



EUROPEAN VOLLEYBALL HISTORY


BOOK III

2001 - 2007



EUROPEAN VOLLEYBALL HISTORY

PART III



2001 - 2007

INTRODUCTION – BOOK III – 2001-2007

The New Millennium began with many of innovations and changes for Volleyball in Europe. By switching to the rally point system in the late '90s, the sport made another big step forward. André Meyer was elected CEV President at the General Assembly held in Ostrava in September 2001 and from there began his journey at the helm of the European Volleyball Confederation that still lasts.

This book – a sort of CEV Encyclopaedia – continues the work initiated by the late Georges Boudry and former CEV Board member Jacques Shaw whose main goal was to collate a comprehensive history of the European Volleyball Confederation from its establishment up to its latest developments.

Contents

Introduction – Book III – 2001-2007	1127
2001.....	1168
CEV BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING – HAARLEM (NED) – 17 th FEBRUARY 2001	1168
Opening of the meeting.....	1168
Approval of the agenda	1169
Approval of the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held on 2 nd November and 13 th December 2000 in Luxembourg	1169
Approval of the minutes of the Board of Administration meeting held on 2 nd and 3 rd November 2000 in Luxembourg (LUX)	1169
Activity reports	1169
Executive Committee (ExCom).....	1169
CEV Commissions	1170
2000-2001 EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS	1181
2001 Men's Senior European Championships' Final Round in CZE	1181
2001 Women's Senior European Championships' Final Round in BUL	1181
2001 Boys' & Girls' Youth European Championships' Final Round in CZE.....	1182
2000/2001 European Cups	1182
Marketing Situation & Prize Money.....	1182
Organiser Candidates & CEV Officials appointed for the European Cup Finals 2000/2001 as of 17th February 2001	1182
Amendment in the Competition System of the Top Teams Cup.....	1183
European Champions League Season 2001/2002	1183
XXII CEV General Assembly.....	1183
Miscellaneous	1183
CEV Plan 2001 – Status Report	1183
Letter from FIVB President, Dr Rubén ACOSTA H.	1184
Women's Involvement in CEV Bodies	1184



Report of the FIVB Press Officer Meeting & First Draft of the CEV Press Operations Manual	1184
Naturalised Players in the National Teams	1185
Official CEV Volleyball for the current ongoing Competition Season	1185
Letter from the AND Federation	1185
Letter from the FRA Federation with regard to the Competition Calendar	1185
Remarks to the Minutes of the XXI General Assembly – English Version	1186
Minutes of the Meeting of the Balkan Volleyball Association (09/12/00)	1186
Closing of the meeting	1186
CEV BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING - SCHWERIN (GER) – 13 th & 14 th JULY 2001	1186
Opening of the Meeting	1186
Approval of the Agenda	1187
Approval of the Minutes of the Executive Committee Meetings held on 16th February 2001 in Haarlem (NED) and on 25th April 2001 in Luxembourg (LUX)	1187
Approval of the Minutes of the Board of Administration Meeting held on 17th February 2001 in Haarlem (NED)	1187
Activity Reports	1187
Executive Committee (ExCom)	1187
Activity Reports of the Commissions	1189
Legal Commission – Mr Philip BERBEN	1189
European Cups Commission – Mrs Riet OOMS	1191
European Sports Organising Commission – Mr Fabio SASSI	1192
European Beach Volleyball Commission – Mr Miguel A. QUINTANA (ESP)	1193
European Refereeing Commission – Mr André MEYER (LUX)	1194
European Financial Commission – Mr Hugo FRUITHOF (SUI)	1194
2001 Senior European Championships	1195
2001 Men's Senior European Championships in Ostrava (CZE)	1195
2001 Women's Senior European Championships in Sofia/Varna (BUL)	1195
2001 European Beach Volleyball Championships	1195
2002/2003 European Championships	1195
Press Operations' Official Regulations	1195
XXII CEV General Assembly in Ostrava (CZE)	1196
Accreditation and hotel reservation	1196
Proposals to be presented to the General Assembly	1196
Approval of the handbooks 1+ 2	1196
Development Project from the ISL Federation	1196
Miscellaneous	1196

“Park Volley” Activities in Europe.....	1196
Closing of the Meeting	1197
CEV BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING – OSTRAVA (CZE) - 13 th	
SEPTEMBER 2001	1197
Opening of the Meeting.....	1197
Approval of the Agenda.....	1197
Approval of the Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on 13th July	
2001 in Schwerin (GER)	1197
Approval of the Minutes of the Board of Administration Meeting held on 13th July	
2001 in Schwerin (GER)	1198
Activity Reports	1198
Executive Committee (ExCom).....	1198
Commissions.....	1199
2001-2003 European Volleyball Championships	1203
2001 Men's Senior European Championships in Ostrava (CZE)	1203
2001 Women's Senior European Championships in Sofia/Varna (BUL)	1203
2002 Men's Junior European Championships in POL.....	1203
2002 Women's Junior European Championships	1204
2003 Men's Senior European Championships in GER.....	1204
2003 Women's Senior European Championships in TUR.....	1204
2001/02 European Cups.....	1204
Miscellaneous	1205
NED proposal regarding the implementation of a Development Commission	1205
Letter of the FIVB regarding the support of the Group C Federations	1205
Preparation of the XXII General Assembly on 14th September 2001 in Ostrava	
(CZE)	1205
Closing of the Meeting	1205
CEV XXII GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING - OSTRAVA (CZE) – 14 th SEPTEMBER	
2001	1206
Opening of the XXII General Assembly.....	1208
Welcome Address by CEV President, Dr Rolf ANDRESEN	1208
Welcome Speech by the President of the CZE Volleyball Federation, Mr Pavel	
KUCERA.....	1209
Welcome Address by the Minister of Sports of the Czech Republic, Dr Ladislav	
MALY.....	1210
Speech by the President of the International Volleyball Federation, Dr Rubén	
ACOSTA.....	1210
Presentation of the FIVB Corporate Profile by Dr Rubén ACOSTA	1211
Honouring Ceremony of Dr Vladimir SPIRIT	1212

Setting up of the General Assembly's Office.....	1212
Record of Attendance	1212
Appointment of four Members of the Credentials Checking / Voting Commission .	1212
Report of the Credentials Checking Commission	1212
Approval of the Agenda	1213
Approval of the Minutes of the XXI General Assembly in Luxembourg (LUX)	1213
General Activity Report of the CEV President, Dr Rolf ANDRESEN	1213
Financial Report	1216
Financial Report – Accounts 2000-2001 by CEV Treasurer, Mr Hugo FRUITHOF (SUI)	1216
Internal Audit Report by Mr DADEMA (NED) and Mr HENNO (BEL).....	1216
Introduction of the Euro Currency in 2002 by Mr Hugo FRUITHOF, CEV Treasurer.....	1218
Budget 2002 by Mr Hugo FRUITHOF, CEV Treasurer.....	1218
Proposal from the Dutch Volleyball Federation	1219
Appointment of two Internal Auditors and one Substitute Internal Auditor by Mr Hugo FRUITHOF, CEV Treasurer	1220
Amendments of the CEV Statutes	1221
Article 5.12.....	1221
Article n° 5.18	1221
Article n° 6.5	1222
CEV Commission Reports.....	1222
Beach Volleyball Commission.....	1222
European Cups Commission	1224
European Financial Commission	1227
European Legal Commission	1227
European Refereeing Commission	1228
Sports Organising Commission.....	1229
CEV Working Group Reports	1230
Marketing.....	1230
Media.....	1231
Medical	1232
General Remark of Dr ACOSTA for all CEV Commissions.....	1233
Proposal from the Dutch Volleyball Federation.....	1234
Proposal from the French Volleyball Federation	1234
Election of the CEV President	1235
Mr Philip BERBEN's speech.....	1235

Mr André MEYER's speech	1235
Elections	1236
Deliberation.....	1236
Election of the Board of Administration Members for the Mandate 2002 - 2005	1236
First round election.....	1236
Second round election.....	1237
Approval of the nomination of the Commissions' Presidents	1237
Executive Committee	1237
Board of Administration.....	1238
Retirement of Dr Rolf ANDRESEN	1238
Retirement of Mr Hugo FRUITHOF	1239
Date and Venue of the XXIII General Assembly in 2002	1239
Closing of the XXII General Assembly	1239
Closing of the General Assembly by the new CEV President, Mr André MEYER	1239
2002.....	1241
CEV BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING – MILAN (ITA) – 2 nd & 3 rd FEBRUARY 2002.....	1241
Opening of the Meeting.....	1241
Approval of the Agenda.....	1242
Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on 16th November 2001 in Warsaw (POL)	1242
Approval of the Minutes of the Board of Administration Meeting held on 13th September 2001 in Ostrava (CZE)	1242
Activity Report from the President.....	1242
Activity Reports (including adoption of the minutes)	1242
Legal Commission – Mr Aloys FISCHER.....	1243
Financial Commission – Mr Philip BERBEN	1243
European Cups Commission – Mrs Riet OOMS	1243
European Sports Organising Commission – Mr Fabio SASSI.....	1244
European Beach Volleyball Commission – Mr Miguel QUINTANA.....	1246
European Medical Commission – Dr Manfred HOLZGRAEFE.....	1247
European Refereeing Commission – Dr Jan REK	1247
Communication.....	1249
Working Group Media – Mr Arjen MEIJER (NED) CEV Press Officer	1249
Report from the FIVB Press Officer Meeting.....	1249
Communication CEV/National Federations in future	1250
Proposal of the CEV Press Officer for the European Cups Final	1250

Statutes Amendments by the XXII CEV General Assembly	1250
Institutions	1251
FIVB Sanctions – Lasse SVENSSON	1251
Meeting with the Balkan Volleyball Association	1251
Political Situation in ISRAEL	1252
National Volleyball Leagues	1252
Financial Matters	1252
Account 2001	1252
Budget 2002 for CEV Commissions	1253
CEV Working Group Members' Per Diem	1253
Competition Calendar	1253
2000/2001 European Senior Championships	1253
2001/2002 Junior European Championships	1253
Substitution of Mr L. SVENSSON	1253
Withdrawal of the Austrian Volleyball Federation	1254
Junior European Championships Regulations	1254
2002/2003 Senior European Championships	1254
Senior European Championships Regulations	1254
Applications for the 2004/2005 European Championships	1254
Procedure to entrust a Federation with the organisation of the 2004/2005 European Championships' Final Round	1254
Technical Requirements for the Finals	1255
European Cups	1255
Recommendation	1255
CEV Cup and Top Teams Cup	1256
Indesit European Champions League	1256
Reggio Calabria	1256
Bergamo	1256
RUS Letter	1257
Appointment of the Final Four Organisers	1257
European Beach Volleyball	1257
Laciga Emotions Contract	1257
2002 Circuit with Challenge	1258
European Beach Volleyball Official Regulations	1258
Management	1258
Working Procedures	1258

Seminar for Jury Members during the BoA meeting in June (CRO) - Dr J.HRONEK Handbook Project	1259
Projects.....	1259
CEV Exchange and database of promotion support	1259
Closing of the Meeting	1259
CEV BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING – ZAGREB (CRO) – 15th JUNE 2002	1259
Opening of the Meeting.....	1260
Approval of the Agenda.....	1260
Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on 1st February 2002 at Jelly Hotel in Milan (ITA)	1260
Approval of the Minutes of the Board of Administration Meeting held on 2nd & 3rd February 2002 at Jelly Hotel in Milan (ITA)	1260
Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on 20th April 2002 at Forum Intercontinental Hotel, Nicosia (CYP)	1260
Activity Report of the Executive Committee Members	1260
Activity Reports (including adoption of the minutes)	1261
Legal Commission – Mr Aloys FISCHER	1261
Financial Commission – Mr Philip BERBEN	1262
European Cups Commission – Mrs Riet OOMS	1262
European Sports Organising Commission – Mr Fabio SASSI	1263
European Beach Volleyball Commission – Mr Miguel QUINTANA.....	1264
European Medical Commission – Dr Manfred HOLZGRAEFE.....	1265
European Refereeing Commission – Dr Jan REK	1265
Institutions.....	1266
BoA new Candidatures – CEV XXIII General Assembly	1266
CEV Calendar 2003/2004.....	1267
Youth European Championships Final Round	1267
European Group C Activities	1267
BVA Activities Calendar.....	1267
FIVB Code of Conduct.....	1267
Future of the EVT	1268
Tournament Approval: Recognition, Fee, Fines.....	1268
Financial Matters.....	1268
Accounts 2001 – Budget 2003.....	1268
Communication.....	1270
Working Group Media.....	1270
CEV Website Development	1270

2001/2002 Junior European Championships	1270
Poland – Men's Junior European Championships 2002	1270
2002/2003 Senior European Championships	1270
TUR	1271
GER.....	1271
DEN Request.....	1271
2002/2003 Youth European Championships	1271
2005 Senior European Championships Final Round	1271
European Cups	1272
European Beach Volleyball	1272
2002 Circuit	1272
Activity Calendar	1272
Projects	1272
Working Group Regulations and Fines	1272
CEV Exchange and Database of Promotional Material	1272
CEV 30th Anniversary.....	1273
Miscellaneous	1273
CEV XXIII General Assembly.....	1273
Seminar for CEV Representatives	1273
List of Appointments	1274
Best European Players 2002	1275
FIVB Congress	1275
National Leagues.....	1275
Appointment of the CEV Representatives – Beach Volleyball activities	1275
Closing of the Meeting.....	1275
CEV BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING – LUXEMBOURG - 8th NOVEMBER	
2002	1275
Opening of the Meeting	1276
Approval of the Agenda.....	1276
Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on 31st August 2002 at Hotel Brioni Mare in Jesolo (ITA)	1276
Approval of the Minutes of the Board of Administration Meeting held on 15th June 2002 at Palace Hotel in Zagreb (CRO)	1276
Medical Questionnaire	1276
Anti-doping controls in Beach Volleyball	1277
Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on 26th October 2002 at Hotel Novotel, Luxembourg (LUX)	1277
Activity Report of the Executive Committee Members	1277

Activity Reports of the Commissions (including adoption of the minutes)	1278
Legal Commission – Mr Aloys FISCHER	1278
Financial Commission – Mr Philip BERBEN	1278
European Cups Commission – Mrs Riet OOMS	1278
European Sports Organising Commission – Mr Fabio SASSI	1278
European Beach Volleyball Commission – Mr Miguel QUINTANA	1279
European Medical Commission – Dr Manfred HOLZGRAEFE	1281
European Refereeing Commission – Dr Jan REK	1281
European Working Groups	1282
Working Group Marketing – Mr André MEYER	1282
Working Group Fines and Regulations – Mrs Riet OOMS	1283
Financial Matters	1283
Old Debts	1283
New CEV Accounting Plan	1284
Proposal of the Internal Auditor, Mr Michel HENNO	1284
Institutions	1284
FIVB Congress in Buenos Aires (ARG)	1284
Approval of the Statutes of the Middle European Volleyball Zonal Association	1284
Report of the Balkan Volleyball Association	1285
30th CEV Anniversary	1285
Competitions	1285
European Cups	1285
European Championships	1286
Final Report of the Men's Junior European Championships 2002 in Cetniewo & Puck (POL)	1286
Update of the Women's Senior European Championships 2003 in Turkey	1286
Update of the Men's Senior European Championships 2003 in Germany	1286
Final proposal for the Men's and Women's Junior European Championships 2004	1287
Final proposal for the Men's and Women's Senior European Championships 2005	1287
European Beach Volleyball	1288
Continental Olympic Qualification for Athens 2004 (Indoor Volleyball and Beach Volleyball)	1289
Continental Qualification for Grand Prix (Women)	1289
Presentation of the project CEV Exchange and Database of Knowledge and Management	1290
XXIII CEV General Assembly	1290

Miscellaneous	1290
Closing of the Meeting.....	1291
XXIII GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING - LUXEMBOURG (LUX) – 9 th NOVEMBER	
2002	1291
Opening of the XXIII General Assembly	1293
Welcome Speech by the President of the Luxembourg Sports Olympic Committee, Mr Marc THEISEN.....	1294
Welcome Speech by the Luxembourg Commissioner for Sports and Physical Education, Mr Guy FUSENIG	1295
Speech by the General Manager of the International Volleyball Federation, Mr Jean-Pierre SEPPEY	1296
Official address by the CEV Honorary President, Dr Rolf ANDRESEN	1297
Setting up of the General Assembly's Office.....	1298
Record of Attendance	1298
Appointment of four Members of the Credentials Checking / Voting Commission .	1298
Report of the Credentials Checking Commission	1298
Approval of the Agenda.....	1298
Approval of the Minutes of the XXII General Assembly in Ostrava (CZE)	1299
CEV Activity Report 2001/2002 by the CEV President, Mr André MEYER	1299
Financial Report	1301
Financial Report – Accounts 2001 by CEV Treasurer, Mr Philip BERBEN (BEL) ..	1301
Internal Audit Report by Mr DADAMA (NED) and Mr HENNO (BEL).....	1301
External Audit Report by Mr Philip BERBEN, CEV Treasurer	1302
Budget 2003 by Mr Philip BERBEN, CEV Treasurer	1303
CEV Commission Reports.....	1304
Beach Volleyball Commission.....	1304
European Cups Commission	1306
European Financial Commission	1309
European Legal Commission	1310
European Refereeing Commission	1311
Sports Organising Commission.....	1312
Medical Commission.....	1315
CEV Working Group Reports	1316
Marketing.....	1316
Media.....	1318
CEV Exchange and Database of Knowledge and Management.....	1320
Global Sports Marketing	1321
The Company	1321

The European Championships Tour	1322
Election of the new Board of Administration Member	1324
Election	1325
Deliberation	1325
Future Organiser Presentations and Reports	1325
2003 Men's Senior European Championships	1325
2003 Women's Senior European Championships Final Round in Turkey	1326
2004 Men's Junior European Championships	1326
2004 Women's Junior European Championships	1327
2005 Men's Senior European Championships	1327
2005 Women's Senior European Championships	1328
Regional Activities	1328
Report of the BVA	1328
Report of the MEVZA	1329
Proposals from National Federations	1329
Miscellaneous	1329
Date & Venue of the XXIV General Assembly in 2003	1330
Closing of the XXIII General Assembly	1330
2003	1331
CEV BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING – PRAGUE (CZE) – 15 th & 16 th FEBRUARY 2003	1331
Opening of the Meeting	1331
Approval of the Agenda	1331
Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on Thursday, 7th November 2002 at Hotel SOFITEL, Luxembourg (LUX) and on Saturday, 7th December 2002 at Eurocenter, Vilvoorde (BEL)	1331
Approval of the Minutes of the Board of Administration Meeting held on Friday, 8th November 2002 at Congress Centre (LUX)	1332
Activity Report of the Executive Committee	1332
Activity Reports (including adoption of the Minutes)	1332
Legal Commission – Mr Aloys FISCHER, ELC President (Minutes)	1332
Financial Commission – Mr Philip BERBEN, CEV Senior Vice-President & Treasurer	1332
Cups Commission – Mrs Riet OOMS, CEV Vice-President and ECC President	1333
Sports Organising Commission – Mr Fabio SASSI, ESOC President	1333
Beach Volleyball Commission – Mr Miguel QUINTANA, EBVC President (Minutes)	1334
Medical Commission – Dr Manfred HOLZGRAEFE, EMC President	1334

Refereeing Commission – Dr Jan REK, ERC President.....	1335
Working Group Media – Mr Aleksandar BORICIC, CEV Vice-President & WG Chairman.....	1336
Working Group Fines & Regulations – Mrs Riet OOMS, CEV Vice-President & WG Chairman.....	1337
Institutions	1337
Balkan Volleyball Association (BVA).....	1338
Middle European Volleyball Zonal Association.....	1338
Sports Aid Program – Guidelines to NF (Mr P. BERBEN)	1339
Spring Cup – Office and Organisation.....	1340
National Volleyball Leagues (Mrs R. OOMS)	1340
30th CEV Anniversary.....	1340
Financial Matters	1340
Old Debts.....	1340
European Sports Organising Commission.....	1341
Sanctions Proposals	1341
ESOC Members Nomination – Decisions of the BoA	1342
Registration of Players.....	1343
Youth European Championships 2003.....	1343
Junior European Championships	1344
Senior European Championships	1344
Continental Olympic Qualification – Athens 2004.....	1345
Junior World Championships 2003	1345
Youth World Championships.....	1346
World Grand Prix 2004 – Qualifications in 2003.....	1346
Senior European Championships 2003.....	1347
2003/04 Junior European Championships	1347
2002/03 Youth European Championships.....	1347
Continental Olympic Qualification – Athens 2004.....	1348
European Cups.....	1348
European Beach Volleyball.....	1349
Approval of the Regulations	1350
Projects	1350
Miscellaneous	1350
Closing of the Meeting.....	1351
CEV BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING – VARNA (BUL) – 21 st JUNE 2003....	1351
Opening of the Meeting	1351

Approval of the Agenda.....	1351
Minutes of the Executive Committee.....	1351
Approval of the Minutes of the Board of Administration Meeting held on 15th–16th February 2003 at Pyramida Hotel in Praha (CZE)	1352
Activity Report of the Executive Committee.....	1352
Recognition of the International Referees.....	1352
FIVB Refereeing Commission	1352
FIVB Ranking Points	1352
Activity Reports.....	1353
Legal Commission – Mr Aloys FISCHER, ELC President	1353
Financial Commission – Mr Philip BERBEN, CEV Senior Vice-President & Treasurer.....	1353
Cups Commission – Mrs Riet OOMS, CEV Vice-President and ECC President	1353
Sports Organising Commission – Mr Fabio SASSI, ESOC President	1354
Beach Volleyball Commission – Mr Miguel QUINTANA, EBVC President	1355
Medical Commission – Dr Manfred HOLZGRAEFE, EMC President	1355
Refereeing Commission – Dr Jan REK.....	1356
Working Group Media – Mr Aleksandar BORICIC	1357
Working Group Vision 2008 – Mrs Snjezana MIJIC (Minutes)	1357
Working Group Regulations & Fines – Mrs Riet OOMS.....	1358
Working Group Champions League – Mrs Riet OOMS.....	1358
Institutions	1358
Zonal Volleyball Associations	1359
CEV Website	1360
XXIV General Assembly in Berlin – ExCom & BoA Meetings	1360
Financial Matters.....	1361
Accounts 2002.....	1361
Old Debts	1361
Suspension of clubs from European Competition & Responsibility of the clubs towards CEV	1361
Budget 2004.....	1362
European Sports Organising Commission.....	1362
European Continental Olympic Pre-Qualifications 2003/04.....	1362
European Championships 2004/05.....	1363
Youth European Championships Final Round	1363
Future Senior European Championships, Categories A & B.....	1364
Future Senior European Championships Category C	1364

Other business	1364
Youth Official Regulations.....	1364
Sanction for SMR and Small Countries	1365
Procedure schedule for Candidates 2007 European Championships.....	1365
Senior European Championships 2003.....	1365
2002/03 Youth European Championships.....	1365
European Cups.....	1366
European Beach Volleyball	1366
Miscellaneous	1367
XXV CEV General Assembly 2004 in Istanbul	1369
Closing of the Meeting.....	1369
CEV BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING – BERLIN (GER) – 11th SEPTEMBER 2003.....	1369
Opening of the Meeting	1370
Approval of the Agenda.....	1370
Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on 20th June 2003 at Hrankov Castle, Sofia (BUL).....	1370
Minutes of the Board of Administration Meeting held on 21st June 2003 at Grand Hotel Varna, Varna (BUL).....	1370
Activity Report of the Executive Committee	1371
Commission Activity Reports (including adoption of the Minutes)	1372
Legal Commission – Mr Aloys FISCHER	1372
Financial Commission – Mr Philip BERBEN.....	1372
Cups Commission – Mrs Riet OOMS.....	1373
Sports Organising Commission – Mr Fabio SASSI	1374
Beach Volleyball Commission – Mr André MEYER.....	1375
Medical Commission – Dr Manfred HOLZGRAEFE	1376
Refereeing Commission – Mr Jan REK.....	1377
Working Group Fines & Regulations – Mrs Riet OOMS	1378
Working Group Vision 2008 – M. Snjezana MIJIC	1378
Institutions.....	1378
Approval of the Statutes of the Regional Volleyball Associations	1378
30th CEV Anniversary Yearbook	1379
Competitions	1379
European Cups.....	1379
European Championships.....	1380
European Beach Volleyball	1381

Continental Olympic Qualifications for Athens 2004.....	1382
Beach Volleyball.....	1382
Volleyball.....	1382
Continental Qualification FIVB World Grand Prix	1383
XXIV CEV General Assembly	1383
Miscellaneous	1384
Proposal of FRA – Advertising on uniforms	1384
NOC/IOC – FIVB Olympic Qualification – FIVB letter	1384
Bosnia & Herzegovina	1384
International Transfers.....	1384
Mr George BOUDRY, Former CEV President.....	1384
Closing of the Meeting	1384
CEV XXIV GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING - BERLIN (GER) – 12 th SEPTEMBER 2003	1385
Opening of the XXIV General Assembly, Welcome Address by CEV President,	1387
Mr André MEYER [<i>pictured addressing the General Assembly in 2003</i>]	1387
Welcome Speech by the President of the German Volleyball Federation, Mr Werner VON MOLTKE	1388
Welcome Speech by the Senator for Education, Youth and Sports, Mr Klaus BÖGER.....	1389
Welcome Speech by the President of the National Olympic Committee, Dr Klaus STEINBACH	1390
Speech by Mr Jean-Pierre SEPPEY, FIVB General Manager	1390
Nomination of Mr Georges BOUDRY, CEV Honorary Member	1391
Setting up of the XXVI General Assembly's Office	1391
Record of Attendance.....	1391
Appointment of four Members of the Credentials	1392
Report of the Credentials Checking Commission.....	1392
Approval of the Agenda.....	1392
FIVB Resolution	1392
Intervention by Mr Herman VAN ZWIETEN (NED)	1394
Approval of the Minutes of the XXIII General Assembly in Luxembourg (LUX).....	1394
CEV Activity Report 2002/2003 by CEV President, Mr André MEYER (LUX).....	1394
Financial Report.....	1396
Financial Report – Accounts 2002 by CEV Treasurer, Mr Philip BERBEN (BEL)...	1396
Internal Audit Report by Mr Leo DADEMA (NED) and Mr Michel HENNO (BEL) ...	1397
Budget 2004 – Budgets 2003 & 2004 vs. Accounts 2002 by CEV Treasurer, Mr Philip BERBEN (BEL).....	1398

Amendments of the CEV Statutes	1398
CEV Commission Reports.....	1399
European Beach Volleyball Commission.....	1399
European Cups Commission	1401
European Financial Commission	1405
European Legal Commission	1407
European Refereeing Commission	1410
Sports Organising Commission.....	1412
Medical Commission.....	1414
CEV Working Group Reports	1415
Marketing.....	1415
Media.....	1416
Regulations and Fines	1418
Champions League.....	1419
Updated Record of Attendance and Report of the Credentials Checking Commission.....	1420
Vision 2008.....	1421
Regional Activities	1422
Report from the BVA.....	1422
Report from the MEVZA.....	1423
Report from the NEVZA	1423
World League and FIVB Grand Prix	1424
The Olympic Games	1424
The World Championships.....	1424
The World Cup.....	1424
The World League	1425
The World Grand Prix	1425
A New Communication Flow: The CEV Website 2003.....	1425
Future Organiser Presentations and Reports	1426
2005 Senior European Championships in Italy and Serbia & Montenegro	1426
2005 Senior European Championships in Croatia.....	1427
Procedure Schedule for Candidates 2007 European Championships and 2006 Junior European Championships	1427
2005 Boys U-19 European Championships	1428
2005 Girls U-18 European Championships	1428
2004 Senior Beach Volleyball European Championship Tour	1429
Proposals from National Federations.....	1430

Miscellaneous	1430
30th CEV Anniversary	1431
Date & Venue of the XXV General Assembly in 2004	1431
Closing of the XXVI General Assembly	1431
2004.....	1432
CEV BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING – PARIS (FRA) – 7 th FEBRUARY	
2004	1432
Opening of the Meeting.....	1432
Approval of the Agenda.....	1433
Activity Report of the Executive Committee.....	1433
2005 FIVB World Grand Prix	1433
2004 Swatch FIVB World Tour	1433
Sports Aid Program	1433
FIVB Constitution	1433
FIVB Official languages	1434
Disciplinary procedures	1434
Launching Park Volley.....	1434
Rules of the Games.....	1434
Refereeing Commission	1434
2006 World Championship Qualification Tournaments	1434
2006 World Championships in Japan	1434
Volleyball Federation of Argentina.....	1434
2004 FIVB Congress	1434
Activity Reports	1435
Legal Commission – Mr Aloys FISCHER.....	1435
Financial Commission – Mr Philip BERBEN	1435
Cups Commission – Mrs Riet OOMS	1435
Sports Organising Commission – Mr Fabio SASSI.....	1435
Beach Volleyball Commission – Mr Miguel-Angel QUINTANA.....	1437
Medical Commission – Prof. Dr Manfred HOLZGRAEFE	1439
Refereeing Commission – Dr Jan REK.....	1441
Institutions.....	1442
IVT	1442
Replacement of EBVC Members.....	1442
Recognised Federation in BIH.....	1442
Sports Aid Program – Guideline to NF.....	1443
Working Group Media.....	1443



Working Group Fines & Regulations	1444
Working Group Vision 2008	1444
Financial Matters	1445
Accounts 2003	1445
Old Debts.....	1445
Modification of the CEV budgets 2003 & 2004.....	1445
Case of SMR	1446
Senior European Championships	1446
2002/03 SEC in Germany – Report from the Jury President	1446
2002/03 SEC in Turkey – Report from the Jury President.....	1446
Medical Controls in TUR	1446
2004/2005 EC in ITA & SCG – Report from the Jury President.....	1446
2004/2005 EC in CRO – Report from the Jury President	1447
2006/2007 SEC – Proposal from the WG EC 2007.....	1448
2003/2004 U-19/20 European Championships	1448
Continental Olympic Qualification – Athens 2004.....	1449
Grand Prix 2005 (Qualification in 2004)	1449
European League – project.....	1450
European Cups.....	1450
European Beach Volleyball	1452
Marketing.....	1452
Uniforms	1452
Miscellaneous	1453
Next Meeting	1453
Remarks from the BoA Members	1453
Closing of the Meeting.....	1453
CEV BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING – BELGRADE (SCG) – 19 th JUNE 2004	1453
Opening of the Meeting	1454
Approval of the Agenda.....	1454
Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on Friday, 6th February 2004 at Hotel Marignan-Elysée, Paris (FRA).....	1454
Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on Friday & Saturday, 23-24th April 2004 at Hotel ARNOLDS, Riga (LAT).....	1454
Approval of the Minutes of the Board of Administration Meeting held on 7th February 2004 at Hotel Marignan-Elysée, Paris (FRA)	1455
Activity Report of the Executive Committee	1456
Institutions.....	1456

FIVB Congress in Porto (POR)	1456
Zonal Volleyball Association – Statutes EEVZA - Calendars	1456
Working Group Media – Minutes of the Meeting held on 20th March in Tenerife (ESP)	1458
Working Group Regulations & Fines – Minutes of the Meeting held in Luxembourg on 1st May 2004	1460
Working Group Vision 2008 – follow up	1460
Financial Matters.....	1461
Accounts 2003.....	1461
Old Debts – situation of NF's which could be suspended by FIVB	1461
Budget 2005	1461
Per Diem – analysis for the future.....	1461
European Championships	1462
2004 JEC Final Round in SVK.....	1462
2004 JEC Final Round in CRO	1462
2005 Girls' YEC Final Round in EST	1462
2005 Boys' YEC Final Round in LAT	1462
2005 Men's SEC Final Round in ITA & SCG	1463
2005 Women's SEC Final Round in CRO.....	1463
Applications 2006 and 2007	1464
Publicity on Uniforms – approval of the new regulations	1464
ESOC Proposals	1464
European League 2004.....	1465
Grand Prix 2005 (Qualification in 2004)	1466
European Cups	1466
2004/05 Registration of clubs	1466
Indesit European Champions League 2004/05	1466
ECC Proposal – future competitions format for the CEV Cups	1466
ECC Proposal – Closing Ceremony Procedures.....	1467
European Beach Volleyball	1467
2004 Senior European Beach Volleyball Tour and Championships	1467
Other Competitions 2004 – report and future.....	1467
Players representatives – proposal.....	1468
Indoor Beach Volleyball - proposal	1468
Official warning - Beach Volleyball European Championships	1468
Activity Reports – CEV Commissions.....	1468
Legal Commission – Mr Aloys FISCHER.....	1468

Financial Commission – Mr Philip BERBEN.....	1469
Cups Commission – Mrs Riet OOMS.....	1469
Sports Organising Commission – Mr Fabio SASSI	1469
Beach Volleyball Commission – Mr Miguel-Angel QUINTANA	1469
Medical Commission – Prof. Manfred HOLZGRAEFE.....	1469
Refereeing Commission – Dr Jan REK.....	1470
Miscellaneous	1470
Official Nominations – competitions 2004/05	1470
Next meeting & CEV General Assembly	1471
Remarks from the BoA Members.....	1471
Closing of the Meeting.....	1471
CEV BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING – ISTANBUL (TUR) – 1 ST OCTOBER 2004	1471
Opening of the Meeting	1472
Approval of the Agenda.....	1472
Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on 17th – 18th June 2004 at Hotel Hyatt Regency in Belgrade (SCG).....	1472
Minutes of the Board of Administration Meeting held on 19th June 2004 at Hotel Hyatt Regency in Belgrade (SCG).....	1472
Activity Report of the Executive Committee	1472
Institutions.....	1473
FIVB World Championships 2006 – Memo and actual situation.....	1473
“Proseries” – FIVB non-authorised Beach Volleyball Event.....	1473
Working Group Media	1473
Working Group Regulations & Fines	1474
Working Group Vision 2008	1474
Financial Matters	1475
Accounts 2003 vs. 2004/05.....	1475
Old Debts.....	1475
Reserve Fund 2005	1475
European Championships	1476
2004 Men’s JEC Final Round in SVK.....	1476
2004 Women’s JEC Final Round in CRO.....	1476
2005 Girls’ YEC Final Round in EST.....	1476
2005 Boys’ YEC Final Round in LAT	1477
2005 Men’s SEC Final Round in ITA and SCG	1477
2005 Women’s SEC Final Round in CRO	1477

Designation of the 2006 & 2007 Organisers	1478
European League 2004.....	1478
2004 Conclusions.....	1478
Next Edition and Planning	1478
FIVB Grand Prix Qualification Tournament 2005.....	1479
European Cups.....	1479
Drawing of Lots IECL 2004/05 and Seminars	1479
Creation of a Working Group	1479
European Beach Volleyball	1480
U-18, 20, 23 European Championships – Final Reports	1480
European Championships Tour 2004	1480
Seminar in Brno.....	1481
Activity Reports – CEV Commissions.....	1481
Legal Commission – Mr Philip BERBEN.....	1481
Financial Commission – Mr Philip BERBEN	1481
Cups Commission – Mrs Riet OOMS	1481
Sports Organising Commission – Mr Fabio SASSI	1482
Beach Volleyball Commission – Mr Miguel-Angel QUINTANA.....	1482
Medical Commission – Mr Manfred HOLZGRAEFE.....	1482
Refereeing Commission – Mr Jan REK	1482
XXV CEV General Assembly	1483
Miscellaneous	1483
2005 Meetings Calendar (ExCom, BoA, Commissions, WG).....	1483
2004 Best Players Awards.....	1483
XI Games of the Small States of Europe	1484
Mediterranean Games.....	1484
Case of BIH.....	1484
Remarks from the BoA Members.....	1484
Nomination of the 2006 and 2007 Organisers.....	1484
Closing of the Meeting	1485
XXV CEV GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING – ISTANBUL (TURKEY) – 2ND OCTOBER 2004.....	1486
Board of Administration.....	1486
Congress Opening	1486
FIVB General Director Mr Jean Pierre SEPPEY's address	1486
Turkey Youth and Sports Minister Mr Mehmet ATALAY's address.....	1486
Turkish Volleyball Federation President Mr Hüsnu CAN's address	1486



Approval of authorities.....	1487
2003/2004 CEV Activities report.....	1487
FIVB Message delivered by General Director JP. SEPPEY (Switzerland)	1488
Financial report	1488
2004 and 2005 Budgets	1489
Beach Volleyball Commission	1490
European Cups Commission	1491
European Financial Commission	1491
European Legal Commission	1491
European Refereeing Commission	1492
European Sport Organisation	1492
European Medical Commission	1493
CEV Working groups reports	1493
Marketing.....	1493
Media.....	1494
Regulations and Sanctions	1494
Regional Activities	1494
Balkans region	1494
Central Europe region.....	1494
Northern Europe region	1494
Austrian Airlines presentation – official CEV partner.....	1494
Report on forthcoming events.....	1495
2005 Men European Championships in Italy and Serbia and Montenegro	1495
2005 Women’s European Championships in Croatia	1495
2005 Under 19 Youth Boys European Championships in Latvia	1495
2005 Under 18 Youth Girls European Championships in Estonia	1495
Organisers appointments for forthcoming events.....	1495
2006 Under 20 Junior Boys European Championships	1495
2006 Under 20 Junior Girls European Championships.....	1496
2007 Under 19 Youth Boys European Championships	1496
2007 Under 18 Youth Girls European Championships	1496
2007 Senior Women’s European Championship.....	1496
2007 Senior Men’s European Championships	1496
New CEV office unveiling – Luxembourg.....	1496
2005 26 th General Assembly Meeting location and date	1496
Miscellaneous	1496

2004 General Assembly meeting closing	1497
2005.....	1497
CEV BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING – ALMERIA (ESP) – 22 nd JANUARY	
2005	1497
Opening of the Meeting.....	1498
Approval of the Agenda.....	1498
Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on 30th September 2004 at Hotel Radisson SAS in Istanbul (TUR)	1498
Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on 4th December 2004 at Hotel Divani Acropolis in Athens (GRE)	1498
Activity Report of the Executive Committee.....	1499
Men's Final Four IECL 2004/05	1499
Unveiling of the new CEV Offices	1499
Next BoA meeting	1499
Institutions.....	1499
2005 FIVB Junior World Championships Qualification.....	1499
FIVB – CEV Beach Volleyball Issue	1499
Working Group Regulations and Fines	1500
Working Group Future of European Cups.....	1501
BVA Calendar 2005.....	1501
ESOC Proposals	1502
Financial Matters.....	1504
Accounts 2004.....	1504
Old Debts	1504
Proposal to the General Assembly	1504
Memberships Fee Proposal.....	1505
European Championships.....	1505
2005 Men's SECH.....	1505
2005 Women's SECH.....	1506
2005 YECH Final Round in LAT and EST	1506
European League 2005	1506
FIVB Grand Prix Qualification Tournament 2005	1507
European Cups.....	1507
Final Fours 2005	1507
IECL Drawing of Lots 2005.....	1507
European Beach Volleyball	1508
U-18, U-20, U-23 European Championships – 2005 Organisations	1508

European Championships Tour 2005 – CEV Calendar	1508
Activity Reports – CEV Commissions	1508
Legal Commission – Mr Aloys FISCHER	1508
Financial Commission – Mr Philip BERBEN	1509
Cups Commission – Mrs Riet OOMS	1510
Sports Organising Commission – Mr Fabio SASSI	1510
Beach Volleyball Commission – Mr Miguel-Angel QUINTANA	1510
Medical Commission – Mr Manfred HOLZGRAEFE	1511
Refereeing Commission – Mr Jan REK	1512
CEV Head Office Unveiling	1512
Seminar for General Secretaries	1513
Miscellaneous	1513
2005 Meetings Calendar (ExCom, BoA, Commissions, WG's)	1513
Awards Ceremony	1513
Remarks from the BoA Members	1514
Next ExCom and BoA Meetings	1514
Closing of the Meeting	1514
CEV BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING – MOSCOW (RUS) – 4 th JUNE 2005	1514
Opening of the Meeting	1514
Approval of the Agenda	1515
Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on 21st January 2005 at the Hotel Tryp Indalo, in Almeria (ESP)	1515
Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on 18th – 19th February 2005 at CEV Head Office, in Luxembourg (LUX)	1515
Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on 23rd April 2005 at the Ramada Park Hotel, in Geneva (SUI)	1515
Minutes of the Board of Administration held on 21st January 2005 at the Hotel Tryp Indalo, in Almeria (ESP)	1516
Activity Report of the Executive Committee – FIVB Board of Administration meeting on 29-30th April and 1st May 2005	1516
Finance	1516
The new volleyball federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina	1516
FIVB moving	1516
FIVB player's agreement for Beach Volleyball	1516
Continental circuits	1516
Implementation of a high level development centre of excellence in Montpellier (FRA)	1516
TV & Media	1516

Appointment of the MVP.....	1516
Application of a BoA member to become a candidate to the FIVB presidency	1517
Match USA vs. BRA during the Olympic Games.....	1517
Equipment	1517
Alcohol tests for officials	1517
Amendments to the Medical Regulations.....	1517
Final Report on electronic score sheet	1517
Institutions.....	1517
FIVB/CEV Beach Volleyball Issues.....	1517
Working Group Regulations & Fines.....	1517
Working Group Media.....	1518
Working Group Future of European Cups.....	1518
Working Group European Champions League	1519
European Legal Commission proposals	1519
Zonal Associations activities.....	1519
CEV Statutes modifications	1520
2005 – 2009 Official Applications.....	1520
EUROSPORT contract 2005 – 2008	1520
Activity Reports – CEV Commissions.....	1520
Cups Commission	1520
Refereeing Commission	1521
Medical Commission	1522
Legal Commission	1522
Sports Organisation Commission	1523
Financial Matters.....	1523
Accounts 2004 & Budget 2006	1523
Suspension ARM / WAL and Memberships fee proposal.....	1524
European Championships.....	1524
2005 Men's SEC – Report of the Jury President.....	1524
2005 Women's SEC – Report of the Jury President	1524
2005 YEC in LAT and EST – Report of the Jury Presidents	1525
2007 Senior European Championships Regulations.....	1525
Small Countries Addendum – Senior and Junior	1525
European League 2005	1525
2006 FIVB Grand Prix European Qualification.....	1525
European Beach Volleyball	1526

U-18, 20, 23 EC – 2005 Organisation	1526
Nestea European Championship Tour 2005	1526
Miscellaneous	1526
Awarding Ceremony	1526
XXVI CEV General Assembly 9th September 2005 – Rome (ITA)	1526
TTC & CEV Cup	1528
European Youth Olympic Festival – Lignano (ITA).....	1528
BIH Case	1528
Closing of the Meeting.....	1528
CEV BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING – ROME (ITA) – 7 th & 8 th SEPTEMBER 2005.....	1528
Opening of the Meeting	1528
Approval of the Agenda.....	1529
Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on 3rd June 2005 at Hotel MEZHDUNARODNAYA, Moscow (RUS).....	1529
Minutes of the Board of Administration Meeting held on 4th June 2005 at Hotel MEZHDUNARODNAYA, Moscow (RUS).....	1529
Activity Report of the Executive Committee	1529
Institutions.....	1529
FIVB – CEV Meeting – future of European Circuit.....	1529
Zonal Associations activities: Minutes of the meeting held on 28th June 2005 in Luxembourg.....	1530
Financial & Marketing Matters	1530
Old debts – situation of NFs which should be suspended by FIVB.....	1530
EUROSPORT contract	1530
European Championships	1531
2005 SEC Final Round in ITA and SCG – Progress Report from the Jury President	1531
2005 SEC Final Round in CRO – Progress Report from the Jury President.....	1531
2004/05 Men's European Championship – Case of Georgia.....	1531
Calendar 2006 – Report of the Working Group	1531
European Championship Regulations.....	1532
European League 2005 and future	1533
Final Four in Kazan (RUS)	1533
Health Problems - Hotel Dedeman – Ankara (TUR).....	1533
Next edition and Planning	1533
European Qualification 2006 FIVB World Grand Prix.....	1533
European Cups	1534

Drawing of Lots IECL 2005/06 and Seminars	1534
Case of BIH	1534
European Beach Volleyball	1534
U-18, 20, 23 EC Final Reports.....	1534
Nestea European Championship Final 2005	1535
'Pro Series' – CEV/FIVB non-authorised tournaments.....	1536
Activity Reports – CEV Commissions.....	1536
Legal Commission – Mr Aloys FISCHER	1536
Financial Commission – Mr Philip BERBEN	1536
Cups Commission – Mrs Riet OOMS	1536
Sports Organising Commission – Mr Fabio SASSI	1536
Refereeing Commission – Mr Jan REK	1537
Beach Volleyball Commission – Mr Miguel A. QUINTANA	1537
Medical Commission – Mr Manfred HOLZGRAEFE.....	1537
XXVI CEV General Assembly – Practical Information	1538
Miscellaneous	1538
Closing of the Meeting	1538
CEV XXVI GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING - ROME (ITA) - 9 th SEPTEMBER 2005.	1539
Opening of the XXVI General Assembly	1541
Welcome Address by the CEV President, Mr André MEYER.....	1541
Welcome Speech by Mr Renato ARENA	1542
Welcome Speech by the FIVB Vice-President, Mr Yury CHESNOKOV	1543
Setting up of the XXVI General Assembly's Office	1543
Record of Attendance.....	1543
Appointment of four Members of the Credentials Checking / Voting Commission..	1543
Members of the Credentials Checking / Voting Commission.....	1544
Report of the Credentials Checking Commission.....	1544
Approval of the Agenda.....	1544
Approval of the Minutes of the XXV General Assembly in Istanbul (TUR)	1544
CEV Activity Report 2004/2005 by CEV President, Mr André MEYER (LUX).....	1544
Financial Report.....	1546
Financial Report – Accounts 2004 by CEV Treasurer, Mr Philip BERBEN (BEL)...	1546
Internal Audit Report by Mr Leo DADEMA (NED) and Mr Michel HENNO (BEL) ...	1546
External Audit Report - Accounts 2004 by CEV Treasurer, Mr Philip BERBEN (BEL).....	1547
Budget 2006 – Budgets 2005 & 2006 vs. Accounts 2004 by CEV Treasurer, Mr Philip BERBEN (BEL).....	1548

Membership fees proposal by CEV Treasurer, Mr Philip BERBEN (BEL)	1548
CEV Commission Reports	1550
European Beach Volleyball Commission.....	1550
European Cups Commission	1551
European Financial Commission	1552
European Legal Commission	1552
European Refereeing Commission	1553
Sports Organising Commission.....	1554
Medical Commission.....	1555
CEV Working Group Reports	1556
Marketing.....	1556
Media & Communication.....	1556
Regulations and Fines	1558
Regional Activities	1558
Report from the BVA.....	1558
Report from the MEVZA.....	1559
Report from the NEVZA	1560
Report from the EEVZA	1560
Progress Reports of the 2006 Organisers	1561
Junior Men's European Championships 2006 in Russia	1561
Junior Women's European Championships 2006 in France	1561
Park Volley Development	1562
Proposals from National Federations.....	1562
Election of the CEV President	1563
Election.....	1563
Deliberation	1563
Election of the Board of Administration Members	1563
Proposal by Mr Richard CALLICOTT (ENG)	1563
Proposal by Mr Jacob SHTOFMAN (ISR)	1564
Proposal by Mr John CLARKE (IRL)	1564
Part 1: Election of the female BoA members.....	1564
Part 2: Election of the remaining BoA Members.....	1564
Recess for the Board of Administration Meeting	1565
Approval of the Nomination of the Commissions' Presidents	1565
Date and Venue of the XXVII General Assembly in 2005	1567
Miscellaneous	1567

Closing of the XXVI General Assembly	1567
2006.....	1569
CEV BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING – ATHENS (GRE) – 28 th JANUARY	
2006	1569
Opening of the Meeting.....	1569
Approval of the Agenda.....	1569
Minutes of the Executive Committee held on 16/17th December 2005 at Hotel Novotel, Luxembourg (LUX).....	1570
Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on 7th September 2005 at Hotel Four Points SHERATON, Rome (ITA).....	1570
Approval of the Minutes of the Board of Administration Meetings 7/8/9th September 2005 at Hotel Four Points SHERATON, Rome (ITA).....	1570
Activity Report of the Executive Committee.....	1570
Institutions.....	1571
FIVB/CEV Beach Volleyball Issues.....	1571
CEV Internal Regulations	1571
Code of Discipline	1571
Working Group Regulations & Fines.....	1571
Working Group Future of European Cups.....	1572
Working Group Media & Communication.....	1572
Working Group Vision 2012.....	1573
Zonal Associations activities & CEV Coordination	1573
Tasks of the ExCom & BoA Members	1573
Financial Matters.....	1574
Accounts 2005.....	1574
Aged Debts ARM/WAL – Sports Aid program.....	1574
External Audit 2005	1574
Insurance coverage for CEV competitions.....	1574
European Championships.....	1575
Men's SEC – Final Report of the Jury President.....	1575
2005 Women's SEC – Final Report of the Jury President.....	1575
2006 JEC in FRA and RUS - Report of the Control Committee Presidents.....	1576
2007 Men's SECH - Report of the Control Committee Presidents	1576
2007 Women's SECH - Report of the Control Committee Presidents	1576
2007 Boys' U-19 ECH – Report of the Control Committee Presidents	1576
2007 Girls U-18 ECH – Report of the Control Committee Presidents	1576
2008 and 2009 European Championships Applications – Procedure and Planning	1576

CEV Officials nomination	1577
European League Meeting held on 20th November 2005 in Luxembourg	1577
FIVB Grand Prix Qualification Tournament 2006	1577
European Cups	1578
Final Four 2006.....	1578
Competition calendar 2006-2007	1578
IECL drawing of lots 23rd June 2006 in Vienna (AUT)	1578
European Beach Volleyball	1579
2006 Senior European Championships Regulations	1579
U-18, 20, 23 EC - 2006 Organisation	1579
European Championships Tour 2006 – CEV calendar	1579
Warning FIVB/CEV – Non-recognised tournaments and athletes' suspension	1579
CEV Commissions – Minutes & Objectives 2006-2009	1580
Beach Volleyball Commission – Mr Stefan POTYKA	1580
Cups Commission – Mrs Riet OOMS.....	1582
Financial Commission – Mr Philip BERBEN.....	1583
Legal Commission – Mr Aloys FISCHER	1583
Medical Commission – Mr Manfred HOLZGRAEFE	1584
Refereeing Commission – Mr Jan REK.....	1585
Sports Organising Commission – Mr Pierre MULHEIMS.....	1585
Miscellaneous	1588
XXVII CEV General Assembly	1588
2006-2009 Meetings Calendar (ExCom, BoA)	1588
Veterans Volleyball	1588
Training centre in Montpellier (FRA)	1588
Ranking system	1589
TTC 2006-2007.....	1589
Agendas	1589
Next BoA meeting.....	1589
Closing of the Meeting.....	1589
CEV BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING – PALERMO (ITA) – 10 th JUNE 2006	1590
Opening of the Meeting	1590
Approval of the Agenda.....	1590
Minutes of the Executive Committee held on 27th January 2006 at Hotel Divani Acropolis Palace, in Athens (GRE).....	1590
Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on 25th March 2006 at Hotel Park Aran, Rome (ITA)	1590

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on 22nd April 2006 at Hotel Polat Renaissance, Istanbul (TUR)	1591
Approval of the minutes of the Board of Administration meeting on 28th January 2006 at the Hotel Divani Acropolis Palace in Athens (GRE)	1591
Activity report of the Executive Committee	1591
Institutions.....	1591
FIVB-CEV report	1591
Competition	1592
Coaches Commission.....	1592
Working Group Regulations & Fines.....	1592
Working Group Media.....	1593
Working Group Future of European Cups.....	1593
Working Group European Champions League	1593
Working Group Vision 2012.....	1593
Working Group Veterans Volleyball	1593
Zonal Associations Activities	1594
Valencia 2010 – ESOC Proposal.....	1594
CEV Statutes Modifications	1595
Financial Matters.....	1596
Accounts 2005.....	1596
Budget 2007	1596
European Championships	1596
2006 Boys and Girls JEC – Report of the Jury Presidents	1596
2007 Boys and Girls YEC – Report of the Jury Presidents	1597
2007 Men and Women SECH – Report of the Jury Presidents.....	1597
2008-2009 Applications	1597
European League	1597
2007 FIVB World Grand Prix Qualification Tournament.....	1597
European Cups.....	1598
Registration to the 2006/07 European Cups	1598
Drawing of Lots TTC & CEV Cups.....	1598
IECL Drawing of Lots & Seminar on 24th – 25th June 2006 in Vienna	1598
European Beach Volleyball	1598
Nestea European Championships Tour 2006	1598
Indoor Beach Volleyball.....	1599
Miscellaneous	1599
Nomination of Officials.....	1599

CEV Seminar for NFs General Secretaries – 13th October 2006.....	1600
XXVII CEV General Assembly – 14th October 2006	1600
Next meetings BoA & ExCom	1600
Activity Reports – CEV Commissions & Minutes	1601
Legal Commission – Mr Aloys FISCHER	1601
Financial Commission – Mr Philip BERBEN.....	1601
Cups Commission – Mrs Riet OOMS.....	1601
Sports Organising Commission – Mr Pierre MULHEIMS.....	1602
Beach Volleyball Commission – Mr Stefan POTYKA	1602
Medical Commission – Prof. Manfred HOLZGRAEFE.....	1603
Refereeing Commission – Mr Jan REK.....	1603
Closing of the Meeting.....	1603
CEV BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING – LUXEMBOURG (LUX) – 12 th & 13 th OCTOBER 2006	1603
Opening of the Meeting	1604
Approval of the Agenda.....	1604
Minutes of the Executive Committee held on 9th June 2006 at Hotel Mondello Palace in Palermo (ITA)	1605
Minutes of the Board of Administration Meeting held on 10th June 2006 at Hotel Mondello Palace in Palermo (ITA)	1605
Activity report of the Executive Committee	1605
Institutions.....	1606
FIVB Disciplinary Committee – European membership proposal	1606
FIVB – Administrative Fees for International Transfers	1606
ISR Case – 2nd Round SECH Qualification in CRO	1607
SMR Case – recognition of the President elected.....	1607
ARM – Lifting of the administrative suspension.....	1607
Zonal Associations’ meeting – 22nd June 2006 in Vienna (AUT)	1607
Independent European Sport Review	1608
Sport Governance in Europe.....	1608
Financial Matters	1608
Per Diem regulations	1608
European Championships	1608
2007 SECH Final Round in RUS – Progress Report.....	1608
2007 SECH Final Round in BEL and LUX – Progress Report.....	1609
2007 SECH Final Rounds – Medical Services to be confirmed.....	1609
2007 YECH Final Round in AUT – Progress Report	1610

2007 YECH Final Round in CZE – Progress Report	1610
2006 JECH Final Round in FRA – Final Report	1610
2006 JECH Final Round in RUS – Final Report	1610
Junior World Championships – European Qualifications	1611
European Youth Olympic Festival	1613
Working Group Veterans	1613
European League 2006 and future	1614
Qualification Tournament of the 2007 FIVB Grand Prix	1615
European Cups	1615
Drawing of Lots IECL 2006/07 - Report	1615
New Ranking System for the European Cups 2007/08	1615
Date of the Drawing of Lots IECL 2007/08	1616
New Cups Regulations – Drawing of Lots	1616
European Champions League – Final Four participants and organiser	1616
European Beach Volleyball	1617
U-18, U-20, U-23 European Championships – Final reports	1617
Nestea European Championships Tour 2006	1617
New Ranking System	1618
Indoor Beach Volleyball - Regulations	1618
Activity Reports – CEV Commissions	1619
Legal Commission – Mr Aloys FISCHER	1619
Financial Commission – Mr Philip BERBEN	1619
Cups Commission – Mrs Riet OOMS	1619
Sports Organising Commission – Mr Pierre MULHEIMS	1619
Beach Volleyball Commission – Mr Stefan POTYKA	1619
Medical Commission – Prof. Dr Manfred HOLZGRAEFE	1620
Refereeing Commission – Mr Jan REK	1620
Applications European Championships 2008/09	1621
Report of the Executive Committee members appointed	1621
Official Vote of the Board of Administration	1622
XXVII General Assembly	1622
Practical Information	1622
Credentials Checking Commission	1622
Miscellaneous	1622
Closing of the Meeting	1623
CEV XXVII GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING - LUXEMBOURG (LUX) – 14 th OCTOBER 2006	1623



Opening of the XXVII General Assembly	1626
Welcome Address by the CEV President, Mr André MEYER	1626
Welcome Speech by the Government Commissioner of Physical Education in Sports, Mr Guy FUSENIG	1627
Welcome Speech by the President of the National Olympic Committee, Mr Marc THEISEN	1627
Welcome Speech by the President of the International Volleyball Federation Dr Rubén ACOSTA H.	1628
Setting up of the XXVII General Assembly's Office.....	1629
Record of Attendance	1629
Appointment of four Members of the Credentials Checking Commission	1629
Report of the Credentials Checking Commission	1630
Approval of the Agenda.....	1630
Approval of the Minutes of the XXVI General Assembly in Rome (ITA)	1630
CEV Activity Report 2005/2006 By the CEV President, Mr André MEYER (LUX)	1630
Report of the Administrative Audit of the FIVB Accounts by Mr Cristobàl MARTE HOFFIZ, FIVB Executive Vice-President.....	1633
Financial Report	1633
Financial Report – Accounts 2005 by CEV Treasurer, Mr Philip BERBEN (BEL) ..	1633
Internal Audit Report by Mr Leo DADEMA (NED) and Mr Jacob SHTOFMAN	1634
External Audit Report - Accounts 2005 by CEV Treasurer, Mr Philip BERBEN (BEL)	1636
Budget 2007 by CEV Treasurer, Mr Philip BERBEN (BEL)	1637
CEV Commission Reports.....	1638
European Beach Volleyball Commission.....	1638
European Cups Commission	1639
European Financial Commission	1642
European Legal Commission	1642
European Medical Commission	1642
Sports Organising Commission.....	1643
European Refereeing Commission	1645
CEV Working Group Reports	1646
Media & Communication.....	1646
Regulations & Fines.....	1647
Veterans	1647
Vision 2012.....	1648
Regional Activities	1649
Report from the BVA.....	1649

Report from the MEVZA	1650
Report from the NEVZA.....	1650
Report from the EEVZA.....	1651
Volleyball in School: Peque Voley	1652
Progress Reports of 2007 Organisers	1652
Youth Boys European Championships 2007	1652
Girls Youth European Championships 2007	1653
Men's Senior European Championships 2007	1653
Women's Senior European Championships 2007.....	1653
Official Nominations of Future Organisers	1653
Men's Junior European Championships 2008.....	1653
Women's Junior European Championships 2008	1653
Boys Youth European Championships 2009	1654
Girls Youth European Championships 2009	1654
Men's Senior European Championships 2009.....	1654
Women's Senior European Championships 2009.....	1654
Proposals from National Federations.....	1654
XXVIII General Assembly 2007 in Moscow	1654
Miscellaneous	1654
Speech by Mr Jeannot KRECKE, Sports Minister.....	1655
Closing of the XXVII CEV General Assembly	1658
2007	1660
CEV BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING – WARSAW (POL) – 27 th JANUARY	
2007	1660
Opening of the Meeting.....	1660
Approval of the Agenda.....	1660
Minutes of the Executive Committee held on 11th – 12th October 2006 in	
Luxembourg (LUX).....	1660
Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on 9th – 10th December 2006 in	
Rotterdam (NED)	1661
Minutes of the Board of Administration Meeting held on 12th– 13th October 2006 in	
Luxembourg (LUX).....	1662
Activity Report of the Executive Committee.....	1662
Institutions.....	1662
2006 World Championships.....	1662
CEV Statutes & General Regulations	1662
FIVB Transfer Fees	1663
Zonal Associations Activities	1663



Financial Matters	1664
Accounts 2006	1664
European Championships	1664
2007 Men's SECH Final Round in RUS – Report.....	1664
Women's SECH Final Round in BEL and LUX - report	1665
2007 Girls U-18 European Championships - Report	1666
2007 Boys U-19 European Championships - Report.....	1666
European Youth Olympic Festival	1666
CEV Officials Nomination 2007 - 2009	1667
European League 2007	1667
Meeting held on 25th November 2006 in Luxembourg	1667
2007 Calendar	1668
FIVB World Grand Prix Qualification Tournament 2007	1668
Junior World Championships – European Qualifications.....	1669
European Veterans Championships.....	1670
Olympic Qualifications – European Qualifications Tournament.....	1671
European Cups	1671
Final Four applications.....	1671
IECL Drawing of Lots 2007	1671
European Cups Ranking System - review.....	1672
Anti-sporting Behaviour.....	1672
European Beach Volleyball	1672
U-18, U-20 and U-23 Organisers	1672
Nestea European Championship Tour 2007	1673
Official Regulations 2007	1673
Minutes & Activity Reports – CEV Commissions	1674
Legal Commission – Mr Aloys FISCHER	1674
Financial Commission – Mr Philip BERBEN.....	1675
Cups Commission – Mrs Riet OOMS.....	1675
Sports Organising Commission – Mr Pierre MULHEIMS.....	1675
Beach Volleyball Commission – Mr Stefan POTYKA	1676
Medical Commission – Prof Manfred HOLZGRAEFE	1677
Refereeing Commission – Mr Jan REK.....	1677
Miscellaneous	1678
IECL Regulations.....	1678
2006 Best Players Awards - Proposals	1678

Awards Ceremony 2006 & Proposals for the future	1678
Next ExCom and BoA in Paris (FRA)	1678
Closing of the Meeting	1678
CEV BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING – VIENNA (AUT) – 21 st JUNE 2007 ..	1679
Opening of the Meeting.....	1679
Approval of the Agenda.....	1679
Minutes of the Executive Committee held on 25th – 26th January 2007 in Warsaw (POL)	1679
Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on 31st March – 1st April 2007 in Moscow (RUS)	1679
Approval of the Minutes of the Board of Administration Meeting held on 27th January 2007 in Warsaw (POL)	1679
Activity Report of the Executive Committee.....	1680
Institutions.....	1680
FIVB ExCom & BoA Meetings – Report of the CEV President.....	1680
International Transfers - Memo.....	1681
CEV Statutes & General Regulations	1682
WG Vision 2012	1682
WG ELC / EMC	1682
Zonal Associations activities.....	1683
Small Countries Division.....	1683
Games of the Small States of Europe.....	1683
European Youth Olympic Festival.....	1684
Financial Matters.....	1684
Accounts 2006.....	1684
Budget 2008.....	1684
Per Diem Regulations.....	1685
European Championships.....	1685
2007 Men's SECH Final Round in RUS – Report	1685
2007 Women's SECH Final Round in BEL and LUX - report	1686
2007 Girls U-18 European Championships - Report.....	1686
2007 Boys U-19 European Championships - Report	1687
2008 Junior SECH in Italy - Report.....	1687
2008 Junior SECH in the Czech Republic - Report.....	1687
Youth European Championships – Competition format analysis.....	1687
CEV Official Nominations 2007 – 2009.....	1687
European League 2007	1687

FIVB World Grand Prix Qualification Tournament 2007	1688
Junior World Championships.....	1688
European Veterans Championships	1688
2008 Olympic Games.....	1689
European Cups	1690
2007/08 Registration Report	1690
IECL Drawing of Lots 2007	1690
CEV – EUROSPORT IECL project	1690
IECL Calendar 2007/08	1690
European Beach Volleyball	1690
U-18, U-20 and U-23 Organisers	1690
Qualification Tournament in St. Pölten.....	1690
Cancellation of classification matches & future competition format	1691
Minutes & Activity Reports – CEV Commissions	1691
Legal Commission – Mr Aloys FISCHER	1691
Financial Commission – Mr Philip BERBEN.....	1691
Cups Commission – Mrs Riet OOMS.....	1692
Sports Organising Commission – Mr Pierre MULHEIMS.....	1692
Beach Volleyball Commission – Mr Stefan POTYKA	1697
Medical Commission – Prof Manfred HOLZGRAEFE	1697
Refereeing Commission – Mr Jan REK.....	1698
Miscellaneous	1698
2007 Best Players Awards.....	1698
Awards Ceremony – Proposals for the future.....	1698
CEV General Assembly 2007 in Moscow	1699
CEV Head Office – replacement of employees.....	1699
Closing of the Meeting.....	1699
CEV BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING – MOSCOW (RUS) – 12 th & 13 th SEPTEMBER 2007	1700
Opening of the Meeting	1700
Approval of the Agenda.....	1700
Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on 20th June 2007 in Vienna (AUT)	1700
Minutes of the Board of Administration Meeting held on 21st June 2007 in Vienna (AUT)	1701
Activity Report of the Executive Committee	1701
Extraordinary meetings	1701

Proposal by the POL federation.....	1701
Beach Volleyball training centre	1701
Marketing	1701
Mikasa contract	1702
Azerbaijan	1702
FIVB World Grand Prix Qualifications	1702
National team of CRO	1702
Institutions.....	1702
FIVB – International Transfers – CEV memo	1702
CEV Statutes – Modifications	1702
San Marino Case.....	1703
Zonal Associations Meeting – 23rd June 2007 in Vienna.....	1703
Working Group Vision 2012.....	1703
Financial Matters.....	1704
Accounts 2006.....	1704
EUROSPORT Contract IECL 2007/08.....	1704
European Championships.....	1704
2007 SECH in RUS - Report	1704
2007 Women's SECH Final Round in BEL and LUX - report	1705
2008 Junior ECH in CZE - report.....	1705
2008 Junior ECH in ITA - report	1705
2009 SECH in POL – report	1705
2009 SECH in TUR - Report.....	1706
European Veterans Championships.....	1706
CEV Official Nominations 2007 – 2009	1706
European League 2007 and future.....	1707
Final Four in Portimao (POR)	1707
FIVB World Grand Prix Qualification Tournament 2007	1707
Olympic Pre-Qualification & Qualification Tournaments	1708
European Cups.....	1708
Drawing of Lots IECL 2007/08 - Report	1708
Official Regulations	1709
Ranking System European Cups.....	1709
Remarks of NFs	1709
European Beach Volleyball	1710
U-18, U-20 and U-23 EC – Report.....	1710

Nestea European Championship Tour and Final 2007	1711
Activity Reports – CEV Commissions	1711
Legal Commission – Mr Aloys FISCHER	1711
Financial Commission – Mr Philip BERBEN	1712
Cups Commission – Mrs Riet OOMS	1712
Sports Organising Commission – Mr Pierre MULHEIMS	1712
Beach Volleyball Commission – Mr Stefan POTYKA	1714
Medical Commission – Prof Manfred HOLZGRAEFE	1715
Refereeing Commission – Mr Jan REK	1715
Miscellaneous	1715
European Youth Olympic Festival	1715
Extraordinary BoA Meeting & timetable of meetings	1716
XXVIII CEV General Assembly	1716
Practical Information	1716
Credential Checking Commission - Proposal	1716
Remarks from BoA Members	1716
Closing of the Meeting	1717
CEV XXVIII GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING - MOSCOW (RUS) – 14 th SEPTEMBER 2007	1717
Opening of the XXVIII General Assembly	1719
Welcome Address by the CEV President, Mr André MEYER	1719
Welcome Speech by the Russian Sports Minister, Mr Viacheslav FETISHOV	1721
Welcome Speech by the Vice-President of the Russian Volleyball Federation, Mr Stanislav SHEVCHENKO	1723
Welcome Speech by FIVB's 1st Executive Vice-President, Mr Jizhong WEI	1723
Setting up of the XXVIII General Assembly's Office	1724
Record of Attendance	1724
Confirmation of MNE's Affiliation as CEV Member	1724
Appointment of four Members of the Credentials Checking Commission	1724
Report of the Credentials Checking Commission	1724
Official Opening of the XXVIII General Assembly	1725
Approval of the Agenda	1725
CEV Activity Report 2006/2007	1725
Presentation of the new CEV Corporate Identity by Ogilvy Representative, Mr Jörg SPREITZER	1726
Financial Report	1727
Financial Report – Accounts 2006 by CEV Treasurer, Mr Philip BERBEN (BEL) ..	1727

Internal Audit Report by Mr Leo DADEMA (NED) and Mr Michel HENNO	1728
External Audit Report - Accounts 2006 by CEV Treasurer, Mr Philip BERBEN (BEL)	1729
Budget 2008 by CEV Treasurer, Mr Philip BERBEN (BEL)	1730
CEV Statutes - Modifications	1730
CEV Commission Reports	1732
European Beach Volleyball Commission	1732
European Cups Commission	1734
European Financial Commission	1735
European Legal Commission	1735
European Medical Commission	1735
European Sports Organising Commission	1737
European Refereeing Commission	1738
CEV Working Group Reports	1739
Regulations & Fines	1739
Vision 2012	1739
Regional Activities	1740
Report from the BVA	1740
Report from the MEVZA	1741
Report from the NEVZA	1741
Report from the EEVZA	1742
Progress Reports of the 2008 Organisers	1742
Junior Men's European Championships 2008 in CZE	1742
Junior Women's European Championships 2008 in ITA	1743
Proposals from National Federations	1743
XXIX General Assembly 2008 in Madrid	1744
Miscellaneous	1744
Closing of the XXVIII CEV General Assembly	1745

2001

CEV BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING – HAARLEM (NED) – 17TH FEBRUARY 2001

The following members are attending:

President:	Rolf Andresen (GER)
Senior Vice-President:	Philip Berben (BEL)
Vice-President and Treasurer:	Hugo Fruithof (SUI)
Vice-Presidents:	André Meyer (LUX) - Miguel Angel Quintana (ESP)
Members:	Thanassis Beligratis (GRE) - Jan Hronek (CZE) - Carlo Magri (ITA) - Riet Ooms (NED) - Vladimir Patkin (RUS) - Maris Pekalis (LAT) - Fabio Sassi (ITA) - Johann Schuhböck (AUT) - Lasse Svensson (SWE)

Opening of the meeting

The President of the Dutch Volleyball Federation, Dr Herman VAN ZWIETEN (NED), welcomes the Members of the Board of Administration (BoA) to Haarlem and wishes all a very fruitful meeting. This being the first BoA session of the new millennium, Dr VAN ZWIETEN states that the best way to predict the future is to create it. Many circumstances need to be taken into account to improve Volleyball. The sport is subject to increasing trends such as individualisation of consumer demand and globalisation of supply. Nowadays, people want freedom of choice and consumer organisations such as National Federations and clubs need to sell their players at the highest prices. Dr VAN ZWIETEN concludes by saying that the role of the CEV is to prevent a dim future and to strongly develop Volleyball in all countries of the European continent.

Taking the floor, the CEV President, Dr Rolf ANDRESEN (GER), opens the meeting by extending his warmest thanks to the Dutch Volleyball Federation and its President for their hospitality and kind offer to host the meeting in very nice surroundings.

Dr VAN ZWIETEN is congratulated for his re-election as Mayor of the Dutch town of Woerden (NED) and to Mr Carlo MAGRI (ITA) for his re-election as President of the Italian Volleyball Federation.

Dr ANDRESEN then gives some brief information regarding various items on the agenda, which need to be considered.

The CEV intends to transform the current Working Group "Medical Affairs" into a commission. If the BoA agrees with the procedure, the respective proposal will be submitted to the XXII General Assembly gathering on 14th September 2001 in Ostrava (CZE).

During this session, the BoA will also evaluate the outcome of the first edition of the European Champions League and prepare the next edition of this prestigious competition.

Several matters related to the forthcoming European Beach Volleyball season and the Senior European Championships Final Rounds taking place in September 2001 in Czech Republic and Bulgaria need to be handled as well.

Finally, Dr ANDRESEN welcomes the new Managing Director of the CEV Office, Mr Olivier MOTTIER, who is set to start his new function as of 1st April 2001. The BoA wishes good luck to Mr MOTTIER in his new assignment.

Approval of the agenda

Mr Thanassis BELIGRATIS (GRE) explains the calendar problem faced by the GRE federation between the European Qualifications and the World League period.

Taking into account the above remark, the agenda of the BoA meeting is approved.

Approval of the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held on 2nd November and 13th December 2000 in Luxembourg

Mr Lasse SVENSSON (SWE) would like to know when the matter regarding financial support for the Small Countries will be handled by the CEV. Mr SVENSSON is informed that the Small Countries will set up a proposal for financial support during their next meeting on 9th – 10th March 2001. The European Financial Commission will analyse this proposal and submit its findings to the BoA. During its next meeting in Stuttgart, the BoA will propose an appropriate financial solution in the budget 2002 to the Congress.

With no further remarks, the minutes of the Executive Committee are unanimously approved.

Approval of the minutes of the Board of Administration meeting held on 2nd and 3rd November 2000 in Luxembourg (LUX)

With absence of any remarks, the minutes are unanimously approved. Dr ANDRESEN thanks the CEV Administrative Director, Mr THEIN, for quickly issuing of the minutes of the Board of Administration meetings.

Activity reports

Executive Committee (ExCom)

Dr Rolf ANDRESEN (GER), President

FIVB Grand Jury for the 20th Century's Volleyball Best Awards: Dr ANDRESEN was a member of the FIVB Grand Jury nominating the best Volleyball players, teams and coaches of the 20th century. The main criteria of evaluation were performance, stability, innovation, personality and contribution to the worldwide success of Volleyball. On behalf of the BoA, Dr ANDRESEN congratulates the Italian national men's team for being presented with the award of the Best Men's Volleyball Team of the 20th Century.

