merged Women's EHF-Cup starting in 2016/16 are already decided, however, some minor topics are still open. The CC agrees on the following motions to be tabled at the next ExeC meeting:

Board and Lodging of the guest teams will be in the responsibility of the guest teams starting from the group phase, reciprocity is possible if both clubs agree (analogue to Men's EHF Cup and both Champions Leagues).

A player from a Champions League Club is not allowed to be registered with an EHF Cup club after the deadline for the Group Phase (analogue to Men's EHF Cup).

The following regulation is valid for the new Women's EHF Cup only and independently from the Challenge Cup (separately men and women): *"A team that had the home right in the second game of its last appearance in a final match (except MCL and WCL) will automatically have the home right at the first leg at its next appearance in a final by considering the order of the years."*

### 5. National Team Competitions – Qualifications

#### 5.1. 2016 EHF EURO Women SWE (Results Phase 1, Schedule Phase 2)

33 teams registered for the competition. Phase 1 was played with 2 groups of 3 teams each between 12 and 14 June 2015. The winners BUL and FIN joined the other already qualified Nations for phase 2. The groups for phase 2 were drawn on 9 April in Kristianstad/SWE and will be played as follows: round 1 and 2 between 7 and 11 October 2015, round 3 and 4 between 9 and 13 March 2016, round 5 and 6 between 1 and 5 June 2016.

As the organization of travels is sometimes very difficult for the away teams due to the fact that the necessary information is in some cases provided at a very late stage by the home team, the CC is unanimously of the opinion to sanction those National Federations, which are not providing the match information within the stipulated deadline.

A general 15 minutes half-time break is requested by several Member Federations and by the TV right holder Infront. The CC decided to test a general 15 minutes half-time break during the whole Women's EHF EURO 2016 SWE qualification phase 2 and to evaluate the feedback before taking further decisions.

The CC was informed, that BLR sent an official letter to the EHF, informing that for the qualification phase 2 match against ROU on 11 October 2015, no TV production is possible due to the parliament elections on the same day in BLR. The issue was already discussed between the EHF and Infront and Infront confirmed to get in contact with the possible TV broadcaster in ROU in order to check the necessities.

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#### 5.2. 2018 EHF EURO Men CRO (Results Phase 1, Schedule Interface and Phase 2)

38 National Federations registered for the competition. Already qualified is CRO (as organizer). The qualification phase 1 with 3 groups of 3 teams was already been played between October 2014 and June 2015. The 3 winners LUX, ROU and BEL are qualified to the play-off matches against the 3 lowest ranked 4<sup>th</sup> places of the Men's EURO 2016 qualification phase 2: FIN, ISR and TUR (Interface; to be played from 06 to 10 April 2016). Only the winners of these play-off matches will join the other qualified participants to the Men's EURO 2018 qualification phase 2. The basic match schedule is as follows: Round 1 and 2 from 3 to 6 November 2016, round 3 and 4 from 3 to 7 May 2017 and round 5 and 6 from 14 to 18 June 2017.

The draw for Phase 2 will take place on 14 April 2016, during the Secretaries General Conference (planned in Dubrovnik/CRO).

#### 5.3. 2017 MWCh FRA (Schedule Phase 1 and 2)

38 teams registered for the Men's WCh 2017 FRA qualification Europe. Already qualified for the final tournament are FRA (as reigning World Champion and at the same time as organizer), and the 3 best ranked teams from EHF EURO 2016 in POL as well as QAT (as Silver medal winner of MWCh 2015).

The 22 teams participating in phase 1 will play in 3 groups of 4 with home and away matches, in 1 group of 4 in a tournament format from 5 to 7 November in Tel Aviv/ISR and in 2 groups of 3 as well in home and away matches. The playing periods are: Round 1 and 2 from 4 to 8 November 2015, round 3 and 4 from 6 to 10 January and round 5 and 6 from 13 to 17 January 2016.

