



**International
Handball
Federation**



Council Meeting No. 4

12.08.2023 in Prelog, Croatia



Present

Dr Hassan MOUSTAFA (EGY)
Joël DELPLANQUE (FRA)
Mansourou AREMOU (BEN)
Michael WIEDERER (AUT)
Anna RAPP (SWE)
Narcisa LECUSANU (ROU)
Dr Frantisek TABORSKY (CZE)
Per BERTELSEN (DEN)
Per Morten SØDAL (NOR)
Dietrich SPÄTE (GER)
Tomislav GRAHOVAC (CRO)
Charles OMBOUMAHOU (CGO)
Predrag BOSKOVIC (MNE)
Ricardo BLAS (GUM)
Mario GARCIA DE LA TORRE (MEX)
Marcel MANCILLA BRAVO (CHI)

Amal KHALIFA (EGY)
Patric STRUB (GER)

President
1st Vice-President
IHF Vice-President Africa
IHF Vice-President Europe
Treasurer
Executive Committee Member
Executive Committee Member
COC Chairman
PRC Chairman
CCM Chairman
CD Chairman
IHF Representative Africa
IHF Representative Europe
IHF Representative Oceania
IHF Representative North America and the Caribbean
IHF Representative South and Central America

General Director
Competitions Director

MEETING TIME: 10:00-14:00

Notes: These minutes constitute a record of decisions taken and only contain the most important spoken contributions. The proceeding of this meeting was recorded. The record is kept at the Head Office in Basel.

President Moustafa as usual abstained from voting.

The IHF Council and Congress have not confirmed yet the IHF Vice-President Asia and the IHF Representative Asia.



Agenda

1. Minutes

- 1.1. Council Meeting No. 3, 7 October 2022 by video conference
- 1.2. Executive Committee Meeting No. 3, 7 October 2022 by video conference
- 1.3. Executive Committee Meeting No. 4, 13 March 2023 by video conference
- 1.4. Executive Committee Meeting No. 5, 12 July 2023 by video conference

2. President's activities

3. Competitions

- 3.1. 2023 Men's Junior (U21) World Championship in GER/GRE – Report
- 3.2. 2023 Men's Youth (U19) World Championship in CRO – Report
- 3.3. 2024 Women's Youth (U18) World Championship
 - 3.3.1. Awarding
 - 3.3.2. Request from Asian Handball Federation
- 3.4. 2024 Women's Junior (U20) World Championship in MKD – Participation fee
- 3.5. 2024 Men's and Women's Beach Handball World Championships – Awarding
- 3.6. 2025 Men's and Women's Youth (U17) Beach Handball World Championships – Awarding
- 3.7. Resin-free handball
- 3.8. Olympic Qualification Tournaments
- 3.9. New IHF competition – U17 World Championships

4. IHF Finances

- 4.1. Auditors' report 2022
- 4.2. IHF budget 2024-2025
- 4.3. IHF TV Platform

5. IHF Statutes and Regulations

- 5.1. Player Eligibility Code – Motion from ESP
- 5.2. Regulations for Transfer between Federations
- 5.3. Regulations for IHF Competitions
 - 5.3.1. Women's equipment
 - 5.3.2. Super Globe
 - 5.3.3. Motions from FRA
- 5.4. IHF Coaching Education Regulations
- 5.5. Regulations for International and Continental Referees
- 5.6. Ethics Code
- 5.7. Motions regarding the IHF Statutes

5.7.1. Motions from IHF Executive Committee

5.7.2. Motions from Member Federations

6. IHF bodies

6.1. Children's Handball Working Group

6.2. Beach Handball Working Group

6.3. Bidder of the 2025 Ordinary IHF Congress

7. Continents

7.1. Report from the continents

8. Miscellaneous

8.1. Request from Egyptian Handball Federation

8.2. Council decisions made by electronic communication





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President Moustafa opened the meeting, welcoming the Council members to the meeting held in Prelog, Croatia. He expressed his hopes that all Council members as well as their families are in good health.

1. Minutes

1.1. Council Meeting No. 3, 7 October 2022 by video conference

President Moustafa presented the minutes of the 3rd Council Meeting, which was held by video conference on 7 October 2022.

Decision

The Council unanimously approved the minutes of Council Meeting No. 3 held by video conference on 7 October 2022.

1.2. Executive Committee Meeting No. 3, 7 October 2022 by video conference

President Moustafa presented the minutes of the 3rd Executive Committee Meeting, which was held by video conference on 7 October 2022.

Decision

The Council unanimously approved the minutes of Executive Committee Meeting No. 3 held by video conference on 7 October 2022.

1.3. Executive Committee Meeting No. 4, 13 March 2023 by video conference

President Moustafa presented the minutes of the 4th Executive Committee Meeting, which was held by video conference on 13 March 2023.

Decision

The Council unanimously approved the minutes of Executive Committee Meeting No. 4 held by video conference on 13 March 2023.

1.4. Executive Committee Meeting No. 5, 12 July 2023 by video conference

President Moustafa presented the minutes of the 5th Executive Committee Meeting, which was held by video conference on 12 July 2023.

Decision

The Council unanimously approved the minutes of Executive Committee Meeting No. 5 held by video conference on 12 July 2023.



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2. President's activities

President Moustafa gave the floor to the General Director who presented an overview of the President's activities since the last IHF Council meeting in October 2022, stressing that it is just a summary in view of the many activities carried out by the IHF President between the two IHF Council meetings:

11-15 October 2022: Visit to Colorado Springs, United States of America, together with IHF Adviser Jean Brihault in order to meet with several parties involved in the IHF New Markets' Project, including but not limited to USA Team Handball (USATH) and United States Olympic & Paralympic Committee (USOPC).

18-23 October 2022: Attendance at 2022 IHF Men's Super Globe in Dammam, Saudi Arabia.

25-30 October 2022: Attendance at Saudi Games 2022 in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

27-30 November 2022: Attendance at International Federation (IF) Forum as well as Global Association of International Sports Federations (GAISF) Extraordinary General Assembly in Lausanne, Switzerland.

5 December 2022: IHF-EHF Mutual Meeting in Basel.

6 December 2022: Virtual meeting with the Organising Committees of the 2023 IHF Women's World Championship (Denmark, Norway, Sweden).

7 December 2022: Meeting with Jean Brihault, Adviser for the IHF New Markets' Project in the United States of America, in Basel to discuss the progress of the project as well as the IHF support for the period from 2023 to 2026.

9 December 2022: Meeting with Oceania Continent Handball Federation President Ricardo Blas in Basel to discuss the development of handball in the continent and the efforts made for further promotion as well as the Men's IHF Trophy Oceania and its positive outcomes.

9 December 2022: Virtual meeting with the official IHF TV and Marketing Rights Partner Sportfive to discuss the broadcasting of IHF competitions.

12 December 2022: Virtual meeting with the participating teams in the 28th IHF Men's World Championship to present and discuss the COVID-19 precaution plan and answer any questions from the participating teams.

20 December 2022: Attendance at friendly match between the men's teams of Egypt and Qatar in Cairo, Egypt.

17 January 2023: Consultation call between the IOC President and the International Federations regarding the sanctions against the Russian and Belarusian States, the solidarity with Ukraine and their athletes and the possible access to sports for individual athletes with Russian or Belarusian passports.

24-29 January 2023: Attendance at the 28th IHF Men's World Championship in Poland and Sweden.

8 February 2023: Virtual meeting with IOC and LA2028 Sports Departments to discuss the involvement of LA 2028 in the IHF New Markets' Project.

20 February 2023: Debriefing meeting with IHF TV and Marketing Rights Partner Sportfive at IHF Head Office in Basel regarding the organisation of the 28th IHF Men's World Championship in Poland/Sweden.

9 March 2023: Virtual meeting with IOC representatives to discuss the initial outcomes of the LA28 discipline review.

28 April 2023: Attendance at a press conference of the Egyptian Handball Federation in Cairo.

30 April 2023: Meeting with Dr Ashraf Sobhy, Minister of Youth and Sports of the Arab Republic of Egypt, and Mustapha Berraf, President of the Association of National Olympic Committees of Africa (ANOCA), in Cairo to discuss the review of Egypt's application to host the 2027 African Games and the 2036 Olympic Games.

6/7 May 2023: Attendance at 30th CAHB African Super Cup in Cairo, Egypt.

10 May 2023: Visit to the National Bank of Egypt Sporting Club headquarters in Egypt.

11 May 2023: Attendance at the official signing ceremony for the cooperation agreement between the Egyptian Handball Federation and Saudi Arabia Handball Federation in Egypt.

9-18 May 2023: Attendance at 39th African Cup Winners Clubs Championship in Cairo, Egypt, including a festive ceremony organised by CAHB, during which President Moustafa was honoured for his outstanding efforts to promote handball in Africa and worldwide.



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31 May 2023: Virtual attendance at 47th Association of Summer Olympic International Federations (ASOIF) General Assembly in Lausanne, Switzerland.

9 June 2023: Virtual attendance at meeting with representatives from the IHF Official Ball Partner Molten regarding the resin-free ball and the overall partnership between the two organisations.

13 June 2023: Attendance at signing ceremony of the Egyptian Handball Federation with clothing partner.

17/18 June 2023: Attendance at the TruckScout24 EHF FINAL4 Men 2023 in Cologne, Germany.

20 June 2023: Attendance at first day of the 24th IHF Men's Junior (U21) World Championship (organised in Germany/Greece) in Hanover, Germany.

6 July 2023: Attendance at 26th IHF Women's World Championship draw in Gothenburg, Sweden.

20 July 2023: Meeting with the IOC Sports Director, Kit McConnell, and the IOC Head of Summer Sports & IF Relations, Bram Schellekens, at the IHF Head Office in Basel to discuss the Paris 2024 Olympic Games handball tournaments as well as the planned Paris 2024 beach handball showcase event.

2-13 August 2023: Attendance at 10th IHF Men's Youth (U19) World Championship in Croatia.

Decision

The Council took note of and approved the President's activities and appreciated the efforts he made for the worldwide development of handball.

3. Competitions

3.1. 2023 Men's Junior (U21) World Championship in GER/GRE – Report

President Moustafa gave the floor to the Competitions Director who presented the report concerning the 2023 Men's Junior (U21) World Championship, which took place in Germany and Greece from 20 June to 2 July 2023. It was the first edition of the IHF Men's Junior (U21) World Championship with 32 teams and 116 matches as well as the first edition of the event after a four-year break due to the COVID-19 pandemic. With respect to the match schedule, he pointed out that the objective was to minimise travelling and allow all parties involved to plan as much in advance as possible. Referring to the participating teams, the Competitions Director stated that CUB and CRC made their debut at the Men's Junior (U21) World Championship, adding that FAR performed very well and were a positive surprise in the competition. The main issues identified during the competition were heat waves and high temperature in the playing venues.

The Competitions Director added that the numbers in terms of spectators were very satisfying with over 80,000 spectators in total, including 8,235 spectators at the sold-out Max-Schmeling-Halle in Berlin for the final. He also pointed out that the World Championship had excellent viewing figures. For example, a peak of almost 1.3 million viewers watched the final (Germany-Hungary) in Germany. In total the World Championship was broadcast by 25 channels plus IHF YouTube. Furthermore, he informed the attendees that various activities were organised around the early matches, especially in Germany, as over 20,000 children attended the matches in Germany.

The 1st Vice-President stressed that the numbers in terms of spectators for the last matches in Greece were also very good. He also praised the organisation of the event from the Greek side. Executive Committee Member Narcisa Lecusanu added that the rosters of the teams at the 2023 Men's Junior (U21) World Championship, but also at the 2023 Men's Youth (U19) World Championship included some highly talented players, which is promising for the future of handball. She praised the decision to increase the number of participating teams to 32.



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Referring to the 2023 Men's Junior as well as the 2023 Men's Youth World Championships, the IHF Representative North America and the Caribbean emphasised that the regrouping of the countries in the Americas has already proved beneficial for North America and the Caribbean. On behalf of NACHC, he expressed his gratitude for the opportunity to have four representatives from North America and the Caribbean taking part in the two World Championships concerned (CUB, GRL and USA at the 2023 Men's Junior WCh; MEX and USA at the 2023 Men's Youth WCh).

Decision

The Council took note of the report regarding the 2023 Men's Junior (U21) World Championship in GER/GRE and conveyed their gratitude to the Organising Committee of both countries. The Council praised the high standard handball performances shown throughout the event, and in particular during the final.

