

2005 EHF Referees and
Delegates Convention
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UEFA – Refereeing Organisation

- UEFA Referees Committee:
 - 11 members
 - Main tasks:
 - Referees appointments
 - Assessment of the referees
 - Referees development programme (Training and Education)
 - The chairman, Volker Roth, reports to the UEFA CEO, Lars-Christer Olsson
- UEFA Administration:
 - Under the National Association Division
 - Four full-time employees



European International match officials

- Annual registration by FIFA
- Match officials proposed by the national association based on the national ranking
- Cooperation between the Confederations and FIFA
 - 265 European international referees
 - 402 Assistant referees
 - 78 Women referees
 - 95 Women assistant referees
 - 97 Futsal referees



UEFA Competitions (matches)

- 52 UEFA member national associations
- Approximately 1'300 matches per year
- Different type of competitions:
 - National teams competitions
 - Clubs competitions
 - Youth competitions
 - Women competitions
 - Futsal competitions



UEFA Referees Categories

- Referees ranked in 5 categories by UEFA: Elite, Premier, 2, 3 & 4
- Referees and national associations informed
- Bonus paid to the referees according to their category (e.g. Elite: CHF 3'000 per match)
- Only Elite referees are appointed for Champions League matches
- Women referees ranked in three categories
- No categories for assistant referees and Futsal referees



Promotion and relegation of referees

- New international referees (approx. 30-40 each year)
 - ranked in category 4 or directly in category 3 (England, France, Germany, Italy and Spain)
- Categories revised twice a year by the Referees Committee
- Limitation – because of neutrality and promotion of refereeing all over Europe
 - maximum 3 referees from the same country in the Elite category and 2 referees in the Premier category, but maximum 4 referees from the same nationality in both Elite and Premier.
- Age limit for football international referees: 45



Promotion and relegations of referees

- Criteria taken into consideration for promotion and relegation:
 - Marks from the referee observers
 - Experience
 - Potential (promising referees) and Personality
 - Physical condition
 - English
 - Participation to courses



Referee Observer System

- For all UEFA matches, referee performances are assessed by a neutral Referee Observer
 - Former international match official
- The Observer is with the referees' team during the three days trip
- A mark is given based on the assessment of the following qualities:
 - Match control and application of the Laws of the game
 - Disciplinary control
 - Personality
 - Physical fitness / Position and Movement
 - Cooperation with assistant referees
 - General comments



The purpose of observing referees in UEFA matches is:

- to give advice on how referees can improve their performance (coaching the referees);
- to ensure a uniform and consistent interpretation of the Laws of the Game;
- to assess referee performances;
- to identify young talented referees from various national associations;
- to classify the referees and to appoint them for UEFA competitions according to their merits or rating;
- to identify topics for specific instruction (video support).



Post match discussion

- After the match the observer discusses with the referee (3) specific positive points and (3) points for improvement
- 20 minutes is the approximate duration of the post match discussion
- The report is sent to UEFA by electronic mail within 3 days
- Reports are then forwarded to the national association of the referee and to the referee himself



Physical preparation

- Specific training programmes prepared by a specialist (Prof. Dr. Werner Helsen)
- Polar watches used for monitoring the training sessions
- Various fitness tests – endurance, speed
- Involvement of fitness coaches for UEFA tournaments (e.g. EURO 2004)



Referees Development Programme

- UEFA is running a training programme and organising regular courses for match officials:
 - Two courses per year for top referees (winter and summer) – approx. 45 referees
 - Annual course for new international referees
 - Annual courses for assistant referees
 - Courses for women and Futsal referees every second year



The Mentors and Talent programme

- Annual programme:
 - 30 Young referees (under 35) identified as promising and selected from small countries – 8 women referees included as from 2004
 - As from 2005 – 4 elite talents from 4 major football countries
 - 15 Mentors (coaches): 1 Mentor in charge of 2 Talents
 - Regular appointments as assessors for UEFA matches
 - Visit to the talents countries for domestic matches
 - Visit of the talents to the mentor's country for national course



- UEFA Referees Unit is ready to learn for the experience in Handball, Ice-Hockey, Basketball
- Questions / discussions