The winners of the 6 groups will join the remaining participants of the EURO 2016 POL (12 out of 16) to the play-off matches (phase 2) from 10 to 12 and 14 to 16 June 2016. The 9 winners of the play-off matches will participate in the final tournament in FRA (15 to 29 January 2017).

#### 5.4. 2016 YAC Qualifications (WU20 WCh RUS, WU18 WCh SVK, M20 EURO DEN)

##### WU20 WCh 2016 RUS (IHF event):

Playing dates qualification: 18 to 20 March 2016. The final tournament is planned to be played from 3 to 17 July 2016 in Russia. Already qualified are RUS as organiser (and 2<sup>nd</sup> in the W19 ECh 2015 ESP), ROU as the winner of the WU18 WCh 2014 in MKD, as well as DEN and SWE (ranked 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> in the W19 ECh 2015 in ESP). The 8 remaining places for Europe will be determined in the qualification tournaments. The registration started on 11 August 2015, the registration deadline is 30 September 2015 and the draw will take place in Bucharest/ROU on 14 November 2015 during the Conference of Presidents.

##### WU18 WCh 2016 SVK (IHF event):

No registration necessary: qualification via W17 ECh 2015 MKD. In total 10 places (24 participants) for Europe are available (SVK as organizer not included).

Already qualified for SVK are: DEN, RUS, HUN, ROU, SLO, CRO, FRA, SWE, GER, ESP.

Substitute nations are: 1. NOR, 2. NED, 3. POR, 4. CZE, 5. MKD.

The final tournament is planned to be played from 21 July to 3 August 2016 in SVK

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M20 ECh 2016 DEN:

Playing dates qualification: 8 to 10 April 2016. The final tournament will be played from 28 July to 7 August 2016 in Kolding and Vamdrup/DEN. Already qualified are DEN as organiser, as well as FRA and HUN (ranked 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> in the M18 ECh 2014 in POL). The 13 remaining places will be determined in the qualification tournaments. The registration started on 11 August 2015, the registration deadline is 30 September 2015 and the draw will take place in Bucharest/ROU on 14 November 2015 during the Conference of Presidents.

5.5. 2020 EHF EURO Men SWE-AUT-NOR (Qualifications) and

5.6. 2021 MWCh (Qualifications)

As both qualification rounds for the 2020 Men's EURO and the 2021 Men's WCh are closely combined the CC agreed to discuss the different systems together also taking into consideration the necessary consequences for the international calendar.

Before starting the CC emphasized, that the results of the last meeting are still valid:

*1<sup>st</sup> to limit the number of directly qualified participants to a maximum of 4; 2<sup>nd</sup> to maintain the system of qualification phase 1 in order to secure the high quality of the qualification matches in phase 2 and 3<sup>rd</sup> to be in favour of holding so-called "promotional tournaments" under the patronage of the respective organizer (s).*

*The number of directly qualified teams (4), the number of participating teams in phase 1 (up to 12), the number of the groups and participants in phase (8 groups of 4 teams each) and the system (round robin with home and away matches) remain unchanged.*

*Merely the questions of keeping the "Interface", "qualification modus of the best third team(s) by probably an implementation of a play-off round of all 3<sup>rd</sup> ranked teams", "using the existing NT weeks or the necessity of an additional NT week" diversify and were therefore discussed in detail.*

Following the playing periods or NT weeks in the calendar three different alternatives ("Traditional", "Alternative 1" and "Alternative 2") were as a result of the CC-Working Group presented and discussed.

"Traditional":

Playing periods phase 1:	Oct/Nov 2016, April 2017 and June 2017
Interface 2018 Q2 / 2020 Q1:	April 2018
Playing periods phase 2:	Oct/Nov 2018, April/May 2019 and June 2019
Directly qualifying:	1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> and 4 best ranked 3 <sup>rd</sup> (by calculation)

"Alternative 1":

Playing periods phase 1:	Oct/Nov 2016, April 2017 and June 2017
Interface 2018 Q2 / 2020 Q1:	cancelled
Playing periods phase 2:	April 2018, Oct/Nov 2018 and April 2019
Directly qualifying:	1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup>
Implementation Play-Off 3 <sup>rd</sup> :	8 teams ranked 3 <sup>rd</sup> play PO matches, 4 winners go to the Final Tournament

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In “Alternative 1” (based on the existing NT weeks) the best 3<sup>rd</sup> ranked teams can be determined with this system only once in 2019 (for the EURO 2020). Afterwards the new qualification system for the Men’s WCh will occupy the existing NT week in April in even years.