3.2. 2023 Men's Youth (U19) World Championship in CRO – Report

President Moustafa gave the floor to the Competitions Director who presented the report concerning the 2023 Men's Youth (U19) World Championship, which took place in Croatia from 2 to 13 August 2023. It was the first-ever edition of the IHF Men's Youth (U19) World Championship with 32 teams and 116 matches as well as the first edition of the event after a four-year hiatus due to the COVID-19 pandemic. He praised the excellent organisation by the Croatian Organising Committee, especially in terms of accommodation, transportation and logistics in general. Despite the event was taking place during summer vacations, the matches attracted a fair number of spectators. The TV production was organised with up to six cameras in each venue.

President Moustafa expressed his gratitude to the CD Chairman (who is at the same time President of Croatian Handball Federation) and the Organising Committee of the 2023 Men's Youth (U19) World Championship in Croatia as well as all stakeholders involved for the excellent organisation of the event, emphasising the outstanding level of the matches. He gave the floor to the PRC Chairman, who explained that the referee couples of the finals of the last three younger age category World Championships came from outside Europe (ARG at the 2022 Women's Junior (U20) WCh, ALG at the 2022 Women's Youth (U18) WCh, URU at the 2023 Men's Junior (U21) WCh), which is very important for the future development in the field of referees. President Moustafa thanked the PRC Chairman for his excellent work within a very short time.

The IHF Vice-President Europe took the floor, referring to the increase of participating teams to 32. He stated that this increase allows smaller nations to participate that would otherwise never take part in a World Championship, meaning that they would have no chance to improve their performance. He remarked that with the increase to 32 teams, smaller nations will be more motivated, get internal support in their countries and eventually achieve better results. However, it is an important task for the future to find a balance between the stronger and weaker teams, as too many weak teams would have a negative impact on the competition.

President Moustafa pointed out that usually the support of the government increases when a team qualifies for a World Championship and as a result of the increase in participants, more teams will be able to get such support and will have the possibility to gain experience.

The CD Chairman informed that 38 TV stations broadcast matches directly from Croatia, which was the best result in the history of younger age category competitions. In addition, this result showed the huge interest for the tournament from countries outside Europe, which is positive for the future development of handball. The General Director added that the IHF TV and Marketing Rights Partner Sportfive is very pleased with the



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development of the younger age category World Championships.

Decision

The Council took note of the report regarding the 2023 Men's Youth (U19) World Championship in CRO, conveyed their gratitude to the Organising Committee and appreciated the performances of the participating teams.

3.3. 2024 Women's Youth (U18) World Championship

3.3.1. Awarding

President Moustafa gave the floor to the Competitions Director who informed the attendees that the 2024 IHF Women's Youth (U18) World Championship had not yet been awarded. Therefore, the IHF sent a circular letter on 9 February 2023 to all Member Federations, asking to submit a letter of intent in case of interest in hosting the event. While CHN, TUR and TUN sent a letter of intent, TUR and TUN later withdrew their applications and only CHN submitted an event concept fulfilling all requirements for hosting the event. The Competitions Director presented the Chinese event concept, including but not limited to the following elements:

<i>Host city</i>	Chuzhou, Anhui Province
<i>Number of venues</i>	4
<i>Proposed playing venues</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Chuzhou International Handball Arena (capacity 5,400)2. Chuzhou Olympic Centre (capacity 6,000)3. Chuzhou Municipal Gymnasium (capacity 4,000)4. Chuzhou Mingguang Municipal Sports Centre (capacity 5,000)5. Chuzhou Quanjiao Gymnasium (alternative arena / capacity 3,000)
<i>Dates</i>	14-25 August (tbc)
<i>Participation fee per person/per day</i>	USD 120
<i>Accommodation</i>	4-star and 5-star hotels, distances between 100 metres and 22km from the respective venues

He added that an inspection is yet to be carried out by the IHF Inspection Working Group.

As the IHF Representative Europe enquired whether the proposed event dates are already final, the Competitions Director explained that the dates are yet to be confirmed and may slightly change. The IHF Vice-President Europe stressed that the European Cup competitions normally start on 23/24 August, which should be taken into account when deciding on the final dates. The PRC Chairman pointed out that a later scheduling of the event could also cause conflicts with schools. President Moustafa proposed to be in contact with the EHF before deciding on the dates.

Decision

The Council unanimously decided to award the 2024 IHF Women's Youth (U18) World Championship



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to the Chinese Handball Association on condition of a successful inspection to be carried out by the IHF Inspection Working Group. The Council confirmed the daily participation fee amounting to USD 120 per person. In addition, the Council authorised the IHF Head Office to clarify further details, e.g. related to the event dates.

3.3.2. Request from Asian Handball Federation

President Moustafa gave the floor to the Competitions Director who informed the attendees that the IHF received an official communication from the Asian Handball Federation (AHF) on 1 August 2023 in which they requested an exemption from Article 1.1.3 of the Regulations for IHF Competitions, allowing them to fill the five places allocated to the Asian continent for the 2024 Women's Youth (U18) World Championship despite the insufficient number of teams having participated in the qualification tournament. Based on the results of the 2022 Women's Youth (U18) World Championship, the continent of Asia is entitled to five places at the 2024 Women's Youth (U18) World Championship.

The Competitions Director reported that the Asian Women's Youth Championship, which serves as qualification event for the 2024 Women's Youth (U18) World Championship, took place in Noida, India, from 15 to 24 July 2023. Ten teams had registered for the Asian Women's Youth Championship, but according to the information provided by the AHF, the national team of Pakistan did not obtain permission from the Indian government to participate in the competition due to current restrictions imposed by the Indian government. Consequently, the AHF requested to fill the five places allocated to the Asian continent with JPN, KOR, CHN, TPE and IND. In this context, President Moustafa highlighted the importance of India for the future of handball and the fruitful cooperation between the IHF and the Handball Association India which is part of the IHF New Markets' Project.

The IHF Vice-President Europe stressed the importance of granting such requests only in special cases, aiming to encourage the Continental Confederations to increase the number of teams taking part in the qualification tournaments.

Decision

The Council unanimously approved the Asian Handball Federation's request for an exemption from Article 1.1.3 of the Regulations for IHF Competitions, allowing them to fill the five places allocated to the Asian continent for the 2024 Women's Youth (U18) World Championship.

3.4. 2024 Women's Junior (U20) World Championship in MKD – Participation fee

President Moustafa gave the floor to the Competitions Director who referred to the IHF Council decision dated 28 February 2020, according to which a daily participation fee of EUR 120 per person was fixed for the 2024 Women's Junior (U20) World Championship in North Macedonia. He explained that following the IHF Council decision dated 21 February 2023 to increase the daily participation fee for the Men's Youth (U19) and the Men's Junior (U21) World Championships in 2023, the IHF received a letter dated 10 July 2023 from the Macedonian Handball Federation in which they requested the IHF to accept a participation fee of EUR 170 to compensate for the high inflation and the increased costs for accommodation, transportation and logistics in general. Furthermore, the IHF Women's Junior (U20) World Championship is now played with 32 teams and additional obligations, such as the TV production, have been imposed on the Organising Committee.



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The IHF Vice-President Europe emphasised that this development also affects the Continental Confederations. He remarked that if the prices increase dramatically, the organisers will also ask for an increase, which will have a strong impact on the participants, especially on those federations which take part in every age category.

President Moustafa proposed to ask the IHF Executive Committee to study this matter and take a corresponding decision.

Decision

The Council took note of the Macedonian Handball Federation's request to increase the daily participation fee for the 2024 Women's Junior (U20) World Championship to EUR 170 per person and unanimously decided to submit this matter to the IHF Executive Committee for decision.

3.5. 2024 Men's and Women's Beach Handball World Championships – Awarding

President Moustafa gave the floor to the General Director who informed that the IHF received five bids (BUL, GER, CHN, HKG, TUN) for the organisation of the 2024 Men's and Women's Beach Handball World Championships, stating that HKG withdrew their bid. She presented a comparison of the different bids, including but not limited to the following:

	<i>BUL</i>	<i>GER</i>	<i>CHN</i>	<i>TUN</i>
<i>Host city/district</i>	Varna	Damp	Pingtán	Hammamet
<i>Dates</i>	20.06.-25.06.2024	18.06.- 23.06.2024	18.06.-23.06.2024	18.06.- 23.06.2024
<i>Participation fee per person/per day</i>	EUR 130	EUR 150	USD 120	CHF 135
<i>Event area</i>	Varna South Beach	Dampland Resort	Pingtán International Beach Sports Base	Hammamet Jasmina
<i>Number of competition courts</i>	3 + 1 if necessary	3 + 1 if necessary	3 + 1 if necessary	3 + 1 if necessary
<i>Type of proposed area</i>	Sport ground in the city centre (temporary)	Sport ground in the resort (temporary)	Permanent beach sport area	Sport ground in the city centre (temporary)
<i>Capacity of main court</i>	2,200/2,500	2,500	2,500	2,000-2,500

The General Director pointed out that according to the input of the Chairman of the IHF Beach Handball Working Group, the Chinese and the Bulgarian bids are the best considering the price/quality ratio and will have less financial impact on the National Federations, while in terms of the potential of the markets for beach handball, China and Germany would be the most favourable options. However, with respect to the German bid, the General Director remarked that 2024 might not be the best option for the National Federation to host



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the event, as Germany will host the EHF EURO in January 2024 and the Football EURO would take place in Germany at the same time as the Beach Handball World Championships. For the Chinese bid, it needs to be taken into account that the competition would take place in the rainy season.

The General Director stated that China (Chengdu) will host the IWGA World Games in 2025, adding that awarding the event to the Chinese Handball Association may help in establishing a foothold in China in order to develop beach handball in one of the new and important markets for the IHF.

Decision

The Council unanimously decided to award the 2024 Men's and Women's Beach Handball World Championships to the Chinese Handball Association. The daily participation fee will be USD 120 per person.

3.6. 2025 Men's and Women's Youth (U17) Beach Handball World Championships – Awarding

President Moustafa gave the floor to the General Director who informed that the IHF received two bids (HKG, TUN) for the organisation of the 2025 Men's and Women's Youth (U17) Beach Handball World Championships, stating that HKG withdrew their bid. She presented an overview of the Tunisian bid, including but not limited to the following:

<i>Host city/district</i>	Hammamet
<i>Dates</i>	17.06.- 22.06.2025
<i>Participation fee per person/per day</i>	CHF 125
<i>Event area</i>	Hammamet Jasmina
<i>Number of competition courts</i>	3 + 1 if necessary
<i>Type of proposed area</i>	Sport ground in the city centre (temporary)
<i>Capacity of main court</i>	2,000-2,500

The General Director explained that the proposed area is a well-established tourist area which is likely to attract many spectators. The fact that Tunisia is a traditional handball country could positively impact the organisation, resulting in a great handball atmosphere for all the participating teams. She added that Tunisia potentially has great weather conditions in the period chosen to organise the event. Given the fact that the 2026 Youth Olympic Games will also be held in Africa, Tunisia could be a stepping stone for another successful beach handball tournament at the Youth Olympic Games.

Decision

The Council unanimously decided to award the 2025 Men's and Women's Youth (U17) Beach Handball



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World Championships to the Tunisian Handball Federation. The daily participation fee will be CHF 125 per person.

3.7. Resin-free handball

President Moustafa referred to the great efforts exerted by IHF ball partner Molten, both technically and financially, throughout the last years in developing the resin-free ball, which is of utmost importance for the further development of handball, taking into account that many countries do not allow the use of resin in their handball halls.

He gave the floor to the CCM Chairman who reported on the experience of playing with the resin-free ball at the 2022 IHF Women's Youth (U18) World Championship in North Macedonia. He explained that a questionnaire was completed by the teams and an overall analysis was carried out after the competition, both providing positive feedback, thus proving that it is possible to play with the resin-free size 2 ball.

In addition, the CCM Chairman reported on a virtual meeting with Molten held recently in which the Molten representatives confirmed that they will focus on the technical development of the ball again, which is particularly important in view of the necessity of improving the grip of the ball, especially under wet conditions. In the named meeting, the CCM Chairman also asked Molten to increase the production of the resin-free balls, especially of the d64 size 1, in order to be able to introduce the resin-free ball among younger age categories as well.

While playing with the resin-free size 2 ball is working, the CCM Chairman emphasised that the use of the resin-free size 3 ball is more challenging. He stressed that more long-term tests are needed, as it is only possible to adapt to a resin-free ball through continuous training, stating that the next step would be season tests in different countries, youth leagues, etc. He informed the attendees that it had been decided not to use the resin-free ball at the 2023 IHF Men's Youth (U19) World Championship due to organisational issues, considering that some teams did not have the possibility to organise an appropriate preparation with the ball.

