

MINUTES TO THE 166TH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING IN LJUBLJANA, SLOVENIA

Date: 19 November 2022
Time: 08:30 – 12:30
Venue: Grand Plaza Hotel Ljubljana | Saphir 1

Executive:	Michael Wiederer	President
	Predrag Bošković	First Vice President
	Henrik La Cour	Vice President Finances
	Božidar Djurković	Chairman Competitions Commission
	Pedro Sequeira	Chairman Methods Commission
	Gabriella Horvath	Chairwoman Beach Handball Commission
	Stefan Lövgren	Member
	Franjo Bobinac	Member
	Bente Aksnes	Member
	Mark Schober	Chairman Nations Board
	Xavier O’Callaghan	Chairman Professional Handball Board
	Marta Bon	Chairwoman Women’s Handball Board

Excused: Francisco V. Blázquez Garcia Member

Office:	Martin Hausleitner	Secretary General
	Bernhard Binder	Chief Finance Officer
	Markus Glaser	Chief Sports Officer
	Andrea Moser	Finance Projects
	Marsha Brown	Corporate Liaison

Excused: Vesna Lazić PA to the President

1. WELCOME, PROGRAMME, AND AGENDA

President Wiederer welcomed the members to the last meeting of the year held on the fringes of the Women’s EHF EURO 2022 Final weekend in Ljubljana. It was noted that due to other professional commitments, Member Blázquez was unable to attend the session. Wiederer also congratulated the Members from countries with a team in the semi-finals and finals and mentioned the quality of the Championship. Moving into the agenda, with the recent Conference of Presidents, Extraordinary EHF Congress, as well as the stakeholder meetings, it was stated that there was much material to be discussed.

2. MINUTES AND FOLLOW-UP

2.1. *Executive Committee 09/2022*

With no additional input, comment or questions, the minutes from the meeting in September in Luxembourg were adopted.

2.2. *Social Fund 09/2022*

The minutes to the meeting were made available to the Executive Committee; it was confirmed that the finance report of the Social Fund would be part of the main Finance Report at the 16th Ordinary EHF Congress in 2023.

2.3. *Circular Decisions of the Executive Committee*

The Hygiene Concept EHF EURO was delivered by Hausleitner/Flixeder on 11 October and received the unanimous support of the Executive Committee.

3. **Finance Delegation 11/2022**

3.1. *Minutes and Report*

The meeting held on 4 November in Ljubljana served as a preparatory meeting for the Executive Committee as much of the material is to be treated under the relevant agenda points. To the Finance Delegation points not covered under the Executive Committee agenda, there were no comments or question, and the EXEC took note of the report.

3.2. *Overall and Actual Finance Topics*

Based on the minutes of the Finance Delegation, Vice President Finance, Henrik La Cour highlighted the following topics treated:

- Social Fund | a report was given to the meeting that took place in Luxembourg at the end of September over which Honorary President, Jean Brihault and Honorary Member Arne Elovsson, presided.
- Cost centres | a few positions where costs are to be taken over to safeguard current and future competitions were identified.
- YAC Competitions | to prepare the motion under AP 8.3.2, the FD discussed the streamlining of the events connected to cost shares with organisers, financial support to participants, and officials compensation
- Business Report | Secretary General Hausleitner delivered the current daily business report to the FD Members which included information on Personnel, contract negotiations, as well as the EHF House project and the activities in the preparatory process of the Women's EHF EURO 2022.
- Other | an actual report on the positive development of transfer fees, National Federation accounts, and the final report on the accounting after the Men's EHF EURO 2022 in Hungary and Slovakia.

It was noted that despite all movement, the EHF finances remain stable. The next meeting of the Finance Delegation will be held in January 2023 in Stockholm, Sweden. Recognising the globally difficult situation, La Cour praised the EHF Office on their efforts with cost control.

