

EHF Course for Delegates in Balatonfüred / HUN

security and safety aspects

Introduction

A few years ago, I told the participants of a Delegates Course that violence is still a main problem in our society - also in sports and not only in football.

Sports like basketball, Ice hockey and handball have to deal with this problem.

Unsportsmanlike conduct of players and officials will have a big influence on the behaviour of spectators. Bad behaviour of players, officials and spectators will damage our sport.

Fair play starts on the paying court. We will not accept violence and bad behaviour from our players and officials. We all know the problems during the match and it takes a lot of efforts to calm done players and officials, and to control the situation on the benches.

The education of players, coaches and team officials is a permanent process. We expect of our delegates a pro-active behaviour in this field.

The delegate is the representative of the EHF and had to take care of the image of our handball sport.

Over the next few years, we will find good solutions to these problems at this moment and also in the future. We need your assistance and experience.

Good communication between EHF and Delegates is important. In advance the EHF will provide you with all necessary information before the match and we expect the delegate to make reports about accidents in relation to the match.

With the development of EHF Rules on Safety and Security Procedure, we have taken the next steps. This guideline will help you to do your job better and to promote the Fair Play idea within international handball.

The safety and security measures are adopted by the local organizer as necessary in each case to address local hazards. The measures are approved and supplemented, if required, by the EHF.

The minimum standard, laid down in the Rules on Safety and Security Procedure, are to be understood and taken as additions to 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.

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 EHF Security Delegate

First of all I want to explain that all delegates are responsible for carrying out the matches in a correct way and in the idea of Fair Play.

Second, I will tell you that we will pay in special cases more attention to safety and security measures. Therefore you must read and study in advance the Regulations very carefully. It is impossible to do that during emergency situations before or during a match.

A well prepared Delegate will do his job in a better way. You are the representatives of the EHF and responsible for our image.

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

versus

Evacuation Plan

Responsibility: local organizer

local authorities

Let me tell you the difference between this two plans.

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 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

In the nearby future we will not accept delegate nominations of the national federations for candidates who can not fulfil this qualities.

Security briefing

Regardless of the risk classification of the match, the delegate present on site has the right and the duty to carry out any safety and security inspection that is required.

In the event of unforeseen circumstances the delegate shall take measurements or order measures to be taken that are required to avert any hazard or damage and send a report to the EHF Office in Vienna.

In the technical meeting the delegate shall put on the agenda the item of safety and security measures. The manager of the visiting team shall be present in the meeting and shall be consulted as necessary.

Prior to the game the delegate has the duty to carry out an inspection of the hall and he has the duty and the obligation to secure all necessary aspects for players, officials and also the spectators. Of course, this is carried out with the good cooperation with the responsible officials of the home team.

The organizer shall prepare a safety and security plan and communicate it to the EHF delegate in good time prior to the match.

Concerns expressed by the visiting delegation shall be taken into account in the safety and security plans.

How many of our delegates secured prior to the match that all escape routes, passageways and stairs were clear of any obstacles and spectators. Were you aware if all entrances and exits as well as escape routes are clearly marked?

The local organiser is responsible for ensuring that the approved capacity of the playing hall is not exceeded in any case.

Be aware that the delegate has the obligation to solve problems in a constructive way. In all cases they are duty bound to report it to the EHF Office in Vienna.

Smoking ban

Written in our blue DEL guide:

A smoking ban shall be enforced in the playing hall without any exception.

In the meantime most of our national federations and even a lot of participating clubs know what to do. More and more the smoking ban is implemented in the halls.



It is better for the health of our players and for the spectators more safe in the hall.
It is the duty of our delegate to be aware of their obligations in this area.

We can give you a summary of the most important problems of the last seasons.

We prepared an overview of complicated situations in the match.

Don't forget: violence is still a big problem in sports.

It is necessary that we will find in the next years good solutions to solve this problems and to protect our image of handball and the image of the EHF.

Fair play and banding violence requires a lot of attention. Therefore we count on your cooperation. We need a good communication and exchanges of experiences between delegates and the EHF.

Also in the area of safety and security we want to take steps forward and increase the quality level of our delegates.