FIVB Sports Organising Commission Meeting

During the last meeting of the FIVB Sports Organising Commission in Lausanne in January 2001, the President of the FIVB congratulated the CEV for the successful launch of the 2000/01 European Champions League.

2001 European Beach Volleyball Tour & Championships

According to the latest information received from Hinnerk FEMERLING, Head of Beach Volleyball at Challenge Sports Marketing & Entertainment, Challenge is not in a position any more to guarantee the staging of Euro-Tour tournaments. Challenge will merely organise the European Championships (final round), possibly in co-operation with the Italian Volleyball Federation. Furthermore, Mr FEMERLING would rather recommend holding the final on the second weekend of September. Dr ANDRESEN expresses his discontent about the way that Challenge is negotiating with the CEV. Hesitating negotiations and empty promises are jeopardising the 2001 European Beach Volleyball season. This situation must be clarified immediately.



Letter from MIKASA Japan

Dr ANDRESEN would like to congratulate Mr SHIOTSU for having been promoted as President of MYOJYO Rubber Industry Co Ltd (MIKASA), the official ball supplier of the CEV. The former President Mr FUJIKURA will take on the function of Advisor of the company.

Mr Philip BERBEN (BEL), Senior Vice-President

In his capacity as CEV Senior Vice-President and President of the European Legal Commission, Mr Philip BERBEN (BEL) attended all meetings of the Executive Committee and gave legal advice whenever required. The next meeting of the Legal Commission will take place in Vilvoorde (BEL) on 28th – 29th April 2001.

Mr André MEYER (LUX), Vice-President in charge of Administrative Affairs ***CEV Office***

In order to cope with the many tasks related to marketing, the CEV Office will be restructured. In addition to the Administrative and Competitions Departments, a Marketing Department will be implemented as soon as suitable employees have been determined.

Mr Miguel Angel QUINTANA, Vice-President

Mr QUINTANA is pleased to inform the BoA that since 1st December 2000, a new Beach Volleyball Co-ordinator has been hired at the CEV Office. During his sports career, Mr Erik SCHMIDT took part in major international Beach Volleyball tours as semi-professional player and gathered experience in the technical co-ordination of Beach Volleyball events. The BoA wishes Mr SCHMIDT much success in his new role.

CEV Commissions

Legal Commission (ELC) – Mr Philip BERBEN (BEL) ***International Transfers***

During the last meeting of the FIVB Legal & Players' Qualification Commission, Mr BERBEN and Mr Hugo FRUITHOF (SUI) underlined that the CEV faced many difficulties with the issuing of European Cup licenses due to the late processing of international transfer files by the FIVB Transfers Department. In future, it would be appreciated if the FIVB Transfer Department could process international transfer files in time so that clubs do not have to bear financial consequences because their players are prevented from transferring (and thus from employment opportunities through no fault of their own).

Introduction of a European Medical Commission

Mr BERBEN stresses that the next General Assembly needs to be carefully prepared from a legal point of view, considering that the CEV intends to transform the Working Group "Medical Affairs" into the European Medical Commission. If the Congress approves this proposal, the CEV Statutes will have to be amended accordingly. In order to gain time, the CEV Office will send out unofficial candidature forms for the European Medical Commission. These candidatures will only be valid if the Congress approves the proposal of the BoA to create the 7th CEV Commission.

PROPOSAL TO THE CONGRESS:

To create the European Medical Commission from the actual Working Group "Medical Affairs" considering that CEV working groups generally fulfil a specific task which is not the case for the Working Group "Medical Affairs". To amend Art. 11.1 of the CEV Statutes as follows:

The Commissions under the direct authority of the Board of Administration shall be:

- The European Sports Organising Commission,
- The European Refereeing Commission,
- The European Legal Commission,
- The European Cups Commission,
- The European Beach Volleyball Commission,
- The European Financial Commission,
- The European Medical Commission.

Amendment of Article 5.3 of the CEV Statutes

The European Legal Commission analysed the contradictory situation caused by the fact that some BoA Members hold as well the function of Delegate of the National Federation at the CEV General Assembly. The BoA proposes to the Congress to amend Art. 5.3 of the CEV Statutes (following a text proposal submitted by the ELC) in order to avoid this kind of double functions in future:

PROPOSAL TO THE CONGRESS

To add the following sentence to Art. 5.3 - §2 of the CEV Statutes:

“Actual members of the Board of Administration may not be accredited as delegates of their federation.”

Amendment of Art 6 of the CEV Statutes

In future, it should be avoided that one vote per Member is granted to BoA Members originating from the same National Federation. In order to prevent such advantageous situations, the BoA proposes the following:

PROPOSAL TO THE CONGRESS

In case the BoA is composed of Members originating from the same National Federation, the respective National Federation shall only be granted 1 [ONE] single vote on the Board of Administration.

The European Legal Commission will propose the appropriate (legal) wording for the above proposal and the respective article of the CEV Statutes will be amended accordingly.

Amendment of Article 6.5 of the CEV Statutes

Upon a proposal submitted by the ELC, the BoA proposes to amend Art. 6.5 of the CEV Statutes as follows:

PROPOSAL TO THE CONGRESS

To amend Art. 6.5 of the CEV Statutes as follows:

“Any member of the Board of Administration missing two consecutive meetings and unable to plead exceptional circumstances prior to the opening of the Board session shall automatically be deemed to have resigned”.

Honorary Members of the CEV

The ELC believes that the wording of Art. 3.4 of the CEV Statutes with regard to Honorary Members of the CEV is not appropriate. The text should not use the words Honorary Member. Only national federations are members of the CEV. Honorary Members do not have a seat and do not have a vote in the CEV bodies, particularly in the General Assembly. After a thorough analysis of the situation, the BoA disapproves the proposal of the ELC.

Decision: In order to avoid misunderstandings in the nomination of Honorary Members, the BoA decides that in the case Honorary Members are nominated, the respective persons shall



receive the title of their last official function at the CEV (Honorary BoA Member, Honorary Treasurer, etc.).

By consequence, a new text proposal for the amendment of the CEV Statutes shall be set up by the ELC.

Other Business

PLAYERS' AGENT

During the last FIVB Congress in Seville (ESP), FIVB Vice-President, Dr VAN ZWIETEN (NED), was asked to prepare an FIVB regulation concerning players' agents. Dr VAN ZWIETEN prepared a first draft based on the FIFA regulations. Mr BERBEN thought it would be useful to handle this matter as well in the ELC meeting considering that most players' agents carry out their activity in the geographical area of the CEV. The final text proposal will be submitted by the FIVB Legal & Players' Qualification Commission to the FIVB Board of Administration for approval.

SITUATION WITH THE ISR FEDERATION

The ELC proposes to impose a strong warning to the ISR Federation because of the serious offensive conduct of the team captain and the Vice-President during the qualification tournament for the European Juniors' Championship in Limassol according to Art. 4.1 b of the Code of Discipline. After deliberation, the Executive Committee proposes to impose the following sanction on the ISR Federation:

Decision: To impose a financial sanction of CHF 500 (FIVE HUNDRED SWISS FRANCS) to the ISR Federation for seriously offensive conduct of the Team Captain and the Vice-President during the qualification tournament for the Junior European Championships in Limassol (CYP).

Considering that the Team Captain and the Vice-President conducted themselves in an extremely unsporting, inappropriate and altogether unacceptable manner and that the ISR Federation did not take action even after having been officially asked to do so, the BoA decides to impose the following sanctions on the people involved in this matter:

Sanction imposed on Mr STEIN, ISR Team Captain:

- A ban for 3 official tournaments, commencing on the delivery of the decision (by letter) because of seriously offensive conduct during the qualification tournament for the European juniors' championship in Limassol, according to Art. 4.1 e) and Art. 5.5.2 b) of the Code of Discipline.

Sanction inflicted on Mr SHTOFMAN, ISR Vice-President:

- Discharge from positions held in the case of officials during official CEV events for 1 year, commencing on the delivery of the decision because of seriously offensive conduct during the qualification tournament for the European juniors' championship in Limassol, according to Art. 4.1 g) and Art. 5.5.2 b) of the Code of Discipline.

The respective letter shall be drafted by the European Legal Commission.

Procedure for Approval of International Tournaments

The ELC analysed the procedure applied by the CEV Office to approve international Volleyball tournaments. According to the findings of the CEV and because of old regulations, National Federations only partially perform their duty to inform the CEV about advertising and TV coverage of the tournaments to be approved. In some instances, incorrect details are provided. If a tournament such as the Spring Cup is recognised by the CEV, the organisers and participants rely on the announcement conditions being fulfilled. Concerning the reporting procedures and the fees to be paid, the CEV is expected to guarantee compliance with the announcement conditions, even if the CEV is not the organiser. However, the CEV is currently unable to monitor compliance. The BoA expects the ELC to make suggestions for

supplementing the Internal Regulations to the effect that national federations may be punished for not adhering to their reporting and other duties.

The ELC reached the conclusion that if the BoA approves the detailed analysis of the ELC concerning this matter (included in the ELC minutes), the commission will create a definitive proposal to be included in the Internal Regulations of the CEV.

Decision: to approve the detailed analysis of the ELC with regard to the procedure for approval of international tournaments.

The ELC to propose new regulations for this matter to be included in the CEV Internal Regulations.

INTERVENTION BY MR LASSE SVENSSON (SWE)

Mr SVENSSON would like to know why the minutes of the ELC took so long to be issued. Mr BERBEN explains that the delay is due to the minutes drafted by the ELC Secretary are translated into legal English by a translation office.

There being no further remarks, the activity report of the European Legal Commission is unanimously approved.

European Cups Commission (ECC) – Mrs Riet OOMS (NED)

ECC President, Mrs Riet OOMS (NED), starts her report by saying that besides the regular workload of the ECC, the members have been very busy with the launch of the European Champions League and the supervising of the 2000/2001 European Cups season. On behalf of the ECC, Mrs OOMS would like to offer many thanks to the employees of the CEV Office for their much appreciated assistance during the European Cups season.

2000/2001 European Cups Season

Preparations for the launch of the 2000/2001 European Champions League: The following activities have been prepared and implemented by the Working Group European Champions League in co-operation with the CEV Office:

- Seminars for Neutral Supervisors and Statisticians in Florence (ITA);
- Official presentation of the competition and official signing of the CEV sponsor contracts in Florence (ITA);
- Presentation booklet of the competition;
- Evaluation of the marketing and TV rights;
- Second drawing of lots carried out on 26th January 2001 in Luxembourg combined with a feed-back session with the representatives of the participating clubs.

Situation with ISR

Due to the difficult political situation in Israel, the CEV decided to re-schedule some matches that were initially planned in ISR, to be played in the opponent team's country. This decision generated many misunderstandings and problems.

INTERVENTION BY DR ROLF ANDRESEN (GER)

The CEV President stresses that in any case, CEV commissions have no authority when it comes to political decisions which fall under the remit of the CEV General Assembly, BoA or Executive Committee.

Transfer Problems: Again the CEV Office faced many transfer problems with players. Nevertheless, the CEV Office issued European Cup licenses in strict accordance with the CEV regulations.



Meetings with Ex-Officio Members

Dr ANDRESEN stresses that in general he cannot accept that Ex-Officio Members or Observers are invited to commission meetings without prior notification and valid reasons.

Mr MEYER stresses that the European Refereeing Commission holds an annual session with its Ex-Officios after the meeting of the ERC which is combined with the annual ERC seminar. The condition to be invited to this session is that the Ex-Officios take part in the ERC seminar. In this way, it is guaranteed that ERC Ex-Officios receive sufficient information to carry out their duties correctly during the year.

Decision: Mrs Riet OOMS to propose for the next BoA meeting how to work with Ex-Officio Members of the ECC in future.

There being no further remarks, the activity report and the minutes of the European Cups Commission are unanimously approved.

Sports Organising Commission (ESOC) – Mr Fabio SASSI (ITA)

ESOC President, Mr Fabio SASSI presents the activity report of his commission, explaining the background of various proposals submitted to the BoA. During the last meeting of the commission held from 2nd – 3rd February 2001 in Barcelona (ESP), the following items were discussed:

Request for Approval of Competition Halls

In order to prevent National Federations (NF) from indicating the wrong dimensions when applying for the approval of a competition hall, ESOC proposes to sanction these false submissions as follows:

Decision: To inflict a sanction of CHF 5,000 [FIVE THOUSAND SWISS FRANCS] should National Federations communicate wrong the dimensions of a competition venue when applying for the official CEV approval (CEV form: Request for Approval of a Competition Hall).

The Official Regulations shall be amended accordingly.

Hotel Categories for European Championships

ESOC proposes to the BoA to add the following remark to the Official Regulations of the Youth, Junior and Senior European Championships in order to guarantee good accommodations during the competition:

Decision: To insert in the European Championships Official Regulations:

Senior / Arts. 7.6.3, 7.7.1 and 7.7.2: (...) hotel (good category) (...)

Junior / Arts. 7.4.3, 7.5.1 and 7.5.2: (...) hotel (good category) (...)

Youth / Arts. 7.4.3, 7.5.1 and 7.5.2: (...) hotel (good category) (...)

Calendar of the 2002/2003 Senior European Championships

For the 2002/2003 European Championships, ESOC recommends the following procedure to the BoA to avoid the calendar problems which occurred in 2001:

1. To postpone the release of the Official bulletin N° 1 until the FIVB communicates the dates of the World League
2. To inform once again National Federations that the FIVB has fixed the end of the National Championships for the 30th April of each year
3. To consider the number of teams involved in the World League 2002 (in 2001 = 9 teams)
4. If possible to avoid home and away matches and to play only tournaments

5. If possible to play all tournaments in the year 2002.

The calendar problem faced by the GRE teams between the end of the 2000/2001 Senior European Championships Qualification Round and the start of the World League will be handled by the CEV President at the FIVB headquarters.

INTERVENTION BY DR ROLF ANDRESEN (GER)

The CEV President remarks that the GER Federation has already reached an agreement with the TV host broadcaster of the 2002/2003 Men's Senior European Championships Final Round.

Men's World Championships 2002

29 teams from Europe registered for the men's senior world championships. The final round will be played with 24 teams and take place in Argentina from 28th September till 13th October 2002. Europe has 11 slots for the final round. ITA (World Champions) are directly qualified. The other 10 vacant slots will be assigned through 7 qualification tournaments organised by the FIVB.

Women's World Championships 2002

26 teams from Europe registered for the women's world championships. The final round will be played with 24 teams and take place in Germany from 24th August till 8th September 2002. Europe has 9 slots with one being reserved for the organiser (GER). The 8 remaining vacant slots will be decided through 1 prequalification and 6 qualification tournaments organised by the FIVB.

Men's Junior (U19) World Championships 2001

The men's junior world championships' final round will take place from 19th – 29th August 2001 in Wroclaw – Opole (POL). 20 European teams registered for this competition. 7 slots have been granted to Europe. POL (organiser) and RUS (2000 continental champion) are directly qualified and the remaining places will be decided through 5 qualification tournaments organised by the CEV. The proposal from ESOC for these tournaments is the following:

Decision: to approve the following Qualification Tournaments for the Men's Junior (U19) World Championships 2001 in Europe.

MEN	Pool A	Pool B	Pool C	Pool D	Pool E
Nº of teams	4	3	4	3	4
Venue	Bucharest	Porto	Syros	Kuusamo	Nitra
Date	24-26/05	24-26/05	25-27/05	24-26/05	24-26/05
Participating teams	ITA	FRA	YUG	UKR	CZE
	SLO	ESP	GRE (Org.)	GER	NED
	ROM (Org.)	POR (Org.)	LAT	FIN (Org.)	SVK (Org.)
	ISR		CRO		TUR

Women's Junior (U19) World Championships 2001

The women's junior world championships' final round will take place from 1st – 9th September 2001 in the Dominican Republic. 16 European teams registered for this competition. 6 vacant positions are granted to Europe. CZE (2000 continental champion) are directly qualified and

the remaining 5 positions will be decided via 4 qualification tournaments organised by the CEV. The proposal from ESOC for these tournaments is the following:

Decision: to approve the following Qualification Tournaments for the Women's Junior (U19) World

WOMEN	Pool A	Pool B	Pool C	Pool D
Nº of teams	4	3	4	4
Venue	Osijek	Spala	Moscow	Schwerin
Competition date	25-27/05	25-27/05	24-26/05	24-26/05
Participating teams	ITA	POL (Org.)	RUS (Org.)	GER (Org.)
	CRO (Org.)	YUG	TUR	ESP
	SVK	ROM	UKR	FRA
	POR		GRE	FIN

Amendment of the Referees Appointments for the Qualification Tournaments in which only three Teams are participating

During the last meeting, ESOC analysed the situation of the appointments of referees in tournaments where only three teams are participating. In the matches of these tournaments, the 2nd referee is always affiliated to the same federation as one of the playing teams as no other referee is available on site. This situation could benefit one of the teams and should always be avoided. Furthermore, due to the playing system, one of the referees is acting as a "tourist" during each competition day considering that one match is played per day but three referees are permanently available. Considering the above points, the European Refereeing Commission in close co-operation with ESOC proposes the following:

Decision: In case there are more than one [ONE] tournament staged with 3 teams, the referee who is travelling with the participating team will be sent to one of the other tournaments. Travel expenses and pocket money shall be borne by the National Federation of origin.

In case there are more than two [TWO] tournaments staged with 3 teams, the geographical aspect shall be considered (in order to reduce travel expenses).

In order to prevent that one referee is acting as a "tourist" during one tournament day, the National Federation Organising the tournament will not be requested to provide a referee given that the National Federation already bears the organisation costs of the tournament.

Anti-Doping Tests / World Anti-Doping Association (WADA)

Mr SASSI stresses that the World Anti-Doping Association (WADA) may carry out anti-doping tests during CEV competitions in co-operation with local authorities. In such case, the CEV must be informed so as to avoid any misunderstandings.

There being no further remarks, the activity report and the minutes of the European Sports Organising Commission are unanimously approved.

Beach Volleyball Commission – Mr Miguel Angel QUINTANA

Outcome of the European Beach Volleyball Commission Meeting

Mr QUINTANA attended the meeting of the European Beach Volleyball Commission in Porto on 3rd February 2001. Several members could not attend the meeting due to other

commitments. But the commission worked hard and analysed all the regulations and terms & conditions for the season 2001 which had been prepared by the CEV Office:

- Senior European Beach Volleyball – Official Regulations & Technical Requirements
- U23 European Beach Volleyball – Official Regulations & Technical Requirements
- U19 European Beach Volleyball – Official Regulations & Technical Requirements
- European Beach Volleyball Opens – Terms & Conditions

INTERVENTION BY MR ANDRÉ MEYER (LUX)

Mr MEYER stresses that once again the EBVC proposed a different per diem for Technical Delegates officiating at official CEV Beach Volleyball Competitions even though the BoA had rejected this proposal during a previous session.

Mr QUINTANA replies that the purpose of this proposal is to rise the professional level of Technical Supervisors for European Beach Volleyball competitions. Up to now, highly qualified Technical Supervisors prefer to officiate in FIVB Beach Volleyball competitions considering that the FIVB is paying a lot more pocket money than the CEV.

Decision: To approve the general principle of the official regulations, technical requirements and terms & conditions for the European Beach Volleyball season 2001 with the following amendments:

- The Per Diem granted to CEV Officials officiating in European Beach Volleyball competitions shall remain at 50 CHF [FIFTY SWISS FRANCS] per day.
- In case a tournament is carried out on more than three courts or in two separate venues, an Assistant Judge Referee shall be appointed by the ERC following a proposal from the organiser. This condition shall be included in the “Terms & Conditions” of European Beach Volleyball Opens.
- Amounts contained in the regulations and terms & conditions shall be expressed in one single currency (i.e. Swiss Francs).

Considering that the BoA members did not have sufficient time to closely analyse these documents (distributed as separate appendix) all other remarks shall be forwarded to the CEV Office within one week.

European Beach Volleyball Tour & Championships 2001

Mr FEMERLING who attended the EBVC meeting as an observer informed the members that Challenge Sports Marketing & Entertainment could not guarantee anymore the staging of the initially planned European Beach Volleyball Tour 2001. Challenge will merely organise the European Championships.

Furthermore, Mr FEMERLING asserted that the last weekend of August, which is an FIVB protected date for the European Beach Volleyball Final, is not an option for Challenge due to calendar problems. The date of the final should be postponed from 24th – 26th August 2001 until 7th – 9th September 2001.

Decision: Dr ANDRESEN will meet the FIVB President to re-negotiate the 2001 FIVB protected date. If the FIVB does not agree to postpone the date to September 2001, Challenge will have to stage the event on the last weekend of August or the whole contract with Challenge will be cancelled.

Finally Mr QUINTANA informs the BoA that the ITA Federation is strongly interested in hosting the U19 European Championships (Junior) and to stage the European Championships (Senior) in cooperation with Challenge Sports Marketing & Entertainment



Point 5 of the EBVC Minutes: Mr MEYER strongly opposes the statement of EBVC concerning the relationship between the Judge Referee and the Technical Supervisor. The Technical Supervisor is not a higher authority during CEV tournaments and the Judge Referee does not need to report to the latter. Both officials should cooperate closely and avoid interfering into each other's tasks.

Furthermore, Mr MEYER is aware that no referee clinics took place during the European Beach Volleyball Championships 2000 in Getxo (ESP). In future, referee clinics must be carried out the day prior to the tournament start.

Finally, if possible ERC will appoint only international referees for European Beach Volleyball Championships to prevent last minute substitutions of local referees by the organising federation and to guarantee a high level of refereeing.

2002 Junior World Beach Volleyball Championships

Mr QUINTANA presents the outcome of the FIVB Beach Volleyball Commission meeting held in January 2001 in Lausanne. The Junior World Beach Volleyball Championships have been renamed "FIVB World Championships under 21" and will take place in Le Lavandou (FRA) from 22nd – 26th August 2001.

There being no further remarks, the activity report and the minutes of the European Beach Volleyball Commission are approved.

Refereeing Commission (ERC) – Mr André MEYER (LUX)

CEV Office

CEV MANAGING DIRECTOR

Mr MEYER informs the BoA that the Executive Committee hired Mr Olivier MOTTIER (SUI) as Managing Director of the CEV Office. Closely involved in the organisation of the Montreux Volley Masters, Mr MOTTIER has gathered experience in staging International Volleyball events. Mr MOTTIER is also officiating as Board Member of the Swiss Volleyball Federation. He will start his new role from 1st April 2001.

CEV TRAVEL INSURANCE

Given that several federations requested more information from the CEV Office regarding travel insurance for CEV Officials. An analysis will be carried out as to whether to provide insurance cover for appointed referees. Up to now this has not been the case. Mr THEIN will request further information regarding travel insurance of the FIVB providing travel assistance to all FIVB Officials during their appointments.

MARKETING DEPARTMENT

Further to the information provided earlier in the meeting Mr MEYER stresses that the new marketing department at the CEV Office will not exclusively co-ordinate marketing matters related to the European Champions League. A solution for all CEV competitions must be taken into consideration.

Refereeing Affairs & Rules of the Game

During their last meeting, the Members of the European Refereeing Commission proceeded to the nomination of referees and judge referees for the European Cup finals, the European Youth and Senior European Championships and the Junior World Championships Qualification Round.

Referee Nomination

During the next meeting, the FIVB Board of Administration will nominate the following referees / candidate referees from Europe:

- 28 Candidate International Referees (total: 75)

- 34 International Referees (total: 71)
- 10 FIVB Referees (total: 27)

Mr MEYER is satisfied to see that more and more referees from Europe are appointed for FIVB competitions such as the World League. This is proof of the high level of refereeing in Europe.

FIVB Courses for International Referees: Three FIVB courses for International Referees will take place in 2001:

- Bulgaria: 15. 04. - 21. 04. 2001
- Italy: 17. 06. - 25. 06. 2001
- Tunisia: 3. 11. - 10. 11. 2001

European Refereeing Seminar in Vilvoorde (BEL)

The next European Refereeing Seminar will take place in Vilvoorde from 1st – 3rd June 2001. As had been the case for the previous year's seminar, the seminar will cover Volleyball and Beach Volleyball.

Situation with a Referee from ESP

Despite his nomination for the Youth Qualification Tournament in ITA, a referee from ESP did not attend the competition. Mr MEYER will request an explanation from the ESP Federation.

Furthermore, Mr MEYER stresses that the ESP Federation has made more last minute substitutions than the remaining 53 National Federations taken together. This behaviour cannot be accepted by ERC in future.

Outcome of the FIVB Rules of the Game Commission

Mr MEYER attended the meeting of the FIVB Rules of the Game Commission held in Lausanne in January 2001. The final version (English) of the FIVB Official Game Rules 2000-2004 is available on the FIVB website since last week. No major changes will occur until 2004. The French version will be available later in the year.

Intervention by Dr Rolf ANDRESEN (GER)

Dr ANDRESEN is greatly satisfied with the work of ERC and would like to thank Mr MEYER for his strong commitment to raise and harmonise the level of refereeing in Europe.

There being no further remarks, the activity report and the minutes of the European Refereeing Commission are approved.

Financial Commission (EFC) – Mr Hugo FRUITHOF (SUI)

Accounts 2000

Before starting his report, Mr FRUITHOF would like to extend many thanks to Mrs COLLIGNON, in charge of book-keeping at the CEV Office, for preparing the first draft report of the accounts 2000.

The final result for the financial year 2000 is much more positive than initially forecast. The following explains this positive position:

- Given all income must be booked on the same date the money transfer is received, the final result of the accounts 2000 includes sums that will be used to cover expenses in the year 2001. For example, a percentage of the marketing income received and booked in 2000 for the European Champions League is foreseen to cover expenses (prize money) related to the same edition of this competition in the year 2001. Due to the fact that the European Cups season goes beyond the CEV accounting year, this accounting situation will appear every year, but without a problem.



- The CEV has successfully re-negotiated the financial terms of the official ball supplier agreement with Mikasa Japan for the period 2000-2004.
- When subtracting the income related to the European Champions League from the positive balance, the final positive result will be better than initially forecasted.
- The settlement of the accounts of the FIVB annual fees and credits of National Federations to the FIVB has been clarified. The remaining sum will be paid to the CEV after the meeting of the FIVB Financial Commission.

Aged Outstanding Debts of National Federations

Two National Federations still have old outstanding debts towards the CEV. The BoA agrees to keep the same strict policy with regard to these debts.

European Beach Volleyball Tournament 2000 in Almere (NED)

In May 2000, the town of Almere (NED) staged a European Beach Volleyball Tournament. Now, the town refuses to pay the organiser fee amounting to 10.000 CHF that was forwarded by the Dutch Volleyball Federation on behalf of Almere. The Dutch Federation also urges the CEV to refund this money saying that the claims of Almere are legitimate and reasonable.

Almere asserts that the tournament was supposed to be part of the European Beach Volleyball Tour consisting of a series of tournaments in Europe. Considering that all the other tournaments were cancelled, Almere concludes that their tournament was merely a “qualification tournament” prior to the European Championships staged in Spain. Under these conditions, Almere would never have agreed to underwrite a guarantee for the event considering that the city intended to use the European Tour as a vehicle to promote the town nationally and internationally.

After thorough analysis of the case, the BoA agrees that the arguments presented by Almere are not legitimate based on the following:

- The CEV/NED organiser agreement does not mention that the European Beach Volleyball Tournament staged in Almere will be part of a European Tour composed of events in Italy, Greece and Poland. The CEV fully complied with the terms of the organiser contract.
- The main purpose of CEV official communications is to co-ordinate the technical organisation of a competition. From a technical point of view, European Beach Volleyball Tournaments are qualification tournaments where teams qualify for the final round of the tournament but also for the European Beach Volleyball Championships. This technical aspect does not degrade the event nor damage its credibility.
- Furthermore, the CEV did not check in detail if Almere fulfilled all the obligations that the latter undersigned. The main causes of the tournament’s failure were stormy weather conditions that forced the organiser to cancel the final match on the last competition day.

Considering that the Dutch Volleyball Federation subcontracted the organiser rights to Action Work, the local promoter of the town Almere, the concerned parties should settle this matter by themselves.

Decision: Considering that the arguments presented by the town of Almere (NED) are not legitimate, the BoA decides not to refund the organiser fee to the Dutch Volleyball Federation.

Litigation CEV / O'Neill

Mr FRUITHOF announces that the litigation involving CEV and O'Neill has finally come to an end. In order to settle this matter once and for all, O'Neill proposed to pay the sum of 15,000

US\$ to the CEV. Mr FRUITHOF accepted this proposal in order to avoid a court decision which might jeopardise this guaranteed income.

Budget 2002

By the end of April 2001, Mr FRUITHOF shall produce the budget for 2002. In this regard, Mr FRUITHOF stresses that during the year 2000, the commissions only spent half of their annual budgets. By consequence, Mr FRUITHOF will apply the same amounts for commission expenses as in the previous years.

INTERVENTION BY DR ROLF ANDRESEN (GER)

Dr ANDRESEN congratulates Mr FRUITHOF for having considerably improved the financial situation of the CEV since his appointment as CEV Treasurer.

There being no further remarks, the activity report and the minutes of the European Financial Commission are approved.

2000-2001 EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

2001 Men's Senior European Championships' Final Round in CZE

There are no major problems regarding the preparation for this competition. Nevertheless, the Working Group "Medical Affairs" during its meeting held on 3rd February 2001 stressed that the organiser is requested to forward as soon as possible a detailed solution regarding anti-doping tests to be carried out during the final round. The CEV Office will send a reminder to the CZE Organising committee.

The Executive Committee Members will meet the Mayor of Ostrava (CZE) on 10th –11th April 2001 prior to the final inspection of the facilities provided to hold the CEV Congress. During the last meeting, the Mayor of Ostrava confirmed he would propose an appropriate venue for the congress but since then Mr FRUITHOF has not received any further information.

The drawing of lots is scheduled on 22nd June 2001. Mr FRUITHOF will represent the CEV on this occasion.

Finally, the CZE Federation announced that an agreement has been reached with the Czech Airways company to assure the transport of the teams from Prague to Ostrava. The National Federations of the qualified teams will be contacted by the CZE Federation.

2001 Women's Senior European Championships' Final Round in BUL

The Bulgarian Volleyball Federation still has not provided the CEV with any information regarding the preparation of the anti-doping procedure for the women's final round. During their last meeting in Luxembourg the members of the Working Group "Medical Affairs" expressed their concern about the actual situation. It was agreed that a reminder will be sent by the CEV Office.

During the ERC meeting in Sofia (BUL) Mr MEYER was informed that the Bulgarian Airways company has not yet issued the summer edition of their flight timetable. The BUL federation awaits this flight timetable to organise the transport of samples to the nearest IOC accredited laboratory (possibly Athens – GRE).

Furthermore, Mr MEYER was informed that the BUL Federation reached an agreement with the Bulgarian Airways company obtaining 3 – 4 reserved seats for CEV Officials on evening flights between Varna and Sofia during the competition.

The drawing of lots is scheduled on 30th June 2001 in Sofia. Mr MEYER will represent the CEV on this occasion.



2001 Boys' & Girls' Youth European Championships' Final Round in CZE

Even though the drawing of lots for the youth competition is taking place after the BoA meeting, it should be stressed that this event should have been organised by the CZE federation.

Mr BERBEN who carried out a second inspection visit in Liberec confirms that after the CZE federation made some changes, the facilities now comply with the standards of the CEV.

2000/2001 European Cups

Before starting the points related to the 2000/2001 edition of the European Champions League, ECC President, Mrs Riet OOMS (NED) presents the outcome of the season by means of a power point presentation. The presentation focuses on what has been achieved since the launch of the competition in December 2000, what has not been realised during this season and what should be achieved in the future. Considering that this was the first edition of the competition, some non-compliance of regulations has been tolerated. But the 2001/2002 edition should be prepared and implemented in the most professional manner.

Marketing Situation & Prize Money

Considering that this is the first edition of the European Champions League, marketing affairs have been quite successful especially for the men's competition. The company Sports System is permanently analysing the videotapes of the matches played in both categories to evaluate the TV coverage of the CEV sponsors in a final report.

This information will be very useful to negotiate sponsorship contracts for the 2001/2002 season. The three main sponsors of the men's competition expressed their wish to continue their cooperation with the CEV for the next season. Some technical problems have been identified by Sports System. In most cases, advertising panels are not stretched sufficiently or even placed upside down. Issues of this kind should be avoided in the future and the work of the Neutral Supervisors must be improved to a large extend.

Even though it had been mentioned on several occasions before the start of the European Champions League that the prize money of the women's competition would be dropped if a sufficient number of sponsors could not be determined, the BoA agrees to share the lack of income in the budget with the participating clubs to reward them for their efforts on national level. By consequence, the prize money will be fixed at CHF 450,000, as agreed with the European Cups Commission.

Decision: to fix the prize money for the 2000/2001 Women's European Champions League at CHF 450,000.

ECC shall propose a revised distribution of prize money according to the team rankings. Participating teams shall be informed accordingly.

Organiser Candidates & CEV Officials appointed for the European Cup Finals 2000/2001 as of 17th February 2001

EC FINAL	ORG.	DATE / VENUE	CEV REPRESENTATIVE
ECL MEN	FRA	23-24/03/01 – Paris	Dr ANDRESEN (GER)
ECL WOMEN	RUS	17-18/03/01 – Nizhnyi Tagil	Dr ANDRESEN (GER)
TTC MEN	TUR	17-18/03/01 – Eregli	Mr QUINTANA (ESP)
TTC WOMEN	AUT	22-23/03/01 – Vienna	Mr QUINTANA (ESP)
CEV C MEN	ITA	10-11/03/01 – Arezzo	Mr BERBEN (BEL)
CEV C WOMEN	ITA	03-04/03/01 – Vicenza	Mr FRUITHOF (SUI)

The Executive Committee decided that the CEV Press Officer will attend the ECL MEN and TTC MEN finals according to the terms of the organiser agreement. The organiser has to cover all costs related to the attendance of the CEV Representative and the local costs related to the attendance of the CEV Press Officer (local transport, accommodation and food, arrival 2 days prior to the competition start).

Amendment in the Competition System of the Top Teams Cup

In order to increase the attractiveness of the Top Teams Cup, the European Cups Commission proposes to change some specific technical aspects related to the competition system for the 2001/2002 European Cups season.

Decision: To adopt the proposal of the ECC for the 2001/2002 season of the Top Teams Cup consisting in:

- Reducing the number of teams playing in the League Round from 32 to 24 teams and the number of pools from 8 to 6 pools with 4 teams in each;
- Qualify to the ¼ finals the 1st ranked team of each pool and the two 2nd ranked teams with the best score in the final ranking.

European Champions League Season 2001/2002

Mrs OOMS presents some of the ideas for improvement gathered during the “feed-back meetings” held with the clubs participating in the 2000/2001 edition of the ECL. The Working Group “European Champions League” will closely examine these ideas and produce a proposal for the BoA meeting on 14th July 2001 in Stuttgart (GER).

Finally, Mr FRUITHOF proposes to apply the same budget structure for the 2001/2002 edition of the competition.

Decision: to apply the same budget structure for the 2001/2002 edition of the European Champions League.

XXII CEV General Assembly

The BoA Members are reminded that the deadline for submitting the various candidacies for the elections of the CEV taking place on 14th September 2001 in Ostrava (CZE) is 14th March 2001.

Miscellaneous

CEV Plan 2001 – Status Report

Mr Lasse SVENSSON (SWE) presents a written report regarding the activities listed in the CEV Plan 2001. The BoA takes note of the various items that have been implemented and those that have not yet been implemented by the CEV bodies. Then Mr SVENSSON asks the BoA to approve or cancel the implementation of several activities which are still pending. Considering that several of these activities are under the authority of the CEV commissions and working groups, the BoA agrees to postpone the approval of the final status report “CEV Plan 2001” until the next BoA meeting on 14th July 2001 in Stuttgart (GER).

Decision: The commissions and working groups of the CEV are to forward individual reports covering their respective implemented/cancelled activities (+ reasons) of the CEV Plan 2001 to Mr Lasse SVENSSON prior to the next BoA meeting (14th July 2001).



Letter from FIVB President, Dr Rubén ACOSTA H.

Dr ANDRESEN was quite surprised and disappointed regarding the content of the latest letter from FIVB President, Dr Rubén ACOSTA, dated 30th January 2001 and addressed to all the BoA Members.

The BoA Members fully support Dr ANDRESEN and unanimously agree that the criticisms levelled at the CEV are unjustified and unacceptable.

Dr ANDRESEN will not go into further details about this matter. Next week, the CEV President will meet the FIVB President in Lausanne to clear up the misunderstandings between the FIVB and the CEV.

Women's Involvement in CEV Bodies

With a view to the forthcoming CEV elections, all European National Federations will be informed about the decisions of the FIVB Congress regarding women's involvement in the managing bodies of the CEV.

Report of the FIVB Press Officer Meeting & First Draft of the CEV Press Operations Manual

Mr Arjen MEIJER joins the BoA meeting and presents the outcome of the annual FIVB Press Officer Meeting held in January 2001. The FIVB intends to conclude a contract with the continental Press Officers through the respective Confederations in order to safeguard the position of the Press Officer should there be a change in the Presidency of the respective Confederation. Furthermore, the continental Press Officer shall also be in charge of press-related matters for all FIVB events taking place on that respective continent.

Finally, the FIVB asks the CEV not to issue the CEV Press Operations Manual as the FIVB would like to use this CEV document as basis to create an FIVB Press Operations Manual.

Considering that some of the most important CEV competitions are going to take place in the near future (European Cup Finals, Senior European Championships Final Rounds, European Beach Volleyball Championships), the CEV decides the following:

Decision:

- To forward remarks and/or suggestions regarding the CEV Press Operations Official Regulations to the CEV Office by 2nd March 2001.
- To send the first draft of the CEV Press Operations Official Regulations to the organisers of the 2000/2001 European Cup Finals in order to guarantee the best possible working conditions for journalists attending these competitions.

The final draft of the CEV Press Operations Official Regulations shall be adapted to the FIVB Press Regulations and submitted for approval to the BoA during the next meeting in Stuttgart (GER).

Naturalised Players in the National Teams

Decision: To make National Federations solely responsible towards the CEV for appointing only one naturalised player (CEV form CH-05) to their national team selection.

If a National Federation does not comply with this regulation, all matches played by the respective team will be lost with the score 0:3 (0:25 / 0:25 / 0:25).

Official CEV Volleyball for the current ongoing Competition Season

Decision: Due to the introduction of the new Mikasa volleyball MVP 200, a transition period shall allow National Federations to use their stock of Mikasa MVL 200 balls. The BoA decides to use the following Mikasa volleyballs for current CEV competitions until the end of the transition period (31st August 2001):

2000/2001 European Cups Season including Final Rounds

The Mikasa volleyball MVL 200 shall be used.

1999/2001 Senior European Championships Qualification Rounds – Single Matches and Tournaments

Organiser of tournaments and single matches are free to decide whether to use the Mikasa volleyball MVP 200 or MVL 200 under the condition that participating teams are informed at least 4 weeks prior to the competition start.

Senior European Championships Final Round

The Mikasa volleyball MVP 200 shall be used.

Letter from the AND Federation

The AND federation requests the CEV to reconsider its sanction inflicted for the last minute withdrawal from the European Championships Group C Tournament held in Malta. The AND federation agrees to pay the financial sanction of CHF 1,000 for the withdrawal but asks to be allowed to participate in the next edition of the European Championships Group C taking place in 2002.

Proposal to the BoA

To allow the AND federation to participate in the European Championship Group C in 2002 under the condition that the financial sanction of CHF 1,000 is paid by the set deadline and that AND will be the organiser of the 2002 edition of the Men's tournament Group C.

Letter from the FRA Federation with regard to the Competition Calendar

The BoA takes note of the issues raised from the FRA federation regarding the international competition calendar. This matter will be clarified after the FIVB Board of Administration has approved the 2002 world competition calendar.



Remarks to the Minutes of the XXI General Assembly – English Version

The BoA Members are invited to submit their remarks or suggestions by Friday, 23rd February 2001, to the CEV Office. The CEV Office will produce a French translation of this document after the deadline closes.

Minutes of the Meeting of the Balkan Volleyball Association (09/12/00)

The BoA takes note of the minutes submitted by the Balkan Volleyball Association. Dr ANDRESEN thanks the members of this BVA for their trust in the CEV and wishes them good luck for their future activities.

Closing of the meeting

There being no further business, the President thanks the Board of Administration Members for their co-operation and closes the meeting.

CEV BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING - SCHWERIN (GER) – 13TH & 14TH JULY 2001

The following members are attending:

President:	Rolf Andresen (GER)
Senior Vice-President:	Philip Berben (BEL)
Vice-President and Treasurer:	Hugo Fruithof (SUI)
Vice-Presidents:	André Meyer (LUX) - Miguel Angel Quintana (ESP)
Members:	Thanassis Beligratis (GRE) - Jan Hronek (CZE) - Carlo Magri (ITA) - Riet Ooms (NED) - Vladimir Patkin (RUS) - Maris Pekalis (LAT) - Fabio Sassi (ITA) - Johann Schuhböck (AUT) - Lasse Svensson (SWE)

Opening of the Meeting

The CEV President, Dr Rolf ANDRESEN, opens the meeting and welcomes the CEV Board of Administration members to Schwerin, a city with a strong Volleyball tradition and expresses his warmest thanks to the German Volleyball Federation and especially its President, Mr Werner Von MOLTKE, and Vice-President, Mr Moser GÖTZ, for the hospitality and the kind offer to host this meeting.

Taking the floor, Mr Von MOLTKE, heartily welcomes all BoA Members and assures Dr ANDRESEN that the German Federation does its utmost to promote Volleyball. He announces that the 2002 Women's World Championships as well as the 2003 Senior Men's European Championships will be held in Germany and wishes everybody a nice stay in Schwerin as well as a very fruitful meeting.



Members of the CEV Board of Administration enjoy a cruise in a break of their meeting in Schwerin, Germany

Before dealing with the first item of the agenda, the CEV President wants to make it clear that holding meetings in locations other than Luxembourg is very important as it gives an opportunity for other Volleyball cities to be known and recognised.

Approval of the Agenda

There being no remark, the agenda of the BoA meeting is unanimously approved.

Approval of the Minutes of the Executive Committee Meetings held on 16th February 2001 in Haarlem (NED) and on 25th April 2001 in Luxembourg (LUX)

In absence of any remarks, both minutes of the Executive Committee meetings are approved.

Approval of the Minutes of the Board of Administration Meeting held on 17th February 2001 in Haarlem (NED)

The CEV Office received some comments from Mrs OOMS and Mr SVENSSON about the minutes of the last BoA meeting.

Mrs OOMS first, regrets to note that the minutes do not reflect the discussions of the BoA meeting. She gives as an example the request regarding the Women Champions League prize money, which is declared in the minutes to be accepted by BoA despite the negative decision the BoA effectively took during the meeting. Dr ANDRESEN explains that sometimes, when a decision has to be taken urgently or when sensible items have to be settled, it is the role and duty of the CEV President and Executive Committee members to act and find the best solution. This is what has been done in that case.

In the same way, Mr SVENSSON underlines that it is necessary that all minutes detail the exact content of the debate as well as all decisions made during the meeting, whatever the kind of meeting (ExCom, BoA, and Commissions).

Decision: To send a first draft of the minutes of the ExCom/BoA meetings to every ExCom/BoA member through Intranet/fax and ask them to forward their comments to the CEV Office within a fixed deadline. After that deadline the minutes will be issued and published.

Mr SVENSSON also takes the opportunity to officially announce his retirement from his function as Coordinator of the CEV Working Group "Plan 2001" and will consequently produce no report for the XXII General Assembly. The CEV President respects his decision and thanks him for his good job. He admits that BoA members did not send him all the reports necessary to prepare his presentation to the General Assembly. Dr ANDRESEN will include some comments about the CEV Plan 2001 in his activity report.

Mr SVENSSON reminds BoA of the appointment of Mr Jan HRONEK as CEV Representative to the 2002 Girls' European Junior Championships in Austria and his appointment as CEV Representative for the 2002 Boy's European Junior Championships in Poland.

Activity Reports

Executive Committee (ExCom)

Dr Rolf ANDRESEN (GER), President ***"European Championships Group C"***

A meeting between CEV and a delegation of European Group C Federations took place on 10th March 2001 in Zurich (SUI) regarding the future organisation of the European Championships Group C. The ISL Federation has sent a development proposal to the CEV.



European Champions League – Women

Present at the ECL Final in Nizhnyi Tagil (RUS), Dr Rolf ANDRESEN is very delighted with the success of this new competition. He declares this was one of the best events he has ever attended and expressed his warmest congratulations to the RUS Federation.

European Champions League – Men

Dr Rolf ANDRESEN attended the ECL Final in Paris. The matches were of a very high quality but the CEV President regrets several issues linked to the organisation. For the future, it is necessary that federations and organising committees strictly follow the regulations. The image of the CEV was however very positive for both spectators and the media.

CEV - ISA long-term Cooperation

A meeting with ISA was held on 7th April 2001. Negotiations are being undertaken to finalise a long term partnership with CEV.

EOYD Meeting

In Lausanne, Dr ANDRESEN attended the EOYD session, whose objective is to institute in Europe a Youth Olympic Competition - open to young people from 15 to 17 and involving more than 2500 participants. Beach Volleyball may be integrated into the event. At the present time, the selection regulations are not yet defined and the European Olympic Committee still has to determine the final designation process of the participating countries and their disciplines. Moreover, in order to prevent any discrepancies, the CEV Executive Committee, considers it is important to inform the appointed delegates that the FIVB regulations in force as well as current calendar must be respected.

Professional Leagues Meeting

11 federations attended this meeting on 24th April 2001. The CEV drew up a proposal, which has been forwarded to the FIVB. Positive reactions were received from the FIVB President, Dr Rubén ACOSTA H., who is looking for a solution to improve the clubs' position.

CEV & Challenge collaboration

A meeting with Challenge took place in Luxembourg. The option based contract for the period 2001-2005 has been signed by Challenge. Dr ANDRESEN points out that in future the CEV Beach circuit's calendar must be finalised sooner.

FIVB Board of Administration Meeting in Lausanne

Dr ANDRESEN delivered a report presenting ways to avoid clashes between FIVB and CEV competitions. Dr Bin NASSER, FIVB Executive Vice-President and Confederations Co-ordinator, attended the CEV XXI General Assembly and gave a very positive report on the CEV Headquarters.

2002 Men's World Championships in Argentina

A meeting has been held in Lausanne regarding the organisation of this event.

2002 Women's World Championships in Germany

In his capacity as FIVB Vice-President, Dr ANDRESEN will participate in the Drawing of Lots of this competition on 18th September 2001 in Berlin.

Press Conference in Milan (ITA)

In the frame of the Senior European Beach Volleyball Championships, a press conference gathering Dr ANDRESEN, Challenge representatives and the local organising committee has been held in Jesolo (ITA). Dr ANDRESEN congratulates the organiser, as everything seems to be well prepared for the competition.

Mr Philip BERBEN (BEL), Senior Vice-President

In his capacity as CEV Senior Vice-President and President of the European Legal Commission, Mr Philip BERBEN (BEL) gave legal advice whenever required. He has been appointed as CEV representative of the CEV Cup Final in San Sepolcro (ITA) and the Boys Youth European Championships in Liberec (CZE). He also participated in the World League.

Mr Hugo FRUITHOF (SUI), Vice-President & Treasurer

In his capacity as CEV Vice-President and Treasurer, Mr FRUITHOF (SUI) participated as CEV Representative in several events such as the final four of the CEV Cup Women in Vicenza (ITA).

Mr André MEYER (LUX), Vice-President in charge of Administrative Affairs

Mr André MEYER (LUX) informs the Board of Administration about the setting-up of the new Marketing & Communication Department. The Marketing Co-ordinator, Ms Marion JACOBY (LUX) has been hired and started work on 2nd July 2001 and the Communication Co-ordinator, Mrs Isabelle WEYDERT (LUX), will start her new function by 15th August 2001. She will be in charge of supplying all federations with information and developing communications within the CEV Office - CEV Website - whereas Mr Arjen MEIJER will still be responsible for covering all communication matters for the CEV competitions.

In his capacity as CEV Vice-President, Mr MEYER has acted as the CEV Representative during the Drawing of Lots of the Men's Senior European Championships in Ostrava (CZE) as well as for the Drawing of Lots of the Women's Senior European Championships in Varna (BUL). He also took part in meetings held in Luxembourg looking at bids for the European Champions League's Statistics Program. In this regard, he indicates a decision will be taken soon.

Mr Miguel Angel QUINTANA (ESP), Vice-President

In his capacity as CEV Vice-President and President of the EBVC, Mr QUINTANA (ESP) participated as CEV Representative in the European Cup Final Four - Top Teams Cup in Turkey and Vienna. He was President of the Jury for the Final of the Girls Youth European Championships in Liberec (CZE). He also attended the FIVB Board of Administration Meeting in Lausanne (SUI).

Activity Reports of the Commissions

Legal Commission – Mr Philip BERBEN

Proposal of Statutes Amendments

No remark has been formulated regarding the proposals of CEV Statutes amendments made by the European Legal Commission.

Decision: To propose the Statutes Amendments to the General Assembly for ratification.

Credential and Voting Committee

Mr BERBEN proposes Mr Aloys FISCHER (SUI), Jury member of the Senior Men's European Championships in Ostrava, to be entrusted with the position of Chairman of the Credential and Voting Committee for the XXII CEV General Assembly.

Validity of Applications for the XXII CEV Congress

All applications have been duly controlled and checked by ELC. Mr BERBEN reminds the BoA members that according to Art. 5.12 (1) of the CEV Statutes, an application is called unacceptable if it is sent after 14th March 2001 (postmark) but also if the President's signature



or federation's stamp is missing. Considering that wording in the Statutes is ambiguous, he recommends the BoA to accept both letters and faxes received in time.

The following applications are declared null and void:

EBVC: Mr Ennio GIORDANI (SMR) received 27.03.01/post stamp 24.03.01

ECC: Mr Miran LAMPRET (SLO) received 21.03.01/post stamp 16.03.01

ECC: Mr Alon GREENBERG (ISR) received 13.03.01/not signed by NF President

EFC: Mr Patrick KURTZ (FRA) received 19.03.01/post stamp 15.03.01

ESOC: Mr Branko DOLENC (SLO) received 21.03.01/post stamp 16.03.01

Unofficial EMC: Mr Gülfem ERSÖZ (TUR) received 21.03.01/post stamp 17.03.01

Decision:

- To approve the recommendations (Credential and voting Committee and Validity of applications) of the ELC President
- To send a letter to all federations concerned in order to explain to them why their candidacy is not accepted.

Recognition of the Balkan Volleyball Association

Dr ANDRESEN congratulates Mr BELIGRATIS (GRE) for this initiative. The Board of Administration approves the recognition of this association provided CEV regulations are fully respected. Mr BELIGRATIS confirms that any Balkan competition would be cancelled in case of calendar clashes with CEV events.

Decision: To ask the Balkan Volleyball Association to inform CEV about their calendar, players' category, regulations...

Request of the AUT Federation regarding Video Accreditation

As it concerns the National Championships, the case is not considered the remit of the CEV. This accreditation is generally granted through a "Gentlemen's Agreement" between the organiser and the federation that wants to film.

CEV Official Working Language

In order to solve practical problems related to the language spoken during the meetings, BoA decided to confirm English as the CEV official working language.

CEV Recognised Tournaments

With regard to the "22nd International Volleyball Tournament" in Twello (NED) and the "Women's Baltic Sea Country League" in Finland, Mr BERBEN explains that in general the CEV approves of this kind of organisation. However it has to be stressed that CEV needs to know the exact conditions and regulations of these events otherwise no "tournament approval" can be granted. Mr BERBEN underlines that non-CEV events should be strictly controlled.

As far as the fax sent by Mr J. BALANCE and Mr V. PLATONOV regarding the creation of a "Great Northern Volleyball League", Mr BERBEN proposes to ask them for a meeting so that CEV can have a clear presentation of this project.

Decision: ELC has to set down new criteria for future tournaments approval.

ISR Federation Request regarding the sanction inflicted on Mr STEIN

The ISR appeal is rejected.

The sanctions towards the ISR Federation, the Vice-President and the captain of its team remain in force.

Men's and Women's Qualification ISR and SUI Feds

The NFs named respective teams are deemed guilty of having committed serious infringements during a Qualification Tournament of the Men's Senior European Championships (insufficient number of valid licences).

The BoA decides that all matches played by ISR will be forfeited (0 Points) as a Sports Sanction and to impose a Financial Sanction of CHF 3,000 on each federation.

Sanction taken against Mr DOGARIS

The issue of Mr DOGARIS has been thoroughly discussed by the BoA. The sanction taken against Mr DOGARIS was not discussed by the BoA or ExCom. Mr SASSI wishes that such decisions remain within the competence of the CEV governing bodies (ExCom & BoA) following a proposal from the relevant commission.

Decision:

- To send (from ESOC) a warning to Mr DOGARIS. To cancel the former sanction and inform GRE Federation accordingly.
- To inform ISR and SUI Federations about the final sanction.
- To inform ISR Federation that the sanction related to STEIN's case remain as originally communicated.

BIH federation request

Given that the CEV and the FIVB recognise the affiliation rights of only one country, the request of the Srpska Republic cannot be followed up.

Decision: To inform the BIH Federation that the CEV cannot interfere in this matter.

Women in the CEV BoA

The official list of candidates for the forthcoming elections is closed. The CEV wants to fulfil the FIVB decision taken during the FIVB Congress in Sevilla (ESP). Unfortunately, such new guidelines also entail amending the CEV Statutes and this will undoubtedly take time.

Decision: Mr BERBEN shall formulate a written proposal providing the implantation of a female quota in the BoA for the CEV Statutes.

European Cups Commission – Mrs Riet OOMS

ECC President, Mrs Riet OOMS (NED), presents the main activities of the European Cups Commission (ECC) during the period March – July 2001.

Minutes of the ECC Meeting held on 29th June in Luxembourg (LUX)

The BoA approves the Minutes. The ELC is in charge of creating a proposal of financial sanctions for national federations, who do not fulfil their duties during a technical meeting, especially regarding the licences.

ECL Handbook

The Handbook prepared by the ECC with the collaboration of the CEV Office was sent out to all national federations on April 2001. Some parts still have to be completed.

Organisers of the Final Four 2001/2002

Mrs OOMS points out that every year it is difficult to find organisers. Organisers should be nominated earlier. The automatic qualification of the organiser in the Final Four could be a solution. The BoA gives authority to ECC to study this idea and to propose this new concept to the next BoA meeting.



ECL Drawing of Lots and Seminar

The results of the drawing of lots held on 7th July 2001 in Luxembourg (LUX) have been distributed to all participating teams and people concerned. During the ECL drawing of lots, a seminar with the participation of federations and teams involved in the ECL took place on 8th July. It was a very successful event and offered the opportunity to underline the responsibility of national federations in the European Cups Competition (particularly ECL).

Proposal of Future Development of the European Cups Competitions

Several "basic criteria" have been presented by the ECC.

- As of 2002/2003, to extend the Men's European Champions League to 24 teams from 16 in order to improve the marketing process. In order to confirm this new step, a questionnaire for the teams will be produced based on the alternative of 20 teams.
- After it was decided that for the season 2001/2002 (only 12 teams), the Women's European Champions League shall be continued with the participation of 16 teams as long as the marketing impact does not make it advisable to increase the number of teams accordingly.
- Men's and Women's Top Team Cups shall be played according to the current valid regulations. However, in 2002/2003, a more significant title shall be found showing that one of the main purposes of this competition is promoting teams to the European Champions League.

Mr FRUITHOF refers to the 3 European Cups Competition and stresses that too many Cup Competitions will be a handicap from a marketing point of view. Mr MEYER suggests that the Top Teams Cup and CEV Cup be combined into one competition, which would offer the possibility to a larger number of teams to participate via qualification tournaments. This idea should be studied for the season 2002/2003. Mrs OOMS stresses that all these ideas have been discussed by the ECC, but the commission thinks that is too early to combine the Top Teams Cup and the CEV Cup. In order to investigate the interest of the clubs in the Top Teams Cup, the possibility will be given for champions and cup winners to enter in the CEV Cup directly in the season 2002/2003.

Decision: The BoA accepts the ECC proposal and wishes the ECC to follow up the implementation of this Development Project in future.

European Sports Organising Commission – Mr Fabio SASSI

ESOC Working Group Meeting held on 11th June 2001 in Luxembourg (LUX): The Competition Calendar for the Qualification Round (Category A and B) of the Men's and Women's Senior European Championships 2002/2003 has been created. Mr SASSI indicates however that there is a special proposal - 3 options possible - for the Men's Senior Category A Qualification Round because of calendar clashes with the FIVB World League. Dr ANDRESEN, CEV President, asks for European solidarity in protecting the European calendar.

Decision:

- To organise a meeting in Ostrava (CZE) with all European federations participating in the World League before the XXII CEV Congress.
- To request FIVB authorisation to organise the Men's Senior Category A Qualification Round 1 week before the start of the World League instead of 2 weeks as specified in the FIVB World League regulations.

2002 Women's Junior European Championships in Austria

The dates proposed by the Austrian Federation for the Women's Junior European Championships Final Round 2002 have not been accepted by the CEV. ESOC is still waiting for the new proposal. The BoA underlines the dates have to be between 1st and 30th August.

Technical Organisation and Logistics

Some wording corrections are required. Comments can still be forwarded to Mr MEYER in Luxembourg. Mr SVENSSON is wondering why the codes of the CEV Forms are different from the FIVB ones. Mr ROMMES (LUX), CEV Competitions Director, explains that the forms do not have the same numbering because of the chronological order set by the CEV.

Official Regulations Amendments

Will be presented at the next BoA meeting.

European Beach Volleyball Commission – Mr Miguel A. QUINTANA (ESP)

Senior European Championships

The organisation in close co-operation with Challenge and FIPAV is progressing. The competition will take place in Jesolo (ITA) from 6th to 9th September 2001. Challenge has confirmed its option to renew its cooperation with the CEV and will thus cover the 2002 Championships.

U-23

The POR Federation faced problems with dates and had to move their competition to one week earlier - from 23th to 26th August. This change clashes with the FIVB U-21, however there is no other option. Thanks to the collaboration of the ERC, which accepted to reduce the number of neutral referees to 2, the POR Federation confirmed its interest in organising the competition.

U-19

This competition had to be cancelled as no organiser was found. Mr QUINTANA is surprised and disappointed to note that only 5 male and 6 female teams were registered in time.

Development of Beach Volleyball in future

Mr QUINTANA presents the development project as drawn up by the EBVC. He emphasises the importance of:

1. Creating a real European Tour
2. Protecting the calendar dates for Challenge
3. Fixing as soon as possible the 2002 competition calendar in conjunction with the interested national federations
4. Ensuring the cooperation with the FIVB Beach World Council.

Mr Meyer points out that it is not possible that FIPAV accredits only national referees for the Senior European Championships. It is necessary to nominate referees that are officially recognised as International Beach Referees, in order to guarantee a high level of refereeing.



Analysis of criteria U-23 & U-21

In order to harmonise these criteria, a discussion is planned with Mr Angelo SQUEO, FIVB Beach Volleyball Co-ordinator, during the Beach Volleyball World Tour Junior taking place in Le Lavandou (FRA).

European Refereeing Commission – Mr André MEYER (LUX)

Report of ERC Meeting

The last ERC meeting was held in Vilvoorde (BEL) from 1st to 4th June 2001. This meeting was completed by the European Refereeing Seminar in which an International Beach Volleyball Referee from Canada took part. The commission members and all participants of the seminar express thanks to the BEL Federation for the very good organisation of both meetings.

European Financial Commission – Mr Hugo FRUITHOF (SUI)

Accounts 2000/2001

All figures are reported in the “Handbook 2” of the XXII CEV General Assembly.

CEV Meetings’ Costs

Mr FRUITHOF refers to the request submitted by the NED Federation. He was responsible for contacting them and informed them about the current situation: traditionally the CEV bears the costs of all ExCom meetings, 2 BoA sessions (including the General Assembly) and 1 session of every official CEV commission. This situation is based on financial but also political grounds. It is important for the CEV to have close and direct contacts with its national federations.

The BoA supports the position of the ExCom, which insists on maintaining the current system but gives the possibility to the NED federation to intervene during the CEV XXII Congress.

Old Outstanding Debts

Still 1 national federation has debts towards the CEV. Mr FRUITHOF is however satisfied with the overall positive situation.

Introduction of the Euro (€)

According to the BoA decision taken on 5th June 1999 in San Marino, the Euro will be introduced into the CEV accounting as of 1st January 2002.

Marketing Contracts for the Future

Mr FRUITHOF announces that CEV has signed a marketing contract with ISA for the next five years.

Budget 2002

Mr FRUITHOF indicates that the EFC has studied and supported his proposal for the year 2002. In the budget, a sum of 50,000 CHF has been foreseen for the support of the Group C Federations in the European Championships Qualification Tournaments. The agreement on how to use this amount and under which condition has to be made bilateral between the CEV Executive Committee and Group C representatives. The figures related to the European Champions League are based on the figures as of 2000/2001. According to the principle agreements, it means that if there is a change in the system, the impact on the expenditures will be in balance with the income. The budget 2002 shows a positive result.

Decision: To accept the proposed Budget 2002 and present it to the General Assembly for ratification.

2001 Senior European Championships

2001 Men's Senior European Championships in Ostrava (CZE)

There are no major problems regarding the preparation of this competition. The inspection visit has been carried out: from the technical point of view, everything seems to be well prepared. Only some issues with TV coverage schedule are pointed out. The Drawing of Lots held on 22nd June 2001 ran perfectly. As far as the anti-doping tests are concerned, the validity of the IOC laboratory still has to be confirmed.

Decision: To contact Dr HOLZGRAEFE in order to guarantee that the proposed laboratory is officially recognised by IOC.

2001 Women's Senior European Championships in Sofia/Varna (BUL)

A second inspection visit has been carried out. The preparation of the event is on track except for the internal transport, which still has to be settled. The Bulgarian airways company did not issue the summer edition of their flight timetable. The BUL Federation awaits this flight timetable in order to organise the transport of samples to the nearest IOC accredited laboratory. The drawing of lots was held on 30th June 2001 in Varna. Mr MEYER was there as CEV Representative and indicates the media was present in high numbers on that occasion - more than 60 journalists and 4 television crews.

2001 European Beach Volleyball Championships

Appointment of CEV Officials

The BoA decides to appoint Mr BERBEN as CEV Representative of the Senior European Beach Volleyball Championships 2001 in Jesolo (ITA).

The BoA decides to appoint Mr PEKALIS as CEV Representative of the U-23 European Beach Volleyball Championships 2001 in Esposende (POR).

Proposal of Ranking Process for the European Beach Volleyball Championships 2001

The BoA accepts the qualification system presented by the European Beach Volleyball Commission.

2002/2003 European Championships

The GER Federation is entrusted with the organisation of the 2002/2003 edition of the Men's Senior European Championships. An organiser agreement is being signed between CEV and the GER Federation.

The TUR Federation confirmed their intention to organise the 2002/2003 edition of the Women's Senior European Championships. CEV is currently waiting for confirmation of the dates, which should be in the second half of September 2003.

Press Operations' Official Regulations

Mr Arjen MEIJER, CEV Press Officer, has been invited to join the BoA session in order to give his comments regarding the Press Operations Regulations. Mr MEIJER has been hired by the FIVB in the position of "FIVB Continental Press Officer". He will be responsible for covering all FIVB international competitions taking place in Europe. A new contract between CEV and Mr MEIJER is being signed that will cover all CEV events.

As far as the regulations are concerned, Mr MEIJER suggests some wording corrections such as replacing "Local Press Officer" and "Local Press Officer Assistant" with "Local Press Director" and "Local Press Director Assistant".

At the end of August, Mr MEIJER will carry out an inspection visit in Bulgaria in order to check if all media requirements are respected.



Decision:

- To accept the corrections of Mr MEIJER.
- To ratify the Press Operations' Regulations.

XXII CEV General Assembly in Ostrava (CZE)

Accreditation and hotel reservation

Mr HRONEK (CZE) takes the floor as he is aware of the latest position of the local organisation for the XXII CEV Congress. He informs the BoA Members that the main contact for accreditation and hotel accommodation is Mr Antonin LEBL.

To ensure a smooth running of the event, he stresses that it is important for the CZE Federation to know as soon as possible the exact number of wives or accompanying persons who are expected to come to Ostrava.

Proposals to be presented to the General Assembly

CEV received two proposals to be included in the Agenda of the XXII General Assembly. The first proposal sent by the NED Federation regarding the bearing of costs of CEV meetings by hosts has already been dealt with. The second proposal comes from the FRA Federation. The BoA decides the different items to be settled as follows:

1. Points 1 & 2: to be dealt with by the European Sports Organising Commission
2. Point 3: to be presented to the FIVB
3. Point 4: to be discussed by the CEV Working Group Marketing.

Approval of the handbooks 1+ 2

The BoA unanimously approves the Handbooks 1 + 2 of the XXII CEV General Assembly.

Decision: To send all national federations as well as all those concerned the Handbooks 1 +2.

Development Project from the ISL Federation

Further to the meeting held in April 2001 between the CEV and a delegation of the "Group C Federations", Mr Julius HAFSTEINN (ISL), President of the Group C Federations and President of the ISL Federation, has been invited to present the "Development Project" during the BoA session. He thanks first the CEV BoA for granting financial support to the Group C Federations and explains, that in order to develop Volleyball that Group C urgently needs to change its current competition system and create an official "European Championships Group C Competition". Mr MEYER agrees with him and acknowledges the Group C Federations are growing and gaining new Federations. The BoA consequently suggests that ideas from all Group C Federations be collated and a proposal prepared in conjunction with ESOC so that a new competition system can be created.

Decision:

- To officially propose the financial support to Group C Federations to the General Assembly.
- To give Group C Federations the responsibility to develop a new competition system with the collaboration of the ESOC.
- To send a letter to the FIVB asking their support for this new competition project.

Miscellaneous

"Park Volley" Activities in Europe

Mr PEKALIS is in charge of this project. He expresses his disappointment that only 23 national federations duly completed and forwarded back the questionnaire to the CEV Office.

Closing of the Meeting

There being no further business, the CEV President, Dr ANDRESEN thanks the Members of the Board of Administration for their co-operation and closes the meeting.

CEV BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING – OSTRAVA (CZE) - 13TH SEPTEMBER 2001

The following members are attending:

President:	Rolf Andresen (GER)
Senior Vice-President:	Philip Berben (BEL)
Vice-President and Treasurer:	Hugo Fruithof (SUI)
Vice-Presidents:	André Meyer (LUX) - Miguel Angel Quintana (ESP)
Members:	Thanassis Beligratis (GRE) - Jan Hronek (CZE) - Carlo Magri (ITA) - Riet Ooms (NED) - Vladimir Patkin (RUS) - Maris Pekalis (LAT) - Fabio Sassi (ITA) - Johann Schuhböck (AUT) - Lasse Svensson (SWE)

Opening of the Meeting

The CEV President, Dr Rolf ANDRESEN, opens the very last Board of Administration (BoA) meeting under his stewardship. He welcomes the BoA members to Ostrava and conveys his warmest thanks to his fellow BoA colleagues as well as to all Commission Presidents for their loyal and unfailing cooperation and support during his six-year mandate.

Additionally, he expresses his sincerest gratitude to the Czech Volleyball Federation and especially to its President, Mr Pavel KUCERA, for the kind invitation to Ostrava.

Taking the floor, Mr KUCERA, heartily welcomes the CEV BoA members to the Czech Republic. The Czech Volleyball Federation; which celebrates the 80th anniversary of its first official competition, is particularly proud to host the Final Round of the Senior Men European Championships again for the first time since 1958. However, Mr KUCERA regrets that this event has to coincide with the tragedy that occurred in the United States of America two days before. For this reason, the Opera "Aïda" planned for the closing ceremony of the XXII CEV General Assembly is unfortunately cancelled as the Czech government declared Friday 14th September as a national day of mourning. Even so, he wishes everybody a nice stay in Ostrava as well as a very fruitful meeting.

Before dealing with the first item of the agenda, Dr ANDRESEN announces that he will have a special meeting in the afternoon with the FIVB President, Dr Rubén ACOSTA H. In this regard, he apologises to the BoA members that he will leave the meeting earlier to welcome the FIVB President and his wife at the airport of Ostrava. Dr ANDRESEN finally adds that he is hopeful about the results of this meeting.

Approval of the Agenda

There being no remarks, the agenda of the BoA meeting is unanimously approved.

Approval of the Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on 13th July 2001 in Schwerin (GER)

In absence of any particular remarks, the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting are approved.



Approval of the Minutes of the Board of Administration Meeting held on 13th July 2001 in Schwerin (GER)

As decided during this meeting, a draft of the BoA minutes has been sent to all BoA members via e-mail, fax and Intranet in order to get their comments before the issuing of the document. The CEV Office received some remarks from Mrs OOMS, Mr PEKALIS and Mr SVENSSON. The respective corrections have been made by Ms Carole COSTA, responsible for the drawing up of this document.

There being no additional comments, the minutes of the BoA meeting are approved.

Activity Reports

Executive Committee (ExCom)

Dr Rolf ANDRESEN (GER), President

World Championships Qualification Tournament in Algeria

The CEV President points out that the Algerian Federation was not prepared to host the event and did not respect the FIVB regulations. Fortunately, thanks to the efforts of the organising committee and even the personal involvement of Dr ANDRESEN himself in some sectors (VIS, technical bulletin, etc.), the competition finally ran well with the victory of Tunisia, who qualified for the next World Championships.

Women's Junior World Championships in Dominican Republic

Dr Rolf ANDRESEN, attended there with Mr QUINTANA, stresses the high-level performance of this competition as well as a good organisation. Moreover, Dr ANDRESEN was astonished with the high position of Volleyball in this country in terms of public interest. Indeed, Volleyball benefits from great support from the State and major interest from the public.

Mr Philip BERBEN (BEL), Senior Vice-President

Men's Junior World Championships in Poland

Mr BERBEN was appointed as jury member in this competition. He congratulates the Polish Volleyball Federation for their excellent organisation of the event.

Girls' Youth World Championships in Croatia

Mr BERBEN announces with great satisfaction that European federations are getting more and more involved in the organisation of Volleyball tournaments. This event was marked by the surprise victory of Greece.

Senior European Championships in Jesolo (ITA)

This competition is one of the best Beach Volleyball tournaments Mr BERBEN has ever seen. These Championships were marvellously organised. He is proud to note that CEV can now count on very good partners, who are all willing to organise high level competitions. Mr BERBEN expresses his warmest congratulations to everybody involved in this event and its preparation.

Dr ANDRESEN is very satisfied as the last two years of events organised by the CEV affiliated federations were very successful and very well organised.

Mr André MEYER (LUX), Vice-President in charge of Administrative Affairs

Mr André MEYER would like to congratulate Mr MOTTIER and his staff for the successful issuing of the brochure "CEV Head Office at a glance", which has been distributed to all federations and members of the different CEV bodies.

Mr MEYER then gives the floor to Mr Olivier MOTTIER, CEV Executive Director, who is better informed to speak about this document.

Mr MOTTIER stresses that this brochure is first of all meant to create a link between CEV, its partners and the national federations. This document presents the new organisational chart of the office, as well as the pictures and the main tasks of each CEV staff member. Finally, Mr MOTTIER concludes by indicating to the BoA members that the brochure "The CEV Head Office at a glance" highlights the future management of the CEV Office in Luxembourg.

After the successful experience with the minutes of the last BoA meetings, Mr SVENSSON makes a small remark regarding the distribution of the CEV publications. He suggests that all the different CEV documents should be forwarded by e-mail/intranet not only to the BoA members but also to the other Commission members and national federations. Indeed, he believes that with such a process, the CEV would save money and time. Mr André MEYER acknowledges that already several federations have asked the CEV to proceed this way as it would be much more convenient for them to communicate the information to their clubs. The CEV Office is working on this matter and Mr MEYER adds that as first steps the CEV website is being revamped.

Commissions

Legal Commission – Mr Philip BERBEN

Women in BoA

This very sensitive issue has been discussed already several times by the ExCom and BoA members. Finally, further to the ExCom meeting held in the morning and considering that the current CEV statutes do not allow the election of a second female member the day after the Board meeting, the President of the European Legal Commission (ELC) wishes to make the following proposal:

PROPOSAL TO THE CONGRESS:

- To inform the Congress that at the next CEV General Assembly, 2 places will be reserved for female members in the Board of Administration.
- To call on candidatures for the remaining vacancy if one woman is elected this year.
- To appoint the second female member as an observer of the BoA until the next Congress in November, when she will become a full BoA member for the last three years of her mandate.

Mr BERBEN points out that whilst ELC has to respect the statutes and regulations of the CEV, the CEV also has to respect the decisions taken by the FIVB General Assembly. Dr ANDRESEN will be in charge of informing Dr Rubén ACOSTA accordingly.