The IHF Vice-President Europe took the floor, stating that, in his opinion, the results of the analysis of the 2022 Women's Youth (U18) World Championship are not of major relevance, due to the fact that the statistics were mainly based on developing countries, and the way goals are scored and the style of play in women's U18 competitions are not necessarily typical for handball in general. He reported that he had received several comments from European top national teams, clubs and players who do not support the development of the resin-free ball.

President Moustafa emphasised the importance of considering handball as a whole, adding that the resin-free ball is for the benefit of handball. He highlighted that the step-by-step development of the resin-free ball is crucial for the future of handball. In order to elaborate a concept for the further development of the resin-free ball, President Moustafa proposed to establish a working group composed of the CCM Chairman, the PRC Chairman and the COC Chairman as heads of the working group and representatives of the Continental Confederations as well as several top nations, Forum Club Handball and European Handball Players Union. The concept of the working group to be elaborated in coordination with Molten should be presented to the Council for decision.

In response to the remarks of the IHF Vice-President Europe, the CCM Chairman explained that the statistics of the World Championships always include qualitative and quantitative analyses and provide an overview of different ways to analyse the matches. Referring to a potential focus on developing countries, he stated that the participating teams were divided into four performance level groups. President Moustafa asked the IHF Vice-President Europe for a written report specifying his remarks on the statistics.

Referring to the 2023 Pan American Games, the IHF Representative South and Central America informed the attendees that other sports are not willing to use the same venues in which the handball events are taking



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place due to the resin. He added that the IOC might establish environment rules for the Olympic Games at some point; therefore, the resin-free handball is needed as soon as possible.

Decision

The IHF Council took note of the information regarding the resin-free ball and decided to establish a working group composed of the CCM Chairman, the PRC Chairman and the COC Chairman as heads of the working group and representatives of the Continental Confederations, several top nations, Forum Club Handball and European Handball Players Union, which shall elaborate a concept for the further development of the resin-free ball to be presented to the Council for decision.

3.8. Olympic Qualification Tournaments

President Moustafa gave the floor to the Competitions Director who informed the attendees about the proposed match schedule for the 2024 Olympic Qualification Tournaments which will take place in the national team weeks from 11 to 17 March (men) and 8 to 14 April (women) 2024. He explained that three tournaments with four teams each will be played both for women and for men. In addition, he pointed out that the composition of the Olympic Qualification Tournament for the men's competition is based on the final standings of the 2023 IHF Men's World Championship in POL/SWE and is subject to change depending on the performances at the continental championships. The composition of the Women's Olympic Qualification Tournaments will be determined after the 2023 IHF Women's World Championship in DEN/NOR/SWE.

The Competitions Director referred to a meeting between President Moustafa and representatives of the European Handball Players Union (EHPU) in 2019, in which EHPU had requested the IHF to include at least one rest day between match days. Consequently, an amended match schedule which includes one rest day between the three match days was presented, considering that the first match day will be on Thursday (men: 14 March 2024, women: 11 April 2024), the second match day will be either on Friday or on Saturday (men: 15/16 March 2024, women: 12/13 April 2024) and the third match day will be on Sunday (men: 17 March 2024, women: 14 April 2024). He emphasised that the two different options allow the IHF to schedule the matches in the best possible way and to react to local conditions (such as other sports events on the same dates) or TV/media requests. He added that the proposed match schedule for the 2024 Olympic Qualification Tournaments, including one rest day, had been approved by the Executive Committee in its meeting on 12 July 2023.

The Competitions Director pointed out that following a letter sent on 6 February 2023 to the qualified teams, potential substitute nations and Continental Confederations, the National Federations of CRO, NOR, SWE, HUN, GER and ESP sent a letter of intent to host the Olympic Qualification Tournaments. He also confirmed the enquiry of the IHF Vice-President Europe as to whether a potential additional place for a Continental Confederation is allocated via the respective continental qualification event.

Decision

The IHF Council took note of the information provided by the Competitions Director regarding the Olympic Qualification Tournaments for Paris 2024 and the corresponding match schedule, including one rest day, which had been approved by the IHF Executive Committee on 12 July 2023.



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3.9. New IHF competition – U17 World Championship

President Moustafa reported on a meeting between the IHF and the International School Sport Federation (ISF) during which it was agreed that the ISF will cooperate with the IHF Handball@School Working Group regarding the potential organisation of a new IHF competition, the U17 World Championship. He explained that the selection of the players requires a close cooperation with the clubs and Continental Confederations.

The CD Chairman took the floor, supporting the idea of the new IHF competition. He stated that in order to be able to compete with other sports, children have to get involved in handball as soon as possible. The IHF Representative South and Central America added that tournaments for U16 players are already taking place in South American schools with the help of the government. As the Treasurer enquired about the number of participating teams and whether a U16 World Championship would be applicable for women (and a U17 World Championship for men), President Moustafa pointed out that the details of the new competition shall be discussed at a later point of time.

The IHF Vice-President Europe took the floor, stating that special attention would have to be paid to the scheduling of the new competition in order to avoid conflicts with the Continental Confederations and their competitions. In addition, he asked for a clarification on whether the participants would be teams from individual schools or pupil national teams. He stressed that playing the U17 World Championship with national teams would require a selection of players from local school teams, which would have an impact on the timetable as the preparation would have to start much earlier. President Moustafa replied that the new IHF competition would be played with national teams, thus requiring the selection of children.

The CCM Chairman took the floor, highlighting the importance of the IHF competition system for the youth and the need to motivate countries, especially outside Europe, to invest in the youth sector to be able to compete with other sports. He pointed out the possibility of combining this new competition with educational activities, maybe even the young referee education, and the referee training.

In order to elaborate a concept for the new IHF U17 World Championship, President Moustafa proposed to establish a working group composed of the CCM Chairman, the PRC Chairman and the COC Chairman, while other participants would be welcome to attend the meetings. The concept on the new competition to be prepared by the working group should be presented to the Council for decision.

Decision

The Council took note of the information regarding the new IHF U17 World Championship, and decided to establish a working group composed of the CCM Chairman, the PRC Chairman and the COC Chairman, which shall elaborate a concept for the new IHF U17 World Championship to be presented to the Council for decision.

4. Finances

4.1. Auditors' report 2022

The Treasurer took the floor, referring to the complete auditors' report which the Council members had received as part of the working documents prior to the meeting. She presented to the Council the report of the external IHF auditors (Copartner Revision AG) who audited the financial statements of the IHF, comprising the balance sheet as at 31 December 2022, the income statement, the cash flow statement, and notes for the



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year 2022. The external auditors confirmed in their report that the financial statements for the year 2022 comply with Swiss law and the IHF Statutes and Regulations.

The Treasurer presented to the Council the report of the internal IHF auditors who verified the bookkeeping and annual accounts (balance sheet and profit and loss accounts) of the IHF for the financial year 2022. The internal auditors confirmed in their report that the bookkeeping and annual accounts are consistent with the provisions of Swiss law and IHF Statutes as well as IHF Council and Executive Committee decisions.

She added that the IHF is in a stable financial position. While there is an unrealised loss from 2022 tied to the value of the bonds IHF holds, it only becomes a concern if IHF opts for an early redemption of those bonds. Given that the IHF normally holds them to maturity, the potential for this paper loss to become a real financial impact is small.

The Treasurer conveyed her thanks to the IHF General Director and the Financial Department for their great efforts and the excellent collaboration.

Decision

The Council unanimously approved the internal and external auditors' report 2022 to be presented to the 2023 Ordinary IHF Congress.

4.2. IHF budget 2024-2025

President Moustafa gave the floor to the Treasurer who informed the attendees about the proposed IHF budget for the years 2024 and 2025. She pointed out that the budget foresees a profit for 2024 and a loss for 2025, explaining that the IHF generates approximately the same income each year but has more expenses in uneven years due to the Men's and Women's Senior World Championships. However, in a two-year cycle, the IHF generates a profit whilst being active in the development of handball and adding new expenses, for example for wheelchair and beach handball. The Treasurer concluded that the IHF is on a good way in terms of the budget for the next two years.

As the PRC Chairman enquired whether an increase of staff is planned, as the expenses for the staff members are the same for 2024 and 2025, the Treasurer commented that the foreseen expenses are higher than the amount of money spent on staff members in 2022 and 2023.

Decision

The IHF Council took note of the information provided by the Treasurer and unanimously approved the IHF budget 2024-2025 to be presented to the 2023 Ordinary IHF Congress.

4.3. IHF TV Platform

President Moustafa gave the floor to the General Director who informed the attendees about the official IHF channel on YouTube (free of charge) which, since its creation in 2013, has offered a variety of videos of handball matches of IHF competitions, highlights, profiles, interviews, etc. to the general public. However, advertising as well as a lack of security have a negative impact on the attraction of viewers to the IHF channel on YouTube. Furthermore, the IHF has to cover geo-blocking service fees during all IHF World Championships except Senior World Championships.



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The General Director informed the Council about the intention of the IHF to launch a TV streaming platform, aiming to make all handball-related videos more accessible to handball fans around the world. She explained that the new IHF TV platform shall also host the IHF Virtual Academy seminars as well as all e-learning videos for the new IHF Education Centre (to be revamped by mid-October 2023) and will have many new features, including but not limited to:

- Avoiding YouTube advertisement
- Creating profiles for the players
- Increasing the channel subscribers
- IHF TV mobile app
- Free of charge geo-blocking service
- Possibility of managing access limit
- Promoting e-shop, ticketing and partners
- Displaying live or replay overlay of statistics and results.

Referring to the management of the new IHF TV platform, the General Director outlined that the platform provider shall assign a support team which will be available at all times during the first match day of the IHF events (project manager, platform developer). In addition, a 24/7 team will be available to answer any request during the launch week. A test event will be scheduled before the launch of the platform.

In terms of back-end management, she stated that the platform provider shall assign a project manager whose duties include but are not limited to the following:

- Link with the IHF team in charge of the project and the platform provider's development team
- Establishing and validating the project planning with the IHF
- Developing detailed technical specifications with the platform provider's technical experts after the IHF's approval of the functional and wireframe specifications
- Leading and managing the development of the platform
- Organising regular meetings with the persons involved in the project
- Ensuring adherence to schedule and delivery dates
- Testing and validating the quality of the services with the platform provider's quality assurance team
- Organising support and assistance from the platform provider
- Maintaining daily and transparent communication with the IHF team.

The General Director reported that the IHF was in contact with three different companies and received the following offers for the implementation of an IHF TV platform, which were presented to the Council members:

- ✚ Link Development (EGY) – Development of the IHF's own platform for website, iOS and Android mobile applications
- ✚ Origins Digital (FRA) – White-label OTT platform (licence solution) for website, iOS and Android mobile applications
- ✚ Ark Development (EGY) – Development of the IHF's own platform for website, iOS and Android mobile applications

The General Director explained the main difference between the platforms offered by the three companies, stating that the white-label OTT platform would allow the IHF to use the platform via a licence, which results in less expensive setup costs. She mentioned that Origins Digital has already been working with several International Federations.

As President Moustafa asked the Council to decide first on the necessity of launching a new TV streaming platform, the Council members agreed on the benefits offered by such a platform.



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The IHF Vice-President Europe took the floor, reporting on the experience with EHFTV and pointing out the hidden costs when dealing with such a platform, e.g. the internal handling of the content. He stressed that it must be clearly defined which responsibilities would be covered by the respective company and which tasks would have to be accomplished by the IHF. In response to his enquiry about the consequences for the IHF staff, the General Director emphasised that the company eMarketing Egypt which is currently in charge of managing the IHF YouTube channel will also be responsible for the front-end management of the new IHF TV platform, including but not limited to uploading videos, while the back-end management shall be handled by the platform provider. The Treasurer stated that she is in favour of using the licence solution.

Referring to the offer from Origins Digital, the General Director emphasised that the licence solution offers the advantage that an existing and well-functioning platform can be provided within a relatively short period of time. Consequently, it was proposed to accept the offer submitted by Origins Digital to provide a white-label OTT platform (licence solution) for website, iOS and Android mobile applications.

Decision

The Council took note of the information provided by the General Director regarding the new IHF TV Platform and approved the offer submitted by Origins Digital (FRA) to provide a white-label OTT platform (licence solution) for website, iOS and Android mobile applications.

5. IHF Statutes and Regulations

5.1. Player Eligibility Code – Motion from ESP

President Moustafa gave the floor to the General Director who presented a motion from the Royal Spanish Handball Federation to change the IHF Player Eligibility Code by allowing four naturalised players per team to participate in IHF competitions, as the current version of the IHF Player Eligibility Code only allows two naturalised players per team. The General Director explained that the Spanish federation considers the amendment of the IHF Player Eligibility Code necessary in order to respond to the evolution that more families leave their countries of origin to live in another country due to the increased globalisation, the development of the world economics and travel infrastructures.

