

## Minutes to the 140<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee Meeting in Vienna, Austria

<b>Date:</b>	16 March 2018	
<b>Time:</b>	09:00 – 12:30 14:00 – 15:00	
<b>Venue:</b>	Steigenberger Hotel Herrenhof – Meeting Room “Hofmannsthal-Zweig”	
<b>Participants:</b>	Michael Wiederer	President
	Predrag Bošković	Vice President
	Henrik La Cour	Treasurer
	Božidar Djurković	Chairman Competitions Commission
	Jerzy Eliasz	Chairman Methods Commission
	Ole R. Jørstad	Chairman Beach Handball Commission
	Stefan Lövgren	Member
	Gabriella Horvath	Member
	Anrijs Brencans	Member
	Xavier O’Callaghan	Chairman Professional Handball Board
	Nodjialem Myaro	Chairwoman Women’s Handball Board
	Andrea Moser	Chief Finance Officer
	Markus Glaser	Chief Sports Officer
	Vesna Lazić	PA to the President
	Marsha Brown	Corporate Liaison
	JJ Rowland	EHF Media & Communications (in part)

### Part I - Current Business

#### 1. Welcome, programme and agenda

President Wiederer greeted the members of the Executive Committee with a special welcome to N. Myaro who joined the meeting for the first time after replacing N. Lecusanu following her election to the IHF Executive Committee. The March meeting would cover the many motions relating to the upcoming season and preparatory questions relating to the upcoming Congress. No comment or question was raised to the programme or the agenda.

#### 2. Minutes Executive Committee 01/2018

With no comment or question the minutes of the previous meeting were adopted.

#### 3. 13<sup>th</sup> EHF Conference of Presidents

##### 3.1. Minutes / Follow up

The National Federations were swiftly and fully informed on the various topics during the meeting in Zagreb; the protocol was written and distributed with a copy of the presentations.

### 3.2. Evaluation

Hosting the 13<sup>th</sup> Conference of Presidents within the framework of the EHF EURO was a good opportunity to provide information on the tender for the new media and marketing agreement and to start the discussion process on that level as well as to have a sound basis for the structural issues and respective motions to the Congress.

## 4. Reports and decisions

### 4.1. Finance Delegation

#### 4.1.1. *General Report*

The last meeting of the Finance Delegation was held in January. However, through the various meetings that have taken place, as well as the most recent meeting of the EHFM Advisory Board, there was an exchange of information of many topics such as the ongoing tender process, the re-ignition of the new EHF Office project, the Commission and Board meetings, the EHF – ISR cooperation visit, etc. In addition to the meeting of the EHF Comptrollers in Vienna, an EHF Delegation will travel to Basel for meetings with the IHF.

#### 4.1.2. *Finances / 2017 Accounting*

Opening the topic, Treasurer La Cour informed the Executive Committee that the 2017 finances of the organisation continued to move in a positive way due to good cost control and revenue increases. It was mentioned that the additional income meant that more money is being distributed to the Federations than before. La Cour said that personnel and additional expenses were also tightly controlled, and development costs progressed as expected. In a year without an EHF EURO the positive result was very satisfactory. The Treasurer thanked the President, Secretary General, and the Chief Finance Officer for their contribution to this work.

Addressing the Executive Committee, CFO Moser gave a short information to the balance sheet where it was noted that figures recorded under assets were not to be viewed as a loss, as it was a planned depreciation. Furthermore, there have been services rendered that are not yet chargeable that have impacted the budget result when looking at the deferral/accrual lines between EHF EURO years. The current status of 'Cash in Bank' is an accumulation in preparation of upcoming payments relating to EHF EURO; reserves are amassed based on new contracts and unused funds from other contracts. At this time, the conversation with the selected EHF external auditor is ongoing, however, there are not major corrections to be made regarding the final result; the Executive Committee was asked to confirm the result. President Wiederer underlined that it was important to see that the EHF was fulfilling its tasks.

#### 4.1.3. *Tender Process*

An interim report covering the activities in the period 01-03/2018 was submitted to the members of the Executive Committee prior to the meeting. As previously reported, the agreement that will cover the EHF EURO events is to be concluded first as work on the agreement covering club competitions continues parallel. Small questions concerning structure and marketing remain open; clarification on the strategic level is necessary. Finalisation of the process is expected ahead of the Congress in June where a comprehensive report will be given.

The new media and marketing agreement will significantly increase the budget as of 2020/2021. Additionally, the EHF – EHF M agreement (share 80:20 between clubs-EHF after expenses) will also positively impact the organisation. Contrariwise, a better EHF EURO result will also benefit the clubs. In a next step, the EHF will meeting with the club representatives (MFCH) on 17 April, and coordination meeting with WFCH has been scheduled for 24 April in an effort to improve the information exchange. The Executive Committee gave the Finance Delegation a mandate to complete the process.