ISR Federation Litigation

As agreed during the last BoA meeting in Schwerin (GER), a letter has been sent to the ISR Federation in order to inform them about the sanctions imposed by the CEV BoA.

Mr BERBEN refers to the letter of Mr SASSI stating that any sanctions taken by the CEV must be submitted to the FIVB before being effective. ELC therefore has to study what is the consequence of a European sanction - especially a technical sanction - in the international Volleyball world. This is a point that has to be discussed and settled with the FIVB in order to avoid such clashes like this one in future.

However, based on the letter sent to the ISR Federation, the ELC President indicates that there is no misunderstanding possible. Moreover, according to the CEV Statutes, it is not foreseen that the CEV sanctions are automatically taken over by the FIVB.

CEV Tournament Approval - New Criteria

A system for approval of tournaments has been in place by the CEV for many years. However, Mr BERBEN admits that nowadays more and more national federations are getting together



to create a large number of special “cross-border” competitions. These kinds of tournaments cause some major problems, which makes it difficult for ELC to follow up and control all competitions played across Europe.

Decision: ELC to find - within few months - a procedure to manage registration of these competitions and to foresee sanctions in case the national federation does not provide the CEV with enough information about the tournament it is going to organise.

This kind of competitions should, IN NO WAY, harm the interests of the CEV neither in the organising matters (competition schedule, and dates...) nor in the commercial ones. The Competitions Department is responsible for determining if the approval can be granted or not.

How the CEV can improve the control of these new competitions and how it can safeguard the interests of the CEV? Mr BERBEN announces to all the BoA members that this important item must be discussed once again in the next meeting so that a solution can be found.

Statutes Amendments

This point has already been dealt with during the last BoA meetings. The ELC President only adds that Mr MOTTIER proposed, after the last BoA meeting held in Schwerin, to include in the article 5.11 of the Statutes the mention “by registered mail” for the introduction of proposals from the national federations. All the amendments proposed will be presented to the General Assembly for ratification.

Legal Position of the CEV Congress

Mr BERBEN confirms that the legal part of the General Assembly is well prepared. Mr Aloys FISCHER, member of the European Legal Commission, will be responsible at the Congress for the verification of the accreditations and the validity of the elections. Concerning the Statutes amendments, Mr BERBEN indicates that he will guide this process during the General Assembly.

European Cups Commission – Mrs Riet OOMS

The ECC President, Mrs Riet OOMS (NED), presents the main activities of the European Cups Commission (ECC) during the period July – September 2001.

Drawing of Lots held on 7th July in Luxembourg (LUX)

The drawing of lots for the CEV Cup was organised in a non-public session, with two neutral observers, while the drawings of lots for the Top Teams Cup and the Champions League were carried out in a public session. Many clubs and Federations were represented.

ECL Seminar for Participating Clubs and Federations on 8th July in Luxembourg (LUX)

Mrs OOMS is pleased to announce that many clubs and federations were present at this successful meeting. During this seminar the administrative, technical, promotional, TV and marketing aspects were brought to the attention of all the participants. Moreover, the role of the national federation - before and during the competition - was also an important part of this seminar.

ECL Technical Problems

The ECC President points out that an intensive check has been carried out with those clubs that did not – or not completely – fulfil all technical requirements for the European Champions League. Three clubs from BEL, GER and AUT had problems with their competition hall, as they were not approved by the European Cups Commission. Finally, after the period granted to the clubs by the ECC for solving this problem, all the three clubs did find a solution. Mrs OOMS is therefore very satisfied to note that the European clubs are all in a position to reach the requirements imposed by the ECC to put the European Champions League competition at a high standard.

Mr MOTTIER then takes the opportunity to show all BoA members a short video clip from the last edition of the European Champions League. This video, - produced by the new CEV Marketing and Communication staff, Mrs Marion MEYERS and Mrs Isabelle WEYDERT - presents the different actors of such a big event: the players, the public as well as the sponsors.

Statistics Program

As mentioned during the last BoA meeting in Schwerin, Mr MEYER reminds his colleagues that he has been in contact with two companies regarding statistics. Finally, it was decided to enter into a contract with Data Project, an Italian agency, which offers, amongst its products, the possibility to use the existing ECL forms

ECL Panel Reciprocity

Further to the request of several of the men's teams during the seminar held in Luxembourg on 8th July 2001, the ExCom members proposed to renew the provision regarding panel reciprocity.

Decision:

- To inform the men's clubs only that a new rule concerning Advertising Panels reciprocity is being adopted.
- To provide the 16 men's teams with two CEV stickers, so that, in case there will be no panels from the visiting team, the receiving club must put the CEV stickers in the empty places.

This rule will be implemented only this season and will be ratified according to the feedback of its application.

Appointment of the CEV Supervisors

Mrs OOMS refers to the ECC proposal with regard to the nomination of Ex Officio members and Supervisors. She explains that this new process will give an opportunity to the CEV Supervisors to officiate in several matches (three or four times per year), and consequently to have more experience and improve their education. Unfortunately, the ECC President announces that the list of Supervisors (around 30) to be presented to the ExCom for approval is still not complete, as it is difficult to find people with enough free time to fulfil such assignments.

European Sports Organising Commission – Mr Fabio SASSI

Official Bulletin N°1 for the next edition of the European Championships

All the instructions given during the last BoA meeting are included in this bulletin. On this occasion, Mr SASSI wishes to thank the CEV Competitions Department for its work and collaboration.

Competition Calendar

During the last BoA meeting held in Schwerin, it was decided that, before the XXII CEV Congress, a meeting should be organised between the ESOC President and all European federations participating in the World League.

Mr SASSI first regrets to note that most of the delegates likely to be interested in this meeting have not been informed about this meeting. Furthermore, he indicates that the timing of the meeting is not convenient for him as he is supposed to officiate a match at the same time. As a consequence, the ESOC President suggests postponing the meeting and urges the CEV Office to get in touch with the different federations' representatives in order to inform them of this change.



European Beach Volleyball Commission – Mr Miguel A. QUINTANA (ESP)
Senior European Championships – Jesolo (ITA)

Both partners in the organisation produced a very satisfactory event. The ITA Federation and Challenge did a very good job, delivering a very high level event. From the technical point of view, Mr QUINTANA is pleased to point out that the best players - Men and Women - participated in this event. He thus expresses his warmest congratulations to the SUI (M) and GRE (W) teams for being the winners of the competition. Mr QUINTANA is also very satisfied to note a change of culture among the European federations, as more and more countries get involved in Beach Volleyball competitions.

The EBVC President takes the opportunity to thank all his colleagues of the Beach Volleyball Commission for their work, as well as Mr MEYER for his collaboration and assistance during this edition of the Senior European Beach Volleyball Championships.

U-23 – Esposende (POR)

Mr QUINTANA is satisfied with the organisation of this competition. He reminds the BoA members that it is the second time this event recorded 24 women's, respectively men's, teams. Mr PEKALIS, appointed as CEV Official for this competition, says that there was a good co-operation between the organisers and the control committee members. Mr PEKALIS adds also that the players were quite astonished and disappointed to learn that taxes of 25% were withdrawn from the Prize Money. An analysis of this process should be carried out in order to solve this problem in future.

U-19

This competition was cancelled as no organiser was found. The LTU Federation expressed an interest to organise this event, but, as the letter of intent arrived too late at the CEV Office, it was decided to maintain the first BoA decision that no U-19 competition will be organised.

World Championships U-21 – Le Lavandou (FRA)

The President of the EBVC provided some information about the event, which was held in France in the end of August. He points out that the results of European teams were very positive as they all showed high-quality performance during the games.

European Refereeing Commission – Mr André MEYER (LUX)

Report of ERC Meeting – Moscow (RUS)

The last ERC meeting was held in Moscow (RUS) from 20th to 22nd July 2001. This meeting was perfectly organised and on this occasion, Mr MEYER wishes to thank the RUS Federation for the perfect facilities and its friendly hospitality. During this meeting, ERC appointed 720 referees for European Cups matches. In this matter, Mr MEYER informs the BoA members that the commission took into account the recommendations made during the last meeting for the Top Teams Cup with the appointment of two referees.

The ERC President refers to the U-23 Beach Volleyball competition and announces that he was astonished by the report of the Judge Referee. Despite the CEV flexibility, a lot of problems occurred in Portugal. As a consequence, Mr MEYER urges the BoA members to reinforce their decision to appoint only the best referees, especially for this kind of competitions.

Confirmation of the last BoA decision only to appoint International Beach Referees for all competitions in future.

European Financial Commission – Mr Hugo FRUITHOF (SUI)
Accounts 2000/2001

Mr FRUITHOF reports that the CEV current financial position for both income and expenditure on budget.

He would like to mention also that, to date, debts from all national federations affiliated to CEV amount to between CHF 39,000 – 40,000. However, he does state that during the CEV Congress, most of the national federations will settle their debts during the accreditation session in order to obtain their voting rights for the elections of the future CEV President and Board of Administration members.

Letter from DEN and NOR Federations

The CEV received a letter from the DEN and NOR Federations asking for a reduction of a fine imposed on their clubs. The EFC President does not agree to reduce these fines and asks his colleagues of the BoA to be strict in order to ensure that decisions and regulations and Regulations of the CEV are respected.

However, as far as the case of the DEN Federation is concerned, Mrs OOMS and Mr SVENSSON believe that a revision of the fine should be made, considering that the Danish club did not commit directly the fault it is blamed for. Indeed, this mistake is linked to the withdrawal of another club. Mr FRUITHOF takes note of this remark but after voting, the BoA decided to maintain the previously decided sanctions.

Decision: To maintain the sanctions against the DEN and NOR Federations.

Dr ANDRESEN leaves the meeting in order to welcome the FIVB President, Dr ACOSTA H., and his wife at the airport of Ostrava.

Mr BERBEN, in his position of CEV Senior Vice-President leads the meeting for the remaining items.

2001-2003 European Volleyball Championships

2001 Men's Senior European Championships in Ostrava (CZE)

Mr FRUITHOF, appointed as President of the Jury in this competition, can only state that the organisation of this event was perfect. Everything is running smoothly. He hopes that nothing will happen within the last few days.

2001 Women's Senior European Championships in Sofia/Varna (BUL)

Mrs OOMS is appointed as President of the Jury in that competition. She informs the BoA that the organisation is progressing: the second inspection visit for co-ordinators as well as one extra meeting with Mr Konstantin TJUFEKTCHIEV, General Secretary of the Bulgarian Federation, have been carried out.

Mr Arjen MEIJER, CEV Press Delegate, also travelled to Bulgaria two weeks before and reported that all Press facilities seem to be correctly prepared.

In her opinion, regular meetings with the organisers will guarantee a good preparation of the event and enable an efficient coordination.

2002 Men's Junior European Championships in POL

First of all, Mr SVENSSON, CEV Coordinator for this competition, wishes to extend his special thanks to the Polish Volleyball Federation for the preparation and the accomplishment of the inspection visit on 10th-12th August 2001. He announces to his BoA colleagues that the organisers proposed to play the matches either in one sports hall or in two different competition halls. The first hall was used for the Finals of the World League 2001 and the second one was



used during the previous Junior World Championships Qualification in 1999. Further to the CEV inspection visit, both halls were accepted.

He indicates also that the arrival date of the teams is foreseen as 14th August, for the CEV Officials it is 13th, and for all the departure date is 25th. The venue of arrival and departure is Katowice and no second inspection visit is planned except during the Drawing of Lots ceremony next June.

Decision: To play these championships in two different competition halls.

2002 Women's Junior European Championships

Mr MEYER confirms that the Croatian Federation will take over the organisation of this event. It will provide the CEV with all detailed information - dates and venue - as soon as possible.

In this matter, Mr SASSI reminds the BoA members that it was decided during the last BoA meeting in Schwerin (GER) to keep unchanged the dates set for this competition without any exceptions.

2003 Men's Senior European Championships in GER

Mr MEYER announces that the contract with the German Federation is ready to be signed.

2003 Women's Senior European Championships in TUR

During its last meeting in Schwerin the CEV Board of Administration requested the TUR Federation to change the competition period from the first part of September to the second? The Turkish Federation has confirmed this change. However, because of this change, the TUR Federation has been forced to change the venue from Istanbul to Ankara.

The two sports halls proposed are the new one recently used for the European Championships in Basketball and the former one used already several times for European Volleyball competitions.

A proposal of agreement between the organiser and the CEV will be given to the TUR Federation during the Congress 2001.

2001/02 European Cups

Political Situation in ISR

The current situation is very alarming. The BoA must take strict decisions in order to avoid the bad experiences from the year before.

Decision:

- To meet the President of the ISR Federation, Mr Hanan BEN-DOR, for an open and friendly discussion.
- To convince the ISR Federation to collaborate with the CEV and to accept that all matches should be played abroad.
- To send a letter to all teams concerned in order to inform them that they have to fix the dates for both matches being played in their country.

Political Situation in the F.Y.R. of Macedonia

In order to guarantee all security measures necessary for the good running of the European Cups in this country, the following steps have been decided:

Decision:

- To transfer all matches from Skopje to the southern part of the country.
- To designate the airport of Thessaloniki as the official airport of arrival.
- To inform the participating clubs and CEV Officials.

Miscellaneous

NED proposal regarding the implementation of a Development Commission

Mr BERBEN informs that this point will be dealt with during the CEV Congress.

Letter of the FIVB regarding the support of the Group C Federations

The CEV President, Dr ANDRESEN, will speak about that issue with the FIVB President, Dr Rubén ACOSTA during a special meeting that has been arranged.

Preparation of the XXII General Assembly on 14th September 2001 in Ostrava (CZE)

Both the attendance list and the official timetable have been distributed to all BoA members and will be provided to every national federation's delegate during the accreditations taking place in the evening.

The legal part of the General Assembly will be under the guidance of Mr Aloys FISCHER, President of the Credential and Voting Commission.

As far as the agenda of the Congress is concerned, the ExCom decided that the item "Miscellaneous" should come before the elections. This will prevent the newly elected President from having to deal with issues from the previous Presidents mandate.

Moreover, Mr MEYER reverts to the agreement signed two years before between the CEV and the RUS Federation. According to this agreement, Mr DEREVIAGUINE should be nominated as CEV Honorary Vice-President after his nomination as ESOC ex-officio member.

Decision: To respect the agreement with the RUS Federation and appoint Mr Yuri DEREVIAGUINE as CEV Honorary Vice-President during the XXII General Assembly.

Closing of the Meeting

Before closing the meeting, Mr FRUITHOF, CEV Vice-President and Treasurer, indicates that the ExCom proposed to maintain the same Internal Auditors as last year and to appoint Mrs Maria SOLAKHYAN (ARM) as substitute.

There being no further business, the CEV Senior Vice-President, Mr BERBEN, on behalf of the CEV President, Dr Rolf ANDRESEN, thanks all Members of the Board of Administration for their co-operation and closes the meeting.

CEV XXII GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING - OSTRAVA (CZE) – 14TH SEPTEMBER 2001

The following members are attending:

President:	Rolf Andresen (GER)
Senior Vice-President:	Philip Berben (BEL)
Vice-President and Treasurer:	Hugo Fruithof (SUI)
Vice-Presidents:	André Meyer (LUX) - Miguel Angel Quintana (ESP)
Members:	Thanassis Beligratis (GRE) - Jan Hronek (CZE) - Carlo Magri (ITA) - Riet Ooms (NED) - Vladimir Patkin (RUS) - Maris Pekalis (LAT) - Fabio Sassi (ITA) - Johann Schuhböck (AUT) - Lasse Svensson (SWE)
Internal Auditors:	Mr Michel HENNO (BEL) - Mr Leo DADEMA (NED)
Executive Director:	Mr Olivier MOTTIER
Secretaries:	Ms Carole COSTA - Ms Kristina NIEMINEN
CEV Competitions Director:	Mr Jean-Paul ROMMES
Marketing Co-ordinator:	Ms Marion MEYERS
Press Attaché:	Mr Arjen MEIJER

Delegates of National Federations affiliated with CEV

<u>FEDERATION</u>		<u>REPRESENTED BY</u>
ALBANIA	ALB	Mr Leonard TASE / Vesel RIZVANOLLI
ANDORRA	AND	Proxy to SPAIN
ARMENIA	ARM	No Delegate
AUSTRIA	AUT	Mr Peter KLEINMANN / Gerald MOORE
AZERBAIDJAN	AZE	Mr Elshan ISMAYLOV
BELARUS	BLR	Mr Vladimir VIARTSIOLKA
BELGIUM	BEL	Mr Willy BRUNINX / Jean-Pierre BROUHON
BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA	BIH	Proxy to SLOVENIA
BULGARIA	BUL	Mr Dancho LAZAROV / K. TJUFEKTCHIEV
CROATIA	CRO	Mr Zdeslav BARAC
CYPRUS	CYP	Mr Andreas STAVROU
		Proxy from ENGLAND
CZECH REPUBLIC	CZE	Mr Pavel KUCERA / Antonin LEBL
DENMARK	DEN	Mr Eric ADLER / Max KJÆR
ENGLAND	ENG	Proxy to CYPRUS
ESTONIA	EST	Mr Henn VALLIMAE / Andrei OJAMETS
FAROE ISLANDS	FER	Proxy to GREENLAND
FINLAND	FIN	Mr Seppo SAMMELVUO / Jorma VERTAINEN

FRANCE	FRA	Mr Jacques SHAW / Philippe BEUCHET
GEORGIA	GEO	Mr Levan AKHVLEDIANI
GERMANY	GER	Mr Werner VON MOLTKE / Lutz ENDLICH
GIBRALTAR	GIB	No Delegate
GREECE	GRE	Mr Thanassis BELIGRATIS / Angelos TZIMOS
GREENLAND	GRL	Mr Hans JENSEN
		Proxy from FAROE ISLANDS
HUNGARY	HUN	Mr Peter STEVIK / Sandor HOBOTH
ICELAND	ISL	Mr Julius HAFSTEIN / G.H. THORSTEINSSON
		Proxy from MONACO
IRELAND	IRL	Mrs Susan AHERN
		Proxy from NORTHERN IRELAND
ISRAEL	ISR	Mr Hanan BEN DOR / Mr Kobi SOLOMON
ITALY	ITA	Mr Carlo MAGRI / Renato ARENA
LATVIA	LAT	Mr Raimonds VILDE
		Proxy from LITHUANIA
LIECHTENSTEIN	LIE	Mr Philippe SCHÜRMANN / Jurgen ALBRECHT
LITHUANIA	LTU	Proxy to LATVIA
LUXEMBOURG	LUX	Mrs Chantal SCHOMER
(FYR of) MACEDONIA	MKD	No Delegate
MALTA	MLT	Mr Hector CHETCUTI
		Proxy from SCOTLAND
MOLDOVA	MLD	Mr Anatoli MOKRAK / Mrs Olga MOKRAK
MONACO	MON	Proxy to ICELAND
(The) NETHERLANDS	NED	Dr H.A. VAN ZWIETEN / Mr P. K. VAN DER LOO
NORTHERN IRELAND	NIR	Proxy to IRELAND
NORWAY	NOR	Mrs Torill Gundersen FALEIDE
POLAND	POL	Mr Janusz BIESIADA / Ms Marta ALF
PORTUGAL	POR	Mr T. DE CARVALHO / Luis MOREIRA RIBEIRO
RUMANIA	ROM	Mr Octavian DIMOFTE
RUSSIA	RUS	Mr Valentin JOUKOV / Vladimir PATKIN
SAN MARINO	SMR	Mr G. DELLA BALDA / Giuliano GIOVANOELLI
SCOTLAND	SCO	Proxy to MALTA
SLOVAKIA	SVK	Mr Ivan MAJERCAK / Ivan IRO
SLOVENIA	SLO	Mr Anton KONCNIK / Lubor HALANDA
		Proxy from BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA



SPAIN	ESP	Mr Agustin MARTIN SANTOS / Luis MUCHAGA Proxy from ANDORRA
SWEDEN	SWE	Mr Jan SVENSSON / Ms Agneta ELMGAARD
SWITZERLAND	SUI	Mr Cristian SCHREIBMULLER / Jan REK
TURKEY	TUR	Mr Husnu CAN
UKRAINE	UKR	Ms Tetyana ROUBLEVSKAYA
WALES	WAL	No Delegate
YUGOSLAVIA	YUG	Mr Aleksandar BORICIC / Slobodan MILOSEVIC
Interpreters:	GRE	Ms Ada CHADZIMANOLI
	ITA	Mr Libenzio CONTI
	RUS	Mr Sergey KOLMAKOV
Special Guests:	Dr Rubén ACOSTA H. FIVB President - Mrs Malú ACOSTA H. Mr Jean-Pierre SEPPEY FIVB General Manager Dr Ladislav MALY Czech Sports Minister	

CEV BoA Honorary Members: Mr Franz SCHMIED - Mr Vahit COLAKOGLU

Mr Michalis MASTRANDREAS

Opening of the XXII General Assembly

Important notice: The CEV and the whole Congress wish to join the worldwide gesture of sympathy and solidarity towards the victims of the terrible tragedy and terrorist attack that struck the United States of America on 11th September by respecting one minute of silence at 12.00 a.m.

Welcome Address by CEV President, Dr Rolf ANDRESEN

“Mr President, Dear Ladies and Gentlemen, Dear Delegates and Friends of Volleyball,

Best wishes and a very warm welcome to all guests and delegates to the annual General Assembly of the CEV. This year, our gathering in Ostrava coincides with the CEV presidential and Board of Administration elections and the prestigious eightieth anniversary of the CZE Volleyball Federation.

On this occasion, I would like to express my sincerest congratulations and thanks to the Czech Volleyball Association for its active contribution to our Sports.

This association, under the Presidency of Mr Pavel KUCERA, has taken care of all the arrangements for this year's conference and we are grateful for this. We wish him, his colleagues and the organisers of the Final of the European Championships great success.

Today, it is with special appreciation that we welcome Dr Rubén ACOSTA, FIVB President and IOC Member, accompanied by his wife Madam Malú. Since I became involved in FIVB activities, I have learnt from the outstanding commitment and success of Dr ACOSTA in the world of Volleyball.

We are also honoured by the presence of Dr MALY, Minister of Sports, representative of the Czech Republic, and Ing Cestmir VLCEK, Mayor of Ostrava. Without the support of the community and state authorities, it would not have been possible to organise such a high-standard sports event. Therefore, many thanks for your contribution.

We welcome our Honorary Members and friends, Messrs Michael MASTRANDREAS, Vahit COLAKOGLU and Franz SCHMIED. Your presence here today is a proof of the strong solidarity in the European Volleyball family.

I also welcome the General Manager of the FIVB, Mr Jean-Pierre SEPPEY, the first time among us. I want to assure you that we are interested to have a close co-operation between our Office in Luxembourg and the Head Office of the FIVB in Lausanne.

I wish to all of you a successful day, marked by constructive and meaningful discussions and far-reaching decisions."

Welcome Speech by the President of the CZE Volleyball Federation, Mr Pavel KUCERA

"Dear President ACOSTA, Dear President ANDRESEN, Dear Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the Czech Volleyball Federation I am pleased to welcome all of you to Ostrava. Allow me to express my deep delight, as it is the first time the CEV General Assembly meets in the Czech Republic. If I am not mistaken, only the FIVB General Assembly met once in Prague in 1986 - during the time of former Czechoslovakia - on the occasion of the Women's World Championships.

We are very honoured the first CEV Congress of the third millennium takes place in our country. It is an even more significant event since it occurs on the year Czech Volleyball celebrates the 80th anniversary of its first official competition's foundation.

For me it is also a great honour to be able to welcome you here after my second re-election as President of the Czech Volleyball Association.

Our Federation consists of 15 members including 2 women, 1 President and 4 Vice-Presidents. Two of them are present here: Dr Jan HRONEK, Vice-President responsible for International Affairs and Beach Volleyball and Mr Antonin LEBL, Vice-President in charge of Marketing, Media and National Teams activities but also President of the organising committee.

The Czech Volleyball Federation was one of the first founders of the FIVB in 1947 and I am very happy and proud to introduce to you today our Honorary Member, Mr Ing. Vladimír SPIRIT, who is the last living participant member of the memorable FIVB foundation act.

The Czech Volleyball Federation still maintains its good name and traditions in indoor Volleyball but also nowadays in a relatively new sector - Beach Volleyball. Moreover, while making effort to increase its sports level, our federation tries to develop the popularity of Volleyball both in the Czech Republic and in Europe by frequent organisation of various Volleyball competitions and tournaments. I could spend a pretty long time to enumerate all the events we have organised, those we are organising and the others we are going to organise.

We appreciate very much the visit of top Volleyball diplomats in Ostrava. We hope that the facilities and conditions prepared for the CEV General Assembly and the European Men's Championships will comply with the most demanding standards and contribute to fruitful discussions and efficient decisions as well as help you to reach all your expected goals.

This kind of gathering is undoubtedly the best way to improve good relationship and friendship between all of us and our federation members.

May I add also that we are all deeply shocked by the tragedy that struck the United States in recent days. We are strongly blaming terrorism for such criminal acts. In this case, our sports problems look very trivial compared to this world crisis.



Finally, I want to express many thanks to Dr Professor ANDRESEN for his great support to Czech Volleyball. Thank you Mr President.

I wish you good luck in your decisions for the further development of European Volleyball.

Thank you.”

Welcome Address by the Minister of Sports of the Czech Republic, Dr Ladislav MALY

“Dear Mr President, Dear Delegates of the CEV Congress, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am happy and honoured to welcome you, the delegates and guests of the European Volleyball Confederation Congress in Ostrava. Volleyball is a traditional sport in our country and it is this very year that it celebrates its 80th anniversary since the establishment of the official Volleyball Federation.

The first negotiations regarding the constitution of the FIVB took place in 1947 in Prague and I am glad that the only living participant of that event, Mr Vladimir SPIRIT, is among us today.

World Volleyball has experienced dramatic development and ranks today among the main sports events.

We are proud that our men’s national team became twice world champions in 1956 and 1966 and that our women’s national team won the European champions title in 1955.

Our country has achieved great success also with the advent of Beach Volleyball. Let me remind you that our female Beach Volleyball duo CELBOVA / DOSOUDILOVA won the title of European champions in 1996 and the bronze medal from the FIVB World Cup this year.

Allow me, on behalf of the Czech government, which I am honoured to represent at this session, to wish you all the best in your further activity, namely in the development of youth Volleyball competitions.

I strongly believe that Europe, to which we all belong, will achieve even greater success in the forthcoming years.

I wish you a pleasant stay in the Czech Republic, especially here in Ostrava. I am convinced that the outcome of your Congress will contribute to the development of your beautiful sport.

Thank you for your attention.”

Speech by the President of the International Volleyball Federation, Dr Rubén ACOSTA

“Mr Cestmir VLCEK, Mayor of Ostrava, Dr MALY, Minister of Sports of the Czech Republic, Dear Colleagues, Presidents and Delegates representing the European FIVB affiliated National Federations, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am very pleased to be here today to comply with my duties in accordance with the FIVB regulations, co-chairing the XXII General Assembly of the FIVB affiliated European National Federations, so as to strengthen and consolidate our vested interest in Volleyball’s future together with my friend and Vice-President of the FIVB, Professor Rolf ANDRESEN, and to co-ordinate the most important continental activities that may significantly impact the onward movement of Volleyball actions and the image of the FIVB.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr VLCEK, Mayor of Ostrava, Dr Ladislav MALY, the Minister of Sports of the Czech Republic and the Czech Volleyball Federation for their hospitality and endeavours in the preparation of this Assembly making the adequate presentation of the FIVB Corporate Profile possible, of which Professor ANDRESEN and myself will jointly make on behalf of the FIVB Board.

The FIVB Corporate Profile, sanctioned by the FIVB Board, aims at building new bridges of communication, maintaining a concerted effort in the pursuit of common goals and bringing together all National Federations, FIVB institutions and individual members into a more comprehensive structure far from exclusions, in which everyone plays a role, leaving behind the “One Man Band” concept, and moves towards a “Participatory Planning and Labour Division Approach”.

Such concerted action in a comprehensive structure is precisely what Volleyball is missing, therefore, we must strive to prepare a new dynamic “Volleyball Vision 2008”, in co-operation with National Federations, individual members and with anyone who has the courage to participate in our sport with loyalty towards our institutions and accepts the share of responsibility in building a strong Volleyball presence in his country. This premise of courage, loyalty and clamour for participation will become our link and common device.

In this new “Volleyball Vision 2008”, FIVB endeavours to enforce in our sport the real meaning of Pierre de Coubertin’s ideals: “The essential part of the Game is to participate” because only through a concerted participation we will be able to build a better future for Volleyball, a future in which our basic and supportive institutions will not go astray or be continually hindered by the inertia of the isolationism or inexperience of their leaders. These Institutions must be held responsible for the role they have been assigned to perform, and accountable for the timely submission to the FIVB of their competitions calendar and decisions related to their function.

At the dawn of the XXI Century, our sport does not need messianic attitudes, Robinson Crusoe’s or opportunists who have not been able to achieve any target for our sport in their country. What we need is to bring to the helm of our institutions those leaders who, regardless of their local conditions or in spite of them, were able to give life in their country to a National League, a National team and a seriously committed National Federation. Such leaders have suffered our weaknesses, built on our strengths, challenged external threats and profited from the opportunities found in their environment and foremost, at the end of the day they have succeeded in building a more valued presence of Volleyball in their country.

Volleyball cannot continue to lose marketing, television and sponsorship opportunities to the detriment of organisers, media, players and spectators at large only because of the egocentric attitude or narrow vision of few individuals. We need stop looking at ourselves in the mirror of the past and rely on today’s success and know-how of others instead, while respecting continental and regional identity that best suits the culture of each National Federation. We cannot elude and should not be allowed to elude the duty of loyalty and discipline owed to the World Congress and its representative institution formally established as the entrusted guardian of Volleyball’s image, values and general interest.

My dear friends, we are all one Volleyball Family, we all have a duty to accomplish, we have to work in a consulted action, we have to join efforts and we have to work together. As the proverb says: “united we stand, divided we fall”.

Thank you for your attention and your participation.”

Presentation of the FIVB Corporate Profile by Dr Rubén ACOSTA

The FIVB President presents and comments the highlights of the new FIVB Corporate Profile to all European delegates.

A copy of the FIVB Corporate Profile is distributed to all delegates present among the attendance. The FIVB President indicates besides that the FIVB Corporate Profile will be available on compact disc within a few weeks.

Dr ACOSTA suggests the European delegates follow the FIVB example to illustrate their own national properties.



There being no supplementary question, the FIVB President, Dr ACOSTA H., assumes that his message has been properly received and closes his presentation.

Honouring Ceremony of Dr Vladimir SPIRIT

Dr Rolf ANDRESEN, CEV President, takes the floor and asks the President of the FIVB, Dr Rubén ACOSTA H., to honour the eldest member of the CEV and also the FIVB, Dr Vladimir SPIRIT.

“I met Dr SPIRIT for the first time in 1966 when I was Director of the Organising Committee of the Olympic Games in Mexico. Dr SPIRIT was also present during my first meeting for Volleyball in Prague (CZE) on the occasion of the World Championships.

Dear Vladimir, on behalf of the FIVB, I want to thank and congratulate you for being one of the last pioneers of our organisation. I want to award you the medal of the International Volleyball Federation created by Mr Paul LIBAUD, our founding President and the person that gave us the enthusiasm we need to be involved in Volleyball. I hope you will keep this as a precious recognition of your contribution for our sport.”

Setting up of the General Assembly's Office

Record of Attendance

Upon completion of the nominative call against the record of attendance,

- 47 federations are found present or validly represented,
- 7 federations are absent or not validly represented.

Appointment of four Members of the Credentials Checking / Voting Commission

On behalf of the CEV Board of Administration, Mr Aloys FISCHER (SUI), Member of the European Legal Commission, proposes to the General Assembly to appoint the following four CEV officials / federation delegates as:

Members of the Credentials Checking Commission:

Mr Aloys FISCHER (SUI) Chairman - Mr Peter KLEINMANN (AUT)

Mr Seppo SAMMELVUO (FIN) - Mr Peter STEVIK (HUN)

Members of the Voting Commission:

Mr Aloys FISCHER (SUI) Chairman - Mr Giuseppe DELLA BALDA (SMR)

Mr Ivan MAJERCAK (SVK) - Mr Julius HAFSTEINN (ISL)

There being no objection, the General Assembly unanimously confirms the appointment of the above CEV officials / delegates of federation as members of the Credentials Checking Commission and Voting Commission.

Report of the Credentials Checking Commission

Mr Aloys FISCHER (SUI), Chairman of the Credentials Checking Commission, confirms that out of the 54 member federations, 47 federations (= 87.03% of all CEV member federations) are present or legitimately represented in this General Assembly by valid proxy.

Mr Aloys FISCHER (SUI) concludes that the condition laid down in Art. 5.2 - § 3 of the CEV Statutes - at least two thirds of the federations must be present or represented - is fulfilled.

Further to a control of the accreditations by the voting commission, Mr FISCHER announces that the number of votes amounts 47 and consequently the absolute majority is 24.

The following 7 federations, neither present nor validly represented by proxy, are considered as officially absent: Albania (ALB) - Armenia (ARM) - Bosnia and Herzegovina (BIH) - Gibraltar (GIB) - FYR of Macedonia (MKD) - Northern Ireland (NIR) - Wales (WAL)

Approval of the Agenda

As the point "Miscellaneous" has to be dealt with by the current CEV President, Dr Rolf ANDRESEN, the CEV Executive Committee decided to bring it forward in the agenda just before the election of the new President and Board of Administration.

There being no additional comment, the Agenda of the XXII General Assembly is approved.

Approval of the Minutes of the XXI General Assembly in Luxembourg (LUX)

In absence of neither written nor oral remark, the Minutes of the XXI General Assembly held on 4th November 2000 in Luxembourg (LUX) are unanimously approved and adopted.

General Activity Report of the CEV President, Dr Rolf ANDRESEN

"Mr President, Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Our last General Assembly took place in November 2000 in Luxembourg. My report will not only cover the short period of the last ten months, but will also give a general retrospective of the CEV activities during my presidency.

We know that the organisation of a yearly General Congress - in accordance with the Luxembourg law - is a great workload for the administration and the affiliated federations responsible for the organisation of such an event. However, it is a real advantage for developing communication between the CEV leading bodies and the federations.

Since some years ago, the motto of the CEV governing organs has been: "to do the right things and to do the things right". In the same time, the structure of our confederation is based on democracy and cooperation. Furthermore, the CEV has entered a specific political sports environment with the European Union, which is particularly marked by the Bosman case. We are convinced that sports do not only fulfil a socio-political role but also a cultural one. In other words, the level of sports performance is always function of the cultural background it originates from.

The CEV is representing an important and weighty part of the worldwide Volleyball family. On this occasion, I would like to assert to you, Dr ACOSTA, that the CEV is a loyal partner of the FIVB and that we are proud to be a member of the biggest sports organisation in the world, which you have brought to its actual success during the past 17 years.

Of course, in all these years, there have been some differences of opinion between you and me and the members of the Executive Committee and Board of Administration, but we always openly discussed our disagreements and succeeded in reaching common solutions to the benefit of our sport. This is why I specially appreciated that my colleagues of the Executive Committee and myself had the possibility to meet you, Mr President, on a yearly basis in Lausanne to clarify and settle misunderstandings as well as other issues.

The fact that nine out of twelve FIVB Commission Presidents are European proves the readiness of the CEV to build a close and intensive co-operation with the FIVB.

The CEV is always looking forward to implementing without delay the latest decisions of the FIVB Congress or the FIVB Board of Administration and we are proud to have contributed to the success of the FIVB Plan 2001 by developing our own Confederation's plan - the CEV Plan 2001. A regular evaluation of our plan enables us to check its current status and to determine those actions, which need to be prepared and implemented in future. From the CEV point of view the Plan 2001 was a welcome guideline and I take the opportunity to thank especially Mr Lasse SVENSSON, one of the authors and co-ordinator of this plan.



Whenever it was necessary, we adopted a very flexible but business-minded working approach. We thought it to be right and useful to delegate the following duties to the CEV Executive Committee:

1. Prepare important decisions for the Board of Administration and the CEV Congress;
2. Support the CEV Office in the daily management of the CEV;
3. Advise the CEV President in all political matters.

I would like to tell you that the CEV Executive Committee was successful in proceeding this way and I would like to extend many thanks to my colleagues who have been in charge of legal, administrative, financial and beach affairs. Six or seven times a year we have gathered together and worked out a co-operative working-style.

Unfortunately, the influence of politics sometimes creates special problems in CEV:

1. During the difficult time in Yugoslavia the participation of Yugoslavian teams in competitions was not possible;
2. Concerning the Cup competition in Israel, teams refused to play in this country;
3. Some months ago we faced problems with qualification matches in Macedonia.

In each one of those cases, it was difficult for the CEV to find the right and fairest decision. However, we always could count on the understanding of our federations.

We are proud to have employed such a young, dynamic and multicultural team in our headquarters in Luxembourg. We count 5 different nationalities among our employees. The FIVB Vice-President, Dr Ben Nasser, co-ordinator of the FIVB to the confederations made the following commentary: "I was impressed by the performance of the staff running this confederation, mainly regarding their capability and efficiency".

Some weeks ago our Administrative Director Xavier THEIN left Luxembourg for the United States to complete his studies. We thank him for his work and wish him good luck for the future.

After the departure of the former General Secretary in 1997, we are pleased to welcome the new CEV Executive Director, Mr Olivier MOTTIER (SUI), who started his work on 1st April 2001. Mr MOTTIER will supervise and co-ordinate the many projects and activities of the CEV Office, which counts now three different departments:

1. Administrative Department
2. Competitions Department
3. Marketing & Communication Department

Another very positive aspect was the membership of the six CEV Commission Presidents in the CEV Board of Administration. The composition enabled a very close cooperation and communication between the members of the different bodies of the CEV.

The CEV Working Groups are appointed to fulfil specific tasks in a limited-time period. But the assignment of the current Working Group "Medical Affairs" is of a different kind. This Working Group is in charge of all medical affairs and anti-doping matters on a permanent basis and this is why we propose to you today to create a new commission, the CEV Medical Commission.

We are conscious of the crucial importance to increase the awareness of Volleyball in Europe. Of course, it is not sufficient to merely produce a CEV Newsletter. We have to maintain a very good relationship with all media representatives. In order to reach this goal and thanks to the support of the FIVB, we have hired a CEV Press Officer, Mr Arjen MEIJER, who is in charge of all press-related matters during official CEV competitions and FIVB competitions held in Europe.

You may have noticed that Volleyball competitions have expanded significantly in the past years. This evolution leads to some major problems with regard to the international competition calendar. We face difficulties to synchronise the national activities of our clubs, the continental competitions of the CEV and the intercontinental competitions of the FIVB. In this regard, we would like to propose a first solution consisting of direct-qualification of our top teams in order to reduce the physical strain of players who have to compete in an overloaded competition calendar.

Marketing activities have been developed and improved in two years and I can inform you today that we have long-term contracts with agencies for the Men's and Women's European Championships as well as Beach Volleyball tournaments.

In 2000, the CEV launched the first edition of the European Champions League for club teams. Undoubtedly, this high-level club competition could be optimised, but we can already say that the first edition was a big success in term of media coverage and spectators attendance.

I want to express my gratitude to the organisers of the Champions League's Final Four: Nizhnyi Tagil (RUS) for women and Paris (FRA) for men. In these important events we realised a close co-operation with media and sponsors. We are encouraged to go on in this way. Thanks also to the organisers of other clubs events.

Some months ago we organised a meeting with the representatives of 12 national Volleyball federations, which have a Professional League or such is under way. The CEV supports the FIVB in promoting a Professional League in order to be able to compete with other team sports. This meeting was a first brainstorming to discuss all arising problems and to find ways how to expand this cooperation and the necessary co-ordination with the FIVB.

Moreover, we respect and promote regional activities, done already for a long time in the Scandinavian area. Nowadays, Greece and Yugoslavia are starting a new project for promoting Junior and Youth Volleyball in the Balkan area.

Similarly, the Group C federations (countries under 1 million inhabitants) - with the assistance of the CEV - are creating new ideas to develop Volleyball in their territories. We know very well that we have in Europe some federations with limited financial resources and we should think over how the CEV can help them to confirm their structure and to make them more professional. A supplementary help from FIVB in its program to support countries to develop their activities in the aim to raise the competition level would also be an encouragement for them.

Slovenia applies for a FIVB Developing Centre. The CEV and the FIVB Board of Administration agree with such a project, if all preconditions are fulfilled. And I am sure Slovenia will reach all the requirements.

Finally, I want to say, we have great respect for our players and we are obliged to develop the best conditions for them. In my opinion, they should have the possibility to express and explain their problems and points of view. Remember that we started our last General Assembly by giving Mr Peter BLANGE the possibility to make a speech and let us know about that issue. In this way, I recommend to institute in the near future a 'PLAYERS COMMISSION'.

To conclude, let me go back to the beginning of my report and underline that the CEV is proud to be a member of the FIVB. In this sense, I wish the CEV good luck for the future and thank all of you for your understanding and friendship during the past six years."

INTERVENTION BY MR GIUSEPPE DELLA BALDA (SMR)

Mr DELLA BALDA reverts to the report of the CEV President and explains that the Group C does not only include federations with less than 1 million inhabitants. He wants to make clear that the title "small countries" has been cancelled especially to avoid that kind of interpretation.



In this regard, Dr ACOSTA H. reminds that the FIVB Constitution has foreseen the concept of “zonal associations” that are recognised within every confederation. He knows that some European federations are working with this concept and that others are planning to organise that kind of associations - Azerbaijan and Georgia for instance. These sports organisations - and not political associations - will be granted a financial support from the FIVB but most of all, the FIVB wants to have a link with the press of all these countries.

The FIVB President esteems however that the Group C does not correspond to a zonal association. Dr ACOSTA H. asks thus Mr DELLA BALDA to seriously study this case with the future CEV President and bring their conclusions to the FIVB so that they all can co-ordinate how the FIVB can support the Group C federations and as what kind of associations they can be recognised.

Financial Report

Financial Report – Accounts 2000-2001 by CEV Treasurer, Mr Hugo FRUITHOF (SUI)

Taking the floor, the CEV Treasurer, Mr Hugo FRUITHOF (SUI), makes sure that all European delegates have received the accounts of the CEV over the year 2000.

He passes through the different positions of the financial report and would like to give some supplementary information about some figures in particular.

First of all he reminds the General Assembly that in the budget 2000 an overall benefit of about 80,000 CHF was expected. In fact, it is with great satisfaction that Mr FRUITHOF announces that even after having made a provision for liabilities amounting 1,120,000 CHF, the CEV still shows a positive result of over 620,000 CHF. In this regard, Mr FRUITHOF explains that this financial effort is due to two factors in particular. First, he indicates that in almost all positions of the balance sheet, there is less expenditure than foreseen in the initial budget. Moreover, the CEV Treasurer adds that the CEV was much more successful in marketing and sponsoring.

As far as the results of the European Cups competitions are concerned, Mr FRUITHOF informs the European delegates that the difference between the income and expenditures of the position “Cups” is + 649,317.60 CHF.

He reckons that such positive results have been made possible thanks to the different actions for promoting Volleyball and, as already mentioned by the CEV President, he asserts that the CEV will be also successful for the next couple of years.

Besides, as these results logically raised the CEV capital, the CEV Treasurer indicates that a cash management of the CEV capital has been installed. With this system money is handled every month according to the best situation in order to get the best results.

Finally, he refers to the “Financial Report – Handbook N°2” and makes only one additional remark with regard to the Cups competitions system, which consists in having similar incomes and expenditures accounts for marketing activities. This principle was successfully managed with the Cup commission.

Before closing his financial report, Mr FRUITHOF invites the delegates of the General Assembly to formulate their general comments or questions regarding the CEV accounts of the year 2000.

There being no remark, the accounts of the year 2000 are approved.

Internal Audit Report by Mr DADEMA (NED) and Mr HENNO (BEL)

“Dear Mr President of the FIVB, Dear Mr President of the CEV, Dear Members of the Board of Administration, Dear Delegates,

We, the undersigned, Leo DADEMA and Michel HENNO, have audited the accounts of the CEV for the year 2000.

We sincerely thank Mr Hugo FRUITHOF, CEV Vice-President and Treasurer, for his assistance and explanations during our assignment.

We especially thank Mrs Sylvie COLLIGNON, in charge of the bookkeeping at the CEV office, for the correction and the accuracy of her work.

The accounts of the CEV are subject to an external audit, which is carried out by LUX-AUDIT RÉVISION S.à.r.l. We had the opportunity to meet and listen to the point of view of Mr Marco CLAUDE, manager of this company.

We controlled the bank statements and the books. The documents were checked using the random method and all the necessary information was found for each document. The bookkeeping of the different transactions and the running of the financial accounts are carried out according to the rules.

We make the following comments:

- The year 2000 presents a benefit of more than 600,000 CHF. This is much more than forecast in the initial budget. The CEV Treasurer already gave you more details about that situation; however, we wish to underline that such a benefit can be explained by the contract with MIKASA and by the marketing rights.
- We have noticed that the debts of the national federations are decreasing especially the long outstanding debts and that the interests for late payments are booked.
- We will also report the withdrawal cases during which some countries behaved exemplarily and we wish to thank them for their generous deed.
- The results of the Tax Year 2000 are correctly influenced by the results of the new organisation of the European Cups: the provision for liabilities is the right result of all the transactions reported to the Cups.

Last year, we agreed with the decision of booking the invoices at the moment of issue, but we also warned that it would be difficult to make the assessment of a whole event.

Indeed, that principle entails the following problem: CEV would have a benefit of more than 1,700,000 CHF whereas it still would not have paid the prize money as mentioned in the European Cups' "Terms & Conditions". Consequently, the CEV Treasurer and the External Auditor suggested to book a part of this prize money, proportionally to the income booked in 2000, as a provision in order to make a clear balance of the event and not to show a benefit out of proportion. We both accepted their suggestion.

We finally wish to point out that the temporary rise of money of the CEV accounts gives further opportunities to discuss the financial matters with the bank and to increase interests.

Considering the above remarks, we propose to the General Assembly to approve the accounts and to unburden the persons in charge.

Taking into consideration the above comments, the Financial Report (item 5.1 of the agenda) and the External/Internal Audit Reports (item 5.2 of the agenda) are approved and adopted by majority.

As the accounts are approved by the General Assembly, Mr FRUITHOF takes the opportunity to express his thanks to all the people who have made such a success possible. First, he expresses his thanks to his colleagues who respected their budget from the expenditures point of view. He also warmly thanks all the national federations that had a lot of debts and that together with the solidarity of other national federations succeeded in solving their financial problems. Finally, he would like to thank the CEV Head Office and especially Mrs Sylvie



COLLIGNON without whom it would never have been able to be so accurate and regularly informed.”

Introduction of the Euro Currency in 2002 by Mr Hugo FRUITHOF, CEV Treasurer

Mr Hugo FRUITHOF, CEV Vice-President and Treasurer, reminds all the European delegates that, as previously decided during the XX General Assembly held on 10th September 1999 in Vienna, the Euro currency will be introduced into the CEV accounting from 1st January 2002.

Consequently, he briefly enumerates the main changes that this new provision will entail.

- All invoices, which must be issued until 31st December 2001, will be issued in Swiss Francs (CHF) but for all invoices released after 1st January 2002 the amounts in Euros (EUR) will be applied.
- The budget 2002 is expressed in both CHF and EUR.
- All fees to be paid in accordance with the CEV Official Regulations will be/have been also converted into EUR.
- All contracts signed between CEV and National Federations will be expressed in EUR.
- The national federations' annual contribution to be paid to the CEV will amount to:

	Before 2002	From 2002
CATEGORY A	1,500 CHF	1,000 EUR
CATEGORY B	1,000 CHF	670 EUR
CATEGORY C	500 CHF	340 EUR

No vote has to be taken as the CEV Congress already voted this new provision in 1999.

Budget 2002 by Mr Hugo FRUITHOF, CEV Treasurer

The budget 2002 has been sent in due time to every European National Volleyball Federation.

The CEV Treasurer reverts first to the European Champions League situation and indicates that the figures related to this competition are based on the results of 2000 and 2001. Indeed, he explains that the correct situation about existing contracts was not known at the time the budget was prepared. Anyway, according to the principle agreements, Mr FRUITHOF ensures that if there is a change in the system, the influence on the expenditures will be in balance with the income.

The second point the CEV Treasurer wants to underline is the allocation of a financial support to the “Group C” Federations. Following several discussions regarding the proposal of the “Group C” representatives, it has finally been decided to foresee a total amount of 50,000 CHF in the budget for 2002. The way this sum will be granted has to be defined by the CEV Board of Administration.

Budget 2002 shows a positive result amounting to 170,000 CHF.

Finally, taking into consideration that there are now new long-term marketing agreements with suppliers and partners for the organisation of the European Volleyball as well as Beach Volleyball Championships, the CEV treasurer, Mr FRUITHOF, asserts that the financial future of the European Confederation is assured.

INTERVENTION BY MR JEAN-PIERRE BROUHON (BEL)

Mr BROUHON wonders that no “Plan” for the future development of Volleyball in Europe is foreseen in Budget 2002 and regrets that the provision for “New Sports Projects” has decreased in comparison to last year.

In this regard, Mr BROUHON would like that both candidates for the Presidency inform the CEV Congress on how they conceive the future management of the CEV finances.

Moreover, Mr BROUHON wonders why budget 2002 foresees only small amounts for Beach Volleyball activities as he esteems that Beach Volleyball is the most significant activity in terms of promotion.

To conclude, he thanks Mr FRUITHOF for having succeeded in re-establishing the financial situation of the CEV during his four-year commitment.

Further to the above remarks, Mr FRUITHOF points out that regarding Beach Volleyball competitions, the CEV has an agreement with a marketing company, which takes over everything - the organisation, the TV coverage, etc. Consequently, budget 2002 does not indicate the sum the CEV needs for holding Beach events but only the end result of these activities.

However, as far as both candidates’ financial programs are concerned, the CEV Treasurer announces that such discussion has nothing to do with this part of the agenda. Then, Mr FRUITHOF reminds that the budget in question has been studied and checked by the existing Board of Administration and assures that it strictly reflects the only things that can be done for the moment.

Proposal from the Dutch Volleyball Federation

Mr FRUITHOF reverts to one of the Dutch proposals to the CEV Congress regarding the CEV meeting’s costs. This proposal is recognised as valid by the President of the European Legal Commission, Mr BERBEN, as the letter arrived in due time in Luxembourg. In its request, the Dutch Federation suggests that all meetings of the Board of Administration and European Commissions be hosted by the CEV. Mr VAN ZWIETEN, President of the Dutch Federation makes clear that there is no written law providing that the BoA / Commissions members have to host a BoA / Commissions meeting at least once during their mandate. Thus, considering the large amount of money the organisation of such a meeting requires, the NED Federation proposes that the CEV get the same system as the FIVB and bear the costs of board and lodging for all its meetings.

Mr FRUITHOF acknowledges that it is not officially written that the meetings have to be organised by BoA / Commissions members. At the present time, the CEV counts 16 commissions’ respectively 3 Board of Administration meetings per year and hosts already one meeting for every commission as well as one BoA meeting. Financially speaking, Mr FRUITHOF explains that the CEV would have no difficulties to host all meetings in Luxembourg - the influence on the budget would be 50,000 CHF. However, he underlines that until now, the CEV has never faced any problem to find federations willing to organise these meetings. Furthermore, the CEV Treasurer indicates that, politically, it is necessary to have good contacts with all CEV federations, to meet them at home, to see what they are doing and to understand what the problems are.

The final proposal of the Board of Administration is thus to maintain the existing system.

In this regards, Dr Rubén ACOSTA H., FIVB President, would like to add that this problem is also affecting FIVB activities. Indeed, he stresses that very often, European Members of the FIVB Commissions are not in a position to undertake any responsibility for the FIVB because they have CEV meetings. As a consequence, Dr ACOSTA H. suggests to the CEV General Assembly to reconsider the number of BoA and Commissions meetings and proposes the



holding of one BoA meeting discussing the different items of the European Commissions and one BoA meeting before the CEV Congress.

INTERVENTION BY MR JAN SVENSSON (SWE)

Mr Jan SVENSSON, President of the Swedish Volleyball Federation, points out that it is very hard to make such a decision during the Congress especially because the Dutch proposal has not been foreseen in the budget. However, he fully agrees with the FIVB President, Dr ACOSTA H. that the next Board of Administration could study to have the same conditions for the Congress as FIVB has, i.e. the General Assembly should be financed by CEV itself.

In the same way, Dr Rolf ANDRESEN, CEV President, reminds that the CEV has never put pressure on the national federations to organise a meeting in their country.

Mr FRUITHOF officially asks Mr VAN ZWIETEN if he agrees to postpone the dealing of this matter until next year so that the new BoA members can propose another solution.

Mr VAN ZWIETEN, President of the Dutch Volleyball Federation, takes back his proposal. No votes are thus needed for this proposal.

After an in-depth and fruitful discussion, Dr ANDRESEN, with the agreement of Mr VAN ZWIETEN, proposes to forward this point to the analysis of the next Board of Administration.

There being no further remarks, the Budget for the year 2002 is unanimously approved by loud applause.

Appointment of two Internal Auditors and one Substitute Internal Auditor by Mr Hugo FRUITHOF, CEV Treasurer

The CEV Treasurer, Mr Hugo FRUITHOF, informs the General Assembly that he asked the acting Internal Auditors, Mr Michel HENNO from Belgium and Mr Leo DADEMA from the Netherlands, if they are willing to continue their duty within the CEV. Following a positive answer from both parties, Mr FRUITHOF wishes to make the following proposal to the General Assembly:

To appoint again Mr HENNO and Mr DADEMA as CEV Internal Auditors for the next 4 years.

As far as the function of CEV Substitute Internal Auditor is concerned, Mr FRUITHOF announces that the CEV Board of Administration proposes to appoint Ms Marina SOLAKHYAN (ARM) for this function. In this regard, the CEV Treasurer would like to make some clarifications. Indeed, as Armenia - one of the smallest European federations - suffers from communication problems, they missed the deadline for sending the application form for membership in the European Financial Commission. Consequently, the CEV did not receive in due time the candidature of Ms SOLAKHYAN. However, Mr FRUITHOF points out that Ms SOLAKHYAN, former EFC member, is very competent in financial affairs and for this reason he suggested to the BoA to give her a chance and to accept her candidature even so as a representative of the new existing federations.

Considering the above explanations of the CEV Treasurer, Mr FRUITHOF, and the CEV General Assembly unanimously accepts and approves both proposals.

As it is the last occasion for Mr FRUITHOF to present a financial report, he wishes to conclude his presentation by expressing his pride and satisfaction that after 6 years of commitment to the CEV and especially thanks to the efforts of his colleagues of all European federations, the CEV has succeeded in reaching a very acceptable financial situation. As from now on, the CEV has the possibility to spend more money for supporting Volleyball.

On the other hand, he reminds to the CEV Congress that such a success has been made possible mainly because top Volleyball has been considered as a real business. He thus takes the opportunity to underline the major importance to further develop marketing activities.

Then, Mr FRUITHOF closes his speech by warmly thanking the whole Assembly for these results, for its involvement and its respect of the different decisions.

Amendments of the CEV Statutes

Mr BERBEN, CEV Senior Vice-President and President of the European Legal Commission (ELC), reverts to the Administrative Handbook sent to all European federations in which are indicated the different amendments to the CEV Statutes. He informs that he will ask the Assembly to give its vote for each proposal. Two thirds of the votes are necessary for the new articles to be adopted.

Most of the changes are accepted except Article n° 5.12.

INTERVENTION BY MR GIUSEPPE DELLA BALDA (SMR)

Considering that the French version takes precedence on all official texts, Mr DELLA BALDA expresses his disagreement with the translation of “registered letter”. He thinks that it is necessary to be more precise and to add the notion of “acknowledgement of receipt” of the letter.

INTERVENTION BY MR PETER VAN DER LOO (NED)

Mr VAN DER LOO points out that the CEV discussed about the date of reception of the second Dutch proposal. The CEV complained that the letter did not arrive at the right date. However, for both 1999 and 2001 versions, the Article 5.12 exclusively refers to the sending date. Consequently, he would like that in the future the CEV only ask the federations to send the proposals in due time, whatever the date of reception.

INTERVENTION BY DR RUBÉN ACOSTA H. (FIVB)

The FIVB President is surprised that the CEV did not change its 6 months deadline, which was used at the time when the CEV General Assembly was organised every two years only. Nowadays, as the CEV is holding its Congress every year, he esteems that proposals should be receivable until three months before the date of the General Assembly.

Taking into consideration these above remarks, Mr BERBEN proposes the following amendments:

Article 5.12

“Applications for vacant posts on the organs of the CEV shall be made in writing by the national federations and sent by registered letter with acknowledgment of receipt to the Secretariat no later than three months before the date of the opening of the General Assembly”

The European delegates unanimously approve the new amendments of the Article 5.12.

Article n° 5.18

INTERVENTION BY DR RUBÉN ACOSTA H. (FIVB)

In order to avoid that some CEV decisions be revised or even reversed by the FIVB, Dr Rubén ACOSTA recommends to modify the Article 5.18 as follows:

Article 5.18

“Unless the General Assembly decides otherwise, its decisions shall take effect once the FIVB has given its agreement but no less than 30 days after the closing of the General Assembly.

Once the FIVB has given its agreement, all decisions shall be notified in writing to the national federations, also within 30 days of the closing of the General assembly”



INTERVENTION BY MRS SUSAN AHERN (IRL)

Mrs AHERN suggests that the ELC should reconsider and study the new proposal that has been made by the FIVB President and that it should analyse the CEV / FIVB Statutes before making quick decisions without considering all measures.

Considering the above remarks, the CEV General Assembly approves the amendments of the Article 5.18.

Article n° 6.5

INTERVENTION BY DR RUBÉN ACOSTA (FIVB)

The FIVB President points out that it is difficult to judge if there are enough justifications or not and esteems thus that it is not fair to let the possibility to the BoA to decide on such cases. Dr ACOSTA considers it would be better to delete the part “and unable to plead exceptional circumstances before the Board of Administration”.

Taking into consideration the amendments of Dr ACOSTA, the ELC President, and Mr Philip BERBEN makes the following proposal to the European delegates:

Article 6.5

“Any member of the Board of Administration missing three consecutive meetings shall automatically be deemed to have resigned”

The amended Article 6.5 is adopted by majority by the CEV Congress.

There being no additional remark, the General Assembly unanimously approves the proposed amendments to the CEV Statutes, which will consequently be lodged with the Civil Court in Luxembourg.

CEV Commission Reports

Beach Volleyball Commission

Chairman: Mr Miguel Angel QUINTANA (ESP)

Mr Miguel Angel QUINTANA, President of the European Beach Volleyball Commission, takes the floor and highlights the main Beach Volleyball activities in Europe during the season 2000/2001:

In his capacity as President of the Beach Volleyball Commission and on behalf of all the European Beach Volleyball Commission members, he would like to thank the National Federations, Promoters, Board of Administration members and CEV staff for their participation and efforts in the development of the plans, carried out with enormous difficulties but also with great eagerness and work.

Moreover, the EBVC President would like to thank all those who trusted him and believed in the EBVC ideas for Beach Volleyball. He also wants to thank even those who have not yet worked for the European Beach Volleyball, as he needs all of them for developing this project.

First, he reminds that since December 1st, Mr Erik SCHMIDT is the new CEV Beach Volleyball Co-ordinator, and he is convinced that the whole Assembly already know him for his excellent job. The EBVC would like also to thank Mr Gerald MOORE for his commitments during his function as Co-ordinator of the European Beach Volleyball.

The EBVC met in Porto (POR) on 2nd, 3rd and 4th February and in Luxembourg on 1st, 2nd and 3rd June 2001. All the Regulations have been revised as well as the Technical Requirements and the Terms and Conditions for all categories.

Following the requirements of some federations during the last Junior Championships, it has been agreed to have the same age for men than for women. Taking into consideration the instructions given by the FIVB, this category has been denominated U-19.

This year, the European U-23 Championships, organised in Portugal, has witnessed the improvement of the participating players' conditions - more than 25 teams registered. This will undoubtedly be the opportunity for this category to be played on a higher level. Thanks to the Portuguese Federation, which always shows its support and interest for the development of Beach Volleyball, by organising this competition.

Once again, the company CHALLENGE organised the Men's and Women's European Senior Championships Finals in Italy, which have been a big success. On this occasion, Mr QUINTANA wishes to thank the Italian Federation for its great support and involvement, but he extends also his congratulations to the new Men's and Women's Champions from Switzerland and Greece respectively. Furthermore the EBVC is pleased that Challenge and CEV have signed the agreement for the promotion and development of these championships for the period 2002-2005. This partnership runs not only for the finals but also for the previous qualification tournaments; it will thus create a high-quality product that will be recognised in Europe and on a worldwide level and will contribute to the preparation of the European teams for the international competitions.

Finally, the EBVC President expresses his sincerest thanks to all who trust in the EBVC ideas and thanks them for their confidence!

INTERVENTION BY DR RUBÉN ACOSTA H. (FIVB)

First of all, the FIVB President congratulates the EBVC for its very good job and reminds that the CEV is the only Confederation having a Beach Volleyball Circuit. The sole remark he would make concerns the heavy expenses the organisers have to bear. Dr ACOSTA is convinced that there would be more countries willing to organise Beach events if the EBVC would lower the charges. In this way, the Finals of the European Beach Volleyball will become a major event.

Mr QUINTANA, EBVC President, agrees with the FIVB President and announces that during the last EBVC meeting, the organising conditions have been revised especially the organising costs. The CEV Board of Administration approved these changes on the occasion of the BoA meeting in Schwerin (GER) considering it is important to attract more and more promoters for Beach Volleyball events.

Taking into consideration the above remark, the verbal report presented by the European Beach Volleyball Commission is adopted and approved.



European Cups Commission

Chairwoman: Mrs Riet OOMS (NED)

Taking the floor, the President of the European Cups Commission, Mrs Riet OOMS (NED), presents the highlights of the ECC activities to the delegates of the CEV Congress.

Meetings of the European Cups Commission

The commission met 3 times:

- On the 13th of January 2001 in a plenary session;
- On the 26th of January 2001, at the occasion of the drawing of lots for the TTC and ECL ¼ finals (carried out by a working group of the commission);
- On 29/30th June 2001.

Competition Formula

During the season 1998-1999 the European Cups Commission received suggestions and proposals regarding a possible improvement/modification of the Competition System. After about one year of study and preparations, the first edition of the European Champions League started for both Men and Women.

To stabilise the level of quality of this competition, the ECC proposed to the BoA not to change the competition formula during the 2001-2002 season, in order to have the possibility to improve the current work before starting with, again, new items.

Besides, there have also been a lot of changes to the former Cup Winners Cup that has changed into the Top Teams Cup.

The CEV Cup is the only competition that was unchanged.

Evaluation of the European Cups' Season

The organisation of all these Cups competitions was a major part of the ECC work during the last year.

- Compared with the 1999/2000 season the number of registered teams for the Men and Women's competitions was increased with 16 teams in total: in the 1999/2000 season 197 teams participated in the different competitions, while in 2000/2001 a total of 213 teams registered. The main part of the increasing was the inscription for the CEV Cup. The number of teams that withdrew from the competition however was bigger than in the previous year: 6 teams (5 teams in 1999/2000).
- The number of licenses, prepared during the 2000/2001 season was 2543.
- Again, problems with international transfers were faced.
- The drawing of lots for the CEV Cup was organised in Luxembourg on Saturday, 7th July 2001, in a non-public morning session, while the drawing of lots for the Top Teams Cup and the EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS LEAGUE was carried out on the same day (afternoon) in a public session.
- The ECC received a number of letters from NF's with teams in the Top Teams Cup informing about the doubts of the clubs to register in this competition. 4 teams withdrew from this competition. All these signals were reason for the ECC to re-examine the concept of the Top Teams Cup. The result was a proposal for some amendments in the Top Teams Cup, which will come into force in the 2001-2002 season.
- Due to the difficult political situation in Israel, decisions had to be taken concerning the home matches in Israel. Those decisions entailed many problems and misunderstandings.

- The last Super Cup for Men was organised in Italy (Arezzo). This Super Cup was played on the 15th and 16th of November 2000. Arezzo Services showed up to be a very good organiser of volleyball events. Sisley TREVISO, ROMA Volley, VfB FRIEDRICHSHAFEN and PARIS Volley were participating in this last Super Cup. PARIS Volley won it.
- As it was the case last season, again it was not so easy to find organisers for the finals of the different Cups (except for the ECL).

Start of the European Champions League

After a two-year study and a year-long preparation, the European Cups Commission was very happy to announce the start of a completely new European Club Competition with the participation of the best European teams for Men and Women. The first year has not been so easy but Mrs OOMS is confident that all good standards needed to attract more spectators, more sponsors and more TV exposure will be reached soon.

The European Champions League

The new concept of the European Champions League is contemplating greater involvement of clubs, media, fans and the cities concerned. Each of the 60 matches, composing the Men's, respectively the Women's, European Champions League will constitute a veritable event: OUR AMBITION IS TO ESTABLISH THE GREATEST EUROPEAN INDOOR TEAM SPORT COMPETITION.

A very important condition of this new concept is the contractual presence of TV stations for all the European League matches, a fact that will give the best possibility for volleyball to increase its presence all over Europe.

- During the preparations for this new competition, a special Working Group of the E.C.C. has achieved a lot. The work of this Working Group is not yet done; the Group will continuously watch the progresses of the organisation in order to guarantee the quality of the E.C.L. and to achieve even better conditions for the edition of next year.
- Sponsors were asked to play the role of active partners, with total involvement in additional on-court crowd entertainment and promotional activities. In this way CEV wants to create an integrated marketing project, capable of guaranteeing complete satisfaction and reaching the objectives set by the companies.
- Also all participating clubs have been working hard: we are sure that the result of all efforts has been seen during the "home events" of all clubs concerned.

In this way the three parties concerned, in close co-operation, set up a high standard for this new competition.

A big part of the work, concerning P.R., Marketing and Sponsor-finding was done by Mr Roberto Ghiretti and Mr André Meyer. The ECC wants to thank both for the very important work that they did, in order to make a success out of this project.

One part of the special start of this competition was the Presentation of the competition on the 13th of November 2000 in Florence. CEV had the opportunity to give the start signal for the ECL in the beautiful ambience of the Palazzo Vecchio. A competition booklet was prepared with all information about the competition, the teams, the sponsors, etc.

On the 12th November 2000 the first E.C.L. Seminar for Supervisors was organised (also in Italy - Florence). Following the Handbook, which was prepared specially for this competition, instructions were given to a select group of Supervisors that should conduct all aspects of this new competition. At the same day and place the first seminar for statisticians of the participating clubs took place. During this practical seminar instructions were given by CCC



from Germany. A number of 30 participants were present at the Supervisors seminar and 26 at the seminar for statisticians. Both seminars can be called a great success.

The public drawing of lots in Luxembourg was organised on the 7th of July 2001 in Luxembourg for the European Champions League.

Assistance from the CEV office for the ECC

The newly started competition was bringing a lot of new and extra work to each of our partners and to the CEV Office.

The Competitions Department was led by Mr Jean Paul Rommes, assisted by Ms Kristina Nieminen and Mrs Isabelle Fidanza. Preparations were made by Mr Xavier Thein for marketing and P.R. while Mr Stéphane Diemunsch was the main responsible in the CEV Office for this new competition.

The CEV office has done a great job despite the short time to accomplish all the work!!

Specific Items

- The release of all competition-related information on the CEV Internet website is still very successful. During the European Cups season about 90,000 visitors have taken information from the internet.
- All the E.C.C. forms are available on the CEV website. The forms can be used directly; they can be completed and returned by fax to the CEV office.

The European Cups Commission thanks very warmly all members of the Board of Administration for their support during the last year. Special thanks are given to the staff of the CEV office and particularly: Mr Jean-Paul Rommes, Mrs Kristina Nieminen, Mrs Isabelle Fidanza and Mr Stéphane Diemunsch, for the permanent and great assistance during the past season.

INTERVENTION BY MR JACQUES SHAW (FRA)

Mr Jacques SHAW asks the ECC President if she does not fear that the last decisions taken with regards to the Women's European Champions League would stop the development of women's Volleyball.

Mrs OOMS, President of the European Cups Commission, informs Mr SHAW that for this year, unfortunately, the ECC and BoA had no other possibility, but to take that decision. They all strived hard to find the necessary number of women's teams that could fulfil all the CEV requirements. However, she already can assure the whole assembly that the perspectives for the coming seasons are very optimistic also for the women's competitions.

INTERVENTION BY DR RUBÉN ACOSTA H. (FIVB)

The FIVB President, Dr Rubén ACOSTA, points out that the main problem lies in the fact that women's Volleyball performances are not as impressive as they used to be in the past. To solve this problem, the FIVB President calls on every European delegate to produce real women athletes directly on their national territory.

Further to this remark, the CEV President, Dr Rolf ANDRESEN fully agrees with Dr ACOSTA and adds that the CEV has to find ways to promote women's Volleyball in Europe.

To conclude, Dr ANDRESEN, CEV President congratulates the European Cups Commission and wishes to thank Mrs OOMS in particular for their very good job. He hopes that in future ECC will go on acting the same way.

In the absence of any other comment, the verbal report presented by the European Cups Commission is adopted and approved.

Mr MOTTIER, CEV Executive Director, takes then the opportunity to display to the General Assembly a short video clip from the last edition of the European Champions League. This video, elaborated by the new CEV Marketing and Communication staff - Ms Marion MEYERS and Mrs Isabelle WEYDERT, presents the different actors of that big event: the players, the public as well as the sponsors...

European Financial Commission

Chairman: Mr Hugo FRUITHOF (SUI)

The CEV Treasurer and President of the European Financial Commission, Mr Hugo FRUITHOF (SUI), informs the European delegates that he already presented the main financial items under point 5 of the agenda.

Considering that the EFC report has been included in the Handbook n° 1, which was distributed to all national federations, Mr FRUITHOF only asks the delegates if they have any additional comments or questions.

In the absence of any remark, the verbal report presented by the European Financial Commission is adopted and approved.

European Legal Commission

Chairman: Mr Philip BERBEN (BEL)

As in the past, the European Legal Commission's report consists of two parts - part one, covering some of the personal activities of the President and part two, outlining the work of the Commission as a whole.

The President of the European Legal Commission (ELC), Mr Philip BERBEN, attended the meetings of the CEV Executive Committee and Board of Administration.

He had the possibility to regularly advice his colleagues in different juridical matters arising throughout the year. Moreover, he underlines that the more CEV is dealing with contracts, regulations, professional activities, the more legal background is necessary. The ELC President reminds thus the General Assembly that the European Legal Commission still cooperates with a Luxembourg Lawyer office in order to handle juridical affairs based on Luxembourg law.

The Legal Commission met twice after the last General Assembly in Luxembourg (LU). Both ELC meetings discussed and studied items proposed by the Executive Committee or Board of Administration:

Meeting in Krakow (POL) on 18th and 19th November 2000

- Study of the Statutes
- European Volleyball Tribunal
- Disciplinary cases
- Tournament approval
- Transfers of players and labour law
- Players' agents

Meeting in Vilvoorde (BEL) on 28th and 29th April 2001

- Next General Assembly
- Change of Statutes
- Code of Discipline
- Matters discussed in FIVB Legal Commission
- Matters discussed in the CEV Board of Administration



All the discussions, proposals, etc. in these meetings are laid down in the respective reports sent to whom it may concern.

In the absence of any comment, the verbal report of the European Legal Commission is unanimously approved.

European Refereeing Commission

Chairman: Mr André MEYER (LUX)

The President of the European Refereeing Commission, Mr André MEYER, would like to highlight the most important activities the ERC carried out this year:

Meetings – summary of proceedings

The European Refereeing Commission has met on three occasions since the last General Assembly in Luxembourg (LUX) in November 2000. He expresses his satisfaction as every meeting as well as seminar was all very fruitful and successful.

2nd December 2000: Working Group Meeting in Luxembourg (LUX)

Appointment of referees for the pending Champions League's Matches of 2001.

26th – 28th January 2001: Commission meeting in Sofia (BUL)

- Appointment of referees for the qualification phase and main phase of the 2000/2001 European Cups Season
- Appointment of judge-referees and referees for the final four tournaments of the European Cups
- Appointment of judge-referees and referees for the finals of the Youth European Championships in Liberec (CZE)
- Appointment of the special refereeing commission for the 2001 Senior European Championships in Czech Republic and Bulgaria
- General preparation of the referee seminar for Volleyball and Beach Volleyball in Vilvoorde (BEL) from 2nd to 4th of June 2001.