The IHF Vice-President Europe took the floor, stating that he is not in favour of this motion. In his view, the proposed amendment would be disadvantageous for smaller nations, since they would possibly lose more players to the top nations and thus possibilities to develop handball in their countries. He remarked that it is not necessary for top national teams to have more than two naturalised players.

President Moustafa agreed with the IHF Vice-President Europe, pointing out that if the motion was approved and all naturalised players played at the same time, more than half of the players on the court could be naturalised players.

The CD Chairman took the floor, expressing his support for the motion and mentioning the example of Croatia where many players who feel like Croats were born in Bosnia and Herzegovina. He also stated that more naturalised players are allowed in other sports, highlighting the restrictive approach of the IHF at the moment. The IHF Vice-President Europe remarked that players who were born in Bosnia and Herzegovina, are in possession of a Croatian passport and have not played for Bosnia and Herzegovina, may be granted eligibility to represent Croatia anyway without having the status of naturalised players.



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The IHF Vice-President Africa took the floor, raising concerns as to whether this motion refers to players who want to be naturalised for the benefit of another country, which could be detrimental to the smaller countries and which should be avoided in order to protect the development of handball in these countries.

The General Director clarified that for example, players who have played for one country in the younger age category and then want to represent the country of birth of their biological parents (or biological grandparents) at senior competitions are not considered naturalised according to the IHF Player Eligibility Code. She added that exceptions to the number of naturalised players allowed per national team are available for those nations involved in the IHF New Markets' Project.

While the IHF Representative North America and the Caribbean stressed that it should be possible to use naturalised players, but the number has to be limited, the PRC Chairman emphasised that the situation should not be the same as in clubs, with top nations buying the best players from smaller handball nations.

Due to the different remarks made by the Council members, it was proposed to add a new point 2 to Article 6.3.2 (*Limitation per National Team*) of the IHF Player Eligibility Code:

1. With the exception of Article 6.3.2.3, a national team playing in an official match of the International Handball Federation may have only two players on its team who changed their sporting nationality based on Article 6.3.1.

2. **Players who acquired citizenship (passport) of a country before having reached the age of 18 shall not be considered as players who changed their sporting nationality based on Article 6.3.1.**

3. The limitation provided for in Article 6.3.2.1 shall not be applicable to those National Federations being part of the IHF New Markets' Project (listed in Appendix 2). This list will be reviewed annually by the IHF Council based on the development of the National Federations concerned.

In case any of the National Federations concerned reaches the position of a performance place at the IHF World Championship, the continent of the National Federation in question will not benefit from this performance place. The performance place concerned will be allocated to the continent of the next ranked National Federation.

Decision

The Council decided not to accept the motion from the Royal Spanish Handball Federation regarding the IHF Player Eligibility Code. The Council decided to add a new point 2 to Article 6.3.2 of the IHF Player Eligibility Code: "Players who acquired citizenship (passport) of a country before having reached the age of 18 shall not be considered as players who changed their sporting nationality based on Article 6.3.1."

5.2. Regulations for Transfer between Federations

President Moustafa gave the floor to the General Director who presented proposed amendments to the IHF Regulations for Transfer between Federations based on a corresponding request received from Forum Club Handball (FCH):

Article 8 – Transfer Procedure

§3

3. A professional player has the right to conclude a new contract with a new club for the time after expiry of the contract with his/her current club, **even while his/her current contract is still valid, as long as Article 9 §2**



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of the IHF Regulations for Transfer between Federations is respected.

Article 9 – Compensation

§2

A professional player, whose contract with his/her previous club has expired, may join another club as a professional player. In such cases, the club where he/she was previously playing has no right to claim transfer compensation. ~~It is permitted for players to agree~~ A player may only conclude a ~~pre~~-contract with another club ~~for a free transfer~~ if the player's contract with ~~their~~ his/her existing club has ~~six~~ twelve months or less remaining.

Justification:

- Article 9 §2 was added to the Regulations for Transfer between Federations as per the IHF Council decision dated 29 July 2013. However, there is a discrepancy between the last sentence of Article 9 §2 and Article 8 §3.3 regarding the players' remaining contract period. In order to avoid any claims from clubs, Article 8 §3.3 needs to be adjusted accordingly.
- The wording "for a free transfer" is proposed to be removed from Article 9 §2 to avoid redundancy, as the preceding sentence related to transfer compensation is clear.
- The proposed increase of the players' remaining contract period from six to twelve months in Article 9 §2 aims to give players more time to find another club and conclude a contract accordingly.

The IHF Vice-President Europe remarked that the proposed amendment in terms of the players' remaining contract period is more realistic than the current version. Taking into consideration that earlier negotiations are already happening, the Council members agreed on the necessity of amending the Regulations for Transfer between Federations accordingly in order to avoid any punishments to be imposed on players in this regard.

Decision

The Council unanimously approved the amendments to the IHF Regulations for Transfer between Federations.

5.3. Regulations for IHF Competitions

5.3.1. Women's equipment

President Moustafa gave the floor to the Competitions Director who referred to the IHF Council decision made by electronic communication on 3 May 2023 with regard to the Regulations for IHF Competitions (Chapter VII – Equipment Regulations), stating that several comments were received from the IHF Council members. Therefore, he presented the following additional proposed amendments in Article 2.2 (highlighted in yellow), aiming to give both male and female players the possibility to wear compression garments such as shorts, leggings or long-sleeve shirts under their uniforms except for black undergarments which shall be allowed for female players only. He added that the use of head coverings has been further restricted for safety reasons (Article 2.2, point c):

VII. Equipment Regulations, Article 2 Players' Uniforms

2.1 Composition Basic Provisions



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Players' In general, handball uniforms include shall be sportswear consisting of short-sleeve shirts or goalkeeper shirts, shorts or goalkeeper pants/shorts, and socks, and shoes. Long-sleeve shirts worn under the official player's shirt and compression shorts, if in use, must be the same colour as the shirt's/shorts' dominant colour.

The players must wear sports shoes.

All court players of one handball team must wear identical uniforms, with the exception of the shoes.

All clothing worn by players shall be sportswear appropriate for practising the sport of handball.

Wearable technologies (integrated, for example, in vests, chest harnesses, etc.) provided by the IHF tracking partner shall be worn underneath the shirt by each player for tracking purposes if requested.

Further details regarding protective equipment and accessories are laid down in the IHF Regulations on Protective Equipment and Accessories.

2.2 Other items of clothing

a) **Undergarments**

Under their uniforms, players are allowed to wear compression garments such as shorts, leggings or long-sleeve shirts.

For visible undergarments, the following provisions apply:

- Items worn under the shirt must be of the same dominant colour as the shirt.
- Items worn under the shorts must be of the same dominant colour as the shorts. Such items must end above the knees.
- The colours of the undergarments must be the same for all players of the same team.

The above restrictions do not apply to invisible undergarments.

For female players, the following additional provisions are applicable:

1. Under their shorts, female players may wear black undergarments compression shorts under the shorts instead of undergarments compression shorts of the same dominant colour as the shorts. If undergarments compression shorts are worn, they must be of the same colour for all players of the same team.
2. Female players may wear leggings under the shorts. The colour of the leggings shall be the same as the dominant colour of the shorts or black.
3. Considering points 1 and 2, the colour of the compression shorts and leggings must be the same in case a team has players wearing compression shorts and leggings.

The same shall be applicable for referees.

b) **Socks**

The socks of all players of the same team must be identical in colour and length.

Any equipment worn on the lower legs (e.g. calf compression sleeves, ankle protectors, etc.) must be of the same colour as the socks.

If long undergarments are worn under the shorts, the socks must be the same colour as the undergarments.

c) **Head coverings**



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Players are allowed to wear religious head coverings such as hijabs, turbans, patkas, etc. **provided that they are specifically designed for use in sports and do not require any pins. Additionally, they must** comply with the following provisions:

- Head coverings must not compromise the safety of the player wearing it or other players.
- Head coverings must not be attached to the shirt in any way, and they must not have any kind of fastening mechanism.
- Head coverings must not cover any part of the face entirely or partially (eyes, nose, mouth, etc.).
- Head coverings must be either of the same dominant colour as the shirts or black or white. The colour of the head coverings must be the same for all players of the same team.

The same shall be applicable for referees.

Justification:

- To allow female handball players to wear black underpants regardless of the dominant colour of the shorts, since it can be uncomfortable for women to wear white underpants and shorts during their period.
- To allow head coverings and long undergarments for religious reasons.
- To have clear provisions on players' uniforms in the Regulations for IHF Competitions in general.

VII. Equipment Regulations, Article 4 Officials' Clothing

4.1. Referees

The referees must wear shirts whose colour clearly differs from the colours of the players' and goalkeepers' shirts. The colour of the referee shirts to be used in the match shall be fixed in the technical meeting or in the context of the choice of uniform colours.

For undergarments and head coverings, if used, the same provisions as for players shall apply (see VII. Article 2.2).

Justification:

- Addition to harmonise article 4.1 with changes proposed for new article 2.2.

Referring to Article 2.2, the PRC Chairman stated that he is in favour of allowing men to wear black undergarments regardless of the dominant colour of the shorts as well, aiming to apply the same rules for both women and men. The IHF Vice-President Europe agreed, stating that such amendment would not affect the game as such.

Decision

The Council unanimously approved the additional amendments related to Article 2.2 (Chapter VII – Equipment Regulations) of the Regulations for IHF Competitions, considering that both women and men shall be allowed to wear black undergarments regardless of the dominant colour of the shorts.

5.3.2. Super Globe

President Moustafa gave the floor to the Competitions Director who presented several proposed amendments to Article 2 (Chapter VI – Super Globe) of the Regulations for IHF Competitions:



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VI. Super Globe, Article 2 Players' Eligibility

~~Players who are not on the provisional list but have made an unlimited transfer to a club participating in the IHF Super Globe prior to the event, are eligible to be included in the definitive registration list.~~

The IHF Player Eligibility Code shall apply. All Pplayers competing in the IHF Super Globe shall meet the following provisions:

a) The players ~~has~~ have to be registered as ~~an~~ amateur or ~~a~~ professional players with the participating club's National Federation and be registered by this participating club on the provisional list (in compliance with the details required for such registration). The participating clubs must submit the provisional list consisting of 32 players one (1) month before the start of the IHF Super Globe (the deadline for submitting the provisional list as stated in Article 3.2.5., Section I 'Basic principles' is not applicable here).

b) If registered as ~~a~~ professional players, a written employment contract, binding the professional players to ~~his/her~~ their club, must exist.

c) ~~The~~ Each participating club's National Federation shall ~~submit a confirmation~~ confirm to the IHF that ~~the~~ all players ~~indicated in~~ registered on the provisional team list of the participating club concerned ~~is~~ are eligible to play in the respective country and that all provisions for an orderly transfer of the players concerned have been fulfilled. The participating clubs shall submit the named confirmation together with the provisional team list ~~before the deadline for submitting the provisional list mentioned in Article 2.a) above.~~

~~d) A maximum of three (3) so-called "short term transfers" (loan or unlimited transfers) per team are permitted.~~

~~e) The minimum duration of contracts for "short term transfers" (loan or unlimited) are two months.*~~

~~f) An unlimited number of transfers (loan or unlimited) whose contract duration is longer than two months is allowed.*~~

d) Each participating club has the right to nominate up to three additional players to the provisional list until three (3) calendar days prior to the deadline for submitting the definitive list, which is one (1) hour before the technical meeting. No change will be allowed after this deadline.

e) For any players added to the provisional list according to Article 2.d), the following conditions must be met:

1. The players must be eligible to compete for the participating club, which must be confirmed by the corresponding National Federation.
2. In case of transferred players, the transfer process shall be finalised and confirmed by all the parties involved, the International Transfer Certificate shall have been issued by the IHF confirming the transfer within the timeframe defined in Article 2.d). In case of national transfers, the National Federation's confirmation of the transfer is required.
Any player transferred to one of the participating clubs within the timeframe defined in Article 2.d) can only be transferred again one (1) month after the last day of competition of the IHF Super Globe.

~~*The beginning of the validity of the contract is determined by the date in the signed copy of the contract and not by the date of issuing the International Transfer Certificate.~~



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The minimum age for players competing in the IHF Super Globe shall be 16; the maximum age shall be 35 years. Each club is entitled to nominate players who exceed this age limit in case their quality and level of performance are proven, (e.g. through participation in major top handball leagues, the EHF Champions League, or national team events such as continental or international championships). The evaluation of each provisional list will be done by the IHF Commission of Coaching and Methods.

