
MINUTES TO THE 5TH MEETING OF THE EHF NATIONS BOARD

Date: Monday, 13 March 2023

Time: 11:00 – 19:00

Venue: Renaissance Wien Hotel

Participants NB:

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| Mark Schober | Chairman GER |
| Pirje Orasson | Vice Chairwoman EST |
| Morten Stig Christensen | Member DEN |
| Leonor Mallozzi | Member POR |
| Ingo Meckes | Member SUI |

Participants EHF:

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| Markus Glaser | Chief Sports Officer |
| Mario Kovacic | Director National Team Competitions |
| Alenka Cuderman | Women's Handball Coordinator |
| Marsha Brown | Corporate Liaison Minutes |

Excused: Nodjialem Myaro Member | FRA

1. Welcome and Introduction

Chairman Schober welcomed the participants to the meetings and continued with the agenda.

2. NB Meeting 10/2022 – Minutes & Follow-Up

With no additional questions or comments, the minutes were adopted.

3. Input NCW

- Women's Handball Conference: discussed the talking points and the success of the event; want to host a second edition in 2024 on the fringes of the next Women's EHF EURO. It is suggested that the next event incorporate break-out groups, as it was a long time for the participants to stay seated and focused.
- Women's Handball Leagues: the results of the survey distributed to the National Federation were discussed.
- Women's League Board: the NCW considered holding some common meetings with the league boards to exchange knowledge; this suggestion will be delivered to both the PHB and WHB members in their individual meetings.
- RUS/BLR/UKR Situation: the situation was discussed incl. the known national sanctions; the situation continues to be monitored and it was underlined that at this (EHF) level, no action can be taken.

- Anti-Harassment Campaign: the different types of harassment, preventative measures, etc. were presented. Much information (based on the best-practice case) was given by NCW Member Mallozzi. From the ensuing discussion within the NB where the members exchange information coming from their own countries, it was recommended by the NCW that the best-practice example be shared. The NB recommended that the topic be placed on the agenda on the next large meeting maybe as a best practice showcase, and it was also recommended that the EHF check to ensure their procedure(s) and protocol(s) are transparent. The NB segued into a very brief discussion of transgender in sport.
- Empowering to Inspire: the NCW discussed the new project of training women commentators; the outcome of the project is to have women commentators at the W19 EHF EURO in Romania. Paul Bray will train the Commentators. The NCW also gave focus to the content on eurohandball.com and its highlight of players who shine on and off the court.

4. Input NCM

- Infront Agreement: the information from Hausleitner was reiterated; the nothing changes for the national team competitions.
- Resin-Free Ball: There is a conflict of information; the EHF is informed that it will be used during the MU19 CRO, while information held by some Federations states that the resin-free ball will only be used in (YAC) women's competitions; the NCM/NB requests confirmation.
- Smaller Nations Workshop: the topic has been under discussion since 2021; the NB once again requests that a workshop be held. Please refer to the minutes from the NCM⁰⁶ meeting. It was emphasised that the Master Plan is still too advanced for some smaller nations.
- YAC and Beach Handball Competitions: the NCM held a lively discussion to the competition areas raising pertinent points and exploring topics and potential directions to look for workable solutions. The outcome was the request for the presentation of a clear strategy on the objectives of YAC competitions (marketing, competition, communication etc. wise). The NCM also spoke on how beach handball could be developed; this part of the conversation will be delivered to the BC Chairwoman.
- World Championship Qualification Europe Phase 1: due to the potential expense of H/A matches, it was voiced that a tournament format (one week – one location) is preferred.
- Transparency of processes considering match-fixing reproach: it is recommended that certain processes are made visible.

5. Input EHF

Please refer to the minutes to the common meeting.

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- Women's competitions: CSO Glaser remarked on the opinion that the more and more challenges are arising in the women's competitions; the national team qualifications have been increased to 32 and there are already doubts if some nations will be able to produce the matches. It was noted that they are difficult situations with no easy solutions. At the club level the desire to participate is strong, but often without consideration of the larger picture e.g., producing the matches in accordance with the organisational standards.

6. Summary and Follow-up Discussion

The Nations Board will follow-up on the status of the Workshop for Smaller Nations

7. Preparation PHB and WHB

- Communicate the initiative to hold a common meeting with the league board
- Possible next edition of the Women's Handball Conference
- Sportradar/Match-fixing
- Anti-Harassment
- Resin free ball
- Russia-Belarus-Case

8. Miscellaneous

No additional topics raised.

Vienna, 17 March 2023

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