

Minutes to the 142nd Executive Committee Meeting in Barcelona, Spain

Date: 20 September 2018

Time: 09:00 – 13:00

Venue: FC Barcelona Headquarters - Camp Nou

Participants:

Michael Wiederer	President
Predrag Bošković	Vice President
Henrik La Cour	Vice President Finances
Božidar Djurković	Chairman Competitions Commission
Jerzy Eliasz	Chairman Methods Commission
Ole R. Jørstad	Chairman Beach Handball Commission
Stefan Lövgren	Member
Gabriella Horvath	Member
Nodjialem Myaro	Chairwoman Women's Handball Board
Martin Hausleitner	Secretary General
Andrea Moser	Chief Finance Officer
Markus Glaser	Chief Sports Officer
Vesna Lazić	PA to the President
Marsha Brown	Corporate Liaison

In part: Anrijs Brencans Member

Excused: Xavier O'Callaghan Chairman Professional Handball Board

1. Welcome, programme and agenda

On behalf of the President of FC Barcelona, Mr Josep M. Bartemou, Roger Rocasalbas, Head of Professional Sport Management, welcomed the EHF Executive Committee to the FC Barcelona Headquarters at Camp Nou. Introducing himself, Mr Rocasalbas informed the Executive that he had been appointed to replace X. O'Callaghan as the General Manager for the sports of Handball, Futsal, and Roller Hockey. He extended his apologies for the absence of Mr David Barrufet (General Manager FCB Handball) who was at the time on his return journey to Barcelona, but it was hoped that he would be able to personally greet the Executive Committee later in the day. Wishing the Executive Committee a successful working meeting, Rocasalbas underlined that he and his staff remained at the disposal of the EHF.

President Wiederer thanked Roger Rocasalbas on behalf of the Executive Committee, the invitation to Camp Nou was issued by X. O'Callaghan and Wiederer stated, though it was a pity that O'Callaghan was not present, it was a pleasure to have the new partner to welcome the group. In a gesture of friendship and cooperation, President Wiederer presented Mr Rocasalbas with an EHF pennant.

Returning to the business at hand, Wiederer commented on the considerable documentation of more than 290 pages that accompanied the meeting and noted that it was an indicator of an ever-growing activity due to the structure and the composition of the many groups that represent the democratic process. It was hoped that the documents at hand provided the necessary insight that would allow the Executive Committee to efficiently take the decisions as well as take note of other business aspects.

2. Minutes Executive Committee 06/2018

Moving into the second agenda point, Wiederer stated minutes from other meetings that happened in Glasgow were also on the agenda giving the example of the Technical Commissions that would give reports on both 06/2018 and 08/2018 meetings during agenda point five. Following the meeting of the

Executive Committee, the minutes from all relevant meetings are to be distributed to the National Federations. With no comments or questions to the minutes of the Executive Committee 06/2018, the minutes were adopted.

3. 14th EHF Ordinary Congress

3.1. Minutes / Follow up

Corrections to the presentation of the figures on page 36 were made and confirmed prior to the meeting of the Executive Committee; and with no additional comments, the minutes were adopted.

[As reported, the new media and marketing agreements for the period 2020-2030 is valued at, minimum guarantee (additional payments out of shares are possible), EUR 0.52billion – cash investment of EUR 0.19b for National Team activities and EUR 0.263b for club competitions activities plus services saving costs for the organisation.]

3.2. Evaluation

Wiederer stated that the 14th EHF Ordinary Congress in Glasgow was a harmonious event at which the documentation provided sufficient clarity to the topics at hand; Wiederer then opened the floor for the members of the Executive Committee to give their evaluation of the event. Ole R. Jørstad, Chairman of the Beach Handball Commission, seconded the comments of the President, underlining the positive atmosphere of the congress and the success of the motions presented. Voicing the same sentiments, Member Stefan Lövgren praised both the pre-event organisation and the atmosphere of the Congress. Lövgren also added his surprise that there were not more creative discussions and questions around the different topics, despite the comprehensive presentation of the documents and the fact that at every available opportunity the floor is opened to the congress participants. Wiederer mentioned that it is one of the challenges for a political organisation, as statements are heard in an unofficial way and it could be much better to get the same statements heard on the floor of the Congress where issues can be clarified; thus, complete documents and a thorough explanation of all topics is essential and will also be a task for the future. It was also mentioned that the Executive Committee had to be aware of the fact that the Congress in Glasgow was also a moment for the Member Federations to observe how the new team is doing following the 2016 election congress.

4. Reports and decisions

4.1. Finance Delegation

4.1.1. Minutes and Report

With the report at hand, Wiederer mentioned that the early September meeting was combined with that of the EHF Advisory Board, scheduled as such to save time; he gave the floor to Secretary General Hausleitner to report on the topics that were not listed on the agenda and need to be mentioned for the EXEC minutes, as only notes from structural bodies are distributed externally.

Secretary General Hausleitner opened this report by mentioning this would reduce the length of AP4.3 as in a few areas there is a cross-over in the subject matter. In a first step, Henrik La Cour, Vice President Finances and CFO Andrea Moser were asked to deliver the main points on the finances.

Henrik La Cour stated that, on the whole, the financial part of the organisation continued to run very well and he would return to the issues currently faced by the organisation later in the meeting. The VP Finances underlined the good work within the finance department taking into consideration the increased workload due to issues i.e. bankruptcy of a former partner of EHF/EHFM.