#### 4.2. Secretary General – Business Report

Secretary General Hausleitner spoke of the many activities that took place following the conclusion of the EHF EURO 2018 CRO such as the preparation and execution of the Technical Commission, new league concept, and Board meetings. Taking reference to the EHF EURO 2018 CRO, several debriefings took place on the various levels; this also included an evaluation received from the IHF as the event is analysed from different perspectives. To the 2018 YAC events, the corresponding draws and inspections were carried out accordingly, including the venue inspection for the Women’s IHF/EHF Trophy that was awarded at the last meeting; Hausleitner also mentioned the ongoing preparations for the many summer events as well as for the upcoming EHF EURO 2020 Workshop & draw in Trondheim.

SG Hausleitner briefly mentioned the special situation surrounding the W19 draw where the teams of SRB, SVK, and KOS are in one group. A decision was taken, based on the EXEC conclusion from 01/2018, and communicated to the teams concerned; the organisation will see how the decision is accepted. The dates and locations of the scheduled club competition draws (MCL, WCL, and MEFHC) were reiterated; the 2018 EHF Congress would be treated in part two of the agenda.

To the EHF Office, the Executive Committee was informed that the recruitment procedure in the areas of IT and EHF Media & Communications is continuing and in the search for an optimum solution for a new office building, the organisation has renewed its efforts to which more information to the ongoing process will be given at the next meeting in June.

Concerning partnerships, Hausleitner spoke briefly of the renewal of the contract with the Italian supplier ‘Trial’ and the difficulties faced with Salming where it is hoped that some questions can be resolved at a planned meeting on 3 May 2018. The EHF – Select cooperation will see the inaugural implantation of the ‘iBall’ during the 2018 VELUX EHF FINAL4; additionally, fringe activities for ‘MaxiGrip’ are planned during the event in May and more initiatives are in the works for EHF EURO 2018 FRA. The organisation has concluded an agreement with Gerflor that two flooring systems from EHF EURO 2018 CRO will be donated to the National Federations of Iceland and Estonia; furthermore, two more floors will be purchased under special conditions with the intention of donating them at a later time.

#### 4.3. Report Legal Management

With a summary at hand, a brief overview of the cases was given. There are currently nine open cases including the new case of V. Vujovic on a club level. The BIH/SUI case was closed; the decision of first instance was upheld by the Court of Appeal. With appeals lodged the doping cases of 2017 remained open. The case of unsportsmanlike conduct resulting from EHF EURO 2018 CRO was closed.

There is no new information regarding the trademark case, the EHF is awaiting final information concerning the domain name.

#### 4.4. Report Anti-Doping Unit

As a consequence of the 2017 doping cases, the EAU will initiate increased education measures for the players of all 2018 YAC events and oblige their National Federation and National Anti-Doping Organisations to complete AD activities prior to the final tournaments. All 2018 YAC delegations at events are required to have an AD responsible person who has successfully completed the WADA online training; also, each delegation is mandated to attend a NADA education workshop (confirmation of participation to be sent to the EAU). In support of these efforts, the information and documents on the EAU homepage will be updated as necessary. Upon question, it was confirmed that all AD initiatives are valid for both indoor and beach handball.

#### 4.5. Report EHF Marketing GmbH – Advisory Board 03/2018

Vice President Bošković reported on the meeting that took place on 5 March that covered the topics related to the current 2017/18 season and general business, as well as the upcoming 2018/19 season and the future of club competitions and the structure (which was also covered during the Board meetings). Bošković stated that much time was spent discussing the media and marketing agreement (information already available to the EXEC). It was underlined once again that the MCL competition structure beyond 2020 could change depending on the development of the market. No changes to the current 2x8 system are foreseen prior to 2023; however, it was hoped that beyond 2020 the club competition systems for both genders would be the same. Again, it was emphasised that competition systems are not definitively finalised.

SG Hausleitner added that there would be much to consider in the coming years, which included the development of beach handball. He also spoke of the work currently being undertaken to redesign eurohandball.com and to advance in the IT realm i.e. the organisation together with EHF are in the process of developing a mobile application (with an external specialist) that will be live by the start of season 2018/19.

#### 4.6. Further Reports

Reference was made to the IHF Council minutes (CRO - 01/2018) describing the current status of IHF projects. The MFCH, and the EHF, agreed to support the IHF regarding the USA/CHN markets.

An EHF delegation will travel to Basel on 5/6 April to partake in meetings relating to the 2019 Emerging Nations Tournament to see if it can be integrated into the EHF EURO qualification system; SG Hausleitner, supported by P. Sichelschmidt, will take part in the meeting. In the same period President Wiederer together with the Secretary General will meet with President Moustafa and other representatives for a session that will cover many topics.

CFO Moser added a few more pertinent points to the current business in finance. All EHF EURO 2018 CRO payments to the National Federations and Clubs were completed; injury payments and disbursements to the organiser remain open. EHF EURO 2016 (final tournament) additional share payments were made. EHF EURO 2016 (qualification) additional share payments remain open and

are to be completed following the EXEC meeting, it was noted that the disbursement stems from unused qualification funds.

Due to the amount of available funds on the National Federation account, the National Federation of Russia approached the EHF to act as guarantor regarding the 2018 IHF BH WC; the required funds were blocked in a special account to ensure the guarantee towards the IHF.