31st – 4th June 2001: Commission meeting in Vilvoorde (BEL)

For the fourth time, the ERC meeting was combined with a European Volleyball and Beach Volleyball Referee Seminar. The participation was excellent:

Volleyball: **34** participants from **33** countries

Beach Volleyball: **18** participants from **15** countries

Analyses of the active beach referee list for the season 2001

- Appointment of judge-referees and referees for the European Beach Championships in Italy
- Appointment of referees for the Finals of the Senior European Championships in Czech Republic and Bulgaria
- Confirmation of the special Refereeing Commissions for the Senior European Championships in Czech Republic and Bulgaria
- Meeting with the co-opted members of the ERC
- Preparation of the two seminars

20/22 July 2001: Commission meeting in Moscow (RUS)

- Analyses of the active referee list for the season 2001-2002
- Appointment of referees for the 1st qualification phase (October – December 2001) of the 2001/2002 European Cups season

International Referees & Candidate-referees

In May 2001, the FIVB Board of Administration nominated 11 FIVB Referees from Europe. The FIVB Board also nominated 34 International Referees and 28 International Referee Candidates. The ERC is doing the utmost to still raise the refereeing quality of European referees. This work seems to be very fruitful, as the FIVB again has appointed a lot of European referees in the different Junior World Championships.

International Candidate-referee courses

In 2001, 2 courses have been organised by FIVB in Europe: Bulgaria and Italy.

Medical Check-up for referees

In close co-operation with the CEV "Medical" Working Group, a bi-annual medical check is needed by each referee in order to guarantee good health conditions of the active referees. A special medical care will be given to the health of the referees appointed for the Finals in European Championships.

Official working language of the referees

As announced last year, the ERC will no longer keep on the active referee list those referees who are not able to communicate in basic English (cf. FIVB Congress in Sevilla).

Other business

Mr MEYER, ERC President, wants to thank the National Federations and particularly their international referees for the good work done in the past. The ERC is also grateful to the Cups Commission for the good collaboration between the two commissions. Last but not least, Mr André MEYER wishes to thank the staff of the CEV office for the enormous work done in the regular communication of all the necessary information to the referees.

There being no remark, the report presented by the European Refereeing Commission is adopted and approved.

Sports Organising Commission

Chairman: Mr Fabio SASSI (ITA)

First of all, the ESOC President, Mr Fabio SASSI, wishes to remind the General Assembly of the main tasks of his Commission:

- To update the CEV Competitions' regulations;
- To create new organisational guidelines for the Finals and Qualification Tournaments;
- To support the BoA in improving and adopting the competitions systems;
- To prepare and issue official bulletins for each one of the European Championships with the collaboration of the CEV competitions department;
- To solve or adopt special provisions for problems related to the large participation of our national teams in international activities.

Then, Mr SASSI presents a short overview of the European Sports Organising Commission activities covering the period from 5th November 2000 to 15th May 2001.

During this period, the Commission has met once in BARCELONA (ESP) on 2nd and 3rd February 2001. A Working Group meeting has been held on 11th June 2001, for the arrangement of the Official Bulletin N°1 of the Senior European Championships 2002/2003.

The ESOC President indicates that his Commission has taken note of the outcomes of the FIVB Sports Organising Commission meeting held during the month of January, and further to the vacancies assigned to the CEV for the participation in the Men's and Women's Junior



World Championships 2001, the ESOC proposed the composition and the venues of the European Qualification Tournaments, which have been organised within the last week of May 2001.

Moreover, Mr SASSI informs the European Delegates that the ESOC presented to the CEV Board of Administration some small changes of the Championships Regulations, which have been accepted. It also took note of the venue of Varna (instead of Pazardjik) for the final phase of the Women's European Championships scheduled in Bulgaria as well as the different venues, dates and European teams involved in the Qualification Tournament of the Senior World Championships 2002, scheduled in Argentina (men) and in Germany (women). These tournaments are organised by the FIVB and must end by 3rd September 2001.

As regards the Senior European Championships 2001, the President of the European Sports Organising Commission, Mr SASSI, points out that he had to deal with problems that occurred in tournaments and single matches involving the teams participating in the World League 2001 (as from 2001 the number of participating teams has been extended to 16, out of which 10 are European). The starting date advanced to 11th May 2001 and the inclusion in this prestigious FIVB event of some teams, which did not participate in the previous year, forced the CEV to amend its initial competition calendar (already fixed in 1999) for the remaining matches of the European Championships Qualification Tournaments. This situation has caused several problems amongst the Federations, the CEV and the FIVB but a solution has finally been found thanks to the mutual spirit of co-operation. However, Mr SASSI stresses that this kind of troubles must be avoided in future.

Finally, the ESOC President recommends that the Commission in force for the next four-year period determine the best period and playing formula for the Senior European Championships, taking into consideration the high number of European participating teams in the World League. Unfortunately, the main problem, already mentioned, i.e. the national and international activity calendars in which the CEV and its affiliated teams are particularly interested, remains.

To conclude, Mr SASSI wishes to express his gratitude to the members of the ESOC, to the National Federations and the CEV Board of Administration. He also wants to warmly thank the CEV Head Office for their effective team spirit, co-operation and support, especially the Competitions Department, Mr Jean-Paul ROMMES, Competitions Director, and his staff.

INTERVENTION BY DR RUBÉN ACOSTA H. (FIVB)

Dr Rubén ACOSTA H. underlines that the FIVB plans to recognise a group of people representing the national leagues and to invite them to take part in the Sports Organising World Council. Such a measure will enable the national leagues to express their own needs by themselves and not to depend anymore on their national federations.

Considering that today's major problem is the overloaded calendar of competitions, the FIVB President announces that the FIVB will strive hard to settle this situation as soon as possible.

Taking into consideration the above comment, the CEV General Assembly shows its satisfaction and encourages the FIVB initiative with loud applause.

In absence of any additional remark, the verbal report presented by the European Sports Organising Commission is adopted and approved by the Congress.

CEV Working Group Reports

Marketing

Represented by: Mr Ahmet GÜLÜM (TUR)

The CEV President, Dr Rolf ANDRESEN, announces to the European Delegates that Mr GÜLÜM, present in the United States at the moment of the bombings, has informed him that

he was blocked in New York and regrets thus not being able to attend the XXII CEV General Assembly.

Following the propositions of the previous WG “Marketing” meetings in 1999 and the marketing research covering all the National Federations in Europe, we have noticed that if we want to make Volleyball more popular and to attract more spectators and sponsors, it is inevitable to adopt a much more professional approach to marketing of Volleyball in general and of each CEV competition in particular. Consequently, it has been decided to divide the CEV Office into three departments with the addition of a Marketing Department.

This new department, which starts operating in July under the control of a professional marketing co-ordinator, guarantees all marketing affairs to run smoothly and provides a marketing know-how. The main task of this new marketing department is to provide administrative support to the CEV Board of Administration, to negotiate the sponsor contracts and to co-ordinate marketing affairs.

The new marketing department deals especially with the European Champions League, which requires urgent action as the new season approaches. In addition to the marketing issues of the League, the marketing co-ordinator may handle the communication, promotion and press arrangements, as well. He/she will also deal with the other CEV competitions.

The CEV Working Group “Marketing” certainly gives all the necessary recommendations about the structuring and the working procedure of the marketing department and will continue to do this as far as it is necessary.

Another important development concerning the marketing affairs is that CEV worked for the first time with subsidiaries to collect data for the evaluation of TV coverage of CEV competitions. The CEV Marketing Co-ordinator will collect these figures, which will be used in the sponsor negotiations of the next seasons.

Finally, within this framework, I would like to propose that the structure of the Working Group “Marketing” remain unchanged, as each of the present members is professional marketing manager who knows very well the marketing problems of CEV and their solutions. Moreover, the present members have already taken the first steps of this new important structuring and the consistency is a priority in such a significant operation.

There being no particular comment, the report of the Working Group “Marketing” is approved and adopted.

Media

Represented by: Mr Arjen MEIJER (NED), Coordinator

Introduction

Since 1998, the CEV has implemented a working group dealing with media affairs. The aim of the CEV Working Group “Media” is to improve and consolidate the relationships with media representatives and in particular with the press. Composed of important sports journalists from Greece, Italy, Russia, the Netherlands and Yugoslavia, the working group gathers once or twice a year to discuss the communication strategy of the CEV and other media-related items in connection with the CEV competitions.

Three years after the founding of the WG Media, Mr Arjen MEIJER can already announce that the CEV Press Operations have improved extremely well. Indeed, on the occasion of a meeting with the IAPS - International Association for Sports Journalists - it was declared that the European Volleyball Championships was the best ever for media working facilities.



CEV Press officer

In 1999, a Press Officer contract was signed with the free-lance journalist Arjen MEIJER from the Netherlands. This co-operation with the CEV Press Officer has been extended up to 2003. Mr MEIJER is preparing and supervising all press-related matters during important CEV tournaments in order to satisfy the needs of the media attending official CEV events. In addition, Mr MEIJER is contributing to the editing of the bimonthly CEV Newsletter.

FIVB Support

By granting a financial contribution to the CEV for press activities, the FIVB helped to intensify the work of the CEV Press Officer in official CEV competitions. Furthermore, the FIVB decided that the CEV Press Officer would be in charge of all FIVB competitions taking place on the European continent.

Actions

In the meanwhile, the press activities of the CEV have been adapted to the FIVB media strategy. The CEV was the first confederation that created a Press Operations Manual to help organisers of CEV competitions prepare all media procedures according to the highest standards. It is advisable to install as well a TV working group. The CEV Newsletter should be further developed and the CEV should evaluate the project of holding press seminars in future.

In absence of any remark, the verbal report presented by the Working Group "Media" is approved and adopted by the General Assembly.

Medical

Represented by: Mr Manfred HOLZGRAEFE (GER)

The annual meeting took place on 3rd February 2001 at the Hotel Novotel in Luxembourg.

Anti-doping controls

The carrying out of anti-doping controls is the permanent task of the Working Group Medical.

Again this year an anti-doping control was performed at random during one tournament organised by the CEV; the Top Teams Cup Women held in Vienna (AUT). No positive results occurred for the Women's Top Teams Cup Final Round organised on 23rd March 2001.

The current situation concerning the problem of anti-doping controls during the Women's European Championships' Final Round in Bulgaria was discussed again and the CEV Office was informed about the persisting problems: the CEV does not get the results in time, some national federations have no IOC accredited laboratory, the costs of anti-doping controls increase...

Accreditation for medical doctors in CEV Competitions

The current valid medical accreditations will expire on 31st December 2001. The new accreditations will be valid up to 31st December 2005. The doctors are requested to provide the following documents:

1. Copy of medical diploma (translated into English);
2. Current passport photo;
3. Letter of recommendation from the applicant's National Federation.

CEV Medical Seminar for Team Doctors and Physiotherapists

The CEV Working Group Medical intends to hold an annual CEV medical seminar. All federations have been informed by the CEV Office about the topic of this planned seminar and

asked about their interests. Unfortunately, only few federations sent back the questionnaire to the CEV Head Office informing about their interests for the holding of such a seminar.

Survey of injuries related to volleyball

This survey is in preparation. Dr Georgousis (GRE) and Dr Puga (POR) have set up a survey form with a detailed checklist to get information on chronic injuries of players specifically related to Volleyball. This will be some additional information in relation to the CEV form "M10".

The last investigations about the kind and frequency of injuries during European Cups showed that on average, there are 2% injuries a year. On this occasion, Dr Prof. HOLZGRAEFE thanks the Technical Delegates for their collaboration and encourages them for going on this way.

Small medical check-ups for referees during the EC Final rounds

The members responsible for the Medical Working Group will carry out a small medical check-up during the Senior European Championships' Final Rounds in Bulgaria and Czech Republic. The test will be performed prior to the start of the competition in the course of the clinics.

Finally, the Chairman of the Working Group Medical, Dr Prof HOLZGRAEFE, concludes his report by sincerely thanking the CEV Head Office for its permanent and good co-operation.

INTERVENTION BY DR RUBÉN ACOSTA H. (FIVB)

First of all, the FIVB President insists that it is important to inform the national associations of the anti-doping controls process.

Moreover, he points out that according to the agreement the FIVB signed with WADA and the decision of the IOC, WADA is now entitled to carry out any kind of analysis even for European players that have not taken part in international competitions. Consequently, as for the European players registered in FIVB competitions, the CEV remains responsible for the conduct of anti-doping controls but WADA has also the competence for carrying out tests whenever and wherever it wants.

Dr Manfred HOLZGRAEFE fully agrees with Dr ACOSTA's clarification and suggests that a co-operation between the CEV/FIVB and the governmental laboratories must be developed so that all info is automatically sent to the local organisation - the CEV or the FIVB.

General Remark of Dr ACOSTA for all CEV Commissions

With a view to improve the communication between the FIVB and CEV commissions, President Rubén ACOSTA would like that all European Commissions include in their final report the list of the different decisions taken throughout the year by the FIVB Board of Administration concerning their commission. Indeed, he esteems that if the European commissions know what the FIVB is doing, it would be easier for them to tackle the different problems and it would give the opportunity to the national federations to raise their questions during the Congress.

Finally Dr Rolf ANDRESEN urges all federations entrusted with the organisation of an international event to read very seriously both the FIVB and CEV regulations. Indeed, he deplores the lack of communication within the federation, which affects the good running of the competition. In this regard, Dr ACOSTA reverts to the information processing and asks the national federations to circulate the documents they receive from the FIVB or CEV Secretariat.

There being no additional comments, the verbal report of the Working Group "Medical Affairs" is approved and unanimously adopted by the General Assembly.

Proposals from National Federations lodged in accordance with Article 5.11 of the CEV Statutes



Proposal from the Dutch Volleyball Federation

The NED federation submits to the General Assembly two important points to be discussed:

1. The creation of a Development Commission;
2. The CEV Official Working Language.

As far as the first proposal is concerned, Dr ANDRESEN thanks the Dutch Federation for this very interesting proposal.

Unfortunately, he indicates that the CEV is not used to install commissions that already exist in the FIVB. Moreover, the CEV President reminds the CEV's normal procedure, which consists in starting with a Working Group or Task Force before setting up a new Commission.

For his part, the FIVB President, Dr Rubén ACOSTA, fully approves the NED proposal and suggests to the General Assembly that 3 or 4 European Volleyball Associations should join together and study how Europe could profit from the FIVB development programs or how to support the national associations to develop Volleyball. In that way, the Development Commission will become a link between the needs of the European countries and the programs available in the FIVB.

After an in-depth discussion, the CEV President, Dr Rolf ANDRESEN, forwards this point to the thorough analysis of the next Board of Administration.

Mr Herman A. Van ZWIETEN, President of the Dutch Volleyball Federation, agrees with Dr ANDRESEN's proposal but insists it is necessary to implement this idea within the nearest delay.

Regarding the second proposal from the NED Federation, Mr Herman A. Van ZWIETEN indicates that the FIVB Board of Administration took the decision that each Confederation must decide on its working language. Having noticed that a lot of interpreters attend the CEV meetings and considering that such a presence is detrimental to the good running of a meeting, the Dutch Volleyball Association wonders about the official working language of the European Confederation.

Dr Rubén ACOSTA points out also that, in terms of efficiency, the presence of interpreters during the meetings is a real problem. He suggests thus that every commission should choose one of the two official languages and adopt it for all its activities.

Mr Philip BERBEN, in his capacity as ELC President, informs the General Assembly that there is no question possible about that issue as the Article 1.5 of the CEV Statutes lays down that the CEV official languages are English and French and that the official working language is English.

Proposal from the French Volleyball Federation

The FRA Federation wishes to bring the following matters up for discussion:

- To increase the number of teams from 8 to 12 in the final round of the Youth European Championships so that the organisers of the Boys' and Girls' competitions can be different;
- To play the final round of the Men's European Championships to the first two weeks of July immediately after the World League - as of 2003 or 2005;
- Qualification of the Junior Men's and Women's European Championships for the Junior Men's and Women's World Championships;
- To authorise that 3 or 4 different advertisements be put on the shorts or the shirts of the players. This would enable the teams to attract new sponsors more easily.

The CEV President, Prof Rolf ANDRESEN, announces to the CEV Congress that the study of these four tricky issues will be postponed up to the next sessions of the new Board of Administration and European Sport Organising Commission.

Election of the CEV President

Before starting the election, the current CEV President, Prof. Rolf ANDRESEN, on behalf of the CEV Board of Administration, would like to thank Mr Yuri DEREVIAGUINE for his active commitment to European Volleyball for so many years. It is with great honour Dr ANDRESEN, on behalf of the CEV Board of Administration, appoints Mr DEREVIAGUINE as CEV Honorary Vice-President.

As far as the presidential elections are concerned, both candidates, Mr Philip BERBEN and Mr André MEYER, already sent their respective curriculum vitae and program regarding the future development of Volleyball to all national associations.

Mr Philip BERBEN's speech

"Dear Mr President, Dear Members of the General Assembly,

If I am not mistaken, it is the first time in the last 20 years that the CEV has 2 candidates for the CEV Presidency. I think that in a democratic organisation, it is a good thing as it gives you the possibility to make a choice, to express your preference for a candidate, who, in your point of view gives the best possibilities for CEV.

Your task will not be easy. Both candidates are well known in the European Volleyball world. They have been active for many years in different areas of Volleyball in our continent. It is your responsibility to choose the new CEV President.

My candidacy has been known for many years. But why my candidacy?

My candidacy is not against somebody or something. I apply for this position because I am convinced that I can bring to the CEV some new ideas, that I can help our confederation to become a sports association more respected in Europe. There are those who say that I am naïve, that the dice have already been cast... I do not think so! It would be denying the independence and wisdom you will call for when you will make your choice. I believe I have some assets (ref. here to the memorandum and curriculum vitae I have sent to all national Volleyball associations). As you can notice I have several concerns in sports and in Volleyball especially. I have been President of the Belgian Volleyball Federation since 1989.

I will nevertheless not take too much of your time. I refer again to my memorandum in which I develop some ideas. I assure you that I want to achieve all of them in an open policy, in a democratic decision-making process straightforward, in close cooperation with the federations, the clubs and their members. I hope you will give me the opportunity to realise this.

Thank you very much."

Mr André MEYER's speech

"Mr President, Dear Delegates,

I can only agree with what my colleague Philip BERBEN stated in the beginning of his speech. I am sure that both of us can do a lot in Europe.

For my part, I want to tell you that although I am coming from a small country, in the last 16 years, when I was involved in the European Volleyball Confederation, I had time to learn a lot and to consider all the facts in Europe - what we achieved, what must be achieved in the future... In the letter I addressed to all national federations, I stated some, in my opinion, very important issues that have to be solved in the very near future.



I will not go in details again to all that I mentioned. I would just stress out that I believe the new elected Board of Administration can put very important steps for the future. For instance, from the sports point of view, as Dr ACOSTA mentioned already this morning, something has to be done in the overloaded competition calendar. I think that the FIVB together with the new CEV Board of Administration can do a very good job in this matter. Moreover, I am aware that it is very important to safeguard the clubs' activities and to guarantee them a certain period to prepare their players.

From the administrative point of view, you may have noticed that since I am responsible of the office in Luxembourg, a lot of changes occurred. We started ten years ago with only one employee and today we have ten employees with a very good structure for the future.

I think that, with the assistance of all people, with the help of your federation, the CEV will be able to move a lot in Europe in the future. Of course, and this is nothing new for you all, we will be loyal partners of the FIVB. Indeed, I am convinced that all together we will succeed in bringing our product in the place it must be in Europe.

Thank you very much".

Elections

After calling out the 47 federations present or validly represented in the General Assembly, Mr Aloys FISCHER, President of the Voting Commission, officially opens the elections. Every National Federation is requested to slide its ballot into the official ballot box.

Deliberation

The Voting Commission withdraws behind closed doors in order to count the votes.

After deliberation, the President of the Voting Commission; Mr Aloys FISCHER, announces the following results:

- Collected ballots: 47
- Non-valid ballots: 0

Mr André MEYER is elected as the new CEV President with 29 votes.

Mr Philip BERBEN gets 18 votes.

Election of the Board of Administration Members for the Mandate 2002 - 2005

In order to fulfil the decision of the International Olympic Committee and the FIVB Congress concerning the inclusion of two women within the CEV Board of Administration, the Executive Committee proposes Ms Snjezana MIJIC (CRO) as the second female candidate for the new CEV Board of Administration.

The European delegates of the General Assembly are consequently requested to vote for 14 seats including 2 women.

First round election

After deliberation, the President of the Voting Commission announces the following results:

- Collected ballots: 47
- Non-valid ballots: 0

Have obtained the absolute majority (i.e. 24 votes) and are thus elected in the first round:

<u>LAST NAME</u>	<u>FIRST NAME</u>	<u>FEDERATION</u>	<u>VOTES</u>
Mrs OOMS	Riet	NED	45

Mr BERBEN	Philip	BEL	39
Ms MIJIC	Snjezana	CRO	38
Mr BORICIC	Aleksandar	YUG	37
Mr PATKIN	Vladimir	RUS	33
Mr MAGRI	Carlo	ITA	32
Mr HRONEK	Jan	CZE	30
Mr SVENSSON	Lasse	SWE	29
Mr BELIGRATIS	Thanassis	GRE	26
Mr SHAW	Jacques	FRA	25

Second round election

Are elected in the second round for having obtained the highest number of votes:

<u>LAST NAME</u>	<u>FIRST NAME</u>	<u>FEDERATION</u>
Mr QUINTANA	Miguel-Angel	ESP
Mr PEKALIS	Maris	LAT
Mr BIESIADA	Janusz	POL
Mr STAVROU	Andreas	CYP

Approval of the nomination of the Commissions' Presidents

Before the new CEV Board of Administration Members withdraw from the Congress room in order to appoint the new the Executive Committee Members as well as the Presidents of the various CEV Commissions, Dr Rolf ANDRESEN wishes to thank, on behalf of the whole General Assembly, Mr Aloys FISCHER and his colleagues of the Voting Commission for their excellent work.

After a due deliberation, Mr André MEYER, in his capacity as new CEV President, announces the name of the new Vice-Presidents of the CEV Board of Administration and the CEV Commissions' Presidents as well.

Mr MEYER also proposes to the General Assembly to approve the nomination of four supplementary members within the CEV Board of Administration:

1. Mr SASSI proposed as President of the Sports Organising Commission,
2. Dr REK proposed as President of the Refereeing Commission,
3. Mr FISCHER proposed as President of the Legal Commission,
4. Dr HOLZGRAEFE proposed as President of the Medical Commission.

The new CEV Board of Administration is composed as follows:

1. Seven Executive Committee Members: the CEV President and Six Vice-Presidents;
2. Twelve Board of Administration Members.

Executive Committee

	<u>LAST NAME</u>	<u>FIRSTNAME</u>	<u>NF</u>
CEV President	MEYER	André	LUX
Senior Vice-President / Treasurer	BERBEN	Philip	BEL



Vice-President / Administrative Affairs	HRONEK	Jan	CZE
Vice-President / President ECC	OOMS	Riet	NED
Vice-President	MIJIC	Snjezana	CRO
Vice-President	MAGRI	Carlo	ITA
Vice-President	BORICIC	Aleksandar	YUG

Board of Administration

	<u>LAST NAME</u>	<u>FIRST NAME</u>	<u>NF</u>
President ELC	FISCHER	Aloys	SUI
President EMC	HOLZGRAEFE	Manfred	GER
President EBVC	QUINTANA	Miguel-Angel	ESP
President ERC	REK	Jan	SUI
President ESOC	SASSI	Fabio	ITA
BoA Member	BELIGRATIS	Thanassis	GRE
BoA Member	BIESIADA	Janusz	POL
BoA Member	PATKIN	Vladimir	RUS
BoA Member	PEKALIS	Maris	LAT
BoA Member	SHAW	Jacques	FRA
BoA Member	STAVROU	Andreas	CYP
BoA Member	SVENSSON	Lasse	SWE

The new composition of the CEV Board of Administration for the period 2002-2005 presented by the CEV President is approved and adopted by the General Assembly.

Honouring Ceremony of Messrs Rolf ANDRESEN and Hugo FRUITHOF

On behalf of the new CEV Board of Administration, Mr André MEYER thanks the outgoing CEV President, Prof Dr Rolf ANDRESEN, and the outgoing CEV Treasurer, Mr Hugo FRUITHOF, for their devotion to the CEV and appoints them as CEV Honorary President and CEV Honorary Vice-President, respectively.

Retirement of Dr Rolf ANDRESEN

“Dear Delegates, Dear Friends in Volleyball,

It is difficult for me to find the right words. I want to thank first the FIVB President who has been with us through the whole day. This is, I think, an excellent start for my colleagues of the new Executive Committee and Board of Administration. You can be assured that whenever a problem arises, I will always be ready to support the FIVB or the CEV.

I would like to thank also the CEV governing bodies of the last six years, the Executive Committee, the Board of Administration and last but not least the staff of the CEV Head Office, which always did a great job! Thanks to all delegates also for participating in the various discussions. Finally, let me express many thanks and congratulation to the organisers and the staff in charge of the preparation of this General Assembly in Ostrava.

It is not easy to leave such a presidency but my heart stays with Volleyball in Europe and in the world. Keep the ball flying! Thank you.”

Retirement of Mr Hugo FRUITHOF

“Dear President, new President, Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,

First of all, I would like to congratulate the newly elected President, Board of Administration Members and the Executive Committee Members.

I started with Volleyball in 1949 and it is difficult now to say goodbye to a lot of friends. During my business, I have done, not only in Volleyball, it was never allowed to have this kind of emotions I am experiencing today. I have these feelings today especially because Volleyball, not only was, but is a very important part of my life. I have met several friends who have the same target that I try to reach. I thank all the people that helped me try to reach this target, namely the CEV Bureau that always kept near to me. Without the assistance of these people, it would have never been possible to be as successful as we were at the end. Thank you very, very much.

On the other hand, without your support, dear delegates, it would also not have been possible to be successful. I thank all of you for the support and for the friendship and I wish you all, especially the new leadership in Europe good luck.

I will add also, as the outgoing President mentioned already, I have the pleasure to keep being involved in Volleyball and I believe it is very important that we agree all together that, finally, we all have the same target, we all work for the same product, Volleyball.

Once again, I thank you all very much and wish you good luck.”

Date and Venue of the XXIII General Assembly in 2002

The XXIII General Assembly will take place on 9th November 2002 at the Congress Centre – Kirchberg in Luxembourg (LUX).

Closing of the XXII General Assembly

Before closing the CEV Congress, the FIVB President would like to make the following comments:

“First, I want to congratulate you, delegates, for your participation. Now you have made your decision, now you have what you chose and now you have to get to work. Anyhow all the plans and all the programs for our sports must be supported with participation. Maybe for the next Assembly or the next elections, you will be having some new decisions from our world organisation. In the meantime, I congratulate the newly elected President, I wish him good luck and I hope the European Confederation will once and for all find the way to success because we cannot be happy with whatever we are doing or whatever we are getting. I think that there is always a way to do much better than what we are doing now. My wish is that your continental championships, your European cups and all the events you organise in Europe will be the result of a professional organisation. The FIVB is always ready to co-operate with every country in order to join efforts in bringing Volleyball to the top-level of Sports in Europe. If we succeed in Europe, we will succeed anywhere. And I really hope that the World Championships in Germany will be a great success.

Thank you very much.

Now, I let your President close the Congress.”

Closing of the General Assembly by the new CEV President, Mr André MEYER

“Thank you very much, Dr ACOSTA.

I would also join Dr ACOSTA to thank the European delegates for the decision they have taken today.



From the sports point of view, the European Volleyball Confederation is the most important confederation inside the FIVB, what is always confirmed by Dr ACOSTA. We must be aware that it is thanks to your national federations that CEV succeeded in reaching this position. With your help and under the guidance of a strong confederation, I am sure that we will keep this position also for the future.

Nevertheless, a permanent questioning of our responsibilities and activities will help us increase the interest in Volleyball in Europe. Therefore, we must improve our competition system, taking in consideration the media aspects in order to make our sport competitive with other sports and more attractive for the sponsors and the public. The introduction of new competitions such as the European Champions League must be the basis for reaching this goal.

From the administrative point of view, our young staff from the office is ready to help us become more competitive and efficient concerning communication and marketing. The recent creation of a new department governing those activities will make it possible.

Dr ACOSTA, dear President, we have seen today at this Congress that the CEV is on the right way to promote our sport to one of the most important sports in Europe. Together with the FIVB, this must be our goal. The CEV needs the FIVB, but also the FIVB needs a strong Europe. Let's join our strengths and then we will reach our common goal. Let's strengthen our efforts in bringing the European Volleyball to the same level as other sports. We are conscious that the multiple cultures we have in Europe are not making our tasks easy but we are also confident that a common work based on a full understanding of democracy on our continent will allow us to face this problem. To achieve this, we have to be aware that only the highest level of professional dedication and full respect of the procedures governing our sport will lead us, all together, to the final success of Volleyball.

I can assure you Dr ACOSTA that the FIVB will always find in the CEV a loyal and active partner. Together with the FIVB, a good collaboration and co-operation must be guaranteed.

Before we come to the end of the General Assembly, I would like to thank everybody involved in the preparation of this Congress: the staff from the CEV Office, the Czech Volleyball Federation and the local organising committee of the European Championships, the translators and interpreters as well as the other technical staff involved in this event.

I thank you very much and wish you a nice evening. Do not forget that you are all invited tomorrow and the day after to witness some very high level Volleyball.

Thank you very much."

There being no further business, the XXII CEV General Assembly closes at 18h00.

2002

CEV BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING – MILAN (ITA) – 2ND & 3RD FEBRUARY 2002

The following members are attending:

President:	André Meyer (LUX)
Snr Vice-President & Treasurer:	Philip Berben (BEL)
Vice-Presidents:	Snjezana Mijic (CRO) - Riet Ooms (NED) - Aleksandar Boricic (YUG) - Jan Hronek (CZE) - Carlo Magri (ITA)
Members:	Thanassis Beligratis (GRE) - Janusz Biesiada (POL) - Aloys Fischer (SUI) - Manfred Holzgraefe (GER) - Vladimir Patkin (RUS) - Maris Pekalis (LAT) - Miguel Angel Quintana (ESP) - Jan Rek (SUI) - Fabio Sassi (ITA) - Jacques Shaw (FRA) - Andreas Stavrou (CYP)

Opening of the Meeting

The CEV President, Mr André MEYER, opens the first Board of Administration (BoA) meeting since the XXII CEV Congress and welcomes his colleagues to Milan. Considering the very heavy agenda, Mr MEYER indicates that he relies on a straight and active contribution from every BoA member.

The CEV President expresses also his sincerest thanks to the Italian Volleyball Federation and especially to its President, Mr Carlo MAGRI, for hosting and organising this important meeting in the nice city of Milan.



Newly elected CEV President André Meyer and his colleagues of the new Board of Administration at the meeting held in Milan in February 2002

Taking the floor, Mr Carlo MAGRI, on behalf of FIPAV and the whole Italian Volleyball, heartily welcomes the CEV BoA members to Milan. He announces that he is proud to be a member of the CEV Executive Committee and have the opportunity to work in an atmosphere of friendship, serenity and common will.



On this occasion, the President of the Italian Federation wishes to invite all the BoA members to stay the whole weekend in Milan and enjoy the famous “Volleyland” event, which is the result of the all-year Italian Federation’s work.

Approval of the Agenda

Some items were added to the BoA agenda.

There being no particular remark, the agenda of the BoA meeting is unanimously approved.

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on 16th November 2001 in Warsaw (POL)

The CEV President explains that the BoA is not requested to approve this document.

The minutes must be considered only as an informative report.

Approval of the Minutes of the Board of Administration Meeting held on 13th September 2001 in Ostrava (CZE)

Mr André MEYER reminds that these minutes correspond to the work carried out by the former Board of Administration. New members thus cannot approve this document.

This report will just be an informative document.

The CEV President invites however his colleagues to make any remarks.

No member formulates any comments.

Activity Report from the President

Mr MEYER informs the Board of Administration about the various activities he carried out since the XXI General Assembly in Ostrava:

CEV-FIVB meeting in Lausanne (SUI): this meeting, held on 18th September 2001 at the FIVB Headquarters, was very fruitful. The outcome was very satisfying.

Executive Committee meeting in Warsaw (POL): the first session of the new ExCom was held on 16th November in Poland on the occasion of the official presentation of the Indesit European Champions League. The organisation was very successful but the attendance rate was unfortunately too low. In this regard, the CEV President wishes to thank sincerely the Polish Federation for having hosted those events.

CEV-FIVB meeting in Lausanne (SUI): This session was based on the agreement concluded in September, which favours the CEV - FIVB co-operation through the organisation of regular meetings gathering both Presidents and Managers of these institutions as well as technical meetings between the CEV - FIVB respective Co-ordinators (Indoor, Beach Volleyball...).

Indesit European Champions League Matches: The CEV President had the opportunity to attend two matches of the second edition of the Champions League, one played in Germany and the other in Vienna. The general feedback of the organisation is excellent.

Activity Reports (including adoption of the minutes)

The CEV President all European Commission Presidents about the new working procedures. First, he asks them to schedule their meetings according to the already set ExCom/BoA meetings calendar in order to achieve meaningful discussions and avoid the waste of time. Moreover, Mr Meyer would like that the activity reports be sent to the CEV Office as soon as possible after the commission meeting. He also requires of every Commission’s President that they provide the CEV Office with the agenda of their next meeting in order that the ExCom can follow closely the items discussed during all commission meetings.

Finally, Mr André MEYER indicates that if necessary, he or Mr Philip BERBEN, CEV Senior Vice-President, are both ready to assist the commission members during their meetings when important decisions will have to be taken.

Legal Commission – Mr Aloys FISCHER

The minutes of the Legal Commission (ELC) meeting held in Zurich (SUI) on 15th December 2001 were sent to all BoA Members concerned a few weeks previously.

Mr A. FISCHER takes the floor and points out that the ELC session was based on 3 main issues:

- Clarification of the Protocol of Agreement between the CEV and the FIVB signed in Eindhoven (NED) on 12th September 1997.
- Final check of the amended Statutes of the CEV after the XXII CEV General Assembly held in Ostrava on 14th September 2001.
- Drawing-up of a specific CEV regulations draft for territorial associations.

Verification of the draft of the Balkan Volleyball Association's Statutes.

In the meantime, Mr FISCHER received a new draft comprising of all the changes proposed by the ELC. Regarding the new BVA Statutes draft, the ELC President suggested a last amendment in order to ensure that only FIVB/CEV members can belong to CEV zonal associations.

Mr André MEYER thanks Mr A. FISCHER and his colleagues of the ELC for the large quantity of work they have carried out and announces that ExCom decided that the BVA regulations would be the basis for all future zonal associations.

Financial Commission – Mr Philip BERBEN

The President of the European Financial Commission (EFC), Mr BERBEN, indicates that he had visited Luxembourg twice to gain information about the financial structure of the CEV.

The CEV Treasurer is currently collecting all the items necessary for the establishment of the draft budget 2003, which will be presented to his colleagues of the Financial Commission in April/May 2002, on the occasion of the first EFC meeting.

Moreover, Mr BERBEN wants to reassure his colleagues of the BoA and makes clear that even if no commission meeting has been organised until now, he nevertheless is keeping a strict management of the CEV's finances.

European Cups Commission – Mrs Riet OOMS

Following the XXII CEV Congress, the President of the European Cups Commission (ECC) has been very busy, especially with the start of the European Cups competitions. Indeed, after the start of the Top Teams Cup in October 2001 and the CEV Cup in November 2001, the Official Presentation of the Indesit European Champions League was organised on 17th November 2001 in Poland.

Mrs Riet OOMS adds that she carried out also the second drawing of lots (in a non-public session) on 14th December in Luxembourg and immediately after the drawing of lots, she took part in the ECC Working Group meeting - gathering the President and Secretary of the ECC as well as the CEV Competitions Director - held in Vilvoorde (BEL) from 15th to 16th December 2001.

In this regard, Mrs OOMS draws the attention of the Board of Administration to the minutes of the ECC Working Group session that have already been distributed to all persons concerned.

As far as European Cups are concerned, Mr Andreas STAVROU would like to make a short comment regarding the problems encountered by the Group C Federations participating in the



CEV Cup competitions. He informs the BoA Members that more concrete proposals and suggestions will be presented after the Group C countries executive meeting planned in Dublin. The CEV President assures all that this matter will be taken into account and reminds Mr STAVROU, that the CEV is still waiting for the proposal about the future development of the Group C national teams' activities.

Action: To inform the ECC about the Group C new proposals.

European Sports Organising Commission – Mr Fabio SASSI

The President of the European Sports Organising Commission (ESOC), Mr SASSI, reports that two meetings have been organised since the CEV General Assembly in Ostrava.

ESOC session held from 14th to 16th December 2001 in Vilvoorde (BEL). The members of the Sports Organising Commission have offered their reflections and remarks on the minutes, which were sent at the beginning of January 2002. Mr Fabio SASSI refers then to the various proposals made by ESOC and asks his BoA colleagues for their approval.

- Point 6. – Additional guidelines for the Men's and Women's European Championships 2001/2002: the CEV Treasurer raises the problem of costs, namely with regard to the high number of inspection visits forecasted.
- Point 7. /8. – Boys' and Girls' Youth European Championships 2001

Decision: To change the title of each Junior & Youth European Championships for the 2003 Youth and 2002 Junior events in order to have the same naming convention as FIVB competitions and European Beach Volleyball championships.

The new titles are as follows:

1. Men's U20 for the Men's Junior European Championships 2002
 2. Women's U19 for the Women's Junior European Championships 2002
 3. Boys' U19 for the Boys' Youth European Championships 2003
 4. Girls' U18 for the Girls' Youth European Championships 2003
- Point 9.1 – Activity Calendar 2002/2004: the ESOC President wishes to thank Mr André MEYER for having got in touch with the FIVB and reached an agreement making it possible to delay the 1st tournament of the 2nd Senior European Championships Men Category A.

Action: To discuss the ESOC proposal related to the 2nd tournament in 2003 during the next meeting in Lausanne end of February.

- Point 10 – Men's and Women's Qualification tournaments: All proposals of the European Sports Organising Commission members are accepted by the CEV BoA.
- Point 11. /12. – Men's and Women's Senior European Championships: For convenience, the ESOC President proposes to change the Coordinators' nominations. Mr P. MULHEIMS will therefore be appointed to the Senior Men's competition in Germany and Mr SASSI will attend the Senior Women competition in Turkey. The BoA unanimously agreed.
- Point 14. – Women's Junior European Championships, Prequalification tournament: The change of dates proposed by the GEO Federation is accepted by the Board of Administration.

ESOC meeting organised in Luxembourg from 25th to 26th January 2002. Unfortunately, as the ESOC President and his Secretary have had no time to complete minutes, Mr SASSI reports to the CEV BoA the main items that were discussed.

Men's European Championships 2003 in Germany

After the refusal to accept the Europahalle in Karlsruhe by the ESOC, the GER Federation proposed a second hall (also in Karlsruhe), which will be completed in May/June 2003. Moreover, Mr SASSI indicates that an agreement has been reached about the dates, venues and conditions concerning the inspection visits.

Decision:

- To ask the GER Federation to confirm to the CEV Office one or two reserve cities to host said Championships.
- To carry out the necessary inspection visits.

Men's Junior European Championships in Poland

The ESOC President informs his colleagues of the BoA that he received a request to change the competition venue from Katowice to Cetniewo. Given the political situation in the POL Federation, Mr MEYER insists that a new inspection visit should be organised after 20th April 2002.

Youth European Championships 2003

Appointment of the ESOC Members in the Jury.

Boys' U19 European Championships: Mr J. JOKINEN

Girls' U18 European Championships: Mr S. BENASCO

Drawing of Lots for Qualification Tournaments of the European Championships 2002/2003

This event was combined with the second ESOC meeting on 26th January 2002 in Luxembourg. Mr SASSI is very satisfied with the feedback of these Drawing of Lots as well as the attendance rate; as 35 out of 36 interested National Federations attended the event.

The ESOC President reverts then to the main issues that have arisen during the season.

Men's Senior European Championships

The teams of the Category A, pool 2, requested to change the dates of the tournament to 31st May – 2nd June instead of 17th - 19th May 2002.

Mr André MEYER points out that such a proposal will undoubtedly result in clashes with the FIVB calendar. Further, he is of the opinion that the CEV must show it is willing to cooperate with the FIVB and should not discuss again, dates, which have already been agreed between CEV and FIVB.

Decision: The BoA unanimously agrees to maintain the existing dates previously agreed with the FIVB for the 1st tournament in 2002.

Women's Senior European Championships

Mr SASSI indicates that the GER and CRO teams, both part of the Category A Pool 3, are disputing the playing system.

Moreover, he informs the BoA members that the Category B Pool 3 is facing a problem regarding the match planned in Israel on 22nd April 2002. As far as this matter is concerned, the CEV President indicates that there is no point in dealing with it today, as the political situation in Israel is changing constantly.

Decision: To postpone the discussion of the match in Israel until the next ExCom Meeting in April 2002.



Small Countries Tournament

Further to the withdrawal of the AND team during the last edition of the competition, Mr STAVROU remarks that the AND team (Men) should be ranked 8th.

The CEV President takes the opportunity to revert to the Andorra / Malta case. Indeed, AND withdrew at the last moment from the tournament of the Group C European Championships Final Round organised in Malta. As the CEV agreed to reduce the fine imposed on AND, the Maltese team consequently received a lower amount than forecasted. Up to now no solution has been found.

Decision: The remaining amount due to MLT should be deducted from the part of the CEV Group C subsidy allocated to AND.

ESOC seminar held on 26th January 2002 in Luxembourg. This session took place alongside the Drawing of Lots. All ESOC Members and Ex Officio Members were present as well as the CEV Vice-President, Dr Jan HRONEK.

European Beach Volleyball Commission – Mr Miguel QUINTANA

The President of the European Beach Volleyball Commission (EBVC) informs the BoA members that a meeting took place on 17th November 2001 in Luxembourg. The minutes were distributed to all concerned. On this occasion, Mr QUINTANA thanks all his colleagues of the EBVC for their good work and collaboration.

Mr QUINTANA wishes then to highlight the main proposals formulated by the EBVC and asks for the BoA approval:

- The EBVC President believes that the World Council Minutes as well as the update of the Rules of the Game should be sent to the European Commission on a regular basis.
- Furthermore, with a view to better coordination between the various Beach Volleyball organs, Mr QUINTANA believes the CEV should ask for a Continental representation on the World Council.

On this matter Mr André MEYER, CEV President, assures him that he will present this request to Dr ACOSTA during the FIVB meetings to be held in March/April 2002.

Then, Mr QUINTANA requests that a seminar for Beach Volleyball should be organised in Zagreb (CRO) in February 2002. This conference will be the first Europe-wide event dedicated to the competition, organisation, commercial, strategic and promotional issues faced by Beach Volleyball activity. The EBVC President points out that such a seminar will enable the improvement of the interaction between CEV and its affiliated National Federations with regard to Beach Volleyball.

The CEV President reminds Mr QUINTANA of the BoA decision, that at least 20 countries must take part in a seminar. If less, the seminar cannot be held.

Finally, Mr André MEYER reverts to point 5 of the EBVC Minutes and draws the attention of Mr QUINTANA - and also of all CEV Commissions' President - to the final ExCom decision regarding the duties of the CEV staff members within the European commissions. It was decided not to allow CEV Office to take over the tasks of the Commission's Secretary.

In addition the CEV President adds that ExCom members also discussed the per diem issue during their last session. He informs his colleagues of the BoA that the CEV is aware of the situation and that it is willing to follow-up the request of the commissions' members. However, Mr André MEYER wishes to make it clear that the per diem must be considered as recognition of their work and not as a salary.

Action: The CEV Senior Vice-President and Treasurer is responsible for working out, with the collaboration of the CEV Commissions' President, a draft proposal for the next Executive Committee meeting in April 2002.

European Medical Commission – Dr Manfred HOLZGRAEFE

Senior European Championships 2001: The organisation in Czech Republic (for men) concerning the anti-doping procedures was excellent whereas the doping-control system in Bulgaria (for women) was very bad.

FIVB Medical Commission

The FIVB regulations for anti-doping tests must be changed as the long delay of the IOC results impacts the ability to correctly impose any sanctions. This issues causes a big problem for the image of Volleyball.

Proposal from the FIVB Medical Commission to the FIVB BoA

The results of the anti-doping tests must be known within 48 hours. Unfortunately, this condition can only be fulfilled if there is an IOC Laboratory in the country, where the competition is being held.

In case the FIVB BoA does not accept the proposal, the FIVB Medical Commission suggests that the frequency and dates of anti-doping tests be changed and fixed in the beginning of the competitions and finals. This would give an opportunity to allow enough time to follow the regulations.

In this regard, the CEV President, Mr MEYER, expresses his satisfaction noting that Dr HOLZGRAEFE and his colleagues are trying to find a solution to this matter, given that the credibility of CEV and Volleyball in general is at stake.

Action: To prepare special guidelines in order to inform the National Federations what they have to do in case of a positive result.

Proposal from the FIVB Medical Commission to the FIVB BoA

To cancel gender testing as this practice is used in only a few sports and it is also forbidden in several countries. Furthermore, the examination system is so archaic that some laboratories do not know how to carry out particular methods.

The President of the European Medical Commission supports Mr Fabio SASSI's proposal and stresses that a medical expert should join the CEV coordinator during the European Championships' inspection visits.

Seminar for medical education of doctors and physiotherapists: The conference is postponed until the end of the year as only 15 National Federations are interested in participating.

Training of supplementary doctors

Dr Manfred HOLZGRAEFE points out the problem that the medical services are carried out only by two persons: Dr AVILA ESPANA and himself. The new commission members should be trained up for their new functions.

Action: The EMC President will be responsible for studying the possible integration of this proposal within Budget 2003.

European Refereeing Commission – Dr Jan REK

First of all, the President of the European Refereeing Commission (ERC), Dr Jan REK, apologises for not having sent the minutes of the ERC meeting. But due to the current competition calendar, it was not possible to organise the first ERC session earlier.



He informs the BoA members about the main subjects discussed during the ERC meeting held on 26th January 2002 in Paris (FRA):

Appointment of additional ERC ex-officio members

Dr REK is concerned that the current number of Referee Delegates is not sufficient especially given the overloaded competition calendar as many matches are played on the same date.

Decision: As a first step, to refer to the list of ERC candidates for the XXII General Assembly.

The ERC President will be in charge of evaluating the competences of each candidate.

- To improve the functions of the assistant scorer: During the competition Finals, the assistant scorer will take responsibility of the replacement of the libero sheet.
- To appoint international referees as line-judges not only for final matches but also from the beginning of a tournament. To ensure that every international referee takes on the task of line judging at least once before the final.
- Refereeing Clinics for all Final Tournaments: To ask the organiser to prepare all conditions necessary for checking the organisation of the game.

Action: The ERC is responsible for producing a document, which will inform the organisers about what they have to do for the refereeing clinics.

This document shall insist that the people taking part in the clinic must be the appointed persons working in the competition.

Referees evaluation by Technical Delegates during the European Cups competitions

The ERC will create for next season a new form - shorter and much easier to use - in order to receive a general impression of the performance of the referees.

In addition, Dr Jan REK proposes that the deadline for the referees' medical check be the same for Indoor and Beach Volleyball.

Homepage of the CEV website

The ERC would like to display all the nominations of the referees on the CEV Homepage as well as small reports informing everybody about the current situation of the competition.

Action: The CEV Head Office is in charge of following-up this project.

Beach Volleyball Referees

The ERC President points out that because of the restricted number of Beach Volleyball competitions, the International Beach Volleyball Referees have very few opportunities to practice.

Referees Seminar

This event will be divided in two parts. The Seminar for Beach Volleyball referees will be organised during the FIVB World Tour Tournament in Gstaad (SUI), whereas the Indoor seminar will be held in Montreux (SUI) during the Montreux Volley Masters. The CEV Treasurer reminds Dr REK that it is important to study carefully the budget of the European Refereeing Commission before organising such events. He also announces that he will send to all the commissions' President a statement with their respective budget for information.

Action: The CEV Office is responsible for informing all National Federations about the organisation of the referees' seminar.

ERC shall prepare the required documents.

Communication

Working Group Media – Mr Arjen MEIJER (NED) CEV Press Officer

Invited to the BoA meeting, Mr Arjen MEIJER outlines his proposal to restore the CEV Working Group - Media.

The BoA members unanimously support Mr MEIJER's ideas and agree to maintain the activities of this working group in future.

As far as the composition of the Working Group Media is concerned, the CEV President makes the following remarks:

- According to the CEV principles, a CEV commission / working group must be headed by a member of the CEV Board of Administration.
- As for the CEV commissions, the secretary position cannot be held by a member of the CEV Office staff. This point is clearly stated in the "Working Process and Organisation", document prepared by the CEV Office and distributed to all members of the CEV organs.

Decision: The CEV Working Media will count 5 members and 1 photographer:

Mr Aleksandar BORICIC, President

Mr Arjen MEIJER, Secretary

Mr Gian Luca PASINI, Gazzetta dello Sport

Mr George STEFANIS (GRE), Chief Editor ANA Press Agency

Mr Jacek DABROWSKI (POL), TVP

Mrs Elvira ATANES (ESP), EFE

Mrs Manuela GREAU (FRA), L'Equipe

Ms Daniela TARANTINI (ITA), Photographer

Mr André MEYER announces however that the CEV will replace members if this Working Group is not working efficiently. This remark also applies to all other commissions and working groups.

Report from the FIVB Press Officer Meeting

Mr Arjen MEIJER attended the FIVB Press Officers Meeting in Lausanne on 23 – 25 January 2002. A review of the most important items discussed during this meeting is given in the report he prepared and distributed to all BoA Members.

The CEV Press Officer stresses that the CEV is still the leading confederation in the media arena. Moreover, he wants the BoA Members to pay special attention to three items in particular:

- Point 6. AIPS: The President of the International Association for Sports Journalists (AIPS) proposes to build a close cooperation with the CEV. The help of the AIPS can be very useful for the CEV.

Referring to the very negative and harmful article Mr André MEYER was made aware of recently, the CEV President insists that the CEV Press Officer has to let him know on a regular basis about all Press articles, which may concern CEV.

- Point 7. VIS: The FIVB Technical Commission will launch a VIS instruction video and CD, which will be also available for European competitions.



VIS is already used for the Senior European Championships Final Round. However, Mr André MEYER underlines that for the European Cups competitions the CEV is using another product, which it is up to now very satisfied with.

- Point 8. 2003 Men's European Championships: The CEV Press Officer got into contact with the Cosmos - communication agency - representative. This company seems to be very professional and has a lot of experience in terms of media operations having worked for other outstanding sports events.

Finally, the CEV Board of Administration takes note of the proposals addressed by Mr MEIJER, as results of the FIVB meetings:

1. To ask the Working Group Media members to function as zonal correspondents.
2. To request the CEV Beach Volleyball Coordinator to inform the CEV Press Officer about all major Beach Volleyball activities.
3. To include the accreditation forms of both the men's and women's World Championships 2002 on the CEV website.
4. To get permission to feed the CEV website with text and photos when the CEV Press Officer works on site during major CEV events.
5. To schedule a possible short VIS instruction session during one of the meetings of the CEV Jury during the events where the CEV Press Officer is working on site.
6. To further the relationship with AIPS and give the CEV Press Officer the permission to study the advantages for the CEV.
7. To continue the meetings and discussions with Cosmos in order to have the best ever media facilities during the 2003 Men's European Championship in Germany.

Decision: The BoA members unanimously accept all proposals and the CEV President ensures he will do his utmost to find the best solution to implement each one of them.

Communication CEV/National Federations in future

The CEV Press Officer made some remarks regarding the possible improvement of the communication between the CEV and the National Federations. He proposes amongst others to change the system of the CEV Newsletter distribution and to send it by e-mail for example.

Mr André MEYER points out also that one page of the CEV Newsletter will be put at the disposal of the National Federations and/or Presidents of European Commissions so that specific problems can be presented and dealt with.

Decision: To request officially to all European National Federations that they establish an Internet connection/account for their National Federation, so that CEV can send communications quickly via e-mail.

Proposal of the CEV Press Officer for the European Cups Final

Mr MEIJER believes that inspection visits should be carried out for all European Cups Finals. Taking this comment into consideration, the CEV Board of Administration finally decided to limit this year's Media inspection visits to both Finals of the Indesit European Champions League.

Statutes Amendments by the XXII CEV General Assembly

As already mentioned, the European Legal Commission (ELC) corrected the document drawn up by the CEV Office. All the amendments proposed by the XXII General Assembly are correctly worded except for:

Article 5.12:

“Application for vacant posts ON the organs of the CEV...” must be replaced by the following correct wording “Application for vacant posts IN the organs of the CEV...”

Actions:

- To distribute the final version of the CEV Statutes to all national federations.
- To register the amended CEV Statutes to the Luxembourg authorities.

Institutions

FIVB Sanctions – Lasse SVENSSON

The CEV President draws the attention of the BoA members to the fact that their colleague, Mr Lasse SVENSSON, is not present at this meeting.

The FIVB decided in October 2001 to dismiss Mr Lasse SVENSSON from all his functions within the FIVB, the CEV and the Swedish Federation. According to the bilateral agreement dated 1997, the CEV is bound to follow and respect such sanctions.

Mr MEYER indicates however that Mr SVENSSON will have the possibility to explain his situation during the next FIVB Executive Committee session, which will be tasked to decide and submit a proposal of final sanction to the FIVB BoA.

Decision: To suspend all Volleyball activities of Mr SVENSSON until the final decision of the FIVB.

Meeting with the Balkan Volleyball Association

The CEV President reminds the BoA members that the FIVB, during its Congress in Seville, recommended that confederations promote the creation of zonal Volleyball activities.

In this regard, Mr MEYER wishes to congratulate the Balkan Association for this initiative. Mr BORICIC, President of the BVA, takes this opportunity to underline the importance of this Association as it includes countries with the longest Volleyball tradition in Europe.

Mr André MEYER expresses also his satisfaction with the last version of the Balkan Volleyball Association (BVA)’s Statutes - only one remark from the European Legal Commission - and indicates that as soon as this document is accepted by the CEV, the Statutes will be used as the basis for future similar regional associations.

Decisions:

- To adopt the BVA Statutes and recognise this Association as an official CEV zonal activities area.
- To inform existing Zonal Associations that they have to modify their Regulations in line with the BVA Statutes.



Moreover, in order to clarify the general situation, the CEV President makes the following points:

- The creation of zonal associations is linked to the specific situation of a region, which needs to develop Youth activities or other activities that are not covered by the CEV (veterans competitions for instance);
- No political activities within these associations will be authorised;
- The recognition of zonal associations is valid provided their statutes clearly recognise the regulations of the FIVB and those of the CEV;
- No competition clashes with the CEV calendar will be allowed;
- Even if the calendar of the association is accepted, the organising Federation must apply for a supplementary permission to organise an event.

Political Situation in ISRAEL

Mr MEYER informs his BoA colleagues that the CEV faced some problems in the previous weeks during the European Cup competitions. Unfortunately, the political situation in Israel has still not improved and the CEV is likely to encounter more troubles in the future.

ExCom thoroughly studied the case during its last meeting and proposes the Board of Administration accept the following decision:

The CEV is willing to find a solution provided two conditions are respected. The solution must enable the CEV to guarantee a minimum security for the players and officials. However this decision must be taken after consultations with the Israeli Federation.

The CEV President explains however that, as it is difficult to foresee the evolution of the political situation in Israel in June 2002, the date of the next match planned in ISR, the final decision is postponed until the next ExCom meeting on 20th April 2002.

Decision: The Israeli Federation to be invited at the next ExCom session on 20th April 2002.

National Volleyball Leagues

Mr André MEYER refers to the Austrian case and informs the BoA members of the situation:

- For many years, the AUT Federation has organised the “Interleague” competition.
- This event was held without previous authorisation from the CEV.

Considering this unacceptable situation, the CEV urged the AUT Federation to send the statutes and financial regulations of the Interleague to the CEV Office, so that this zonal organisation can be officially recognised.

Mr André MEYER indicates that such cases can now be avoided with the creation of zonal associations managed by the CEV.

Action: To inquire the AUT Federation about the organisation of men’s clubs competitions in 2000-2001 and 2001-2002.

Financial Matters

Account 2001

Mr BERBEN, CEV Senior Vice-President and Treasurer, informs the BoA that the accounting process has suffered delays since the pregnancy and maternity leave of Mrs Sylvie COLLIGNON, CEV Bookkeeper. Mr BERBEN confirms that the accounting year 2001 will be finalised for the next BoA meeting planned in Croatia in June 2002.

Budget 2002 for CEV Commissions

As far as the European Commissions' budgets are concerned, the CEV Treasurer announces that each CEV Commissions' President will receive a copy of their budget, so that they all can know what their budget is.

Action: The CEV Office is to inform every CEV Commissions' President about their budget and respective follow-up.

Mr BERBEN invites all Presidents of CEV Commissions to contact him directly should they have special request, in order to always stay within their agreed budget.

CEV Working Group Members' Per Diem

The CEV Treasurer wishes to remind his BoA colleagues of the following points:

- Regarding the CEV Commissions' members, it is understood that most of their costs have to be borne by their national federation.
- On the contrary, the members of the CEV Working Group are appointed by the CEV BoA for some specific tasks, independently from their national federation. The CEV will bear all their expenses as well as the per diem that is granted according to the number of working days.

Decision: To maintain the current system of financial reward for the moment.

Competition Calendar

The CEV President confirms that the 2002-2003 CEV competition calendar was sent on 18th December 2001 to the FIVB as requested. The FIVB asked all confederations to continually update this calendar and to automatically inform it about any possible new additions.

ESOC President, Mr SASSI, makes a technical remark concerning this matter and points out that for next season, the deadline for applications will be modified and fixed for the end of October instead of mid-December.

2000/2001 European Senior Championships

Regarding the organisation of the 2000/2001 European Senior Championships - Czech Republic for Men and Bulgaria for Women - the EMC President, Dr HOLZGRAEFE, regrets that the feedback of the anti-doping tests was very different from one competition to the other. He thinks it is urgent and necessary to adapt the anti-doping testing system to all countries or to change the anti-doping procedures as it has already been proposed to the FIVB. Besides, he supports Mr SASSI's proposal to carry out a complete check of all the medical procedures before the championships starts.

Mrs Riet OOMS, CEV Vice-President agrees with DR HOLZGRAEFE that it could be useful and interesting for the EMC to organise such a control before the competitions. Nevertheless, she stresses that most of the troubles in Bulgaria were caused by last minute changes, which could not have been avoided even if many pre-inspection visits had been carried out.

Action: To prepare new provisions to the existing regulations thereby preventing similar situations.

2001/2002 Junior European Championships

Substitution of Mr L. SVENSSON

Dr Jan HRONEK, CEV Vice-President in charge of Administrative Affairs, announces that Mr Aloys FISCHER has been appointed to replace Mr Lasse SVENSSON in his duties of CEV Co-ordinator during the Junior European Championship in Poland.



Withdrawal of the Austrian Volleyball Federation

This case has been passed to ESOC for investigation. As no sanctions are stated in the Official Regulations for such behaviour, Mr SASSI suggests that this case should be studied by the ELC.

According to the CEV Statutes, the President of the ELC, Mr Aloys FISCHER confirms that the only sanction to be applied is a fine amounting CHF 3.000.

Decision: To sanction the AUT Federation with the maximum fine, which is CHF 3.000.

Junior European Championships Regulations

Referring to the amendments proposed for the Junior European Championships regulations, the CEV President invites his colleagues of the BoA to make their remarks and offer comments.

Decision: The Junior European Championships regulations are adopted.

Action: To make the necessary corrections and send the final version to all CEV affiliated federations.

2002/2003 Senior European Championships

Senior European Championships Regulations

The BoA members refer to the Senior European Championships regulations. Following an open and fruitful discussion, additional amendments have been decided.

Decision: The Senior European Championships regulations are approved.

Action: To make the necessary corrections and send the final version to all CEV affiliated federations.

Applications for the 2004/2005 European Championships

Mr André MEYER indicates that several federations applied for the organisation of the Senior European Championships, i.e., CRO, DEN, POL, RUS, TUR and YUG for the Men's competition and ESP for the Women's competition. In this regard and in accordance with the CEV regulations, the letter of intent from FRA cannot be taken into consideration.

As far as the 2004 Junior European Championships are concerned, two federations, CRO and CZE, are willing to organise the Men's event, whereas SVK is the sole federation that officially applied for the Women's competition.

Unfortunately, and as already mentioned, the CEV received no applications for the Youth European Championships.

Decisions:

- To consider a possible split of the event in one Boys' and one Girls' competition.
- To send out a new deadline to the National Federations if a solution has been found.

Procedure to entrust a Federation with the organisation of the 2004/2005 European Championships' Final Round

Based on past experiences, the CEV President believes it is necessary to change the process for appointing a national federation with the organisation of the CEV events. A better system of selection must be implemented.

The proposed procedure is as follows:

- A form with various questions - venues, provisional program, etc. - will be sent to all federations that applied for the organisation of a championships' final.
- A new deadline to return this form to the CEV will be announced.
- Examination of the returned forms and a first evaluation by ExCom who will then make a proposal to the BoA.
- A first inspection visit will be carried out by ESOC for all candidates.
- Based on the results of the inspection visit, the best candidates will be asked to make a presentation during an ExCom meeting.
- The final organiser will be appointed according to the presentation. If there is time left, the appointed federation will present its plan during the next BoA meeting and General Assembly.

Decision: The BoA unanimously approves the procedure as proposed by the CEV President.

Action: The CEV Office will inform the candidates about this new procedure.

Technical Requirements for the Finals

The CEV President refers to the new "Technical Requirements" for the organisation of European Championships Finals. Some comments have been formulated by the BoA members and will be reported in that document.

Decision: The Technical Requirements for the Finals are adopted.

Action: To make the necessary corrections and send the final version to all CEV affiliated federations.

European Cups

The ECC President wishes first of all to clarify the question of responsibility between the national federation and its clubs.

Considering that the national federations have to pay for their clubs' mistakes, Mr Thanassis BELIGRATIS suggests that the National Federations should appoint a person whose exclusive tasks will be to assist the clubs in all international matters. However, he underlines that the clubs remain responsible.

Mr Aloys FISCHER draws to the attention of the BoA members that such a nomination within the national federation can entail some legal issues as the clubs will rely only on the work of this person and will automatically shift the responsibility onto the national federation in case of sanction from the CEV.

Mr André MEYER would like to make it clear that, following the proposal of Mr BELIGRATIS, it is obvious that the appointed person in the national federation can only be responsible for organisational matters. The national federation will hold the function of co-ordinator, whereas the clubs will remain SOLELY responsible in case of sports-related mistakes.

Moreover, the CEV President adds that the organisation of a possible supplementary seminar for club managers for all CEV club competitions should be considered.

Recommendation

To ensure each national federation has available a person on whom the clubs engaged in CEV competitions may rely if they face problems understanding the regulations.

Action: The CEV Office is in charge of informing the National Federations about the recommendation as well as presenting some concrete measures for implementing this project.



CEV Cup and Top Teams Cup

Caja de Avilla

The Spanish team of Caja de Avilla participating in the CEV Cup Women Qualification Tournament n°4 in Germany, had no collective licenses. Despite the absence of licenses and considering the organisation in Münster, the matches were played but ECC sanctioned the Spanish team by declaring all matches lost 0:3.

Mrs Riet OOMS, President of the European Cups Commission, stated that in accordance with the European Cups regulations, a team is not allowed to take part in a European Cups competition without a European Cup license.

Decision: The decision taken by the ECC is approved by the BoA.

The sanction proposed by the ECC will be used for similar cases in future.

AZE Letter

The team Azerrail BAKU (AZE) was part of pool 6 of the Top Teams Cup Women 2001/2002 where the team of Bayern LOHHOF (GER) withdrew by forfeit after having played.

The AZE club asks the CEV about a possible support for the team, which, in addition to the loss of points, has to bear the costs linked to the organisation of the matches or the travelling for disputing the matches.

Action: The ad-hoc Working Group “fines and regulations” to examine this issue and to propose new possible regulations.

Indesit European Champions League

Reggio Calabria

The Italian team of Reggio Calabria has been disqualified from the competition because of chronic and repeated inadequacy surrounding its home matches’ organisation. Indeed, when a team registers in the European Champions League, it automatically commits itself to meet all requirements laid down in the “Terms & Conditions”. In spite of the numerous reminders from the CEV supervisors and the attempts of coordination of the CEV Office the organising conditions have not been respected.

Decision: The decision taken by the ECC is approved by the BoA.

Mrs Riet OOMS, CEV Vice-President and President of the ECC, underlines also the importance of uniqueness of the regulations and conditions that have to be accepted by all the participating clubs.

Action: The ad-hoc Working Group consisting of the Presidents and Secretaries of ECC, ESOC and EBVC are to examine this issue and to propose new possible sanctions.

Bergamo

Further to the CEV Supervisors reports, the examination of the pictures sent to the CEV and the TV Coordinator report, the competition hall of Bergamo may not fulfil the requirements laid down in the current regulations.

Action: To organise an additional inspection visit of this sports hall to ensure it is now fulfilling the regulations (publicity, TARAFLEX, equipment...).

Two female players of the team of Bergamo produced a positive doping test result during a national competition match.

The CEV President announces to his BoA colleagues that the management of doping cases must be revised, so that CEV and the FIVB can be informed without any delay.

Regarding the sanction inflicted to both Italian players, the CEV cannot interfere, since the detected products do not appear on the FIVB list of prohibited substances.

Decisions:

To draft a guideline for the attention of every federation in order to inform them about the official process for managing doping cases. (EMC)

To study the legal consequences of this process and the validity of the set conditions. (ELC)

To inform all affiliated federations regarding their communication duties towards the CEV and the FIVB.

RUS Letter

As far as the letter from the RUS Federation is concerned, the CEV President stresses that the CEV does not want a list of fines but, on the contrary, has to decide on sanctions because often the National Federations and clubs do not act according to the rules.

Appointment of the Final Four Organisers

Mrs Riet OOMS indicates that the CEV Office received various application letters:

- CEV Cup Men: 2 applications received after the deadline: Cuneo (ITA) & Belgorod (RUS)
- CEV Cup Women: 2 applications after the deadline: Thessaloniki (GRE) & Vicenza (ITA)
- TTC Men: some applications provided the Team is qualified
- TTC Women: only one application has been sent on time, Baku (AZE)
- ECL Men: some applications provided the Team is qualified
- ECL Women: 3 applications received after the deadline: Nafta Gaz Pila (POL), Uralochka Ekaterinburg (RUS) & Eczacibasi Istanbul (TUR).

Considering that there is no official application for the TTC Men and the ECL Men, the ECC President proposes to postpone the deadline until 15th February 2002, 12h00 – day after the results of the first ¼ Final matches.

Decision:

Organisers of the Finals 2001/2002:

- CEV Cup Men: Cuneo, ITA
- CEV Cup Women: Vicenza, ITA
- TTC Men: Czestochowa, POL
- TTC Women: Baku, AZE
- Indesit ECL Men: Opole, POL
- Indesit ECL Women: Istanbul, TUR

European Beach Volleyball

Laciga Emotions Contract

The contract between the CEV and the Marketing Agency, Laciga Emotions, is ready to be signed. It will ensure the organisation of the U-20 competitions for the next three years:

- 2002: Switzerland
- 2003: Austria
- 2004: Slovenia

The CEV President takes the opportunity to announce that interested federations can still apply to organise the 2004 U-20 Championships. In addition, Mr Miguel QUINTANA, President of



the EBVC, wishes to point out that the organising conditions remain almost unchanged from previous years' "Terms and Conditions".

Mr Jan REK, ERC President, refers then to a letter sent by the CEV EBVC Co-ordinator, Mr Erik SCHMIDT, which lays down that Laciga Emotions will organise the U-20 competitions provided ERC agrees to play without line-judges up to the semi-final matches.

Decision: Before signing the contract with Laciga Emotions, Mr MEYER will analyse the point related to the payment of the line-judges.

2002 Circuit with Challenge

The CEV President, Mr André MEYER, informs the BoA Members that this issue has been thoroughly studied and discussed by the ExCom during its last meeting. A brief explanation of the situation is reported as follows:

- The organisation of the 2002 European Beach Volleyball Circuit has been granted to the marketing agency, Challenge, through the agreement signed in April 2001.
- Despite a contractual provision stating that the promoter has to send to the CEV the final competition calendar – including the contracts signed by each organiser - before the 30th November 2001 at the latest, CEV did not receive any information from Challenge by this date.
- Several new deadlines were then granted to Challenge. The last reminder was sent by registered letter.
- On 21st January 2002, Challenge was still not in a position to guarantee the organisation of 3 pre-qualification tournaments and 1 Final. They informed CEV that they are facing some difficulties and are consequently ready to revise the terms of the contract or even cancel it.

Taking into account the above situation, the ExCom members believe the partnership with Challenge should cease. Indeed, Mr MEYER points out that in addition to those current troubles, Challenge still owe money to the organisers from previous seasons.

Decision: The BoA unanimously proposes to cease the partnership with Challenge and start the necessary legal procedure.

European Beach Volleyball Official Regulations

Referring to the amendments presented for the Senior European Beach Volleyball Championships regulations and the Senior Technical Requirements for Beach Volleyball competitions, the CEV President invited his colleagues of the BoA to express all remarks and comments. Some modifications were registered.

Decision: The Senior European Beach Volleyball Championships regulations are adopted.

The Senior Technical Requirements for Beach Volleyball competitions are adopted.

Action: To make the necessary corrections and send the final version of both documents to all CEV affiliated federations.

Management

Working Procedures

The CEV President refers to the appendix entitled "Processes and Organisation within the CEV Institutions" issued by the CEV Office in collaboration with the ExCom and distributed to all officials.

This document consists of a series of recommendations on how to handle the work of a commission, a working group and the CEV Office. Mr MEYER stresses that those guidelines

are very important, especially for the new members who joined one of the CEV organs, and believes it will be useful for clarifying and improving the duties of every partner.

Seminar for Jury Members during the BoA meeting in June (CRO) - Dr J. HRONEK Handbook Project

First of all the CEV President points out that this kind of seminars is necessary for the CEV, as Jury Members always have to face some problems before the start of a tournament.

The next Board of Administration meeting, taking place in Croatia in June 2002, will be followed by a seminar during which all BoA members - particularly the newcomers - will be informed of their tasks if they are nominated to the jury of a competition.

The seminar is being organised and co-ordinated by Mr Jan HRONEK, CEV Vice President in charge of Administrative Affairs, who is also responsible for the production of the jury-related handbook. Mr MEYER reminds all BoA members that the attendance of all BoA members at this seminar is mandatory.

Projects

CEV Exchange and database of promotion support

Based on a very interesting proposal made by the Dutch Federation during the last XXII CEV General Assembly, Mr André MEYER announces that the CEV will co-ordinate and collect from all federations the existing material concerning all Volleyball activities. This information will be gathered in a comprehensive database, which will be put at the disposal of all CEV members.

This new project will be carried out by a new Working Group - headed by Ms Snjezana MIJIC - as soon as the NED Federation has sent supplementary information.

Closing of the Meeting

There being no further business, the CEV President, Mr André MEYER, thanks all Members of the Board of Administration for their active co-operation and asks them to send their supplementary comments regarding the official regulations.

Moreover, Mr MEYER expresses once again his sincerest thanks to the Italian Volleyball Federation and to Mr Carlo MAGRI in particular for having hosted the BoA meeting in such good conditions.

CEV BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING – ZAGREB (CRO) – 15TH JUNE 2002

The following members are attending:

President:	André Meyer (LUX)
Snr Vice-President & Treasurer:	Philip Berben (BEL)
Vice-Presidents:	Snjezana Mijic (CRO) - Riet Ooms (NED) - Aleksandar Boricic (YUG) - Jan Hronek (CZE) - Carlo Magri (ITA)
Members:	Thanassis Beligratis (GRE) - Janusz Biesiada (POL) - Aloys Fischer (SUI) - Manfred Holzgraefe (GER) - Vladimir Patkin (RUS) - Maris Pekalis (LAT) - Miguel Angel Quintana (ESP) - Jan Rek (SUI) - Fabio Sassi (ITA) - Jacques Shaw (FRA) - Andreas Stavrou (CYP)



Opening of the Meeting

The CEV President, Mr André MEYER, opens the meeting and welcomes his colleagues of the Board of Administration (BoA) in Zagreb (CRO). He informs them about the positive outcome of the Executive Committee session, which was held the day before, also in the Palace Hotel here in Zagreb. Moreover, Mr André MEYER expresses his sincerest thanks to the Croatian Volleyball Federation and especially to Mr Zdeslav BARAC, Vice-President, for hosting and organising this important meeting in Zagreb.

Approval of the Agenda

The CEV President adds a new item "FIVB Congress".

There being no particular remark, the agenda of the BoA meeting is unanimously approved.

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on 1st February 2002 at Jelly Hotel in Milan (ITA)

The CEV President explains that the BoA is not requested to approve this document.

The minutes must be considered only as an informative report.

No particular remark is formulated.

Approval of the Minutes of the Board of Administration Meeting held on 2nd & 3rd February 2002 at Jelly Hotel in Milan (ITA)

Mr BELIGRATIS (GRE) points out that his intervention regarding the "Circuit with Challenge" is not reported in the minutes. Indeed, he mentioned that, based on the initial contract signed between CEV and Challenge, CEV has to intervene in order to ensure that Challenge will settle their debts to the Italian and Spanish federations.

The CEV President apologises for this omission and indicates that the minutes will be amended accordingly.

In absence of additional comment, the minutes are adopted.

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on 20th April 2002 at Forum Intercontinental Hotel, Nicosia (CYP)

Mr SHAW (FRA) would like to get some clarification about the appointment of the Final Four Organisers process, as two options have been mentioned.