Justification:

- Several questions in terms of player eligibility have occurred in recent editions of the IHF Super Globe. Furthermore, some participating clubs used to wait with transfers until the very last moment; for example at the 2022 edition the last transfer was carried out just a few minutes before the technical meeting. The proposed amendments aim to define clear deadlines for all stakeholders involved and enhance the possibility to plan for the participating teams in order to avoid such situations in the future.
- Following the introduction of an age limit of 35 years for the 2021 edition of the IHF Men's Super Globe and the application of the same procedure for the 2022 edition, it is proposed to include the mentioned age limit in the regulations to be applicable for all future editions of the Super Globe.
- In addition, the wording is simplified to enhance comprehensibility of the regulations.

As the IHF Representative Europe enquired about the current status of the IHF Women's Super Globe, the Competitions Director informed that the first edition of the event was organised in Wuxi, China in 2019, stating that an agreement for another IHF Women's Super Globe edition in China was reached. However, the second edition of the event could not be staged due to the COVID-19 pandemic. President Moustafa added that discussions between the IHF and Chinese Handball Association with regard to the second edition of the IHF Women's Super Globe are ongoing.

Decision

The Council unanimously approved the amendments to the Regulations for IHF Competitions (Chapter VI – Super Globe).

5.3.3. Motions from FRA

President Moustafa gave the floor to the Competitions Director who presented two motions from the French Handball Federation dated 31 July 2023 to change the Regulations for IHF Competitions. The first motion referred to the size of the delegation covered by the organiser of IHF competitions:

- Motion on the size of the delegation covered by the organiser: a motion is made to amend the Regulations for IHF Competitions regarding an increase in the number of persons being part of a national delegation to be covered by the organiser of a World Championship (i.e. 24 persons instead of the current 21).

Justification: *the size of the delegation has been changed from 14 to 18 players. This increase in the size of the delegation should therefore be taken into account when setting the number of persons to be covered by the organiser. In general, the list of duties should be revised to take into account the additional costs charged to the delegations, as these costs may be excessive (especially for accommodation)*

The IHF Vice-President Europe took the floor, proposing to include this amendment in the bidding conditions for future events which have not yet been awarded. President Moustafa stressed that additional costs for the



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increased size of the delegations should be paid by the National Federations themselves, as otherwise it would be more difficult to find organisers for future events.

The second motion referred to the dates of Men's and Women's Junior World Championships:

- Motion concerning the dates of international competitions: a motion is made to schedule the Men's Junior (U21) and Women's Junior (U20) World Championships at the beginning of July.

Justification: *the objective of scheduling the Junior World Championships at the beginning of July is to give athletes more time to recover and prepare while protecting their physical integrity.*

President Moustafa emphasised that the IHF Council had already changed the dates of the Junior and Youth World Championships in 2017, allowing players to take part in both World Championships, if applicable. The CCM Chairman added that the players need to rest in July.

Decision

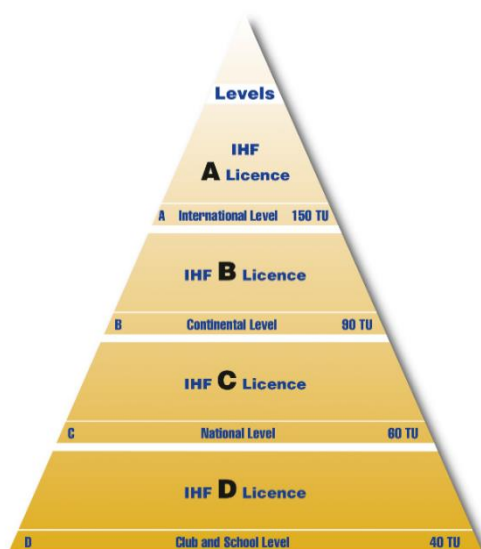
The Council decided not to accept the motions submitted by the French Handball Federation regarding the Regulations for IHF Competitions.

5.4. IHF Coaching Education Regulations

President Moustafa gave the floor to the CCM Chairman who presented to the Council several amendments to the IHF Coaching Education Regulations, aiming to incorporate further projects such as the IHF Coaching Education Structure for Multipliers as well as for Goalkeeper Coaches, and to adjust the existing provisions related to the coaching licences:

Article 4 – The IHF Coaching Education Structure

4.1 IHF Coaching Education Structure for Coaches





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IHF Coaching D Licence (25 40 teaching units*, ~~minimum of 3 course days~~)

- Main teaching content: ~~introduction to handball~~ for beginners
- Coaches for children's handball teams (training of beginners; coaches for mini handball)
- Handball for children: handball for beginners & Handball@School
- Coaches for children (players under 17)
- PE teachers at primary or middle schools (~~Handball@School~~ handball for children)
- ~~Students at sports universities~~ Special course for handball at sports universities
- Other categories in underdeveloped National Federations

Main teaching content:

- Introduction to handball for beginners
- Methodology and approach of teaching handball
- Characterisation of stages in the teaching process
- Basic motor skills development
- Fundamental tactical elements (attack, defence)

Requirements for admission to coaching courses at the first licensing level are:

- At least 18 years,
- ~~Approved by National Federation~~ Nomination by National Federation, Continental Confederation or IHF.

IHF Coaching C Licence (60 teaching units*)

- ~~Main teaching content: basic training~~
- ~~Youth~~ Coaches for youth category (players under 19)

Main teaching content:

- Basic training
- Game development in youth training
- Training methodology
- Pedagogical qualities
- Offensive and defensive tactical intentions (individual, small groups)
- Basic skills and abilities of goalkeeper
- Talent training (selection, concept)
- Rules of the Game

Requirements for admission to coaching courses at the second licensing level are:

- At least 21 years,
- ~~Approved by National Federation~~ Nomination by National Federation, Continental Confederation or IHF,
- Possession of a valid IHF D Licence,
- Evidence of having worked as a handball coach (teacher) after receiving an IHF D Licence for at least 3 years (national level).

IHF Coaching B Licence (90 teaching units*)

- Main teaching content: ~~advanced training~~
- ~~Junior~~ Coaches for junior (players under 21) and senior category ~~coaches~~

Main teaching content:



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- Advanced training
- Game evolution
- Methodology of high-level training concept
- Organisation of team tactics
- Specific physical preparation
- Game analysis and consequences on the team's performance
- Specific goalkeeper's high-level training

Requirements for admission to coaching courses at the third licensing level are:

- At least 24 years,
- ~~Approved by National Federation~~ Nomination by National Federation, Continental Confederation or IHF,
- Possession of a valid IHF C Licence,
- Evidence of having worked as a head handball coach after receiving an IHF C Licence (total experience as a coach: minimum 6 years) for at least 3 years (national and continental level).

IHF Coaching A Licence (150 teaching units*)

- ~~Main teaching content: professional top-level training (trends in modern handball, training methods for top-level training, latest scientific research in handball)~~
- Top-level coaches (international level)
- Coaches from youth and junior national teams

Main teaching content:

- Top-level training
- Trends in modern handball
- Analysis and consequences on the training methods to improve the performance of the team and players
- Leadership of a top-level team
- Individualisation of the preparation
- Game strategy and tactical adaptations
- Specific goalkeeper's performance

Requirements for admission to coaching courses at the fourth licensing level are:

- At least 27 years,
- ~~Approved by National Federation~~ Nomination by National Federation, Continental Confederation or IHF,
- Possession of a valid IHF B Licence,
- Evidence of having worked as a head handball coach (national and continental top level; head coach of a youth, junior and/or senior national team) after receiving an IHF B Licence (total experience as a coach: minimum 9 years) for at least 3 years.

General remarks:

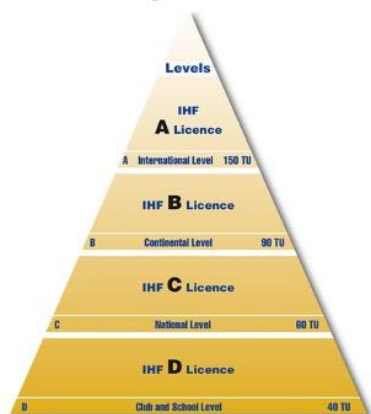
- Former international top players (minimum of 100 international matches for senior national team plus at least one world championship or Olympic Games participation) may start the education programme at the ***B Licence level***. In these cases, separate course programmes are required which shall be adapted to the requirements of international top players.
- The IHF may waive the three-year transition period between the different IHF coaching licences upon introducing the coaching education system in Continental Confederations.
- The IHF CCM may decide on the IHF coaching licence for experienced coaches.



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4.2 IHF Coaching Education Structure for Multipliers

IHF Coaching Education Structure



IHF Multiplier's Education Structure

IHF Multiplier Licence – Level 3
Responsible for A-Licence-Education (60 TU)
IHF Multiplier Licence – Level 2
Responsible for B-Licence-Education (60 TU)
IHF Multiplier Licence – Level 1
Responsible for C-/D-Licence-Education (80 TU)



Objectives

- Establishment of a multiplier coaching education system, including a coaching licence structure, in Continental Confederations and National Federations
- Selection and education of talented multipliers for the coaching education (by Continental Confederations and National Federations) according to IHF criteria
- Development of a future-oriented generation of multipliers
- *For Level 1 only:* Development of youth training and a talent promotion system

IHF Multiplier Licence - Level 1 (80 teaching units*)

Main teaching content:

- Specific coaching profile, game philosophy, training methods, specific coaching criteria in **children/youth handball (basic training)**
- Methodology of teaching handball (beginners – basic training – advanced training)
- Management of an educational process and organisational tools
- Create, organise and manage different educational processes in theory and practice
- Evaluation of coaching skills, behaviour and performance

Requirements for admission to coaching courses at the first licensing level:

- 30-55 years old
- Nomination by National Federation, Continental Confederation or IHF
- Possession of a valid IHF C Licence
- Command of English language (in writing, reading, speaking)
- Experience as a player: minimum 8 to 10 years
- Experience as a coach: minimum 10 years (youth/senior)
- Experience in teaching: minimum 5 years

IHF Multiplier Licence - Level 2 (60 teaching units*)

Main teaching content:



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- Specific coaching profile, game philosophy, training methods, specific coaching criteria in **youth handball** and **senior handball (advanced training)**
- Methodology of teaching handball (advanced training)
- Management of an educational process and organisational tools
- Create, organise and manage different educational processes in theory and practice
- Individual teaching methods
- Evaluation of coaching skills, behaviour and performance

Requirements for admission to coaching courses at the second licensing level:

- Same criteria as for level 1
- Additionally: at least 4 years' experience in C Licence courses

IHF Multiplier Licence - Level 3 (60 teaching units*)

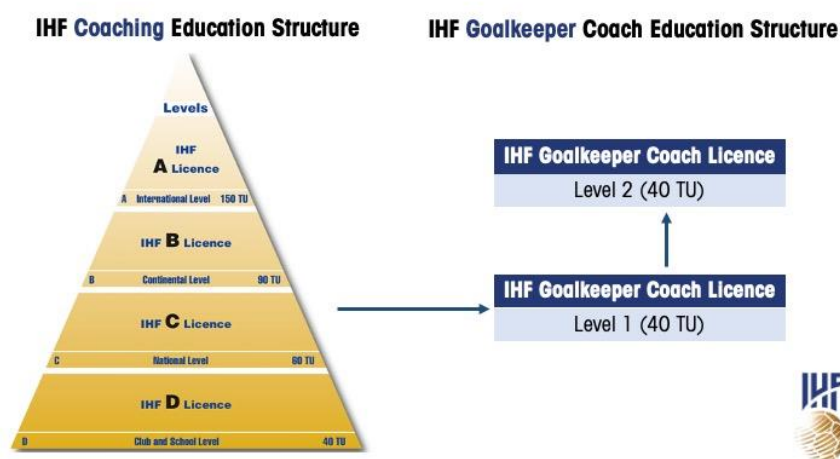
Main teaching content:

- Specific coaching profile, game philosophy, leadership, training methods, specific coaching criteria in **youth handball** and **senior handball (top-level training)**
- Methodology of teaching handball (top-level training)
- Management of an educational process and organisational tools
- Create, organise and manage different educational processes in theory and practice
- Individual teaching methods
- Complex training
- Evaluation of coaching skills, behaviour and performance

Requirements for admission to coaching courses at the third licensing level:

- Same criteria as for level 2
- Nomination: only by IHF CCM

4.3 IHF Coaching Education Structure for Goalkeeper Coaches



Objectives

- Encouragement to have the position of goalkeeper within the team management
- Further development of the function of goalkeeper coach within the game management (task differentiation in the staff; 5th place on the bench)
- Establishment of a long-term training structure



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IHF Goalkeeper Coach Licence 1 (40 teaching units*)

Main teaching content:

- Training curriculum of goalkeeping in children's and youth handball
- Detection and selection of goalkeepers
- Specific training (***basic training***) for goalkeepers
- Technical and tactical training of goalkeeping
- Specific training units for goalkeepers

Requirements for admission to coaching courses at the first licensing level:

- At least 21 years
- Nomination by National Federation, Continental Confederation or IHF
- Possession of a valid IHF C Licence
- Evidence of having experience as a goalkeeper and/or as a coach for at least 4 years (national level)

IHF Goalkeeper Coach Licence 2 (40 teaching units*)

Main teaching content:

- Development and promotion of goalkeepers from youth handball to senior level in various performance areas)
- Individualisation in goalkeeping
- Technical and tactical goalkeeper behaviour in different game situations
- Cooperation with the defence
- Defensive and offensive tasks of the goalkeeper
- Specific training units for goalkeepers

Requirements for admission to coaching courses at the second licensing level:

- At least 24 years
- Nomination by National Federation, Continental Confederation or IHF
- Possession of a valid IHF C Licence
- Successfully graduated IHF Goalkeeper Coach Licence 1

Exception:

Internationally experienced goalkeepers who meet one of the following two criteria may take part directly in a Goalkeeper Coach Licence 2 course organised especially for this target group:

- Having played as a goalkeeper for at least **8** years, or
- Having played at least **30** international matches (national team level and/or professional level).