## 5. Commissions / Delegations 02 & 03/2018

### 5.1. Technical Delegation / CAN

On behalf of the Technical Delegation MC Chairman Jerzy Eliaz reported on the meeting that focused on technological, educational, and developmental issues. At the behest of the EHF President, the TD gave focus and follow-up to the technological support used during EHF EURO 2018 CRO (goal light, goal line, instant replay, and substitution area technology). The discussion raised input on concrete instructions when to use instant replay, optimization of the goal light technology tool, also in combination with the final signal and the goal line proof, etc. The organisation is to work closely with the technology suppliers (VisionSport, SportTransfer, SwissTiming, and Ojeda) to improve the systems prior to further use at the VELUX EHF Final4 in Cologne and the EHF Women's EURO in FRA. The TD underlined that technological support guidelines would be expanded within the individual Technical Commissions. Other points from the meeting are summarised as follows:

- **Goal line technology:** to be tested on one court in during the ebt Finals in Stare Jablonski (POL); if successful further use is planned for the MW18 Beach Handball EURO (MNE) and the 2018 Champions Cup (ESP)
- **Digital Score Sheet:** further use is supported by the TD; an adaptation for use in beach handball will be developed
- **EHF Officials' education:** the TD confirmed that further training and testing activities shall be mandatory and a requisite for prolonging or maintaining the EHF status; non-compliance will be sanctioned in the future
- **Rule evaluation and development:** a concept for a Europe-wide opinion poll aimed at National Federations (coaching/refereeing units), Clubs, Players (via EHPU)coaches, referees, is to be developed and to be presented at the next meeting

### TD/CAN Motions:

*All motions in detail were provided to the Executive Committee prior to the meeting. For the minutes, the motions are summarised.*

- **Mentoring of Coaches in Women's Youth Handball – EHF/WHB Development Programme:** a new development initiative to support and improve coaching in women's youth handball on a national level. **Approved – see AP 7.3.**
- **2018 European Week of Sport (23 – 30 September):** 4<sup>th</sup> edition of the partnership is supported by the TD. **Approved – information to be sent to the Member Federations**

In the short discussion that followed, Treasurer La Cour stated that development of EHF delegates is important and must be pushed; he emphasised that it was also a matter of image. Development should not be limited to the rules; it is also about management and working the event leadership (managing the game). Member Horvath added that education and development is rudimentary to elimination unnecessary legal cases being opened; it will be important to spend time on tough questions in order to be ready to handle tough situations. Vice President Bošković underlined that the rules of the game need to be clear and simplified for the spectators and suggested that the organisation continued to work with the IHF to find a way to present the EHF point of view; it is imperative for the EHF to be part of the process.

### **5.2. Competitions Commission**

Opening his report, CC Chairman Djurković noted that most of information covered was distributed to the Executive Committee prior to the meeting and a short review would be given.

- **National Team Competitions:** EHF EURO 2018 FRA Qual. R3/R4 and the WU20 HUN Qual. are to be played in the coming week; this will be the last YAC qualification tournament. Furthermore, the importance of the motions concerning the 2021 WC Qual. EUR and the EHF EURO 2022 qualification was underlined. The organisation now enters a difficult period due to the change in the system (16 to 24 teams) and the different qualifications. And with joint-bid hosts there is no clear and easy situation when compared to a sole organiser; all consequences are to be carefully considered.
- **YAC Summer events 2018:** with an overview of the events (organisers, dates, locations) at hand, the organisation of the events is proceeding according to schedule.
- **Club Competitions:** the WCL group phase is complete and the quarter-finals are scheduled to take place in April. The MCL group phase also concluded and some decisions were only decided in the last round; the Last 16 will be played over the next fortnight. With the exception of the issues surrounding the match dates of Kiel-Szeged/Löwen-Kielce, of which all EXEC members were made aware of, all men's and women's club competitions are continuing normally and without problems.

### **CC MOTIONS – Club Competitions:**

*All motions in detail were provided to the Executive Committee prior to the meeting. For the minutes, the motions are summarised.*

- **M/W EHFC/CC – closed table front:** regulations shall indicate that the timekeeper table has to be closed at the front.
- **No political statements in the playing hall:** the exact wording will be formulated in cooperation with the legal department and then included in the Men's and Women's Champions League, EHF Cup and Challenge Cup regulations. *It was commented that the wording had to ensure that freedom of expression was not impinged. It was stated that it would be written in a way to allow for situations to be handled in a proper way on a case-by-case basis.*

- **Maximum distance hotel to the playing hall (MCL/WCL):** the maximum distance from the hotel to playing hall shall be 50 km. If the maximum distance is exceeded, the guest team has to bear the additional costs of the bus. *It was commented that this aspect must move in the same direction as hotel organisation, the teams must organise it themselves. Emphasis was also placed on agreement between the clubs involved as to arrangements made.*
- **M/W EHF Cup (Qual.) and Challenge Cup - stay of the guest team:** the guest team is responsible for the organisation of its stay at the away match and must pay all respective costs and expenses. The hotel (guest team) is located a maximum distance of 50 km from the playing hall. If the maximum distance is exceeded, the guest team must bear any additional transport costs.
- **Withdrawal prior to/during a competition phase:** the legal regulations cover the sanctioning of a team if it withdraws from a competition (fine, suspension, etc.). The following amendment is to be made to all club competition regulations: 'The EHF shall have the right, but not the duty to replace a team which withdraws from the competition after the competition has started. *Upon question it was stated that the amendment would be applied on a case-by-case basis.*
- **Consequences of a withdrawal of a team AFTER the first draw of a competition:** The EHF List of Penalties is to be amended in a way that a withdrawal of a club from an EHF Club Competition after the first draw of this particular competition (Champions League excluded) results in a suspension for the club concerned of at least one season of participating in any EHF Club Competition.
- **Electronic TTO ("buzzer") – basic right to install and use it (MCL/WCL):** the EHF reserves the right to install the electronic Team Time-Out during matches of the men's and women's Champions League.