Accounting: an update of exact amounts will be provided to the Executive Committee at the next meeting (12/2018 Paris). The accounting of the 14th EHF Congress in Glasgow was completed, as well as the EHF budgeting – both of which will have a positive impact on the result. Overall the organisation will run close to the budget in contrary to previous years when it ran significantly below budget expenses.

MP & Silva: the invoice, due in October, was issued to MP & Silva; it was noted that this will be the most critical point of the 2018 budget result.

Injury Cases: two cases remain open; there were a lot of injury cases from the EHF EURO 2018 CRO.

Transfer Fees: the positive development remains ongoing.

National Federations Accounts: many Federations experienced difficulties when it came to paying the daily rates during 2018 YAC events in the summer; they contacted the EHF and asked to delay the payments in some cases and for instalment plans in others. The Federations of FAR, LTU, and LAT, failed to make contact with the EHF; in a next step, after the meeting of the Executive Committee, the EHF will once again try to contact these Federations to see why its accounts have not been balanced so far. It was noted that the total amounts are not so high that it will be a problem from the EHF side.

EHF Statutes: as a follow-up to the EHF Congress, the amended statutes had been submitted to the authorities of associations. The amended statutes were published via eurohandball.com and distributed to the EHF Member Federations. Moreover, the organisation was duly informed that the prolongation of the mandate of the elected commission members until 2021 has to be confirmed in 2020 once again.

Personnel: there have been personnel changes within EHF/M in line with normal procedure; with the next four years five members of the Management Board will reach the age of retirement, to this end, President Wiederer has held discussions with each person concerned. Additionally, three staff members are also close to retirement within the next few years. The Secretary General underlined the fact the organisation is aware of loss of experience/quality management that would ensue; the organisation is taking the necessary steps to handle this matter.

EHF Office: in the search for a plot of land, the EHF was in contact with the Viennese Agency for Commerce who offered two opportunities. A meeting to discuss the details will take place on 18 October. The EHF also has a previous option still under consideration and it is hoped that a decision on the location of the new office can be made by the end of the year, and it was noted that the process has been more complicated than expected.

IT: in light of the future cooperation with Infront/Perform, several working groups have been held to explore the environment.

Business Partnerships:

- ◆ **Select:** negotiations concerning the prolongation of the agreement will begin in autumn.
- ◆ **Salming:** several workshops on the topic of merchandising have taken place; due to the size and resources of the company there have been some difficulties. The EHF has requested a statement from Salming as to its view on the prolongation of the contract by February/March 2019, so that the organisation can start negotiating with other partners in case the cooperation will not be prolonged.
- ◆ **Gerflor:** cooperation is ongoing and without issue; the donation floor system intended for BIH was eventually donated to SLO; a brief report on the BIH situation would follow later. Several other requests for a donated floor system will be actioned in 2019.
- ◆ **Sportradar:** an evaluation of the cooperation will be undertaken until February 2019; at that time, a decision on the prolongation of the agreement will be taken.

4.1.2. Decisions

FD Motion: Long-Term Injuries EHF Compensation

Hausleitner informed on the changes necessary to the injury protocol due to the realisation that players are further aggravating injuries sustained during an EHF EURO event when they return to the EURO matches not fully healed resulting in additional time off away from their clubs. Based on experience of handling cases of long-term injuries occurred at EURO events it has become necessary to amend the documents provided to the National Federations participating in EHF EURO events. The proposal at hand covered five points that are summarised below.

- 1. Precision regarding the timeline for a National Federation to report an injury:** concerning exactitude of terminology and procedure
- 2. Precision regarding the amount to be compensated by the EHF:** concerning exactitude of monetary amounts involved
- 3. Fitness Declaration:** signed by NF Doctor/Player confirming fitness to resume NT activities
- 4. Consequences:** concerning the adherence to procedure
- 5. Miscellaneous:** concerning editorial modification and data protection.

The Executive Committee unanimously approved the motion as written and submitted by the Finance Delegation. President Wiederer underlined the importance of having the player and the NF doctor more involved in the procedure, as well as ensuring that the clubs are fully informed on the status of such a situation.

4.2. EHF Marketing GmbH

4.2.1. Minutes Advisory Board 09/2018

4.2.2. General Assembly 09/2018

4.2.3. Other meetings

President Wiederer informed the members that both Memorandums of Understanding for the Men's and Women's Forum Club Handball (MFCH & WFCH) entered into force on 1 July 2018 which, as a long term agreement until 2030, foresees the involvement of the club representatives in the business that concerns the marketing of 'their' competitions. Based on this, a General Assembly of EHF Marketing GmbH was called and took place on 6 September 2018, together with the meeting of the Finance Delegation and the EHF Advisory Board. At the meeting the EHF Articles of Association were confirmed by the notary and registered with the respective authorities; consequently, the meetings with the different bodies were/will be carried out. The structure foresees, from both sides, participation in the Advisory Board.

Thus, immediately after the EHF GA, a meeting of the EHF Advisory Board (without the presence of the new MFCH representative) was held. The first meeting foreseen with the men's clubs was postponed until November, because not all structural issues are settled with I&P and it was deemed unnecessary to start the work with the clubs on the different issues until the I&P matters are resolved.

