



Closing and awarding ceremony Misano Adriatico 2008.  
by Ton van Linder / EHF MC



Dear referees, delegates and coaches,

Welcome to this closing and awarding ceremony. A special welcome to our guests from Bulgaria. We are happy, that the BH Commission of the Bulgarian Federation shows interest in the work of EHF.

It was a great honour for me to be responsible for the overall co-ordination of this course, but I have to underline that it would have been impossible for me to realise this job without the fantastic support of my colleagues Ole and Marco and the help of the office staff members Peter and Helmut. Organising a course like this is not so easy - foreign country, foreign local organiser, changing schedules, different opinions. Frequently I was remembering an old Chinese verb: "To overcome the rocks on your way, it will be more efficient not to sail around, but find a way straight through". So we did and we succeeded. We hope, you are satisfied with the hospitality, the rooms, the presentations and the workshops, practice and matches. I believe most of you do.

Before we continue with the awarding I have to draw your attention to the following: In my country we use the French term "Noblesse oblige". "Noblesse" means nobility, an elite of important people. "Oblige" means "having consequences". Accepting a certificate, accepting a badge means you are entering a BH elite group, a personal honour, but this will have consequences for you, this will demand responsibility. So, in case you accept the badge and/or the certificate you have to tell all people in this room: "Yes, I' am very happy to be in this BH elite group of referees, delegates or coaches. Above I will take responsibility to be a BH fan, with the right BH philosophy and I will do my outmost best to spread out this philosophy and to facilitate the players in this way, inside my country and Europe-wide. So consider this before accepting.

Finally I state:

- Beach Handball forms an integral part of EHF activities. This course was proving it again.
- The final step in this integration process will be reached in September during the Congress. A formal EHF Beach Handball Commission will be elected.
- The election of this commission will guarantee the presence of BH in the highest political bodies of European Handball Federation.