“Alternative 2”:

Playing periods phase 1:	Oct/Nov 2016, April 2017 and June 2017
Interface 2018 Q2 / 2020 Q1:	cancelled
Playing periods phase 2:	Oct/Nov 2018, March 2019 and April 2019
Directly qualifying:	1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup>
Implementation Play-Off 3 <sup>rd</sup> :	8 teams ranked 3 <sup>rd</sup> play PO matches, 4 winners go to the Final Tournament

“Alternative 2” requires the implementation of an additional NT week in March in odd years from 2019 onwards. Together with the cancellation of the Interface there will be a continuous and successively structured system of the EURO and WCh qualification systems without interruptions starting in October 2016.

Concerning the MWCh 2021 qualification Europe the following proposal was presented to the CC:

Open for 40 to 45 registrations	
Directly qualified for 2021 Final:	Organiser(s), the Reigning Champion from 2019 in DEN/GER and up to 3 best ranked teams from EURO 2020
Qualification phase 1 (part 1):	Teams from the EHF Ranking List, which are not qualified for the EURO 2020
Playing periods phase 1:	Oct/Nov 2019, January 2020 and mid of January 2020
Directly qualified for phase 2:	participants in OG-QT from Europe (e.g. “8”)
Qualification phase 1 (part 2):	Remaining participants of the EURO 2020 (e.g. “11”) and the winners of Q 1, part 1 (e.g. “9”) play Play-off matches in April 2020 during the NT week/OG-QT. The winners of this Play-Off matches play together with the participants in the OG-QT from Europe the qualification phase 2.
Qualification phase 2:	18 teams (e.g. “8” coming from Q-Europe phase 1, part 1 and e.g. “10” coming from Q-Europe phase 1, part 2)
Playing periods phase 2:	2 legs in June 2020
Qualifying for WCh 2021:	all winners of the Play-off matches together with the already directly qualified teams take part in the WCh 2021

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The CC thanked the Working Group for their detailed elaboration and approved unanimously the presented “Alternative 2” for the qualification to the Men’s EURO for 2020 starting already in 2016 with phase 1 as well as the presented World Championship qualification Europe starting with the qualification for Men’s WCh 2021 already in October 2019. Both systems shall now be tabled to the ExeC for further treatment.

## **6. National Team Competitions – Final Tournaments**

### **6.1. W17 EURO 2015 MKD and W19 EURO 2015 ESP (Follow-up)**

#### **W17 EHF EURO 2015 MKD**

Basically, the W17 EHF EURO was a good tournament with a good cooperation between the MKD OC and the EHF.

The event report was provided to the CC members in due time prior to the CC meeting. Some of the problems/issues were discussed in the CC meeting.

3 teams (FRA, HUN, SVK) had a wrong playing shirt number in the official delegation list, signed by the teams in the technical meeting one day prior to the first match day. All 3 teams noticed these mistakes prior to their first match. Due to the fact that it was prior to the first match and the respective player wouldn’t have had the chance to play in their first match, the playing shirt number was changed in the match report system as well as in the statistics. According to the EHF YAC EURO – final tournament regulations a change of a playing shirt number after the first technical meeting is not allowed throughout the entire tournament and disciplinary consequences are foreseen in the applicable regulations.

During the tournament, one problem was noticed regarding the uniform appearance of the teams. A detailed information by the tournament management concerning the colours of the playing shirts, shorts, thermo trousers and socks, was distributed to the teams.

