

**EHF NEWS 28 – 23.02.2008**

**EHF Executive Committee News**

**Introduction**

The EHF Executive Committee met on 22<sup>nd</sup> February in Vienna, Austria for an interim meeting, which was called following the results of the EHF Extraordinary Congress in Lillehammer 2008. The Extraordinary Congress was held in an extremely positive atmosphere for handball, with all participants discussing openly and proactively about the future structure of the European Handball Federation and in turn the future of the sport in general, to integrate the principle stakeholders. The motions were decided upon by with an overwhelming majority.

The EHF felt it was essential to continue with this spirit of partnership and met to discuss the further proceedings to follow-up and realise the decision made at the Congress.

The protocol from the Extraordinary Congress was confirmed by the Executive, before moving on to the motions directly.

**Motion to the Euro Qualifications**

The registration process for the 2010 Men's European Championship has been sent out to all EHF Member Federations, with the deadline for applying being the 21 March 2008. The Executive Committee approved the System of Ranking, based on the three previous Championships (ECh 2006 SUI, WCh 2007 GER, ECh 2008 NOR) , which will be announced when the participating countries are finalised. The draw for the qualification process will take place on 18 April 2008, the eve of the Competition's Conference.

**Motion to the European Championship Final Tournaments**

As decided upon by the Lillehammer Congress, a Working Group will be established to deal with the matter of European Championship Final Tournaments. The Executive Committee of the EHF has now taken steps to realise this. The mandate of the previous working group dealing with a related matter (the qualification phase) has been extended.

EHF Treasurer Ralf Dejaco, supported by Secretary General Michael Wiederer, will chair the Working Group, which will be further made-up of L.Sinka (EXEC), M.S. Christensen/DEN, R. Witte/GER, P. Bana/FRA, V.Grigoriev/RUS, A.Brencans/LAT and D.Deferny-Janosova/SVK. The Working group will meet on 15/16 May 2008 (provisional date), following the EHF Competition's Conference. The reason for this scheduling is based on the fact that technical questions on the structure of future competitions will be dealt with at the Competition's Conference and will also form a basis for the group's work.

**Boards of EHF Marketing GmbH**

**Introduction**

The EHF Executive Committee has grasped the chance to continue the momentum with necessary preparations following the motions and decisions made at the Congress relating to EHF structural changes.

The EHF nations voted to introduce Boards of EHF Marketing GmbH, one dealing with men's club handball and one with women's club handball – each consisting of 5 members. Information on the further proceedings on this matter has already been sent out to all Member Federations.

**Instalment and Make-up of Boards**

The Executive Committee confirmed the proceedings and the move to install the Boards of EHF Marketing GmbH as soon as possible to ensure active involvement of the selected specialists with immediate effect.

In accordance with the motion passed, the five members of the Men's Club Board will be selected as follows: one nominated by Spain (based on EC ranking list), one by Germany (based on EC ranking list), one nominated by the EHF nations and the remaining two selected by the EHF. The voting process will take place on 18/19 April 2008 on the weekend of the EHF Competitions Conference.

The EHF Executive Committee also passed the decision in their meeting for the EHF nations to also select the fourth and fifth position, previously to be selected by the EHF. The Executive Committee took this decision to offer the nations a greater degree of choice to ensure that these Boards are made-up of absolute specialists from the area of club handball. The Member Federations have until 1 April to nominate their chosen club experts.

The Women's Club Board will follow the exact timeline, with Denmark and Hungary nominating the first two positions, in accordance with the European Cup ranking list.

#### **Legal Adjustments**

Further to this, Tor Lian was delegated the task of overseeing all legal adjustments to the Articles of Association and the Bylaws of EHF marketing GmbH, prior to the instalment of the Boards in April, in order to ensure that the Boards can commence with their work immediately to their full capacity.

### **Committees of the Competitions Commission**

#### **Introduction**

The Executive Committee also confirmed the further process in terms of the introduction of Committees of the Competitions Commission, which was also passed by the Extraordinary Congress in Lillehammer. The Committees will be voted in on 18/19 April, as is the case of the Boards.

#### **Instalment and Make-up of Committees**

In principle the system is analogue to that listed above. However a third Committee will be installed: EHF National Team Committee. This will again be made up of 5 members. In this respect the federations of France and Denmark (based on national team ranking list) will have the right to select an expert from the area of national teams to be on the Committee. Again, the Executive Committee decided the EHF member Federations will select specialists for the three remaining positions

#### **Follow-up Proceedings**

The Chairperson of each Committee will be selected by the EHF Member Federations out of the persons on each Committee. The Chairperson will represent the Committee on the EHF Competitions Commission. This task will be confirmed at the EHF Congress in September in Vienna/AUT, together with the elections to the existing EHF Bodies. As a result the Competitions Commission of the EHF will consist of 7 members and one Chairperson following the September Congress.

### **Further Matters**

The Executive also dealt with a Congress proposal to introduce an EHF body on technical refereeing matters parallel to the instalment of the Committees to the Competitions Commission. The Committee has taken up the matter and will discuss concrete measures at their next meeting on 3 / 4 April in Budapest/HUN.

The Committee also took note of an official application from Kosovo to become a full member of the EHF. The EHF will analyse the legal and sport political status of this. The matter will be tabled at the forthcoming Executive Committee meeting.

### **Conclusion**

The interim EHF Executive Committee meeting was closed following a constructive and successful working morning. The next meeting will be on 3/4 April in Budapest/HUN.