Mr André MEYER informs the President of the French Federation that the ExCom Members kept in mind both options considering that no solution could be found on how to guarantee that the organiser of the 1/4 final progresses to the final without their opponent losing all possibilities to qualify.

No further remark is expressed.

Activity Report of the Executive Committee Members

Mr MEYER informs the Board of Administration about the various activities he carried out since the previous BoA meeting in Milan.

FIVB Board of Administration Meeting: this meeting, held from 3rd to 5th April 2002 at the FIVB Headquarters, was very fruitful.

The CEV President has been appointed as member of the FIVB Sports Events Commission, the newly established council, which should replace the existing FIVB Sports Organising Committee. A new aspect of this new organ is that some national leagues (ITA, FRA GER...)

are invited to take part in the meeting. Mr André MEYER hopes, in this regard, that the FIVB Congress will also appoint federations and players representatives.

The new Sports Events Commission will convene once a year (January of each year) but Working Groups could be set up to deal with special issues.



Czech spiker Premysl Kubala in action during a match of the European Championship in 2002

With regard to the 2002, 2003 and 2004 competition calendar, the CEV President indicates that after discussion with all continental Presidents, especially with regard to the qualifications system of the Continental championships, the competition calendar has been fixed as follows:

- Period for national championships: 1st weekend of October to 1st weekend of May
- Period for national teams: 2nd weekend of May to end of September
- Period for world championships and continental championships: 1st Sept. / 15th Oct
- Start of the World League: 3rd weekend of May
- Qualifications: world championships: end of August prior to the year of the competition; continental championships: end of September prior to the year of the competition

The FIVB Board of Administration officially approved the proposal of the Executive Committee to dismiss Mr Lasse SVENSSON from all official duties within the FIVB, the CEV and the Swedish Volleyball Association. In order to provide the vacancy of a CEV BoA Member and according to the CEV regulations, new elections will be carried out in November 2002 on the occasion of the XXIII CEV General Assembly.

Activity Reports (including adoption of the minutes)

Legal Commission – Mr Aloys FISCHER

The Legal Commission (ELC) met in Thessaloniki (GRE) on 11th May 2002.

Mr FISCHER informs his colleagues on the BoA of the main issues discussed by his commission during their last meeting:

Failure to organise CEV competitions: sanctions against national federations

The Commission proposes that in this case 2 kinds of consequences are foreseen by the CEV:

1. Disciplinary sanctions already provided for in art. 15 of the statutes
2. Compensation for damages which the CEV should ask from the NF which failed to organise the event, depending on the competition.

The ELC President points out that for these purposes, some amendments in the CEV competitions regulations have to be made.

Unsportsmanlike Conduct during the CEV Championships: Sanctions.

According to the CEV Statutes, the CEV Code of Discipline, and the CEV Internal Regulations, the CEV ExCom and BoA are able to impose further sanctions on the person, who committed an unsportsmanlike offence.

The ELC consequently believes that there is no need to repeat the same provision in the regulations of all European competitions. Only a short reference of these above competences has to be added in the respective regulations.

In addition, with regard to the seminar for Jury Members, Mr Aloys FISCHER proposes that some information about the duties of the Jury Members in case of unsportsmanlike conduct during the different championships should be foreseen.

Code of Conduct of the FIVB: Discussion

The ELC President informs the members of the BoA that the ELC has no right to discuss the draft of the new FIVB Code of Conduct, but will consider this document for information only. Since it is still a draft, the ELC proposes to the BoA not to change the existing CEV Code of Discipline yet. However, after the final text will be approved by the FIVB Congress, the ELC will convene in order to discuss those new regulations and study the necessary amendments in the CEV existing regulations.

Doping Cases at a National Level, Legal Consequences inside CEV

The President of the ELC announces to his colleagues of the BoA that during the FIVB Board of Administration Meeting held from 3 to 5 April 2002, the FIVB indicated that it would only take into account anti-doping controls that are carried out in accordance with the FIVB or WADA regulations.

The ELC members agree that since doping is a huge problem for sport, which needs to be faced in the same way by sports organisations, no decision can be proposed before taking note of all recent decisions of the FIVB BoA.

The CEV President, Mr André MEYER, thanks and congratulates the ELC President for the excellent work done by his commission.

Mr Jacques SHAW, President of the French Federation, points out that, in addition to the FIVB/CEV regulations, every national federation is committed to its own national legislation. Mr BERBEN acknowledges that this situation is problematic and suggests that CEV should examine the exact position within Europe in order to avoid problems in future.

Action: To examine the situation of existing legislation across Europe by way of a questionnaire and to propose a solution to deal with this problem in future. (ELC).

Moreover, Mr Andreas STAVROU, President of the Cyprus Volleyball Association, adds that the list of prohibited substances provided by the FIVB is not regularly updated in line with the IOC changes.

Action: To define the anti-doping system in order to inform the European National Federations of the updated list of the IOC prohibited substances. (EMC)

Financial Commission – Mr Philip BERBEN

The President of the European Financial Commission (EFC), Mr BERBEN, announces to the BoA Members that he will only speak about the activities of the EFC since the last BoA meeting held in Milan.

The new European Financial Commission met for the first time in Luxembourg on 1st June 2002. Mr Karl HANZL, Secretary of the Commission, is preparing the minutes of this meeting.

The main activity of the European Financial Commission, this time was to study and to advise the BoA with regard to the budget 2003 for the XXIII General Assembly in November.

European Cups Commission – Mrs Riet OOMS

The President of the European Cups Commission (ECC) wishes to highlight the main activities she carried out since last February 2002.

First of all, she is very satisfied with the excellent organisation of the 6 European Cups finals, which were all very successful especially in terms of TV coverage and number of spectators.

Mrs Riet OOMS participated in two of the finals, as CEV Technical Delegate in Poland and CEV Representative in Italy.

As far as the ECC meeting is concerned, Mrs Riet OOMS reminds her colleagues that the ECC Members gathered in Germany from 5 to 6 April 2002. As the minutes of the meeting have already been issued and distributed to all BoA Members, the ECC President takes the opportunity to raise the different proposals made by the commission and ask the BoA about their decision: Provisional Transfers.

Decision: Provisional transfers will no longer be accepted for European Cups matches.

Action: According to the minutes of the FIVB BoA meeting, draft a letter to inform the National Federations about the procedures.

Fines: The ECC wants to be informed about the fines given to the teams participating in CEV clubs competitions, who do not correspond with the Supervisors or Technical Delegate's report.

Action: To ensure that the instructions of the Technical Delegate are strictly followed up and to take care that the respective Commissions (ECC and ESOC) and the CEV Treasurer are regularly informed.

The ECC wants to prevent for next season more than two teams from one country in the same Final Four tournaments.

Decision: No more than two teams from the same country will be able to participate in any final four tournament of the CEV Cups.

After discussion with the CEV Executive Committee and a second request of the national federations, the European Cups Commission decided to extend the registration of the Champions League to 20 teams for men and 16 teams for women. Teams involved in the Women's competition will also be exempt from any TV, marketing and registration fees. The Board of Administration agrees with this proposal, but a thorough study on the possible ways to develop the women's competition should be organised after the General Assembly.

As far as the Top Teams Cup is concerned, ECC proposes to reduce the League Round from 24 to 16 teams.

Nomination of the 2003 European Champions League Finals: The ECC President indicates that two options are possible for the organisation of the European Cups Finals. Up to now no solution has been found. This issue will be discussed again during the ECC Meeting and Drawing of Lots planned for 29th – 30th June 2002 in Luxembourg. The CEV President informs the meeting that organisers have been found for the Men's European Champions League, Italy, and Spain and Russia for the Women's competition 2003.

European Sports Organising Commission – Mr Fabio SASSI

The President of the European Sports Organising Commission (ESOC), Mr SASSI, points out that since the last Board of Administration meeting, the main activities of his commission were linked to the qualifications of the Junior and Senior European Championships.

Working Group Regulations and Fines

On 27 April 2002, Mr SASSI and Mr MULHEIMS took part in the very first meeting of this new working group.

C Group Qualification Tournaments: During the tournament in Andorra, the Technical Delegate did not check the licences. The team of AND played a match where only 6 players had a valid licence. As an immediate consequence, the AND team lost its match and was not authorised to continue playing in the competition. The Technical Delegate sent a letter to the CEV Office explaining the situation.



Action: Technical Delegate was found at fault (ESOC).

FIVB BoA Minutes

The ESOC President indicates that important decisions have been taken during this session and wishes to comment on some of them: an injured player before the preliminary inquiry until the general technical meeting can be substituted (two players in maximum). In this case, the "02 - Form" will have to be used for every player substituted.

Action: To study this issue and present some proposals to the next BoA meeting for a possible introduction in the forthcoming championships. (ESOC)

- Twelve players must be registered for FIVB competitions. In case less than twelve players are registered, sanctions will be imposed by the FIVB. However, the CEV is free to choose whether to adopt the same regulations or not. The number of players for other competitions will be decided by the respective authorities according to the level of the competition (national, continental or world).
- The confederations must adopt the ad-hoc qualification system for the Junior World Championships. In this regard, the CEV President adds that the FIVB will no longer provide a financial contribution to the organiser but will cover the travel costs of the teams, who qualify.

2003-2004 World Clubs Championships

The men's competition is planned for the third weekend of October 2003.

The CEV President takes the opportunity to specify the European qualification system for the World Clubs Championship. Teams qualified for this competition: if possible, the winner of the European Champions League, 4 more continental champions, one team from the organising country and 2 wild cards decided by the FIVB according to TV and marketing opportunities.

European Beach Volleyball Commission – Mr Miguel QUINTANA

The President of the European Beach Volleyball Commission (EBVC) informs the BoA Members that Beach Volleyball activities are in a tough corner for the 2002 season.

The Beach Volleyball Conference planned in Croatia did not take place as planned because of organisational problems. The EBVC President and his commission believe that there were too many people involved in this project for not respecting all CEV requirements and preferred thus to cancel the event.

Cancellation of CEV - Challenge contract

This situation has created great uncertainty regarding the Beach Volleyball season. The respective lawyers of the marketing agency and CEV are still in contact in order to find the best compromise for both parties. In this regard, the CEV President indicates that he will explain in detail the development of the situation later in the meeting.

Olympic Qualification System 2004

FIVB has adopted a new process that will recognise the continental rankings in the Olympic Qualification system. The results of the continental championships can be used for the Olympic Qualifications. Players (2 teams per continent) will have the possibility to choose the best result among the last two European Beach Volleyball Championships - in this case, results of 2003 or 2004 will be taken into account.

Mr QUINTANA points out also that the FIVB issued the "Olympic Qualification Process". This document is dealing with all technical matters related to the Olympic Games. Referees are

called, in particular, to pay special attention to the new Olympic criteria (courts sizes, sets number per match...) indicated in the document.

New Development Strategy

The President of the EBVC indicates that strong support from all areas of the CEV is necessary to enable the European Beach Volleyball Commission to reach its targets. Mr QUINTANA calls on all CEV partners for direct involvement and to give attention to Beach Volleyball issues.

Finally, the CEV President, Mr André MEYER, would like to remind the European Beach Volleyball Commission but also to all CEV Commissions members that any decisions taken by the CEV Board of Administration should not be contested. If the commission members disagree with a specific BoA resolution, the President of the Commission has the responsibility to ensure it is followed and accepted by his colleagues.

European Medical Commission – Dr Manfred HOLZGRAEFE

Dr HOLZGRAEFE could not attend the meeting because of professional commitments.

A reminder has been sent to the Turkish Volleyball Federation in order to get all information regarding the IOC anti-doping laboratory for the 2003 European Championships.

Mr QUINTANA wonders about the medical system regulating the anti-doping tests during the Beach Volleyball competitions.

Action: To inform Dr HOLZGRAEFE about Mr QUINTANA's request.

European Refereeing Commission – Dr Jan REK

First of all, the President of the European Refereeing Commission (ERC), Dr Jan REK, wishes to make some general remarks about the ERC meeting held on 26th January 2002 in Paris (FRA):

Analysis of the ERC Administrative Activities

All activities are checked by their meaning and usefulness. The ERC workflows shall be optimised according to the motto: "as little as possible and as many as necessary".

Drawing-up of practical check and instructions lists are prepared

The ERC President believes that if a comprehensive check-list is prepared, problems during competitions would be avoided.

Referees Assessment

For internal needs, referees are being divided in different groups according to their abilities and performances in order to provide the finals with the best referees in Europe.

Assistant Scorer

When the Assistant Scorer is present in a competition, they should also use the official "libero form" for the replacement of the libero player.

International Referees

The ERC decided to appoint the International Referees also as Line Judges as from the very beginning of the competition (starting with the preliminary pools).

Theory Examination

Every referee's rule knowledge will be checked before the competition.



Referee Clinics

In accordance with the last BoA decision, Dr Jan REK and his colleagues of the ERC prepared a specific form to be distributed to all organisers. This new system, intended to control the infrastructure and procedures of the Referee Clinics, must be included in the official regulations as a new rule. (The Presidents of the Jury have to be informed about this request).

Neutral Referees

The European Cups match played between two teams from the same country must be officiated by neutral referees.

Referees Per Diem

The ERC President thanks the CEV for the very fast implementation of the new Referees' per diem:

- 60 € for matches during the week
- 50 € for matches on weekend (Friday, Saturday and Sunday)
- 33 € for the 2002 Junior Final Tournaments

Internet – CEV Home page

In cooperation with the CEV Office, ERC is currently studying the possibility to use the CEV website to display all the refereeing information. In addition to the existing referees' addresses, ERC would like to make the updated Guidelines, Instructions, Match Protocol available only in electronic form. Additional documents such as Invitations to Seminars and Minutes of Seminars should be displayed also on the CEV website as quickly as possible.

In this regard, Dr Jan REK takes the opportunity to officially thank the CEV Office for its very good and professional collaboration.

2002 Referee Seminar

The Volleyball Seminar took place in Montreux (SUI) from 7th to 9th June 2002 in connection with the Montreux Volley Master. The organisation was excellent; 29 countries, 5 ERC Members and 4 ad-hoc Members were present.

The Beach Volleyball Seminar will be organised on the occasion of the FIVB Tournament in Gstaad from 21st to 23rd June 2002. The ERC invited Mr Casanova (POR), responsible for Beach Volleyball refereeing affairs in FIVB. Representatives of 26 countries are expected.

Mr Fabio SASSI regrets a lack of information concerning the duties of the Special Refereeing Commission during final tournaments. He proposes to the ERC President that a checklist informing organisers about the tasks of judge referees should be distributed to the Organising Committee in particular.

Decision: Instructions for the Special Refereeing Commission will be included in the Handbook to be issued after the seminar for Jury Members.

Institutions

BoA new Candidatures – CEV XXIII General Assembly

Further to Mr Lasse SVENSSON's dismissal and according to the CEV Statutes, elections must be carried out during the XXIII General Assembly in order to appoint a new member of the Board of Administration for the next 3 years. 5 candidates have applied for the vacancy in question by deadline of 9th June 2002:

Name	First Name	NF	Date of Birth
Mr SEYIDOV	Hasan	AZE	10/07/75

Mr AKHVLEDIANI	Levan	GEO	10/03/69
Mr LAZAROV	Dancho	BUL	23/07/43
Mr G. DE ARAUJO	Vicente	POR	01/12/51
Mr HALANDA	Lubor	SVK	30/08/54

CEV Calendar 2003/2004

2003: Mr Fabio SASSI points out that CEV is facing big problems with the completion of the Senior European Championships Qualification Tournaments.

Action: According to the decision taken during the FIVB Events Council, the CEV President will ask the FIVB for exceptional permission to play the Final Qualification Tournament during the second weekend of May 2003.

2004: a lot of activities are concentrated in May 2004. The ESOC President suggests thus to postpone some events to the end of August or beginning of September.

Action: To propose a new qualification system for the 2005 European Championships. (ESOC)

Youth European Championships Final Round

Further to the proposal of the French Volleyball Federation, youth competitions should be split by gender. One Men and One Women competition organised by two different national federations.

Action: To make a final proposal for the Youth European Championships 2005 to be submitted to the BoA for approval. (ESOC)

European Group C Activities

The ESOC President informs his colleagues of the BoA that he has received no news from the President of the European Group C federations.

Mr STAVROU indicates that, unfortunately, no concrete decision has been taken during the last Group C General Assembly. However, he proposes to Mr André MEYER, CEV President, to meet the Group C President and General Secretary in order to discuss the future of Volleyball in those countries.

The CEV President acknowledges that the Group C situation has to be seriously analysed, since the CEV contribution was granted provided Group C activities be developed and improved.

BVA Activities Calendar

This document has been distributed to all BoA Members. The CEV President points out that the first listed event must be corrected, as both Boys and Girls Beach Volleyball Championships will be held from 22 to 23 June 2002 in Bulgaria.

Decision: To adopt the BVA Calendar as presented and to integrate it as full part of the CEV Official Competitions Calendar.

Action: To officially include the BVA Calendar into the CEV Competitions Calendar.

FIVB Code of Conduct

The ELC President, Mr Aloys FISCHER, makes some comments about this document. However, referring to what he mentioned previously, during the presentation of his activity report, he believes it is not useful discussing this document further as it is still a draft version.



Future of the EVT

One of the most important points in the FIVB Code of Conduct is the cancellation of the EVT.

The CEV President makes it clear that the basic idea was to create an instance at continental level, to give the possibility for any CEV members to solve any sports problems they may face.

Moreover, the CEV Senior Vice President, Mr BERBEN, underlines that the EVT was introduced mainly because it is important to be in line with the jurisprudence regarding the Luxembourg Law concerning non-profit associations (A.S.B.L.). Indeed, this jurisprudence contains, in case, the necessity to put at the disposal of all members of an A.S.B.L. an independent body to judge in case of conflicts, complaints...

Tournament Approval: Recognition, Fee, Fines

Mr Philip BERBEN refers to the "Tournament Approval" issue and announces that further to the study of the EFC, the ExCom proposes the following:

- To inform all National Federations that all tournaments organised in their country, in which teams come from more than two European countries, must be previously approved by CEV
- To maintain the existing regulations (to be updated);
- To reduce the registration fee for all Senior tournaments and cancellation of the administrative fee for Junior tournaments;
- To impose a very high financial sanction - decided by CEV - to all cases, who do not provide the required information to CEV.
- Tournaments officially authorised by CEV will be published in the CEV newsletter and also on the Internet.

Action: To amend the existing regulations according to this new proposal (CEV Office).

Financial Matters

Accounts 2001 – Budget 2003

Mr Philip BERBEN, CEV Senior Vice-President and Treasurer informs his colleagues of the BoA that the final position for the year 2001 is not yet known, as there are entries still to be entered by the External Auditor.

As far as the 2003 budget is concerned, the CEV Treasurer indicates that several meetings have been held in Luxembourg together with the CEV President, Mr MOTTIER and Mrs COLLIGNON, (CEV Bookkeeper). Before the budget 2003 is finalised, Mr BERBEN would like to comment and explain some important aspects to the BoA.

In addition, Mr BERBEN expresses his thanks to Mrs COLLIGNON for her assistance and accuracy.

Decision:

- To approve the presented budget for 2003.
- To submit the proposed 2003 budget to the next CEV General Assembly after having made the necessary corrections – external auditors report. (CEV Office)

Regarding the "Publicity on Uniforms" regulations, the CEV Treasurer proposes to update the financial provisions of those regulations and thus to define in Euros the following amounts:

	M / W Seniors	M / W Juniors	M / W Youths
CAT. A	2,746 EUR [†] (4,000 CHF)	1,373 EUR [†] (2,000 CHF)	69 EUR [†] (100 CHF)
CAT. B	1,373 EUR [†] (2,000 CHF)	686 EUR [†] (1,000 CHF)	69 EUR [†] (100 CHF)
CAT. C	686 EUR [†] (1,000 CHF)	343 EUR [†] (500 CHF)	69 EUR [†] (100 CHF)

[†]Handling charge included

[‡]Handling charge

Mr BERBEN, EFC President, reminds the BoA Members that his commission has investigated the financial consequences of a possible increase of the Per Diem for every CEV Official on duty during the European Championships. Based on the feedback of this study, the CEV Treasurer proposes to adopt the following provisions:

Per Diem allocated to every Official

- € 50 (basic per diem) for activity during the weekend (Friday, Saturday or Sunday);
- € 60 for activities, which take place ONLY on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

The day of arrival and departure will count each as one full day and will thus be considered for the payment of the Per Diem.

Period of implementation

- For the Per Diem paid by the organising clubs/national federations, the increase will become effective at the beginning of each new edition of competition (European Cups 2002, European Championships 2003);
- For the Per Diem paid by CEV, the increase will become effective as from 1st January 2003.

Decision: To adopt the provisions as presented by Mr BERBEN, CEV Treasurer.

Old Debts

The final national federation with outstanding debts to the CEV has presented a new request.

After an open discussion during their meeting, the ExCom Members decided on the following proposal to be accepted by the BoA:

1. To accept the payment of 500 CHF, deadline 1st November 2002;
2. To accept the payment of the debit balance over the 5 next years, without interest;
3. To insist on the payment of the FIVB and CEV annual membership fees;
4. To inform the national federation that failure to follow the above provisions, the CEV will proceed to a suspension process.

Decision:

- To accept the proposal made by the ExCom members.
- To inform the national federation of these provisions and to send the respective agreement. (CEV Office)

In case of non-respect of one of these provisions, immediate sanctions will be taken.



Communication

Working Group Media

Mr BORICIC, President of the Working Group Media, informs the BoA Members that his Working Group will meet at the end of June.

The CEV President underlines the fact that the FIVB Board of Administration granted a 6-month period to the confederations to create a communication network for all journalists and other media. In this regard, Mr BORICIC requires the BoA to approve the final list of the CEV Working Group Media Members.

Decision: To approve the Member list presented by Mr Aleksandar BORICIC.

In addition, Mr MEYER points out that in future, the CEV will send all documents via email, so that everybody will receive documents at the same time. This project has to be started as quick as possible.

CEV Website Development

The basic idea is to celebrate the 30th CEV Anniversary with the presentation of a brand new CEV website. However, the CEV President specifies that this project will be handled in an optimal way in order to avoid further problems arise in future.

The main objectives of this project is to create a complete, modern tool, available to everybody, which will increase the use of the powerful database and improve the exchange of information between CEV and key partners (National Federations, Clubs, Medias, etc.).

2001/2002 Junior European Championships

Poland – Men's Junior European Championships 2002

Mr Janusz BIESIADA, President of the Polish Federation, informs his BoA colleagues of the organisation progress of this competition and explains, among others, the reasons why some technical requirements do not meet the CEV regulations. Since the political troubles of the Polish Volleyball Federation, Mr BIESIADA had to adjust to the new decisions taken and has had no opportunity to change the dates and venue for this competition. However, taking into consideration that POL Association has organised many European events of a very high standard previously, Mr BIESIADA guarantees that these championships will also be successful.

After an open and in-depth discussion, the CEV President proposes to discuss in private with Mr Fabio SASSI, the CEV Senior Vice-President and the President of the POL Federation in order to make the final decision.

Decision: To exceptionally allow the POL Federation to organise the 2001/2002 Junior European Championships in the venue mentioned in the inspection visit report considering the special situation the POL Federation faced during the past few months and the good work this Federation did in the past by organising events for CEV.

To reduce by 25% the CEV financial support to the POL Federation.

Action: To inform every country involved in this tournament about this special arrangement. (CEV Office)

2002/2003 Senior European Championships

The Men's Senior European Championships 2002/2003 will be organised in Germany, whereas the Women's competition will be held in Turkey.

TUR

As far as the women's championships are concerned, an inspection visit has been carried out by Mr SASSI, Mr PEKALIS and Dr HRONEK. The report of this inspection dated 3rd - 4th May has been issued and distributed to all those concerned. Mr SASSI underlines that in general from his point of view, the event seems to be well prepared. However, he would like to stress that the nomination of the TUR Volleyball Federation President, Mr Can, and the Organising Committee President, Mr AZARBOY, to the Jury is not possible. Moreover, Dr HRONEK points out that one remaining problem for this competition concerns the IOC Laboratory, which is still not known.

Decision: To send a letter to the TUR Federation requesting them to inform CEV about the Laboratory that will carry out the anti-doping tests.

GER

As the German Federation is currently preparing the FIVB World Championships, it has been decided to postpone the inspection visit to review the preparation for the 2003 Senior European Championships until the end of September, after the FIVB competition.

DEN Request

The DEN Federation requested the CEV to take over the costs related to the extra security measures taken by the Danish public authorities during a 2002-2003 Senior European Championships qualification match against Israel.

Further to an active discussion among the members of the Executive Committee, the CEV President, Mr André MEYER proposed to the BoA to approve the following decision:

As these measures are clearly related to the respective policy of the country, the CEV cannot be held responsible of these expenses.

Decision: The BoA unanimously agrees not to interfere in the settlement of those costs.

In future, all similar request will be handled in the same way by the CEV Office.

Action: To inform the DEN Federation of the CEV decision

2002/2003 Youth European Championships

Mr Maris PEKALIS, in his capacity as Jury President of the Youth Boys and Girls European Championships 2003, was in charge of inspecting the preparation prior to the event. The Inspection Visit was held in Porec (CRO) from 12th to 14th June 2002. Mr PEKALIS distributes his report and informs to the BoA Members that all facilities meet the CEV regulations.

2005 Senior European Championships Final Round

The CEV President refers to the chart included in the agenda of the BoA meeting. He points out the withdrawal of the Turkish Federation on 6th May 2002. Six countries (CRO, DEN, POL, RUS, YUG and ITA) officially applied for the Senior Men's Championships while only one Federation (ESP) is willing to organise the Women's competition.

The procedures will be as follows:

- candidates will be invited to Luxembourg at the end of June to make their first official presentation
- after a first selection, inspection visits will be carried out
- appointment of the final organisers during the BoA meeting in November
- presentation of the final organisers proposal during the XXIII General Assembly BoA meeting in November



European Cups

Mrs Riet OOMS, President of the European Cups Commission, states that some items still have to be discussed - letters from the Cannes and Bergamo clubs. All cases will be settled during the ECC Meeting, which should be held a week later in Luxembourg the during the CEV Cups' drawing of lots.

Mrs OOMS adds that the preparation for the new season of the European Cups competitions is just starting. The registration deadline for all CEV Cups is fixed to 15th June 2002.

European Beach Volleyball

2002 Circuit

Further to the decision taken by the BoA during its last meeting in Milan, the CEV entered into negotiations with Challenge in order to cancel the contract. Several meetings have been organised between CEV and Challenge's respective lawyers, but no solution could be found.

Mr SCHURTENBERGER, President of the Swiss marketing agency GSM, came to Luxembourg and made a very interesting proposal to CEV. GSM promises to provide the CEV a tentative calendar in October 2002, with the final one with at least 4 venues confirmed by the promoters and the national Federations by 31st December 2002 at the latest.

Decision: The BoA fully agrees with the proposed partnership with GSM for the 2003/2004/2005 European Beach Volleyball Championships.

For the 2002 season, the CEV is still considering a possible organisation of the Final Round in the Netherlands. A proposal from Switzerland and Belgium will also be studied.

Decision: To financially support the organisation of the 2002 Final Round, the 100,000 Euro prize money will be paid by CEV.

Activity Calendar

Senior European Beach Volleyball Championships: two Senior Open Tournaments will be held in Antalya (TUR) from 26th to 30th June 2002 and in Zagreb (CRO) from 22nd to 25th August 2002. The prize money of each tournament will amount to €15,000 and €10,000 respectively.

The U-20 European Beach Volleyball Championships will take place from 22nd to 25th August 2002 in Basel (SUI).

The U-18 European Beach Volleyball Cup will be held from 15th to 18th August 2002 in Illichivsk (UKR). This competition will act as a test event for this new age group competition.

Unfortunately, no organiser has been found for the U-23 event.

Projects

Working Group Regulations and Fines

The minutes of the very first meeting of this Working Group held on 27th April 2002 have been issued and distributed to everybody concerned.

The CEV President, Mr André MEYER, underlines the importance of this Working Group and asks Mrs Riet OOMS, chairwoman of this program, to work on this project carefully even, if needed, to extend beyond the deadline.

CEV Exchange and Database of Promotional Material

Further to the proposal of the Dutch Federation during the last General Assembly in Ostrava, Ms Snjezana MIJIC, CEV Vice-President, has been appointed to take care of this project.

Actions:

- To appoint supplementary BoA Members to work on this project.
- To present a time schedule and a task description for the next ExCom and BoA meetings.

CEV 30th Anniversary

The CEV President started to discuss with Mr Carlo MAGRI, President of the ITA Volleyball Federation, and the possibility of organising the event in Rome.

Dates to be confirmed:	January 2003, according to the FIVB events/meetings calendar.
Venue:	Rome (ITA)
Organising Committee:	FIPAV, Lega Roma, Roma Mayor, Mr André MEYER, Mr Philip BERBEN, Mr Olivier MOTTIER will be responsible of the organisation of this event.
Guests:	FIVB President, Presidents of the European National Federations, Honorary Members, Volleyball personalities and public authorities;
Suggestions:	Exhibition match between the Italian team (awarded best team of the XX century) vs. the Yugoslavian team (Olympic Games gold- medallist)
Gala Dinner:	Best Players Awards.

Decision: The Boa Members unanimously agree with the proposed nominations.

Miscellaneous

CEV XXIII General Assembly

Unfortunately, Mr Jacques ROGGE, IOC President, and Dr Rubén ACOSTA, FIVB President, cannot attend the CEV Congress because of other commitments.

Mr Marc THEISEN, President of the Olympic Committee of Luxembourg, will attend the opening ceremony of the General Assembly. Program:

ExCom meeting:	Thursday afternoon, 7th November
BoA Meeting:	Friday, 8th November
General Assembly:	Saturday, 9th November

The official lunch will be offered by MIKASA in the Hotel Novotel whereas the Gala Dinner will be held at the Atrium of the Hotel Sofitel.

The President of the European Legal Commission is requested to prepare the list for the credential and voting commission before the XXIII Congress.

Seminar for CEV Representatives

The CEV President, Mr André MEYER, stresses the importance of this seminar. Indeed, several problems that arose during the BoA meeting today are all directly linked to this item.

All BoA Members are bound to attend this seminar.

After that meeting, a handbook will be issued. For each appointment in a competition, CEV Officials will have to provide themselves with this handbook in order to always get the necessary information. Moreover, Dr Jan HRONEK will be responsible for ensuring a permanent update of this handbook.



List of Appointments

- Junior Men's EC - Poland 2002
 - Jury President: Philip BERBEN (BEL)
 - Secretary: Ivan IRO (SVK)
 - Coordinator BoA: Aloys FISCHER (SUI)
 - Coordinator ESOC: Pavel KUCERA (CZE)
 - Member ESOC: Slobodan MILOSEVIC (YUG)
- Junior Women's EC - Croatia 2002
 - Jury President: Jan HRONEK (CZE)
 - Secretary: Zvonimir SEMPER (CRO)
 - Coordinator BoA: Maris PEKALIS (LAT)
 - Coordinator ESOC: Gerard VAN DEN HOVEN (NED)
 - Member ESOC: Pierre MULHEIMS (LUX)
- Senior Men's EC - Germany 2003
 - Jury President: Philip BERBEN (BEL)
 - Secretary: Aleksandar BORICIC (YUG)
 - Coordinator BoA: Miguel QUINTANA (ESP)
 - Coordinator ESOC: Pierre MULHEIMS (LUX)
 - Jury Member: Aloys FISCHER (SUI)
 - Medical COM: Fernando AVILA ESPANA (ESP)
 - Member ESOC: Willy BRUNINX (BEL)
- Senior Women's EC - Turkey 2003
 - Jury President: Jan HRONEK (CZE)
 - Secretary: Snjezana MIJIC (CRO)
 - Coordinator BoA: Maris PEKALIS (LAT)
 - Coordinator ESOC: Fabio SASSI (ITA)
 - Jury Member: Achilleas MAVROMATIS (GRE)
 - Medical COM: Manfred HOLZGRAEFE (GER)
 - Member ESOC: Slobodan MILOSEVIC (YUG)
- Youth Boys EC - Croatia 2003
 - Jury President: Riet OOMS (NED)
 - Secretary: Jacques SHAW (FRA)
 - Member ESOC: Jussi JOKINEN (FIN)
- Youth Girls EC – Croatia 2003
 - Jury President: Maris PEKALIS (LAT)
 - Secretary: Vladimir PATKIN (RUS)

Member ESOC: Sebastian BENASCO (ESP)

Best European Players 2002

The awarding of the Best European Players will be held during the 30th CEV Anniversary ceremony in Rome (ITA).

A first proposal has been presented by Mr Aleksandar BORICIC, but this list can still be changed until the World Championships in Argentina.

FIVB Congress

Decision: To inform all National Federations by way of circular letter that their attendance or representation by proxy is mandatory. Otherwise, a suspension for one year from all volleyball activities will be inflicted. (CEV Head Office)

National Leagues

Mr BERBEN, CEV Senior Vice-President wonders about the exact definition of a "League". He believes that if the CEV can understand better how a league is working, their collaboration will be also improved.

In this regard, the CEV President, Mr André MEYER, asks Mrs Riet OOMS, CEV Vice-President, find out which federations are running any kind of Leagues and to study their organisation and management.

Appointment of the CEV Representatives – Beach Volleyball activities

Mr Miguel QUINTANA, EBVC President, reverts to the European Beach Volleyball competitions as no nomination has been done yet.

Decision: To proceed to the necessary nomination as soon as possible. (J. HRONEK and M. QUINTANA)

Closing of the Meeting

There being no further business, the CEV President, Mr André MEYER, thanks all Members of the Board of Administration for their active co-operation, which enabled to solve a lot of critical issues. Moreover, Mr MEYER expresses once again his sincerest thanks to the Croatian Volleyball Federation for having hosted the BoA meeting in such excellent premises.

CEV BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING – LUXEMBOURG - 8TH NOVEMBER 2002

The following members are attending:

President:	André Meyer (LUX)
Snr Vice-President & Treasurer:	Philip Berben (BEL)
Vice-Presidents:	Snjezana Mijic (CRO) - Riet Ooms (NED) - Aleksandar Boricic (YUG) - Jan Hronek (CZE) - Carlo Magri (ITA)
Members:	Thanassis Beligratis (GRE) - Janusz Biesiada (POL) - Aloys Fischer (SUI) - Manfred Holzgraefe (GER) - Vladimir Patkin (RUS) - Maris Pekalis (LAT) - Miguel Angel Quintana (ESP) - Jan Rek (SUI) - Fabio Sassi (ITA) - Jacques Shaw (FRA) - Andreas Stavrou (CYP)



Opening of the Meeting



The CEV President, Mr André MEYER [pictured left], opens the meeting and welcomes his colleagues from the Board of Administration (BoA) for their last meeting before the CEV General Assembly organised in Luxembourg (LUX).

Mr André MEYER introduces Mr Daniel BARTHELS recently hired as “IT Responsible” at the CEV Office. Mr BARTHELS will be in charge of managing all the existing CEV software, developing further applications, improving the CEV website and assisting the whole CEV staff, the

National Federations as well as the BoA Members when necessary.

In addition, the CEV President is pleased to announce that each one of his colleagues of the Board of Administration will get one bag kindly offered by the CEV partner CHAMPION.

Approval of the Agenda

The CEV President indicates that slight modifications have been made to the original agenda.

There being no particular remarks, the amended agenda of the BoA meeting is unanimously approved.

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on 31st August 2002 at Hotel Brioni Mare in Jesolo (ITA)

The CEV President reminds the BoA that these minutes must be considered only as an informative report.

No particular remarks are made.

Approval of the Minutes of the Board of Administration Meeting held on 15th June 2002 at Palace Hotel in Zagreb (CRO)

Regarding the item “doping cases at a national level”, Mr Manfred HOLZGRAEFE, President of the European Medical Commission (EMC), asks how the CEV can be sure that the European National Federations respect the latest IOC regulations. Indeed, the new IOC list is communicated to the national Organising Committee or to the National Federations only. The CEV is consequently unable to intervene in such cases, as it is never informed about the latest updates.

Action: To add a preamble before the CEV Medical Regulations:

- the national federation must automatically update their regulations to the new IOC provisions
- it is under the national federation responsibility to be permanently updated

Medical Questionnaire

Mr Aloys FISCHER, President of the European Legal Commission (ELC), announces to his colleagues of the BoA that his commission has drawn up a questionnaire, which has been sent

to all national federations. This project is aimed at knowing better the situation of each European national federation in terms of medical affairs (laws and regulations).

Action: To present a proposal to the next BoA Meeting in February according to the collected results. (ELC)

Anti-doping controls in Beach Volleyball

Mr Miguel Angel QUINTANA, President of the European Beach Volleyball Commission (EBVC) refers to his comments of the last BoA meeting and asks Mr HOLZGRAEFE to include Beach Volleyball activities in the EMC program. Indeed, the procedure to regulate anti-doping controls during Beach Volleyball competitions still has to be determined.

Action: To discuss this point on the occasion of the next EMC Meeting so that a decision can be taken by the BoA in February 2003. (EMC)

In absence of any additional comments, the minutes are adopted.

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on 26th October 2002 at Hotel Novotel, Luxembourg (LUX)

Considering that the minutes were released and distributed only one day before the BoA meeting, the CEV President refers to his activity report and underlines the most important items.

Referring to the seminar for CEV Officials held in Zagreb in August 2002, Mr MEYER announces that the related Handbook is being finalised and will be issued by the end of the year 2002.

The CEV President adds also that the Volume 1 "Directory, Statutes and Guidelines" of the CEV Reference Manual will be distributed to all BoA Members before the start of the second session. The same document will be handed over to every national federation's delegate as well on the occasion of the financial accreditations. In this regard, the CEV President congratulates the CEV staff for the work accomplished.

No further remark is expressed.

Activity Report of the Executive Committee Members

The ExCom Members give a short report of their respective activities carried out since the last meeting of the Board of Administration in Zagreb (CRO).

Mr Philip BERBEN, CEV Senior Vice President and Treasurer, informs his colleagues that most of his activities are related to financial issues.

Mr Jan HRONEK, CEV Vice President, proceeded to the nominations of CEV Officials for all competitions in January 2003 as well as for the Senior Men 's and Women's Championships Qualification Tournaments in May and June 2003. He made sure that every BoA member is nominated at least once a year. Only Mr Carlo MAGRI and Mr Thanassis BELIGRATIS received no nominations.

In this regard, the CEV President expresses his disappointment, as several reminders were needed to get the availability of all BoA Members.

Mr Aleksandar BORICIC, CEV Vice President, has been mainly busy with his duties of President of the CEV Working Group Media.

Mrs Riet OOMS, CEV Vice President and President of the European Cups Commission (ECC), indicates that a questionnaire will be sent out to all European National Federations in order to carry out an investigation into the different forms and make ups of the highest competitions played in each national federation in Europe (Professional Leagues in particular).



Activity Reports of the Commissions (including adoption of the minutes)

Legal Commission – Mr Aloys FISCHER

The next meeting of the European Legal Commission (ELC) will be organised in May 2003.

Mr A. FISCHER briefly informs his colleagues about the activities of the commission since its last meeting held on 11th May 2002.

Anti-doping Questionnaire

As already mentioned, the ELC has prepared a questionnaire regarding anti-doping tests and medical affairs. This document has been distributed to all European National Federations, 15 responses have been received thus far.

Financial Commission – Mr Philip BERBEN

The President of the European Financial Commission (EFC), Mr BERBEN, expressed apologies for issuing the minutes of the last EFC meeting held on 1st June 2002 in Luxembourg (LUX) late.

In this regard, he indicates that the activity report of the last EFC meeting have already been presented and discussed.

Moreover, Mr BERBEN informs his colleagues of the Board of Administration that the updated financial position of each European Commission has been distributed to every respective President.

European Cups Commission – Mrs Riet OOMS

The President of the European Cups Commission (ECC) indicates that she's entering into a pretty busy period with the start of the European Cups Competitions.

Mrs OOMS wishes then to highlight the main activities she has carried out since June 2002:

Drawing of Lots and Seminar on 28th June 2002, Luxembourg (LUX)

Besides the Drawing of Lots, a special meeting has been held in order to inform every national federation and club representatives about the European Champions League's technical requirements. The ECC President expresses her disappointment, as many sanctions were imposed on the participating clubs, who did not comply with the stipulated processes.

Mrs Riet OOMS refers to the "ECL Information Bulletin N°1" and confirms that the new competition system with the extension of the number of teams (20 for Men and 16 for Women) has been well received by all European Clubs.

Indesit European Champions League Official Presentation

The ECC President informs the BoA members that the European Cups Commission is currently preparing both seminars for statisticians and supervisors, which will take place in Rome (ITA) on 23rd and 24th November 2002.

Mr MEYER, CEV President, points out that even if fines are not always the "best way" to act, the CEV must be strict enough to ensure that all teams respect the rules.

European Sports Organising Commission – Mr Fabio SASSI

As the minutes of the last European Sports Organising Commission (ESOC) Meeting are not ready, the ESOC President, Mr SASSI, sums up the main activities of his commission since the last BoA Meeting organised in Zagreb (CRO).

ESOC Meeting in Belgrade (YUG) on 25/26 October 2002

Mr SASSI informs his colleagues that the commission had many difficulties to define the organisation of the Continental Olympic Qualification Tournaments. Three cases are under consideration.

European Youth Championships Final 2003 in Croatia (Boys 12 – 17 April 2003 - Girls 23 – 28 April 2003)

The inspection visit in Porec took place on the 12-14 June 2002 and was carried out by Mr Maris PEKALIS.

Meanwhile, the Croatian Volleyball Federation proposed to CEV to change the initial venue from Porec to Zagreb.

Decision: To accept the proposal of the Federation of Croatia.

Taking into account this new decision, Mr Maris PEKALIS, Jury President of this competition, wonders whether an additional inspection visit will be necessary or not. The ESOC President assures that the sports hall of Zagreb fulfils all the technical requirements.

Mr Sebastian BENASCO, officially appointed as Jury Member in the Final Round of the Youth European Championships, will not be able to fulfil his duty due to work commitments. ESOC proposes to replace him with Mr Pavel KUCERA (CZE) who is available on these dates.

Decision: To accept the proposal of ESOC.

Senior European Championships 2003 – Qualification Tournaments

The ESOC President confirms that the qualification tournaments for the Senior European Championships Category A will be played on the 2nd weekend of May 2003 (9th –11th May). Those dates have been already guaranteed by FIVB.

However, considering the competition calendar system, Mr SASSI underlines that qualification for Continental Championships should end in September prior to the year of competitions. Consequently, the European Senior Championships 2004-2005 Qualification Round must be held in September 2004.

The CEV President announces that he will put this point for discussion during the next FIVB Sports Event Council, which will be held on 13th January 2003.

Action: To prepare all information related to the competition calendar 2003/2004 before beginning of January 2003. (ESOC)

Proposal from the French Federation: The federation of FRA proposes a new system, which would require changing the competition formula of the final round to include 12 teams.

The ESOC President explains that his commission studied the possibility of implementing such a new system but still no concrete decision has been taken.

Action: To present a new competition formula for 2005 to the next BoA meeting planned in February 2003 so that the official application forms can be sent out in time to all European National Federations. (ESOC)

Moreover, Mr PEKALIS suggests that the proposal of the new competition system be communicated also to all National Federations in order to know their point of view.

European Beach Volleyball Commission – Mr Miguel QUINTANA

The President of the European Beach Volleyball Commission (EBVC) gives general feedback on the different Beach Volleyball competitions organised last summer.



CEV Senior Beach Volleyball Open held in Alanya (TUR) from 26th to 30th June 2002

The Final Report from the Technical Supervisor has been issued and distributed to all those concerned. Mr QUINTANA is very satisfied with the high-quality organisation of this tournament. The EBVC President underlines that such a positive result was made possible thanks to the professionalism and experience of the TUR Federation.

CEV Senior Beach Volleyball Open held in Zagreb (CRO) from 22nd to 25th August 2002

The EBVC President reminds us that the Final Report of this event has also been sent out to the BoA Members. Same remarks than for the competition in Turkey: perfect organisation, many spectators as well as great TV coverage.

CEV Beach Volleyball Cup U-18 held in Illichivsk (UKR) from 15th to 18th August 2002

Mr QUINTANA refers to the Official Communication n°3. Unfortunately, it has not been possible to issue the Final Report in time. Regarding this event, the EBVC President announces that, given the poor quality of water and food, the organisation was very good.

Senior European Championships Final Round held in Basel (SUI) from 29th August to 1st September 2002

The President of the European Beach Volleyball Commission points out that both Men's and Women's finals were perfectly organised, mainly thanks to the promoter Laciga Emotions. The Final Report of the Technical Supervisor adds more details about both events.

Meeting with GSM

On the occasion of the Senior European Championships Final Round in Basel, the President of the EBVC and the CEV Beach Volleyball Co-ordinator met the two representatives of the GSM agency and remained with very good impressions. Mr QUINTANA is very pleased to have had this first contact with these people whose ideas will be useful for developing the Senior Beach Volleyball Category in Europe.

FIVB World Council in September 2002

Mr QUINTANA has been nominated as member of the FIVB Permanent Committee. As a result, he took part in his first meeting organised in Lausanne (SUI) in October 2002. In this regard, Mr QUINTANA indicates that many changes have been considered during this meeting, namely in terms of Continental Competition Format (pool play and single elimination system maintained), Ranking, Wild Cards (only 1 card per team per Olympic period), Olympic Competition Format and Schedule (the seeding of the host country will change).

Referring to this matter, the CEV President adds that, on several occasions, he has informed the FIVB of the financial and technical problems such changes can entail and hopes that a solution will be found soon.

In addition, Mr MEYER points out that the EBVC Members would like to be more involved during the Beach Volleyball competitions.

Action:

- To add this point in the agenda of the next EBVC meeting.
- To propose a concept to improve the quality of the EBVC Members involvement.

Moreover, Mr HRONEK, CEV Vice-President, wonders what kind of award can be granted to the winner of the U-23 competition. Indeed, as for 2002, he is afraid that National Federations will not be interested to organise this competition in 2003.

Action: To analyse the possibility to have a prize money or not for the U-23 competition.

European Medical Commission – Dr Manfred HOLZGRAEFE

The President of the European Medical Commission informs his BoA colleagues of the various activities carried out by his commission since the last BoA meeting in Zagreb (CRO).

Anti-doping Regulations for the Senior European Championships

Further to the numerous problems faced during the competitions, the EMC decided to change the regulations. For instance, a special schedule has been drawn up in order to avoid late communication of anti-doping test results.

Gender List

Mr HOLZGRAEFE wants to adapt the CEV Gender tests approved list to follow the FIVB one. However, he is not in possession of the former list prepared by CEV and asks the CEV Office about this document.

Action: To check this list with the CEV Office.

Doctors' Sponsorship

The President of the European Medical Commission asks for financial support from CEV in order to train the doctors for the next European Beach Volleyball Championships.

Action: To discuss this point during the next ExCom Meeting.

2003 Senior European Championships

The EMC President would like to change his nomination with Mr AVILA ESPANA, so that he will officiate in Berlin instead of Turkey.

Decision: To accept this proposal.

Participation of Players during BoA Meeting

Mr HOLZGRAEFE refers to the intervention of Mr Peter BLANGE, Dutch Player, during the XXI General Assembly in Luxembourg and proposes to his colleagues of the CEV Board of Administration to invite former or current players to the BoA meetings in order to get their views.

Action: To discuss this point during the next ExCom Meeting.

European Refereeing Commission – Dr Jan REK

The President of the European Refereeing Commission (ERC), Mr REK, announces that the last ERC Meeting was held from 19th to 21st July 2002 in Luxembourg (LUX). The minutes have already been distributed to all people concerned. Then, he highlights the most important points:

Junior Balkan Championships

First of all, Mr REK informs the BoA Members that some referee delegates were asked to go to Turkey in order to observe referee candidates during the competition. However he learned that referee candidates had to pay \$60 per diem to the Turkish Federation. He believes that those conditions are not fair and unacceptable and wishes to find another solution for future competitions.

In this regard, Mr BELIGRATIS, President of the Balkan Association, wishes to make it clear that he was not informed about this matter before and assures all that such conditions are not provided for in the official regulations.



Score sheets

ERC plans to draw up a list of the names of the people who are authorised to sign the score sheets of candidate international referees.

English Knowledge

Mr REK reminds his colleagues that there are still some referees, especially from Turkey, whose basic English language knowledge is not good enough. He confirms that a one-year deadline has been set to enable them to improve their English. If no improvement is seen after this deadline, the referees in question will be removed from the list.

Action: To collaborate with the FIVB on how this problem can be better managed in the future.

European Volleyball and Beach Volleyball Referees Seminars 2002 in Montreux/Gstaad (SUI)

ERC proposes that for 2003 both seminars will be organised together - same date and same venue - to show that Beach Volleyball and Volleyball are part of the same family. However, separate seminars will be continued every two years in order to deal with more specific demands of each discipline.

Proposal of the ERC during its last meeting in Luxembourg to the BoA

As in Senior Championships, the Special Refereeing Commission (SRC) shall consist of 4 (four) members of the ERC (instead of 3) and one representative of the organising national federation, as secretary of the SRC for Junior and Youth competitions.

Decision: This proposal is accepted by the BoA.

Active Referees List

All European active referees have been listed according to their performances. This ranking will be for information only.

CEV Website

Together with the CEV Office, ERC has worked on the different forms and guidelines for refereeing delegates. Most of these documents are already available on the CEV website, while others are being finalised.

2003 Senior European Championships

According to the Inspection Visit Report, the refereeing clinic will be held in Berlin, where all referees will be accommodated. Mr REK points out that from a practical point of view, a session should be also arranged in each of the competition venues.

Proposal from the Asian Refereeing Commission President

A request has been made to the ERC President asking of the possibility to allow some Japanese referees to come and participate in official European matches. He also specified that all costs would be borne by the Japanese authorities.

Decision: To make a proposal and present it for discussion during the next BoA meeting in February 2003. (ERC)

European Working Groups

Working Group Marketing – Mr André MEYER

EUROSPORT: The CEV President, Mr MEYER, informs his colleagues of the BoA that contact has been established with EUROSPORT regarding a possible partnership during the Indesit European Champions League. He adds that the respective contract will be finalised very soon

as EUROSPOORT has confirmed its interest. The agreement with EUROSPOORT will also be extended for the 2002/2003 European Championships.

New Corporate Identity for CEV

The last Executive Committee decided to propose to the BoA the allocation of €135,000 in the Budget 2003 for the “Development of a new CEV Corporate Identity”. Mr BERBEN, CEV Senior Vice-President and Treasurer, provides some more details about this project.

Decision: To approve the proposal of the ExCom.

Indesit European Champions League 2002/2003

CEV have already signed an agreement with the Main and Gold sponsors. The proposed Silver sponsor will give its final answer shortly.

2003 Senior European Championships

TV and Marketing rights belong to ISA.

2003 European Beach Volleyball

TV and Marketing rights belong to GSM.

Working Group Fines and Regulations – Mrs Riet OOMS

Mrs OOMS indicates that a short meeting with Mr MULHEIMS and Mr ROMMES has been organised on Thursday 7th November 2002 and stresses that it is very difficult to have a common basis with the regulations of the FIVB. The Working Group will go on working out its different ideas and a final update should be presented to the next BoA meeting in February 2003.

Financial Matters

Mr BERBEN, CEV Senior Vice-President and Treasurer, announces that the accounts 2001 have been audited and were closed in July 2002. The final result of the accounting year 2001, which was under the jurisdiction of the past Board of Administration, shows a positive of CHF 268 660.

Old Debts

Mr BERBEN, informs his colleagues of the situation concerning the debts of the National Federations on 8th November 2002.

At the XXIII General Assembly and particularly during the financial accreditations, Mr BERBEN will analyse individually all critical positions directly with the federations concerned.

F.Y.R. of Macedonia

Further to the express request of this federation, the CEV have sent a financial proposal by mail. Despite several reminders, no information has been sent back to the CEV Office. Unfortunately, the federation will not be represented during the XXIII General Assembly.

Action: To send a letter to the Federation of the F.Y.R. of Macedonia informing them that the deadline for accepting the CEV financial proposal is extended up to 29th November 2002.

Armenia

Similarly, no response has been received from this federation.

Decision: To discuss this situation with the delegates of the Federation of Armenia during the Financial Accreditations before the XXIII General Assembly.



If there is no reaction from the ARM Federation, CEV will ask FIVB to take the necessary steps (expulsion). Finally, Mr BERBEN points out that the CEV Board of Administration has to be strict, but fair with all facing financial problems.

New CEV Accounting Plan

Mr BERBEN explains to the BoA members that the main items of the accounting plan have been split into several more specific sub-accounts. In this way, the CEV Treasurer will better control the budget as the new accounting plan gives much more details of every item (IECL, European Cups...) of the budget. In addition, Mr BERBEN states that in future, it will be also possible to have an overview of the accounts by season.

Proposal of the Internal Auditor, Mr Michel HENNO

While the CEV accounting is organised according to its accounting year, the statutory deadline of the National Federations to settle all their debts before their participation in the annual CEV Congress remains fixed at 31st December of the year preceding the Congress.

The 9 month period separating this deadline to the Congress represents a possible financial risk for CEV.

As a result, Mr HENNO proposes to set this deadline on 30th June of the year of the Congress.

Decision:

- To accept the proposal of the Internal Auditor.
- To present this proposal to the CEV XXIII General Assembly.

Institutions

FIVB Congress in Buenos Aires (ARG)

The CEV President, Mr MEYER, wishes to thank the Members of the Board of Administration as well as all the European National Federations for having attended the FIVB Congress in Argentina. Indeed, he is very pleased to note that 52 European National Federations out of 54 were represented during this successful Congress.

Approval of the Statutes of the Middle European Volleyball Zonal Association

On 19th October in Vienna (AUT), 8 National Federations located in central Europe expressed the wish to create a new Zonal Association: MEVZA – i.e. Middle European Volleyball Zonal Association.

On the basis of the statutes of this new association, which have been drawn up similarly to those of the Balkan Volleyball Association (except for the General Assembly) and according to the letters of agreement duly signed by the National Federations of Austria, Croatia, Slovenia, Slovakia, Hungary, Switzerland and the Czech Republic, the members of the Board of Administration decided on the following:

Decision:

- To accept, in principle, the creation of this second Zonal Association.
- To wait until a final examination by the European Legal Commission and accept the Statutes only as provisional ones.

The National Federations, who have sent a letter of agreement duly signed will only be recognised as official members of this association: AUT, CRO, SLO, SVK, HUN, SUI and CZE.

GER and POL are free to join this zone later on.

To insist that the main activities of a regional association should be focused on development projects for Youth and Junior competitions.

Report of the Balkan Volleyball Association

Mr BORICIC refers to the handbook "Balkan Volleyball Association Meeting" regarding the first BVA General Assembly, held on 2nd November 2002 in Chisinau (MLD), and informs his colleagues as follows:

- Mr BELIGRATIS (GRE) was unanimously elected President of the BVA and Mr CAN (TUR) was elected Vice-President.
- Implementation into all BVA competitions of the FIVB and CEV regulations.
- Financial sanctions of € 2,000 for Volleyball events and € 500 for Beach Volleyball events will be imposed to the National Federation cancelling its participation.
- Each National Federation affiliated to the BVA must participate in and undertake the responsibility for the organisation of at least one event.
- A BVA website will be created soon.
- Each delegation must have one journalist in order to promote the image and the value of BVA events.
- The next BVA General Assembly will take place in Athens (GRE) during October 2003.

The CEV President, Mr MEYER, reminds Mr BORICIC that CEV is supposed to send a bi-annual competitions calendar to the FIVB and asks therefore that the BVA representatives confirm their dates for 2003 as soon as possible.

Mr MEYER congratulates the BVA because it mainly focuses its activities on Youth and Junior competitions. Indeed the basic principle of Zonal Associations activities is to promote Youth and Junior development.

In addition, Mr BELIGRATIS wishes to highlight some points:

- The BVA aims at unifying young people in this area but not only from a sports point of view.
- Most of the BVA National Federations have reduced limited financial resources.
- The BVA is grateful for the FIVB contribution and would be also very pleased if CEV could support the association too.

Action: To study the possibility to support the Youth and Junior activities.

30th CEV Anniversary

The CEV President indicates that it has been difficult to find free dates for organising a match between the Yugoslav and Italian national teams. Consequently, the anniversary will be organised on 22nd and 23rd March 2003 on the occasion of the Indesit European Champions League Men Final Four in Milan.

Competitions

European Cups

Indesit European Champions League

Status of the preparation and official presentation in Rome (ITA)

Mr MOTTIER, CEV Executive Director, informs the BoA Members of the preparation progress of the Indesit European Champions League 2002/2003's Official Presentation, which will take place in the great Campidoglio in Rome (ITA).

From 23rd to 25th November 2002, both seminars (for the supervisors and statisticians) together with the presentation will be organised. On Sunday, the first meeting of the new Working Group Media is also planned.



The whole event is co-ordinated by FIPAV and the National League. All participants will be accommodated in the same hotel. The cost of this project will be shared 50-50 between CEV and FIPAV.

The CEV President confirms that EUROSPOORT will be present among the press as part of their new collaboration in the Indesit European Champions League.

European Championships

Final report of the Women's Junior European Championships 2002 in Zagreb (CRO)

Referring to the Final Report released and distributed on 20 September 2002, Mr HRONEK states that the overall organisation was excellent. Unfortunately, the CRO Federation has been sanctioned with a fine of CHF 1,000 because the refereeing clinic was not organised according to the Terms and Regulations. He expresses many thanks to the organisers, co-ordinators, Jury and Special Refereeing Commission for their work and efforts.

Final Report of the Men's Junior European Championships 2002 in Cetniewo & Puck (POL)

Mr BERBEN, appointed as Jury President in this competition can only say that the organisation of this event was carried out in a perfect way at both the Olympic Centre Cetniewo and the Sport Centre PUCK. All required facilities and other requirements were respected. The Final Report was already distributed in October 2002. To conclude, he wishes to thank the Polish Volleyball Federation for its excellent job.

Update of the Women's Senior European Championships 2003 in Turkey

Mr HRONEK informs his colleagues of the BoA that the preparation for this competition is progressing well. An additional meeting with the Organising Committee is planned on 4th December 2002 in Turkey. Some changes have been made since the last Inspection Visit in May 2002. Unfortunately, the IOC Laboratory is still not known. In this regard, Mr Manfred HOLZGRAEFE stresses that this issue must be solved very quickly as he wants to avoid the problems that occurred in Bulgaria the year before.

Action:

- To ask the TUR Federation about the IOC Laboratory after its official presentation during the Congress.
- To make sure that the case of the IOC Laboratory will be solved before the start of the competition.

Update of the Men's Senior European Championships 2003 in Germany

As agreed, the preparations have started after the Women's World Championships (end of September).

Mr QUINTANA and Mr MULHEIMS, CEV Co-ordinators, have inspected the different venues for the competition: Berlin, Friedrichshafen, Karlsruhe and Leipzig in a visit from 27th June to 3rd July 2002.

A second Inspection Visit in Karlsruhe was carried out by Mr MULHEIMS, CEV Co-ordinator, on 16th October 2002. The competition hall in Karlsruhe should be finished by end of July 2003. A confirmation from the person responsible of the project will be given in January 2003 so that CEV can make a final decision. A third Inspection Visit is planned on 16th December 2002 in Karlsruhe.

Final proposal for the Men's and Women's Junior European Championships 2004

Women's Junior European Championships 2004

CEV only received the official applications from the Slovak Federation for the Women. The candidature file meets with the set requirements of the CEV.

Dates: 3-11/09/2004, confirmed by the Slovak Federation

Venues: Prievidza / Povazska Bystrica

The CEV President informs the BoA of the proposal from the ExCom on the occasion of its extraordinary meeting held on 26th October and asks for its approval.

Decision: The BoA unanimously adopts the candidature of Slovakia for the organisation of the Women's Junior European Championships 2004.

Ms MIJIC is requested to leave the meeting room to enable the BoA Members to discuss the following point without any influences.

Men's Junior European Championships 2004

CEV only received the official applications from the Federation of Croatia for Men. The candidature file meets with the CEV requirements.

Dates: The Croatian Federation still must confirm their dates. They will make sure that their dates do not clash with the Olympic Games.

Venue: Zagreb

The CEV President informs the BoA of the proposal from the ExCom on the occasion of its extraordinary meeting held on 26th October and asks for its approval.

Decision: The BoA unanimously adopts the candidature of Croatia for the organisation of the Men's Junior European Championships 2004.

Final proposal for the Men's and Women's Senior European Championships 2005

Ms MIJIC is requested to leave the meeting room to enable the BoA Members to discuss the following point without any influences.

Women's Senior European Championships 2005

Despite the CEV the deadline being postponed three times, the Spanish Federation did not send its candidacy file to CEV.

In agreement with CEV, the Croatian Federation showed its interest to organise this event during the official presentations of candidatures.

An official application has been duly forwarded to CEV. The candidature file meets the standards and expectations of CEV.

Mr MEYER presents the proposal of the ExCom to his colleagues of the BoA and asks for their approval.

Decision: The BoA unanimously adopts the candidature of Croatia for the organisation of the Women's Senior European Championships 2005.

Mr BIESIADA and his interpreter, Ms ALF, Mr BORICIC, Mr MAGRI and Mr SASSI are requested to leave the meeting room to enable the BoA Members to discuss this point without any influences.



Men's Senior European Championships 2005

Considering that the Federation of Croatia transferred its candidature to the Women's competition, three candidatures remained:

- Denmark
- Poland
- The combined candidature of Yugoslavia and Italy, whose innovative proposal was accepted by the Executive Committee during its meeting held on 31st August 2002 in Jesolo (ITA). The cities proposed are Rome (Qualification Pool, Finals and CEV Congress) and Belgrade (Qualification Pool and Drawing of Lots).

Mr MEYER presents and explains the proposal of the ExCom to his colleagues of the BoA and asks for their approval.

Decision: The BoA unanimously adopts the combined candidature of Yugoslavia and Italy for the organisation of the Men's Senior European Championships 2005.

European Beach Volleyball

Final report of the Junior European Beach Volleyball Championships 2002 in Basel (SUI): Mrs OOMS highlights the main points of her report regarding the organisation of the above-mentioned event:

- Infrastructure was of a very high quality for this kind of competition. Problem: Given everything was prepared for the senior competition final, the stadium was definitely too big for the smaller number of spectators.
- Disappointing spectator attendances.
- Excellent co-ordination and quality work from the whole staff
- CEV branding problems by the organisers (logos, local promotion)

The Final Report was distributed on 14th October 2002.

Mr QUINTANA wishes to point out that all written materials concerning the Junior European Beach Volleyball Championships were drawn up in German. He believes that CEV should remind and stress that organisers are obliged to issue any competition related brochures in one of the two CEV official languages.

Final report of the Senior European Championships 2002 in Basel (SUI)

Mr QUINTANA refers to the Final Report released on 14th October 2002 and states that the overall organisation was excellent. In this regard, he expresses warm thanks to the promoters Laciga Emotions and First Promotion, who managed to organise a first class competition in a short preparation time.

European Beach Volleyball Championships 2003/2004 Update

The CEV President, Mr MEYER, announces to the BoA Members that the marketing agency Global Sports Marketing will present the 2003 tentative calendar during the CEV Congress. In addition, explanations on how this project is progressing will be also provided by GSM during their presentation.

Substitution of Mr Damir RADELJIC (CRO) – EBVC Member: The Federation of Croatia made an official request to the CEV to withdraw Mr RADELJIC from his position of European Beach Volleyball Commission Member.

Decision:

- To replace Mr RADELJIC.
- To check in the existing EBVC list for another proposal.

Action: To inform officially Mr RADELJIC that he is no longer Member of the EBVC.

Mr RADELJIC will not attend the next EBVC Meeting.

Continental Olympic Qualification for Athens 2004 (Indoor Volleyball and Beach Volleyball)

Mr SASSI, ESOC President, and Mr ROMMES, CEV Competitions Director, present the various decisions made by the European Sports Organising Commission during its last meeting held in Belgrade (YUG) on 26th October 2002. Indeed, ESOC analysed the possibilities for the establishment of an Olympic Qualification system based on the factors below:

- Qualification tournaments fixed by the FIVB: ESP, POR, and JPN for the men (May 2004) and Asia Continental Championships for women (June 2004).
- New deadline of registration to the FIVB postponed up to end of November 2002.
- Uncertainties regarding the qualification of the teams participating in the World Cup 2003.
- Uncertainties regarding the possible participation of ESP and POR in the European Qualification Pool.
- Doubts about the number of teams registered for the Final Qualification Pool (6 or 8)
- Uncertainties about the possible Qualification modes for the teams that are not ranked in the Final Pool (Pre-qualification Tournaments, automatic qualification according to the ranking of the 2003 European Championships Finals).

An open discussion takes place among the BoA Members during which every technical, financial and sports factor is carefully considered. Finally, the CEV Board of Administration agrees on the following:

Action: To ask the POR and ESP Federations if they are willing to participate in the European Continental Pool (ESOC).

Decision:

- To set to 8 the number of teams participating in the Qualification Tournament for both Men's and Women's events.
- To present a final proposal for the next BoA Meeting (ESOC).

As far as the organisation of the European Olympic Pre-Qualification/Qualification Tournaments is concerned, Mr BERBEN proposes to use a bidding system to determine the organisers. He explains that CEV will fix a minimum fee to start the bidding and will then grant the organisation to the national federation that bid the highest.

After an open and active discussion, the members of the Board of Administration decide on the following:

Action:

- To present both procedures (former system and bidding system) during the next ExCom Meeting.
- The final decision will be taken by the BoA during its next meeting in February 2003.

Continental Qualification for Grand Prix (Women)

The FIVB is likely to offer CEV the opportunity to organise a Continental Qualification Tournament in order to fill two places in the next edition of the Women's World Grand Prix (in addition to the national team of Russia, who is already qualified).



Action: To establish the date when this competition could be organised.

Presentation of the project CEV Exchange and Database of Knowledge and Management

Further to the proposal made by the Dutch Federation during the XXII CEV General Assembly, Ms MIJIC, CEV Vice-President has worked on a special presentation explaining how this project will be handled.

This presentation will be also delivered to all European member federations' delegates during the XXIII CEV General Assembly.

Decision:

- To create a new Working Group CEV Exchange and Database of Knowledge and Management
- To present the 1st outcome of this new project on the occasion of the BoA meeting in February 2003.

Decision: To contact Mr Pierre BERJAUD (Vice-President of the FRA Federation) to help Ms S. MIJIC in her tasks.

XXIII CEV General Assembly

Considering the large agenda of the General Assembly, the BoA Members decided to accept the ExCom proposal as follows:

- The activity report of each Commission/Working Group President will only give highlights of their activities.
- The election of the new BoA Member will be carried out before a coffee break so that the "Credentials and Voting Commission" can use this break to count the votes.
- Given the election will take place during the second session of the CEV General Assembly, Mr FISCHER, in his position of European Legal Commission President, will ensure there is a second call of the European delegates before starting the afternoon session.

The ELC President, Mr FISCHER, proposes to appoint the following persons as members of the Credential and Voting Commission of the XXIII CEV Congress: Mrs Susan AHERN (IRL) - Mr Peter STEVIK (HUN) - Mr Norbert MARXER (LIE)

Decision: To approve the proposal of Mr FISCHER and inform every member respectively

Miscellaneous

In order to simplify the use of honourable titles, Mr HRONEK, CEV Vice-President, proposes not to use such titles as "Doctor", "Professor," within CEV.

Decision: To abolish the academic titles within CEV.

In addition, Mr HRONEK informs his colleagues that the next meeting of the CEV Board of Administration will take place on 15th February 2003 in Prague (CZE).

Mr BERBEN, CEV Treasurer, wishes to remind the BoA members that the new "Per Diem" principle adopted on 31st August 2002 in Jesolo (ITA) will enter into force as from 1st January 2003:

- As of 1st January 2003 the basic Per Diem will be fixed at € 50 per day
- For all Volleyball Competition related activities, which take place ONLY on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday or Friday, the Per Diem is fixed at € 60 per day

- This principle is also valid for all organising National Federations or clubs.

Closing of the Meeting

There being no further business, the CEV President, Mr MEYER, thanks the Members of the Board of Administration for their collaboration and closes the meeting.

XXIII GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING - LUXEMBOURG (LUX) – 9TH NOVEMBER 2002

The following members are attending:

President:	André Meyer (LUX)
Snr Vice-President & Treasurer:	Philip Berben (BEL)
Vice-Presidents:	Snjezana Mijic (CRO) - Riet Ooms (NED) - Aleksandar Boricic (YUG) - Jan Hronek (CZE) - Carlo Magri (ITA)
Members:	Thanassis Beligratis (GRE) - Janusz Biesiada (POL) - Aloys Fischer (SUI) - Manfred Holzgraefe (GER) - Vladimir Patkin (RUS) - Maris Pekalis (LAT) - Miguel Angel Quintana (ESP) - Jan Rek (SUI) - Fabio Sassi (ITA) - Jacques Shaw (FRA) - Andreas Stavrou (CYP)
Internal Auditors:	Mr Michel HENNO (BEL) - Mr Leo DADEMA (NED)
Executive Director:	Mr Olivier MOTTIER
Administrative Coordinator:	Mrs Sylvie COLLIGNON
Secretaries:	Ms Carole COSTA - Ms Emilie PATRICOLA - Ms Birthe MEYER - Mrs Isabelle FIDANZA - Mrs Isabelle FIDANZA - Ms Kristina NIEMINEN - Mr Lucio VILCHEZ (Clerk)
Beach Volleyball Co-ordinator:	Mr Erik SCHMIDT
Marketing Co-ordinator:	Ms Marion MEYERS
Press Attaché:	Mr Arjen MEIJER

Delegates of National Federations affiliated with CEV

<u>FEDERATION</u>		<u>REPRESENTED BY</u>
ALBANIA	ALB	Mr Leonard TASE
ANDORRA	AND	Mr Ferran JEREZ / Mr Agusti BOLDU
ARMENIA	ARM	
AUSTRIA	AUT	Mr Karl HANZL
AZERBAIJAN	AZE	Mr Vagif ALIYEV
BELARUS	BLR	
BELGIUM	BEL	Mr Willy BRUNINX
BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA	BIH	Mr Samir SMAJIC
BULGARIA	BUL	Mr Dancho LAZAROV / Mr K. TJUFEKTCHIEV
CROATIA	CRO	Mr Zlatan KOVAC / Mrs Ornela KIPCICBAUER



CYPRUS	CYP	Mr Yiannakis PROKOPIOU
CZECH REPUBLIC	CZE	MM Pavel KUCERA / Antonin LEBL
DENMARK	DEN	MM Eddy MADSEN / Eric ADLER
		Proxy from GREENLAND
ENGLAND	ENG	Mr N.H. DINGLE
		Proxy from SCOTLAND
ESTONIA	EST	Mr Henn VALLIMAE
FAROE ISLANDS	FAR	Mr Niclas JOENSEN / Mr Magnus TAUSEN
FINLAND	FIN	Mr Seppo SAMMELVUO / MrJorma VERTAINEN
FRANCE	FRA	Mr Philippe BEUCHET / Mr Jean-Pierre FLEUTIAUX
GEORGIA	GEO	Mr Levan AKHVLEDIANI
GERMANY	GER	Mr Werner VON MOLTKE / Mr Lutz ENDLICH
GIBRALTAR	GIB	Mr Anthony AVELLANO Mrs Elizabeth WAHNON
GREECE	GRE	Mr Angelos TZIMOS
GREENLAND	GRL	Proxy to DENMARK
HUNGARY	HUN	Mr Peter STEVIK / Mr Sandor HOBOTH
ICELAND	ISL	Mr B. GUDBJÖRSSON /Mr A. PORGRIMSSON
IRELAND	IRL	Mrs Susan AHERN
ISRAEL	ISR	Mr Kobi SOLOMON
ITALY	ITA	Mr Renato ARENA / Mrs Paola CAMILLETTI
LATVIA	LAT	Mr Pavels SELIVANOV Proxy from LITHUANIA
LIECHTENSTEIN	LIE	Mr Norbert MARXER Mr Philippe SCHÜRMANN
LITHUANIA	LTU	Proxy to LATVIA
LUXEMBOURG	LUX	Mr Peter EICHSTÄDT / Mrs Chantal SCHOMER
(F.Y.R. of) MACEDONIA	MKD	No Delegate
MALTA	MLT	No Delegate
MOLDOVA	MLD	No Delegate
MONACO	MON	Mr Christian PALMARO
(The) NETHERLANDS	NED	Dr H.A. VAN ZWIETEN Mr Peter K. VAN DER LOO
NORTHERN IRELAND	NIR	No Delegate
NORWAY	NOR	Mr Edgar BROKS
POLAND	POL	Mr Marek IREK
PORTUGAL	POR	MM V. DE ARAUJO / E. DE CARVALHO

ROMANIA	ROM	Mr Gheorghe VISAN / Mr Adin COJOCARU
RUSSIA	RUS	Mr Valentin JOUKOV / Mr Serguei KOLMAKOV
SAN MARINO	SMR	Mr Carlo ENNIO MORRI
SCOTLAND	SCO	Proxy to ENGLAND
SLOVAKIA	SVK	Mr Ivan MAJERCAK / Mr Lubor HALANDA
SLOVENIA	SLO	Mr Anton KONCNIK
SPAIN	ESP	Mr Agustin MARTIN SANTOS Mr Luis MUCHAGA
SWEDEN	SWE	Mr Jan SVENSSON / Ms Agneta ELMEGARD
SWITZERLAND	SUI	Mr Christoph STERN / Roger SCHNEGG
TURKEY	TUR	Mr Husnu CAN / Levent ILBAY
UKRAINE	UKR	Mr Mykola SYDORENKO Ms T. ROUBLEVSKAYA
WALES	WAL	No Delegate
YUGOSLAVIA	YUG	Mr Slobodan MILOSEVIC
Interpreter:	GRE	Ms Ada CHADZIMANOLI
Observers:	DEN	Mr Henrik DAHL
	GER	Mr Jürgen LAMBERTY
	ROM	Ms Oana SARB
Special Guests:	Mr Jean-Pierre SEPPEY FIVB General Manager	
	Mr Marc THEISEN President of the Luxembourg Olympic Committee	
	Mr Guy FUSENIG Luxembourg Commissioner for Sports and Physical Education	
	Dr Rolf ANDRESEN (Honorary President)	
	Mr Hugo FRUITHOF (Honorary Vice-President)	
	Mr Yurii DEREVIAGUINE (Honorary Vice-President)	
	Mr Christian SCHOLBROCK - GSM Managing Director	

Opening of the XXIII General Assembly

Welcome Address by CEV President, Mr André MEYER

“Dear Delegates, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the European Volleyball Confederation, it is a great honour for me to welcome you on the occasion of this XXIII General Assembly.