*Note: The indicated teaching units (1 teaching unit = 45 minutes) are considered the ***minimum*** requirement. The number of teaching units can be increased according to each level of education.

Article 5 – IHF Coaching Education Provisions

Responsibility for coaching education

- The International Handball Federation is responsible for all IHF courses required for obtaining an IHF ***coaching*** licence.
- The IHF shall determine appropriate guidelines for education and appropriate educational content (curriculum) for each level.
- Some courses may be conducted by other institutions/organisations after approval by the IHF.
- All IHF courses and their participants shall be registered in the IHF database.



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Note: The curriculum of the IHF is mandatory for the selection of the content in all cases.

[...]

Article 6 – Qualifications of IHF Lecturers

The technical and methodological qualifications of IHF lecturers are of primary importance for the success of the IHF coaching courses. To ensure a high quality of education, the following guidelines should be followed:

IHF D Licence

- IHF lecturers (B Licence or higher) with a special extension course

IHF C Licence

- IHF lecturers (B Licence or higher) with a special extension course

IHF B Licence

- IHF lecturers (A Licence or higher) with a special extension course

IHF A Licence

- IHF lecturers (A Licence or higher) with specific expert experience **IHF-CCG group is responsible**

Special extension courses:

Special extension courses are held which will focus on teaching competence. These courses are organised either by the IHF or a continental handball confederation on condition that the continental handball confederation courses are accredited by the IHF.

IHF Multiplier Licence - Level 1

- IHF CCM is responsible (in cooperation with Continental Confederation)

IHF Multiplier Licence - Level 2

- IHF CCM is responsible

IHF Multiplier Licence - Level 3

- IHF CCM is responsible

IHF Goalkeeper Coach Licence 1

- IHF CCM is responsible (in cooperation with Continental Confederation)

IHF Goalkeeper Coach Licence 2

- IHF CCM is responsible (in cooperation with Continental Confederation)

Article 7 – General Provisions Governing the IHF Coaching Education Levels' Tests

[...]

Failed examinations

- In case an examination is failed, it may be repeated once (**online or on site**).
- If the repeat test is failed, participants must repeat the entire course of the relevant licence level.
- Failed participants may repeat the same course after one (1) year at the earliest.

Article 8 – Licensing Provisions



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1. Validity

The validity period begins on the date the licence is issued and ends on 31 December of the last year of validity.

The IHF Licences are valid for the following periods:

- After obtaining the IHF D Licence level: **four (4)** years
- After obtaining the IHF C Licence level: **four (4)** years
- After obtaining the IHF B Licence level: **four (4)** years
- After obtaining the IHF A Licence level: **four (4)** years
- After obtaining the IHF Multiplier Licence – Level 1: **four (4)** years
- After obtaining the IHF Multiplier Licence – Level 2: **four (4)** years
- After obtaining the IHF Multiplier Licence – Level 3: **four (4)** years
- After obtaining the IHF Goalkeeper Coach Licence 1: **four (4)** years
- After obtaining the IHF Goalkeeper Coach Licence 2: **four (4)** years

2. Licence extension

Licences are extended for a period of four (4) years.

In general, licence extension requires participation in an IHF extension course which is subject to:

- Proof of activity as a handball coach
- Proof of activity as a handball teacher in schools (for D licence level)

3. Extension courses

Extension courses are mandatory and shall be used to extend the participant's current Coaching/Multiplier Licence level.

The following courses shall also be considered as extension courses:

IHF D Licence

- Continental courses organised by continental confederation with accreditation from the IHF
- National courses organised by national federation with accreditation from the IHF or approved by continental confederation with accreditation from the IHF
- Minimum of 8 teaching units

IHF C Licence

- Continental courses organised by continental confederation with accreditation from the IHF
- National courses organised by national federation with accreditation from the IHF or approved by continental confederation with accreditation from the IHF
- Minimum of 16 teaching units

IHF B Licence

- Continental courses organised by continental confederation with accreditation from the IHF
- National courses organised by national federation with accreditation from the IHF or approved by continental confederation with accreditation from the IHF
- Minimum of 24 teaching units

IHF A Licence

- IHF symposium or other courses approved by the IHF
- Minimum of 32 teaching units

IHF Multiplier Licence – Level 1



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- Minimum of 25 teaching units
IHF Multiplier Licence – Level 2
- Minimum of 25 teaching units
IHF Multiplier Licence – Level 3
- Minimum of 25 teaching units
IHF Goalkeeper Coach Licence 1
- Minimum of 15 teaching units
IHF Goalkeeper Coach Licence 2
- Minimum of 15 teaching units

4. Inactive licences

A licence which has not been extended according to the specifications will expire.

5. Withdrawal of licences

The IHF reserves the right to withdraw an IHF Licence if the licence holder violates the IHF Statutes and/or any ethical principles.

Decision

The Council unanimously approved the amendments to the IHF Coaching Education Regulations.

5.5. Regulations for International and Continental Referees

President Moustafa gave the floor to the PRC Chairman who presented proposed amendments to the IHF Regulations for International and Continental Referees:

Article 4 – Eligibility for the International Referee Category

2. Basically, ~~up to 4~~ referee couples per National Federation may be nominated for inclusion in the Annual List of International Referees issued by the IHF Playing Rules and Referees Commission. Furthermore, ~~an~~ additional female couples may be nominated ~~as fourth couple~~. In genuinely exceptional cases, however, the IHF PRC may take the initiative to authorise two or four additional referees from the same National Federation to participate in an official IHF examination for the purpose of being promoted to the List of International Referees. The criteria in each such case are determined by the IHF PRC.

Justification:

- Based on the current referee situation, in combination with the increase from 24 to 32 teams at IHF World Championships, this is a logical step to take. IHF PRC sees that we are on the limit in terms of the number of referees, even with the adjustments made for IHF Referee courses, approved by the IHF Council in 2022.
- Several big nations have four referee couples with IHF level. In order to ensure the best referees for each competition and to promote the talents a bit faster in case they are good enough, the IHF PRC thinks that such an increase will be beneficial for handball.
- For promoting female referees, the IHF PRC believes that the number of couples can be unlimited for each nation. At the moment, the number of female referees is too low, and we need to encourage Continental Confederations and National Federations to implement strong educational programmes for female referees.



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- It might also give our biggest talents a faster way into our system. However, it should by no means decrease the work with developing couples from all nations, in particular outside Europe.

Decision

The Council unanimously approved the amendments to the IHF Regulations for International and Continental Referees.

5.6. Ethics Code

President Moustafa gave the floor to the General Director who presented a proposed amendment to the IHF Ethics Code, based on a recommendation by the IHF lawyer. She pointed out that the amendment concerned would come into effect immediately after the next Ordinary IHF Congress (taking place on 2 November 2023), on condition that the Congress approves the motion related to Article 14.3.28 of the IHF Statutes (please refer to agenda item 5.7.1):

Article 4 – Ethics Commission - Terms of Reference

[...]

An alleged violation of the Code shall be referred to the EC by way of a written request and only from a NF, CHC, ~~or~~ a member of the IHF Executive Committee **or the IHF Council**, except that the IOC Integrity and Compliance Hotline shall be available for matters in the Olympic Movement Code on the Prevention of the Manipulation of Competitions (Appendix). The request shall include a brief statement of the material facts and legal arguments on which the request is based, be addressed to the chairperson of the EC and sent to the IHF Head Office.

[...]

Justification:

The present amendment is connected to the motion related to Article 14.3.28 of the IHF Statutes (“The Council shall be entitled to refer matters involving a stakeholder to the Ethics Commission as provided for in the Ethics Code”). It is proposed to shift the IHF Council’s responsibility to suspend individual IHF stakeholders (as stipulated in Article 14.3.27 of the current version of the Statutes) to the IHF Ethics Commission. Consequently, the IHF Council shall have the power to refer any matters to the IHF Ethics Commission.

Decision

The Council unanimously approved the amendment to the IHF Ethics Code, which shall come into effect immediately after the next Ordinary IHF Congress (taking place on 2 November 2023), on condition that the Congress approves the motion related to Article 14.3.28 of the IHF Statutes.

5.7. Motions regarding the IHF Statutes

5.7.1. Motions from IHF Executive Committee

President Moustafa gave the floor to the General Director who presented different motions from the IHF Executive Committee regarding the IHF Statutes. She stated that the motions, which had been elaborated in coordination with the IHF lawyer, were unanimously approved by the Executive Committee on 31 July 2023:



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Article 2 – Stakeholders

Handball stakeholders include any person or organisation that belongs in any capacity whatsoever to handball activities. They are bound by, **and must respect**, the provisions of the IHF Statutes **and other Regulations**, and shall abide by the decisions of the IHF. Handball stakeholders include but are not limited to the following:

Organisations:

International Handball Federation
Continental Handball Confederations
National Handball Federations (NFs)
Clubs – youth centres

Persons:

Coaches
Referees
Officials
Players
Medical staff
Players' agents

Justification:

Article 2 is proposed to be amended to ensure that the IHF stakeholders do not only comply with the provisions of the IHF Statutes, but also with all other Regulations of the IHF.

Article 7 – Fairness

1. The IHF shall be committed to fairness in sport and prohibit any attempts at unfair performance improvement.
2. The prevention of any use of doping shall be of special concern. The WADA Code and standards in force shall be an integral part of the Anti-Doping Rules.
3. Any kind of corruption, bribery or undue influence, including receiving or accepting any kind of undue advantage or gifts shall be subject to sanctions pursuant to the Regulations concerning Penalties and Fines and the Legal Provisions.
4. All IHF stakeholders shall respect the provisions related to manipulation of match results, match-fixing and betting as outlined in the IHF Ethics Code.

Justification:

Taking into account that the issue of manipulation of results is getting more and more important, it is proposed to include a corresponding clause in the IHF Statutes along with a reference to the existing provisions in this respect in the IHF Ethics Code.

Article 8 – Membership

Article 8.3. Member Federations' Obligations

Member Federations have the following obligations:

- a. full compliance with the Statutes, Regulations, directives and decisions of the IHF bodies at any time as well as the decisions of the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS). In case of conflict or contradiction with the IHF Statutes and Regulations, the IHF Statutes and Regulations shall prevail;



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- b. full compliance with the IHF Ethics Code;
- c. participation in and completion of competitions organised by the IHF if qualified;
- d. settling membership fee and any outstanding debt if due;
- e. ensuring that their own members comply with the Statutes, Ethics Code, Regulations, directives and decisions of the IHF bodies;
- f. compliance with the Rules of the Game;
- g. full compliance with all other duties arising from these Statutes and other Regulations.

Violation of the above-mentioned obligations by any Member Federation ~~may shall~~ be subject to sanction according to Article 14.3.27.

Article 8.5. Suspension and Resignation

[...]

1. IHF membership ~~may shall~~ be forfeited **at the request of the Council:**

- a. for **serious and/or repeated** violations of the IHF Statutes, Regulations, and resolutions, decided by a two thirds majority of votes cast at the Congress
- b. if the Member Federation concerned no longer has the character of a National Federation, decided by a two-thirds majority of votes cast at the Congress
- c. if the Council cancels it because the prescribed fees and any outstanding debts have not been paid, at the earliest six months after their due date, to be confirmed by a two-thirds majority of votes cast at the Congress.

If ~~an IHF membership Member Federation~~ is forfeited according to the procedures set out above, a new National Federation may be granted membership in accordance with Article 8. The newly admitted NF shall take over all financial obligations in case of non-fulfilment by the forfeited NF unless decided otherwise by the Council.