With the minutes of the EHF Advisory Board at hand, Wiederer noted that the information provided mainly targeted the 2017/18 season and the current business year; despite the MPS collapse, the result is expected to be better than the forecast – this is beneficial to all parties. The relevant financial documentation is currently with the external auditor and a usual rundown of the audit is expected. The EHF General Assembly to be held in Paris in December is expected to conclude the business year; concerning the year 2018/19 the budget is not yet cemented due to the fact that at the time of meeting of the EHF Advisory Board open questions around new contracts and partners for the Champions

League remained. In order for the members to have a complete overview of the business, the EHF President, speaking in his function as Chairman of the EHF Advisory Board, invited the Executive Committee to join the EHF General Assembly in Paris.

Executive Confirmation: Appointment of EHF Board Members

President Wiederer underlined that the list, distributed to the EXEC prior to the meeting and submitted by EHF Marketing GmbH, of members appointed to represent the clubs in the various EHF bodies needed the confirmation of the Executive Committee. Wiederer added that for the next business year (in October 2019) the additional Comptrollers would also require the confirmation of the Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee unanimously confirmed the list as written and submitted by EHF Marketing GmbH.

To the topic of other meetings, the EXEC were informed that the Men's Club Board (MCB) was postponed until 26/27 November; the Women's Club Board is to be scheduled, in coordination with the EHF Managing Director, at the end of October. It was also mentioned that the situation in women's competitions will change slightly after 2020. Currently, the Clubs have 80 per cent of the marketing rights and the EHF has only one package equating to 20 per cent. After 2020, the WCL will be run like the MCL where the rights (80 per cent) are handled by Infront/Perform; consequently, the form of cooperation will also have to change from that time.

4.3. Secretary General – Business Report

To the report at hand, President Wiederer also provided a list of activities (AP4) that all were on the agenda of the meeting that also served as an overview; the report of the Secretary General was also to be viewed in a similar way. Secretary General Hausleitner expanded on a few key points as follows:

Circular Decisions: three circular decisions were taken prior to the meeting of the Executive Committee, two of which concerning beach handball, specifically the Champions Cup – new dates and the enlargement of the event, and the other concerning the match schedule of the EHF EURO 2020 SWE/AUT/NOR (SAN). The decisions were adopted as written and the organisers of the events concerned were duly informed. The Executive Committee was thanked for its contribution to the matters. President Wiederer added that though it is favourable to have the decisions taken during the meetings, there is a timeframe of three months between meetings and sometimes issues occur that result in such special cases. Based on a question about the most recent procedure for the circular decisions from Member Lövgren, it clarified that it was not a closed vote; the Secretary General was designated to receive the responses solely to keep an overview of the situation and the responses as they arrived given the timeframe in which the decision was needed.

VP Finances La Cour suggested that the Executive Committee make use of video conferencing for discussing the content of circular decisions in the future; President Wiederer agreed that for principle questions the use of video conferencing could be of use, but for 'smaller' issues the procedure already in place was sufficient.

4.4. Legal Management

4.4.1. Business Report

No additional comments or questions were raised to the general report at hand. The following proposal was summarised for the minutes.

Proposal to the EXEC: EHF Regulations for Anti-Doping and List of Penalties

To point IV of the report, Secretary General Hausleitner addressed the matter of amending the EHF Regulations for Anti-Doping and List of Penalties in order to ensure a sound decision-making process in the future. The amendments will remove the discrepancy between the List of Penalties and EHF

Regulations for Anti-Doping; and to avoid any further misunderstanding it is proposed to simply have a reference to the EHF Regulations for Anti-Doping in the List of Penalties. Furthermore, as to the assessment of substantial assistance, and following a consultation with WADA, the possibility to grant this competence to the Court of Handball was confirmed.

The Executive Committee unanimously approved the proposal as written and submitted by Legal Management.

4.4.2. Minutes CoH/CoA/ECA

With no additional comment or question to the minutes at hand, the Executive Committee immediately dealt with the proposals submitted by the EHF legal bodies. The following proposals were summarised for the minutes.

Proposals to the EXEC: EHF's Officials – Obvious Mistakes and Sanctioning

The EHF legal bodies will tackle the issue of EHF Officials committing obvious and damaging mistakes by taking on the possibility to sanction them through the EHF legal system.

Proposals to the EXEC: On-Site Legal System – YAC Events

YAC EHF Championships, encounter difficulties when it comes to ensuring the presence of enough officials to form two (2) on-site legal instances which creates obvious threats such as possible conflicts of interests and lack of independency and impartiality. The features of this proposal include having the body of first instance be composed of EHF Officials and the body of second instance be composed of the Court of Appeal members acting as an ad hoc body, and adapting the applicable regulations accordingly.

The Executive Committee unanimously approved the proposals as written and submitted by Legal Management.

4.4.3. Initiator of Proceedings

The Executive Committee were in possession of all relevant documents prior to the meeting. Additionally, before deciding on the matter, President Wiederer reiterated the background of the matter once again. The proposal was summarised for the minutes.

Proposals to the EXEC: EHF's Disclosure Policy

To grant the competence to the Initiator of Proceedings to receive reports, investigate and, if necessary, prosecute arising cases. Upon a respective decision by the EHF Executive Committee, the following would occur: integration of the "EHF's Disclosure Policy" to the EHF Legal Regulations as an enclosure; facilitation of the discussion process together with IOHA to ensure the implementation of the spirit of the motion; and submit a motion at the next EHF Congress to slightly amend the article dedicated to the Initiator of Proceedings in the EHF Statutes as required.

The Executive Committee unanimously approved the proposal as written and submitted by Legal Management.