After the next match day the CRO team was sanctioned because the sock colour of the players was different. (black and white). The CC requested to define in detail what uniformed appearance means and what equipment is part of the team kits and therefore part of a uniformed appearance.

A “Young Reporter’s Project” was organised by the MKD OC in a very successful way. Excellent content (highlight clips, photos, post match interviews, etc.) was produced by the young reporters and uploaded to a website which was directly linked to the official event website.

Similar projects shall also be organised for future YAC events, but due to the new YAC competition system, the awardings of the event takes place only 11 month prior to the start of the respective tournament which makes it almost impossible to organise such a project with a financial support by the European Union (funds to be applied for approximately two years prior to the event).

Different information regarding Players replacement for the Final Weekend in the EHF YAC EURO regulations and the Championship guide led to confusion. Finally, the Tournament Management allowed all teams to replace 1 player (maximum 2 players in the entire tournament) at the Final Weekend. Information in the Championship guide as well as in the EHF YAC EURO Regulations shall be identical in future EHF EURO events.

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#### W19 EHF EURO 2015 ESP

The tournament was well organized by the ESP OC and the cooperation between the ESP OC and the EHF was very good.

The event report of the W19 EHF EURO in ESP was provided to the CC members in due time prior to the CC meeting.

The biggest problem in Valencia was the temperature in both playing halls due to the fact that there was no air-condition. The temperature in the playing halls was a serious endangerment of health which led to the situation that some players collapsed during the line-up and in addition a high number of injuries was noticed by the EHF officials.

Injury Report follow-up shall be made accordingly – procedure to be defined.

A problem with the scoreboards occurred due to the fact that the ESP OC tried to operate the scoreboards via wireless connection. After the installation of a wired connection, the scoreboards worked properly. According to the EHF YAC EURO regulations, scoreboards must be operated via wired connection.

For future tournaments a waste system for the water bottles shall be implemented due to the huge load of rubbish occurred during the tournament. Ideas shall be collected from other sports to solve this issue.

The cooperation with the hall director in one playing hall was rather complicated. The hall director didn't allow to open the doors of the playing hall for generating some air circulation.

Furthermore, the air-condition remote control was taken from the EHF office, so it was not possible to cool down the EHF office.

It must be clear from the very beginning for all parties involved that the authority of a playing arena is within the EHF as soon as the playing hall is handed over.

Basketball baskets/other sport facility in one arena were technically not removable, but they were moved into the corners as far as possible so that they were not visible in the live stream.

It should be added to the bidding documents, that the playing halls must be provided empty without any sport equipment.

The travel schedule for some of the EHF officials was partly time consuming and complicated. Some of the officials had to stay overnight at Madrid airport and some others had to wait over 7 hours for at the airport for their connection flight. An information should be added to the officials information prior to the tournament, that EHF officials do not have to confirm such flight proposals of the OC.

Each organiser should have the obligation to sign a contract with an internet provider which confirms a proper data transfer rate for the scouting/statistics. Such contract shall be provided to the EHF office well in advance to the event;

The Officials Conference presentations were updated and improved for both YAC EHF EURO's prior to the tournaments by the respective competition responsible.

#### 6.2. 2016 EHF EURO Men POL

The preparations for the Men's EHF EURO 2016 are ongoing and with an excellent cooperation between the POL OC and the EHF. Ticket sales are well in progress.

The Final Tournament Draw took place in Krakow/POL on 19 June 2015. The POL OC organized a spectacular draw event in combination with a fantastic show programme and approximately 800 spectators.

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The only issue which arose in course of the draw event, was the non-participation of the CRO player who was foreseen to assist the draw event and who was confirmed by the Croatian Federation. Due to the fact that the non-participation was mentioned by the Croatian Federation only a couple of hours before the start of the draw event and upon request by the EHF, legal sanctions were taken according to the applicable regulations.

The Referee and Delegates Conference took place between 27 and 29 August 2015 in Vienna as part of the preparation for the nominated/pre-selected EHF officials of the Men's EHF EURO 2016 in POL. The feedback to the conference of all parties involved is very positive. There is a good cooperation and team spirit in the group.