As we are bound by Luxembourg law to organise a yearly congress, we try to make this event as attractive as possible for our 54 affiliated federations and this year the agenda contains a wide range of interesting features.

Today, it is with special appreciation that we welcome some very important personalities such as the President of the National Olympic Committee, Mr Marc THEISEN, the Commissioner for Sports and Physical Education, Mr Guy FUSENIG representing the Minister of Education and Sports, and Mr Jean-Pierre SEPPEY, General Manager of FIVB.



We welcome also our Honorary President, Vice-Presidents, Members and friends, Prof. Rolf ANDRESEN, Hugo FRUITHOF, and Yuri DEREVIAGUINE. Dear friends, your presence here today is a proof of a strong solidarity in European Volleyball family.

This year, our gathering in Luxembourg coincides with some important events:

- It was in 1961, during the Congress in Marseille (FRA) that FIVB decided to create the continental organisations in order to improve the management of its activities at a global level.
- The first European Sports Commission was then created on 21st October 1963 in Romania, during an assembly of all European countries affiliated to FIVB.
- In 1972, the FIVB World Congress gathered in Munich (GER) on the occasion of the Olympic Games and decided to change the Zonal Commissions into Continental Confederations. This is how the European Sports Commission became the European Volleyball Confederation at a special General Assembly held on 9th September 1973 in Scheveningen (NED).

The year 2003 will therefore simultaneously mark the 40th anniversary of the first European Volleyball authorities, and the 30th anniversary of our institution. So in order to celebrate these anniversaries properly, the Executive Committee of CEV has been working on the preparation of a prestigious event that will take place in Italy in 2003.

50 years ago, the first World Championships for Women were organised by FIVB in Europe. It was a great honour for Europe that all the medals had been won by European teams. The USSR, as the organiser of these 1st Championships won the gold medal, Poland took the silver medal and the bronze medal went to Czechoslovakia. Congratulations, on behalf of CEV, for this outstanding performance to those three teams.

The various activity reports, which you will find in this handbook, give us the opportunity to evaluate the last year activities, but also to discuss and prepare the future all together. For the second time, we have also foreseen reports and presentations from the organising federations of the forthcoming European Championships.

I wish to all of you a successful day, marked by constructive and meaningful discussions and far-reaching decisions. Thank you for your attention”.

Welcome Speech by the President of the Luxembourg Sports Olympic Committee, Mr Marc THEISEN

“Ladies and Gentlemen,

In my quality of President of the Sports Olympic Committee in Luxembourg, I am extremely pleased and proud that a Congress of this importance be organised in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg.

Luxembourg is a venue of choice for international sports, as well as political meetings. It has often been the precursor in numerous areas, and in this quality, receives uncontested recognition at an international level.

I would like to recall the important and essential role played by Luxembourg for the CECA, the Common Market and in the framework of the creation of the European Union. I would also like to remember Mr Pierre WERNER, Honorary Prime Minister and spiritual father to the Euro, who forever left his mark on Europe.

On a strict sports level, and despite its small size, Luxembourg has known several glorious moments in its past, and would particularly like to recall the numerous successes achieved by the Luxembourgish cyclists in international competitions, and more specifically in the Tour of Italy or Tour of France. Luxembourg also just commemorated the gold medal won by the late

Josy BARTHEL during the Summer Olympic Games in Helsinki in 1952 and celebrated the 50th Anniversary of his victory.

It is therefore significant and extremely appreciated that your congress happens on one of the key sites of the construction of Europe, here in Kirchberg, Luxembourg.

I would particularly like to thank Mr André MEYER and his colleagues for the outstanding organisation of this congress, which should not only allow a review of all key moments of this year, but also place your Confederation at an International level for the months to come.

Last but not least, I would like to take advantage of this occasion to remind everyone of the important step the construction of Europe represents, and the significant influence it plays on the world of sports. Sport undeniably has many qualities that go beyond the judicial considerations: it is beneficial at an educational, cultural and social level, and it is essential that political authorities finally acknowledge these qualities, as to better protect the sports environment and give it a new importance not solely limited to economic reasons. It is obvious that these particularities will be officially recognised when amendments are made to the Treaty in 2003.

It is now your responsibility, as a key figure in your country, to make sure that these values be recognised by the politic authorities in each of your respective countries.

That said, I wish you all an excellent and productive Congress.”

Welcome Speech by the Luxembourg Commissioner for Sports and Physical Education, Mr Guy FUSENIG

“Ladies and Gentlemen, Members of the CEV Executive Committee and Board of Administration, Mr Mark THEISEN, COSL President Mr André MEYER, CEV President Mr Jean-Pierre SEPPEY, FIVB General Manager, Dear Delegates of all National Federations of Volleyball,

First of all, I would like to excuse Mrs Anne BRASSEUR, Minister for National Education, Professional Education and Sports, for not being here today due to prior engagements. She did however ask me to wish you on her behalf a warm welcome in Luxembourg on occasion of the XXIII General Assembly of the Confédération Européenne de Volleyball.

In my own name, I would also like to personally welcome, one year before the 30th Anniversary of the foundation of the European Confederation, all the Delegates of the 54 European National Federations of Volleyball here in the Congress Centre in Luxembourg – Kirchberg, widely used by Politicians for meetings of the European Union.

Ladies and Gentlemen, it is a great pleasure to find myself amongst you today.

I would like to personally acknowledge my colleague and friend, Mr André MEYER, your president for the past year and past President of the Volleyball Federation of Luxembourg for 17 years.

I also greet our other Luxemburgish representatives of the Commissions, Mr Pierre MULHEIMS, Secretary of the European Sports Organisation Commission, Mr Jean-Paul ROMMES, CEV Competitions Director, and Mrs Marion MEYERS, CEV Marketing Coordinator.

In this context, I wish to underline that Luxembourg has set legislative measures, which allow greater support for the leaders, and referees who work for International Bodies (Government-mandated holidays for leaders and referees, up to 25 days/federation for Official missions).

At a time when small nations risk being kept away more and more from important International Competitions (i.e. Olympic Games), the presence of our federal representatives at an International level is of primary importance.



For this very reason, I urge each and every one of you to help guarantee small countries like Luxembourg their presence at an International level.

My second satisfaction today comes from the fact that the Confédération Européenne de Volleyball (CEV) has permanently registered its Head Office in Luxembourg since the end of 1988.

The Government of Luxembourg, in close collaboration with the National Volleyball Federation, granted CEV the right to establish itself in Luxembourg. This agreement was part of a nationwide marketing campaign to promote Luxembourg as a European city. To this day, two International Federations have set up offices in Luxembourg: the European Table Tennis Union (ETTU) and the CEV. With this agreement in place, CEV's permanent office was first set up in a state mandated apartment, and then moved to a mansion where the Head Office currently resides.

However, we have recently learned that CEV would like to possibly have its own building in Luxembourg and perpetuate its headquarters. It sounds like a very interesting prospect and the Ministry of Sports is disposed to consider offering its support. In fact, a meeting with the CEV President will take place in the next few days to discuss this matter.

In addition to these two considerations, I wish to remind everyone that Luxembourg is available anytime to actively cooperate for the perfect realisation of the European Union.

At the present time, we are actively working for the insertion of a specific article on sports in the European Treaty, which will allow the respect of all the specificities of sport and a greater, more respected autonomy for the Federations. The European Forum for Sports in the European Union, which took place in Copenhagen on 7th and 8th November 2002 emphasised the desire of the Member Countries of the European Union and the International Federations to accomplish just that.

As far as everything else goes, I have great faith in the work of the Confédération Européenne de Volleyball and I warmly thank all its members for their efforts in preparing and organising this congress.

I wish all delegates and people here today a productive session and a pleasant stay in Luxembourg. I thank you for your attention. “

Speech by the General Manager of the International Volleyball Federation, Mr Jean-Pierre SEPPEY

“Dear Mr André MEYER, Dear Mr Rolf ANDRESEN, former CEV President and current Honorary President, Dear Mr FRUITHOF, dear Mr DEREVIAGUINE, CEV Honorary Vice-Presidents

On behalf of Dr Ruben ACOSTA, FIVB President, I am honoured today to express and to hand to you the greetings of the FIVB. Jointly with Dr Ruben ACOSTA, we want to congratulate Mr André MEYER. Mr André MEYER since more than one year has been collaborating with fairness and with friendship with FIVB. Thank you, Mr André MEYER.

As Swiss, and more particularly as Italian, I am very proud to be a European within FIVB. Why? Because Europe has the best teams of the world; this year, Russia, Italy, won the World League Final, the World Grand Prix, the Women World Championships and even in Buenos Aires, during the Men's World Championships the European teams had success: Spain, Portugal; Italy and France. Thanks to France, Italy and to the European teams' success in Argentina, we are currently dealing with three great televisions: the RAI, TF1 and Eurosport for a partnership until 2008. Europe is also a key potential for FIVB and for Volleyball in terms of organisation of FIVB competitions. I was very sensitive to your speech Mr THEISEN, when you mentioned voluntarism, sports and management of the organisation of the events. Last year, the organisation of the World League Final in Katowice by the Polish Federation was a

key success and a reference now for the future organisers. This year in Germany, the organisation of the Women's World Championships was a success thanks to the very good work of Mr Von MOLTKE, Mr LAMBERTY and the VONOG.

The organisation of the FIVB competitions is very important: which are our ideas, which are our decisions for the future. The organisation of FIVB competitions will not be only in Asia. Ladies and Gentlemen, concerning the World Grand Prix, we decided to organise the first legs in Europe, to organise another first round in the NORCECA region. We are now in touch with some federations in order to give to the World Grand Prix, the confirmation that this competition is in the world and not only in Asia. Also in the future, in Athens in 2004, we wish to Mr BELIGRATIS and to his team success and collaboration with FIVB.



CEV President André Meyer at the 2002 Congress in Luxembourg City sitting next to FIVB General Manager Jean-Pierre Seppey

The future now, then future of our sport is positive. Why? Because our sport is TV-like; Volleyball data in all world TVs, after the World Championships and the good results of the Beach Volleyball, are higher than cycling, football and Formula 1. TVs want to sign with us.

Our sport: great entertainment! We have the chance selling or not selling tickets to spectators in our stadium. We have more or less full stadium even during the first dates. Because our sport is organised and we have thus the possibility to give to the televisions, to the sponsors, the properties we have. But, we will have this success, we have owned such a success with discipline, with the respect of our fundamentals, with the respect of our Code of Conduct and its rules, we together adopted during the last Congress in Buenos Aires.

It is important also for me today to explain to you, to give you this information you may have heard. Two days ago, and after six months of work, FIVB decided to suspend with immediate effect Mr Mario GOJIMAN, President of the Argentinean Volleyball Federation and President of the Organising Committee of the last Men's World Championships, because he did not respect the Code of Ethics for the last six months: he signed sponsorship contracts giving the FIVB rights to sponsors without our authorisation. He hid 200,000 US\$ without authorisation. He communicated very bad words against the FIVB to the media. The FIVB Executive Committee and Board of Administration will decide on this case next months.

Ladies and Gentlemen, dear representatives of the national federations, I repeat, I am very proud to be with you. People who know me can easily guess that it is with my heart that I collaborate with you. You know that you can call me every day, whenever, and I will try to do my best to support you. It is not always easy but together we are strong.

Once more, good luck for your Congress. Thank you."

Official address by the CEV Honorary President, Dr Rolf ANDRESEN

"Dear Mr President, Ladies and Gentlemen, Dear Friends in Volleyball,

On behalf of my colleagues, the Honorary Members of CEV, I would like to congratulate our President André MEYER for his election as Executive Vice-President of FIVB on the occasion of the recent FIVB Congress held in Buenos Aires last September 2002.

Moreover, I also want to present my congratulations to Dr Ruben ACOSTA for his re-election as President of the FIVB. It has been more than 18 years now that he is the President of FIVB, which, under his leadership, became the greatest and best-organised sports federation in the world.

I do know that sometimes, President Acosta and I had different opinions but we have always found a common solution for the benefit of FIVB and Volleyball in the world. And I would like to add that I am really grateful – and also a little bit proud – having worked in various functions for the FIVB for so many years now.

To conclude, I want to stress that the President of FIVB can always be sure about one thing: with the European Volleyball Family, a very strong and reliable confederation is on his side!

I wish you, Mr André Meyer, and all other colleagues from CEV who have taken over a function in the FIVB all the best and a lot of success! Thank you.”

Setting up of the General Assembly's Office

Record of Attendance

Upon completion of the nominative call against the record of attendance,

- 47 federations are found present or validly represented,
- 7 federations are absent or not validly represented.

Appointment of four Members of the Credentials Checking / Voting Commission

On behalf of the CEV Board of Administration, Mr Aloys FISCHER (SUI), President of the European Legal Commission, proposes to the General Assembly to appoint the following four CEV officials / federation delegates as members of the Credentials Checking / Voting Commission:

- | | |
|---------------------------|----------|
| • Mr Aloys FISCHER (SUI) | Chairman |
| • Mr Peter STEVIK (HUN) | Assessor |
| • Mrs Susan AHERN (IRL) | Assessor |
| • Mr Norbert MARXER (LIE) | Assessor |

There being no objection, the General Assembly unanimously confirms the appointment of the above CEV officials/delegates of federation as members of the Credentials Checking and Voting Commission.

Report of the Credentials Checking Commission

Mr Aloys FISCHER (SUI), Chairman of the Credentials Checking Commission, confirms that out of the 54 member federations, 47 federations (= 87.03% of all CEV member federations) are present or legitimately represented by valid proxy in this General Assembly. Mr Aloys FISCHER concludes that the condition laid down in Art. 5.2 - § 3 of the CEV Statutes - at least two thirds of the federations must be present or represented - is fulfilled.

Further to a control of the accreditations by the voting commission, Mr FISCHER announces that the number of votes amounts 47 and consequently the absolute majority is 24.

The following 7 federations, neither present nor validly represented by proxy, are considered as officially absent: Armenia (ARM) - Belarus (BLR) - FYR of Macedonia (MKD) - Malta (MLT) - Moldova (MLD) - Northern Ireland (NIR) - Wales (WAL)

Approval of the Agenda

For technical grounds, the Board of Administration proposes to the General Assembly to carry out the election of the new Board of Administration Member just before the second coffee

break so that the Credentials Checking and Voting Commission can take profit of this break to count the votes.

Consequently, point 9 of the agenda "Election of a new Board of Administration Member" will be dealt with according to the progress of the working session.

There being no additional comment, the Agenda of the XXIII General Assembly is approved.

Approval of the Minutes of the XXII General Assembly in Ostrava (CZE)

The CEV President, Mr André MEYER, thanks the CEV Head Office for its good work and announces to the European delegates that the next minutes will be issued in time in the future.

In absence of neither written nor oral remarks, the Minutes of the XXII General Assembly held on 14th September 2001 in Ostrava (CZE) are unanimously approved and adopted.

CEV Activity Report 2001/2002 by the CEV President, Mr André MEYER

"Ladies and Gentlemen, Distinguished Guests, Dear Friends and Colleagues

Immediately after the elections of the last General Assembly in September 2001 in Ostrava (CZE), the new elected Board and Commission members took on the many challenges related to their specific field.

CEV can be very proud about the many experts we gained at the various CEV commissions, and as many of them hold as well a function in FIVB commissions, we can expect also an excellent collaboration at this level.

The CEV as a supporting body of FIVB has the obligation to implement the decisions of the FIVB Board of Administration as fast as possible. Bi-lateral meetings between both Presidents, but also an excellent communication between the two offices, will give the guarantee of a close cooperation in order to strengthen the position of Volleyball in Europe. The various reports of the CEV Vice-Presidents and Commissions will give further information on this issue.

Our Senior European Championships' Final Rounds in Ostrava (CZE) for men and in Sofia and Varna (BUL) for women were a big success from the sport point of view. For the first time, and with the efficient work of our marketing agency ISA, CEV was able to cover most of the matches of the men's competition on a European level. Unfortunately this was not the case for the women's competition. As I already mentioned in Ostrava, one of the most important tasks in the near future will be the promotion of women's Volleyball in Europe and the implementation of our sport on a European-wide network.

I am very proud to announce to this Assembly that CEV started a fruitful discussion with Eurosport and we expect to be on TV already on the occasion of each leg of the Champions League. No later than yesterday, CEV and Eurosport came to an agreement, which will be finalised and signed in the very near future. This contract will guarantee that for each leg and finals of the European Champions League, we will be able to cover all of Europe and broadcast a 26 minute-program. I hope, and this is also the wish of Eurosport, to further develop this cooperation in the future.

Unfortunately we did not have the same success in Beach Volleyball. The failure of implementing the European Beach Circuit in 2002 shows that professionalism and specialised people are more than ever needed. We believe that with our new partner GSM, we have found these people and we are sure that starting in 2003, a high-level European Circuit with a top event as a Final will be organised.

Our administration in Luxembourg reached its maximum capacity from a logistic point of view. Due to the fact that CEV created last year the marketing and communication department, we had to use our meeting room to implement this department. This situation gives us a lot of problems and with the help and the promises of the Luxembourg Government, CEV will be



accommodated in new premises as soon as possible. I take this opportunity to show our gratitude to the authorities of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, who will give us the needed conditions so that our staff can work in better conditions for the benefit of our sport. The administrative department will have to deal with the implementation of new technologies such as the new CEV website, which will improve our communication system between your federations, the media and the professional users.

We are very happy to inform you that the Board of Administration approved the hiring of a computer expert, who will be in charge of developing and guaranteeing the permanent updating of our information. The competitions department dealt with many innovative projects in the last months and created the preconditions for updating and implementing new competition systems for the different sports activities.

The Youth and Junior European Championships meet an increasing interest and together with the Sports organising commission, new perspectives have to be worked out to make these competitions more attractive.

The 2002 World Championships launched a new era in Volleyball with emergent European teams into the spotlight. The Women's World Championships in Germany was outstandingly organised and we can be very proud of the work accomplished by the German Federation and happy to have such a great organiser for the 2003 Men's European Championships. Italy as World Champion, Russia as winner of the bronze medal and a total of 5 European teams among the first ten classified will be the basis for a new start in women's volleyball in Europe. The implementation of a yearly top event for women will be our challenge for the future.

7 European teams of 8 qualified for the Finals of the World League and the Russian team as the winner were the best conditions and expectations for the Men's World Championships in Argentina. Even though Brazil stole the trophy from Russia in a thrilling five set match, the results of the Europeans are very great. All European teams passed the first round and 6 of 8 qualified teams took part in the final round. France, with its creative play and its talented athletes reached the bronze medal – their first ever at a world championship.

On behalf of CEV, I would like to congratulate all the teams involved in these top men's and women's competitions. Europe can be proud of them.

With the registration of 224 teams in the 6 European Cups for the next season, we reached the highest number of participants since the creation of these competitions. After two years of implementation, which were quite successful, the Indesit European Champions League will still be in progress. The extension to 20 teams for men and 16 teams for women, and the contracts signed for the next years with our sponsors will give us the guaranty to have a top product with a high marketing value and TV coverage. No other confederation's club competition can equal the successful system of the European Cups.

A crucial point of our last year's work consisted in consolidating and improving the good relationship with the media. The new composition of the Media Working Group, the excellent work of our Press Officer and the financial support of FIVB will be the bases to improve our image in Europe.

The CEV is proud to be an important member of the biggest international sport federation and we would like to reiterate to FIVB not only our loyalty, but also our support to make Volleyball the number one sport in the world. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Dr Ruben ACOSTA for his re-election as FIVB President during the FIVB Congress held in Argentina.

As a conclusion, I would like to sincerely thank the members of the Executive Committee, the Board of Administration, the Commissions and our Office for the work achieved in the last year. Many thanks also to all national federations for the excellent co-operation in the past and for their help in the future. I thank you very much for your kind attention."

Financial Report

Financial Report – Accounts 2001 by CEV Treasurer, Mr Philip BERBEN (BEL)

Taking the floor, the CEV Treasurer, Mr Philip BERBEN (BEL), announces that he is proud to have succeeded Mr Hugo FRUITHOF as CEV Treasurer since last September 2001.

Mr BERBEN reminds that the accounts 2001 are based on the budget accepted by the General Assembly on the occasion of the previous Congress held on 14th September 2001 in Ostrava (CZE).

Then, he makes sure that all European delegates duly received the Handbook n° 2 (financial report, yearly accounts and budget) detailing all the different positions of the budgets 2001, 2002 and 2003.

Referring to the figures stated in this Handbook N°2, the CEV Treasurer points out that after the additional entries and amortisations recommended by the External Audit company, Lux Audit Révision, the CEV accounting year 2001 shows a profit of 268,660 CHF.

Before getting further in his report, he invites all European representatives to formulate their questions or make their remarks about the CEV accounts of the year 2001 after the intervention and explanations of the Internal Auditors.

Internal Audit Report by Mr DADEMA (NED) and Mr HENNO (BEL)

“Dear Mr President, Dear Members of the Board of Administration, Dear National Delegates, We, the undersigned, Leo DADEMA and Michel HENNO, have audited on 31st July 2002 the accounts of the CEV for the year 2001. We sincerely thank Mr André MEYER, CEV President, Mr Philip BERBEN, CEV Senior Vice-President and Treasurer, and more particularly Mrs Sylvie COLLIGNON, in charge of the bookkeeping, for their assistance and explanations during our assignment.

The composition of the CEV Board of Administration has been changed since the elections in September 2001. The budget has been fixed and most of the commitments have been undertaken by the previous Board of Administration, but this situation did not cause any special problems.

The accounts of the CEV are subject to an external audit carried out by LUX-AUDIT RÉVISION S.à.r.l. We had the opportunity to meet Mr Marco CLAUDE, manager of this company, and discuss the options he took.

We controlled the bank statements and compared the results with the adopted budget. We also checked the invoices using the random method. The bookkeeping of the different transactions and the running of the financial accounts are carried out according to the rules, with the required precision and clearness.

We would like to make the following remarks:

- The year 2001 presents a benefit of 268,660 CHF. This result is lower than the amount reached in 2000 for two main reasons: first, the rise of the salaries' items due to the hiring of supplementary employees (Executive Director and creation of a Marketing & Communication Department). Secondly, the exchange loss linked to the changing of various accounts booked in foreign currencies into two savings accounts in Euro: a basic one of three years, and the other one, for a one-month management, whereon the liquid assets are booked.
- We will point out that this change is profitable to CEV since the value of the Euro is currently increasing. We can see the results of this change in the interests gained through those new investments.



- When, last year, we were pleased to note the decrease of the national federations' outstanding debts of more than one year old, this year, we have to report a rise of those debts: 21,687.32 CHF compared to 8,837.40 CHF on 31st December 2000. It is necessary to follow this evolution very carefully.
- It has to be underlined, however, that a great amount remained between those two years as a transitory assets.
- Regarding the expansion of the different European Cups, especially the Champions League, it appears that it is necessary to book all costs and incomes directly to the respective Cup. This new system would enable the analytic evaluation of every organization. As the competitions are running over two different accounting years, we propose to book the data in a different way by indicating the competition year to which it refers.
- Regarding this remark, we know that the CEV Office is developing a more detailed bookkeeping plan and will be able to present you such an analytic evaluation next year.
- We finally wish to point out that we fully understand the difficulties replacing adequately specialised staff members temporary absent, but we would like to insist also that it is necessary to take all possible steps to prepare it.

Considering the above remarks, we propose to the General Assembly to approve the accounts and to release the persons in charge: Mr Leo DADAMA & Mr Michel HENNO.

Before asking the General Assembly to approve the above report, Mr BERBEN would like to make some additional comments. Indeed, referring to point n° 2 concerning the outstanding debts, he considers it wrong for CEV to accept such a situation. In this regard and in order to avoid similar cases in the future, the Board of Administration together with the internal Auditor, Mr HENNO, propose to the General Assembly the implementation of a new system: as the CEV accounting is organised according to the civil year, the statutory deadline for the national federations to settle all their debts before their participation in the annual CEV Congress should be fixed on 30th June of the year of the Congress instead of 31st December of the year preceding the Congress.

In addition, Mr BERBEN points out the creation of a new CEV accounting plan. He explains to the European delegates that the main items of the accounting plan have been split into several more specific sub-accounts. This new structure will therefore enable a better control of the budget as the new accounting plan gives much more details about every item (Distinction is made between all items: IECL, European Cups...)

Finally, the CEV Treasurer takes the opportunity to announce to all European Federations delegates that a new "Tournament Approval" policy has been adopted. In order to closely monitor every Volleyball activity in Europe, the CEV Board of Administration recently decided to reduce the registration fee for senior tournaments approval, to cancel all fees for the junior ones. Besides, in case a federation does not inform CEV properly, a very high sanction of 10,000 Euros will be inflicted.

In absence of any additional comments, the Financial Report (item 6.1 of the agenda), the Internal Audit Report (item 6.2 of the agenda) as well as the various proposals presented by the CEV Treasurer are all approved and adopted by the majority.

External Audit Report by Mr Philip BERBEN, CEV Treasurer

Mr BERBEN, CEV Treasurer, indicates to the Assembly that he met Mr Marco CLAUDE, from LUX-AUDIT RÉVISION S.à.r.l., on three occasions.

Referring to the final report made by Mr CLAUDE after having carefully checked the CEV annual accounts, the CEV Treasurer would like to underline the conclusion of this external audit:

“In our opinion, the attached annual accounts give, in conformity with the Luxembourg legal and regulatory requirements, a true and fair view of the financial position as of December 31, 2001, of changes in financial position and of the results of its operations for the year that ended...”

Besides, he wishes to express his sincerest thanks to Mrs Sylvie COLLIGNON, CEV Administrative Coordinator and Bookkeeper, in particular, and to Mr Olivier MOTTIER, CEV Executive Director, for their collaboration and assistance.

In absence of any additional comments, the External Audit Report is approved and adopted by the CEV General Assembly.

Budget 2003 by Mr Philip BERBEN, CEV Treasurer

The budget 2003 has been sent in due time to every European National Volleyball Federation.

The CEV Treasurer indicates that the preparation of the budget 2003 has been made according to the various remarks and advice presented by the General Assembly.

Then, the CEV Treasurer reverts to the Financial Handbook n° 2, from page 15 to 32 and highlights some of the main points of the budget.

First of all, Mr BERBEN announces that the CEV Executive Committee and Board of Administration would like to allocate the sum of 135,000 Euros in the Budget 2003 for the Development of a new CEV Corporate Identity. In this way, CEV will be able to improve its image in the sports market.

He explains then that further to the request of several federations, the item “Sports Aid Program” amounting 10,000 Euros has been added in the budget 2003. Similarly to the financial contribution that was granted to the Group C Federations last year, the CEV Treasurer underlines that the federations will have to respect some specific conditions to benefit from this program. Some detailed information will be communicated to the European Federations after the General Assembly.

In addition, Mr Philip BERBEN draws the attention of all the delegates to the fact that the overall expenditures related to the CEV Secretariat in Luxembourg - Office Staff and Office Premises/Overhead - have increased. He justifies this rise by the hiring of new employees, namely a new IT Responsible, what undoubtedly entails buying new furniture, new materials as well as supplementary office machines.

As far as the European Commissions are concerned, Mr BERBEN underlines that every Commission President regularly receives the updated financial situation of its allocated budget. However for all special projects, the CEV Treasurer states that the reserved amounts have been joined in one and the same item entitled “Special Meetings and Projects”.

Finally, taking into consideration the above remarks that there are now new long-term marketing agreements with suppliers and partners for the organisation of the European Volleyball as well as Beach Volleyball Championships, the CEV treasurer, Mr BERBEN, asserts that the financial future of the European Confederation is assured.

INTERVENTION BY MR JAN SVENSSON (SWE)

Mr Jan SVENSSON is very pleased to learn that CEV has a new contract with Eurosport. He believes that this agreement corresponds to one of the best investments made in Europe. However, he is surprised to note that on page 27 of the Handbook n°2, the item “TV Rights” remains to zero.

In this regard, the CEV Treasurer explains to Mr Jan SVENSSON that the account “TV Rights” will show zero as a result for the moment because the contract signed with Eurosport is mainly considered as an investment. CEV cannot claim any benefits from this agreement right now but in the next few years.



INTERVENTION BY MR JEAN-PIERRE SEPPEY (FIVB)

First of all, Mr Jean-Pierre SEPPEY, FIVB General Manager, congratulates Mr Philip BERBEN for his report.

Concerning the question raised by Mr Jan SVENSSON, he acknowledges that TV always brings money. However, he points out that with Eurosport, it is completely different because Eurosport has the monopoly in Europe. Mr Jean-Pierre SEPPEY explains thus that the result of such a contract with Eurosport is interesting because it broadcasts Volleyball activities without any charge, which enables FIVB and CEV to sell their properties to the sponsors and to increase the exposure of Volleyball. In this regard, Mr Jean-Pierre SEPPEY wishes to congratulate CEV on reaching this agreement.

Moreover, he adds that if CEV wants to promote and to sell its products, it must first inevitably increase its operational and management expenditures. This is indeed one of the FIVB recommendations to the Confederations.

Mr SEPPEY cannot but support this new agreement with Eurosport.

INTERVENTION BY MR PHILIPPE BEUCHET (FRA)

Mr Philippe BEUCHET would like to officially support the reaction of the club RC Cannes, the last European Champions League Winner regarding the amount of Prize Money dedicated to best-ranked teams. He believes that Volleyball is surely a team sport, which enhances best human sports abilities and he feels it is a pity that we do not value this ability at each proper and deserved level. He understands that analytic bookkeeping imposes isolated lines of account, but still he thinks that a way must be found to improve this situation.

Further to the above remark, Mr BERBEN thanks the French delegate for his intervention and informs him that no answer can be given yet. However he assures that good notes have been taken of this reflection.

Before closing his report, the CEV Treasurer indicates that according to the positive figures registered and the good investments made this year, he is very confident and optimistic for the future of CEV.

There being no further remarks, the amended Budget for the year 2003 is unanimously approved by loud applause.

CEV Commission Reports

Beach Volleyball Commission

President: Mr Miguel Angel QUINTANA (ESP)

Mr Miguel Angel QUINTANA, President of the European Beach Volleyball Commission (EBVC), takes the floor and briefly presents the main activities of the EBVC during the 2001/2002 season.

The EBVC met twice since its appointment: once in November 2001 in Luxembourg (LUX) and once in February 2002 in Zagreb (CRO).

The first meeting was entirely devoted to the analysis of the general context of Beach Volleyball in Europe, its past experience and the elements of the present situation, also in consideration of the FIVB directives and development policy in order to establish the targets of the Commission during its four-year mandate and the strategies to be implemented to reach such goals.

In this regard, Mr Miguel QUINTANA asks every federation to send to the CEV Beach Volleyball Co-ordinator, Mr Erik SCHMIDT, all suggestions or ideas they may have in order to better build the Beach Volleyball activities.

The EBVC mission has been described as follows: “to develop this discipline among European countries along the path traced by FIVB, and in pursuance of the International Rules to be fully adopted, in order to meet the requirements of European players and affiliated Federations and to create a European level of activity, which might represent an intermediate target for national players who wish to engage professionalism and climb towards top level participation in the FIVB World Tour”.

The EBVC President underlines that the key elements to achieve such goals belong to a managerial and professional attitude as service providers, where special care will be devoted to an increased offer of opportunities for players, to a closer relationship with National Federations, to training of competent and qualified officials, to consistent promotion and steady communication between all parties.

In such perspective, the Commission has entirely revised the Senior and U23 Official Regulations, harmonising the competition categories with the FIVB most recent introduction of junior competitions and has also established U20 Championships and introduced an U18 test event. Furthermore, harmonisation of the competition calendar has been agreed with FIVB to protect players and organisers interests and avoid major clashes.

Close contact has been kept with several National Federations and many negotiations have been carried out to evaluate and promote the organisation of Beach Volleyball tournaments. Even though not all of them have been finalised, a good promotional impact has been delivered raising awareness and interest over the discipline.

Moreover, the website has been noticeably improved, now representing an immediate means of communication and information over the Beach Volleyball activity, circulating the most recent news in real time. Consequently, Mr Miguel QUINTANA invites all National Federations to regularly consult the CEV website in order to get all information whenever needed.

The second EBVC meeting, held in Zagreb, unfortunately had to deal with the problems deriving from the Challenge contract controversy, which did not fulfil the announced Beach Volleyball series and seriously prejudiced the senior activity and Championship.

With regard to the Senior activity, the EBVC had to face a situation which was particularly difficult to manage, also due to all the hard work being conceived and carried out for a 5 tournament series and not applicable to a very different scenario. Such an experience calls for a strong attention over the strategic importance of a sound planning and for all CEV bodies working in close and fruitful cooperation to reach the common targets.

However, the President of the European Beach Volleyball Commission is very pleased to inform the attendance that as from 2003, Global Sports Marketing (GSM) will be the new CEV partner for the senior circuit.

Moreover, Mr QUINTANA adds that the results and the participation of the teams in the European Beach Volleyball competitions organised this year are very successful and positive: 10 teams for women and 19 for men registered in the U-18 competition, 24 teams for women and 23 for men took part in the U-20 event and the Senior category counted 24 teams for both men and women. Indeed, CEV brought to the finalisation of two open** in Turkey and in Croatia, the organisation of the U20 Championships and the Senior Championships in Basel (SUI).

Competitions

The FIVB Beach Permanent Committee and World Council decided to recognise the Senior Continental Championships, to duly integrate it in the International Beach Volleyball calendar and take it into consideration for the Olympic Qualification.



Training

An important aspect linked to the management of the Beach Volleyball tournaments is the availability of skilled people to perform the necessary duties for the staging of a tournament, mainly Technical Supervisors, Refereeing Delegates and Beach Volleyball Coordinators. National Coordinators would circulate and develop the Beach Volleyball culture in their country and create links between the national and the international level and authorities, fostering players' participation, technical exchanges and organisation of tournaments at all levels.

Promotion and communication

In the future, the role of Promoters should be mainly directed to enhance this area, while the technical aspects of the competition should be managed by CEV and the National Federations.

CEV and National Federations

For the development of the discipline, the EBVC President states that it is of vital importance to establish a direct link between CEV and the National Federations. First of all, collecting information over the presence of interest in the discipline in each affiliated country so that the EBVC can develop programs and projects that meet every National Federation's expectations and needs. In this regard, Mr QUINTANA reverts to the questionnaire that has been distributed before the General Assembly and asks all European delegates to send back this document duly fulfilled in the nearest delay.

To conclude, the EBVC President announces that these above-mentioned points are only a few preliminary items describing the CEV Beach Volleyball vision, which the EBVC will have the honour and pleasure to develop during its mandate. Mr Miguel QUINTANA and his commission look forward to a greater future participation in Beach Volleyball development by National Federations, organisers, players and officials. The EBVC will strive along the path described in its mission and is confident to reach long-lasting results in the medium and long run through a steady and consistent endeavour.

In absence of any remark, the verbal report presented by the European Beach Volleyball Commission is adopted and approved.

European Cups Commission

President: Mrs Riet OOMS (NED)

Taking the floor, the President of the European Cups Commission, Mrs Riet OOMS (NED), gives a short report of the ECC overall activities from October 2001 to November 2002.

Composition of the European Cups commission

After the election of the Board of Administration and the re-election of Mrs Riet Ooms as the President of this Commission, a new European Cups Commission is nominated by the Board of Administration.

Next to the President, a Secretary and 5 members were designated. No ex-officio members were appointed.

The composition was as follows:

- President: Mrs Riet Ooms (NED)
Secretary: Mr Ivan Iro (SVK)
Members: Mr Peter Lange (GER) - Mr Bruno da Re (ITA)
Mr Max Kjaer (DEN) - Ms Marta Alf (POL)
Mr Sandor Hoboth (HUN)

Commission meeting dates:

- Seminar for supervisors and presentation of the Indesit European Champions League in Warsaw (POL) on the 17th of November 2001;
- Drawing of lots for the 1/8 Finals in the CEV Cup in Luxembourg (LUX) by the President of the ECC and the CEV Competitions Director on 13th December 2001;
- Meeting of working group composed of the ECC President and Secretary as well as the CEV Competitions Director in Vilvoorde (BEL) on the 15th and 16th December 2001;
- On 26th January 2002, the ECC President, the ECC Secretary and the CEV Competitions Department carried out the drawing of lots for the ¼ Finals of the TTC and the IECL;
- On 6th April 2002 a plenary meeting of the ECC took place in Leipzig (GER);
- On 28th and 29th June 2002, a plenary meeting of the ECC and first drawing of lots for all cups (in combination with the seminar for clubs and NF's participating in the IECL on Sunday 30th June 2002) in Luxembourg (LUX).

Competition Formula

During the season 2000-2001 the first edition of the European Champions League took place. In the season 2001-2002 the second edition started with one - unfortunately negative - change for the Women's competition. In the Women's competition only 12 teams registered, and consequently only 3 groups of 4 teams played in this competition. In the Men's competition the format remained unchanged: 16 teams played in 4 groups of 4.

In the Top Teams Cup, we could see 2 different groups of teams: those that want to use the TTC competition as the preparation for the European Champions League, and those that just want to play in this competition or even only use it as a start to go on playing in the CEV Cup.

However, during the year 2001-2002 the competition format for the TTC remained unchanged.

The CEV Cup also is unchanged.

Evaluation of the Cups season

- Compared with the 2000/2001 season the number of registered teams for the Men and Women's competitions was reduced from 213 to 205. The main reason of the reduction was lower inscription in the Women's competitions. The number of teams that registered for the 2002/2003 season however is the highest number ever: 224 teams for the 6 European competitions, while only 205 teams registered in the previous season. The ECC is very happy to note this increase of 19 teams in one year, which undoubtedly shows the growing popularity of the European Cups.
- The number of licences, prepared during the 2001/2002 season rose approximately up to 2500.
- Again, problems with international transfers (and mostly with provisional transfers) were faced.



- The drawing of lots for the CEV Cup was organised in Luxembourg (LUX) on Friday 28th June 2002 (in a non-public afternoon-session), as well as the first part of the drawing of lots for the Top Teams Cup. The second part of the drawing of lots for the Top Teams Cup was carried out together with the drawing of lots for the Indesit European Champions League on Saturday 29th June 2002 in a public session. About 100 representatives from clubs, National Federations and journalists were present in Luxembourg.
- After having studied the possibilities to change the system of the European Cups (for the part of the Top Teams Cup and the CEV Cup), the BoA adopted some amendments in the Top Teams Cup, which will come into force in the 2002-2003 season.
- Due to the difficult political situation in Israel, again decisions had to be taken concerning the home matches in Israel.
- Except for the finals of the Indesit European Champions League (men and women) it was again not so easy to find organisers for the finals of the different Cups. For organisers it is always very important to know that the home team will be playing in this final. The ECC is thinking over new concepts for the organisation of the finals.

Second edition of the European Champions League

After the first year - that was already quite successful - the ECC wanted to achieve an even better performance of the European Champions League for the second year. During the presentation of the European Champions League in November 2001 in Warsaw (POL), CEV was happy to announce the new sponsorship of Indesit as the Main Sponsor. From this moment on the European Champions League was renamed into:

Indesit European Champions League

With the help of this new sponsor, and with the prolonging of the contract with Champion as the Gold Sponsor, CEV must be able to contemplate greater involvement of clubs, media, fans and the cities concerned.

Still the ECC ambition is to establish the greatest European indoor team sport competition

The number of teams participating in the Indesit European Champions League has increased for the men's competition to 20 and for the women's competition to 16. That is what the European Cups Commission promised last year and this rise of participation is a proof of success.

Besides, the venues where the IECL Finals will be played are respectively Milan (Italy) for the men's competition and Poland for the women's competition.

- During the second year of this competition, the special Working Group of the ECC has been following the work of the clubs very closely. The Working Group will continuously watch the progress of the organisation of each club in order to guarantee the quality of the IECL, in order to achieve better conditions for the next year edition.
- Also for the Women's competition the CEV has been working hard in order to attract sponsors. This was not easy, but finally CEV succeeded in finding the Gold Sponsor for the Women's competition.
- Most of the participating clubs have been working hard. In order to fulfil the requirements of our sponsors, CEV has to be even stricter towards the clubs concerning the technical and TV obligations.

The biggest part of the work concerning P.R., Marketing and Sponsor-finding was done by Mr Roberto Ghiretti and Mr André Meyer. The ECC wants to thank both of them for their great

contribution in the success of this project. CEV signed a contract with its Marketing Partner, which will cover the marketing & TV part of the Champions League. Altogether, the ECC President hopes that CEV will be even more successful in making this competition the most attractive one in Europe, not only for the spectators, but also attractive for the clubs to participate. Mrs OOMS and the European Cups Commission's Members are very glad to learn that a contract between CEV and Eurosport will be signed, as most of the broadcasting time will be spent for the ECL (for both men's and women's competitions).

On the 17th November 2001 the IECL Seminar for Supervisors was organised in Warsaw (POL). Like last year, instructions were given to a select group of Supervisors that conduct all aspects of this competition. On the same day and place, the seminar for statisticians of the participating clubs took place. During this practical seminar instructions were given by Data Volley from Italy. 30 participants were present at the Supervisors seminar and 30 at the seminar for Statisticians. Both seminars can be considered as great successes.

The public drawing of lots for the European Champions League was organised on the 30th June 2002 in Luxembourg (LUX).

Specific items

- Due to the fact that the ECC has been very strict in accepting the technical requirements for the sports halls, 2 clubs, at least, in the IECL Men had to find a new and better solution for their home matches. The result: better conditions for this year and for the future and more spectators!
- During the IECL a first start was made for some special actions towards the public: Indesit offered T-shirts, to be thrown into the public and for the finals there were some washing machines as prizes for the public.

The European Cups Commission thanks very warmly all members of the Board of Administration for their support during the previous year.

Special thanks are given to the staff of the CEV Head Office: Mr Jean-Paul Rommes, Mrs Isabelle Fidanza, and Mrs Kristina Nieminen from the Competitions Department, and Mrs Marion Meyers from the Marketing Department for the permanent and great assistance during the past season.

Together with everyone else working in the CEV Head Office, they have done a great job, and - as always - they have been working in a very dedicated way!!

There being no comment, the verbal report presented by the European Cups Commission is adopted and approved.

European Financial Commission

President: Mr Philip BERBEN (BEL)

The European Financial Commission President and CEV Treasurer, Mr Philip BERBEN, reminds that the EFC was set up following the decision of the 1998 CEV General Assembly.

Besides other institutions, he explains that this institution is in charge of checking and following up the financial situation of the CEV.

The composition of this commission for the 4-year mandate 2001-2005 was decided on the occasion of the XXII CEV General Assembly, which was held in Ostrava (CZE) in September 2001.

After many years of very good work, the CEV Vice President & Treasurer, Mr Hugo FRUITHOF resigned from his function. The Senior Vice President, Mr Philip BERBEN has been appointed President of the EFC and has now the responsibility to take over the function of CEV Treasurer.



In his capacity of Treasurer, he is in charge of following up the daily financial aspects of the CEV.

The European Financial Commission gathered on 1st June 2002 in Luxembourg (LUX) in order to prepare the CEV Budget 2003. While working on the budget for the year 2003, some items were adapted or added to be more in line with the real situation, comparing the current figures with those of 2001.

Positive advice was given to the BoA concerning the presentation of the budget 2003.

In this regard, Mr Philip BERBEN expresses his sincerest thanks to the EFC Members, all experts in financial matters, for their good collaboration and judicious advice.

Finally, he wishes to underline the good daily work done by the CEV staff, especially by Mrs Sylvie Collignon, bookkeeper of the CEV, whose assistance was much appreciated.

In the absence of any remark, the verbal report presented by the European Financial Commission is adopted and approved.

European Legal Commission

President: Mr Aloys FISCHER (SUI)

The European Legal Commission (ELC) gathered on two occasions (on 15th December 2001 and 11th May 2002) in order to fulfil its duties and support the work of the CEV Board of Administration.

First, the ELC controlled the amendments of the CEV Statutes on their conformity with the FIVB Constitution and the relevant FIVB documents but also with the Luxembourg Law for non-profit-making associations and State approved institutions of 21 April 1928.

The Commission concluded that there is no contradiction between the amendments of the CEV Statutes and the FIVB Constitution or the Luxembourg Law.

With regard to the creation of the Balkan Volleyball Association, the ELC proposed to the BoA new CEV guidelines for territorial zones, which are based on the FIVB Constitution and FIVB Administrative and Financial Regulations. The ELC controlled the draft of statutes of this new zonal association on their conformity with those CEV guidelines and the FIVB Constitution and FIVB Administrative and Financial Regulations.

In case of withdrawal of a National Federation from the organisation of a CEV competition, the possibility of sanctions by the CEV is restricted. The ELC proposed therefore to the BoA to adopt sanctions against National Federations for failure to organise CEV competitions.

Two kinds of sanctions must be foreseen, namely:

- Disciplinary sanctions already mentioned in art. 15 of the Statutes.
- Compensation for damages depending on the kind of the competition and the time of the withdrawal of the organising National Federation. The amount of the above compensation could be agreed from the beginning and should be included as a penal clause in the contract signed between CEV and the National Federation.

In the different European Championships regulations, the dispositions concerning unsportsmanlike conduct differ from each other. The ELC examined all existing regulations and concluded the following:

- Sanctions are generally mentioned in the CEV Statutes and the Code of Discipline.
- The CEV Internal Regulations refer to unsportsmanlike behaviour and its consequences during an international match and afterwards.

According to all those regulations, the CEV Executive Committee and Board of Administration are competent to inflict further sanctions after being informed. There is no need to repeat this point in the regulations of the different championships. However, amendments to the different regulations have been proposed by the ELC. The examination of this subject made more obvious the problem of the multiplicity of the various CEV regulations. ELC suggested therefore to the BoA to revise all the regulations in order to unify the different terms and conditions and simplify them.

Furthermore, the European Legal Commission started to work on a very important item: Anti-doping. In order to get all the necessary basic information for their investigations, the ELC recently established a questionnaire, which has been forwarded to every National Federation at the end of October 2002. Considering that only a few questionnaires have reached the CEV Head Office until now, Mr Aloys FISCHER takes the opportunity to remind to all European delegates present at the General Assembly to urgently send back this document duly filled in. The ELC will meet next December in order to draw the first conclusions about the anti-doping controls' legal situation in Europe.

To conclude, the ELC President indicates that he had the opportunity to assist the CEV with his legal advice.

There being no comment, the verbal report of the European Legal Commission is unanimously approved.

European Refereeing Commission

President: Mr Jan REK (SUI)

Taking the floor, the President of the European Refereeing Commission, Mr Jan REK, gives his annual report pointing out in particular the role and functions of the ERC, the general annual activities carried out this year and, also, the challenge and vision of his commission for the upcoming years.

The European Refereeing Commission (ERC) is responsible for all refereeing affairs and interests at a European level and is represented by the ERC President. The ERC, which has partly been newly composed after the elections in Ostrava (CZE), has started the work immediately and vigorously under the management of the new President of the commission, Mr Jan REK. Although the technical and organisational standards of the refereeing affairs in Europe were already of a very high level, the ERC has set itself ambitious goals for the new four-year period 2001-2005.

Its challenge for the future consists of:

- Conceptual work on referee assessments
- Organisation of administrative work
- New structure of the ERC with delegation of specific responsibilities and competences to the different ERC members
- Closer collaboration with the FIVB Refereeing Commission

In cooperation with the CEV Head Office, the ERC is studying the possibilities of Internet use for all interests of the refereeing affairs. The aim is to distribute the information in a more efficient manner, which could lead to a work diminution and cost savings. In the near future, all important documents and information should be available in electronic format on the CEV Homepage. The capacities achieved through the optimisation of our mode of operation shall be used to increase the creativity for all refereeing affairs.

The annual general services of the ERC have remained the same. Its mission is to educate the referees at a continental level, to work out regulations and other informative material to ensure that latest rules and regulations are known and used around Europe. In addition, the ERC has to appoint Judge Referees and a Special Refereeing Commission for different



tournaments but also referees for all official matches in order to ensure that all official European Competitions are conducted in accordance with the FIVB and CEV refereeing rules and regulations.

To accomplish its tasks, the ERC has held two Commission meetings - Paris (FRA), Luxembourg (LUX) - and two Working Group meetings - both in Luxembourg (LUX) - since the last General Assembly in Ostrava (CZE) in 2001.

The heaviest task is the appointments of the referees: in the competition period 2001-2002 the ERC made appointments for approximately 600 matches in European Cups and 300 matches in European Championships.

With great effort and success and also this year, the ERC has planned and carried out the European Referee Seminars. These seminars do not only serve further education of the referees, they are also a welcomed opportunity to meet the ad hoc members of ERC and to establish a permanent contact with the National Refereeing Commissions in order to interpret all rules in an homogeneous way and to exchange other important information.

The number of participants fluctuates from one year to the other; financial reasons are often given as absence excuses. The ERC cannot accept this reason since the real seminar costs are borne by CEV. Therefore the participation of the National Federation representatives should be compulsory to ensure that all necessary information will reach the level of National Federations.

The declared belief that our sport consists of two major disciplines, Volleyball and Beach Volleyball, was underlined by the separate organisation of the two different events to ensure the best conditions and quality.

The Volleyball Seminar took place in Montreux (SUI) in connection with the Montreux Volley Masters. The main focuses were put on the work of the second referee and on the presentation of the Slovak model concerning refereeing organisation, education, evaluation and promotion. Besides the ERC and four ad hoc members, 29 nations were represented by 38 participants.

The Beach Volleyball Seminar was organised in connection with the FIVB Tournament in Gstaad (SUI). Taking the needs of this young and fast developing sport into account, this event was carried out in close cooperation with the FIVB Beach Department. The direct support of the two CEV and FIVB Presidents made this possible. The representatives of 26 nations could profit from this excellent event.

Similarly to the previous years, the ERC controlled personal record sheets, availability lists and in close cooperation with the CEV Medical Commission the biannual medical reports of all Volleyball and Beach Volleyball International Referees and Candidate International Referees likely to officiate in the 2002/2003 season's European Championships and European Cups. All current information has been used for the update of our computer database of all active, inactive and retired licensed European Referees. An up-to-date database is an imperative platform for a reliable and efficient work within the ERC.

Last but not least, the ERC wants to thank the National Federations and particularly their International Referees for the good work done in the past. The ERC is proud of the quality of the European Referees - quality that is also reflected in the many European appointments for important FIVB competitions. The Refereeing Commission is also very grateful for the excellent collaboration and support in the different European Commissions and would like to thank the staff of the CEV Head Office for their tremendous administrative work.

In the absence of any remarks, the report presented by the European Refereeing Commission is adopted and approved.

Sports Organising Commission

President: Mr Fabio SASSI (ITA)

Before presenting his annual report, the President of the European Sports Organising Commission (ESOC), Mr Fabio SASSI, reminds the General Assembly that the main activities of the ESOC concerns the checking of the competitions and the updating of all the guidelines and manuals related to the organisation of various events.

During the CEV Congress held in September 2001 in Ostrava (CZE), the new Board of Administration has appointed the new members of the different Commissions.

The ESOC is composed as follows:

President:	Mr Fabio SASSI (ITA)
Secretary:	Mr Pierre MULHEIMS (LUX)
Members:	Mr Sebastian BENASCO (ESP) - Mr Willy BRUNINX (BEL) Mr Jussi JOKINEN (FIN) - Mr Pavel KUCERA (CZE) Mr Slobodan MILOSEVIC (YUG)
Ex-officio Members:	Mr Gerard VAN DEN HOVEN (NED) Mr Krzysztof TUROWSKI (POL)

The Sports Organising Commission met twice: on 14th - 15th December in Vilvoorde (BEL) and 25th - 26th January in Luxembourg (LUX).

During the meeting, the Final Round of Men's and Women's Championships have been examined.

The ESOC has forwarded to the Board of Administration some proposals, in order to guarantee a better organisation quality of those competitions representing the most important event in the European activity.

Moreover, the ESOC has proceeded to the updating of some official regulations and the distribution of the teams in the Qualification Tournaments of the Junior Championships - Men and Women.

The ESOC has checked also the running of the Senior European Championship Pool C in Andorra (Men) and Luxembourg (Women). All the members (included those ex-officio) have co-operated as Technical Delegate during the above-mentioned competitions.

The dates foreseen for the Qualification Tournament (Cat. A, Men) of the European Championship have been changed in order to facilitate the teams participating in the World League. Particular thanks are given to the CEV President, Mr André Meyer, for the agreement reached with the FIVB in this field.

During the meeting organised in January 2002, the Commission has carried out two new undertakings: the first one consisted in a seminar reserved to the members of the Commission during which discussion was made about the tasks to be followed by the Technical Delegate during the Tournaments or the Finals, both for preliminary approach and during the competitions. The purpose of the seminar was mainly to discuss the personal experiences in order to uniform the actions of all ESOC members engaged in the competitions. The second undertaking concerned the realisation of the drawing of lots for the different Qualification Pools of the European Championships 2002/2003 and the consequent Calendar Conference, in which all teams' representatives have taken part.

The last-two year success has been repeated once again, thanks to the spirit of co-operation and the necessity of direct contacts with the European Federations.

Besides, the President and the Secretary of the Commission took part in the Working Group "Regulations and Fines" together with the colleagues of the European Cups Commission and



the European Beach Volleyball Commission, under the supervision of the CEV Vice-President Mrs Riet OOMS

The President and the Secretary have also presented a report to the members of the CEV Board of Administration concerning the carrying out of the particular organisation tasks to be applied during the CEV Competitions.

The most important task of the ESOC was the study of the activities calendar. Regarding the competitions activities and the calendar problems in particular, Mr SASSI would like to draw the attention of the General Assembly to the role that will be assumed by the FIVB Sports Events Council concerning the international activities and its reflection on the European activities. Indeed, the FIVB President, Dr Rubén ACOSTA, announced during the CEV Congress in Ostrava (CZE) that all these issues would be analysed by the FIVB Sports Events Council - new organ constituted by the FIVB Board of Administration together with the other Commissions - on the occasion of the 28th FIVB Congress, which took place in September 2002 in Argentina.

The wish is that this Council will take into consideration the great participation of the European teams (both club and national) to the all activities of the clubs, CEV and FIVB.

As a matter of fact, the ESOC has pointed out, on several occasions, the activity calendar problems namely the CEV Competitions calendar.

Moreover, the ESOC Members gathered on 25th and 26th October 2002 in Belgrade (YUG) in order to determine the system of Continental Qualification Tournament for the Olympic Games 2004. During the last Board of Administration Meeting held on 7th November 2002, Mr SASSI presented two different projects to qualify the European teams: either to use the same system than in the past or a new system, which would increase the number of participating teams to 8. It has finally been decided to apply the new principle with 8 teams registered in the Qualification Tournament.

Another task of the ESOC is also to deal with the different proposals made by the National Federations regarding the forthcoming European Championships.

Mr Fabio SASSI, ESOC President, takes the opportunity to thank all the members of the European Commissions, the Board of Administration and the Executive Committee for the support given to the European Sport Organising Commission.

Special thanks are given to all the staff of the CEV Head Office and in particular to the Competitions Department for the co-operation provided.

INTERVENTION BY MR LEVAN AKHVLEDIANI (GEO)

During the last FIVB Congress, great discussion was made about the future creation of new competitions for Height-Limited People. Considering that the World Championships for Height-Limited People should take place in Indonesia in 2005, Mr AKHVLEDIANI, President of the Georgian Volleyball Federation, wonders if the ESOC already considered the organisation of tournaments in Europe before the qualifications.

INTERVENTION BY MR JEAN-PIERRE SEPPEY (FIVB)

Mr Jean-Pierre SEPPEY wishes to give some clarifications about the remark made by Mr AKHVLEDIANI. First of all, the FIVB General Manager points out that 93% of people's height in the world is below 1,85m for men and 1,75m for women. This category represents a lot of people, which cannot be excluded from Volleyball activities. Indeed, the FIVB is convinced that competitions must be created for these people, however, the world event planned in Indonesia, on the occasion of the last FIVB Congress, will probably not be ready for 2005. The FIVB wants to do something but wants to do it well!! As a consequence, Mr SEPPEY esteems that CEV is not in a position to take a decision yet, and advises it to first support and analyse every national initiative before creating any continental competitions.

In this regard, Mr André MEYER, CEV President, invites each European national federation to inform CEV of its ideas about competitions for Height-Limited People. He also asks the General Assembly to give to the FIVB and CEV the feedback - positive or negative - of their different attempts in this matter.

INTERVENTION BY MR EDDY MADSEN (DEN)

Mr Eddy MADSEN, President of the Danish Volleyball Federation, would like to know the reasons why the Qualification Round of the European Championships must be finished the year before the Final Round.

Mr Fabio SASSI announces that it is a decision from the FIVB Board of Administration, but he assures that it is a great advantage for the organiser, as it will have more time to prepare the event, especially in terms of promotion campaign, TV and marketing opportunities...

Taking into consideration the above comment, the verbal report presented by the European Sports Organising Commission is adopted and approved by the Congress.

Medical Commission

President: Prof. Manfred HOLZGRAEFE (GER)

The first meeting of this new commission took place on the 26th January 2002 in Luxembourg (LUX).

Information from the last FIVB Medical Commission meeting

The FIVB Medical Commission made a proposal to the FIVB Board of Administration to cancel the present medical regulations concerning gender tests in Volleyball and to have them carried out only on demand and not on a regular basis as done up to now.

The FIVB Board of Administration decided to follow up the existing regulations.

The form M1 should be modified due to changes of procedure in collecting anti-doping samples (code n°, medication, transportation of the samples).

Heavy and long exposure to sun in Beach Volleyball can be a risk factor for skin cancer. Intensive skin protection (creams, lotions) is recommended. Investigations on this issue are in progress. In this regard, Prof. HOLZGRAEFE invites every national delegate to regularly check the situation of their national Beach Volleyball players in order to prevent any health problems.

Report of the 2001 Senior European Men Championship in Ostrava (CZE)

The organisation of anti-doping and general medical services was excellent. Accommodation and food were good. All results of the anti-doping examinations were negative.

Report of the 2001 Senior European Women Championship in Sofia & Varna (BUL)

Despite the early information to the organisers by CEV concerning possible problems in the anti-doping procedure (no IOC accredited laboratory in Bulgaria), the organisation of anti-doping was bad and not acceptable. Because of insufficient transport and lack of information from the IOC laboratory in Athens the results of the samples reached the jury much too late. Fortunately, all results were negative.

Moreover, 48 gender tests were done during these Championships. All results were positive. Further to the problems regarding the anti-doping procedures, the EMC will work out - in co-operation with the FIVB Medical Commission - a new system for carrying out the anti-doping examinations in order to avoid similar problems in future.

Furthermore, the EMC esteems that the responsible medical officer should take part in the inspection visit 3 months ahead of the next European Championships (Turkey, Germany). The covering of these expenses is up to now unclear.



CEV Doctors Accreditation

In January 2002, 13 medical doctors were accredited to CEV. To be an official member of the team, the doctor must be accredited by the EMC (Dr DAWISKIBA).

Medical Certificates for Referees

The expiration of the currently valid medical certificates was the 30th June 2002.

The validity period of the new medical certificates for referees is now from 1st July 2002 to 30th June 2004. For information please contact the CEV Head Office.

IOC List of Prohibited Substances

The FIVB and CEV lists of prohibited substances will be automatically updated according to the new list edited by the IOC Medical Commission.

Positive Doping Cases in Volleyball

During the FIVB Board of Administration Meeting held from 3rd to 5th April 2002, the FIVB indicated that it would take into account only anti-doping controls carried out in accordance with the FIVB or WADA regulations.

In case anti-doping procedures are not fulfilling the FIVB/WADA requirements, no sanction will thus be inflicted by FIVB.

CEV Medical Seminar

The intended Medical Seminar will not take place since only 15 national federations have shown their interest to attend this special event.

INTERVENTION BY MR JEAN-PIERRE SEPPEY (FIVB)

Mr SEPPEY, FIVB General Manager, thinks it would be a pity to abandon the idea of a Medical Congress. He proposes thus that the Medical Seminar be organised in Europe at an international level, as FIVB is currently organising in Asia the FIVB Coach Seminar.

INTERVENTION BY MR NORMAN DINGLE (ENG)

Mr Norman DINGLE, President of the English Volleyball Association, would like to emphasise what Mr HOLZGRAEFE just mentioned about anti-doping tests procedures. He explains that in England, doping tests are conducted by government agency for all sports. However, even though this agency is very efficient, it cannot communicate the results within the deadline required by the FIVB regulations. He believes indeed that many Federations are also facing the same problems.

Mr HOLZGRAEFE understands this situation and states that time is always a problem especially during tournaments. This is the reason why the procedure for anti-doping controls must be changed and reorganised according to the fact that Volleyball needs to get the results as soon as possible (about 24 hours).

There being no additional remark, the report of the European Medical Commission is adopted and approved by the General Assembly.

CEV Working Group Reports

Marketing

Chairman: Mr André MEYER (LUX), CEV President

With the continuous development of our sport's activities, especially the European Champions League, a new Working Group Marketing has been created, thus succeeding to the first Working Group led by Mr Ahmet GULUM.

Considering the unavoidable economic and television stakes and the new market demands, this group will have for mission to “enlighten and guide the management of this major CEV competition, as well as to establish a more optimal platform to all CEV competition events”.

After the elections in Ostrava (CZE), it has been decided to implement a working group with professionals and experts - representatives of Marketing Agencies for instance.

The members of the new group are as follows:

Chair: Mr André MEYER, CEV President

Secretary: Mrs Marion MEYERS, CEV Marketing Co-ordinator

Members: Mr Roberto GHIRETTI

Mr Christoph SCHREDT, ISA – Sports Marketing Agency

Mr Edwin BENNE, ISA – Sports Marketing Agency

Mr Olivier MOTTIER, CEV Executive Director

In addition to the principal task of improving the financing of all major CEV events (through sponsoring), this particular Working Group also aims at developing a marketing strategy inside CEV, focusing on the following items:

- A professional support to the organisation of competitions finals: Final Four, European Cups and Finals of European Championships
- An optimal media platform and audience (media, TV coverage, PR activities, etc...)
- A more attractive and positive image of the volleyball sport: stars builders, merchandising, special events, VIP hospitality zone, entertainment, etc...
- During the past volleyball season, the Champions League was already awarded a very big success considering the realisation of a partnership with Indesit and Champion, which are both very valuable sponsors to our growing competition. Some of the results achieved were:
 - Over 350 hours of TV Coverage across Europe
 - 200,000 spectators and more of 300 accredited journalists

As for Beach Volleyball, new horizons are opening up despite several difficulties met during the past few years, and they will allow the set-up of a real European Tour as early as 2003.

Finally, and in order to assure a professional organisation of all events, CEV has signed long-term partnerships with two marketing firms, ISA (International Sports Agency) and GSM (Global Sports Marketing). In close collaboration with the Working Group, they will support respectively the growth of both Volleyball and Beach Volleyball.

A report is done by Ms Marion MEYERS, CEV Marketing Co-ordinator, illustrating how the CEV Working Group Marketing worked since last September 2001 especially for the European Champions League, namely in terms of Marketing and TV coverage (increase of TV hours), as well as the marketing strategy considered for the forthcoming editions.

INTERVENTION BY MR LUTZ ENDLICH (GER)

Mr Lutz ENDLICH, the General Secretary of the German Volleyball Federation, wishes to point out that the increase of TV for the European Champions League also depended on money: for Germany, Friedrichshafen had to pay for a private broadcasting company.

In this regard, Ms MEYERS makes clear that the increase in this matter is obviously relative, as many components are taken into account. Increase in TV does not necessary mean an increase of interest from the media. Of course, money is playing a very important role but the way the club is selling the competitions or its match's matters as well.



INTERVENTION BY MR JEAN-PIERRE SEPPEY (FIVB)

First of all, the FIVB General Manager wants to congratulate Ms MEYERS and the Members of the Working Group Marketing. Then, Mr Jean-Pierre SEPPEY states he is convinced that the link TV-Marketing in Europe and in particular with Eurosport is the first step and certainly now the only step for the national federations to tackle sponsors. He thinks that the collaboration of CEV with Eurosport will undoubtedly enable the Working Group Marketing to achieve its goals.

The CEV President, Mr André MEYER, adds that the collaboration with Eurosport is one of the best investments CEV can do for Volleyball.

There being no particular comment, the report of the Working Group Marketing is approved and adopted.

Media

Chairman: Mr Aleksandar BORICIC (YUG), CEV Vice-President

Introduction

After the CEV General Assembly in September 2001, the mandate of the 'old' Working Group Media was finished. During the second session of the new elected Board of Administration (February 2002), a new Working Group was installed. Under the presidency of Mr Aleksandar BORICIC, this new Working Group Media will have a mandate till 2005. In this small activity report, all relevant information regarding the Media Working Group and the CEV Press Operations are included.

The "New" CEV Media Working Group

The members of the CEV Working Group Media are all top journalists in their country. The decision of the BoA was to have members from different areas of Europe and different fields of media. All the appointed journalists showed their will to cover Volleyball, to help CEV to improve the media coverage of our sport within Europe.

With the new composition of the Working Group Media, this goal is achieved.

The composition of the Working Group Media is as follows:

Chair: Mr Aleksandar Boricic (YUG) – CEV Vice-President

Secretary: Mr Arjen Meijer (NED) – CEV Press Officer.

Members: Mrs Elvira Atanes (ESP) – EFE - Mr Avelino Azevedo (POR) – OJOGO.
Mr Jacek Dabrowski (POL) – TV Pologna

Mr George Stefanis (GRE) ANA. - Mr Gianluca Pasini (ITA) – La Gazzetta dello Sport. - Ms Daniela Tarantini (ITA) – Freelance volleyball photographer.

The 2002 meeting of the Media Working Group is scheduled on 24th November 2002 on the occasion of the official Presentation of the 2002/2003 Indesit European Champions League.

The three main objectives of the Working Group Media are:

1. How to get volleyball in the major European media, in order to get more spectators, more sponsors and more opportunities.
2. How to create new volleyball stars.
3. To have the members work as 'zone correspondents' in their region. To create a real network of people, who will be involved in this initiative by providing the right information at the right moment?

CEV Press Officer

In the middle of 2001, the CEV extended the contract with the CEV Press Officer, Mr Arjen Meijer from The Netherlands, till December 2003. The CEV Press Officer is part of the FIVB communication structure. In this structure, the FIVB Press Officer is based in at the FIVB headquarters in Lausanne, while in each continent, a confederation press officer is based as the staff member of the FIVB communication department.

The collaboration between CEV and the FIVB Media Department is excellent. The CEV was the first confederation to hire a press officer and the first confederation to work in full compliance with the FIVB structure. Because of this structure, the CEV Press Officer is not only working as Press Delegate during major CEV event, but also during world tournaments in Europe. For example, the CEV Press Officer worked as Press Delegate during the 2002 women's World Championship in Germany.

Media Relations

The CEV has a close contact with all the important media representatives all over Europe. Like in the past, the CEV used their special fax system from the headquarters in Luxembourg to update all the important European media with results, press releases and all other information.

Thanks to the high level European journalists as members of the CEV Working Group Media, an intensive media network in Europe is installed. The members confirmed their commitment to help the CEV expand volleyball news in the European media.

One of the new items was the installation of an e-mail list. During all major CEV events, the press releases written by the CEV Press Officer were sent to all media contacts. This service is very appreciated by the journalists. In due time after matches are played, the media receive the results and during major events, some other free information to be used. The CEV hopes that, with the help of the members of the Working Group Media, this way of distributing releases will be improved.

CEV Press Operations during Tournaments

During all major CEV tournaments and events, the CEV Press Officer was working as the Press Delegate. He was responsible for all media related items and worked as the supervisor of the local press staff. He provided all journalists present with important information, while he sent out press releases to all media contacts by fax and e-mail.

The years 2001 and 2002 have been very successful years. According to the goals set at the end of 2000, the facilities for journalists improved during the major events, especially in indoor volleyball. During the European Men's Senior Championship, the members of the AIPS declared this event as the best ever CEV event for media.

Press Releases

As usual, the CEV sent out press releases during each major event. During each tournament the CEV Press Officer was on site, special press releases were distributed both by fax and e-mail each day. The result of this media approach was very good.

In case the Press Officer was not on site, press releases (mostly written by the CEV Press Officer) were sent out on a regular basis from the headquarters in Luxembourg and through the e-mail list. The Press Officer also wrote press releases each time there was some interesting news about the CEV, like important decisions, previews for future events, etc.

Conclusion

The period September 2001 till November 2002 was an excellent period for the CEV regarding press operations. With the installation of the Working Group Media, improvements will be made in the future. The level of press facilities during events is getting better and better, while



the European media receive much more information immediately following a match or when an important decision is taken. Step by step, the CEV is getting more professional in this field of the volleyball sport.

Special thanks are given to the staff of the CEV Head Office; Ms Marion Meyers, Mrs Isabelle Weydert and Mr Olivier Mottier for their very good cooperation and their assistance.

Further to this report, the CEV President wishes to express special thanks to Mr Arjen MEIJER for his collaboration since the launch of the CEV Working Group Media. Mr André MEYER is indeed very confident for further improvements of these activities in future.

In addition, the CEV President takes the opportunity to officially thank the FIVB, which financially support the media activities in Europe.

In absence of any remark, the verbal report presented by the Working Group “Media” is approved and adopted by the General Assembly.

CEV Exchange and Database of Knowledge and Management

Chairman: Ms Snjezana MIJIC (CRO), CEV Vice-President

The CEV President, Mr André MEYER, announces to the attendance that this newly created Working Group has been installed following the proposal made by the Dutch Volleyball Federation during the XXII General Assembly in Ostrava (CZE). Mr MEYER makes clear also that Ms Snjezana MIJIC will not make any report but will only present the outlines of the project.

A project is born!

Thanks to its 54 affiliated federations and their history, their outstanding achievements in sports, training programs, technical competence, their development plans, and their creativity, the CEV benefits from a dazzling array of knowledge.

Exchange of knowledge

Through this program, CEV will try to collect the experiences and create an exchange of knowledge between each national federation.

This project will only be successful if both sides - CEV and the European Volleyball National Federations - fully cooperate.

To share its knowledge, to enforce its management, to develop the PR activities and to create new communication flows will be the major advantages for the future of each of our federations.

The organisation of an exchange platform and the maintenance of its database will be the new challenges for the CEV.

Project Objectives

- to establish an inventory of existing “products”
- to create a centralised database within the CEV
- to create a “showcase” accessible for all
- to organise the links between the “customer” and the “product” he is interested in

The products

- list of products to suit the National Federations’ interests (domains for technical, organisation, education, medical, legal, management issues)
- definition of the available formats (books, video, documents, files, CD-ROM, etc.)
- definition of accessibility (free of charge, liable for costs, conditions, etc.)

- Identification of the products (category, origin, format, language, addresses, etc.)

The management

- analyse, codify and classify the existing products (questionnaire)
- create database and make it available on CEV Web site
- promote the output to the National Federations through the CEV Web site

The control

- creation of a Working Group (definition of tasks and time schedule)
- coordination with the IT responsible of the CEV Head Office
- budgetary and strategic control subject to Executive Committee

This project will offer solutions for a lot of questions that you might ask concerning the:

- organisation of an event
- national and regional volleyball activities
- administration & human resource
- technical methods & training
- dietetics
- management of marketing & TV rights
- management of PR & communication plan
- sport law

Mr André MEYER states that this new Working Group is the first contribution of CEV within the FIVB Vision 2008 decided during the last FIVB Congress in Argentina.

He reminds also that this project will never be fruitful without the help of the national federations. In this regard, the CEV President invites the European delegates to propose some experienced candidates to be member of this new Working Group.