All motions submitted regarding club competitions were approved by the Executive Committee.

### **CC MOTIONS – National Team Competitions:**

*All motions in detail were provided to the Executive Committee prior to the meeting. For the minutes, the motions are summarised.*

- **Player Replacements in Qualification-Tournaments in general:** players' replacements shall be permitted on match day two and three of a Qualification Tournament when played over one weekend with three matches per team in three or four days. The possibility of an additional announcement according to article 13.17. is unchanged.
- **Adaptation of the point distribution for the Men's National Team Ranking table (EHF EURO 2020 Qualification and Final Tournament):** Nations participating in the qualification on different levels must also be awarded with points according to their success.



- **Men's EHF EURO 2022 Qualification (motion by CC/extension by NB):** A new qualification pathway to the Men's EHF EURO 2022 where up to 4 teams have to be relegated after the EURO 2020 qualification is presented in the detailed motion. **Extension:** The playing system in phase 1 must be in a tournament format in order to enable all remaining teams to participate. The participation in qualification phase 1 is obligatory for all remaining teams. The possibility to only register for the Emerging Nations Championship is no longer given.
- **Special Procedures in the WU20 WCh qualification Europe group 5 with Serbia, Norway, Slovakia and Kosovo:** Group 5 is played in Serbia; all matches (6) will be played without any flags or national anthems. Also the national flags of the referees/delegates will not be displayed. The only flag to be visibly displayed in the playing hall/arena is the EHF flag.
- **System for Men's WCh Qualification:** A new qualification pathway to the Men's World Championship starting with MWCh 2021 qualification is presented in the detailed motion. The corresponding articles in the qualification regulations have to be adapted accordingly. **Adaptation of the point distribution for the National Team Ranking table (starting with Men's WCh Qualification Europe after 2019):** Nations participating in the qualification on different levels must also be awarded with points according to their success.
- **Adaptation of the EHF EURO QUALIFIERS Regulations:** amendments to the wording of regulations 9.11. and 13.24. as well as the consequent adaptation of 9.24. and 13.25 is presented in the detailed motion; it is based solely of the harmonisation of terminology.
- **No political statements in the playing hall:** analogous to the motion presenting in the motions of the club competitions to be applied to all national team competitions. The exact wording will be formulated in cooperation with the legal department and then implemented into Men's and Women's EHF EURO Qualifiers Regulation and into all YAC Final tournament and qualification regulations.
- **Electronic TTO ("buzzer") – basic right to install and use it (National Teams):** the EHF reserves the right to install the electronic Team Time-Out during all matches of the men's and women's national team competitions.
- **World Championship Qualification Europe:** the explanation in enclosure 9, I. Playing Schedule, points d) and e) should be deleted. The playing schedules for groups of 3 and of 4 teams, playing home and away matches or playing in tournament format are clearly defined. Even the differences between groups, where 1 or 2 teams qualify, were taken into consideration.
- **EHF Calendar 2019 / 2020 (Final version):** the EHF Calendar for the 2019/2020 season was revised as a result of the discussions in the Competition Commission as well as the feedback submitted by the National Federations.



All aforementioned motions submitted regarding National Team competitions were approved by the Executive Committee. The following motion was approved in part concerning youth competitions only whereas the qualification on a junior level remains in the current form.

- **YAC Qualifications to YAC World Championships:** Article 8.5. of the EHF YAC Championship Regulation should be revised by adding the following expression - *“Winners of Younger Age Category Championship tournaments (“YAC Ch.”) shall be promoted to the corresponding YAC EURO of the same gender and age group, as well as to the YAC EURO of the same age category and to the YAC World Championship of the same age group. Based on the places available for the continents possible substitutes have to be nominated only from the corresponding YAC EURO.”* - In this regard the articles of the EHF YAC EURO Regulation (35.1., 35.2. and 35.3.) have to be adopted accordingly. This motion should come into effect as of 1 January 2019.

### 5.3. Methods Commission

With the protocol from the meeting distributed to the Executive Committee prior to the meeting, MC Chairman Eliasz gave a short report on the most pertinent points of the Methods Commission activities.