In course of the seminar a workshop session with all delegates took place for improving the task distribution of EHF officials prior and during EHF EURO events. Based on the task management profile Hausleitner prepared a presentation which serves the better understanding of tasks and responsibilities for EHF delegates, especially the person being responsible for the competition at the respective venue.

Further on inputs of the EHF delegates worked out during the conference were distributed to the CC. The Heads of Delegations Conference will take place between 6 and 8 October 2015 in Krakow.

Between 20 and 23 of October 2015 the venue utilization tour together with all stakeholders including TV companies will take place in POL.

A test event will take place in Gdansk on 6/7 November 2015. In course of the test event, the new accreditation system will be tested by Swiss Timing.

### 6.3. 2016 EHF EURO Women SWE

The preparation for the Women's EHF EURO is ongoing.

The final tournament draw will take place on 10 June 2016, the draw location needs to be defined in due time by the SWE OC (Malmö or Gothenburg).

The issue regarding the 3rd Main Round venue is pending due to the fact that the topic concerning the TV production has to be solved. Infront will provide the SWE OC with an offer for the TV production (integrated part of the overall production offer), afterwards a decision on the third Main Round venue shall be taken.

Regulations: As a result of the evaluation of the different last EURO events the CC demands a clear definition of the term team kit/playing clothing, which shall be added to the EHF EURO regulations as follows:

- Components of playing clothes are playing shirt, playing shorts, socks (identical colour for all players of a team), thermo trousers (all players of a team have to wear an identical colour), long sleeves, compression socks and tights (same colour of shorts).

Equipment for EHF officials nominated for events: The CC requested to have only one colour (dark blue) for the officials clothing, with white being used as alternative colour.

### 6.4. M18 EURO 2016 CRO, M18 Championships BUL, GEO, LTU

A workshop for the upcoming YAC events will take place on 24/25 September 2015. The workshop will be organised in two parts, one general information part for the group of organisers of the respective category and the second part will take place in individual workshops with the organizer of the respective event.

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Due to the new YAC competition system and the consequence that more competitions will take place at the same period, more manpower will be needed and the responsibilities (EHF Officials and EHF Office staff) need to be spread on a broader basis. Regarding CC responsibility the M18 Euro 2016 in CRO will be taken care of by Manchado, the M20 Euro in DEN by Hausleitner. The responsibilities from CC side, respectively their 'replacements' need to be defined accordingly and a new approach might be required. The CC proposes to educate people from the EHF delegate's pool, who will be responsible for the tasks of the CC members in those competitions where it is impossible for a CC member to participate due to other competitions taking place at the same time.

The draw for the M18 EHF Championships 2016 in BUL, GEO and LTU will also take place in course of the YAC EURO events workshop on 24 September in Vienna.

The draw will be carried out in 2 steps:

In the first step, the organisers of the respective event will be drawn.

In the second step the participating teams will be drawn into the groups.

The draw for the M18 EHF EURO 2016 CRO will take place during the workshop on 25 September.

The draw procedures and the respective group/tournament compositions are unanimously approved by the CC.

#### 6.5. M20 EURO 2016 DEN

The site visit which was foreseen as an integrated part of the bidding process was postponed to 25 August 2015 and was carried out by Hausleitner at this date.

The arena in Kolding can be used for a maximum capacity of 6.500 spectators and was in use also for the W19 event in 2013. The infrastructure and the related facilities are known accordingly. Further on the playing arena in Kolding will also be a venue for Women's WCH 2015 in Denmark.

As a second arena the arena Vamdrup Syd is foreseen. It fulfills the requirement for the event as a second playing venue.

12 teams will be accommodated in a hotel appr. 10km away from the playing halls and the remaining 4 teams will stay in a hotel within a very close distance to the playing halls.

The CC requested to get an overview of the inspection reports distributed to the EHF Executive Committee prior to the awarding of the events.

