



# Competitions Conference

18–20th April 2008 • Vienna, Austria

## PLAYERS' UNION ADDRESS THE CONFERENCE

The EHF Competitions Conference gave the opportunity for all stakeholders in handball to have their say. The players, as fundamental elements of the game, were also given the floor to present their ideas for the other interest groups and experts.

The President of the newly founded EHPU, European Handball Players' Union, Jaume Fort Mauri was also guest speaker of the event. The former professional goalkeeper, who played for Spanish and German teams during his long career, talks to Eurohandball.com on the occasion.

### **Eurohandball.com: The EHPU was founded recently. What are the goals of this organisation?**

Jaume Fort Mauri: On the initiative of the Spanish and French players, the EHPU was founded during the European Championship in Norway.



The players wanted to have an organisation in order to represent their interests in this very important moment of handball.

Right now we promote the creation of similar national organisations so that we can be able to represent a wide range of players in the future.

We believe that as there is no handball event without the handballers, the players should be accepted to take part in the decision making processes of the sport.

### **Eurohandball.com: What are the most important issues for you?**

Jaume Fort Mauri: The calendar is a hot topic, of course, but it is not only about that. We wish to be present in the decision processes related to calendar and competition questions, transfer regulations, labour rights, health protection of the players, anti-doping matters, but the life after ending the active career is also an important part of our agenda.

### **Eurohandball.com: What is going to be your message for the various stakeholders of handball at the Conference?**

Jaume Fort Mauri: I will describe optimum conditions for the players and I will try to underline certain important aspects for the audience.

It is good to be here and to be the voice of the players. I hope that other conferences will also take place where players can have their say in the future.

TEXT : Eurohandball.com



European Handball Federation