- **EHF EURO related technical matters / Technology support:** technology support for game administration (goal line, goal light, instant reply, substitution area) shall be used in EHF flagship events, subject to clear instructions and guidelines for all facilitators involved. Based on the 2018 EHF Men’s EURO in CRO experience the Digital Score Sheet (video match report online app for individual target groups) shall be also made available for coaches during the matches.
- **Analyses 2018:** the qualitative (Kovacs) and quantitative (Swiss Timing) analyses of the Men’s EHF EURO 2018 CRO are complete and available via [activities.eurohandball.com](http://activities.eurohandball.com).
- **2018 EHF YAC EURO and Championship Analyses:** it was proposed to prepare injury analyses following senior and YAC EURO events, a concept will be prepared (Gillard). The organisers of the YAC Championships will be contacted to see if they have the capacity to complete the analyses.
- **RINCK Convention (RC):** KOS and BIH provided information for becoming EHF RINCK Convention Signatories (category 3).
- **EHF and National Master Coach Courses:** the 2<sup>nd</sup> Module of the *2018 EHF Master Coach & Licensing Course* will be organized from 11 – 17 June 2018 in Győr (HUN) with the 3<sup>rd</sup> module to be held during the Women’s EHF EURO in France in December. In 2018, National Master Coach Courses will be organised and supported by EHF lecturers and held in 15 countries. The number of interested parties continues to grow very fast.

- **Young Coaches Workshop:** the next edition of the Young Coaches' Workshop will be organised in Szczyrk (POL) in June 2018.
- **Handball at School Conference / Summer Camp / EHF Goalcha activities:** the next activities will be held in Poland in Kielce (June - conference) and Gdansk (August – summer camp). Goalcha promotion will be part of the framework activities at the Young Coaches Workshop in Szczyrk (June), M20 EURO in SLO (July), M18 EURO in CRO (August), and the Women's EHF EURO 2018 FRA.
- **Wheelchair Handball:** the next tournament will take place in Portugal with six teams and is scheduled for the last weekend in November in Leiria. Prior to the event the required documentation (event manual, rules, player classification) will be updated/prepared in preparation for a possible future WH World Championship. The WH Working Group will meet in May parallel to the national classifiers workshop.
- **Grassroots Market Place:** a Grassroots Market Place will be organised during the EHF EURO 2018 FRA. Several activities in various handball areas will be presented in cooperation with the local organiser.
- **SMART programme:** the Handball Federation of Montenegro (HFM) provided a detailed request fulfilling the guidelines and budget requirements.
- **Cooperation with University in Bochum (GER):** the EHF will contact the experts from the University in Bochum (GER) to discuss the possibility of using their program during the 2018 YAC Events as a basis for the 'All Star Team' selection. Since the procedure of the 'All Star Team' selection is not clear, the EHF MC suggests the involvement of the nominated EHF EURO analyst in the decision making process.

#### **MC Motions:**

*All motions in detail were provided to the Executive Committee prior to the meeting. For the minutes, the motions are summarised.*

- **RINCK Convention (RC):** After evaluating the requirements and the conditions submitted by KOS and BIH concerning the EHF RINCK Convention Signatory the EHF MC recommends to the EHF EXEC to confirm the signing of the agreement by these two federations. **Approved - to be signed during the congress in June.**
- **SMART programme:** After checking the content and budget concerning the SMART programme agreement provided by MNE the EHF MC recommends to the EHF EXEC to confirm the signing of the agreement. **Approved - to be signed during the congress in June.**

#### **5.4. Beach Handball Commission**

With the minutes from the meeting in April distributed to the Executive Committee prior to the meeting, BC Chairman Jørstad reported on the activities of the Beach Handball Commission.

- **2018-2020 EHF BH Champions' Cup (ChC) in ESP:** draft contract submitted to RFEBM, negotiations ongoing and pre-nominations completed.
- **EHF EUSA:** BH annex to the already existing agreement signed; project responsables are M. Trespidi and J. Rakonjac (Technical Delegate).
- **ebt Finals in Stare Jablonki (POL) 31.05.-03.06.2018:** notes from the workshop are available; team invitation folders and BH education courses in preparation.
- **2018 MW18 BH EURO:** 34 teams registered (17/17), event contract signed; notes from 2<sup>nd</sup> workshop available; it was noted that the development of the event is moving in the right direction.
- **Education clip "Offence Systems":** the quality of the teaching videos produced continues to increase. The videos can be accessed via <http://activities.eurohandball.com/teaching-videos/beach-hb>
- **Goal line technology/Digital Score Sheet (DDS):** to be tested at the ebt Finals and optionally used in the MW18 BH EURO and the 2018 ChC.
- **Implementation of BH into Universities' curricula:** notes from the workshop that took place in February are available. Topics covered included basic procedures, task distribution and a preliminary schedule. Process set to be finalised by April 2018.

In response to questions raised, Chairman Jørstad stated that beach handball promotion remained on the BC agenda though progress was slow. Additionally, concerning the marketing situation opportunities in the areas of the YAC events are unclear, but possibilities for senior events exist.

### **BC Motions:**

*All motions in detail were provided to the Executive Committee prior to the meeting. For the minutes, the motions are summarised.*

- **Motion 1 - BH YAC structure in the future:** two alternatives developed to pre-empt the decision of the IHF.
- **Motion 2 - Increase the match days in BH YAC EUROs:** expansion of the match days from three to four to allow for flexibility depending on the number of team registrations.
- **Motion 3 - Increase of the support for BH YAC teams:** expansion of the EHF support for 4 playing days and max. 12 players; the development concept is not yet complete, but it was underlined that the motion applied to the events beginning with season 2019/20.
- **Motion 4 – Prolongation of the agreement with Trial:** to allow for enough preparation time prior to December (finalisation and signing).