INTERVENTION BY MR HERMAN A. VAN ZWIETEN (NED)

Mr Herman VAN ZWIETEN is very pleased to note that the proposal made by the Dutch Volleyball Federation during the CEV Congress in Ostrava has been duly taken into account.

Besides, he wishes to present Mr Peter VAN DER LOO as candidate for being member of this new Working Group.

There being no additional comments, the verbal report of the Working Group CEV Exchange and Database of Knowledge and Management is approved and unanimously adopted by the General Assembly.

Senior European Beach Volleyball Championships – A new Era Presentation by Global Sports Marketing (GSM), Mr Christian SCHOLBROCK, Managing Director

Mr Christian SCHOLBROCK, GSM Managing Director, made a short Power Point presentation, providing an overview of what would be going on and what will happen in European Beach Volleyball for the next seasons.

Global Sports Marketing

The Company

The passion and focus of GSM is in the development and implementation of innovative concepts in the business of sports and entertainment.



The company's experience include major sports and entertainment properties such as: Multi Sports Games (Olympics), Athletics, Tennis, National Team Football, Swimming, Basketball, Motor Racing and now Beach Volleyball.

The European Championships Tour

Positioning

- European Beach Volleyball has its own distinct profile, strong routes in all major countries with a National Tour, own National Champions and Star Players
- Serious Beach Volleyball competition in an environment of sun, fun, music, party and lifestyle
- Highest ranked annual European Beach Volleyball tournament series
- European Championship Final as season's highlight
- Extensive entertainment opportunities at and around the tournaments

Objectives

- Promote the sport and its stars
- Develop young and dynamic European sports brand
- Grow popularity of Beach Volleyball through
- Improved positioning and event presentation
- Broad international media coverage
- Develop the Tour into a preferred marketing tool for international brands (early branding opportunities)
- Offer National Federations and Event Promoters the opportunity for a financially successful international event

2003 Provisional Competition Calendar

- Coordination with FIVB, CEV, National Federations
- Under discussions with Event Promoters

2003

Tournament Name

29th May – 1st June 2003	European Championship Tour – Country Open
5th – 8th June 2003	European Championship Tour – Country Open
10th – 13th July 2003	European Championship Tour – Country Open
7th – 10th August 2003	European Championship Tour – Country Open
28th – 31st August 2003	European Championship Tour – FINAL

Key countries for 2003/2004:

- Germany
- Switzerland or Austria
- Norway or Sweden or Benelux
- Italy or Greece
- Spain or France

Sponsorship strategy

- 4 Main Event Partners & Event Suppliers: National Level by Promoter
- 1 Event Presenting Partner: National Level by Promoter
- 1 Tour Title / 4-5 Tour Suppliers: International Level by GSM

Partnership concept

GSM needs the support of CEV, the National Volleyball Federations, the Media Partners, the Sponsors Partners and the Event Promoters.

The partnership will only be efficient if all the involved parties roll in the same direction.

Summary

- High quality sports and entertainment property
- Early branding opportunity for commercial partners
- European winners, European stars, European markets, European broadcast

INTERVENTIONS BY MR PHILIPPE BEUCHET (FRA) & MR WERNER VON MOLTKE (GER)

Mr Philippe BEUCHET, General Secretary of the French Federation, but also Mr Werner Von MOLTKE, President of the Volleyball Federation of Germany, are very surprised, as Mr SCHOLBROCK has announced during his speech that contacts between GSM and their federations have already been established.

Mr SCHOLBROCK explains that indeed, a direct contract has not yet been signed with the French Federation but only with its promoter partner, which is Marseille. However, regarding the German case, the Managing Director of GSM confirms that the Beach Volleyball department of the German Federation is very well aware of the collaboration with GSM.

Moreover, Mr SCHOLBROCK would like to make clear that some national federations are very willing to organise some events but have unfortunately no promoter because it is much more involved in securing funds for other priority events, like national championships. For this reason, and in case of such time constraints, it is very important that GSM establishes, by its own, such relationships in parallel with the promoter, in order to secure the promotion support and the implementation of the tournament.

INTERVENTION BY MR ERIC ADLER (DEN)

Mr Eric ADLER (DEN) stresses that GSM's project and idea are good and positive. However, he would suggest GSM to personally inform the national federation that a contract with the promoter has been signed, so that the federation in question can give its agreement or not.

INTERVENTION BY MR PETER VAN DER LOO (NED)

First of all, the General Secretary of the Dutch Volleyball Federation wants to point out that Mr SCHOLBROCK did contact him personally. Besides, Mr Peter VAN DER LOO thinks that the question about contacting the national federation first and then the promoter is very tricky. Indeed, organising a tournament has a financial impact on the national federation. The Dutch federation, for instance, just does not want to take the responsibility and the liability stemming from it, but would prefer that an independent promoter takes this responsibility. Mr VAN DER LOO acknowledges that the national federation must always be involved in the organisation but he wonders if the federation must necessarily be the first line of contact for an agency, such as GSM.

In this regard, the CEV President, Mr André MEYER, underlines that contacting the national federation cannot be considered only as a formality. Indeed, this is the sole organ, which can take the final decision to organise the event or not. GSM needs the national federations, and without them the event would never take place.

Finally Mr MEYER assures that no competition will be held without the official consent of the national federation.



INTERVENTION BY MR JEAN-PIERRE SEPPEY (FIVB)

Mr Jean-Pierre SEPPEY believes it is very good that Mr SCHOLBROCK can meet all national federations' president, as FIVB and CEV, compulsory ask the national federations to sign each agreement. Without the federations, GSM will fail as Challenge and as Sponsor Service did. After 4 years of failure, Mr SEPPEY points out that FIVB had put order in Beach Volleyball by cancelling agreement with non-professional agencies, by investing in news and highlight TV communication worldwide with great success. The FIVB General Manager would like to advise Mr SCHOLBROCK to take profit of the international communication particularly with Eurosport, which could help GSM as well as the national federations to organise tournaments within Europe. To conclude, Mr SEPPEY adds that during the FIVB Beach Permanent Committee/World Council, FIVB decided to follow Beach Volleyball activities and to support the promoters. However, Mr SEPPEY assures that FIVB will undoubtedly not let the promoter make money alone.

To end up the debates, Mr Christian SCHOLBROCK reminds to the CEV General Assembly that GSM is very much aware of what our contract says and how Beach Volleyball is working. Indeed, GSM knows how important the national federations, the continental federations and the international federations are in this process and he underlines that success will be made possible only if all those parties are working together!

Mr André MEYER indicates that CEV now has a very good structure and he is confident that this joint venture will work efficiently for the benefit of the European Beach Volleyball activities.

Election of the new Board of Administration Member

Further to the decision of the FIVB Board of Administration, Mr Lasse SVENSSON has been discharged from all official positions within the Swedish Volleyball Federation, the CEV and the FIVB.

Consequently, and in accordance with the CEV Statutes, CEV must proceed to the election of a new Board of Administration Member for the next three years of the mandate.

The CEV Head Office received the official application of 6 candidates, which have been duly registered for the vacancy in question. However, Mr FISCHER has been informed of the withdrawal of the candidacy of Mr Vicente G. DE ARAUJO, President of the Volleyball Federation of Portugal:

Mr SEYIDOV Hasan (AZE) - Mr AKHVLEDIANI Levan (GEO) Mr
LAZAROV Dancho (BUL) - Mr HALANDA Lubor (SVK) - Mr ADLER Eric (DEN)

Election

The official calling out of the 47 federations present or validly represented in the General Assembly has been carried out at the beginning of the second session.

Before starting the voting, Mr Aloys FISCHER, President of the Voting Commission, reports the absence of the Ukrainian Volleyball Federation, which, because of an unforeseeable incident, had to leave the Congress.

Then, he officially opens the elections. Every National Federation is requested to slide its ballot into the official ballot box.

Deliberation

The Voting Commission withdraws behind closed doors during the coffee break in order to count the votes.

After deliberation, the President of the Voting Commission, Mr Aloys FISCHER, announces the following results:

- Distributed ballots: 44
- Collected ballots: 44
- Absolute Majority: 23
- Abstention: 2

<u>Name</u>	<u>First Name</u>	<u>NF</u>	<u>Number of votes</u>
Mr ADLER	Eric	DEN	23
Mr LAZAROV	Dancho	BUL	8
Mr HALANDA	Lubor	SVK	8
Mr AKHVLEDIANI	Levan	GEO	2
Mr SEYIDOV	Hasan	AZE	1

Mr Eric ADLER is elected as new Member of the Board of Administration with 23 votes.

Future Organiser Presentations and Reports

2003 Men's Senior European Championships

Final Round in Germany

The President of the German Volleyball Federation, Mr Werner Von MOLTKE, takes the floor and indicates it is a great challenge for the German Federation to have the opportunity to organise the Men's Senior European Championships as well as the CEV General Assembly in Berlin.

Mr LAMBERTY, Executive Director of the German Volleyball Federation, presents the report about the preparation of the competition.

First of all, a short video of the past Women's Senior World Championships is displayed in order to give an overview of how the organisation and the atmosphere of the coming European event may be.

The Men's Senior European Championships Final Round will take place from 5th to 14th September 2003.



This competition will be organised in three different cities and competition halls: Berlin (Max-Schmeling-Halle with a capacity of nearly 10,000 spectators), Karlsruhe (MultifunktionsArena) and Leipzig (Arena Leipzig).

In Berlin, the Officials and the Referees will be accommodated in the Hotel BERLIN whereas the teams will be welcomed in the FORUM Hotel.

In Leipzig, the Hotel MARRIOTT will welcome the Officials and the teams will be accommodated in the Hotel INTER-CONTINENTAL.

In Karlsruhe, both Officials and Referees will be lodged in the Hotel DORINT whilst the teams will be welcomed in the Hotel HILTON.

A comprehensive leaflet with all the necessary information is distributed to the whole attendance.

Mr André MEYER thanks the German representatives for this very good presentation. He is convinced that the organisation will be excellent. He takes the opportunity to already congratulate the German Volleyball Federation if it succeeds in reaching the same level as for the World Championships in Berlin.

The report is unanimously approved with loud applause.

2003 Women's Senior European Championships Final Round in Turkey

Mr Hüsnü CAN, President of the Volleyball Federation of Turkey, presents the progress report of the Women's Senior European Championships Final Round and thanks the CEV Board of Administration for having entrusted Turkey with the organisation of this event.

The competition will take place in Ankara and Antalya from 20th to 28th September 2003.

In Ankara, the Officials and the Referees will be accommodated in the Hotel ADOR ALTINEL whereas the teams will be lodged in the Hotels STAD and ICKALE.

In Antalya, the Hotel SHERATON VOYAGER will welcome the Officials and the Hotels FALEZ and GRIDA CITY will host the teams.

Everything seems to be organised properly, in compliance with the CEV/FIVB requirements.

A very comprehensive video describing the towns as well as the facilities of the competition halls and the hotels is shown to the delegates of the General Assembly.

The CEV President congratulates the President of the Turkish Federation for his report. He reminds then that CEV already had the opportunity to organise competitions in Turkey and he is looking forward to attending, once again, a top event in this country next September.

The report is unanimously approved with loud applause.

2004 Men's Junior European Championships

Final Round in Croatia

Taking the floor, the representative of the Croatian Volleyball Federation presents a short report concerning the preparation of the Men's Junior European Championships Final Round.

The Croatian delegate starts her presentation announcing that the CRO Federation is very proud and honoured to host these championships in its country.

The forecasted venue for holding this event is Zagreb.

The official staff will be accommodated in the Hotel Panorama while the Hotel INN will welcome the teams.

A video provided some additional information about the organisation is displayed to the assistance.

Mr André MEYER thanks the Croatian Federation for its presentation.

The report is unanimously approved with loud applause.

2004 Women's Junior European Championships

Final Round in Slovakia

The representative of the Volleyball Federation of Slovakia thanks the Board of Administration for having given to his federation the opportunity to host and organise one of the most significant European events in Slovakia.

The location of Slovakia in the centre of Europe is convenient for all participants from Europe.

The Women's Junior European Championships Final Round 2004 will be held in two marvellous cities: Priedvidza and Pvazská Bystrica.

A very comprehensive and detailed video describing both towns, the facilities of the competition halls and the hotels is presented to the whole Congress.

The CEV President congratulates the Federation of Slovakia for the excellent presentation. He is very satisfied with the progress report and strongly believes that the competition will be organised in a very good way.

The report is unanimously approved with loud applause.

2005 Men's Senior European Championships

Final Round in Yugoslavia and Italy

Mr André MEYER, CEV President, explains that the CEV Board of Administration decided to give the chance to the joint venture, Italy and Yugoslavia, to launch a new style of competition. Indeed, CEV expects a very good outcome from this experience as well as a high level of public attendance.

The progress report of the organisation of the Men's Senior European Championships Final Round is given by one representative of the Italian Federation and one representative of the Yugoslavian Federation.

The vast capacity and the extensive experience of both national federations in the organisation of great Volleyball events at the highest level will bring these Championships to success.

The completely renovated Italian sports hall has a capacity of 15,000 seats and is equipped with modern facilities and technology.

The arena in Yugoslavia shall be ready for 2005, with a capacity of 20,000 seats and up-to-date facilities.

The drawing of lots will be carried out in Yugoslavia. Belgrade will stage the Opening Ceremony and will start with the matches of Pool A.

The matches of Pool B as well as the Finals will be played in Rome, but also the CEV Congress and the Closing Ceremony.

The CEV President congratulates the Volleyball Federation of Italy and Yugoslavia for their very interesting and professional presentation. He is convinced this joint venture will be a great success especially in terms of marketing.

Mr MEYER insists on the importance of such a challenge which coincides with a modern positioning of the sports structures.

The report is unanimously approved with loud applause.



2005 Women's Senior European Championships

Final Round in Croatia

Taking the floor once again, the representative of the Croatian Volleyball Federation thanks CEV for the great privilege it was given to organise the 2005 Women Senior European Championships.

This competition will take place in the Croatian capital of Zagreb and in the city of Karlovac. Teams will be accommodated at the "I" Hotel, while the Panorama Hotel will welcome the officials.

A video providing some additional information about this organisation is showed to the assistance.

Mr André MEYER warmly thanks the Croatian Volleyball Federation for its thorough presentation and the quality of organisation it has already showed in several European Competitions.

The report is unanimously approved with loud applause.

Regional Activities

M. André MEYER recalls that following the Congress in Ostrava in 2001, CEV's wish was to create different zones of regional activities, in order to bring together several smaller countries and to promote common activities for the Youth and Junior players.

The first association created as such was that of the Balkan Region in November 2001, and CEV is already extremely proud and satisfied of the results and activities put together within this region.

Before handing over the floor to the President of the Balkan Volleyball Association, Mr André MEYER shares that the calendar of activities as proposed by the association meets the wishes and requests expressed by CEV. In addition, a bi-annual calendar combining the activities of the CEV and of its regional associations will be put together to meet the wishes of the FIVB Sports Events Council.

Report of the BVA

Mr Aleksandar BORICIC, BVA President, takes the floor and indicates that the activities of this association started in 2001 with several different competitions, mainly Youth and Junior, in the five regions of the association. In Turkey for example, the Girls' competition was extremely successful and attracted over 27,000 spectators.

In 2003, several new activities will also be organised in these 5 regions and will bring out the importance of each of the 5 regions' participation.

Mr BORICIC thanks FIVB for the financial support it contributed to this association (10,000 CHF) and expresses its wish to see the CEV continue to support and protect these regional activities. The BVA will work on enhancing to its maximum the importance of the next competition opportunities that represent the Women Senior Championships in Turkey in 2003, the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens and the 2005 Men Senior European Championships in Yugoslavia.

New elections took place, which designated Mr Athanassios BELIGRATIS (GRE) as President, and Mr Hüsnü CAN (TUR) as Vice-President. The Offices of the BVA are kept in Athens (GRE) and Mr BORICIC warmly thanks Mr Angelo TZIMOS, General Secretary, for his engagement.

Mr André MEYER thanks Mr BORICIC for this report and confirms that CEV fully supports the development and activities of this association.

The second regional association, created just a few weeks prior, is the Middle European Volleyball Zonal Association (MEVZA).

The statutes of this association, as proposed by MEVZA, were practically approved by the Board of Administration during its meeting on 8th November 2002. They will be officially adopted once they receive the approval of the European Legal Commission.

Mr MEYER hands over to Mr Karl HANZL, President of this association.

Report of the MEVZA

Mr Karl HANZL shares the different steps that led to the creation of this particular association.

On the basis of the BVA statutes, the different regions concerned expressed their wish to institutionalise the existing internal activities and to edit the new MEVZA Statutes which were unanimously confirmed during the association's first General Assembly in Schwechat (AUT) on 19th October 2002, in the presence of Mr André MEYER.

9 countries representing the National Federations connected to this association were present, and 7 already officially confirmed their membership. The National Federations of Poland and Germany will confirm their membership at a later date.

An Executive Committee was nominated for the two years to come, with Mr Karl HANZL as President (AUT), Mr Pavel KUCERA (CZE) and Mr Anton KONCNICK (SLO) as Vice-President.

The following commissions were also created: Beach Volleyball, Financial, Marketing, Sports Organising, and Refereeing.

The competition activities for the National Teams will mainly focus on the Youth and Junior categories. As far as the clubs go, the desire to count the interleague games as preparation phase for the European Cups is being considered.

Mr André MEYER thanks the BVA President for his report and confirms that the Board of Administration has taken note of the official registration of 7 countries.

Proposals from National Federations

No propositions were received within the statutory time limit.

Miscellaneous

Concerning the nomination of Internal Auditors, and as a follow-up to point 6 of the agenda (Financial Report), Mr André MEYER proposes to re-elect Mr Michel HENNO (BEL) and Mr Leo DADEMA (NED).

This proposition is approved and welcomed with applause by all delegates.

Mr Jean-Pierre SEPPEY wishes to speak a couple of additional points.

The first point concerns the External Auditors, who should, starting next year, represent the firm Price Waterhouse Coopers, in order to meet the same standards as FIVB and all other Confederations.

The second point concerns the collaboration that Mr Jean-Pierre SEPPEY, FIVB General Manager, wishes to bring to all European National Federations, and more specifically to the northern ones, in their need to create a particular Zone of Regional Activities in their area.

Mr MEYER greatly thanks Mr SEPPEY for his support, and confirms that a northern regional association is already in the planning and that CEV will also fully support its activities.

No additional interventions are made in regards to this point.



Date & Venue of the XXIV General Assembly in 2003

The next CEV General Assembly will take place in Berlin (GER) on 12th September 2003.

Closing of the XXIII General Assembly

Mr MEYER thanks all the delegates for their excellent and productive work, which greatly contributed to the realisation of this Congress's objectives. He also thanks the CEV Honorary Members and Mr Jean-Pierre SEPPEY for their very much appreciated presence, as well as all the employees of the CEV Head Office for their hard work. He also makes note of the meeting for the Official Presentation of the Indesit European Champions League 2002 / 2003, which will take place in Milan (ITA) on 26th November 2002.

On behalf of the CEV Board of Administration, Mr André MEYER invites everyone to be present at the official dinner, which is scheduled for that same evening. The meeting closed at 17h30.

2003

CEV BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING – PRAGUE (CZE) – 15TH & 16TH FEBRUARY 2003

The following members are attending:

President:	André Meyer (LUX)
Snr Vice-President & Treasurer:	Philip Berben (BEL)
Vice-Presidents:	Snjezana Mijic (CRO) - Riet Ooms (NED) - Aleksandar Boricic (SCG) - Jan Hronek (CZE) - Carlo Magri (ITA)
Members:	Thanassis Beligratis (GRE) - Janusz Biesiada (POL) - Aloys Fischer (SUI) - Manfred Holzgraefe (GER) - Vladimir Patkin (RUS) - Maris Pekalis (LAT) - Miguel Angel Quintana (ESP) - Jan Rek (SUI) - Fabio Sassi (ITA) - Jacques Shaw (FRA) - Andreas Stavrou (CYP)
Executive Director:	Mr Olivier Mottier

Opening of the Meeting

The CEV President, Mr André MEYER *[pictured below]*, opens the meeting and welcomes his colleagues of the Board of Administration (BoA) and especially Mr Eric ADLER (DEN) who is present for the first time.



Mr MEYER then excuses Mr Jacques SHAW (FRA), who could not be present due to health reasons. A card of good wishes for a prompt recovery will be signed by the BoA members.

On behalf of the CZE Federation, Mr Pavel KUCERA greets the BoA members and shares his pleasure at welcoming for the very first time to the Czech Republic the CEV Board of Administration, and to organise a meeting in its capital, Prague. The organisation and welcome reserved for CEV coincides with the objectives of the CZE Federation to organise important events for European Volleyball and to maintain its privileged relations between the federation and CEV.

On behalf of the BoA, Mr MEYER thanks Mr KUCERA and the CZE Federation for their warm welcome.

Approval of the Agenda

The agenda is approved after adding three amendments.

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on Thursday, 7th November 2002 at Hotel SOFITEL, Luxembourg (LUX) and on Saturday, 7th December 2002 at Eurocenter, Vilvoorde (BEL)

The minutes were distributed for information to the members of the Board, and were accepted during the ExCom Meeting on 14th February 2003 in Prague.

Approval of the Minutes of the Board of Administration Meeting held on Friday, 8th November 2002 at Congress Centre (LUX).

There being no comments, the minutes of the meeting are approved by the BoA.

Activity Report of the Executive Committee

Mr MEYER informs his colleagues of the work accomplished the previous day, especially with regards to the organisation of the 30th CEV Anniversary and the discussion in relation to the organisation of the next Senior European Championships 2003.

He underlines the importance of creating the Working Group CEV Contribution to Vision 2008, for which a planning of activities and schedule will be validated during the next ExCom meeting.

The other points analysed during the Executive Committee meeting will be discussed in detail under the different points of the agenda of the Board.

Activity Reports (including adoption of the Minutes)

Legal Commission – Mr Aloys FISCHER, ELC President (Minutes)

The Board of Administration Members received the Minutes of the Meeting held on 14th December 2002, as well as the report written by Mr FISCHER.

Open discussion on the Minutes:

Mr Andreas STAVROU wishes to receive clarification concerning the last decisions made by the European Sports Forum. Mr MEYER explains that the proposal made by the former French President, Mr GISCARD D'ESTAING, is precisely to include a particular disposition to the new European legislation, concerning sports institutions.

Additionally, concerning the different dispositions regulating the transfers of athletes, the European Court has not amended the jurisprudence in force.

Activity report by Mr FISCHER:

Mr MEYER wishes to receive details concerning the study conducted into each National Federations anti-doping procedures.

Mr HOLZGRAEFE states that currently:

- 33 National Federations have filled out and returned the questionnaire
- 6 of those conduct these controls without any particular legislation

Mr FISCHER suggests that a reminder be sent to the federations that have not yet answered in order to put together a final report in close collaboration with Mr HOLZGRAEFE and the EMC.

Action:

- Send a reminder to all Federations that have not returned the questionnaire and set a new deadline for receiving the requested information.
- Establish a final report to distribute to the BoA and the National Federations, concerning the current existing dispositions at the European level (ELC + EMC).

Financial Commission – Mr Philip BERBEN, CEV Senior Vice-President & Treasurer

The Executive Committee received statements of the 2002 accounts, finalised by the CEV administrative department just 6 weeks after the end of the year. The accounts must still be

verified by the fiduciary (redemptions, complementary writing, etc.) before being closed by the auditors and presented during the next meeting.

The EFC meeting and preparation of the 2004 budget is scheduled for May 2003.

Mr HOLZGRAEFE, EMC President, worries about the procedures concerning the allocation of the budgeted amounts to the different commissions.

Mr MEYER informs the Presidents of the different commissions that they are in charge of forwarding their request to the EFC, basing them on the budgets allocated in 2002. The final version of the 2004 budget will be amended during the next BoA meeting in June.

Action: Inform the EFC of the different budget requests by May 2003. (Commissions Presidents)

Cups Commission – Mrs Riet OOMS, CEV Vice-President and ECC President

The Members of the Board received a written report regarding the Cups Commission.

The commission was extremely busy between December 2002 and February 2003, managing week by week the matches of the European Cups and closely monitoring the development of the Indesit European Champions League. ECC has already identified key issues that will need future analysis and amendments to the existing regulations.

In particular Mrs OOMS underlines the problems that arose due to the “functional insufficiency” of certain national delegates acting in matches of TTC and CEV Cups. Improvements will have to be made to make the smooth running of the matches of the European Cups more credible.

Mr Andreas STAVROU (CYP) would like to receive more detailed information concerning the broadcasting of Indesit European Champions League matches on Eurosport.

Mr MEYER informs Mr STAVROU that a program of Eurosport’s broadcasting was published in one of the Official Bulletins concerning the Indesit Champions League and is also available on the CEV website.

Mr Vladimir PATKIN (RUS) worries about the consequences of the modifications made to the calendar of the CEV Cup Finals, which were originally planned for 1 – 2 March and is now postponed to 15 – 16 March. This late change in dates creates major difficulties for the internal management of the organisation by the RUS Federation (National Championships, TV contract, etc.).

Mr MEYER notes the difficulties mentioned, but underlines the following points:

- The calendar proposed by CEV is only a draft.
- The finalisation of the calendar depends on several matters (application by the organisers, TV contract, conditions for qualifications as specified by the possible organisers, etc...)
- ECC and ExCom are responsible for guaranteeing the organisation of these finals in respect with the conditions connected in conjunction with the applications of the organisers.

Sports Organising Commission – Mr Fabio SASSI, ESOC President

The Commission met on 24 – 26th January 2003. In order to confirm dates all future competitions, the BoA Members received a detailed report. In order to clarify the planning of the official dates for CEV Competitions, a decision is made:

Decision: Establish a plan of the competition dates which will be available to everyone and recognised as the only official calendar.

Action: Centralise all information related to the Youth, Junior and Senior 2003-2005 activities in one official document, which will be made available to everyone via the CEV website.



Beach Volleyball Commission – Mr Miguel QUINTANA, EBVC President (Minutes)

Certain points of the Minutes need to be clarified:

- Contract GSM/CEV: signed for the period 2003 – 2005, with an option for 5 additional years (2010)
- Beach Seminar: Mr BELIGRATIS underlines the importance of organising such an event. The GRE Federation forwarded to CEV a proposal for organising, which includes 3 days of seminars. Mr MEYER explains that the proposed themes differ from the proposal mentioned in the Minutes. They do not just pertain to the training of technical supervisors, but also tackle organisational aspects of a Beach Competition.

Decision: In order to validate the budget allocated to this event (Special Events 2003), a final document including its forming and financial objectives will have to be forwarded to Mr BERBEN.

Final Report – U18 in Ukraine

For future reference, it is requested that the report made by the Technical Delegate not be included as part of such a document. It is the responsibility of the EBVC to objectively expose the good development of such a competition.

Duties of the Technical Supervisor

Mr Jan REK, ERC President, underlines the importance of each official's functions (technical supervisor, referees, etc.). With this in mind, the respective task description must be maintained and each must stick to their own duties.

Deadline for publication of the EBVC Minutes

The following procedure is adopted:

Decision: The EBVC Secretary is responsible for writing the Minutes of the Meetings as soon as possible and forwarding them to the CEV Office.

The CEV Office will immediately make the Minutes available to the Members of the EBVC for validation, and will allow no more than 8 days before the Minutes are finally edited and distributed.

Medical Commission – Dr Manfred HOLZGRAEFE, EMC President

The commission met in Luxembourg on 1st February 2002. The following points are raised:

- Health Certificate for the Referees: 99% of the referees had a medical, validated by the return of the special form sent to them. (M-4)
- Doctors' Accreditation: Following the process adopted during the Champions League, EMC will introduce a proposal to extend this measure to all European Cups. The presence of an accredited doctor meets the education of the clubs and the medical guarantees connected to participating in sport. To avoid any incident during Youth and Junior competitions, and considering the easiness of the current procedure (transfer of certificate for approval by EMC), Mr MEYER insists on applying such measures.

Decision: The presence of an official doctor, who may sit on the players' bench during a CEV competition, must be previously validated.

Action: Related information must be collated and included in the official communications for the respective competitions.

Proposal of a procedure for the NF in case of a positive anti-doping tests:

Decision: The Board of Administration approves the procedure, which is based on that of the FIVB.

Action: Inform all National Federations of the procedures that are now in force.

Gender control for the female athletes

Presently, Volleyball is the only sport that requires such measures. Based on a proposal by FIVB, which defines this disposition with “may be required”, and based on the decision of the IOC to cancel such tests, EMC has proposed to leave the decision to the President of the Jury and the nominated doctor to order such tests if they judge it necessary. In case of problems, the responsibility remains that of the National Federation.

Decision: The BoA approves the proposal to leave the decision of conducting these tests or suspending them during the European Championships to the President of the Jury and the nominated doctor.

Training for doctors who may be responsible for conducting anti-doping tests during CEV Official Competitions: Mr HOLZGRAEFE insists on the necessity to plan a training course for his colleagues during a seminar organised by CEV.

Decision: Submit a proposal for training in 2003 to the EFC for financial approval. This plan should be based on the participation of 2 doctors during the first 3 days of the Senior European Championships.

Refereeing Commission – Dr Jan REK, ERC President

The minutes of the Commission meeting on 24th January 2003 have not yet been edited, so Mr REK distributes a summary of the points discussed.

Database of Referee Biographies

ERC supports the idea of the WG Media to create a new database of the European Referees, and wishes to participate in the delivery of this project.

Approval of the IR Candidates' score sheets

The official FIVB procedure clearly states that it is the responsibility of the Referees own National Federation to directly send the appropriate forms to the FIVB and not CEV.

CEV Insurance

All active referees will soon receive their card of eligibility.

CEV Reference Manual

The ERC members can download these documents from the CEV website.

PO Company – Referees' Uniforms

Mr MEYER will analyse the file and inform the commission of the next decisions to be made.

Match ISR 2003 (Official Communication)

The Men's' matches will be played in Cyprus, while the Women's' matches are still under negotiation (2 countries instead of 4). Mr MEYER underlines that since these matches will be played on neutral territories, the line judges and scorers will also have to be neutral and nominated. Additionally, he reminds the organisers the matches to be played on neutral grounds to confirm all conditions in a written contract, duly signed by the organiser and ISR.



Duties of Line Judges

A final document will be edited on the CEV website.

Flight tickets for Substitute Referees

In case of a last-minute nomination, the National Federations are responsible for the costs of the flight tickets, which can be quite expensive. ECC will discuss this problem during its next session.

Referee Seminar

Beach and Volleyball seminars will be organised together in Vienna (AUT). The budget will be forwarded to the EFC.

Referee Evaluation

The evaluations must be handed over in person.

World League Nomination

70% of the nominated referees and 80% of the nominated supervisors are European

Training of CL Supervisors and Technical Delegates

ERC and ECC are responsible for analysing the measures to be taken in the future. Mr MEYER mentions that if there are doubts on the credibility of a National Technical Delegate's activities, CEV will be responsible to nominate a neutral delegate and to inform ERC.

Nomination of a Reserve Referee for the Champions League

Mr BELIGRATIS (GRE) emphasises the importance of the nomination of a local reserve referee. Mr MEYER reminds his colleagues that this matter will be analysed by the ECC, and that it is essential to find an alternative solution in case of a referee's absence during a major CEV competition.

Mr BERBEN wishes to be informed of Mr SHIMOYAMA's possible participation in the ERC Seminar and of its financial consequences. Mr REK replies that this year, Mr Gaby KRAUS, President of the FIVB Refereeing Commission, will be invited at the Seminar.

Working Group Media – Mr Aleksandar BORICIC, CEV Vice-President & WG Chairman

Minutes of the meeting held on 24th November 2002 in Rome (ITA): The following points of the Minutes are mentioned:

- Organisation of a Regional Network: One of the objectives of the Working Group is to create a network of journalists, which will serve as communication post attached to all the different regions of Europe.
- Press Release of the Results: The Working Group underlines the importance to start all matches of the European Cups Competitions at 20h00 very latest.
- Journalists in the Delegations: Proposal to possibly introduce a journalist in the different delegations.
- CD-ROM for Referees: Mr MEYER mentions that such a support already exists for the World League and that the possibility to set up this system for CEV needs to be analysed.

Action: In collaboration with the ERC, analyse the opportunity of setting up such a support.

The Minutes of the meeting are approved, with the exception of the proposal to start games no later than 20h00. ECC is responsible for analysing such a proposal.

Working Group Fines & Regulations – Mrs Riet OOMS, CEV Vice-President & WG Chairman

Considering that the members of this WG were kept busy by their activities in the framework of the different competitions, they were unable to carry out any preliminary work. A meeting is planned before the next BoA.

Decision: In order to support the work of this WG, the BoA wishes to add a member of the ELC who will be responsible for analysing urgently the different modifications proposed by the WG.

Institutions

FIVB Recommendations (Development of Volleyball)

Based on a document distributed to all BoA members, Mr MEYER underlines the importance of the different marketing / TV measures as defined by the expert, and based on an a study of the last Men World Championships 2002. The implementation of this advice must be carefully examined by each commission in their next meeting.

Replacement of ELC and EBVC Members

Mr FISCHER, ELC President, informs his colleagues that Mr Osman ATAMAN (TUR) has been officially dismissed from his functions after missing 3 consecutive meetings of his commission (CEV Statutes, Art.11.8). For the election of a new member to take his place, Mr FISCHER suggests waiting until the next General Assembly.

Action:

- Inform the National Federations of their possibility to present a candidate for the nomination of a new ELC member.
- Include on the agenda of the BoA meeting scheduled for 11th September 2003, the appointment of a new ELC member (CEV Statutes, Art. 11.4)

Mr QUINTANA, EBVC President, informs his colleagues that for the replacement of Mr Damir RADELJIC (CRO), and according to the list of candidatures 2001, there are 2 people likely to be elected:

Mr Nejat SANCAK (TUR) - Mr Bartosz HELLER (POL)

Mr Janusz BIESIADA proposes to replace the candidature of Mr HELLER by Mrs Aleksandra POLOWCZYK (POL), taking into account the experience and the skills of the latter candidate.

Mr MEYER explains that due to internal regulations, which state that a member listed on the official candidatures 2001 cannot be replaced by a candidate from the same federation, the candidature of Mrs POLOWCZYK is not valid.

Decision: Mr Nejat SANCAK (TUR) is elected as new member of the EBVC.

Action: Officially inform the TUR Federation of this new election

Regional Volleyball Association – Statutes, Calendar & General Guidelines

In order to regulate and maintain some coherence in the activities between CEV and the Zonal Associations, Mr MEYER underlines the need to maintain a clear policy: the existence of a Zonal Association is based on the development of volleyball in the framework of Youth activities and a certain interaction and cultural exchange.



To this day, 2 problems still remain:

- BVA: The organisation of Senior Beach Volleyball tournaments when the activities of the Regional Association must be focused on the development of Youth and Junior Volleyball.
- MEVZA: The creation of structured internal activities for the clubs, which may conflict with the European Cups.

Balkan Volleyball Association (BVA)

Mr STAVROU (CYP) explains that the activities organised in the framework of the BVA follow the need to promote volleyball for the youth and that the sport provides cultural interaction for the different ethnic groups represented in the Association.

Mr BELIGRATIS (GRE) adds that the Senior Beach Tournament was submitted for validation by the General Assembly and that a Senior Event had already taken place during the year. The objectives are not to focus on the development of senior competitions, but these tournaments are likely to promote Beach Volleyball within the Association. During the next BVA General Assembly in Athens in October 2003, Mr BELIGRATIS will propose an amendment to the statutes which will include the organisation of Senior Beach Competitions in the activities of the BVA.

Mr MEYER states that such activities do not correspond with the remit of the Zonal Associations, and that only activities aimed at youth & junior should be listed on the statutes, in order to avoid clashes with CEV & FIVB Competitions.

Mr BELIGRATIS adds that for these particular tournaments, only teams from the 3rd and 4th level can participate.

Decision: The Executive Committee will later review the detailed conditions for the organisation of such tournaments.

Middle European Volleyball Zonal Association

Mr FISCHER, ELC President, wishes to add the following clarifications before approving the statutes presented.

1. It is necessary to clarify the list of MEVZA Member Federations.

Decision: The GER and POL Federations, which confirmed their disinterest in the MEVZA activities, need to be excluded from the Statutes.

Action: MEVZA is responsible for amending the statutes and providing CEV with the new version (MEVZA)

2. Mr FISCHER proposes to amend the statutes according to the comments made in the Minutes of the ELC (Paragraph 7, art. 2-7).

Action: MEVZA is responsible for amending the statutes according to the Minutes of the ELC.

3. The organisation of activities other than those stipulated in the statutes is not acceptable. A risk of conflict between the calendar of European Cups competitions and the organisation of a MEVZA competition remains.

Following this discussion, Mr MEYER informs Mr Karl HANZL, MEVZA President, and insists that amendments be made to the MEVZA statutes.

Mr HANZL thanks the assembly for the opportunity to present the objectives of his association, and makes the following statements:

The amendments to the statutes, as proposed by the ELC, will be made and approved during the next General Assembly.

Concerning the official registration of the member federations, 9 had originally expressed their interest, 7 of which are still interested. GER and POL will be removed from the list of participating countries.

Action Forward the amended statutes to CEV as soon as possible. (MEVZA)

4. Concerning the situation with the Senior Beach competition, Mr HANZL asserts that MEVZA intends to respect all dates taken by CEV events.

Mr QUINTANA reminds him that the organisation of such a competition is not stipulated in the statutes.

Decision: Exclude for now the possibility of Organising a Senior Beach Competition in the framework of MEVZA activities.

5. Inter League competitions: MEVZA wishes to organise a new competition, bringing together the 7 member federations and as preparation for the European Cups season. In order to avoid any clash with the CEV calendar, this competition will be organised outside of all CEV official dates.

Decision: The BoA approves the organisation of this competition as long as the clubs participating in the European Cups competition confirm in writing their registration.

6. Amend the MEVZA statutes under Paragraph 2.3. Control the organisation of this competition by using the appropriate form, "Tournament Approval".

State in the statutes that CEV reserves the right to cancel this competition, were it to interfere with CEV activities or cause prejudices to CEV.

Mr BORICIC also proposes to amend the existing statutes of the BVA in the same way as to clarify the principles to set up.

Decision: Inform BVA of the need to amend its statutes accordingly and put it on the agenda for their General Assembly in October 2003.

7. Mr HANZL also wishes to take this opportunity to discuss the future of the Spring Cup. In his opinion, this tournament must be preserved as a complementary competition for certain European Countries, and he wishes to receive CEV's approval.

Mr MEYER assures him that the holding of this tournament is also very important for the CEV and supports this request as long as the dates for the Spring Cup do not interfere with the CEV Calendar. He also congratulates Mr HANZL for his dedication in maintaining this competition.

Action: Officially inform CEV Office of the organisation of this competition by sending the appropriate form, duly completed. (CZE President)

8. Establish a new version of the statutes, which will be presented during the next Congress in BRNO.

Sports Aid Program – Guidelines to NF (Mr P. BERBEN)

Since the approval of the 2002 budget, CEV has allocated a sum to support certain federations at an administrative level.



The Executive Committee wishes, before the next General Assembly, to allocate particular support to those National Federations with an insufficient basic administrative level. The following principles are adopted:

- No direct money transfer
- Analysis of the selective needs (PC, balls, material, etc...)
- Proposals to be made to the ExCom

Action: Mr MOTTIER is responsible for analysing the specific needs of each targeted National Federation.

Spring Cup – Office and Organisation

CEV was recently informed that the Spring Cup has moved its offices from Switzerland to Austria.

The following proposals concerning the 2003 competitions were taken:

- Spring Cup Women: 10 – 18 May 2003
- Spring Cup Men: The new office sent a request to the European teams to better understand their possible interest in participating in this competition in order to avoid possible clashes with the European Qualifications.

National Volleyball Leagues (Mrs R. OOMS)

In order to establish a realistic definition for the creation of such structures within the CEV National Federations, ECC sent out a questionnaire to all National Federations. 49 Federations have already returned the completed questionnaire.

Action:

- Send a reminder to the 2 Group C National Federations which have not yet responded. (Mr A. STAVROU, President Group C)
- Send a reminder to the other 3 federations.
- Write a final report for the BoA.
- Create a new detailed questionnaire to be sent out to the National Federations, who confirmed the existence of a professional league on their territory. (Mrs OOMS)

30th CEV Anniversary

The celebrations of this anniversary will mark all the activities conducted by CEV in 2003. This event will be celebrated with other activities during the CEV General Assembly in Berlin.

The Official Opening Ceremony will take place on 21st March 2003 in Milan. The Presidents of all affiliated National Federations, as well as the Presidents of the 4 other confederations were invited.

During the ceremony, the best athletes of 2002 will be rewarded.

Action: Propose the best athletes for 2002.

Financial Matters

Old Debts

In closing the 2002 accounts, it appears that an increasing number of National Federations are in debt the CEV. Mr BERBEN, CEV Treasurer, informs his colleagues that in addition to sending out several reminders to the National Federations concerned, a list has been forwarded to FIVB to begin a process of sanction.

Action: Inform the National Federations concerned of the procedure started and urge them to pay their old debts by a new set deadline.

Concerning the 2004 budget, Mr Fabio SASSI, ESOC President, informs the EFC that exceptionally, his commission will have to organise 3 meetings in 2003. However, in 2004, it won't be necessary to plan an ESOC meeting.

Action:

- Inform the EFC of the detailed planning of the ESOC meetings.
- Support to the Youth and Junior BVA Activities

The GRE Federation has made a request to support its development program for Youth in the scope of the activities of BVA. The members of the Executive Committee approved this request and suggest the allocation of a certain number of balls to this project.

Action: Analyse the possibilities of sending balls.

European Sports Organising Commission

Sanctions Proposals

After control of the reports of the Technical Delegates, ESOC presents to the BoA following sanction proposals, concerning non conformity of player uniforms:

- Men's SEC 2002/03: sanction of € 2,016 / each country
 - Category B: Tournament in EST: AZE (only 2 sets of shirts)
 - Category C: Tournament in AND: AND, ISL, SCO (only 2 sets of shirts)
 - Category C: Tournament in AND: ISL, SMR (no name of the players on the shirt)
- Women's SEC 2002/03: sanction of € 2,016 / each country
 - Category A: Tournament in FRA: FRA (only 2 sets of shirts)
 - Category B: Tournament in LAT: AZE, FIN (only 2 sets of shirts)
 - Category B: Tournament in BEL: SUI non-conformity of the uniforms to the FIVB standards (numbers too small, no flag on shirt, country written as SUISSE not SUI)
 - Category C: Tournament in LUX: SMR non-conformity of the uniforms to the FIVB standards (no numbers on short)
 - Category C: Tournament in LUX: ISL and SMR (no name of the players on the shirt)
- Men's Pre-qualification & Qualification Tournaments: sanction of €1,000 / each country
 - Pool A Men: Tournament in SLO: ROM (only 2 sets of shirts), FIN (3 sets of shirts but 2 with white colour)
 - Pool C Men: Tournament in LAT: SWE (only 2 sets of shirts)
 - Pool D Men: Tournament in CRO: POR (only 2 sets of shirts), AUT (3 sets of shirts but always main colour white)
 - Pool D Men: Tournament in CRO: NED (no names of player)
- Women's Pre-qualification & Qualification Tournaments: sanction of €1,000 / each country
 - Pool C Women: Tournament in FRA: FRA and SWE (only 2 sets of shirts)
 - Pool D Women: Tournament in BLR: AZE, BLR, ROM and SUI (only 2 sets of shirts)



- Youth Women's EC 2003 – sanction of €1,346

Pool B Women: Tournament in LAT: FIN (both sets of shirts with wrong position and dimension of front number, manufacturer logo, no flag and country code, but full name of country in the middle, numbers on sleeves and no player name on the back)

Decision: The sanctions as proposed are approved by the BoA.

ESOC Members Nomination – Decisions of the BoA

- Senior European Championships 2003
 - Men Category A, Pool 1 in CRO - CEV Technical Delegate: Mr Sebastian BENASCO (ESP)
 - Men Category A, Pool 3 in MKD - CEV Technical Delegate: Mr Slobodan MILOSEVIC (SCG)
 - Final Round Men's EC 2003 in GER - Jury Member: Mr Willy BRUNINX (BEL)
- Qualification Round
 - Women Category B, Pool 2 in BLR - CEV Technical Delegate: Mr Pavel KUCERA (CZE)
- Final Round Women's EC 2003 in TUR - Jury Member: Mr Slobodan MILOSEVIC (SCG)
- Junior World Championships 2003, Qualification Round
 - CEV Technical Delegates: Mr Fabio SASSI (ITA) - Mr Willy BRUNINX (BEL) - Mr Pavel KUCERA (CZE) - Mr Pierre MULHEIMS (LUX) - Mr Krzysztof TUROWSKI (POL)
- Continental Qualification for Olympic Games 2004
 - ❖ Men European Continental Qualifications Tournament
 - ESOC Coordinator: Mr Fabio SASSI (ITA)
 - ESOC Jury Member: Mr Willy BRUNINX (BEL)
 - ❖ Men European Continental Pre-qualifications Tournament
 - CEV Technical Delegate: Mr Sebastian BENASCO (ESP)
 - ❖ Women European Continental Qualifications Tournament
 - ESOC Coordinator: Mr Pierre MULHEIMS (LUX)
 - ESOC Jury Member: Mr Pavel KUCERA (CZE)
 - ❖ Women European Continental Pre-qualifications Tournament
 - CEV Technical Delegate: Mr Krzysztof TUROWSKI (POL)
- Junior European Championships 2004
 - ❖ Men's Final Round in CRO
 - ESOC Coordinator: Mr Pavel KUCERA (CZE)
 - ESOC Jury Member: Mr Fabio SASSI (ITA)
 - ❖ Women's Final Round in SVK
 - ESOC Coordinator: Mr Willy BRUNINX (BEL)

ESOC Jury Member: Mr Slobodan MILOSEVIC (SCG)

- Senior European Championships 2005
 - ❖ Men's Final Round in ITA / SCG

ESOC Coordinator: Mr Pierre MULHEIMS (LUX)

ESOC Coordinator: Mr Willy BRUNINX (BEL)

ESOC Jury Member: Mr Pavel KUCERA (CZE)

ESOC Jury Member: Mr Jussi JOKINEN (FIN)

- ❖ Women's Final Round in CRO

ESOC Coordinator: Mr Fabio SASSI (ITA)

ESOC Jury Member: Mr Krzysztof TUROWSKI (POL)

Registration of Players

Following the decisions taken during the FIVB BoA Meeting, ESOC submits the following proposals, in order to be in line with FIVB:

1. To allow teams to change up to two players registered on the CH-05bis form, due to medical reasons, or an urgent matter duly proven, in the period between the preliminary inquiry and the general technical meeting
2. If a team arrives with less than 12 players, the NF will be fined € 1,000 per missing player, payable to CEV.

Decision: Both proposals are approved, with the condition that CEV analyses each individual case of change due to a "force majeure".

To clearly mark the difference between the organisation of a tournament and the organisation of a single match in the Youth category, ESOC proposes to amend the regulation concerning the official registration of players:

For single matches, each visiting team and also the Organising team are bound to inform the organiser and the CEV Office using the form CH-05 with the names of a maximum of 18 players with a valid license. This is only to be considered as information and at the preliminary inquiry the CEV Technical Delegate considers only the presented form CH-05bis even if the players are not listed on the form CH-05, but must have a valid license. The financial Sanctions stay unchanged for not sending the CH-05 form.

Decision: Proposals for regulations Art. 1.6 and Art. 11.2 approved.

Youth European Championships 2003

Competition Program

ESOC proposes to change the Competition Program and to put an interval of 2½ hours between the start time of the 2nd and the 3rd match: 11h00, 13h00, 15h30, and 17h30.

Decision: The proposal is accepted and will be definitely adopted as line of conduct for the future.

Competition Format

Following the request of some National Federations, ESOC submits to the BoA a proposal for increasing the number of teams from 8 to 12. In this case, ESOC has already prepared a system for the Final Round in a period of 6 days, with two different organisers.

Following a discussion which highlighted the advantages and disadvantages of this proposal, the BoA decides to vote. The result of the vote is 16 for the proposal, and 1 against.



Decision: The proposal is approved.

Mr Maris PEKALIS informs the BoA that the National Federations of LAT and EST are candidates for the next edition.

Mr Vladimir PATKIN (RUS) asks if it would be possible to organise the Youth European Championships on a different year than the World Championships in order to avoid problems of player availability.

Mr Fabio SASSI, ESOC President, explains that this issue has already been raised during the Sports Events Council, but that it is mandatory to organise the Youth European Championships during the same year as the World Championships if CEV wishes to use this competition as a qualification tournament for the World Championships. If done otherwise, CEV would be required to organise another competition which would qualify the best teams for the World Championships, which obviously is not in CEV's best interest.

Junior European Championships

Official Regulations

ESOC proposes an administrative change to the existing regulations, concerning the financial contribution to be paid by each of the participating teams:

1. €108 for a tournament with 3 or 4 teams (4 days x 27 = € 108)
2. €162 for a tournament with 5 or 6 teams (6 days x 27 = € 162)

Decision: The proposal is approved.

Classification matches:

ESOC proposes to cancel the following classification matches for the 2004 edition:

Playoff matches: 5th Pool I – 6th Pool II, 6th Pool I – 5th Pool I & 9th place & 11th place

Decision: The proposal is approved.

Senior European Championships

Final Round 2005

First of all, Mr MEYER explains that the decision to increase the number of participating teams from 12 to 16 will not be applicable until the EC 2006/07.

Action: Analyse a new proposal for competition format for the EC 2006/07, taking into account the proposal made by the DEN Federation. (ESOC)

Decision: The proposal made by the GEO Federation cannot be considered, since the new formula of competition for qualification must absolutely be played in 8 months.

Elimination of the 3rd- and 4th-ranked teams of the Preliminary Round

ESOC proposes to dismiss for the final round the teams ranked 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th in each preliminary pool, as the 5th to 8th place in the qualification matches are awarded in comparison with the classifications of the Preliminary Round.

SCG and ITA, organisers in 2005, approve this measure.

Mr HOLZGRAEFE (GER) underlines the importance of awarding the 5th and 6th place, as they may hold a certain qualification value for future competitions.

Mr MEYER insists that CEV must keep a complete ranking system (1-8), based on the competition results.

Considering the necessity to maintain a sporting concept through this proposal, and the need to award places based on such ranking as possible qualifications for other competitions (FIVB or CEV), the following decision is made:

Decision: Analyse and present the BoA with a detailed ranking concept for the 5th to 8th places. (ESOC)

Based on this report, a final decision will be made during the BoA in June 2003.

Continental Olympic Qualification – Athens 2004

ESOC proposes to adopt the following competition format:

- 8 teams qualified: the Organising country, the 6 best-ranked teams of the last EC 2003 (with the exception of the teams qualified through the World Cup) and the best team from the pre-qualifications tournaments
- the Continental Qualification Tournament will take place between 5th and 10th January 2004
- ESP, organising federation of one of FIVB's Olympic Qualification Tournaments, has expressed the desire to participate in the European Qualifications (unlike POR)

Decision: The proposal is approved.

Junior World Championships 2003

Men's Qualification Proposal:

- 18 teams registered
- ITA (European Champion), directly qualified for the Final Round
- 6 places must be awarded
- 3 tournaments with 4 teams and 1 tournament with 5 teams
- the 1st ranked team in the 4 different pools are qualified
- the best 2 second-ranked teams are qualified
- proposed organisers: BUL – GER – SVK – FIN

Mr Vladimir PATKIN (RUS), wishes to know how the organising countries were assigned considering that the candidature of Russia was not selected.

Mr Fabio SASSI explains that when there are more candidates than needed organisers, it is always the team who are not ranked first of a pool that is selected.

The discussion is open to assign the method of qualification for the best second-ranked teams. With 4 non-participations, the following solution is adopted:

Decision: In order to avoid any difference between the pools with 4 teams and the pool with 5 teams, the results of the match between the second-ranked team and the 5th-ranked teams are not counted towards the calculation of the best matches/sets/points quotient, between the 4 teams ranked second in the 4 pools.

Women's Qualification Proposal:

21 teams registered

- POL (European Champion) directly qualified in Final Round
- 6 places must be awarded
- 3 tournaments with 3 teams and 2 tournaments with 4 teams
- the best 6 teams are qualified

Considering that the tournaments with only 3 teams are less attractive, and seeing that CEV would like to establish the same system for the Men and Women qualifications, the BoA agrees on the following by majority of votes and with only 1 abstention.



Decision: The competition format is established similarly to that of the Men's: 5 pools of 4 teams. The 5 best teams and the best second are qualified.

The organisers are CRO – ROM – SVK – TUR – ITA

Youth World Championships

Boys: 6 vacancies for Europe

The 6 best-ranked teams, registered for the World Championships, will qualify through the Boys European Championships Final Round in CRO.

Girls: 8 vacancies for Europe

The 7 best-ranked teams registered for the World Championships will qualify through the Girls European Championships Final Round in CRO.

Group C Competition

ESOC submits the following proposal:

- Up to six participating teams registered only a Final Round (single Round Robin);
- Period of the Final Round: 1 May – 30 June in even years;
- If more than six registered teams a qualification Round will be played;
- The qualification round will be played between 20th December and 7th January before the final Round;
- The participating countries shall be split in two groups considering the previous ranking and geography;
- The 2 first placed teams of each qualification group will qualify for the Final Round; if the organiser is not one of the qualified teams, the team will participate in the Final Round as fifth team;
- ESOC has fixed the deadline for registering as organiser of a final round or a qualification round the 15 October in the odd year;
- For the competition formula not more than 2 matches per day per team can be played;
- The European C Group Federations must present the organisers for the qualification tournaments and the Final Round;
- Art 1.4 to change: The teams are allowed to use a maximum of 2 [TWO] foreign players.

Mr MEYER requests that by 15th August 2003, the different organisers be presented to CEV.

He also reminds Mr STAVROU, President Group C, that concerning the number of foreign players aligned in these teams, the objective really is of completely eliminating the use of foreign players.

Mr STAVROU informs his colleagues that an extraordinary meeting will take place in April 2003, in order to adopt this competition format and find a solution concerning the status of the "sleeping" National Federations.

Action: Inform CEV of each of the Group C Federation's situation.

Decision: The ESOC proposal is approved.

World Grand Prix 2004 – Qualifications in 2003

Considering that the teams qualified at the continental level must be known at least 6 months in advance, ESOC submits a proposal for 8 teams, split over two separate tournaments, which would take place between 29th and 31st August 2003.

In order to establish the best system, Mr MEYER requests that the commission also analyses the possibility of a proposal with 6 teams, before the BoA makes a final decision.

Technical Organisation & Logistics for Tournament & single matches

The new document presented is a “copy-and-paste” of the conditions defined in 1994.

Mrs OOMS notes that certain details on the last form do not match that of the text.

Decision: The document is adopted and will be made available to all in English (work document)

Senior European Championships 2003

2002/03 SEC in Germany – Report by the Jury President

Mr Philip BERBEN shares that the organisation is progressing very well and that the drawing of lots will take place on 16th May 2003, at 11h00, in Leipzig. There has been a change of hotel in Karlsruhe.

2002/03 SEC in Turkey – Report by the Jury President

One of the main problems that still needs to be solved is the signing of a marketing rights contract defining the rights granted to the local marketing agency by ISA. A meeting is planned for 6th April 2003 to discuss this issue. The transportation between the two organising cities has been confirmed.

Action: Validate in details the procedure concerning the organisation of anti-doping controls.

2003/04 Junior European Championships

Inspection visits in CRO and SVK: The Executive Committee proposes that during their time in Croatia for the Youth EC 2003, Mrs Riet OOMS and Mr Maris PEKALIS carry out their inspection visit for the next Junior European Championships, which will also take place in Croatia.

Decision: The proposal is approved.

For the Championships taking place in Slovakia, the nominated coordinators must organise the inspection visit.

2002/03 Youth European Championships

Final Round in CRO: Mrs Snjezana MIJIC informs her colleagues that the Girls Final will take place on Sunday, 27th April 2003 instead of Monday, 28th April.

Jury composition: Mr PEKALIS states that he was surprised to see only 3 people mentioned in the information bulletin N°4. Mr Jacques SHAW and Mr Vladimir PATKIN were originally nominated as Jury Secretaries.

Action: The CEV Office is charged with investigating the issue and with drawing up a detailed list of the nominations for Jury and SRC for the next competitions.



Continental Olympic Qualification – Athens 2004

Bidding Procedure

Mr BERBEN explains in details the different reasons to use such a procedure, which makes our products available to the market and its demand. He insists on the fact that the technical presentation concerning the main conditions of such organisations, remains the most important element in the evaluation of the candidatures.

The discussion is opened.

Mr Eric ADLER shares that such a procedure should only be applied to certain CEV competitions.

Mr MEYER confirms that this proposal is currently only being considered for this specific competition and not for all of them.

Mr Maris PEKALIS wishes that the procedure be conducted by a special commission, which must include a neutral person.

Mr Philip BERBEN confirms that during the opening of the bids, a neutral person will indeed be present and a particular protocol will be followed.

Decision: The BoA approves this new proposal, established for these competitions, and based on a minimum budget.

This proposal is to be considered as a test. The results will be analysed and discussed during the next ExCom meeting.

European Cups

CEV Cup & Top Teams Cup

During its next meeting, the ECC will begin an evaluation of the 2002/03 competitions.

Action: ECC is responsible for studying the harmonisation of the technical conditions between the TTC Finals and the Champions League.

Indesit European Champions League

Case of Malaga (ESP)

Mrs OOMS briefly presents the facts.

As the club did not respect the regulations concerning visa requests, it encountered problems and finally arrived in Russia one day later. The match still took place, thanks to the intensive collaboration of the RUS Federation and the Club Luzhniki MOSCOW.

Mr Aloys FISCHER shares the following points:

1. The club from Malaga admitted to its failings in writing.
2. In accordance with our regulations, the club is indeed found responsible.
3. The club from Malaga must reimburse the costs paid for the visas, kindly paid by the RUS Federation.
4. All the costs borne and losses suffered by the club Luzhniki, will be studied in details by ELC.

Decision: Based on the reports made by all parties involved (ESP/RUS/CEV), the ELC is in charge of establishing a solution between the two federations and presenting a final report during the next Executive Meeting.

Mr QUINTANA (ESP) underlines that it is necessary for future reference to determine the responsibilities of the club and that of the National Federation.

Amendments for the European Cups Competition's Financial Matters

Considering that some infringements by the clubs could seriously damage the image of the European Cups Competition, the ECC proposes to settle a new regulation:

At the end of a running European Cups Competition, all invoices related to this European Cups' Season (i.e. participation fees, licence fees, financial sanctions) must be settled before the registration deadline for the next edition of the European Cups.

After the registration deadline, the CEV Office has to countercheck whether all invoices are paid. If not, the National Federation concerned will be given a late entry deadline as to be able to settle their debts before that date and still be allowed to register for the next edition of the European Cups.

If invoices remain unpaid by a club at the late entry deadline, the concerned club will be suspended from the CEV Cups Competition. The sanction will be lifted as soon as the amount due is paid.

Action: Inform all National Federations of these new dispositions.

Eurosport and TV Rates

Mr MEYER informs his colleagues of the new partnership with Eurosport for the Indesit European Champions League. The audience numbers show a real interest by the public for this competition. Our objective is to extend these plans to other CEV competitions.

Final Four Organisers:

TTC Men	15 – 16 / 2003	Apeldoorn (NED)
CEV Cup Men	15 – 16 / 2003	Jesolo (ITA)
TTC Women	8 – 9 / 2003	Bern (SUI)
CEV Cup Women	8 – 9 / 2003	Perugia (ITA)
IECL Women	15 – 16 / 2003	Pila (POL)
IECL Men	22 – 23 / 2003	Milan (ITA)

European Beach Volleyball

2003 Senior European Beach Volleyball Tour and Championships

A meeting with GSM on 12th February 2003 for updates on the 2003 organisation:

- The contract with TURKEY for the organisation of the Finals was signed
- ITA/AUT finally withdraw their interest in organising this edition
- GRE/GER are still negotiating.
- FIVB approved the European Finals as continental qualifications for the 2004 Olympics.

In order to guarantee a continued partnership between CEV and GSM, the Executive Committee proposes to extend the deadline for the presentation of a final calendar (with at least 2 qualifying tournaments and the finals) to 15.03.03.

Decision: The proposal is approved.



2003 U-18 and U-23 European Beach Volleyball Championships

Thanks to the collaboration with the POL and CZE Federations, the organisation of these 2 competitions was confirmed and contracts with CEV were signed.

	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>
<u>U-23</u>	POL	CZE
<u>U-18</u>	CZE	POL

Action: Finalise the respective contracts for each of the competitions – Terms & Conditions.

2003 U-20 European Beach Volleyball Championships

Mr MEYER shares that the 2003 edition will take place in Salzburg (AUT) from the 2nd to the 4th of July 2003.

Approval of the Regulations

Senior Technical Requirement, Official Regulations

The BoA members received the last edition of these regulations.

Decision: Communicate to the CEV Office any changes to be made or comments to be added to this edition before 25th February 2003.

Projects

CEV Contribution to 2008 – Follow-up & Setting up the Working Group

Mrs Snjezana MIJIC, CEV Vice-President, is in charge of setting-up this Working Group.

Action:

- Inform the National Federations of the nomination of the WG Members.
- Put together a planning of tasks and activities, as well as a calendar.
- Plan a first meeting in Luxembourg for April.

Miscellaneous

Mr QUINTANA (ESP) wishes to know CEV's position concerning the FIVB situation with Mr GOJIMAN (ARG). Mr MEYER informs the BoA Members that CEV clearly took a position and released an official communication which is available on the CEV website. Mr QUINTANA (ESP) underlines the importance of supporting the organisation of the next Beach Seminar.

Mr ADLER (DEN) explains that relation to the different Working Groups, it is essential to consider the option of increasing the number of teams for the European Championships to 16.

Mr MEYER states that all the different arguments (techniques, marketing, finances, etc.) must be gathered before this matter can be further discussed by the Board of Administration.

Mr PEKALIS (LAT) wishes to know the financial contributions that CEV will be divided, following the decision to change the Youth competition format (from 8 to 12 teams). He also says that he would like to see the restricted area on the CEV website, which BoA Members can have access to, extended for other uses and other documents (work procedures, interaction, etc.)

Action: For future references, the work documents addressed to the BoA Members will be made available to them through the CEV website with a protected password.

Mr STAVROU (CYP) suggest that the ELC prepare a reference document to be sent to the Zonal Associations.

Closing of the Meeting

On behalf of all the Board of Administration Members, Mr MEYER expresses his warmest thanks to the CZE Federation, and especially the HRONEK family, for its welcome and its excellent organisation during those 3 days.

CEV BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING – VARNA (BUL) – 21ST JUNE 2003

The following members are attending:

President:	André Meyer (LUX)
Snr Vice-President & Treasurer:	Philip Berben (BEL)
Vice-Presidents:	Snjezana Mijic (CRO) - Riet Ooms (NED) - Aleksandar Boricic (SCG) - Jan Hronek (CZE) - Carlo Magri (ITA)
Members:	Thanassis Beligratis (GRE) - Janusz Biesiada (POL) - Aloys Fischer (SUI) - Manfred Holzgraefe (GER) - Vladimir Patkin (RUS) - Maris Pekalis (LAT) - Miguel Angel Quintana (ESP) - Jan Rek (SUI) - Fabio Sassi (ITA) - Jacques Shaw (FRA) - Andreas Stavrou (CYP)

Opening of the Meeting

Mr André MEYER, CEV President, opens the meeting and gives the floor to Mr Dancho LAZAROV, President of the Bulgarian Volleyball Federation. On behalf of his federation, Mr LAZAROV welcomes all members and wishes them a successful and productive session. He also shares that all Board Members are invited to the World League game that evening in Varna, between the National teams of Bulgaria and Serbia and Montenegro, and that all members are invited to join the President of Bulgaria for a drink before the game.

On behalf of the BoA, Mr MEYER thanks Mr LAZAROV and the BUL Federation for their warm welcome. He shares that Mr BIESIADA and Mr HOLZGRAEFE are unable to attend due to prior engagements, and that Mr ADLER and Mr SHAW, who were expected to be present at the meeting, were unable to arrive due to flight cancellations.

Approval of the Agenda

Mr QUINTANA requests to add information concerning the X Olympic Games for Small Countries in Malta. It is added to the agenda.

There being no further remarks, the Agenda is approved.

Minutes of the Executive Committee.

Meeting held on Friday, 14th February 2003 at Pyramida Hotel in Praha (CZE)

Meeting held on Sunday, 23rd March 2003 at Royal Garden Hotel in Milan (ITA)

These Minutes, considered only as information for the BoA Members, were approved by the ExCom on Friday, 20th June 2003.



Approval of the Minutes of the Board of Administration Meeting held on 15th–16th February 2003 at Pyramida Hotel in Praha (CZE)

Mr BELIGRATIS states that there is an error in point 8.3, and that the following sentence must be deleted:

“During the next BVA General Assembly which will take place in Athens in October 2003, Mr BELIGRATIS will propose an amendment to the statutes which will include the organisation of Senior Beach Competitions in the activities of the BVA”.

There being no further remarks, the Minutes of the Meeting are approved with the amendment proposed by Mr BELIGRATIS (GRE).

Activity Report of the Executive Committee

Mr MEYER, CEV President, shares with his colleagues the different points discussed during his last meeting with FIVB:

- World Championships for Clubs: due to a lack of interest by the clubs, no competition will be organised in 2003.
- FIVB Meetings Calendar: FIVB Congress 2004 in Lisbon (POR) in May
- Commission's meetings moved from January 2004 to September / October 2003
- FIVB ExCom / BoA Meetings organised in Acapulco (MEX) in January 2004.
- WADA: FIVB and WADA agreed to a transition period, which will allow them to sign a final contract by the 2004 Olympic Games.

On this matter, Mr Philip BERBEN, Senior Vice-President, reminds his colleagues that the contract signed with WADA not only concerns the National Olympic Committees (NOC), but also the different governments and the National Federations.

In addition, it is recommended to forward copies of the different doping files written by the Federations to WADA for their information.

- Rules of the Games: They are currently under review.
- ERC Report: The annual report must be sent to FIVB before the set deadline.
- Continental Referees: This status is specific to those referees who do not speak fluent English and who consequently cannot officiate as International Referees.

Mr MEYER underlines that as agreed with FIVB, this special status is not valid within the CEV.

Action: Inform FIVB that CEV maintains the International Referee status only, in accordance with the decision taken previously.

Recognition of the International Referees

The need for just 3 signatures from officially recognised competitions (Continental Championships or Confederations' Cups, excluding the Regional Associations' competitions) will be required from this point onwards.

FIVB Refereeing Commission

M. Jan REK, ERC President, received the status of Observer in the FIVB Refereeing Commission, in order to ensure an efficient coordination of the different FIVB regulations in Europe.

FIVB Ranking Points

Mr MEYER shares the new system of distribution of the points for the different continental and world competitions.

Activity Reports

Legal Commission – Mr Aloys FISCHER, ELC President

Mr FISCHER briefly summarises the Minutes of his commission's last meeting, which was held on 10th May 2003 in Rome.

An anti-doping report was made based on the questionnaires sent to the NF and returned by them. The report can be found in the Minutes of the Meeting under point 5.

The commission also worked on detailing the basic principles relating the Zonal Associations and likely to guide their activities.



*Working session of the CEV Board of Administration -
Varna, (BUL) - June 2003*

Mr FISCHER also shares that new regulations will be proposed concerning possible financial damages caused by a club not respecting its obligations towards another club. A new regulation concerning the financial responsibilities of the clubs towards the CEV will also be proposed to the BoA for approval.

Concerning the Statutes of the Zonal Associations of MEVZA and NEVZA, Mr Aloys FISCHER will propose the necessary amendments.

Mr MEYER informs his colleagues that there was a misunderstanding between NEVZA and FIVB, and underlines that it is important for the Zonal Associations to be officially recognised before starting any promotional activity.

There being no further remark, the Minutes of the Legal Commission are approved.

Financial Commission – Mr Philip BERBEN, CEV Senior Vice-President & Treasurer

Mr BERBEN explains that his Commission's latest work has been closely linked to the bookkeeping activities of the CEV Office. The Financial Commission met in Vienna (AUT) on 24th & 25th May 2003.

In order to best define the role of his commission, Mr BERBEN hopes that a reflection work based on the definition and interactivity of all partners can be established for the following years.

Action: Include on the agenda of a future BoA Meeting the proposal made by the EFC concerning the definition of its tasks. – CEV Head Office

Mr MEYER regrets that the Minutes of the last Commission's Meeting have not yet been edited, and suggests that the process be accelerated for future meetings of the Commission.

Cups Commission – Mrs Riet OOMS, CEV Vice-President and ECC President

The Members of the Board received a written report on this matter.

Mrs Riet OOMS briefly recalls the different proposals listed in the Minutes of her commission's last meeting concerning:

- The lack of assistance by some NF to the clubs registered for EC Competitions
- The sanction to be applied on the club of SKOPJE for spectators' unsportsmanlike behaviour.

- The sanction to be applied to the FIN Federation for inappropriate accommodation of the referees in Rovaniemi.
- The sanction to be applied on the ITA Federation for the lack of organisation in the CEV Cup Final Four in Jesolo.
- The automatic qualification of the IECL organiser to the Final Four Tournament.
- Amendments to be made to the European Cups Regulations.

Concerning the sanction of the club of SKOPJE, Mr MEYER says that the club wrote him a letter, asking for his indulgence when agreeing on a fine, and requesting the help of CEV in Organising training seminars to improve the Federation's work.

Mr FISCHER also suggests that any detailed report sent to CEV by the Technical Delegates or Supervisors concerning a particular situation, should in turn be forwarded to the concerned National Federation and clubs.

Decisions:

- The sanction inflicted on the Club of Skopje is accepted as listed in the ECC Minutes.
- The sanction proposed against the ITA and FIN Federations are accepted as listed in the ECC Minutes.
- The automatic qualification of the organiser is approved.

Mr MEYER wishes to add that the closing ceremony of the Final Four is rarely organised as it should and that it results in no promotion for the competition. Such a situation is not acceptable and measures must be taken immediately to improve this aspect of organisation for the future.

Action: Present concrete proposals for the next organisations. – ECC

Mrs OOMS informs her colleagues that there will be some changes in the preparatory work for the competitions, especially for the Indesit European Champions League.

This year, the deadline for registering is June 30th, and the Drawing of Lots for the CEV Cup and Top Teams Cup is postponed to 30th August 2003. This extended period of 6 weeks will help the ECC in the following matters:

- To give more time to CEV to organise inspection visits and thoroughly analyse the teams wanting to play in the Indesit European Champions League.
- It allows teams that are not admitted to the IECL to still participate in the Top Teams Cup.

This year's IECL Drawing of Lots is scheduled for 12th October 2003, thus allowing all teams to take part in the Official Presentation Ceremony.

To close her report, Mrs OOMS shares the numbers for participation in the different Cups competitions:

- Champions League: Men – 15 teams Women – 13 teams
- TTC: Men – 48 teams Women – 37 teams
- CEV Cup: Men – 60 teams Women – 42 teams

There being no further remark, the minutes of the ECC are adopted.

Sports Organising Commission – Mr Fabio SASSI, ESOC President

Concerning the remark made by the Commission on the World Ranking System and the possibility of a mistake or a fair remark, Mr SASSI shares that he has forwarded his comments directly to the President of the Sports World Council.

Mr MEYER expresses his surprise concerning the report by Mr JOKINEN during the U-19 Boys' European Championships. The hall, as required, underwent 2 inspection visits, but the fact it did not meet the regulations regarding dimensions was not reported. Therefore, Mr MEYER suggests that for the 2nd inspection visit, the court should be set up as it would for a competition, in order to allow the inspectors to view it under competition standards.

Just as Mr SASSI finishes the review of his Commission's Minutes, Mr Vasil IVANOV, Minister of Sports in Bulgaria, accompanied by Mr Ilia ILIEV, BUL Federation Secretary General, wishes to welcome the BoA Members in Bulgaria and expresses his best wishes of success to the CEV.

On behalf of the CEV Board of Administration, Mr MEYER thanks Mr IVANOV and hands him a small gift.

Beach Volleyball Commission – Mr Miguel QUINTANA, EBVC President

Mr QUINTANA starts by expressing CEV's recognition to the Federations of Poland and the Czech Republic for their extensive work and interest in Organising the U-18 and U-23 competitions for the first time. He also shares that the number of teams registered for the competition is complete, which makes the participation level higher than that of the previous year.

Mr MEYER joins him in congratulating both National Federations on the successful organisation and development of the competitions. He proposes to the ELC to analyse the possibility of modifying the CEV Statutes in order to facilitate the integration of new competitions in the future.

Action: Amend Art. 14.4 of the CEV Statutes for the next CEV General Assembly. - ELC

Mr QUINTANA and Mr MEYER then proceed to thank the GRE Federation for its commitment to organise the Greece Open, especially since it is the only Qualification Tournament organised for the 2003 Circuit.

Mr QUINTANA believes that a Beach seminar should be organised to show and share the importance of such competitions.

