

COMPETITIONS COMMISSION MEETING

Prior to the 2021 EHF Congress in Vienna/AUT
Thursday, 22 April 2021 09:00 – 12:30 / Bungalow C

- BC:** Bozidar Djurkovic / Chairman
Jan Kampman / Men's Competitions
Carmen Manchado Lopez / Women's Competitions
Dragan Nachevski / Refereeing
Emeric Paillason / Men's Club Competitions
- Excused:** Thomas Hylle / Women's Club Competitions (not present at Congress)
- Office:** Markus Glaser / Chief Sports Officer
George Bebetos / Referee Education Programme Coordinator
Maike Bouwer / Euro Events

MINUTES

1. Welcome, programme, agenda

Djurkovic welcomed to this meeting prior to the Congress, which, traditionally, is a shorter meeting to sum up the mandate period of the Commission.

Glaser provided organizational information regarding the upcoming days including the EHF Congress.

2. Minutes CC 02/2021 and ExeC 03/2021

No issues were raised

3. Club Competitions

Glaser provided a summary of the last weeks and the current situation in EHF Club Competitions and underlined the difficult situation for the clubs around these games with all the additional efforts about testing and travelling restrictions. The Group Phase in Men's and Women's Champions League as well as in Men's and Women's European League are

concluded. The assessment of those matches that were not played was carried out as previously informed.

The Final4 events are in process of being organized, probably most of them will be carried out without spectators.

Manchado Lopez as well as Paillason raised their concern because of the pressure on the clubs to carry out matches despite difficult travelling and sometimes with players who are not in a good physical shape because of missed trainings or quarantines.

4. National Team Competitions

4.1. Qualifications

Glaser provided an update on the Euro Qualifiers where most of the scheduled matches were actually played in the March National Team Week and, despite difficult discussions with some Federations, there is a schedule for the last week of April including all open matches. If therefore all matches take place as scheduled, the Qualification will be completed on Sunday evening, 2 May.

4.2. Final Tournaments

Men's EHF EURO 2022

The site visit for the venues of Slovakia has been conducted on 11 and 12 March, reports are available. On 27 and 28 April, it is planned to carry out the site visit for the venues of Hungary, Budapest, Szeged and Debrecen. In addition to the site visits, biweekly meetings are arranged with the set-up teams of the EHF and OCs.

The Final Tournament Draw will take place on 6 May 2021, 17:00 hrs in Budapest in a TV studio. Preparations are going according to plan. The first part of the meeting of the Heads of Delegations will take place on 18 May, online. The second part will take place 5-7 October 2021.

The two day arrival prior to the first match day has been communicated to the OCs and will furtherly discussed with the OCs on 29 May 2021.

Women's EHF EURO 2022

The Qualifiers Draw was successfully completed, the qualifiers schedule is available and matches will start in the week from 6-10 October. Due to the large number of registrations and the fact that the Qualifiers this time have only six groups a Qualification Phase 1 will take place at the beginning of June with three tournaments.

Furthermore, the CI has been developed and established. The launch of the tag/claim will take place mid-June at the 500 days-to-go pinpoint.

Men's EHF EURO 2024

The playing venues will soon be finalised and communicated. Moreover, the CI brand is under construction and will be presented to the EHF on 25 May 2021.

Women's EHF EURO 2024

Kick-off meeting has been initiated with Hungary, Switzerland and Austria, planned to take place in June 2021.

Bid documents for Euros 2026 and 2028

It is foreseen that the digital version is handed in by 10 May 2021. The site visits will be done this summer for the necessary arenas by the newly created set-up team. All bid information will be gathered, published on 10 May via the EHF website <https://bids.eurohandball.com/>.

4.3. YAC Events

All YAC events in summer 2021 are currently scheduled and organizational preparations with the organizers are in full swing. Depending on the necessity and the travelling restrictions, site visits will take place in the next weeks. An EHF Hygiene Concept was sent to all organizers in order to clarify various important issues.

Glaser underlines that the EHF will be requested to be pro-active in this topic but also flexible regarding last minute changes among the participants and possible adaptations of playing schedules in case of teams not being able to reach their destination as planned. The same holds true for referees and delegates.

The Partille Cup in Gothenburg/SWE was cancelled by the organizers and this includes also the EO (M17) which will not take place.

5. Referee Matters

Nachevski informed about the twelve European pairs that were nominated for the Tokyo Olympics by the IHF. Ten male and two female pairs were nominated.

Furthermore he regretted the cancellation of the EO as this was currently the only EHF event for YR. It is therefore vital to find other events where a YR activity is possible.

The same holds true for EHF Candidates Courses where it will be evaluated if a course is possible at one of the YAC Summer events or, if not, where else.

In general, Nachevski was very much hoping that the preparatory events for the Euro 2022 can take place with physical presence again. However, he also underlines the necessity of a really well working online video solution for possible sessions with referees using video clips.

6. Delegate Matters

The nomination of delegates in all competitions was different in this season with delegates very often doing matches in their own country. According to Glaser this worked very well and did not produce any inconvenient situation.

Five Delegates (Donven LUX, Savvides CYP, Dubedout FRA, Hart ISR and Lang AUT) will reach the age limit at the end of this season. Additionally those two Delegates (Maric BIH and Berndtsson SWE), who were granted an additional season, will also finish their career at the end of June.

An EHF Delegates Candidates Course is currently not planned, however, might be reconsidered once the overall situation with the pandemic is really getting better and would allow a course with physical presence.

7. Congress information

The CC Members received all information including Congress material and details on the overall programme.

8. Miscellaneous

Since this meeting marked the end of the election period after five years, Chairman Djurkovic summarized the activities and underlined his satisfaction with the work of the CC during this period. He thanked each member for his/her contribution and active participation and included also the Office staff in his words.

Moreover he wished all those who stand for re-election or election in a different position all the best for the congress and closed the meeting.

Vienna, 29 April 2021
M. Glaser/Competitions