



European Handball Federation

**2009 "RINCK" Convention Seminar for Non-Signatory Nations**

10 – 11 January 2009 in Vienna, Austria

**The connection EHF and E.C.  
developments.**

**The "Review Group" and its work**

Ton van Linder



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# European Coaching Council,

a subcommittee of **ENSSEE**, the European Network of Sports Science, Education and Employment

- 1995 - 1999      The 5-level structure,
- 2000 - 2004      Implementation as a reference point.
- 2003              Formation of European Coaches Council  
(Lausanne)
- 2004              Need to review the 5-level structure



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### **Need for a review:**

Because of:

- the changing European context,
- the changing context for vocational education and training,
- Expanding European Union,
- Need of co-operation with sport federations



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# Short history of the “Review Group”

In 2004 the work started by developing a workplan by

AEHESIS Coaching Group, E.C.C., (I.C.C.E. advisor)

- 2005 Invitation to EHF and other sport federation
  - Member of M.C. became member of the Review Group.
- 2005 Meetings in Warsaw, Rio Maior and Limerick.
- 2006 Meetings in Budapest and Magglingen



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# Aims of Review Group 1

Review the EU qualification Structure of 1999 and take into consideration:

- the trends in coach education in Europe (and in the world),
- the changing context for vocational education and training in the EU



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### **Aims of Review Group 2**

- Greater consistency in coaches' education across sports and (EU) countries
- More relevance to the needs of athletes, coaches and sport federations
- A transparent frame for EU-needs
- Transparent roles of different education sectors.
- Improve quality and public recognition



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### **The outcome:**

### **Principles of the revised framework 1**

1. The purpose of coach education is: “To develop effective and ethical coaches”
2. Equip coaches with the competence to do the job
3. Include a range of modes, based on modern needs and insights
4. Athlete and sportperson empowerment



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# Principles of the revised framework 2

5. The coaching context and his roles should be taken into account
6. Education levels should be underpinned by systems of quality assurance and linked to national and international structures.
7. Central role of sport federations as well as competent national authorities.



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# The main discussions 1

Definition of “coaching”:

“The guided improvement, led by a coach, of sport participants in a single sport and at identifiable stages of the athlete/sportperson pathway.”

- “athlete” > competition-oriented,
- “sportperson” > participation-oriented



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# The main discussions 2

"Standard occupations" of a coach:

Sportpersons' coaches:

1. Coach of beginners (child, junior, adult)
2. Coach of participation/non competitive persons

Athletes' coaches:

1. Coach of talent identified athletes,
2. Coach of full-time / high performance athl.



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# The main discussions 3

### (Suggested) Classification of coaching roles:

1. Apprentice coach: Basic competences and works normally under supervision.
2. Coach: Prepare for, deliver and review sessions, demonstrate basic competence
3. Senior coach: Plan, implement and review annual sessions, advanced competence
4. Master coach: innovation, leadership etc.



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# The main discussions 4

## Coaches' education:

- Programmes have to be closely related to the coaching roles  
> 4 roles lead to 4 education levels,
- Education programmes alone may not provide all competence and experience > need of licensing



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### The main discussions 5

Recognition of sport coaching as a profession should take into account 3 aspects:

- Education of sport coaches,
- Qualification of sport coaches,
- Licensing of sport coaches



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# Recognition of qualifications 1

“The national competent authority is designated or recognised by the government”

“The unique position of sport federations is recognised.”

Qualification should consist of 3 strands:

- Federation-based education,
- H.E. based education,
- Other recognised agencies-based education (public and private)



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# Recognition of qualifications 2

“Co-operation and mutual recognition is recommended”

- National competent authority should recognise all strands,
- Higher Education Institutions should recognise the other strands.
- The sport federations should recognise the other strands.



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# Coaching licence

Recommendation: "Sport coaching licence has to be issued by the relevant sport federation and recognised by the national competent authority".

Achievement will derive from combination of:

- Coaching competence at given level/role,
- Coach education,
- Coaching practice,
- Recognition of prior learning and current competence



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### **Main discussions 6**

Coaching courses within the H.E. sector.

“It is recommended that courses in coaching within the H.E.sector will recognise the definition of coaching, adopted in this document”. (And act in complete agreement with)



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### “Steps” of “Review Group”

1. The document was subject of further consultation in 2006 and 2007.
2. A “Convention of Recognition of Coaching Qualifications” was signed in Rio Maior in September 2007.
3. After, to establish a set of actions for the implementation of the provisions of the convention.



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# “Coaching Convention” of Rio Maior 2007

1. More than 24 signatories
2. National agencies,
3. Universities,
4. Sport federations
5. International Council for coach Education
6. **Most important: A European and Global reference point of Coaches’ education structures.**