4.5. Report Anti-doping Unit

Secretary General Hausleitner informed the Executive Committee that the EAU conducted many tests and, unfortunately, three tests showed positive results (W16 EO, M18/W18 BH EURO – legal proceedings were initiated). Hausleitner stated that this indicated the need to strengthen the educational initiatives introduced following the 2017 doping cases. It was noted that due to the late release of the eLearning project (in cooperation with WADA) only 70 per cent of participating teams had fulfilled the obligation - to undergo education in anti-doping matters -prior to the start of the competitions; this programme will be intensified in 2019. Furthermore, there are to be amendments to test procedures in beach handball. Wiederer added that the strategy of the EAU is correct having attained a 70 per cent success rate in a

short period of time. He underlined the importance of reaching the young players (ages 16 – 18) that are not aware of AD issues; as well as moving forward with the two-fold strategy of education and testing (in all categories of competition).

BC Chairman Jørstad added that the EHF letter distributed to the Federations last summer only mentioned the six YAC indoor handball events and not beach handball; it was commented that in this matter, beach handball and indoor handball had to be treated in the same way. He further commented that during the event in Croatia the participants were asked how many of them had taken the AD education test and the result was unfavourable. Following a brief discussion with the teams it was determined that there is a lack of communication between the EHF office and the teams' management within the National Federations' offices. Jørstad was in agreement that more force is needed to drive the AD message; he mentioned the two cases from beach handball and informed the EXEC that a meeting, concerning AD facilities at a beach handball event, with the AD responsible (H. Holdhaus) had taken place; this is a matter that the Beach Handball Commission will deal with for the future. Closing the point, President Wiederer noted that it was important to go through all the boards with the AD message to create a common understanding among all the instances.

4.6. Minutes Comptrollers Meeting

With the minutes at hand, VP Finances La Cour stated that the previous meeting was conducted well and that there was no special report to add to the information already available. He did underline that the Comptrollers work very well and the advice provided remains very beneficial to the organisation.

4.7. Minutes Social Fund

CFO Moser stated that there was nothing further to report from the meeting. For the benefit of the Executive Committee, President Wiederer outlined the foundation of the EHF Social Fund, its purpose of assisting in special cases of persons working for the EHF on various levels, and its composition with former EHF commission. It was highlighted that the Fund focuses on the social welfare (health, security, etc.). CFO Moser stated that the Social Fund regulations would be distributed via email to the members of the Executive Committee following the meeting.

4.8. Further reports

IHF Matters: a meeting of the top nations took place in Copenhagen on the occasion of the WCh draw event on 25 June; the minutes from that meeting were distributed. The participants also included some IHF partner representatives and also club delegates. President Wiederer and Secretary General Hausleitner were in attendance.

IHF-EHF Meeting: the meeting in Basel covered the usual open questions, specifically the matter of the Emerging Nations' Tournament, which remains of importance to the EHF as the competition is part of the EHF EURO 2022 Qualification. The idea of expanding the EHF and IHF Youth, Junior, and Men's World Championships to 32 teams was also discussed; in that respect, the EHF Congress was positive. A decision on the issue will be taken at the next Council meeting in Doha. The minutes from this meeting will be distributed in due course.

IHF-GBR-EHF: the IHF continues to work on various projects and one of them is that of the situation in GBR; the EHF was invited to take part in that meeting. For GBR the main issue remains funding, and the funding that they receive from the IHF is essential as the Federation receives no funding from the government; moreover, the Federations of ENG and SCO are being obliged by their local governments not to use the monies received for a GBR team. The Executive Committee was informed that there is a strategy in place for British handball.

IHF Council meeting: the next IHF Council meeting is scheduled to take place in Doha, QAT on 18 October; it is expected that a conversation with the Qataris concerning the open payments will be based on the

most recent communication exchange. More importantly, CAS delivered preliminary information on the PATHF situation (not in writing). To this, the IHF released a press statement on the IHF homepage; this matter is also on the agenda of the Council meeting.

Situation South-East Europe: President Wiederer briefly reiterated the steps that had been previously taken to resolve the issues on a sporting level between two Member Federations (SRB, KOS). With the involvement of the IHF, a positive meeting took place between the parties including the respective authorities. Most recently, a protest was lodged by one of the parties concerning the carrying-out of first leagues matches in a specific region; the situation is being handled.

Situation BIH: the recent meeting of the BIH Executive was meant to be a decisive point in the existence of BIH handball within the EHF system. Before that, the office of the BIH Federation was shut down and was without legal status in the country – unregistered and not receiving funds. The EHF had to take action due to the fact that the national team was scheduled to play in the next qualification. Following the input of the EHF, steps have been taken in BIH that has resulted in the Federation gaining the support of the National Olympic Committee; moving towards registration once again. The EHF will continue to work with BIH and at this time the Executive Committee was asked to take note of the information.

Infront/Perform: Wiederer informed the Executive Committee that the organisation entered a tough phase of negotiation concerning the construction of the new working structures; it was noted that work on the season 2020/21 begins earlier; therefore, it was necessary to make decisions at this time; even looking towards EHF EURO 2022, ideas on activities are already being floated. At this time, the EHF is defining the working relationship with the new partner. Noting the distinct areas of clubs and national teams, Wiederer underlined that it was necessary for the EHF to work on a common platform (i.e. for handball); thus, it is the intention of the EHF to create an internal hub to commonly deal with specific questions such as digital, media rights, etc. It was stressed that the accounting has to be done in a proper manner to ensure transparency for all external partners.

