

PLENARY DISCUSSION OF COACHES AND PLAYERS + "EVENT MANAGEMENT AND REFEREEING"

Starting statements

Nodjialen Myaro

It is important that players are involved in events like this convention

Marit Breivik

The good referees have very good standard – but we need more of them
We need more female referees on top level

Vigo Sigurdsson

Referees do not have a clear line over a tournament – but they should have it even over a season

Selection of referees for the top tournaments: these tournaments are no training camps for referees

Very high speed of the matches – maybe we need 3 referees

Fees for the referees should be on different level: starting level, + 30%, + 40%, depending on the evaluation, but evaluation should be made exclusively by the coaches

Not old referees should end the career but bad referees

Question 1 – almost nobody agrees

Good refereeing and delegating is nothing less than applying rules and regulations.

Referees have to read the game, knowledge of rules is not enough

Handball is a complex sport, everybody involved has to understand it; handball cannot be reduced to players run – trainers think – referees whistle

Referees must have personality, more former players should become referees

Trainers and referees/delegates have to respect each other, there are too many negative comments on refereeing

Question 2 – all kinds of votes, majority agrees

Players and coaches do not appreciate "fair-play initiatives". They want to win the match. "Anyhow!"

Fair Play is essential

Players are trained to go so far as the referees allow them – therefore the referees determine where fair play ends

Winning is most important but not with all means

Permanent criticism from the first minute is against fair play, trainers think about winning during and about fair play only after the match

There is no general line to be recognized regarding fair play – it depends very much on the persons involved



The TV and advertising partners clearly state that fair play is a very important part of a positive image in sport

Question 3 – almost everybody agrees

Referees and delegates have to improve and practice at home. Players and coaches can only accept top officials during top handball events. European Championships are not “training camps”.

Players are very well trained, referees not always; maybe we need professional referees which have more time for training

Referees must be top fit to be able to referee top level matches

Only the best referees may be nominated to the top events, better more from one country than lower level

New selection criteria for referees and delegates should lead to a better situation

Delegates do not have enough possibilities for training in their own country, working at the table is complex

Obviously trainers and players do not know how much referees train

Question 4 – almost everybody agrees

Authority of delegates and referees will be damaged by “informal contacts” with coaches/players”.

The authority of a referee depends only on the performance – informal contact has nothing to do with it

Having informal contact is very positive for the mutual understanding between the referees and the players/trainers

These statements are interesting in comparison with the fair play question

Question 5 – almost everybody agrees

After their career former top players prefer to continue handball as a coach. It seems very unattractive for them to switch to refereeing.

For many players the start of the refereeing career after the players career is too late

The job of the referee is estimated too hard

Many players realize that as referee they would not be sufficiently tough towards the coaches

Maybe the career of a referee should start parallel to the career as player

Coaches are professionals – referees not: it is a question of the salary

Who is successful: the player who is always in the middle of interest – the referee who has nearly not been seen – usually different personalities

The chance to be involved in a top event is bigger as referee or delegate than as player or coach

If referees would be respected more players would be ready to become referee



Questions to the lecturers

Why don't we have professional referees?

Sigurdsson: top referees should get more money which would make this career more attractive

How many times do players read the rules?

Sigurdsson: almost never

Breivik: once a year national referees are invited to national team activities and go through the rules with the players

Why do not federations invite referees for common activities with the teams?

Breivik: this could be a good idea, maybe 2 or 3 couples could join the Norwegian team to abroad activities

Andorka: it seems to be mainly a financial question; but preparatory tournaments prior to the top events could be used for the training of referees and delegates who are nominated for the event