[...]

3. Suspension

- A member suspended by the IHF Council according to Article 14.3.27 shall lose its membership rights. Other members must not maintain sporting contact with a suspended member. **Further sanctions may be imposed by other IHF adjudicating bodies in accordance with the IHF Statutes and Regulations.**
- A suspension imposed by the IHF Council according to Article 14.3.27 shall be confirmed at the next Congress by a two-third majority of votes cast. If the suspension is not confirmed, it will be automatically lifted.

Justification:

Article 8.3:

- In the last sentence, a minor amendment ("may" instead of "shall") is proposed, taking into account that the Council may also refer cases to the IHF Ethics Commission, e.g. alleged violations of the Ethics Code.

Article 8.5:

- Point 1 is proposed to be amended to emphasise that the Council may request the forfeit of an IHF membership, which shall be decided/confirmed by the Congress.
- In point 1a, "serious and/or repeated" is proposed to be added to be consistent with Article 14.3.27



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of the Statutes.

- In the last paragraph of point 1, a linguistic amendment (“IHF membership” instead of “Member Federation”) is proposed for the sake of consistency.
- In point 3, a clause is proposed to be added to allow the IHF adjudicating bodies, e.g. the Ethics Commission, to impose further sanctions on suspended Member Federations, if necessary.

Remark from the IHF Vice-President Europe regarding Article 8.5, point 1a:

The IHF Vice-President Europe proposed to add a definition of the term “serious violations” for the sake of clarity.

Article 13 – Congress

13.4. Congress Agenda

The agenda of a Congress during which elections are usually held shall include the following points:

1. Opening of the Congress
 2. Roll call and determination of the number of votes
 3. Suspension **and/or** forfeit of membership
- [...]

13.7. Election Criteria

1. A candidate standing for one of the IHF Council positions must have held six years’ high level involvement and experience in his/her National Federation or Continental Confederation in one of the Board of Directors positions or as a player, coach or referee.

2. In addition, candidates standing for IHF positions must comply with the following criteria:

General conditions:

1. Not subject to suspension or moral penalties on national and/or international level
2. Not convicted of any criminal felony
3. Compliance with all provisions of the IHF Ethics Code
4. Good command of English language

For the following positions the qualification should include in addition to the above-mentioned:

Treasurer:

- Accountancy degree or equivalent level of competence

Arbitration Adjudicating bodies:

- Law degree or equivalent level of competence

Medical Commission:

- Medical degree

Playing Rules and Referees Commission:



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- Former international referee

[...]

Justification:

Article 13.4.:

- The third agenda item is proposed to be amended to clarify that both suspension and forfeit of membership may be treated under this point.

Article 13.7.:

- It is proposed to amend "Arbitration bodies" to "Adjudicating bodies", considering that not only candidates standing for the IHF Arbitration Commission and Arbitration Tribunal chair and membership, but also candidates standing for the IHF Ethics Commission chair and membership require a law degree or an equivalent level of competence.

Article 14 – Council

14.3. Council duties

[...]

6. Appointing an independent electoral working group which shall ensure the compliance of the candidates' applications with the conditions stipulated in these Statutes. The working group shall inform the Council and report to the Congress on its decisions. **Any decisions and judgements taken by the working group shall be final. Appeals against decisions of the working group may be lodged with the electoral appeal committee to be formed by the Council.**

[...]

27. The Council shall be entitled to suspend any **Member Federation stakeholders** that seriously and/or repeatedly violates **its their** obligations as members with immediate effect until the next Congress. The Council shall give the opportunity to the **Member Federation members** concerned to present **its their** arguments **and give them the benefit of the doubt until the members present their defence to the Council**, after which the Council may **revoke the decision and** lift the suspension. **The suspension shall be subject to vote by the next Congress as per Article 8.5.3.**

28. The Council shall be entitled to refer matters involving a stakeholder to the Ethics Commission as provided for in the Ethics Code.

29. The President shall draw up the agenda. Each Council member is entitled to submit items for inclusion in the agenda.

Justification:

- In point 6, it is proposed to add a clause regarding decisions of the electoral working group and related appeal possibilities in order to avoid any potential issues.
- Point 27 is proposed to be amended to clarify that the Council may suspend Member Federations which failed to comply with their obligations as members while the Council's responsibility to suspend individual stakeholders shall be shifted to the Ethics Commission. In addition, it shall be emphasised that any suspension imposed by the Council requires the confirmation of the next Congress.
- Point 28 is proposed to be added to give the Council the authority to refer matters to the IHF Ethics Commission. Article 4 of the Ethics Code, which currently allows National Federations, Continental Confederations and IHF Executive Committee members to refer an alleged violation of the Ethics



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Code to the Ethics Commission, would be amended accordingly.

Remark from the IHF Vice-President Europe regarding Article 14.3.6:

The IHF Vice-President Europe proposed to replace the "electoral appeal committee to be formed by the Council" by the "Arbitration Commission" to avoid having two bodies (electoral working group and electoral appeal committee) formed by the Council.

Article 21 – Rules of the Game

1. All IHF Member Federations **and Continental Confederations** shall be obliged to play handball according to the Rules of the Game approved by the Council. With the PRC's agreement, a minimum of three Member Federations of different sports levels shall, for a limited period of at least one season, play according to modified rules in order to try them out.

~~2. Once they have been passed by the Council, changes to the Rules of the Game shall be announced at the Congress taking place the year of the Men's World Championship, and reported to all Member Federations by the Head Office. They shall be published by 1 March of the following year and come into force on 1 July of the same year.~~

After being passed by the Council, the Council shall decide

- if a change to the Rules of the Game (not affecting the structure of the game) may be implemented starting from the following season (1 July), considering that the change must be reported in advance to the Member Federations and Continental Confederations (by 1 March); or
- if a change to the Rules of the Game must be tested according to Article 21.1 and announced at the Congress before being published by 1 March of the following year and coming into force on 1 July of the same year.

[...]

Justification:

Point 1:

- Taking into account that not only Member Federations, but also Continental Confederations must comply with the IHF Statutes and Regulations, including the Rules of the Game, it is proposed to add the Continental Confederations in this provision for the sake of consistency.

Point 2:

- There are several types of changes to the Rules of the Game. The IHF's aim shall not be to make major changes without proper testing, but to implement those changes that will not have any influence on the structure of the game through a more efficient process. This will also make it easier to react as well as to act in order to keep up with tactical changes in the game and make the rules simpler and fairer.

Article 22 – IHF Adjudicating Bodies

1. The adjudicating bodies are:
- a. the Disciplinary Commission
 - b. the Jury
 - c. the Arbitration Commission
 - d. the Arbitration Tribunal
 - e. the Ethics Commission.



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2. The responsibilities and function of these bodies shall be stipulated in the Legal Provisions, Regulations concerning Penalties and Fines and the Ethics Code.

3. The powers of the adjudicating bodies are without prejudice to the disciplinary powers of the Congress and Council as provided for in these Statutes.

4. There are two main adjudicating bodies: the Arbitration Commission and the Arbitration Tribunal.

5. The Disciplinary Commission and the Jury are active only during sports events.

6. The Ethics Code is the umbrella of the above-mentioned bodies.

Justification:

Point 3 is proposed to be added to clarify that the delegation of powers to the adjudicating bodies does not prevent the Congress and Council to sanction Member Federations.

Decision

The Council unanimously approved the motions from the IHF Executive Committee regarding the IHF Statutes, taking into consideration the additional amendment to Article 14.3.6 (replacing the “electoral appeal committee to be formed by the Council” by the “ad-hoc panel to be formed by the Arbitration Commission”). The motions will be presented to the 2023 Ordinary IHF Congress.

5.7.2. Motions from Member Federations

President Moustafa gave the floor to the General Director who presented a motion submitted by the Swedish Handball Federation on 28 July 2023 regarding Article 11 of the IHF Statutes. She added that the wording of the justification is according to the original communication received from the Swedish Handball Federation:

Article 11 – Continental Confederations

11.2. General Conditions

[...]

8. The continental candidates for the IHF Vice-Presidency must hold office as the President in their continents. ~~The President of the Continental Confederation may assign a representative to the IHF Vice-Presidency.~~

[...]

Justification:

The current version is contradictory and there is no reason for not automatically having the highest ranked person from a Continental Confederation as the candidate for the IHF Vice-Presidency. Besides it is of importance for the National Federations in the different Continental Confederations to know that with the election of their President follows the candidacy for a position within IHF.

Decision

The Council took note of the motion regarding the IHF Statutes submitted by the Swedish Handball Federation, which will be presented to the 2023 Ordinary IHF Congress.



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6. IHF bodies

6.1. Children's Handball Working Group

Referring to the IHF Four-Year Plan 2021-2025, which was confirmed by the 2021 Ordinary IHF Congress, President Moustafa informed about the plans of the IHF to implement a strong children's handball programme, aiming to spread handball among youngsters and reach 50 million kids worldwide.

He gave the floor to the CCM Chairman who presented an overview of a worldwide IHF development concept for children's and youth handball, targeting children from 3 to 16 years. He pointed out that the IHF Handball@School project which was launched in 2011 has been one of the most successful IHF projects, as it has reached millions of children, teachers and coaches. In addition to continuing and further developing the Handball@School project, he stressed the importance of focusing on children's and youth handball in general, emphasising that the related structures within the National Federations, especially from outside Europe, should be improved. He stated that the worldwide IHF development concept should be combined with current IHF development programmes and the existing IHF Coaching Education Structure (e.g. IHF D and C Licence). He added that guidelines and methodological material have to be developed for this concept.

Referring to the details of the worldwide IHF development concept, the CCM Chairman explained that different age groups have been defined in order to create the best possible conditions for children at this age, including Baby Handball (3 to 5 years), Kids Handball 1 (6 to 8 years), Kids Handball 2 (9 to 11 years), Youth Handball (basic) (12 to 14 years), Youth Handball (advanced) (14 to 16/18 years).

Decision

The Council took note of the information presented by the CCM Chairman regarding the worldwide IHF development concept for children's and youth handball and agreed in general on the concept of the new IHF Children's Handball Working Group.

6.2. Beach Handball Working Group

President Moustafa gave the floor to the General Director who presented a memorandum prepared by the Chairman of the IHF Beach Handball Working Group, Giampiero Masi, to restructure the Beach Handball Working Group as follows in order to respond to the growth of beach handball and to maintain the further development of the discipline:

- 🇮🇹 Mr Giampiero Masi (ITA) – Chairperson
- 🇵🇱 Mr Artur Niesluchowski (POL) – Member Events & Development
- 🇬🇷 Mr Ioannis Meimaridis (GRE) – Member Officiating (Refereeing and Technical Officials)
- 🇭🇺 Mr Tamas Neukum (HUN) – Member Coaching

As proposed by the working group chairman, each of the three members of the working group will be responsible for one operational area of the Beach Handball Working Group. In order to be able to respond to the development of the needs of beach handball, each member will collaborate with a group of experts working under their leadership based on their experience.

President Moustafa stressed the importance of the Beach Handball Working Group for the stability and further development of the discipline. The IHF Vice-President Europe agreed on the necessity of having a Beach Handball Working Group. However, he requested to revise the proposed composition of the group of experts, considering that some leading beach handball nations such as Hungary are not represented. Therefore,



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President Moustafa asked the IHF Vice-President Europe to propose any additional beach handball experts to be included in the group of experts, if applicable.

Decision

Following the proposal of the Chairman of the IHF Beach Handball Working Group, the Council unanimously approved the restructuring of the Beach Handball Working Group as follows:

- 🚩 Mr Giampiero Masi (ITA) – Chairperson**
- 🚩 Mr Artur Niesluchowski (POL) – Member Events & Development**
- 🚩 Mr Ioannis Meimaridis (GRE) – Member Officiating (Refereeing and Technical Officials)**
- 🚩 Mr Tamas Neukum (HUN) – Member Coaching**

6.3. Bidder of the 2025 Ordinary IHF Congress

President Moustafa gave the floor to the General Director who informed the attendees that in a letter dated 15 July 2023 the Egyptian Handball Federation expressed their interest in hosting the 2025 Ordinary IHF Congress. In a second letter dated 2 August 2023 (deadline for submitting the event concept form to the IHF), they once again expressed their willingness to host the 2025 Ordinary IHF Congress and sent the corresponding bidding concept, proposing two different options for the Congress venue (Cairo or Sharm El Sheikh). In their letter, the Egyptian Handball Federation stated that the participation fees will be determined at a later date before the 2023 Ordinary IHF Congress taking place on 2 November 2023.