A detailed site visit including the infrastructure utilization will take place in the course of the event preparation with all stakeholders involved.

#### 6.6. Further events in 2016 (Women's Challenge Trophy, W18 European Open, etc.)

##### Women's Challenge Trophy 2016

The Women's Challenge Trophy 2016 (8 to 13 March 2016) is on the agenda of the EHF Executive Committee in the meeting September 2015 for a decision making process. The basic system is similar to the past events. The only adaptation concerns one rest day against a payment of € 1.000 by the participating delegations. The IHF funds in the usual extent have to be confirmed accordingly by the EHF. The announcement for the organization right shall take place immediately after the decision on the event is taken by the EHF Executive Committee.

##### W18 European Open 2016

The CC unanimously approved to use in case of groups of 4 teams the respective playing schedule with the decisive pairing 2-3 (and 1-4) on the last match day.

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#### W17 and M17 EYOF 2017 in Győr/HUN

The same playing schedule as in the EOCh tournament shall be used for the tournaments in the EYOF starting in 2017. Concerning the requested change respectively extension the CC unanimously approved a proposal to be tabled to the EOC regarding the adaptation of the age groups as follows: *“In the EYOF 2017 players born on 1 January 2000 and younger are eligible to play.”*

This opens the possibility to nominate younger talents, which are born later than the period prescribed by the EOC (born between 1 January 2000 and 31 December 2001).

#### W17 EURO and Championships 2017

After having finalized the W19 ECh in ESP the respective ranking according to the resulting point distribution will be implemented into the “Women’s YAC Ranking” starting with the W17 ECh 2007 in SVK and ending with the W19 ECh 2015 in ESP (8 corresponding YAC events as in the “Men’s YAC Ranking”). The basic schedule for the announcement of the YAC events in 2017 shall be adapted and the organization right announced within the next weeks in order to achieve an extended preparation period of approximately 18 months – taking into consideration an awarding in January 2016. This schedule means a narrow period for site visits in November/December 2015. Basically the site visits for the YAC 2017 events shall be carried out by Manchado and Hausleitner. It may be necessary to involve additional persons, depending on the number of applicants and venues.

#### 6.7. IHF Competition Matters (MU21 WCh 2015 BRA and MU19 WCh 2015 RUS – Follow-up; Schedule M & W OG-QT, M & W Olympic Games)

The Summer Review – Final Ranking published by EHF Media Department in hand the possible consequences for the MU21 WCh 2017 and MU19 WCh 2017 (venues tbd by IHF) were explained as well as the current status of the continental qualifications to the OG-QT for Men (8 to 10 April 2016) and Women (18 to 20 March 2016).

#### 6.8. Emerging Nations Championships

As the Emerging Nations Championships could touch in detail the whole qualification system in Europe especially for the men’s events, a contact was established with the IHF, to clarify the situation. As soon as the EHF will receive the requested clarifications the CC will be informed accordingly.

## 7. Refereeing Matters

### 7.1. Individual and current referee matters

The annual referee/delegate seminar was held in Vienna from 28-30 August 2015 with the participation of 14 pairs aiming to make it to the 2016 Men’s EURO (group to be reduced to 12 couples). A summary was provided to the CC, in which Nachevski underlined the importance of early preparation/team-building measures and the contribution of the external lecturers (Gunnarsson & Sibila).

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UKR did not re-nominate two of their EHF pairs for the season 2015/16 without giving further explanations to the EHF. This is a similar case to one already discussed during previous CC meetings (Crnojevic/Kostecki CRO). The question was raised whether referees who are not supported by a member federation may directly register with EHF. It was recommended to bring this forward to the EXEC for a general discussion regarding the active involvement of the EHF in such cases.

A referee complaint from the club ABC/UMinho was received by the EHF after last season's Men's Challenge Cup final. Subsequently two different analyses have been conducted by two independent referee experts and the club will be informed accordingly.

Glaser informed the CC about the new concept of non-neutral referees partially officiating Men's Champions League matches, which was approved. The same information was already presented to the concerned clubs who were present in Vienna during the MCL workshop.