Describing the working system, using the organigram at hand as a point of reference, Secretary General Hausleitner informed the Executive Committee that after the contract was signed, the organisation negotiated that the EHF would always be at the steering wheel. Three levels of operations were identified and eight working areas were defined. It was mentioned that Infront/Perform and the EHF/EHFM will be involved at all levels, and that all topics must be dealt with from an EHF (handball) point of view. Hausleitner took the opportunity to describe the working areas to the Executive Committee: Digital, Media Sales, Marketing Sales, Brand, Development, Event, Finances, and Production.

Regarding the digital environment, it was mentioned that the EHF had to undertake much research and evaluation i.e. how to improve the scouting procedure (e.g. one system instead of two). On the level of marketing sales the organisation was of the opinion that it should always have direct contact to its sponsors for more defined and targeted selling, by defining what is in the marketing packages. In the area of media sales the organisation has to be aware that the best solution is being found for the sport. Due to the revenue sharing model, the organisation naturally will be paying close attention to the finance situation. The EHF will remain responsible for the creation of events, the presentation, and the picture in the future, which will mean being part of finding the right digital platform and connecting it with the right TV partners.

Hausleitner underlined that in every topic the cooperation is necessary, and the working groups are meeting regularly and delivering suggestions to the steering board comprised of the professional staff who will deliver suggestions for investments and strategy to the strategy committee, where the political leadership is represented; Hausleitner also pointed out the place for the professional staff, as well as club and national team representatives on the organigram.

Continuing, the Secretary General stated that EHF/EHFM is taking the lead in the areas of brand, events, competitions/calendar; the organisation is on schedule and work has already started and the next meeting (brand) will take place on 3 October. It was mentioned that more competence in specific areas is need. Finally, he added that Perform will in the future be branded as DAZN.

President Wiederer added that in the future, in accordance with the Congress decision, a member from the Nations Board will have a seat in the Executive Committee as of 2021. Until then, this National Federation representation will be delivered via the Executive Committee. To the project in general, it was mentioned that what concerns the future, there are some points that are on hold; the different task forces have meetings scheduled and the work will begin soon. Parallel to that, a report to be presented at the Conference of Presidents in Cologne is to be prepared. At this event, the strategy will be presented. Thus, it is to be clear that nothing is to be decided without the input of the EHF; this means to be involved at all times in the various fields. Whilst the EHF is represented at all the points, at the same time, the partners must be given the chance to provide input (i.e. calendar). Further information to the overall situation will be provided at the next meeting of the Executive Committee.

To the question of whether there would be a beach handball section in the future, Hausleitner responded that it would be covered under the existing topics i.e. when discussing the calendar or events, the area of beach handball would also be part of the discussion. Wiederer added that the project is driver-led; nonetheless, the other competitions are also taken under consideration. Closing the point, it was noted that this was only an intermediate report.

5. Technical Commissions 06 and 08/2018

5.1. Technical Delegation / CAN

The report from the meeting that took place in Vienna on 29 August was delivered to the members of the Executive Committee shortly after. Speaking on behalf of the Technical Delegation (TD), CC Chairman Božidar Djurković described the active discussion held on the technical services to be implemented at the upcoming EHF EURO in France. The TD also reviewed the technical issues that occurred during the summer 2018 YAC events. CSO Glaser added that work of the TD covers the Technical Commission from a general point of view and does not go into detail on individual issues. Underlining the spirit of cooperation concerning the area of match technologies the TD aim to provide, all three Technical Commissions will work on the details. The following proposal was summarised for the minutes.

TD Motion to the EXEC: Technology Concept

The EHF TD seeks approval on the concept “2018 EHF EURO Instant Video Replay Technologies in Use – Principles, Guidelines and Procedures” created by the EHF Technical Commissions and refined at the request of the Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee approved the concept as presented in a unanimous decision.

5.2. Competitions Commission

The report of the Competitions Commission is comprised of information resulting from the meetings that took place in 06/2018 (SCO) and 08/2018 (VIE). Chairman Božidar Djurković noted the August meeting welcomed the participation of new member Emeric Paillasson who would represent the interests of the men’s club competitions. Continuing, he reported on the following topics:

◆ Club Competitions 2018/19:

- No qualification tournaments in the MCL
- Two qualification tournaments in Lublin (POL) and Koprivnica (CRO) in the WCL
- MEHFC/CC – a total of 107 (59/48) participating teams; an increase of seven clubs
- WEHFC/CC – 79 participating teams; a reduction of three clubs on last season.

◆ **National Team Competitions:**

- **Women's World Championship 2019 Qualification:** the event will take place in Japan from 29.11. – 15.12.2019. With 12 places available, Qualification EUR Phase 1 will be played in a 4 x 4 tournament format. There are three direct qualification places and nine teams (from 18) will advance from the Play-Offs.
- **Men's EHF EURO 2020 SWE/AUT/NOR (SAN):** – ESP directly qualified – EURO Cup with home and away matches; next qualification phase in November. NOR/AUT 24 and SWE/ESP; preparation ongoing, October 2018 – presented by the comps – on 9 January, Trondheim Graz – CC proposed scheduled one day early - very positive
- **Women's EHF EURO 2018 FRA:** it was reported that 70k tickets were sold for the final tournament. The '2018 Top Referees Seminar' took place in August in Vienna; the conference focused on the preparation of the referees and delegates nominated to oversee the matches. The Heads of Delegation Conference is scheduled for 9-11 October in Paris, final venue inspections will take place from 16-18 October; EHF officials are scheduled to arrive on 26 November in Nancy with the official conference from 26-28 November. The first travel day to the respective venues is 28 November.
- **Women's EHF EURO 2024:** the Competitions Commission was tasked with evaluating the prospect of expanding the women's event to 20 or 24 teams. It was determined that any change would not be beneficial to the event; the event will remain in the current format with 16 teams (see p.4 - CC Minutes 08/2018).