3.3. *Budget and Accounting 2022*

With the update of the 2022 forecast, the following deviations are to be mentioned. In the area of revenues, income from entry fees decreased as it was decided to credit entry fees in the future, one year prior to the event thus it follows that the entry fees for the 2024 YAC events are transferred to the 2023 accounting. The revenue from Partnership Contracts shows a minor increase of EUR 5k in total; the EURO partnerships remain unchanged, but now include a ticketing share from the Women's EHF EURO 2022, which is at risk.

Other partnerships, which includes the income after the final accounting of the EHF M season 2021/22, is slightly above budget. A provision of EUR 100k was established due to the expected change in income coming from EHF M for the 2022/23 season from Infront (& DAZN) which has been almost covered by a higher additional share for season 2021/22. Regarding Transfers, income

was adapted to EUR 1,93m reflecting the status as per 25 October 2022; a minor increase until the end of the year is still expected. Fines and Other Returns increased on a minor level, and the item, Financial Result was reduced as there are to be no additional dividend from EHF. Thus, in total, revenues increased by EUR 229k to EUR 20,73m.

Turning to the area of expenses, Congress/Meetings was actualised to current numbers resulting in a slight increase of EUR 10k. Personnel expenses are still below budget and remain unchanged; Office & Infrastructure includes additional expenses due to energy increases mainly, but also Digital Infrastructure, although this was positively impacted by the Shared Service Agreement with EHF. IT expenses are unchanged and remain in line with the budget.

Expenditure for Commission Activities was reduced following a clarification of the Beach Handball Commission costs. In the area of Development, due to a regrouping of expenditures for the 2022 Referee Seminar and support for YAC Organisers, project expenses were lowered by EUR 248k. Moreover, support payments to National Federations for YAC participation (incl. Organiser Support) remained in line with the budget. Expenses for Competitions increased by a total of EUR 182k since the previous forecast. This can be attributed mainly to National Teams and the Covid-19 related additional expenses at the Men's EHF EURO 2022, support to UKR national teams, as well as the Officiating programmes (FitGood Pro Support and the EURO 2022 Referee Seminar); a provision is foreseen for the Women's EHF EURO 2022 SMM.

Looking to Club Competitions, Additional Activities, and Anti-Doping, as well as Media & Communications, expenses are unchanged. With Further Expenses also in line with the last forecast, total expenses increased by EUR 228k to EUR 25,591m. Thus, because of the adaptations and after releasing accruals built in 2021 totalling to EUR 6,59m, a total surplus of EUR 1,730m can be expected for the year 2022, which speaks of an unchanged total result for the 2-year period of EUR 482k compared to the previous forecast.

Taking note of the comprehensive information provided, Wiederer mentioned that the next update is scheduled to be presented after the finalisation of the 2022 accounting and emphasised that the figures must be viewed in the two-year aspect considering that the EHF budget is always linked to the EURO income.

3.4. *Finances 2023/2024*

CFO Bernhard Binder briefed the Executive Committee on the 2023/2024 finances; the overview, and comparison, was given based on the 2-year period. Opening with the focus on revenues, income from Entry Fees decreased by EUR 88k; this reflects the accounting of YAC entry fees in the year prior to the event and follows a conservative planning for Club Competitions. Revenues from Partnership Contracts increase slightly by EUR 1,63m compared to 2021/22, but EUR 208k less than the 2021 EHF Congress projection. The increase in EURO Partnerships is an estimation based on the projected ticket share from the Men's EHF EURO 2024 GER and reflects the increase from the Infront (& DAZN) contract. Other partnerships – including the adapted budget from EHF for the 2022/23 season - is substantially below the original Congress budget and below the 2021/22 period.

Income from transfer fees was adapted by EUR 400k over the 2-year-period, and reflects the result achieved in 2021. All other income positions are unchanged. In total revenue increased by EUR 182k to EUR 21,68m compared to Congress budget and remains above the 2021/22 period with a plus of EUR 1,41m.

CFO Binder continued moving into the area of expenses; the line-item ‘Congress, Meetings’ is reduced compared to the Congress budget, but still reflecting the 2023 Ordinary EHF Congress in Switzerland and provides sufficient funds for the organisation of the planned meetings. Personnel expenses are adapted to the current economic environment; in this, there is an expansion of one FTE compared to current head count foreseen, as well as an index-based salary increase of 5% in 2023 and 2.5 % in 2024. Furthermore, legally mandated provisions are in place for dismissal payments, holidays, and surplus hours.