The four motions submitted by the Beach Handball Commission were approved by the Executive Committee.

### **5.5. Legal Delegation**

The meeting set the stage for an exchange of information; the minutes at hand were acknowledged. The motions to be submitted to the EHF Congress were discussed. The group also spoke of developing ideas on how to form the legal structures in the future. Additional proposals regarding the set-up of legal bodies at events etc. will be analysed and then decided.

## **6. Competitions – Reports and Decisions**

### **6.1. Organisation of Events**

SG Hausleitner reported on the status of the upcoming national team events. The preparation for all events is ongoing. The teams for the Women's IHF/EHF Trophy are confirmed and the outlined financial solution is to be discussed with the IHF. The input from the Hungarian Handball Federation to start a discussion on the development of the EHF Masters competition was approved by the Executive Committee and round table discussion will be organised during the tournament. The changes applied to the age categories in the European Open and the BH YAC are now in the second year; the events continue to be well organised summer highlight.

On a senior level, the organisation of EHF EURO 2018 FRA is continuing in a good way. Venue inspections with Infront took place in March prior to the EXEC meeting, and to avoid a repetition of issues experienced in Croatia in January open questions are being treated and input is being sourced. The next activity pertaining to EHF EURO 2020 SWE/AUT/NOR will be the Qualification Workshop in Trondheim (NOR); the schedule and meeting plan is to be finalised. The NOR/DEN collaboration continues in a positive way.

With reference to EHF EUROs in the future and the bidding process, the Executive Committee is informed that the Leon venue is unacceptable and if the Madrid venue becomes available the FRA/ESP/BEL bid can go to Congress. The HUN/SVK bid fulfil all requirements and can be presented to the Congress. The Aarhus venue from the DEN/SUI bid is to be adapted. Concerning the 2022 Women's EHF EURO SLO/MKD/MNE two venues need reconstructing (Celje and Podgorica) or even more feasible, in case of MNE, a new hall. With these remarks the bid can be presented to the Congress. No bid was submitted for the Women's EHF EURO 2024; for the women's event it was mentioned that still only a small number of Member Federations could host such an event, but not many want to.

The recommendations from the document prepared by the EHF EURO Events departments were confirmed by the Executive Committee.

### **6.2. National Team Competitions**

Based on the bids provided and confirming the daily rates as stipulated in the bidding documents the EXEC awarded the six YAC events in 2019 as follows:

- W17 EHF EURO SLO (Celje) with 16 participants
- W17 EHF Championship ITA (Pescara) with 10 participants
- W17 EHF Championship to GEO (Telavi) with 10 participants
  
- W19 EHF EURO to HUN (Győr) with 16 participants
- W19 EHF Championship to LTU (Kaunas/Klaipeda) with 8 participants
- W19 EHF Championship to BUL (Varna) with 10 participants

### 6.3. Club Competitions

#### **CC Motion:**

The place distribution for the Men's and Women's Club Competitions for the 2019/20 season will not anymore have two guaranteed places for the two top ranked Federations, but only one guaranteed place as for all remaining Federations. Consequently all Federations will have the equal right to ask for additional places fulfilling the criteria catalogue via the normal procedure as it is already in place for several seasons.

*The Executive Committee approved the motion as submitted and presented by CSO Glaser; in addition President Wiederer confirmed the need to adapt the size of the badges on the sleeves on the Champions League participants due to VELUX contract regulations in order to be ready for additional partnership. The changes will be implemented and valid as of the 2018/19 season.*

### 6.4. Other Competitions

No special report

### 6.5. Competition Related Issues

No special report

## **7. Boards and Stakeholder Groups**

### 7.1. Nations Board (Men)

With the minutes at hand SG Hausleitner reported on the meeting where the participants were given the latest information on the tender process, motions to the Congress, and the previous working meetings (new league concept, calendar). Technical information, as well as an update on financial issues (additional shares 2016) was also provided. The Nations Board also discussed the upcoming YAC Qualification systems, as well as input to EHF EURO 2020 Qualification Phase 1. Further information concerned structural issues.

### 7.2. Professional Handball Board (Men)

The topics discussed were similar to those raised during the meeting of the Nations Board. The session marked the last meeting with the EPHLA in the current form of the league stakeholders as the MoU is not to be renewed. However, during the PHB meeting it was recommended to the representatives of EPHLA to become involved in the new league concept.

Concerning the 'Think Tank: EHF Structure 2020+', the ideas resulting from the meeting were discussed, especially the main idea of rescheduling the National Team Weeks in order for the European leagues to finish their competitions without interruption. Moreover, the idea to move the VEF4 to June to have it as the crowning event of the season was raised though it was underlined of the clash with a major sporting event in football every two years; the PHB were cautioned on the risk of losing the positioning of the event. The tender process was also discussed on the PHB platform. Further analysis on calendar issues will follow.

