



Minutes of the Executive Board Meeting
Royale Chulan Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia,
1st November 2012

Present:

Marijke Fleuren, President, Jorge Alcover, R. David Balbirnie, Mika Rihtilä, Carola Meyer, Jean-Christophe Capelle, Simon Mason, Ludmila Pastorova, Jerzy Smorawinski

Apologies for Absence:

Leonardas Caikauskas,

In Attendance:

Jane Brennan, Administration Officer
Angus Kirkland, EHF Director General

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**Minutes:**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> September in Lausanne, Switzerland were signed by the President as a true record.

**President's Welcome:**

The President welcomed the Executive Board to Kuala Lumpur.

The meeting began with a minute's silence to mark the passing of Julia Gill and Guido Braca.

Julia Gill was a Technical Official for EHF for many years, and the EHF are grateful for her service. The President reported that Sue Bodycomb (EHF Committee member) attended the funeral and Julia's husband very happy to see her EHF friend pay her respects on our behalf.

Many Board members only heard of Guido Braca's passing on their arrival in Kuala Lumpur, and naturally the news came as a shock to all his friends in EHF and the FIH, particularly as we were fortunate enough to spend time with him recently at the Olympic Games in London.

We are all friends together, indeed we often describe our relationship as that of a family – perhaps as we spend so much time together – we even come to know one another's habits. Guido will always be remembered as an early riser, always snacking and chatting with friends and colleagues.

We will carry him in our hearts forever and never forget him.

## **Matters Arising**

The Hon General Secretary reported that following some communication with Der Club an der Alster (GER) who requested that the licence fee for the EuroHockey Indoor Club Championship (Men) which they hosted in 2012 be reduced, the EHF responded with a proposed payment plan agreement.

A letter was received from the Russian Olympic Committee confirming that Sergey Chechenkov is President of Russian Hockey

## **FIH Executive Board Report**

### **The President reported on the meeting of the FIH Executive Board which took place early that day (1<sup>st</sup> November 2012)**

She reported that the new format for the World Cup 2018 was discussed and it had been agreed to increase the numbers of teams to 16 for both men and women.

By increasing the number of teams to 16 there will be 7 new NA's involved.

## **Euro Hockey League**

### **Jorge Alcover reported on the Euro Hockey League**

The completion of transfer of shares to Infostrada took place on 29<sup>th</sup> September and all papers have been signed.

Jorge reported that a meeting of the new board of EHL took place on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> October in East Grinstead.

Round 1.1 and 1.2 took place in Barcelona (12<sup>th</sup>- 14<sup>th</sup> October) and East Grinstead (26<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> October).

Both events were quite successful, in Barcelona approximately 13,000€ of tickets were sold.

In East Grinstead, the stands were full and the President of the club was delighted to welcome EHL to East Grinstead. It was wonderful for EHL to finally go to England.

In Spain, one match involving a Spanish club was shown live on Spanish TV, and 3 others were recorded live and broadcasted within one hour from the match.

Also the first two games on Friday morning in East Grinstead were shown by EuroSport.

The Board requested that for the next meeting they receive the numbers of spectators for each round since the beginning of EHL in order to have an idea of the growth.

There was some discussion with regard to the performance gaps which can occur.

However it was also noted that there seem to be fewer big gaps in scoring in Rounds 1 than at the beginning of EHL in 2007 therefore it seems that the performance gap is closing.

## **24<sup>th</sup> General Assembly**

The procedure and agenda for the 24th General Assembly due to take place on 2<sup>nd</sup> November was discussed and agreed.

## **Any Other Business**

### **EuroHockey Championship II Men, 2013**

The Hon General Secretary reported that Azerbaijan withdrew their offer to host the Nations Championship II Men.

EHF contacted Austria, France and Italy – all had expressed interest in hosting the tournament when letters for entry were originally issued.

It is no longer possible for France to host as they already have two EHF tournaments they will be hosting in 2013.

Both Austria and Italy were still interested in hosting, however the Competitions Committee recommend awarding the tournament to Austria.

***Agreed***

### **Indoor Tournaments 2013**

A letter has been received from Italy, withdrawing from Indoor hockey in 2013 and 2014 due to financial difficulties.

The Competitions Manager will clarify if this is for Nations and Clubs or just for Nations.

SV Arminen AUT hosted the Indoor Club Championship, Women in 2012.

They have requested that the licence fee for hosting this tournament be waived and were informed that this would not be possible.

They are hosting the same tournament in 2013 which was originally awarded to Rott Wiess Koln and have requested that some reductions in the licence and/or entry fee.

It was proposed not to reduce either fees. However the board agreed to offer the club grant towards the expenses for umpires/officials.

***Agreed***

### **Meeting of the Continental Federations**

This took place on the same day as the Board meeting and was attended by the Hon General Secretary and Director General.

They reported that all other Continental Federations were in favour of the Youth Olympic Hockey Complimentary Game format.

He went on to report that a letter had been received from Maureen Watson, wife of Robert to thank Jorge Alcover for attending the thanksgiving service in memory of him on behalf of EHF.

The President wished to offer the condolences of the Board to Jorge Alcover and his family on the recent passing of his brother and thanked him for making the effort to attend at this difficult time.

As there was no further business the President thanked the Board for their contribution she also thanked R.David Balbirnie for his last full EB meeting in his official capacity.