## 7.2. TRC matters

The TRC requested more support for the less developed nations in the area of refereeing. The CC supports the idea of looking for ways to intensify the co-operation with those Federations concerned and asked the office to initiate the topic internally.

A group of 27 perspective referees has been determined by the TRC whose physical fitness shall be monitored on a regular basis. The TRC Member Wille is responsible for this activity.

Various selected referee video scenes were submitted by the TRC during the season 2014/15. Those clips have been compiled into two different teaching material versions.

## 7.3. EHF Candidates Courses

A total of seven 7 EHF pairs finished their career after the 2014/15 season, some of them due to age reasons and others due to personal reasons: Skruzny CZE, Frieser B. CZE, Fleisch/Rieber GER, Cohen/Peretz ISR, Bol/Van Eck NED, Stenhaugmo NOR and Bernet/Wick SUI.

The last course for EHF referee candidates was held in the framework of the 2015 European Open in Gothenburg. The following 5 pairs were promoted: Mortensen/Madsen DEN, Metalari/Nikolovski MKD, Scholes/Zuijlen NED, Ershov/Pavliukov RUS and Blanck/Isen SWE.

A request was received from BUL to organize the next candidates course during a youth national team championship to be held in Gabrovo. More details will be necessary such as exact number of teams and playing dates in order to determine whether this tournament should be considered or not. A list of potential candidates for a possible course was elaborated by the TRC and presented to the CC, prioritizing the candidates from the following nations: BUL, BEL, BLR, GER, KOS and SVK.

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The CC agreed with the TRC proposal to conduct observations in the own country in those cases where inactive EHF referees become active again. All related costs are to be covered by the federation of the concerned referees.

#### 7.4. Female Referees Programme

11 from 19 nominated referees were female at this year's YAC EURO events held in ESP and MKD. Both finals were officiated by female pairs. Among the group of 11 there are some couples to be considered when nominating the candidates for the 2016 Women's EURO in SWE. It will be essential to work closely and on a regular basis with those pairs.

Unfortunately Förström (TRC responsible for the female referees) could not attend neither of the 2015 summer YAC events due to job obligations. This was rather unfortunate as it would have meant a great opportunity for her to get to know and work with many talented female pairs.

Although around 5 female referees became pregnant prior and during the last season it is confirmed that at least some of them will be back again for the new season (e.g. Brehmer/Skowronek POL).

#### 7.5. Young Referees Programme

The development of the YRP and the level of refereeing during the last few years has been increasing consistently. Unfortunately the quality of some tournaments have not been able to reach that level, especially the Cell Cup in Veszprem has been mentioned in that context. With regards to this particular case the CC supports the proposal of the TRC to give a "last warning" to the Cell Cup so that they properly manage to fulfill the EHF minimum requirements.

It has been decided that from now on the requirements for organizing YR events are to be adapted in order to include more time for theoretical sessions on one hand and to specify the minimum age category of the teams participating on the other one: U17/national teams and U18/club teams.

A request received from BIH to host EHF Young Referees during a tournament to be held in Brcko will have to be declined due to the inappropriate age category of the participating teams.

The CC was informed that the TRC discussed whether a coaching lecturer at YR-events would be necessary or not. After balancing the respective arguments the CC agreed to propose to no longer nominate a Coaching lecturer to a YRP event.

#### 7.6. Referee nomination friendly matches

There was not much to report at this point as very few requests were received to date.



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#### 7.7. Referees' Head Sets

It has been agreed that it is a goal to have headsets in all future YAC EURO events. Therefore and in order to have enough of them available, it was recommended to purchase some affordable units. Rancik received the task to evaluate the required number, investigate possibilities and search for offers before a final decision will be taken.

#### 7.8. IHF Refereeing Matters

Nachevski informed that some new rules have been used as a test during the youth WCh in BRA and RUS, e.g. blue card for a disqualification with report, 5-7 passes allowed after the passive signal etc. It is expected that the review and analysis of these tests is going through the expert group.