◆ **Match Technologies:**

- **Goal Light:** used at the EURO 2018 CRO; the evaluation deemed that the signal at the goals was not the ideal solution; the CC is currently working on other solutions including a prototype to be built and tested prior to the women's event in France.
- **Goal Line/Digital Score Sheet:** the technologies will be used as in previous years.
- **I-Ball:** the data collected from the 2018 VEF4 is currently being evaluated.
- **Scoreboard:** the fully synchronised used in CRO will be used in France.

◆ **2018 YAC Events:** M18 EURO 2018 CRO, M18 Championships 2018 AUT and GEO, M20 EURO 2018 SLO, M20 Championships MKD and MNE. All YAC events were well organized and executed on a very high level. Contrary to the high level of organisation, the competitive level was questionable especially in the M18Ch AUT due to some match results with huge differences.

◆ **2019 YAC Events Preview:** W17 EURO in SLO, W17 Championships in GEO and ITA, W19 EURO in HUN, W19 Championships in BUL and LTU. Preparations for all events are ongoing; no special report.

Concerning the information on the 2018 YAC events and the matter of the large goal differences, a discussion among the members of the Executive Committee took place; for the minutes this content was summarised and the key point are as follows.

It was recognised that at the 'b-level' some teams were actually at the start of their competitive handball journey and such results are to be expected, and was stated clearly that some team are not ready for the 'b-level'. However, these teams can still take profit from being at such an event. Different options such as dividing the groups in different ways were discussed, but no conclusion was drawn. It is not the intention of the Competitions Commission to install a 'c-level' as it remains difficult to find organisers for 'b-level' events, it could be near impossible to find an organiser for a 'c-level' event. At the same time, if the

conclusion is reached that certain teams are not ready for the 'b-level' of competitions, it is up to the EHF to take action in this area for the teams and the matter has to be evaluated.

The development of 'b/c-level' teams was called into question and an evaluation outside the facts and figures of the competitions was suggested. Furthermore, the number of teams participating was not to be underestimated; the number of teams has decreased. In order to secure the progress of the YAC events, it was agreed that action must be taken. The mandate was given to the Competitions Commission to work on the matter beginning with stating a discussion with all the relevant stakeholders.

CC Motions 5.2.1. – National Team Competitions

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

Adaptation of the YAC EHF EURO and YAC EHF Championship Regulations: The recommendation to change the respective aspects in the YAC regulations by the CC is submitted to the EXEC for approval (8 individual motions). The exact wording will be formulated in cooperation with the legal department and then implemented into all YAC EHF EURO and EHF Championship regulations.

Motion 1: to change the graphic "Board/Field Configuration Plan" into new graphic "Set-up YAC EHF EURO" with 17 stickers (incl. 2 Gerflor stickers)

Motion 2: to change the old graphic "Substitution Area" into new designed and more informative graphic "EHF YAC Events Substitution Area"

Motion 3: rephrase and amend the promotion and relegation chapter and add the point direct qualification for the World Championship.

Motion 4: to edit the additional transport costs text as written in the motion

Motion 5: adaptation of the regulations in order to comply with the IHF Rules of the game "Regulations on Protective Equipment and Accessories"

Motion 6: amendment of terminology in §18.18 to be changed as written in the motion.

Motion 7: concerning the Players' Replacement and Additional Announcement - amendment of terminology to be changed as written in the motion regarding the section

Motion 8: to edit the EHF YAC EURO /Championship ranking text as written in the motion.

The Executive Committee approved all eight motions as presented in a unanimous decision.

CC Motion 5.2.2. – National Team Competitions

The motion in detail was provided to the Executive Committee prior to the meeting. For the minutes, the motion was summarised.

Age Group of the European Open Championship in the Future: The playing system for the European Open Championship Tournaments shall be kept with the age groups of M17 and W16 in the future.

With a unanimous decision, the Executive Committee approved the motion concerning the EO age category as written in the motion presented.

In the brief discussion that followed it was reiterated that this specific matter of age categories was complex and had to be seen in the context of the entire competitions system also in relation to the IHF youth and junior world championships. It was noted that there is a gap for those teams that do not go further in the competitions and an analysis of the system, in consultation with the National Federations, would have to be undertaken to see what could be done for those not involved in a competition. It was also questioned if an additional tournament could be held in cooperation with Partille. In response it was stated that all viable options are being explored and the discussion is ongoing as Federations are looking for competitions where there can be promotion and relegation. The Competitions Commission will continue to work on the matter and will focus on the gap/empty year.

5.2.1. Technical Refereeing Committee (TRC)

It was explained that the Technical Refereeing Committee (TRC) was a sub-committee within the Competitions Commission; the notes from the last meeting were available. Issues resulting from the TRC are treated by the CC. For clarity, it was reiterated that the TRC does not submit motions as this is not in its remit; all motions are submitted by the CC.

First Vice President Predrag Bošković requested that the matter of European referees being omitted from the IHF list of global referees without consultation with the EHF resp. the European PRC member be examined. CC Chairman Djurković responded that information distributed by the IHF on this matter was only sent to the National Federations. It was noted that it is not the fact that the referees are off the list, the procedure must be made known. Clarification with the IHF referee responsible will be sought.