In comparison to the Congress budget, Office & Infrastructure expenses are up by EUR 1,55m; this can be directly linked to inflation (+11% in 2023 followed by 4.5% in 2024) as well as the IT service provider. As foreseen in the Congress budget under ‘Further Expenses’, an additional reserve of EUR 1,1m for the new office building is included in the line item; Commission Activities are slightly increased by EUR 40k.

In 2023/2024, Development will remain in line with the 2008 Congress decisions, reduced by EUR 1m, but increased by EUR 182k compared to 2021/2022; here, project expenses are lower due to the regrouping of expenditure for the Masterplan and includes the increased support for YAC participating National Federations and Organisers. Business Development (incl. CRM system set-up) increased by EUR 120k and digital investment of EUR 500k was streamlined in accordance with the I&D contract.

Competitions, though EUR 1,25m above the Congress budget in total, follow the basic expenses for National Team events as seen in 2021/2022. Other increases fall in the area Club Team competitions, specifically Media/Coms (EUR 180k), but the line item ‘Further Expenses’ could be substantially reduced as depreciation was included in the respective cost centres and the provision for the new office building was regrouped into Office & Infrastructure. Therefore, in 2023/2024, total expenses have increased by EUR 197k to EUR 45,594m. However, for the 2-year period, the total result is unchanged compared to the Congress budget with a projected surplus of EUR 839k.

The Executive Committee took note of the report.

4. Business Report

4.1. Business Activities

A detailed and comprehensive report was made available to the Executive Committee prior to the meeting. Secretary General Hausleitner highlighted the following points:

- Women’s Handball Conference: on the fringes of the Final weekend of the Women’s EHF EURO 2022 with over 140 registered participants.
- European Handball House: see AP 4.4.
- EHF Masterplan: negotiations with National Federations are ongoing, and projects are moving ahead with strategic planning process.
- Personnel: it was mentioned that Andreas Krywult (IT), a valuable staff member, will leave the EHF after 15 years of service at the end of November. He will take a role with more managerial responsibility in a different organisation. Due to this and other recent transitions, a restructure of personnel will take place. The next report to this end will be given in January.
- Additional support – competitions: due to the enlargement of the match days from 2 to 5, the EHF is searching for a solution for competition support services (evening/weekend)and specifically relates to IT tasks.
- Media: the Executive Committee are referred to the ‘Media & Digital Report’

4.2. *Legal Management*

To the comprehensive report submitted to the Executive Committee prior to the meeting, no additional comment was raised, and the members took note of the content of the legal report.

4.3. *European Anti-Doping Unit (EAU)*

Based on the content of the submitted report, it was mentioned that anti-doping is a relevant point in the EHF budget, and it is also a matter to be discussed with the International Handball Federation. The EAU budget for 2023 was confirmed by the Executive Committee.

4.4. *European Handball House*

The project saw much activity in September; the various happenings are proceeding according to the schedule previously submitted to the Executive Committee. At this time, a contractor is being sought, and the final details of the contractual agreement are in hand. Returning to the input concerning risk mitigation (*EXEC°165 / 09/2022 / AP3.6.*), the matter was dealt with, though due to the stage of the project, it was not possible to analyse specific aspects. The EHF stated that 'back-up' solutions covering potential eventualities would be in place for the project. Such measures will occur parallel to the development of the contractual situation. As it is a 'work in progress', updates on risk mitigation will be given when available.

5. **I&D AGREEMENT – ADAPTATION**

5.1. *Overall Information*

The agenda point at hand was placed prior to the topics of EHF Marketing GmbH; this is to show that the agreements overlap, EHF (NT) and EHF (Clubs). EHF is in possession of documents pre-signed by I&D regarding the release of specific rights and new arrangement of the task distribution. The EHF has received the document regarding the update of the agreements which regulates the shift of all the rights and duties to Infront, but the signature of DAZN is still outstanding. In the process leading to this point, the EHF worked in close coordination with the Club stakeholder representatives.