### 7.3. Women's Handball Board

The current survey of the Women's Handball Board distributed to the National Federations (aimed at YAC activities and focused on media and marketing) achieved a 78% response rate. The Women's

Handball Development project to mentor coaches to improve motivation and standards targeting coaches training teams ranked 10-25 in the national ranking and covering the 12-18y demographic will be supported (mentored) during events. The WHB also discussed the EHF EURO 2018 FRA and the positive relationship towards the Ambassador Programme.

### **TD/CAN Motions:**

*All motions in detail were provided to the Executive Committee prior to the meeting. For the minutes, the motions are summarised.*

- **Mentoring of Coaches in Women's Youth Handball – EHF/WHB Development Programme:** a new development initiative to support and improve coaching in women's youth handball on a national level. **Approved – see AP 7.3.**

#### **7.4. WFCH/ MFCH/ EPHLA/ EHPU**

- **WFCH:** the first negotiations for an EHF-WFCH MoU have taken place with the WFCH representatives (Jeney/Butzeck). The numerous staff changes on the club side were outlined to the Executive Committee and it was emphasised that no MoU could be implemented when there was no stability. The process was reignited and the nominations of five persons to the Women's Club Board are to be confirmed. A MoU with WFCH is envisaged, but there is no urgency to the situation; this is an ongoing process that will reach a natural conclusion. Further information will be given at the next meeting of the Executive Committee in June.
- **MFCH:** the input and cooperation with MFCH to the new media and marketing agreement, as well as the tender process was underlined. An EHF-MFCH MoU is in place.
- **EPHLA:** the MoU with EPHLA will not be prolonged. The Executive Committee has taken the decision to construct the league stakeholder differently. During the meeting to discuss the new league concept, the EPHLA through its representatives tried to cement its position; however those leagues not connected to EPHLA showed appreciation for the initiative. Information to the topic was distributed to the Executive Committee and followed by input from EPHLA. It was stated that the EPHLA suggestions would result in the same construct under a different name where the same people have the most votes, which would limit the number of leagues with a 'voice'. It was suggested that the EHF proposal (European League Board – ELB) be further developed. The Executive Committee confirmed the request.
- **EHPU:** the MoU with the Player representatives is to be renewed; the cooperation with EHPU remains positive and constructive. The new agreement is to be signed on the fringes of the 2018 VELUX EHF FINAL4.

### **8. Other Issues**

- The draft documents of the 2018 EHF Meetings and 2018 EHF Nominations (EXEC task distribution) were examined. The schedule of meetings was approved. Following a short discussion, the document was approved based on a few amendments undertaken due to availability of the EXEC members.

- The Executive Committee were informed on the new data protection law and the consequences concerning disseminating personal information of players. As it will affect the 2018 YAC events, the organisation has taken the necessary remedial steps already. The written amendments will be part of the regulations to be distributed in autumn 2018.

## **Part II – 2018 EHF Congress**

### **9. Status Organization**

With the document at hand, the Executive Committee took note of the information. At this time 49 National Federations have registered their participation. The next information to the Federations will be distributed on 19 April.

### **10. Timetable, Programme and Agenda**

Wiederer highlighted the schedule of the meetings in order to allow for specific persons to take part in the various meetings. The flight schedule is at hand. The agenda is the basis for the rundown; it was noted that it was subject to change based on presentations or changes to the submitted motions.

### **11. Reports**

It was mentioned that the three Chairmen of the Technical Commissions will present an interim report at the EHF Congress in June.

### **12. Elections / Nominations**

Monday, 19 March 2018 is the final entry date for electoral nominations, so far two nominations were received. With the deadline still open, no further special report was given.

### **13. Motions**

#### **13.1. EHF Motions**

With an overview of the motions at hand to be presented before the EHF Congress, a review by the Executive Committee took place.

- EHF Congress reschedule from even to odd years: based on difficulties faced when organising a Congress close to a EURO, as well as the finalisation of the business year it was proposed to reschedule the EHF Congress in the future. The IHF came to the same realisation earlier and changed the schedule of its Congress; it was noted that it would extend the current EHF Executive Committee mandate by four months.
- Vice President Finance: change in title of Treasurer and structural change of Vice President to 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President
- WFCH nomination of women's club representative to the Competitions Commission



- EHF Structure: it was mentioned that the motion with a Nations Committees and a common Nations Board would add to the structure, but would bring a better balance and a good representation of the combined men's/women's interests.
- The motion regarding the Nations Committee Women, Nations Committee Men, Nations Board, Women's Handball Board is seen as a combined package including the more balanced way of reaching a combination of representation and competence
- Age Limit: the submission of the motion is supported on the condition that the change be analogous to the rule implemented by the IOC.
- Compensation Delegation: Vice President Bošković provided his reflections being part of the working group and Treasurer La Cour mentioned the significance concerning the area of pension issues. It was underlined that such with the implementation of a Compensation Delegation, the full picture would be taken into consideration.
- Further motions also include Special Activities (for disabled persons), participation in non-profit agreements.

The Executive Committee unanimously supported the submission of the motions to the Congress.

CFO Moser mentioned that the EHF Comptrollers once again recommended the appointment of the external auditing company 'Androsch'; the Executive Committee supported the endorsement.