5.3. Methods Commission (MC)

With the minutes at hand, MC Chairman Eliaz gave a short report on the most pertinent points from the activities of the Methods Commission.

Analyses 2018: the qualitative analyses from the M20 EURO (SLO) and M18 EURO (CRO) are complete and available via activities.eurohandball.com. The quantitative analyses of the M18 EURO/Championships (CRO/GEO) and the M20 Championships (MKD/MNE) are complete and available via activities.eurohandball.com.

RINCK Convention: a proposal for a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) cooperation between emerging non-signatories with neighbouring signatories was submitted. Discussions between several Federations regarding this topic are continuing.

2020 Coaches Licensing Guidelines: the following 2020 EHF Coaches Licensing Guidelines were communicated to the clubs during the Champions League Workshops which took place in September 2018: as of the 2020 EHF EURO final rounds (both men's and women's) a licenced coach (EHF Master Coach with a Pro Licence) has to be present on the bench during the match in the final round of the senior national teams' competitions. Moreover, a qualified coach present on the bench during the match should have the EHF Master Coach Pro Licence in all phases of the EHF Champions League Competition as of the 2020/21 season. A reminder is to be sent to the National Federations.

National & EHF Master Coach Courses (3rd Module 2018): planned for 10-16 December 2018 in Créteil/FRA. The Licence Renewal Course will take place parallel to the courses. Participating coaches will visit the semi-final matches of the EHF Women's EURO; a draft of the Programme is available.

2018 European Wheelchair Handball Nations' Tournament: in Leiria/POR from 30.11. – 02.12.2018; information distributed to all Federations. Registration is complete - HUN, NED, POR, and SWE.

Grassroots Market Place: activities will be organized during the EHF EURO 2018 FRA final weekend; this will include WHB presentations, a demonstration Wheelchair Handball, as well as Goalcha playfinity, handball for all, handball for dual career, and share and play presentations.

Development: three new SMART Programme requests from EST, NED and UKR – preparation of documentation in progress; request for confirmation at the 12/2018 EXEC Meeting; a new short term request for beach handball material was sent by CYP in August. This request was confirmed by the MC.

EHF CAN: injury prevention video prepared by the PHF is being prepared. After adding the English subtitles the material will be published on the EHF website. As a follow-up to the 2018 Congress decision, a meeting with Handball Specials/AUT - a group dealing with handball events for mentally handicapped people took place; further action is to be defined in due time.

5.4. Beach Handball Commission

The report of BC Chairman Ole R. Jørstad covered the meetings that took place in Glasgow (06/2018) and Vienna (08/2018); with the report delivered to the Executive Committee prior to the meeting, BC Chairman Jørstad focused only on the key points as reported below:

2018 EHF BH Champions' Cup (ChC) in Catania/ITA from 1 – 4 November 2018: Extension of the participants to 16/16 teams confirmed by EXEC; parallel a National and an EHF coaches' education course will be organised; preparations are ongoing.

2019 EUSA BH Championships in Belgrade/SRB: Jelena Rakonjac, who has worked with EUSA on various occasions, will represent the BC at an event organisation meeting in Kranjska Gora/SLO on 20 September 2018.

ebt Finals - Stare Jablonki/POL 31.05.–03.06.2018: Excellent organisation; event encouraged the Federation to apply for the 2019 BH EURO, the preparations for the event are progressing well. It is expected to be a big event.

2018 MW18 BH EURO in Ulcinj/MNE 29.06.–01.07.2018: 17/17 teams with excellent onsite organisation; financial settlement still open.

Goal line technology/Digital Score Sheet (DSS): both successfully tested at the ebt Finals and MW18 BH EURO; will be also used in the 2018 ChC – improvements (e.g. zoom) to be discussed.

IHF BH WChs in Kazan/RUS: clarifications concerning the players' clothing requested.

#dontworrybeachhappy campaign: very successful; ends late September 2018. Two persons (winners) will be invited to the 2018 ChC.

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 - EHF Beach Handball Regulations: amendments and additions to EHF Beach Handball Regulations; all presented motions would be implemented with immediate effect during the next cycle of the respective competitions.

Comment: the legal department is requested to compare the CC/BC motions to allow for harmonisation where possible. With a unanimous decision, the Executive Committee approved the motion as stipulated.

Motion 2 - Support for new ebt tournaments (via NFs) within the Development Budget: ebt promotion strategy in emerging or new BH countries it is proposed to support a maximum of ten (10) ebt tournaments. New nations with no prior ebt experience and new venues/organisers are to be supported with BH equipment (goals, line system, playing balls) in 2019.

Comment: should a known nation apply; it must be with a different venue to qualify. With a unanimous decision, the Executive Committee approved the motion as stipulated.

Motion 3 - National team week for beach handball: for the next ebt season the BC recommends having a national team week for beach handball included in the ebt regulations and the overall EHF calendar. For the next year the following week is proposed: 17-23 June 2019. For upcoming years the date of the national team week for beach handball will be included in the ebt regulations and the EHF calendar accordingly.

Comment: in order to avoid conflict with the National Federations/Team event the BH NTW has to be held parallel to the indoor NTW. With a unanimous decision, the Executive Committee approved the motion as stipulated.

Motion 4 – Obligatory participation in National BH education courses as of 2021: the BC aims to move towards the licensing for BH coaches. The BC wants to encourage National Federations to organise official courses; the BC is willing to provide support where it can. It is time for BH education to be taken seriously. In order to move forward with this matter, the BC sought approval of the Executive Committee.