5.2. *Details of the amendment of the EHF*

Concerning the EHF, it is not directly a change in the agreement, but there are consequences regarding the services and financial aspects that have an impact on the EHF budget. Infront requested a change in the TV production standards of the EHF EUROs as well as an adaptation of the rights situation, which will see the EHF EURO Cup similar to the EURO Qualifiers.

The EHF has had rights returned, and an agreement with Infront concerning cost reductions in the areas of overheads and personnel (EHF dedicated staff), which will be assigned to the share calculation. The returned rights include all media and marketing rights for YAC competitions, Beach Handball marketing rights are to be shared equally. The Infront provision for brokering additional partnership deals was reduced to 10%, and in the future, it will no longer be obligatory to guarantee production for Phase 1 of the EHF EURO Qualifiers. It was noted that the amendments are beneficial to the EHF.

Upon request of President Wiederer, the Executive Committee granted the mandate to the EHF to sign the adaptation of the agreement (side letter) regulating the open questions and took note of the adaptations on the level of the EHF Marketing.

6. **EHF MARKETING GMBH**

6.1. *Advisory Board 11/2022*

The minutes to the meeting are available; a business report was given; the main objective of the meeting was to discuss the EHF budget resp. a final information on the accounting of the previous business year in anticipation of the General Assembly to follow.

6.2. *General Assembly 11/2022*

The Assembly was conducted in accordance with the formal procedure foreseen. Several members of the Executive Committee were in attendance. The content of the meeting was similar to that of the Advisory Board; the minutes to the meeting will be distributed when available.

6.3. *Business Year 2022/2023*

It was reported that all the financial responsibilities of EHF will be fulfilled. The success of the previous year was reiterated. Regarding the current season, the EHF has expanded its partnerships circle.

Upon conclusion of AP6, First Vice President, Predrag Bošković, assumed the Chairmanship of the meeting.

7. TECHNICAL COMMISSIONS | COMMITTEES | BOARDS

7.1. *Technical Commissions*

7.1.1. *Competitions Commission*

Chairman Božidar Djurković reported on the activities since the last meeting in September and highlighted the following areas:

- Club Competitions: the current season is proceeding according to schedule with no reported issues (incl. Covid-19). In the men's European and Champions Leagues, four more rounds are scheduled prior to the seasonal winter break. A match in the Women's European League Qualification Round 2 produced a legal case and it was dealt with by the Court of Handball.
- Men's and Women's National Team Competitions – Qualifications: Round 1 and 2 of the Men's EHF EURO 2024 Qualifiers took place according to schedule in October continuing with Round 3 and 4 in March 2023. Phase 1 of the Women's WCh 2023 Qualification was played in November; the draw for the Play-off matches will take place in Ljubljana. The qualification tournaments for the remaining two places at the MU21 WCh 2023 in GRE and GER will take place in January 2023 in Chieti/ITA.
- 2023 YAC events: All events are awarded, initial contacts with the hosting federations are concluded. Basic topics are being worked on. The playing hall issue for the W19 in ROU is still open, contacts with ROU are underway. Please see AP 8.3 for all motions relating to YAC events.
- Officiating: no special report; many nominations were necessary to cover the first rounds of the club competitions due to the many matches. Two referee pairs nominated to the Women's EHF EURO 2022 had to be replaced due to private and health reasons. The IHF carried out a test with 3 referees at a game during two days of the Men's Superglobe in Saudi Arabia. A seminar for new delegates is planned for spring 2023, details are to be defined followed by a registration period. The next meeting of the CC and the TRC will take place at the end of February 2023.

7.1.2. *Methods Commission*

Chairman Pedro Sequeira informed the Executive Committee on the recent activities of the Methods Commission as follows:

- Methods & Coaching: the manuals on nutrition and mental coaching are in the final stage of production and will be finished by the end of 2022.

