

EVENT MANAGEMENT AND THE EHF DELEGATE

By

Jan Tuik

Chairman of the Competitions Commission

Dear Sport friends,

Let me start with one of my favourite quotes:

"Minds are like parachutes – They only function when open" **Thomas Dewar**

After the pleasant opening words of Mr. Tor Lian and the speech of our Secretary General Mr. Wiederer, I will make some critical statements. However, in order to understand my words in the correct way I expect all our participants to keep an open mind during this Convention.

Introduction

A few years ago, I told the participants of the Delegates conference that violence is still a main problem in our society. In addition, in sports, not exclusively football, but sports such as Basketball, Ice Hockey and Handball each have to deal with this problem.

Unsporting conduct of players and officials will have a big influence on the behaviour of spectators. Bad behaviour from players, officials and spectators will damage the image of Handball. In addition, this season the CC has had to deal with a quantity of cases.

Fair play starts on the playing court, but also the behaviour of the team officials and board members influences the atmosphere before and during the matches. We cannot accept violence and bad behaviour from our players and officials. We all know the problems that can occur during the match and we need much effort to calm the players and officials, and to control the situation on the benches.

The education of players, coaches and team officials is an ongoing process. We expect of our delegates a pro-active behaviour in this field. The delegate is the representative of the EHF and has to safeguard the image of handball.

You can find the Guidelines for the Delegates on the field of Safety and Security in our blue Delegates Guide and the Regulations for the EC tournaments. The minimum standard laid down in the Rules on Safety and Security Procedure is to be understood as additions to the local regulations. They are binding for all parties involved (clubs, federations, security services) as well as participants and spectators and shall be complied with in any circumstances in order to ensure the safe and controlled conduct of each competition.

With the development of the EHF Rules on Safety and Security Procedure, we made a great step forward. This guideline helps you to do your job better and to promote the Fair Play idea in international handball.



Next step

Our next step is the production of the *Toolkit Event Manager*.

A good communication between the EHF and Delegates must guarantee good pre-conditions for organising the matches. Especially in the Champions League, we provide the Delegates in advance with a lot of information and we expect that the delegate make a report of incidents in relation to the match. Also in the field of marketing and TV, the Delegate have to send his evaluation report to the office in Vienna.

More accents are put on the organisation of the EHF events in the Champions League. These matches are all broadcasted and a bad organisation will damage our image.

To secure in the future clear procedures and handling of our Delegates we will make the next step and present the Tool kit of the Event manager of the EHF. During this Convention, we will hand out the new Toolkit to assist our Delegates in doing their jobs straight away. I hope the toolkit is useful for you. Please give us your feedback in the next weeks.

Responsibilities

Organisation of matches

The local organiser shall organise the competition on its own merits and its responsibilities within the scope of the operation in compliance with the national legislation.

Beyond that, the local organiser shall be responsible for ensuring that the EHF and IHF Regulations are adhered to and all required safety and security measures are taken into account.

Any claims for damages arising from losses sustained in connection with competitions shall be addressed to the local organiser (club / federation) and any legal action brought before a court in the place of jurisdiction.

I hope it is clear for you that necessary measures depend on the different situations in the halls. The Delegate must be very active to ensure that we can carry out the match under acceptable conditions for both teams. It is your duty to analyse the local situation and to take a measures to assure a safe match. You all know the guidelines I hope. If not, I give you a small summary.

Safety and Security Plan

- Protection of players, team officials, Delegates, EHF officials, VIP's
- Audience, spectators
- How to handle in cases of emergency
- Controlled entrance
- Controlled ticketing, reduction number of spectators, guests separate block
- Stairs, Exits, escape routes that free of people and materials
- Acting stewards (more friendly than security staff dressed in black)
- Measurements taken by local organiser



Evacuation Plan

- Basic information of the hall, plan of the hall
- Emergency exits, escape route, controlled and foreseen of lightning
- Confirmation of hall capacity, limitations spectators
- Instructions Fire and Police Department
- First Aid services, room, hospital transport plan
- Information and instruction local organisation
- And last but not least: the man in charge

Aspects of Marketing in the Champions League

Before the start of the season, the Delegates receive all necessary information and documents.

Beside the normal Technical Meeting, the Delegate must pay attention to the Security aspects, the Marketing aspects and to the producer of the TV signal. A special checklist is sent out before the season begins.

These new tasks of the Delegates require more qualities than in the past.

After a successful carrier as international referee, the national federation puts names of former referees on the delegates list. Naturally, there will be referees who show the right qualities to become a good delegate. Nevertheless, please realise that other competences are required. Later on, I will mention the preconditions for a good delegate.

Performances of Referees and Delegates

Are trainers and players crazy?

Why do they have comments on referee performances?

May I give you an overview of the averages of our referee performances during the last two years and the current season until its end in February 2005.

Seasons 2003/2004 plus 2004/2005

56 couples over 80 points	(very good)
134 couples over 75 points	(good)

Season 2004/2005

62 couples over 80 points
136 couples over 75 points

Do you believe it?

Do we have so many good referees?

Is there any reason for trainers to complain?

Why did our referees discuss during the last European Championship about the point giving system so much?

Maybe the answer is: **our delegate.**



More or less, you know what we expect of a good Delegate.
Let me give you a summary of the most important preconditions:

- Independence
- Personality
- Capability
- Experiences
- Aptitude to work under pressure
- Knowledge of the Rules and Regulations
- Knowledge of the EHF languages

Policy for the next season

Based on these criteria we will select the delegates for the next season as follows:

- Delegate for standard and regional matches
- Delegate for education and referee guidance
- Delegate as event manager
- Delegate for high risk matches

As a Delegate you are the first man / woman in charge for the EHF and representing the interest of the European Handball Federation.

You have to take care of participating teams, the referees, the representatives of the press and all other important persons who will attend the match. Not only shake hands and be a good friend. No, from time to time it is necessary to be the bad guy in town.

In the respective matches you must have the courage and the skills to handle all the difficult situations. This guarantees a fair and spectacular game.

Giving guidance to the young and new EHF referees is another special task. For these tasks, we will select delegates with competences in guiding and educating our referees, based on the guidelines of the CC. Make a good analysis of the game and the performances of the referees and discuss in a fair and sporting way with them. Items like:

- understanding the game
- control of the difficult situations
- acceptance by players and coaches
- clear line in punishment and decisions

National Federations

We hope that our Member Federations will also take in consideration the criteria for the Delegates. If not, we will do it.

From our side we put already a select group of delegates on the list for the next season and we ask the Federations for their proposals.



To increase the level of the Delegates it is a good idea to organise in several regions special course for Delegates. More and better Delegates are not only in the interest of the EHF but also of the National Federations and their clubs. We are waiting for your initiatives. The 2005 EHF Referees and Delegates Convention

At this convention, we have the input from colleagues from other areas of sport.

We are very happy to welcome the representatives of UEFA, IIHF, CEV and FIBA. Also for the IHF representatives a warm welcome.

We appreciate their input at this Convention very much. Thank you in advance.

Workshop topics 1 – 6

1. Event Manager / Delegate's Profile
2. Referee Profile – Referee of the Future
3. Cooperation Referees – Delegates
4. Education and Further Training of Referees and Delegates
5. Trend Analyses of the game / Refereeing
6. Referees and Delegates in Basketball

Our office moderator Helmut Hoeritsch will lead you through the organisation of this convention.

I will now hand the floor over to Helmut for more details.