The General Director informed that EGY is the only bidder for the 2025 Ordinary IHF Congress, adding that the awarding of the 2025 Ordinary IHF Congress will be on the agenda of the 2023 Ordinary IHF Congress.

Decision

The Council took note of the information presented by the General Director regarding the bidder of the 2025 Ordinary IHF Congress.

7. Continents

7.1. Report from the continents

President Moustafa gave the floor to the IHF Vice-President Europe who provided a brief summary of the recent handball activities in Europe, stating that a detailed report has been sent to the Council members prior to the present meeting. As stated in the report, the EHF competition season 2022/2023 (including the Women's and Men's European Cup, the Women's and Men's European League and the Women's and Men's EHF Champions League) and the business year 2022/2023 of the EHF daughter company, EHF Marketing GmbH, were successfully completed by the end of June 2023. Concerning the national teams, the European qualification for the 2023 IHF Women's World Championship in DEN/NOR/SWE concluded with the play-offs in April, and the 16 teams qualified for the World Championship have been determined. Furthermore, various younger age category events as well as EHF beach handball activities took place in addition to several administrative and technical activities such as webinars. The report also provided brief information on the EHF Master Plan, the



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organisation of the first edition of the EHF Excellence Awards as well as the construction process of the European Handball House. The report also included an overview of the agenda for the 16th Ordinary EHF Congress, which will take place in Basel, Switzerland, on 14 September 2023.

The report from the African Handball Confederation (CAHB) was presented to the Council. A training course for Event Delegates was organised, which resulted in the selection of ten participants who are now deployed for practical sessions on site, underlining the objective of strengthening the skills of the stakeholders involved in handball through education programmes organised across the continent. In addition, one course for referees and several courses for coaches (Licence B, C, D) were organised in order to raise the quality of coaching and refereeing to the highest possible level and to meet the growing demand for high-quality competitions in all countries. With respect to beach handball, the CAHB report outlined that the discipline has enormous potential in Africa, especially in coastal areas. Therefore, the CAHB is committed to raising awareness of beach handball and promoting its development in each of its Member Federations through specific programmes, concrete measures and a working group which has defined several goals in order to improve the skills in this discipline. CAHB expressed their gratitude towards IHF and French Handball Federation for their support which helps them to strengthen their efforts to develop and promote handball in Africa at all levels, to continue to organise competitions of the highest quality and to make handball more accessible to children from all over Africa.

The report from the North America and Caribbean Handball Confederation (NACHC) was presented to the Council, highlighting that the post-COVID-19 period has proven to be challenging. However, the interest of many countries in getting involved in the organisation of competition-related activities, at national and international level, has increased. The main challenge is the increase in the cost of living in all countries of North America and the Caribbean after the COVID-19 pandemic, which impacts their possibilities to organise competitions and/or to travel to the host countries. The IHF Trophy has been helpful for NACHC, since the financial aid granted by the IHF reduces the burden placed on the organising committees and the participants. Nevertheless, the federations also need local sponsors and governmental authorities to support them. Referring to the regrouping of the countries in the Americas, NACHC concluded that the new system has proved beneficial for the continent, as the handball activities in all areas have increased while all NACHC countries now have a realistic chance to take part in IHF events.

The report from the South and Central America Handball Confederation (SCAHC) was presented to the Council. Referring to the competitions, 13 continental events with a total of 80 participating teams have so far taken place in 2023, while 20 educational activities including 56 coach teams are being carried out either virtually or on site throughout 2023. The report also included some ideas for future IHF events. For example, SCAHC proposed that up to three experts/coaches per Continental Confederations could go to the different IHF World Championships to gain experience and provide input to their National Federations. In addition, the idea of a last chance tournament for wild cards with at least three teams from two continents was presented in the report.

President Moustafa thanked the representatives of the Continental Confederations for their excellent work in the last period and expressed his hopes that this development will continue in the future and that the new ideas presented in the IHF Council meeting will give all stakeholders involved the opportunity to support, help and further develop handball worldwide.

Decision

The Council took note of the activity reports provided by the continental representatives.



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8. Miscellaneous

8.1. Request from Egyptian Handball Federation

President Moustafa gave the floor to the General Director who informed the attendees about a request received from the Egyptian Handball Federation (EHF) on 6 March 2023. The EHF asked the IHF about the possibility to allow the EHF Interim Committee, which was appointed according to the IHF Executive Committee decision dated 15 March 2021, to continue their work until the end of the 2025 IHF Men's World Championship, even though the Egyptian Sports Law stipulates that elections for sports federations shall be held within three months of the end of the Olympic Games.

The General Director explained that due to the participation of the Egyptian national teams in numerous continental and international competitions, including but not limited to the 2024 Olympic Games and the 2025 Men's World Championship, the EHF has been focusing on the preparation of their teams, stressing that the Interim Committee is working at a very high level, considering the positive results of their national teams at recent handball events.

Decision

The Council unanimously approved the request from the Egyptian Handball Federation to allow the EHF Interim Committee to continue their work until the end of the 2025 IHF Men's World Championship.

8.2. Council decisions made by electronic communication

The Council members confirmed the following via electronic communication:

- ***2023 Men's Junior (U21) World Championship and 2023 Men's Youth (U19) World Championship***

Reference was made to the 2023 IHF Men's Junior World Championship and the 2023 IHF Men's Youth World Championship, and in particular to the places to be allocated to the African continent.

Memorandum prepared by the IHF Competitions Director, stating that CAHB is asking the IHF for an exemption regarding Article 1.3.3. (Chapter 3 – Conditions to Receive the Compulsory and Performance Places) of the Regulations for IHF Competitions, allowing them to fill the places allocated to the African continent despite the insufficient number of teams having participated in the respective qualification tournaments. According to the above-mentioned regulations, the minimum number of teams taking part in the qualification was not fulfilled since only eight teams participated in the respective qualification tournaments, even though 12 teams would have been required in the junior category and 10 teams in the youth category.

Date of communication: 22 December 2022

Date of decision: **29 December 2022**

- ***2023 Ordinary IHF Congress – Change of date***

Reference was made to the decision of the XXXVIII Ordinary IHF Congress held in Basel, SUI and by video conference on 6 November 2021, according to which the 2023 Ordinary IHF Congress was awarded to the Polish Handball Federation.



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According to the decision made by the IHF Council by electronic communication on 15 July 2022, the 2023 XXXIX Ordinary Congress of the IHF was supposed to be held in Katowice, Poland from 3 to 5 November 2023. However, after the announcement of the dates of the Asian Games, the 2023 IHF Men's Super Globe had to be rescheduled, which also affects the date of the XXXIX Ordinary IHF Congress.

Proposal to hold the 2023 Ordinary IHF Congress in Katowice, Poland, from 1 to 2 November 2023 instead of 3 to 5 November 2023 as initially planned.

Date of communication: 19 January 2023

Date of decision: **24 January 2023**

- **2023 Men's Youth and Junior World Championships – Participation fees**

Reference was made to the 2023 Men's Youth (U19) World Championship in Croatia and the 2023 Men's Junior (U21) World Championship in Germany/Greece and the respective participation fees (CHF 125 for men's youth and EUR 120 for men's junior).

Memorandum prepared by the IHF Competitions Director, stating that the hosts of the above-mentioned competitions have asked the IHF by letter dated 20 January (GRE/GER) and 10 February (CRO) to increase the daily participation fee for the respective competitions to CHF 170 due to the dramatically rising inflation leading to an enormous increase in costs for the organisation of both events which results in a huge burden for the hosts.

Considering this enormous increase in costs, the IHF Council was asked to decide on the request to increase the daily participation fee for the 2023 Men's Youth and Junior World Championships to CHF 170.

Date of communication: 16 February 2023

Date of decision: **21 February 2023**

- **Hisham Nasr – CAS decision**

Reference was made to the IHF Council Meeting held by video conference on 19 February 2021, and in particular to agenda item 5.2 (Disciplinary Commission decision at 2021 Men's World Championship), during which the Council unanimously decided to suspend Egyptian Handball Federation President Eng. Hisham Nasr from all handball activities until the next IHF Congress due to his serious and repeated violations of the COVID-19 Medical Precaution Plan during the 2021 IHF Men's World Championship. On 14 March 2021, after reviewing Eng. Hisham Nasr's input, the IHF Council reconfirmed its decision of suspension taken on 19 February 2021.

In the first instance, Eng. Hisham Nasr filed an appeal to the IHF Arbitration Commission against the IHF Council decision. In the second instance, Eng. Hisham Nasr appealed against the Arbitration Commission decision to the IHF Arbitration Tribunal. Both IHF bodies confirmed the decision of the IHF Council.

Therefore, Eng. Hisham Nasr appealed to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) against the decision of the IHF Arbitration Tribunal. On 6 February 2023, the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in Lausanne ruled that the appeal filed by Eng. Hisham Nasr on 3 November 2021 is rejected.

The following decision was issued by the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS):

1. The appeal filed by Mr Hisham Nasr on 3 November 2021 against the decision rendered on 22



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- October 2021 by the IHF Arbitration Tribunal is rejected.
2. The Award is pronounced without costs, except for the Court Office fee of CHF 1,000 (one thousand Swiss Francs) paid by Mr Hisham Nasr, which is retained by the CAS.
 3. Each party shall bear its own legal fees and other expenses incurred in connection with this arbitration.
 4. All other or further claims are dismissed.

Date of communication: 21 February 2023

For information only (no Council decision)

- ***Motion to change the Regulations for IHF Competitions (Chapter VII - Equipment Regulations)***

Reference was made to Chapter VII (Equipment Regulations) of the Regulations for IHF Competitions, especially to articles 2.1 (Composition) and 4.1 (Referees).

The Council was informed about a request from German Handball Federation (Deutscher Handballbund) following the discussion raised in Tennis to change the IHF Equipment Regulations to allow female handball players to wear dark or at least neutral underpants when wearing white shorts during their period or to allow them to wear black shorts regardless of the colours worn by the opposing team, since it can be uncomfortable for women to wear white underpants and shorts during their period.

The IHF always has the athletes' best interests at heart and thus decided to create an all-female Working Group on Women's Uniforms consisting of IHF Executive Member Ms Narcisa Lecusanu as Chairwoman, as well as IHF General Director Ms Amal Khalifa, Chairwoman of the IHF Interim Athletes Commission Ms Karolina Gudlacz-Gloc and Chairwoman of the EHF Women's Handball Board Ms Marta Bon as members to discuss the topic.

During their meeting which took place by video conference on 8 March 2023, the IHF Working Group on Women's Uniforms discussed the current regulations on women's equipment, the request of the German Handball Federation and the input from the IHF Competitions Department.

Minutes of the meeting as well as the motion to change the Regulations for IHF Competitions, which has been proposed by the IHF Working Group on Women's Uniforms.

Date of communication: 26 April 2023

Date of decision: **3 May 2023**

- ***2023 Ordinary IHF Congress – Virtual Congress***

Reference was made to the decision of the XXXVIII Ordinary IHF Congress held in Basel, SUI and by video conference on 6 November 2021, according to which the 2023 Ordinary IHF Congress was awarded to the Polish Handball Federation as well as to the IHF Council decision dated 24 January 2023 to change the dates of the 2023 Ordinary IHF Congress to 1 and 2 November 2023.

During the organisational process, the IHF has encountered several difficulties that complicate the organisation of a physical Congress, such as the request from the Polish Organising Committee to increase the participation fee for the Congress delegates, the limited number of hotel rooms in the assigned Congress hotel and entry restrictions for some Member Federations that will make it extremely difficult for those federations to obtain a visa.

Due to the aforementioned difficulties and considering the successful organisation of the XXXVIII Ordinary



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Congress, which was held virtually in 2021, it was recommended to organise the XXXIX Ordinary Congress of the International Handball Federation virtually, while kindly inviting the IHF Council to Basel to participate in the session physically.

Date of communication: 30 May 2023

Date of decision: **6 June 2023**

- **2023 Women's World Championship – Wild cards**

Reference was made to the official requests received from National Federations to be awarded a wild card for the 2023 Women's World Championship in Denmark, Norway and Sweden.

Memorandum prepared by the IHF Competitions Director, stating that it is proposed to award the two available wild cards for the 2023 Women's World Championship to Austria and Iceland according to the arguments outlined in the memorandum and the request of IHF TV and marketing rights holder Sportfive.

Date of communication: 29 June 2023

Date of decision: **3 July 2023**

The next IHF Council meeting will be held in Basel, Switzerland, on 31 October 2023.

President Moustafa thanked the participants for the constructive meeting and closed the session. He conveyed once again his wishes for continued good health and safety to all participants.

INTERNATIONAL HANDBALL FEDERATION

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'H. Moustafa'.

Dr Hassan Moustafa
President