- Education & Training: module 3 of the 2022 EHF Master Coach Course was concluded in Ljubljana on 12 November; the report will be distributed upon completion. The webinars continue to prove popular i.e., “Baby Handball” had 430 registrations. The next webinar on “Wheelchair Handball” will take place on 13 December 2022.
- 2022 World & European Wheelchair (six-a-side) Handball Championship in Portugal: the 9 participating teams are CRO, ESP, HUN, IND, NED, NOR, PAK, POR, and ROU. With more than 100 people using wheelchairs, the organisational and logistical aspects proved challenging. With the event still ongoing, it was emphasised that the first day of matches went well.
- EHF Experts Group: the webinar took place in October with 83 experts. The group discussed various topics included, but were not limited to, the manual and the ‘Circle of a Handball Life’. The participants were grouped by their speciality i.e. coaching, methods, etc.
- EHF Club / Federation Management Seminar: the MC recommended the cancellation of the EHF Club/Federation Management Seminar and suggested an alternative cooperation with European universities. Feedback to the information emphasised that the initiative of the seminar was that of the stakeholder Clubs. Thus, the Clubs are to be involved in any dialogue. The input from the Executive Committee is to be tabled at the next meeting of the Methods Commission.
- Development: a new partner needs to be found regarding foldable / pop-up goals due to new guidelines (minimum order) of the current supplier, QuickPlay.
- EHF Scientific Conference: the main topic ‘Sustainability in Handball – Circle of a Handball Life’ will be presented in Porto/POR on 23.-24.11.2023.

7.1.3. Beach Handball Commission

Chairwoman Gabriella Horvath summarised the activities of the Beach Handball Commission since the last meeting in September as follows:

- International Beach Handball Calendar: the work continues on the coordination of a calendar with the objective of improving the product for the National Federations (e.g., bidding, scheduling, etc.).
- EHF Beach Handball Champions Cup 2022: The organisation of the event was smooth and the cooperation with POR Federation and the local Municipality was excellent. The final accounting is completed, and the event report is available. The streaming figures and media coverage of the event were remarkable.
- EHF Beach Handball EURO 2023: The event will take place from 24 to 28 May 2023 and will be the qualification tournament for the European Games. The draw event to define the groups is planned to be organized on-site at the beginning of February. The registration process for the qualified teams (16 + 16 per gender) will be open in January 2023.
- EHF YAC17 Beach Handball EURO 2023: in Izmir from 29 June to 2 July. The first workshop was held online, and the site visit will be organized soon.
- EHF ebt Finals 2023: with the Italian Handball Federation unable to host the 2023 event, the bid process will be re-opened with the objective of finding a host.
- European Beach Handball Tour 2022-2023 / Regulations: the document was updated and the criteria for the tournament were revised with a focus on the promotion, stimulating and

regulating the practise of mini beach handball, very important to grow the community of beach handball players and fans.

- European Games 2023 / Preparation: 21 to 23 June 2023 in Krakow (POL). The EHF is responsible for the technical aspect of events, the provision of the material (goals, line system and balls), the nomination of the officials and the creation of the playing schedule. The playing system is already agreed, and 16 teams in total will participate. There are 3 days of competition on 2 courts, 12 referees and 4 delegates nominated by the EHF. The preparation of the event is ongoing with a regular exchange of information with EOC.

7.1.3.1. Motions of the Beach Handball Commission

- **Awarding of Beach Handball Champions Cup 2023 and 2024:** following the evaluation of the very positive first edition of the event, the BC recommends awarding the organisation of the EHF Champions Cup 2023 and 2024 to Portugal. The proposed dates for 2023 are 12 - 15 October 2023.
- **European Beach Handball Tour 2022/2023 Regulations:** Executive Committee approval is requested for the modification of the mentioned article of the EHF ebt Regulations – ‘revision of the criteria for tournament points’.

The Executive Committee approved the motions of the Beach Handball Commission as written.