With regards to the IHF GRTP courses and in order to achieve a better cooperation with the IHF, in the future, the CC prefers to have the European candidates being proposed by the EHF and not by the National Federations. The CC asks the office to coordinate the follow-up of this issue and initiate a communication with the IHF (PRC) accordingly.

### **8. Delegates Matters**

#### 8.1 Current situation (problems and cases 2014/15)

A total of five EHF delegates from the 14/15 season are no longer active in 2015/16: Schlick (AUT), Simon (LUX) and Popov (SRB) due to the age limit; Sundell (FIN) and Naceva (MKD) ended their active status on their own wish.

#### 8.2 Preview to the 2015/16 season incl. preparatory activities

As announced earlier there was no seminar activity for new delegates, consequently there is a group of around 140 delegates available for the 15/16 season.

The delegates are provided with all relevant information in an overall document, but also via the EHF Family Portal including the newly prepared documents regarding the basic hall set-up in the different competitions and the adapted reporting sheet.

Additionally there is a special information package with focus on the referee evaluation including detailed instructions as well as video clips with supporting explanations especially with regard to the evaluation of the referee performance. A testing of this part of the delegates task will follow afterwards not only to make sure that these instructions are studied, but also to make the delegates group more familiar with an on-line testing as this tool will be used more and more in the coming seasons.

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## **9. Project “Playing Hall Infrastructure”**

### **9.1. Report on activities**

The EHF office worked out an individual hall set-up for each competition that can be displayed in a technically advanced way. The current status of these documents is a starting point that can be made available to all stakeholders and will be further worked on to include more specific details of each competition.

### **9.2. Decisions and further procedure**

Following the last CC meetings some additional topics were evaluated and a number of specifications were implemented in the regulations for the 2015/16 season with the focus on basic issues as a first step and on different levels appropriate to the different competitions (base area, grand stands, score boards, spectator capacities, etc.). Some issues will need a transition period depending on the validity period of the regulations.

Nevertheless there are several problems dealing with the minimum requirements of different venues respectively playing halls. Taking into consideration the qualification phase, the venue situation in the respective country in general, the possible spectator and/or TV viewer interest the CC authorized the EHF Office to evaluate carefully the specific conditions in the qualification phases 1 and to allow exceptions where it is appropriate.

## **10. Additional Matters**

### **10.1. International Calendar**

To ensure a proper procedure for the next period especially in order to prepare the IHF/EHF-Calendar-Meeting (planned for October 2015), the draft version of the calendar for 2017/2018 was again discussed. The CC agreed on two amendments (NT Week Women end of September instead of beginning of October together with a one week break between WCL 3 and WCL 4; as well as a possible change of the WU20 WCh qualification Europe to the Easter weekend instead of being played in the NT Week Women from 23 to 25 March 2016) and the calendar 2017/2018 will now be sent to the Member Federations with a deadline of mid November 2015 for feedback.

### **10.2. EHF Anti-Doping Unit**

As previously planned a total of 32 tests were carried out at the YAC events in ESP and MKD (16 each). All of those tests had a negative result.

## **11. Miscellaneous**

Following the elaborations in the TD the CC is open and generally supports activities in the area of technical innovations in order to have more data available about players and their running/passing/moving/positioning etc. At the same time it is important for the EHF to somehow coordinate the different activities from TV-stations or external companies.

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The CC agrees on a proposal by Hausleitner to put together a “to do list” after each meeting in order to easier follow the different tasks and duties as a consequence of a meeting. The office received the task to put this list together and to send it to the CC.

Since the current meeting ended in the evening, the meeting period of Saturday morning was cancelled. Prior to the meeting in February 2016 the possibility of holding the meeting on only two half days will be checked as an alternative.

Kalin thanked all members for their active participation and the office staff for the preparation and closed the meeting.

EHF Vienna, 10 September 2015  
Glaser/Sichelschmidt/Flixeder