### 13.2. Motions National Federations

With an overview of the motions submitted by the National Federations at hand, it was underlined that the preparation of the motions is still ongoing i.e. translation of all motions into the Congress languages (English, German, and French). President Wiederer gave a short verbal report.

- Norway - Congress Moderation: in the current written form the Executive Committee objects to the motion. It was suggested that further discussion was needed; the EHF will contact Norway with a proposal. It was noted that the EHF Legal Delegation concurred that such moderation would be suited for the election process during an EHF Congress.
- Ireland - Protected Disclosure Advocate: currently no clear guidelines; the motion correlates to the established EHF system with the 'Initiator of Proceedings'. It was suggested that a development of the 'Initiator of Proceedings' function would be better suited.
- Slovenia – Professionalism in the area of Officiating: the document submitted cannot be viewed as a motion as it touches three different points; it was deemed as a statement. Secretary General Hausleitner requested a mandate from the Executive Committee to begin work on the topics in an initial step; the mandate was granted.
- Sweden – sleeve advertising: the motion will be discussed at Congress. Giving a brief reiteration on the situation, President Wiederer stressed the exclusion of facts in the SWE

motion and underlined that what was stated by SWE as omitted by the EHF, was actually implemented. Moreover, the SWE motion objects to the use of the event logo on the shirt. It was underlined that the areas where an objection for the future has been raised by SWE are part of all current bid documents.

- Bosnia Herzegovina – Responsibilities of EHF Delegates/Match Reports: it was remarked that the document submitted by BIH is not presented as a motion and that the current regulations be adapted as it was conceded that certain regulations are contradictory e.g. home/away, EURO, club competitions. CSO Glaser informed the Executive Committee that following EHF EURO 2018 CRO some inconsistencies have already being identified and adapted; thus concerns from BIH can be addressed in a satisfactory way. The BIH document is addressed to the Congress, but it was noted that the concerns do lie within the responsibility of the Executive Committee.

After completion of the motions the task distribution regarding the presentation of the motions resp. the position of the EHF in respect to the motions of the NFs will be developed.

## **14. Awarding of Events**

### 14.1. EHF Congress 2020 (2021)

With a written overview at hand, the EXEC members were informed that Luxembourg in the sole applicant and with the conditions presented, the application was confirmed by the Executive Committee. A brief verbal report was given where it was noted that if the motion concerning the rescheduling of Congress from even to odd years, the sole applicant, LUX would be ready to host an EHF Congress in either 2020 or 2021.

### 14.2. EURO Events 2022/2024

No special report; topic dealt with under AP 6.1.

## **15. Finances**

### 15.1. 2016/2017 Accounting

No special report; topic dealt with under AP 4.1.2.

### 15.2. 2018 Budget Update

Treasurer La Cour highlighted the area of revenues bringing certain points to the attention of the Executive Committee including a plus within transfers (EUR 500k) and the onboarding fee (to be distributed over three years (EUR 4.95m). With reference to a new office building the allocated funds are currently listed on the revenue side, though it will be transferred to the expenses side at the appropriate time. In conclusion, La Cour stated that original foreseen result of EUR 345k had been adjusted to EUR 1.8m based on the adjusted budget. For information, CFO Moser added that Congress does not vote on budget adaptations.

### 15.3. 2019/2020 Budget

CFO Moser addressed the Executive Committee and informed them that the 2019/2020 planned budget does not take any future Congress decisions into account; it was underlined that any financial impact arising from Congress decision will be adapted into the planned 2019/2020 budget after the

Congress. Reiterating that the Congress decision of 2008 concerning EURO shares remained the 'backbone' of the EHF budget; the split between the men's and women's competitions is undertaken with input from Infront, and for the 2019/2020 the ratio has been set at 62:38 (m/w). In 2019 the amount of additional share from EHF EURO 2018 CRO will be known and will be absorbed into planned 2019 budget. The group was also informed that there are some contracts with external partners which will expire in 2019; thus no income is foreseen from Select, MP&Silva, and Infront (presenter/ball fund).

Concerning the development budget, the misbalance in both years was underlined. In the planned budget, the additional share has been divided so the same amount will cover both years. Taking reference to the planned expenses, CFO Moser highlighted the differences in the planned budget due to the 2020 Congress. Additionally, with regard to personnel expenses, no major increase (in head count) is foreseen; salary increases will be index based. Treasurer La Cour pointed to the fact in the current negotiations with Infront/Perform, a personnel increase (+2) is part of the package, however at this time it cannot be reflected in the planned 2019/2020 budget as the situation will only be clear after the negotiations for the agreement are completed.

## **16. Further agenda points**

Wiederer stated that a normal rundown of the Congress is foreseen; there will be the awarding of events and signing of agreements and programmes (RINCK, SMART) within the framework of the sessions. Moreover, there will be a defined task distribution among the Executive Committee members.

## **17. Other issues**

Upon question, it was emphasised that the motion to be submitted to the Congress in June concerning Special Activities is intended to cover both physically and mentally challenged persons.

On behalf of the Vice President and himself, the President thanked the members of the Executive Committee for their collaboration, and closed the meeting.

Vienna, 20 March 2018

For the Minutes: M. Brown

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