7.2. Nations Committees / Board

Nations Board Chairman, Mark Schober informed on the meeting and complimented the organisation which allowed more time for the necessary discussions. With the minutes from the meetings (NCM, NCW, NB) already distributed, Schober highlighted the following points:

- The initiative/request of the Nations Committee Women to organise/host a ‘Women’s Handball Day’ in October 2023.
- The initiative/request of the Nations Board to organise/host a ‘Workshop for Emerging Nations’ in 2023.
- The definition of a common position concerning the resin free ball; the contribution of the EHF in its submission of a letter to the IHF on the matter. It was suggested that the National Federations be surveyed for their input on the topic.

7.3. Professional Handball Board

Delivering the report, Chairman Xavier O’Callaghan reiterated the sentiment concerning the resin free ball stating that it was also a focal point of the discussion within the PHB; the board members agreed that the concept would be an impossibility at the professional level. O’Callaghan continued by mentioning the other matters treated in the meeting.

- Implementation of IHF Regulations on Players’ Agents: the PHB acknowledged that different countries have different rules but were steadfast on the opinion that the service recipient should pay the service provider.
- Playing dates within the Men’s Champions League: the clubs prefer to play during the week, but due to the current ecosystem with impact on other competitions it is accepted as is. It is envisioned that the topic will be revisited accordingly at a later point in time.

- Hall capacity in the future: the matter remains under discussion. *A brief discussion took place where the EXEC members shared points of view. It was noted that the topic was complex.*
- Professionalism in the area of officiating: this is a noted concern of the clubs; the topic is in debate. *In the ensuing discussion, the members of the Executive Committee stated their opinions on the topic; overall, it was agreed that in light of the development on a competitions level the quality of the refereeing needs to be enhanced, and the current technology in use needed to be optimally utilised. It was also noted that the National Federations are 'producing' the referees. An initiative on the possible 'production' of EHF Referees, as well as a scheduled meeting – a discussion platform to find a way forward – was voiced.*
- International Calendar 2024/25: PHB opined that the IHF Superglobe should not take place directly after the National Team Week.

7.4. Women's Handball Board

Chairwoman Marta Bon reiterated that many of the topics, such as the resin free ball, officiating, etc. were also discussed at the level of the Women's Handball Board. Other discussion points included:

- Women's Handball Day: initiative aimed at the promotion of the sport, women in handball, and to encourage more National Federations to become more engaged on the senior national team level. The event would also serve as a promotional tool for the Women's EHF EURO 2024 Qualifiers.
- 'Respect Your Talent': concerning the ongoing development of the programme and the upcoming activities.
- Women's Handball Conference (19.-20.11.22): more than 140 registered participants, and an array of pertinent topics which promise interesting information and therefore the possibility for exchange at the level of the participants.

Closing the agenda point, Wiederer briefly mentioned the EHLB meeting; the EXEC took note of the minutes from the meeting held in October. The different topics raised by the Committees/Boards, partly discussed and partly noted, will be further treated on the respective level.

Upon conclusion of AP 7, the Chairmanship of the meeting reverted to the EHF President.

8. NATIONAL TEAM COMPETITIONS | EVENTS

8.1. Organisation of Events

The comprehensive written report submitted prior to the EXEC meeting provides much information to all current and upcoming events.

- **Women's EHF EURO 2022 SMM:** providing a brief interim report to the ongoing event, it was stated that in the given circumstances, the three organisers had produced notable work. It was clear that the event was suffering from the spectator situation, which was seemingly part of the regional culture of people watching only the matches of their own teams, dependant on the success of the team. The enthusiastic response in Podgorica, as well as in Celje and Ljubljana, and as well as in Skopje (preliminary round) was also mentioned. During the event preparatory phase much was done to support the spectator situation despite the cost structure of the tickets not being favourable. Nonetheless, many exciting matches took place with the corresponding TV figures and conclusions are to be taken after the event. On behalf of the tournament management, the EHF expressed its appreciation to the three organisers for their efforts.

During the event, specifically in Ljubljana, the EHF was able to have contact with external partners and clarify its contribution to activities organised by external organisations i.e. EUSA. The minutes from the meeting will be produced in due course and distributed accordingly. Additionally, a meeting is to be scheduled with the EOC to discuss the potential role of the EHF in the EYOF and the 2023 European Games (POL); contact with other partners is being established.