With a unanimous decision, the Executive Committee approved the motion as stipulated.

6. Competitions – reports and decisions

6.1. Organisation of events

Due to the amount of information already given throughout the meeting, Secretary General Hausleitner focused on a few key points:

EHF EURO 2018 CRO: the final accounting for the event is ongoing and only a few topics remain open.

EHF EURO 2018 FRA: nominations for France have been made and the respective persons informed; the Women's World Championship Qualification Europe Phase 2 (Playoff matches) Draw, as well as the 143rd meeting of the Executive Committee will take place on 15 December on the fringes of the Women's EHF EURO 2018 FRA.

EHF EURO 2020 SAN: several workshops took place in the period since the last meeting of the Executive Committee; it was mentioned that various decisions were made in cooperation with the SAN Organisers. Taking reference to the circular decision and the approval of the EXEC concerning the match schedule, President Wiederer added that allowing the teams to have a separate travel and rest day was the most important part of the match schedule. Concerning the request to split the final day over two days (bronze medal match on Saturday) sees obvious economic benefit for the organising committee; for this much effort would be needed to guarantee a full arena. The weak point in the request is that the 'losers' have to play the day after; this is not ideal, but on the other hand it uses the arena in the best possible way.

EHF EURO 2022: the Executive Committee were also informed that the EHF is looking for a ticketing partner (database, final tournament, overview, additional competence) from 2022 onwards.

Women's EHF EURO 2024: the matter of an organiser is still an open issue. The Competitions Commission was asked to evaluate the possibility of expanding the event to 20 or 24 teams to which the CC saw no

advantage. The event will remain at 16 teams for the foreseeable future and the application process to organise the event will be restarted.

6.2. Report National Team Competitions

No special report; many of the topics were treated at other points during the meeting.

6.3. Meeting EURO Delegation 08/2018

The notes from this meeting summarise all the important activities and actions surrounding the events and event organisation.

6.4. Club Competitions

CSO Glaser briefly reiterated that the workshops to the Champions League took place in Vienna, the rundown was smooth. All competitions have started and there have been no withdrawals and no other issues. President Wiederer added that the elimination of the qualification phase of the Men's EHF Champions League contributed to the positive start of the season in respect to match dates etc.

6.5. Other Competitions

CSO Glaser gave a brief explanation on the current status of both men's cross-border leagues, and made reference to the document at hand containing the most pertinent information.

CC Motion: Approval of SEHA League and Beneleague for 2018/19

As the documents are complete and available, an approval of both the SEHA GAZPROM League and the BENE League for 2018/19 is proposed to the Executive Committee.

With a unanimous decision, the Executive Committee approved the motion as stipulated.

7. Boards and Stakeholder Groups

7.1. Nations Board (Men)

The next meeting is to be held on 8 October 2018; the official invitation along with a preliminary agenda was distributed in August.

7.2. Professional Handball Board (Men)

The next meeting is to be held on 9 October 2018; the official invitation along with a preliminary agenda was distributed in August. The Executive Committee were also updated on the situation concerning the election of the Chairman and Vice Chairman due to the departure of X. O'Callaghan (MFCH) and introduction of the EHLB replacing EPHLA. Two new persons (N. Larsson – Chairman EHLB; G. Planteu – President MFCH) will join the PHB; F. Bohmann will return the PHB in his new function as EHLB Vice Chairman.

7.3. Women's Handball Board

The next meeting is to be held on 9 October 2018; the official invitation along with a preliminary agenda was distributed in September. WHB Chairwoman Myaro delivered a brief report that covered the activities of third quarter and provided a preview to the business in the upcoming fourth quarter. Myaro underlined that the next important step for the WHB is to undertake the analysis of the latest survey results and to submit a concrete proposal to the Executive Committee.

7.4. European Handball Leagues

7.4.1. General Assembly 06/2018

7.4.2. Meeting European Handball League Board 09/2018

With the minutes to both meetings at hand, the process with the leagues was regarded as successful. The new board has good starting point and the elections were done in a smooth way. It was commented that the outcome of the voting was not geographically balanced. The new EHLB Chairman Nikolas Larsson

chaired the meeting in a good and structured way; the EHLB are trying to build this platform for the leagues in a different way. During the EHLB meeting the open issues such as the PHB Chairmanship was queried and answered. CSO Glaser added that it was clear that Larsson trying to set up a broad platform bringing the members together in a quick way which follows the EHF initiative. The initial approach of the EHLB was positive and given time could be a good tool regarding the leagues.

7.5. Forum Club Handball

FCH introduced its new President (former Vice President), Gregor Planteu (to be confirmed at the next MFCH meeting) to the EHF/M leadership at the recent meeting; it was noted that he has a very realistic approach to the business. On the back of his departure, X. O'Callaghan was thanked and praised for his outstanding work.

8. Other issues

2019 Meeting schedule: an updated meeting calendar was presented; the Conference of Presidents in Cologne on the VEF4 weekend. The EXEC took note of the information, which will be made public together with the minutes of the EXEC meeting.

Nominations: due to the changes made at the EHF General Assembly, there was also a change in the Advisory Board; with the document at hand, there were no additional questions or comments raised.

Thanking the members of the Executive Committee for their contributions that led to a very efficient meeting, President Wiederer brought the session to a close.

Vienna, 27 September 2018

For the Minutes: M. Brown

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Attachment: 2019 Meeting CAL