- **Men's EHF EURO 2024 GER:** with just over 1 year left until the event, and much interest being shown, it was intoned that the remaining duration of preparation time was not to be underestimated. The challenge will be to fill the large arenas. The EHF will create its own internal organisation structure for the event.
- **Women's EHF EURO 2024 HSA:** as the next event organised in three countries, the preparatory activities are proceeding accordingly. Conclusions can be taken from the tripartite organisation of the Women's EURO in 2022.
- **Women's EHF EURO 2026 RUS:** the EHF remains in regular contact with the RUS Federation resp. the RUS OC. There is a reciprocal understanding that they are part of the handball ecosystem. However, at this time, only information can be exchanged. Nonetheless, a decision to the fate of the event is to be taken in 2023.
- **National Federation BLR:** as different sport organisations are handling the participation of teams differently, BLR contacted the EHF. The situation remains complex; the next steps will be to maintain contact with the Federation, and evaluate what to do to be ready if, and when, the situation changes.

8.2. *Qualifications*

The first two rounds of the Men's EHF EURO 2024 Qualifiers, as well as Phase 1 of the 2023 Women's World Championship, are concluded; the matches 'Qualification Europe' will be played in spring 2023. Phase 1 of the Men's EHF EURO 2026 will take place in a tournament format in Azerbaijan with four teams. The documents relating to the Women's EHF EURO 2024 Qualifiers will be sent upon the conclusion of the EHF EURO 2022 SMM. The draw for the World Championship Play-Off Europe will take place after the event press conference. Concerning the qualifications to the 2024 Olympic Games, either NOR or DEN (winner of the EHF EURO) will take the direct place in accordance with the IHF regulations. Further steps will follow together with the 2023 World Championship results.

8.3. *Motions*

Concerning the future YAC competitions, the EHF National Teams department submitted motions covering multiple matters. The document submitted to the Executive Committee prior to the meeting was detailed and comprehensive. A brief summary and the outcome of the motion is presented below:

- **Summer Events Daily Allowance and Match Day Fee:** nomination of additional EHF Delegates for the European Masters, M/W 17 European Youth Olympic Festival (EYOF), European Open (EO). Adjustment of the compensation for EHF Delegates being nominated for named tournaments (additional EUR 50 per Match Day).
- **YAC Summer Events EHF Financial Support for Teams and Organisers:** It has to be confirmed until when the EHF Financial Support for teams shall be paid out at YAC M18, W17, M20 and W19.

- **YAC Summer Events Anti-Doping Costs:** it shall be confirmed which party (organiser/EHF) has to cover which part of the Anti-Doping costs to be occurred during the YAC summer events.
- **YAC Summer Events Scouting Costs:** it shall be confirmed which party (Sportradar/organiser/EHF) has to cover which part of the Scouting costs to be occurred during the YAC summer events.
- **Advertising above players number at YAC Championships Competitions:** in the YAC Championships the possibility to place advertising above the player number on the back of the shirt instead of the name is given. In the YAC EURO, it remains obligatory to have the name and the number of the player on the back of the shirt. **Following discussion among the members due to opposition of the motion, a vote was taken. The decision was not unanimous but did reach the majority needed to be approved.**
- **Player replacement at YAC EHF EURO Competitions:** possibility for the replacement of two players in each of the competition phases – PR, MR/IR, F/PM. This part of the motion includes a non-obligatory option to enlarge the official delegation from 21 to 23 persons.
- **Audio-visual rights YAC EHF EURO Events:** the EHF takes over the audio-visual rights and TV production (incl. primary, secondary, tertiary, and betting rights). This includes the responsibility for production, distribution, and marketing of the TV signal from all matches.
- **Marketing Rights YAC EHF EURO Events:** the EHF takes over the marketing rights of the YAC EHF EURO events with selected on-site rights. Five packages, including LED and on-court advertising, are to be retained by the host national federation for their own matches, semi-finals and final.

The motion, encapsulating all eight points, was approved as written.

9. Club Competitions

9.1. Season 2022/2023

The current club competition season commenced according to the foreseen schedule (please refer to AP 7.1.). The case in the European League between a Spanish and Romanian club was briefly mentioned, and that the points of the case are known, and further information on the case will be given to the Executive Committee when more is available. As a similar case arose before, and commenting to the matter at hand, Wiederer emphasised the human component in the game: “people (teams, officials...) make mistakes” as it is part of the game but made clear that the EHF has to minimise such happenings through education and developing measures that can be taken in such cases.

9.2. Season 2023/2024 – Preview

CSO Glaser reminded the Executive Committee that basic decisions regarding the 23/24 season were already taken. Some smaller topics are still open and will be presented for approval either in the January or in the March meeting.

The draft of the international calendar for the 2024/2025 season is complete and will be distributed to the stakeholders with the request for feedback. It is expected that the calendar will be confirmed at the EXEC meeting end of January, meaning that the calendar will be ready 18 months prior to the start of the season, which in turn will assist the stakeholders in their respective planning.

10. INTERNATIONAL HANDBALL FEDERATION

Wiederer gave a brief overview of the topics that have been discussed at the international level; a summary was provided to the EXEC prior to the meeting. The EHF EXEC took note of the information. The last meeting of the IHF Council took place on 7 October via video conference; the minutes were received and made available to the EXEC members. It was mentioned that not all issues were able to be treated on a deeper level due to the medium of the meeting. However, though the meeting consisted mainly of reports on IHF activities, the matter of the resin free ball and other topics were raised. The next IHF-EHF cooperation meeting will take place on 5 December in Basel with the presence of the EHF President and Secretary General.

Member Horvath personally thanked President Wiederer for his engagement with the IHF concerning the formulation of an international beach handball calendar underlining its importance.

Member Sequeira informed the Executive Committee about the invitation received to attend an online meeting of the IHF Commission of Coaching and Methods (CCM). Other Commissions did not meet so far.

11. 16TH EHF CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS | 15TH EXTRAORDINARY EHF CONGRESS

11.1. Organisation

The effective organisation of both events supported a good, friendly, and proper atmosphere, where the information was well received.

11.2. Minutes 16th EHF Conference of Presidents

11.3. Minutes 15th Extraordinary EHF Congress

The records of the meetings were distributed and were made available to stakeholders. With no additional comment or questions raised, the Executive Committee took note. The minutes of both the Conference of Presidents and the Extraordinary Congress will be put before the National Federations for approval at the 2023 Ordinary Congress in Switzerland.

11.4. Follow-Up

After the Extraordinary Congress, the EHF Statutes were updated accordingly and submitted to the Austrian authorities; however, and immediately following the Congress, changes at the local level in relation criteria to be fulfilled by not-for-profit organisations became apparent. Therefore, the EHF reached out for specialist advice, and learned that statutes are governed at two levels. Thus, the governmental branch has accepted the Statutes of the EHF, but the tax authorities might request additional points of reference; a further review is necessary. The topic of the EHF Statutes may return to the Executive Committee should an amendment or adaptation be required for these purposes. Parallel to this, the possibility of a principle change in status to an international federation is being explored; it was noted that further information will be given when available.

11.5. Preview 16th Ordinary EHF Congress 2023

The preliminary rundown was provided for orientation; content will be defined in the coming months.

12. MISCELLANEOUS

- Upon input of an Executive member the topic of transgender participation in sport was discussed; the situation regarding handball was questioned. The EHF will refer the matter to the IHF for treatment.

- Anti-Doping: from external sources it was reported that handball has a collective doping rate of 1.4%, and it was noted that there was not much difference between this sport and others. However, it was emphasised that there is a need to understand what the figures actually mean in relation to number of tests, testing schedule, etc. in order to have a clear picture.

Concluding the meeting, with no additional topics and only giving a brief rundown of the afternoons activities, President Wiederer extended his thanks to the Handball Federation of Slovenia for the hospitality of the final weekend and the working conditions. Member Bobinac was asked to transmit the positive message.

The meeting was closed.

Vienna, 25 November 2022
For the Minutes: M. Brown