Mr MEYER reminds everyone that the Beach Volleyball Conference was already proposed, but that it had to be postponed due to a lack of interest by the National Federations. A new date should be found that would accommodate more people.

Mr BELIGRATIS suggests end of May – beginning of June 2004.

Decision: Include information about this event for the XXIV General Assembly.

On a different note, Mr QUINTANA expresses his concerns regarding the contract CEV signed with Laciga Emotions, as it will end in 2004, and would like to know whether CEV is planning on renewing it or not.

Mr MEYER explains that CEV is aware of that situation but is waiting for the competition in Salzburg to be over in order to consider the possibilities and available options.

Finally, Mr MEYER and Mr QUINTANA insist that the next EBVC Meeting take place in Luxembourg as Mr MEYER or Mr BERBEN would like to be present in order to discuss internal problems.

There being no further remark, the minutes of the EBVC are adopted.

Medical Commission – Dr Manfred HOLZGRAEFE, EMC President

In the absence of Dr HOLZGRAEFE, a few points are briefly discussed.



Medical Controls for the Referees

In both GER and TUR, there will be medical exams. Mr MEYER states that such controls should be conducted on the first day of the competition in order to know as early as possible that referees are healthy and in good condition.

Action: Inform the responsible doctors of this organisation. – Administrative Dept.

Gender testing

A reminder is made that these tests are not automatically conducted, that it is the decision of the President of the Jury and Medical doctor to order them if judged necessary.

Alcohol Testing

There is a general decision to maintain these tests. The Judge Referees are responsible for conducting these tests in GER and in TUR.

Mr FISCHER wishes to add that the CEV Internal Regulations should be amended to include the Medical Commission.

Action: Prepare the appropriate text in order to integrate the presentation of the EMC activities in the Internal Regulations. – ELC

Refereeing Commission – Dr Jan REK

The last scheduled meeting of the ERC took place on 24th – 26th January 2003 in Sofia (BUL).

The commission's biggest challenge since its last meeting was the Annual Referee Seminar, which took place in Velm (AUT) in May, mixing both indoor volleyball and beach volleyball.

According to Mr REK, the Seminar was a huge success in terms of participation and of the subjects treated. 66 International Referees were present, representing 36 National Federations.

Mr REK then reveals the other areas of focus for his commission:

Referee Uniforms

The CEV is looking for a new provider. A final decision will be made in the summer.

Match Protocol

Mr REK makes a PowerPoint presentation showing the match protocol to be used in matches with national anthems, usually the Finals, including Youth and Junior Competitions. The BoA agrees to adopt this protocol with some amendments.

Decision: The protocol is approved and adopted.

If there is no warm up hall, the Jury President has the right to authorise players to enter the court 30 minutes prior to the start of the game.

The presentation with the ball retrievers is subject to confirmation by the organiser and his abilities at training these people.

Actions:

- Set up an informational guideline for the organisers – J. REK and O. MOTTIER
- Include new directives in the Competitions Handbook so that all parties concerned are informed. – Organisers SEC 2003

Reserve Referees - European Champions League

The National Federation should nominate a reserve referee, residing in the organising country, in case there is a need for replacement for the home matches of its clubs.

Decision: The reserve referee:

- Must be an International referee.
- Is not required to attend the Technical Meeting, but must be present at the venue at least 1 hour before the start of the match
- All costs are to be borne by the respective National Federation.

Technical Meetings – CEV Cup and TTC

The CEV Office will create a form to track the attendance of the referees to the referee clinic. This form will have to be signed by the referees present at the Technical Meeting and will be faxed to the CEV Head Office immediately following the end of the session.

Flight Tickets

In case of a last minute replacement, CEV will bear the new travel costs. An investigation will automatically be carried out to determine whether the cause for replacement was legitimate or not.

Decision: Referees should receive a reminder e-mail 2 weeks prior to nomination, to confirm their availability and in order to prevent last-minute replacements.

There being no further remark, the Minutes of the ERC are adopted.

Working Group Media – Mr Aleksandar BORICIC

The Working Group met in Milan on 23rd – 24th March 2003.

The proposals made during the meeting are:

- Presence of additional players at the Press Conference.
- Limit on number of EC Finals to be played in the same weekend.
- Make it optional to have a Press conference after single matches.
- Seat reservations for journalists.
- Minimum lighting requirements.
- Set up of a photo area during the awarding ceremony.
- Make it mandatory to include a press officer or journalist in the Youth and Junior Championships Finals.
- Add Ms. Agneta ELMEGARD (SWE) as a member of the WG.

Mr MEYER confirms that seat reservations can be made directly with the organisers, and that a photo area behind the people presenting the awards is usually planned during the awarding ceremony depending on the space available.

In regards to the lighting requirements, Mr MEYER reminds Mr BORICIC that CEV is still waiting for Mrs TARANTINI's comments and suggestions in order to improve the photographers' working conditions.

Decision: All proposals are approved.

Working Group Vision 2008 – Mrs Snjezana MIJIC (Minutes)

The Working Group met for the first time in Luxembourg on 24th May 2003.

After discussing their tasks and ways to facilitate their work, the following proposals were made:

- Mission: Develop and put together before the 2004 General Assembly a database of all important information about volleyball as a sport, it's practicing, its knowledge, its history and its organisation in Europe.
- Nomination of a contact person within each NF; if possible, the General Secretary.



- Creation of a questionnaire to the NF to collect information and items.
- Organisation of a workshop for the NF within the 2003 Congress in Berlin, and presentation of the first steps of the project.

Decision: The agenda of the WG and all its proposals are approved.

Working Group Regulations & Fines – Mrs Riet OOMS

The Working Group met the previous weekend in Luxembourg, so Minutes have not yet been distributed.

Mrs OOMS briefly summarises the content of the meeting. She explains that the Working Group's long-term goal is to simplify the CEV Regulations.

Three main proposals are made by the WG:

- To make sure each regulation is only written once and is the same for all competitions
- To review the regulations by category (marketing, media, medical, financial, etc.)
- To write all the regulations solely in English

Mr MEYER clarifies that only Statutes and the Minutes of the General Assembly must be written in both English and French.

Decision: All proposals are unanimously approved (including the deadline proposal by the WG).

Action: Review the existing regulations in order to prepare the new structure of each of the elements composing these articles and distribute them by category (marketing, media, medical, etc.). – WG Regulations & Fines

Working Group Champions League – Mrs Riet OOMS

All the subjects having been discussed under the ECC Minutes, the minutes are approved.

Institutions

Replacement of ECC and EBVC Members

EUROPEAN CUPS COMMISSION

Concerning the case of Mr IRO, ECC Secretary, Mr MEYER explains how the problem arose as the SVK Federation stopped supporting Mr IRO in his functions once he moved to the CZE Federation. Although SVK had contracted to pay all his expenses regardless, the CZE Federation accepts to take over the expenses. There is therefore no need for replacement of the ECC Secretary anymore, as Mr IRO is retained in his role.

Mr FISCHER wishes to underline that the NF has no right or competence to make decisions in regards to its delegate's functions within the CEV Commissions, as they are appointed by the CEV Board of Administration and not elected by the National Federation.

EUROPEAN BEACH VOLLEYBALL COMMISSION

As no applicant corresponds to the needs of EBVC, the BoA agrees on the following:

Decision: The position will be left open until the next official elections in 2005.

EUROPEAN LEGAL COMMISSION

Following 3 consecutive absences to the commission's meetings, Mr Osman ATTAMAN was dismissed from his functions as ELC Member.

Decision: The position will be left open until the next official elections in 2005.

Zonal Volleyball Associations

ELC Proposal, Art. 1 to be included in the Zonal Volleyball Association Statutes

According to FIVB Statutes, there are currently no restrictions on the activities of the Zonal Associations. ELC proposes to cancel the exclusion of activities at the senior level as previously suggested by CEV.

Decision: The proposal is approved.

Action: Add the following Article in the Statutes of all Zonal Associations, applicable to all categories, including Senior:

“The NFs, with the approval of FIVB and CEV, and according to the FIVB Constitution and Administrative and Financial Regulations, create zonal associations responsible in their respective zones for the promotion and development of volleyball and beach volleyball (in the following categories: youth, junior, senior...). All sports activities taken by the Zonal Associations shall be planned with respect to the FIVB and CEV regulations and event calendars. Activities interfering or conflicting with FIVB or CEV organisations will not be recognised and may be cancelled by CEV. If the above decision of CEV is not respected by the Zonal Association, CEV has the right to cancel the recognition given to the Zonal Association.”

BVA Report

The Balkan Volleyball Association was the first European Zonal Association founded, and is now in its 3rd year of successful activities. The activity reports and calendars were sent in due time and took into consideration the calendars of CEV and FIVB.

Mr BELIGRATIS, BVA President, thanks CEV for its ongoing support and asks CEV to also assist the association financially.

In addition, he shares that the BVA has made the presence of a Press Officer at each BVA match compulsory. Mr MEYER congratulates BVA for this excellent initiative.

Mr MEYER also explains that CEV does not wish to support the Zonal Associations with financial donations, but would rather support specific activities. However, financial support is available from FIVB following a request, renewable each year.

MEVZA Report

Mr FISCHER shares that he reviewed the updated statutes and regulations of this Zonal Association, and wishes to make the following remarks:

- Any member can join at any time, but it is not clearly stated that members also have the right to withdraw at any time.
- It is necessary to detail the dispositions which allow a federation to withdraw. The following article could be added under point 1.9: “If a member wishes to withdraw from MEVZA, it has to notify the Executive Committee at least 12 weeks before the General Assembly”.

Decision: Approve the Statutes under the condition that this amendment be added.

Action: Ask the Association to amend its statutes as requested, check for the correction and send the amended Statutes to FIVB for final approval. – Administrative Dept.

NEVZA Statutes

The Statutes of this association were reviewed towards the end of May. Mr FISCHER requested a few changes. Most amendments were made, but a couple of points were left uncorrected:



It cannot be accepted that extraordinary decisions be taken during phone conferences. Mr FISCHER therefore proposes to delete the following dispositions in Art. 4.3:

“Decisions can also in extraordinary cases be made by telephone meetings or by e-mail between the members, if all agree. The decisions are then to be ratified by signing the minutes by all member federations’ Presidents and be presented and confirmed at the next General Assembly”.

Decision: Approve the Statutes under the conditions that this article be deleted.

Action: Ask the Association to amend its statutes as requested, check for the correction and send the amended Statutes to FIVB for final approval. – Administrative Dept.

Small Countries

As the Minutes of the Meeting have not been edited yet, Mr STAVROU shares a few points that were listed on the agenda for the meeting.

Foreign players: A solution must be found. For 2004, everything will remain the same (2 foreign players), but concrete information will be shared before the General Assembly to find a solution for the future.

Mrs Susan AHERN was elected Vice-President of the group.

All federations concerned were contacted concerning the anti-doping questionnaire.

Malta 2003: The organisation was very good, and it was one of the best competitions played for most members. Mr M-A QUINTANA wishes to add a few points concerning this organisation:

- In fact, the organisation was excellent.
- Unfortunately, it is important to mention that a referee did not respect his nomination, and that from a regulations’ point of view, it would be invaluable for each delegation to have a referee.
- Anti-doping case of FRA and CEV Sanctions

A statutory procedure was prepared by the National Federation. The anti-doping test having been carried out by a national organ, CEV is not required to follow these prescriptions. The player concerned in this case was given a one-year deferred sentence.

CEV Website

In its work to create a new Corporate Identity, CEV would like to develop a new website to be ready by September 2003 for the General Assembly. The CEV Office is currently reviewing different offers to find the one that best fits the Confederation’s need.

This important project not only aims at defining a new structure for the information available on the website (content, availability of the information, etc.) but also seeks to facilitate and make more efficient the exchange information between all National Federations and CEV.

Both the CEV Executive Committee and Board of Administration support this project.

XXIV General Assembly in Berlin – ExCom & BoA Meetings

Mr BERBEN shares that during his inspection visit in Berlin, he had the chance to see the different accommodation being provided for the XXIV General Assembly.

As a reminder, it is very important that those willing to participate return the required papers duly filled in and signed in due time to guarantee the good organisation of the event.

Additionally, all commissions who have yet to submit their Annual Activity Reports to the CEV Office are requested to do so by 25th June 2003 at the very latest.

Finally, Mr BERBEN explains that a voting commission will not be needed for this year's General Assembly, but that a Credential Commission should be created.

The different meetings are planned as such:

- 11th September 2003 - Morning: Meeting of the Executive Committee
- 11th September 2003 - Afternoon: Meeting of the Board of Administration
- 12th September 2003: General Assembly

Action:

- Immediately following the deadline for receiving all registrations by the Federations, a list of the delegates to be present must be forwarded to Mr Aloys FISCHER. – Administrative Dept.
- Propose to the ExCom during its meeting of 11.09.03 the nomination of the Credential Commission Members. – ELC

Financial Matters

Accounts 2002

The 2002 Accounts were forwarded to the Accountants and the Internal and External Auditors for review. LuxAudit Révisions, an auditing company in Luxembourg, is currently making the final checks. After a review of the accounts, Mr BERBEN shares that the year shows a small profit. However, he remarks that there were a lot of expenses from the Beach Volleyball, which lowered the profit made. The situation should be well under control again for 2003/2004.

Action: Immediately following the completion of the audit, the Members of the Board of Administration will be informed of the final balance of the 2002 accounts (income/expenditure balance).

Old Debts

This has been an ongoing problem for CEV, which has had to take more drastic measures to find resolutions. By 17th June 2003, 6 National Federations (ARM, MKD, MLT, MLD, NIR and WAL) are still highly indebted and are not cooperating or showing any intention of paying.

CEV is looking for a reaction and a compromise from these Federations. Letters were therefore sent to FIVB to express CEV's concern and prompt the Federations concerned to react.

The next steps that will be taken should this approach fail will be a demand for suspension to FIVB (by January 2004) and possibly exclusion (by May 2004).

Suspension of clubs from European Competition & Responsibility of the clubs towards CEV

Suspension of clubs

The last deadline for the National Federations to pay any unpaid invoices is 30th June 2003. After this date, the accounts will be reviewed to determine the clubs which will be allowed to participate in the European Cup Competitions for the next season.

Action: Send a final reminder to the Federations informing them of the final deadline and detailing their current financial situation. – Administrative Dept.

Mrs OOMS also wishes to clarify the conditions as they were written in the letter sent to the National Federations on 17th April 2003, under Point 3:

"If invoices remain unpaid at this last payment deadline, the Club will be suspended from the European Cups Competition. The sanction will be lifted as soon as the amount due is paid off".



It is important to underline that the suspension for this year's competition remains, even if the invoices are paid after the deadline and before the Drawing of Lots. The sanction will however be lifted for the following European Cups Season.

Responsibility of the Clubs towards CEV

There has been an ongoing discussion to determine who, the National Federation or a club, should be responsible for the payment of invoices issued by CEV and concerning potential fines and sanctions.

After a thorough study by the ELC, the commission proposed to amend the CEV Statutes and to put a limit on the financial responsibility of the National Federations towards CEV.

Nevertheless, the Executive Committee decided not to change the CEV Statutes and agreed that the National Federations should bear such responsibilities, as they are directly affiliated with the CEV and therefore easier to communicate with.

The National Federations should keep in mind that they bear the responsibility of the clubs not paying their debts.

Problems relating to the non-respect of a club's obligations towards another club

In order to avoid in the future situations as the one between the clubs of Malaga and Luzhnik, the CEV Board of Administration proposes to adopt the following rule:

Decision: In case of a conflict, the Federations have to accept the arbitration verdict presented by the ELC.

Concerning sanctions, it is important to know that they are classified under 3 main categories:

- Sanctions which are clearly stated in the regulations: no question.
- Disciplinary sanctions: the situation is first investigated, and then a sanction is decided.
- Conflict opposing two National Federations: investigation, followed by dispute resolution, which, if it fails, will be followed by a court decision.

Budget 2004

The 2004 budget was prepared in May, taking into consideration the previous budget, the actual situation, and future forecast.

Suggestions are made to add the Youth competitions and the new CEV Corporate Identity in the budget.

Concerning the move of the CEV Head Office, nothing has been found yet and no dates have been set as Mr MEYER is still in the process of screening different offers.

European Sports Organising Commission

European Continental Olympic Pre-Qualifications 2003/04

No organiser has been found yet. Two proposals are made:

- Oblige the best ranked team to organise the pre-qualification tournament
- Cancel the tournament

The BoA is against the idea of obliging a team to organise such a tournament.

Decision: Allow more time to find an organiser under the actual conditions. If no organiser is found, discussion will be open to share the costs of this organisation. If no solution is reached, the tournaments will be cancelled.

The deadline for finding an organiser under the current conditions is 10th July 2003.

Action: Send a letter to the National Federations warning them of the situation and soliciting an organiser. – Competitions Dept.

Mr SASSI shares that there will be no elimination round for the women's Olympic pre-qualification tournament as the number of participants registered is 6.

The BoA approves the proposal to include an ESOC member in the Jury of each European Continental Olympic Qualification tournament.

European Championships 2004/05

Decisions:

- The proposal to follow the new regulations of the Junior European Championships (automatic elimination of the 5th- and 6th-ranked teams) for the Senior Championships is adopted.
- The name change is approved: The European Championships instead of the Senior European Championships.
- The modifications of Art. 2.1.2 are approved as proposed by ESOC.
- The different allocations for the Drawing of Lots for the Men's Final Round are approved.
- The new classification system for the teams ranked 6 to 12 is approved (Art. 2.1.4).

Concerning the competition format in the scope of the qualification phases, the proposal by ESOC to play in tournaments is severely questioned by Mr Thanassis BELIGRATIS (GRE). Indeed, his opinion is that such a regulation goes against the values of our sport and that such a system damages the attraction of Volleyball for the participating federations.

Decisions:

- The proposal for a new optional competition system is approved (tournaments vs. home & away).
- The new administrative deadlines are approved (Art. 4.4).
- The matches of the qualification round must take place during a set period to be determined by CEV.
 - ❖ Category A: Up to 30th September prior to the year in which the final round is to take place.
 - ❖ Category B & C: Up to 30th September of the year in which the final round is to take place.
- The Drawing of Lots of the European Championships 2004/2005 will take place on 8th November 2003 in Luxembourg.
- Elimination of the 3rd and 4th ranked teams after the Preliminary Round.
- The teams classified 4th in each preliminary pool shall be automatically eliminated from the final round and the best ranked team of the 2 preliminary pools will be classified as 7th. The other team will be classified as 8th.
- The teams classified 3rd in each preliminary pool shall be automatically eliminated from the final round and the best ranked team of the 2 preliminary pools will be classified as 5th. The other team will be classified as 6th.

Youth European Championships Final Round

The Boys European Championships 2005 will be organised by LAT.

The Girls European Championships 2005 will be organised by EST.



Action: Inform the National Federations of their official nomination and coordinate a first meeting with Mr Jan HRONEK (preparation of a presentation for the XXIV General Assembly).

Future Senior European Championships, Categories A & B

Following the suggestion made by the DEN Federation, ESOC proposes that a special Working Group be put together to discuss the format and different aspects of such a concept.

Decision:

- The proposal for a new WG is accepted. The WG will consist of:
 - 2 members of the CEV BoA (Mr HRONEK as Chairman and Mr ADLER)
 - 2 members of ESOC (Mr MULHEIMS and Mr SASSI)
 - 3 NF Representatives (FRA / RUS / GRE)
- The meetings schedule is as follows:
 - 13th September 2003 in Berlin
 - 26th October 2003 in Luxembourg
- Results should be shared on 8th November 2003 in Istanbul

Action: Inform and coordinate the requirements with the organiser in Berlin. – Administrative Dept.

Future Senior European Championships Category C

A new addendum of the Official Regulations of the Senior European Championships is proposed.

In addition, Mr STAVROU suggests a change of dates. Instead of 15th October, the deadline for registration should be changed to 15th June.

Decision: The addendum of the Official Regulations of the SEC for the Group C is adopted.

Action: Inform the Group C National Federation of the registration deadline set to 15th June. – Competitions Dept.

Other business

Following a contested sanction on FRA for non-conformity of player uniforms in the Youth and Junior European Championships pre-qualification and qualification round, ESOC proposes to apply the same regulations for the Youth and junior categories in these tournaments:

- 2 sets of playing uniforms (different colours)
- name not required on the shirts (only for pre-qualification and qualification)

Decision: The proposal is approved, but the sanction on FRA is maintained.

Youth Official Regulations

The amended regulations cannot be approved as they need to be further discussed and changed. Mr MEYER explains that the CEV Board of Administration can only approve a final document which has been previously read and approved by all the different commissions.

Decision: Send the document back to the Commissions (ERC & EFC) for approval.

The deadline for the two commissions to return the approved regulations to ESOC is 15th August 2003.

The final copy of the Amended Regulations should be presented to the Board of Administration during its meeting in September 2003.

Sanction for SMR and Small Countries

As with FRA, the SMR Federation was given a sanction for non-conformity of players' uniforms. However in this case, the Regulations for Senior Tournaments specifically listed the need for names on the uniforms and listed a sanction for non-conformity.

Decision: The sanction against SMR is maintained.

Action: Change regulations concerning players' uniforms during qualification tournaments to match those of the Youth and Junior categories, except for the Final Round. – ESOC

Procedure schedule for Candidates 2007 European Championships

The procedures presented for the coordination of the Junior and Senior candidatures for these events are accepted.

Action: Prepare the official communication (forms + procedures) to be distributed to the National Federations during the next General Assembly.

Senior European Championships 2003

2002/03 SEC in Germany – Report by Mr BERBEN, Jury President

Mr BERBEN shares that the Drawing of Lots took place as planned in Leipzig on 16th May 2003 and went extremely well. The excellent organisation of this important event makes for great publicity.

Additionally, he shares that the organisation in preparation for the competition itself is going according to plan and is on schedule. The accommodation chosen is very nice, and everything so far gives hope for a very successful event.

Mr QUINTANA has been responsible for the inspection in Karlsruhe. He reports that the competition hall is not yet finished, and that there will be one last Inspection visit on 20th August 2003 by Mr Pierre MULHEIMS. He also stresses the importance for teams and participants to communicate their travel plans to the organiser as early as possible.

Finally, he makes a request on behalf of the organiser to schedule a special Press Conference which will include the Head Coach.

Decision: The BoA approves the initiative of the GER Federation to organise a special Press Conference.

2002/03 SEC in Turkey – Report by the Jury President

The organisation of this event in Turkey is now running smoothly.

The main problem that remained concerning a TV contract between ISA and the local TV Partner was finally resolved after a 3-hour discussion during the meeting on 6th April 2003, in the presence of Mr André MEYER, CEV President.

2002/03 Youth European Championships

Girls U-18, Report from the Jury President, Mr Maris PEKALIS

The organisation in Croatia was very good and there was a very good attendance by the public to this successful competition.

The only problem encountered concerned the referee clinic, which did not take place as foreseen in the regulations because of the Easter holiday. Mr PEKALIS asks that there be no sanction due to the circumstances.

Decision: The Board of Administration agrees not to issue a sanction as it imposed the date change in the first place.



Mr MEYER does however stress that there will not be any more deviations from the regulations in the future, even if there is a holiday falling during a competition.

Boys U-19, Report from the Jury President, Mrs Riet OOMS

Once again, the organisation and development of this event went according to the plans and proved successful. There were only minor problems encountered, including press difficulties and a lower attendance.

European Cups

Case of Malaga

The dispute between the clubs of Malaga and Luzhniki was finally resolved and a settlement was found.

Request of FRA

Mrs OOMS took note of the letter dated 19th May 2003 sent by the FRA Federation, requesting CEV's approval of the nomination of the winners of the Championships and the French Cup to the next edition of the 2004/05 Champions League.

European Beach Volleyball

2003 Senior European Beach Volleyball Tour and Championships

A proposal, aiming at avoiding contradicting calendars and delays in finding promoters, is based on the following main principles:

1. As per CEV/GSM contract, provisional dates for the 2004 calendar shall be released by 30th June 2003.
2. Up until 30th October 2003, this calendar may be amended, following the different negotiations with the National Federations concerned.
3. All National Federations commit themselves to protect these dates and keep them free of any national senior competition.
4. The competition dates will be protected until 31st January 2004. After this date each Federation will have the right to organise, on its national territory, the different stages of its own circuit or the competitions it wishes.
5. Immediately following the establishment of a partnership with a National Federation and its promoter, CEV and GSM commit to release this provisional date concerned for all Federations.
6. The National Federation which commits itself to sign a partnership for CEV competitions guarantees to NOT organise any other international Beach Volleyball competition the week preceding and the week following the event.
7. The National Federation together with GSM must agree on the potential promoter before starting any negotiations.
8. In order to solve the problems detected during the actual season CEV will organise in October 2003 a joint meeting with GSM, the President of the National Federation and the possible promoters.

Decision: The proposal is accepted by the majority as defined.

Admission procedure to the European Championship Final 2003

A proposal is submitted to the BoA:

- No CEV Ranking points from the previous year will be taken into account for admission to the European Championship Final
- Composition of the Main Draw (24 teams per gender):
 - ❖ 16 Teams from the CEV Ranking 14 days prior to the competition
 - ❖ 1 Team from the Host Country
 - ❖ 3 Wild Cards
 - ❖ 4 Teams from the directly preceding Qualification Tournament
- Composition of the Qualification Tournament (32 teams per gender):
 - ❖ 23 Teams from the CEV Ranking 14 days prior to the competition
 - ❖ 4 Team from the Host Country
 - ❖ 5 Wild Cards
- Country Quota according to current regulations in case of a preceding Qualification Tournament:
 - ❖ Total: max. 6 foreign teams and max. 9 host country teams,
 - ❖ Main Draw: max. 3 foreign teams, of which 2 teams can directly enter via CEV Ranking, plus 1 additional host country team.
- Wild Cards do not count towards the Country Quota. Wild Cards shall not be used to allow more than three teams from one country to enter directly into the Main Draw.

Decision: The proposal as defined is unanimously adopted.

In order to facilitate the designation of the Wild Cards, the Board of Administration takes the following decision:

Decision: The designation of the Wild Cards for the Senior European Beach Volleyball Tour 2003 will be done by Mr André MEYER, CEV President, in collaboration with the CEV Head Office.

2003 U-23 European Beach Volleyball Championships

The competition will take place in Stare Jablonki (POL) from 31st July – 3rd August 2003.

2003 U-20 European Beach Volleyball Championships

The competition will take place in Salzburg (AUT) from 1st – 4th July 2003.

2003 U-18 European Beach Volleyball Championships

The competition will take place in Brno (CZE) from 8th – 10th August 2003

Miscellaneous

Planning of the CEV Meetings in 2003 and 2004

SEP	2003	11.09 ExCom - Morning 12.09 BoA - Afternoon 12.09 CONGRESS	Berlin - GER Berlin - GER Berlin - GER
NOV	2003	8.11 ExCom	Istanbul -TUR

FEB	2004	6/8.02 ExCom + BoA	Paris - FRA
-----	------	--------------------	-------------



APR	2004	3.04 ExCom	Riga - LAT
JUN	2004	18/20 ExCom + BoA	Belgrade - SCG
OCT	2004	30.09/1.10 ExCom + BoA	Istanbul - TUR
		2.10 CONGRESS	Istanbul - TUR
DEC	2004	4.12 ExCom	Athens - GRE

Appointments and confirmation of the CEV Representatives to the future events.

S-CH Final Rd. Men	Coordinators	BoA	ESOC				
		M. Quintana	P. Mulheims				
Karlsruhe	Jury	President	Secretary	Member Org.	Member ELC	Member MC	ESOC
		P. Berben	A. Boricic	H. Giebels	A. Fischer	M. Holzgraefe	W. Bruninx
Leipzig	SRC	President	Member	Secretary (org.)	Member	Member	
		J. Rek	G. Van Velsen	F. Kröger	G. Noel	U. Suprani	
Berlin (GER)	Others	Press	CEV in ORG				
		A. Meijer	P. Berben				
05 – 14/09/03							

S-CH Final Rd. Women	Coordinators	BoA	ESOC				
		M. Pekalis	F. Sassi				
Ankara Antalya (TUR) 20 – 28/09/03	Jury	President	Secretary	Member Org.	Member ELC	Member MC	ESOC
		J. Hronek	S. Mijic	L. Ilbay	A. Parlinska	F. Avila	S. Milosevic
	SRC	President	Member	Secretary (org.)	Member	Member	
		G. van Velsen	A. Dogaris	A. Ozerboy	I. Iliev	G. Zharikov	
	Others	Press	CEV in ORG				
		A. Meijer	J. Hronek				

XXV CEV General Assembly 2004 in Istanbul

Mr MEYER informs his colleagues of the different facilities made available by the TUR Federation for hosting the 2004 General Assembly in Istanbul on 2nd October 2004.

Closing of the Meeting

Mr MEYER, CEV President, thanks his colleagues for their collaboration during this meeting. He remarks that the points discussed and discussions made on this day could have been solved faster if the preparation work of some commissions had been better.

On behalf of the CEV Board of Administration, Mr MEYER thanks the Bulgarian Volleyball Federation, and especially Mr Ilia ILIEV, General Secretary, for the excellent organisation of this meeting and the festivities surrounding it.

CEV BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING – BERLIN (GER) – 11TH SEPTEMBER 2003

The following members are attending:

President: André Meyer (LUX)

Snr Vice-President & Treasurer: Philip Berben (BEL)

Vice-Presidents: Snjezana Mijic (CRO) - Riet Ooms (NED) - Aleksandar Boricic (SCG) - Jan Hronek (CZE) - Carlo Magri (ITA)

Members: Thanassis Beligratis (GRE) - Janusz Biesiada (POL) - Aloys Fischer (SUI) - Manfred Holzgraefe (GER) - Vladimir Patkin (RUS) - Maris Pekalis (LAT) - Miguel Angel Quintana (ESP) - Jan Rek (SUI) - Fabio Sassi (ITA)

Opening of the Meeting

Mr MEYER opens the meeting and immediately gives the floor to the Vice-President of the German Volleyball Federation (DVV), Mr Götz MOSER who speaks on behalf of Mr Werner Von MOLKE, President, still working on site in Leipzig for the European Championship. On behalf of the German Volleyball Federation and the Berlin Volleyball Association, Mr MOSER welcomes the Members of the CEV Board of Administration in Berlin and wishes them a successful meeting.



The CEV Executive Committee members and local authorities prepare for the opening of the 2003 General Assembly in Berlin

Approval of the Agenda

There being no comments, the Agenda is approved.

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on 20th June 2003 at Hrankov Castle, Sofia (BUL)

These minutes, considered only as information for the Board of Administration Members, were approved by the Executive Committee on Thursday, 11th September 2003.

Minutes of the Board of Administration Meeting held on 21st June 2003 at Grand Hotel Varna, Varna (BUL)

Each page is looked at, and a series of amendments are made.

Page 1: Mr Renato ARENA is the Interpreter of Mr MAGRI.

Page 6: Mr SASSI explains that he did not say he had spoken directly with the President of the Sports Event Council, but that he asked the CEV Representatives present in the Council to discuss the situation.

Page 11-12: Mr FISCHER explains that the European Legal Commission proposed a new article, not to be included in the Zonal Associations' Statutes, but to be added to the CEV Internal Regulations.

Action: Add the article listed on page 12 to the right part of the CEV Internal Regulations. – Administration Dept.

Page 16: Concerning the decision taken, Mr FISCHER explains that Clubs and Federations should have to agree and accept the ELC arbitration by the time they register for a competition, and not just when a conflict occurs. New wording is proposed:

Proposal: The Federations and Clubs have to accept the arbitration clause presented by the ELC at the beginning of a competition.

Decision: Add the arbitration clause presented by the ELC to all Competitions' Regulations and on the Registration forms.

Page 17: To clarify the decision written at the end of the page, Mr SASSI wishes to add that it concerns Art. 2.2.5.

Page 18: The set period for Category B & C is "Up to 30th September of the year in which the final round is taking place".

Page 19: It should read: "Instead of 15th October, the deadline for registration should be changed to 15th June"; that exceptionally for this year, it was instead changed to 15th July.

Page 20: Concerning the decision taken about the sanction against San Marino, Mr STAVROU wishes to add that the decision was taken after a very long discussion, as to give perspective to the importance of this point.

As a side note, Mr MEYER shares with Mr STAVROU that following this decision, the SMR Federation complained to FIVB about CEV, without discussing the issue with CEV first, despite several conversations. Consequently, CEV will have to take the appropriate actions to deal with this problem.

Page 24: Mr HRONEK just wishes to say that all the dates for the 2004 meetings are confirmed and that the Swiss Volleyball Federation is available to host an extraordinary Executive Committee between June and October if necessary. Mr MEYER asks the Commissions' Presidents to schedule their meetings according to this calendar, which is now fixed.

Action: Inform the CEV Head Office of all meeting schedules. – Commissions' Presidents

Page 25: Mr HRONEK shares with the Members of the Board that the Executive Committee made the decision the same morning to reduce the number of Jury members for the Olympic Qualifications, leaving just 1 [one] Jury President, 1 [one] ESOC Member and 1 [one] local member. Consequently, the officials for the Qualifications are:

- for Men in GER: Mr BERBEN as Jury President and Mr SASSI as ESOC Member.
- for Women in AZE: Mrs OOMS as Jury President and Mr MULHEIMS as ESOC Member.
- for Olympic pre-Qualification in FIN: Mr PEKALIS (only one member)
- local members to be determined at a later date

Action: Inform the organisers - CEV Competitions Dept.

Before moving on to the next point, Mr MEYER wishes to underline that the Minutes must be checked more carefully by the Office and by the Board of Administration Members before being printed and distributed to everyone.

The Minutes of the Meeting are adopted with the above-listed amendments.

Activity Report of the Executive Committee

Mr MEYER shares that only a few items were discussed during the Meeting of the Executive Committee, as the Members only had 3 hours available instead of a full day.

Mr MEYER informs his colleagues that the Executive Committee discussed a very important matter, which will also be added to the Agenda of the General Assembly on 12th September 2003. He shares with his colleagues that Mr SEPPEY, FIVB General Manager, spoke to him



concerning the situation with the Federations of Argentina and Peru and asked that the European National Federations sign a paper giving their support and agreeing with the decision taken by the FIVB Executive Committee, Board of Administration and President. Further details will be given by Mr SEPPEY himself concerning this matter during the General Assembly.

In the frame of the CEV 30th Anniversary, Mr MEYER informs his colleagues that although two options are still being weighed up, a final decision should be taken by the end of the month concerning the relocation of the CEV Head Office in Luxembourg, a nice conclusion to this Anniversary Year.

Finally, Mr MEYER informs his colleagues that CEV finalised a new contract with MIKASA. All Members, guests and delegates received an invitation to a cocktail taking place on Saturday, 13th September 2003, in the frame of the General Assembly, and during which the new contract will be signed, in the presence of Mr ARNOLD from MIKASA Europe, Mr KITAMURA and Mr TERAMOTO from MIKASA Corporation in Japan.

All other points discussed during the Executive Committee Meeting will be handled by other Members of the Board of Administration.

Commission Activity Reports (including adoption of the Minutes)

Legal Commission – Mr Aloys FISCHER

Mr FISCHER reminds his colleagues that during the last Board of Administration Meeting in Bulgaria in June, it was discussed that a disposition about the Medical Commission was still missing. In the meantime, along with Mr HOLZGRAEFE, he prepared a text and proposes to the Board of Administration to accept the following amendment to the Internal Regulations:

4.7.7 The European Medical Commission (EMC):

4.7.7.1 Proposes regulations and directives governing the certifying of the CEV-accredited medical doctors, anti-doping control and all proceedings concerning all medical matters.

4.7.7.2 Decides and supervises the strict following of all the regulations and directives in the above-mentioned fields.

4.7.7.3 Establishes and controls the accreditations of the medical doctors for all CEV Competitions.

4.7.7.4 Advises the CEV bodies in all medical aspects.

Decision: The Board of Administration Members unanimously approve this proposal.

As there was no meeting of the ELC between the Meetings of the Board in Varna and in Berlin, there are no Minutes to be approved.

Financial Commission – Mr Philip BERBEN

Mr BERBEN takes the floor, stating that he will discuss in detail the 2002 Accounts and 2004 Budget during the General Assembly on 12th September 2003.

However, he wishes to underline that as happens each year, several Federations still have unresolved debts towards CEV and that new ways to recover the money need to be found. He explains that, as things stand with certain federations, the only solution would be to ask FIVB to suspend those federations. However, he believes in keeping the volleyball family intact, and would like to find less drastic measures that will avoid losing a “family member” but still bring resolution to this ongoing problem. He suggest including a special point on the Agenda of a future Board of Administration Meeting, before the FIVB Congress in Portugal to discuss alternatives and find ways to be strict, yet flexible with the federations that face financial difficulties, but show interest in settling their debts.

Mr MEYER wishes to add that as discussed during the Executive Committee Meeting the same day, CEV is willing to show some flexibility, but will also remain very strict with those federations that did not fulfil their obligations as promised last year.

Concerning the work of his commission, Mr BERBEN apologises that the Minutes of his last meeting still have not been edited and distributed due to misunderstandings and technical problem, but that the problem should be fixed shortly.

He also shares that he received the reports from the Auditing Company LuxAudit, and that as previously announced, there is no negative news to be shared during the Congress. Profits are expected in the coming years, but 2002 is not be as positive as 2001 for example, due to some financial difficulties faced in Beach Volleyball in 2002.

Concerning the 2003/2004 budgets, Mr MEYER wishes to add that CEV is currently trying to negotiate contracts with certain companies, including an airline with which it could possibly benefit from cheaper airfares for CEV officials, referees, teams, etc. A proposal should be made in the next couple of weeks to the Board of Administration.

Finally, Mrs OOMS asks Mr MEYER about the new bookkeeping system which should allow each commission to get regular updates on their budgets and financial situation. Mr MEYER explains that a financial situation summary is being distributed to the Commission's President at each Board of Administration meeting. Concerning a financial summary for each competition, as would be useful to the European Cups Commission, Mr MEYER reminds his colleagues that the new bookkeeping system was only made operational this year, and that as some competitions are still running and were started last year on the old system, they cannot yet benefit from the new system.

Cups Commission – Mrs Riet OOMS

The ECC met in Luxembourg the last weekend of August. A lot of its time and efforts were put into Organising the Drawing of Lots of TTC and CEV Cups which was taking place the same weekend, so the Commission only had a half-day to discuss other matters.

Mrs OOMS apologises for not having sent her commission's activity report to the CEV on time for it to be printed in the Agenda for the meeting. However, she will share a few points with her colleagues concerning the Cups Competitions.

- Fewer teams registered for the Cups Competitions, possibly due to economic problems faced by certain countries. Seeing that participation in these competitions is not mandatory, the number of participants can greatly vary from one year to the next depending on their situation. Additionally, last year's participation rate was exceptionally high and does not compare well with this year's.
- For the first time this year, and following a decision by the CEV Board of Administration, 5 teams (4 from Belarus and 1 from Macedonia) were refused the right to participate in the Cups competition due outstanding debts.
- As a result, a total of 198 teams will participate in the season 2003-2004.
- The Drawing of Lots took place on 30th August 2003 in Luxembourg and results were posted on the Internet.
- It might be necessary to bring forward the date for the Drawing of Lots again. This year, it was put at a later date, which gave more time for the Commission to check all forms and registrations. On the other hand, this also brought a lot of complaints from the National Federations and Teams that will now have problems in making the necessary bookings for the sports halls. Additionally, many forms were not complete when received by the CEV Office, and contact had to be made with the respective federations, thus creating additional work and wasting precious time.



- Some problems occurred with National Federations making their own regulations concerning the teams to be registered for the Cups competitions, regardless of the Competition's ranking. Mrs OOMS wishes to underline that the National Federations have to strictly follow the Regulations of the European Cups when entering the teams for participation. If Federations want to enter their championship runner up instead of the Cup Winner, they have to request permission from the Cups Commission prior to the end of both national competitions – this conforming to the Official Cups Regulations.

Proposal: The ECC President and CEV Competitions Director will send letters to the Federations concerned and urge them to fully comply with the CEV European Cups Regulations in the future.

Decision: The Board of Administration underlines the above proposal and accepts that Mrs OOMS will also address this issue and clearly explain the procedure to All National Federations during the Congress.

Action: Remind all National Federations of this procedure. – CEV Competitions Dept.

Concerning the IECL, 20 Men teams and 15 Women team registered. Consequently, the Commission worked on finding ways to organise the Women competition with 15 teams only. Different options were examined and are proposed to the BoA (the ECC is in favour of the second proposal):

Proposal

1. Competition in 3 groups of 5 – the winner of each group and the organiser go to the Finals.

However, following the Drawing of Lots, each group contains one strong team and the Final Ranking can be guessed to some extent, which makes the competition less interesting to the public, the sponsors and the media.

2. Competition in 5 groups of 3 – Each team will receive its two opponents at home in one week (Team A receives B & C on week 1, on week 2 team B receives A & C, etc.), and will play two consecutive days.

1. Less costs for the teams
2. Only 2 matches are played at home for each team, in the same week
3. The teams travel twice instead of 3 times
4. Each team has a better chance of reaching the Finals, as not only the 1st ranked, but also the 2nd of each group gets to participate in the playoffs.

Decision: The Board of Administration approves the 2nd proposal.

Action: Inform all women's teams registered in the Indesit European Champions League 2003/2004 of this new competition format. – CEV Competitions Dept.

Mrs OOMS underlines that this system is exceptional for the 2003/2004 season due to the number of teams participating in the women's competition this year.

Sports Organising Commission – Mr Fabio SASSI

As there has not been any meeting of the Commission since the last meeting of the Board of Administration in Varna, Mr SASSI wishes to share only a few points:

- The next ESOC meeting, originally scheduled for 7th and 8th of November in Luxembourg, may be moved to a different date due to clashes with the next meeting of the Executive Committee.
- Concerning the technical aspects of the regulations of the Youth European Championships, the commission has sent its remarks and modifications. Mr

SASSI also underlines the necessity to complete the regulations in order to be able to send them along with the registration forms.

- Croatia, which is the organiser of the 2004-2005 European Championships Final Round, was relegated to the Qualification Round B through the 2002-2003 Qualification Round, thus creating a problem for the teams taking part in the Finals and calling for the following amendments:
- 4 Teams and the organiser will now be directly qualified for the 2004-2005 European Championships Final Round
- 7 teams will qualify through the qualification round to the Final Round.

Decision: In case Croatia classifies 1st, 2nd or 3rd at the end of the Championships, it will directly be qualified for the Final Round 2007.

In case Croatia classifies 4th – 12th in the Final Round, it must take part in the 2007 Qualification Round Category B.

Croatia can nevertheless participate in the qualification round of the 2004-2005 European Championships Category B in order to fight for a possible promotion to the 2006-2007 Category A.

Additionally, Mr SASSI stresses the necessity to modify the regulations as the case of an organiser issued from a B or C category was never foreseen before.

- Group C Championships: The Official Bulletin N°1 containing all dates was distributed and the organisers of the Small Countries Qualification tournament are announced as:

MEN		WOMEN	
POOL A (AND)	POOL B (SCO)	POOL A (IRL)	POOL B (LUX)
CYPRUS	ICELAND	SAN MARINO	CYPRUS
ANDORRA (org)	SCOTLAND (org)	ICELAND	LUXEMBOURG (org)
SAN MARINO	LUXEMBOURG (F)	LIECHTENSTEIN (F)	MALTA
MALTA	IRELAND	IRELAND (org)	NORTHERN IRELAND
NORTHERN IRELAND	FAROE ISLANDS	GREENLAND	FAROE ISLANDS

Org = Organising of the Qualification Tournaments in January 2004

F = Organiser of the Finals in May 2004

Mr STAVROU asks whether or not the CEV Office has received information concerning the participation of the Federation of San Marino. Mr ROMMES confirms that an official registration was received from SMR and that it is included in the Competition.

Mr STAVROU then informs the Members of the Board that the SCO Federation is requesting to participate in the women's competition in the place of SMR in case it withdraws its candidature.

Decision: Maintain the competition as defined in the chart until further details are received. In the event that SMR withdraws, the candidature of SCO will be considered for the women's competition.

Beach Volleyball Commission – Mr André MEYER

Mr André MEYER excuses Mr Miguel-Angel QUINTANA, EBVC President, who is absent due to his work in the Senior European Championships and his required presence in the day's matches.



However, Mr MEYER met with Mr QUINTANA the previous day and had the opportunity to discuss the problem related to the low participation of the EBVC members as Supervisors or Assistant Supervisors. Seeing from the responses received by CEV following its warning letter to all Members of the Commission, it has become quite obvious that there is a significant lack of communication within the commission and with CEV as the Commission Members were not aware that they had been solicited on more than one occasion to fulfil their duties as Supervisors or Assistant Supervisors. During their meeting, it was agreed by Mr MEYER and Mr QUINTANA that the next meeting of this commission will take place in Luxembourg after the FIVB Beach Council, in order to have available all the information necessary and that either Mr MEYER or Mr BERBEN reserve the right to be present during this EBVC Meeting to clarify the situation and explain once again what is expected of the Commission.

Mr MEYER also informs his colleagues of the Board of Administration that during the Executive Committee Meeting this morning, it was decided that in the event there were no changes and if the Members in the future do not fulfil their obligation and follow the request of the Board of Administration, the European Beach Volleyball Commission would be dissolved and replaced by a Working Group, composed of Beach Volleyball specialists.

Moving on to a different point, Mr MEYER shares that the Championships this year benefited from excellent organisation in Poland, as well as in the Czech Republic, Austria and Turkey, consequently making this Beach Volleyball season a true success in Europe.

Concerning the seminar which was planned this year and had to be cancelled, Mr MEYER asks Mr BELIGRATIS what the new plans and objectives are. Mr BELIGRATIS shares that to still do it this year will be difficult due to the organisation of the 2004 Olympic Games. However, a coordination meeting is planned in October, and an announcement should be made by the end of that month, giving information on all the events which will be organised next year, including the Seminar.

Action: As soon as information is known, inform the CEV Beach Department. – Mr BELIGRATIS

Mr MEYER thanks Mr BELIGRATIS for the work accomplished by his federation and for the excellent organisation in Rethymnon. He also expresses the hope that Greece will also be able and available to organise one of the events of next year's Beach Circuit. Mr MEYER explains that a first meeting will be arranged between Mr Heinz SCHURTENBERGER, GSM Chairman, and the GRE and ITA Federation, as well as with others that may be interested in organising. A meeting will then be organised with GSM and all interested federations in October in order to discuss the possibilities and difficulties faced by those organising.

Mr BELIGRATIS brings to the attention of his colleagues that all people who are usually involved in Beach Volleyball within his Federation, will be joining the Olympic Organising Committee starting in January 2004, thus not leaving anyone available to organise Beach Volleyball events. Mr MEYER confirms that he has taken note of that, but that it still would be very much appreciated if a representative of the GRE Federation could attend the October Meeting.

Medical Commission – Dr Manfred HOLZGRAEFE

Mr HOLZGRAEFE takes the floor by saying that mostly the Medical Commission is used to taking care of problems in Volleyball, but that according to reports of Beach Volleyball Competitions, it has become obvious that Beach Volleyball is also confronted with serious problems related to health and medical conditions, especially to the heat. As an example, he shares that Volleyball, the maximum temperature recommended in the sports hall is of 25°C, while in Beach Volleyball, it has been heard that players compete in 40°C temperatures, resulting in many having heat stroke. Therefore, the Medical Commission should try to better inform the players of the health risk they face. The Commission's idea is to put together a small

booklet for distribution, containing health advice and information. Additionally, the Medical Commission has considered the possibility of moving the times of a competition into the evening, when temperatures are cooler and make the climatic situation more attractive to the players and the spectators.

Mr MEYER reminds Mr HOLZGRAEFE that during the FIVB Board of Administration, a similar discussion took place and Mrs Annie PEYTAVIN, President of the FIVB Medical Commission, was asked to work on such a publication.

Action: Mr HOLZGRAEFE needs to get in touch with Mrs PEYTAVIN to see how far she is in her project and if CEV can use their publication. – Mr HOLZGRAEFE

Mr BERBEN then brings into the equation the question of responsibility in case something happens to a player. His question is whether the Medical Commission should consider designating a delegate who would make the call to play or cancel a match based on the conditions. Mr HOLZGRAEFE points out that Beach Volleyball is not the only sport faced with this problem, and that the Commission cannot watch for every player, but that it can forewarn them by providing them with health guidelines to follow in order to prevent such problems.

Additionally, concerning the heat and the suggestion of moving the match times into the evening, Mr MEYER points out that such a change would impact the TV Coverage. However, the possibility must be considered and the pros and cons weighed in order to take the best decision possible.

The second point Mr HOLZGRAEFE brings up is that of alcohol testing for the Referees. Although the issue was discussed several times already, no changes have been noted. Consequently, the Medical Commission makes the following proposal:

Proposal: As is the case with gender tests, alcohol testing should be optional and made available upon a request by the Jury President.

Decision: The proposal is approved and the Board of Administration Members agree that in case of positive results, strict disciplinary measures will have to be taken.

Refereeing Commission – Mr Jan REK

As the last meeting of the Refereeing Commission took place during the previous weekend, the Minutes of the meeting were not sent to the Board Members but were distributed to them at the beginning of the day's session. Mr REK reviews the few points brought up by his Commission:

- Referee Uniforms: No agreement was made, but Mr REK is hopeful that CEV will sign a contract in the next weeks. However, Mr REK explains that new uniforms are being tested at the European Championships, and that possibly after the competition in Turkey, the Refereeing Commission will be able to make a final proposal.
- Reserve Referee in the IECL: Mr REK shares that the Refereeing Commission is not satisfied with the decision taken during the last Board of Administration Meeting. Indeed, the new arrangement leaves the payment of the Reserve Referee's costs with the National Federations, which could cause some problems. The Refereeing Commission therefore strongly recommends that a €60 fee should be added in the regulations of the European Champions League to help pay for the cost of the Reserve Referee. Additionally, the ERC underlines that it is not necessary for the Reserve Referee to arrive one day early and to stay one day after the competition, thus cutting down to 1 the number of per diem to be paid.

Proposal: Include a stipulation for a € 60 fee and travel costs of the reserve referee to be paid by the club.

Decision: The European Cups Commission and Board of Administration approve the proposal.



Action: Amend the regulations to include the 60 euros fee.

- Departure airport for Referees: Following a few requests by several referees to change their departure airport on the CEV Website, it has become necessary for the Refereeing Commission to consider adding a regulation similar to that followed by the teams, which puts certain conditions such as size, accessibility and regularity of flights and connections on the airports chosen, by using the same wordings as in the Cups Regulations.

Action: Each request of modification received by CEV has to be approved by the ERC President in order to correctly update each referee's data. - CEV Administrative Dept.

- Availability of Referees: Seeing that now the referees must be available for 4 working days for one round of the Indesit European Champions League (Women), and in order to avoid having too many changes and substitutions as was the problem in the past, the Refereeing Commission, in collaboration with the CEV Head Office will send out a questionnaire asking for availability of the Referees. The nominations will then be done in Vienna on the occasion of the Official Presentation.

Working Group Fines & Regulations – Mrs Riet OOMS

On behalf of all members of her Working Group, Mrs OOMS apologises for not having met their work deadline due to some technical problems. An important part of the work accomplished was lost and must be repeated.

However, Mrs OOMS explains to the Board Members that the Working Group suggested dividing the work according to its connection with a specific commission, and then sending it for corrections to the appropriate commission: refereeing matters to the ERC, legal matters to the ELC and financial matters to the EFC. With this method, all work should be finished in time.

Working Group Vision 2008 – M. Snjezana MIJIC

Ms. MIJIC explains that a special presentation of Vision 2008 will be made the following day during the XXIV General Assembly, taking the project one step further. Additionally, she shares that a workshop is organised on Sunday, 14th September 2003, to which a representative of each federation is invited.

Institutions

Approval of the Statutes of the Regional Volleyball Associations

Mr MEYER shares that FIVB has approved the Statutes of the Middle European Volleyball Zonal Association (MEVZA) and of the North European Volleyball Zonal Association (NEVZA), and that the announcement will be officially made by Mr Jean-Pierre SEPPEY, FIVB General Manager, during the General Assembly.

Mr MEYER also informs Mr BELIGRATIS, President of the Balkan Volleyball Association, that CEV will be sending him the remarks made by FIVB to MEVZA and NEVZA in order for BVA to make the necessary amendments to its statutes to include these remarks. Therefore, Mr MEYER asks Mr BELIGRATIS to review those statutes during the next BVA General Assembly and to adopt any changes brought by FIVB to the Zonal Associations in order to be in line with the newly-approved Statutes of MEVZA and NEVZA.

Action: Send to the GRE Federation FIVB's comments. – CEV Administrative Dept.

Concerning the Baltic Interliga 2003/2004, Mr PEKALIS explains that there was a misunderstanding, but apologises for the poor coordination and organisation this year. However, he confirms that for the next season, a zonal association will be put together. Mr MEYER reminds Mr PEKALIS that in order to organise such a competition, it is important that LAT applies for authorisation prior to the preparation phase of the competition.

30th CEV Anniversary Yearbook

A special commemorative book, produced by the CEV Office, is distributed to each Board of Administration Member. Mr MEYER explains that as announced earlier in the year, this project took place in the frame of the 30th Anniversary and will be distributed to all National Federations during the next day's General Assembly.

Mr MEYER also shares that putting the yearbook together required a lot of effort and work and that some information might be missing as the book was compiled according to the information or documents provided by each federation. On this subject, Mr MEYER adds, as already discussed during the Executive Committee, and in order to avoid the difficulties met in trying to collect all data and information, that publishing a yearly book with competition results and highlights of the year would greatly help in retaining and make easily available all important data. Additionally, Mr MEYER says the FRA Federation has offered to assist CEV in completing its files by sharing information and documents currently in its possession.

Mr MEYER takes this opportunity to thank the FRA Federation for its help and to welcome back Mr Jacques SHAW, President of the FRA Federation and BoA Member, who had to miss the previous two Board of Administration Meetings due to ill health.

Competitions

European Cups

Mrs OOMS explains that due to the Drawing of Lots, which took place in Luxembourg on the same weekend as the ECC Meeting, there was limited time to discuss the different European Cups in detail.

However, Mrs OOMS shares that concerning the Indesit European Champions League, the main objective of her commission is to encourage teams and clubs to fulfil all the requirements and to fight their way into the competition. For the next IECL season, the Official Presentation and a seminar are scheduled for the weekend of 11-12th October 2003 in Vienna. Combined with these two events, the Drawing of Lots of the Champions League and a Gala Dinner with the best players are also organised.

Mr MEYER adds that for the very first time, the Drawing of Lots will be broadcast LIVE by Austrian National TV, and will be made available on satellite, free of charge, to the National TV company of each country (if requested beforehand). Mr MEYER therefore encourages his colleagues to inform the appropriate people within each of their federation of this exceptional opportunity and to contact their National TV to make the necessary arrangements.

Additionally, Mr MEYER explains that due to the Beach Volleyball World Championships which will take place in Brazil at the same time, there is a problem in distributing awards to the Beach Volleyball Players during the Gala in Vienna, but that arrangements are being discussed to either record an interview of the players and play it during the ceremony, or establish a direct link with the players in Brazil and conduct a live interview from Vienna.

Finally, Mrs OOMS announces that the Finals for the Men's Indesit Champions League competition will be organised in Belgorod (RUS), while Tenerife (ESP) was chosen as organiser of Final for the Women's Champions League.

Mr PATKIN asks whether or not the competition dates for the Women's Champions League are already determined, seeing that the RUS Federation also has to coordinate the dates for its National Championships. Mrs OOMS shares that a briefing letter will be sent to all the National Federations explaining the exceptional competition formula of 5 pools of 3 in the women's competition. As far as dates go, the competition will start in the second week of January and will be played 3 weeks in a row, followed by the playoffs in February.



European Championships

Update of the Women's Senior European Championships 2003 in Turkey

Mr HRONEK stated that Mr MEYER and he attended the last Organising Committee Meeting in Istanbul and that everything is ready for the organisation of this competition, including the transfer of teams between the two competition venues.

Additionally, all licenses were received from the CEV Head Office giving a good forecast of the competition to come.

Status of the Men's Senior European Championships 2003 in Germany.

The competition having already started the week prior, Mr BERBEN can only say that so far, the organisation is excellent and that the matches in Karlsruhe and Leipzig went perfectly. The attendance by the public is high, even for games which do not involve the national team of Germany.

Mr BERBEN shares said despite some difficulties and added work due to the combined organisation of the CEV General Assembly, the GER Federation is doing an outstanding job and the Championships will be amongst the very best in the history of this competition. Mr BERBEN also thanks the Jury and the Special Refereeing Commission for their work and excellent collaboration.

Junior European Championships 2004 – request of SVK

Mr MEYER announces a change of venues for this competition. The SVK Federation suggested Bardejov and Presov.

Action: Mr Maris PEKALIS and Mr Willy BRUNINX, who are coordinators for this event, will contact the federation to confirm the change of venues and plan the inspection visits.

Update of the Boys and Girls Youth European Championships 2005 in EST and LAT

Mr HRONEK confirmed that he was in Riga and Tallinn just the previous week and can report that everything is now ready to welcome these competitions. The federations are just waiting for the contracts from CEV. A short presentation will be made by each federation during the next day's General Assembly.

Action: Prepare and send to EST and LAT the final agreements. – CEV Marketing Dept.

Additionally, the dates are now confirmed: the competition will start on 29th March 2005, and the Finals are planned for 4th April 2005.

European Youth Olympic Festival in Paris

Mr BERBEN, who had the opportunity to represent CEV during the European Youth Olympic Festival in Paris, congratulates the FRA Federation for their great organisation and excellent collaboration. Volleyball had a significant presence in Europe again and more specifically in the EYOF.

Additionally, Mr BERBEN is pleased to share that the European Olympic Committee and CEV had the opportunity to meet and exchange views for the future. A couple of requests by the EOC was to take over the system for qualifying, in collaboration with CEV, and to have CEV protect the last week of July. Finally, the possibility of having CEV appoint referees for the Games was also mentioned, but will be further discussed in the future.

On behalf of the French Olympic Committee, Mr SHAW, FRA President, expresses its satisfaction with organising such an event and congratulates CEV and the FRA Federation for the perfect organisation.

European Beach Volleyball

Final report of the U-20 European Championships 2003 in Salzburg (AUT)

Mrs OOMS states that the competition in Salzburg benefited from a high level of organisation and an imposing venue, with games being played under the statue of Mozart. The overall conditions for the players, organisers and press were very good, and the sponsors also expressed their satisfaction with regards to the organisation and development of the competition.

Final report of the U-18 European Championships 2003 in Brno (CZE)

Ms. MIJIC, who was the representative for this competition, confirms that the organisation in Brno was very good and that everyone was happy with the development of the competition.

Final report of U-23 European Championships in Stare Jablonki (POL)

Mr PEKALIS, CEV Representative in Poland, tells his colleagues that the organisation was excellent, the facilities were fantastic and the involvement and cooperation of the POL Federation were very good.

European Championship Tour 2003 in Rethymnon (GRE)

Mr BELIGRATIS also confirms that the competition in Rethymnon went very well and that the organisation was excellent.

Finals of the Senior European Championships 2003 in Alanya (TUR)

Mr MEYER, who had the privilege of being present in Alanya for this competition, felt that the organisation by the TUR Federation and the promoter was excellent. All courts were right on the beach; the central court offered 4,500 seats, while the second court offered a supplementary tribune of 1,000 seats, which was full of cheering spectators.

To close off this point of the agenda, Mr MEYER congratulates all the federations that were involved in the organisation of Beach Volleyball Tournaments, and hopes that next season will be as successful as 2003 was.

Sanctions against players (participation in non-authorised competitions)

Mr MEYER reminds his colleagues that a letter was received by CEV from the SLO Federation, with copy to FIVB, informing that several players participated in a tournament which was not authorised by the SLO Federation, and asking CEV to sanction these players accordingly. These players, respectively from Slovenia, Italy and Croatia were therefore suspended for a set period of time.

Following this incident, the FIVB also sent a letter to CEV informing us that Dutch players had taken part in an unauthorised tournament in Korea and that they were sanctioned accordingly. A letter was later sent by the NED Federation appealing this decision due to a misunderstanding between the Federation and FIVB, and the fact that the players were unaware of the situation.

Finally, a couple of teams registered for the Beach Volleyball tournament in Rethymnon (GRE), then presented a medical certificate testifying that they could not play. Instead of which, it was found out that one of the teams played in a tournament in Italy instead, while the other simply decided not to go to the Championships as they preferred to train rather than compete. As a result, the teams were excluded from the European Championships in Turkey. On this subject, Mr MEYER underlines that CEV will be very strict with such matters, as it is unacceptable that players register for a competition then choose not to participate under false pretences, which harms the image of the competition and damages the organisational work accomplished.



Continental Olympic Qualifications for Athens 2004

Beach Volleyball

The European Beach Volleyball Championships 2004 are recognised as Official Qualification event for the Olympic Games.

Volleyball

Two events are planned: a pre-qualification tournament in Finland in November 2003 and two qualification tournaments in Baku (AZE) and in Leipzig (GER) in January 2004.

Mr MEYER adds that he hopes these events will be successful and will get the needed TV coverage.

Mr MEYER then gives the floor to Mr SASSI, who wishes to present his colleagues with a proposal from the GER Federation.

There are 8 teams playing this qualification tournament. Normally, such a tournament is played with 2 pools of 4 teams, which signifies that 4 matches are played per day. The proposal from the GER Federation is to rid the competition of the normal rest day, and instead have a running competition system with alternative rest days for the teams.

Advantage:

1. only 3 matches are played in one single day, instead of 4
2. better opportunities for TV coverage and for public attendance
3. more possibilities for training between matches
4. disadvantage: 2 teams may have to play 5 consecutive days without any rest day.

Mr SASSI asks that if the Board of Administration is in favour of adopting the GER proposal, the calendar for the competition will need to be controlled in order to avoid if at all possible that the strongest teams be put in a position where they might have to play the 5 consecutive days. The organiser therefore cannot produce the calendar, and the distribution of teams in the Drawing of Lots will need to be modified.

Open discussion: Mr BORICIC suggests that the calendar could be made according to the Ranking list, placing the worst-ranked teams in the least favourable positions.

Mr PATKIN then takes the floor, saying that in his opinion, all teams should play under equal and fair conditions and that it is practically impossible for any team to play 5 days in a row.

Mr HOLZGRAEFE, supported by Mr SASSI, argues that in the European Championships in Germany already, teams played 5 consecutive days in the preliminary rounds.

Additionally, Mr HOLZGRAEFE refers to the proposal letter from GER, stating that several problems would be faced if the competition stayed with the system of 2 pools of 4 teams. There would be a need for 2 Organising committees for the 2 pools, the venue of Leipzig would have to be changed as Leipzig cannot organise both groups due to limited training facilities. In his opinion, the alternative offered by GER represents a good compromise and cannot be ruled out based on the possibility of 5 consecutive play days, seeing that the situation is common in women's competitions and does not cause any problems.

Mr SASSI also once again underlines that the chances that a team plays 5 consecutive days are very low seeing that the calendar and position of teams will be controlled.

Decision:

- The GER proposal is approved by majority.
- The same arrangements should be offered to the AZE Federation.

- The Drawing of Lots will be organised in Leipzig (GER) in December.

Action:

- Inform the GER and AZE Federation of the decision taken.
- Plan and coordinate the Drawing of Lots (dates). – Competitions Dept. & F. SASSI

Continental Qualification FIVB World Grand Prix

Mr MEYER shares with his colleagues that he had a conversation with Mr SEPPEY, FIVB General Manager, concerning this item. He explains that CEV does not accept the fact that the Continental Qualification helps qualify for another qualification, and that this question will be further discussed during the Grand Prix Council, taking into account the number of teams registered.

In fact, Mr MEYER also shares that the policy of FIVB will be very strict in selecting teams, taking into consideration only teams that fulfil all conditions and meet all requirements in terms of TV coverage, financial contribution and sponsoring.

Mr MEYER proposes to suspend this item until it can be further discussed and decisions can be made during the Grand Prix Council.

Mr PEKALIS however wishes to just share a few points concerning the Grand Prix Qualification which took place in Poland. He felt that the organisation was very good and the public attendance was high, and that the competition benefited from live TV coverage for all matches. One remark concerning the arrival time of the referees and one Jury member, who arrived at midnight the day prior to the beginning of the competition, thus making it impossible for them to attend the Technical Meeting or take part in the preliminary inquiry. For the future, it should be clearly stated that all referees and officials must arrive at least 24 hours before the start of the first match.

Mr MEYER however draws his attention to the fact that it is already stipulated in the regulations that these officials are required to arrive a day early. Mr BIESIADA explains that there were some information problems with the local agency in charge of organising the transport. Additionally there were a few difficulties in finding connections to the airport of Poznan.

Finally, Mr MEYER also shares that his concern is to develop high-level competitions for women and that if this Continental Qualification does not take place, a solution should be found to continue aiming in that direction regardless.

XXIV CEV General Assembly

Mr MEYER informs his colleagues that following the meeting he will have with Mr Jean-Pierre SEPPEY, a couple of amendments are expected on the agenda for the General Assembly, to include a presentation by Mr SEPPEY and a speech by Mr Franz SCHMIED.

In addition, Mr MEYER wishes to remind the BoA Members who are also Presidents of a Commission that the report of their commission should not be a simple reading of the reports already published in the Handbook, but more a summary of the highlights and activities which took place after the written report was published.

Mr MEYER says that the Assembly will include several presentations, including one concerning the launching of the new CEV Website, as announced in the frame of the CEV 30th Anniversary.

Finally, Mr FISCHER adds that there will be a need for a credential commission, and proposes to ask Mr Peter STEVIK (HUN), Mrs Susan AHERN (IRL) and Mr Norbert MARXER (LIE) for their membership. However, it is pointed out that Mrs AHERN will not be present during the General Assembly as foreseen, so Mr MEYER proposes to give more time to Mr FISCHER to find a replacement.



Miscellaneous

Proposal of FRA – Advertising on uniforms

Mr MEYER presents a proposal made by the FRA Federation requesting the possibility to advertise a second sponsor on the player's uniforms. As discussed during the Executive Committee Meeting, and seeing that there were some problems with the positioning of advertisement on uniforms with several teams, CEV agreed with FIVB that for the competitions in Germany and in Turkey, CEV would be flexible on this matter. However, this item, along with the proposal from FRA will be included on the agenda of the next Sports Event Council in October, and new guidelines will be issued which will strictly have to be abided by from then on.

NOC/IOC – FIVB Olympic Qualification – FIVB letter

Mr MEYER mentions that a letter was sent to several federations by FIVB concerning the Qualifications for the Olympic Games, but that the problem has since then been solved.

Bosnia & Herzegovina

Mr BERBEN explains that a certain problem exists in Bosnia Herzegovina as Volleyball faces a unique situation in its country, being the only federation not yet reunified following the request of the IOC. Namely, the only federation yet recognised by FIVB is BIH, while another "federation" also exists under the name of Republic of Srpska. Although this is a matter to be solved by FIVB, Mr BERBEN still shares that after meeting and speaking with the Secretary General of the BIH Olympic Committee, they were asking CEV to contact FIVB yet again on this matter and push for action.

Mr STAVROU asks if, despite this situation, the problem regarding the authority to register teams in the Olympic Games has been resolved. Mr MEYER says that it seems so, but cannot confirm for sure.

Decision: The Board of Administration agrees, under the signature of its President, to send a letter to the FIVB asking to discuss this matter in Acapulco (MEX) during the FIVB Board of Administration Meeting. In the meantime, CEV supports the IOC's point of view, but recognise that the sole decision has to be made by FIVB.

International Transfers

Mr BERBEN also informs his colleagues that the person in charge of the transfer department at FIVB has left, leaving several files pending and creating a back-up. FIVB is perfectly aware of the situation and is working on replacing and training a new person as quickly as possible, and asks for patience from CEV and all its Federations.

Mr George BOUDRY, Former CEV President

In agreement with Mr BERBEN, Mr MEYER proposes to the Board of Administration Members to nominate Mr George BOUDRY, Former CEV President, as CEV Honorary Member. In addition to being a former President of the Confederation, Mr BOUDRY has also offered his help to CEV thereafter on several occasions, and is taking part in the French project to supply CEV with data and information.

Decision: All Board of Administration Members agree with this proposal.

The official announcement will be made during the XXIV CEV General Assembly.

Closing of the Meeting

Mr MEYER closes the meeting, thanking his colleagues for their work and the exchange which took place during this short but productive meeting.

CEV XXIV GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING - BERLIN (GER) – 12TH SEPTEMBER 2003

The following members are attending:

President:	André Meyer (LUX)
Snr Vice-President & Treasurer:	Philip Berben (BEL)
Vice-Presidents:	Snjezana Mijic (CRO) - Riet Ooms (NED) - Aleksandar Boricic (SCG) - Jan Hronek (CZE) - Carlo Magri (ITA)
Members:	Thanassis Beligratis (GRE) - Janusz Biesiada (POL) - Aloys Fischer (SUI) - Manfred Holzgraefe (GER) - Vladimir Patkin (RUS) - Maris Pekalis (LAT) - Miguel Angel Quintana (ESP) - Jan Rek (SUI) - Fabio Sassi (ITA) - Jacques Shaw (FRA) - Andreas Stavrou (CYP)
Internal Auditors:	Michel HENNO (BEL) - Leo DADEMA (NED)
Executive Director:	Olivier MOTTIER (CEV)
Competitions Director:	Jean-Paul ROMMES (CEV)
Marketing Coordinator:	Marion MEYERS (CEV)
IT Responsible:	Daniel C BARTHELS (CEV)
Press Officer:	Arjen MEIJER (CEV)
Secretary:	Emilie PATRICOLA (CEV)

Delegates of the European National Federations

<u>FEDERATION</u>		<u>REPRESENTED BY</u>
ALBANIA	ALB	Mr Vesel RIZVANOLLI / Mr Leonard TASE
ANDORRA	AND	Mr Ferran JEREZ / Mr Marti CASTELLA
ARMENIA	ARM	No delegate
AUSTRIA	AUT	Mr Peter KLEINMANN / Mr Karl HANZL
AZERBAIJAN	AZE	Mr Elshan ISMAYILOV / Mr Mikhail FRISHMAN
BELARUS	BLR	No delegate
BELGIUM	BEL	Mr Willy BRUNINX
BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA	BIH	No delegate
BULGARIA	BUL	Mr Dancho LAZAROV / Mr Stanimir TILKOV
CROATIA	CRO	Mr Zdeslav BARAC
CYPRUS	CYP	Mr Yiannakis PROCOPIOU
CZECH REPUBLIC	CZE	Mr Pavel KUCERA / Mr Antonin LEBL
DENMARK	DEN	Mr Eddy MADSEN / Mr Henrik DAHL
ENGLAND	ENG	Mr Neville LEWIS
ESTONIA	EST	Mr Aadu LUUKAS
FAROE ISLANDS	FER	Mr Niclas JOENSEN / Mr Trygvi H. POULSEN



		Proxy from GREENLAND
FINLAND	FIN	Mr Seppo SAMMELVUO Mr Jorma VERTAINEN
FRANCE	FRA	Mr Philippe BEUCHET
GEORGIA	GEO	Mr Levan AKHVLEDIANI
GERMANY	GER	Mr Werner VON MOLTKE / Mr Lutz ENDLICH
GIBRALTAR	GIB	Mr Anthony AVELLANO
GREECE	GRE	Mr Angelos TZIMOS
GREENLAND	GRL	Proxy to FAROE ISLANDS
HUNGARY	HUN	Mr Peter STEVIK / Mr Sandor HOBOTH
ICELAND	ISL	Mr B. GUDBJÖRNSSON Mr Þorvður SIGFUSSON
IRELAND	IRL	No Delegate
ISRAEL	ISR	Mr Jacob SHTOFMAN
ITALY	ITA	Mr Renato ARENA
LATVIA	LAT	Mr Mareks SEGLINS / Mr Atis SAUSNITIS
		Proxy from LITHUANIA
LIECHTENSTEIN	LIE	Mr Norbert MARXER Mr Philippe SCHÜRMANN
LITHUANIA	LTU	Proxy to LATVIA
LUXEMBOURG	LUX	Mr Peter EICHSTÄDT / Mr Romain BREUER
MACEDONIA	MKD	No delegate
MALTA	MLT	No delegate
MOLDOVA	MLD	Mr Anatoly MOCRAC / Mrs Olga MOCRAC
MONACO	MON	Mr Franck FERREYROLLES
(The) NETHERLANDS	NED	Mr Herman VAN ZWIETEN Mr Peter VAN DER LOO
NORTHERN IRELAND	NIR	No delegate
NORWAY	NOR	Mr Edgar BROKS / Mr Arild NIKOLAISEN
POLAND	POL	Mr Marek IREK
PORTUGAL	POR	Mr Manuel PEREIRA / Mr José NEVES
ROMANIA	ROM	Mr Adin COJOCARU / Ms. Oana SARB
RUSSIA	RUS	Mr Valentin JOUKOV / Mr Sergey KOLMAKOV
SAN MARINO	SMR	No delegate
SCOTLAND	SCO	Mr Kenny BARTON
SERBIA & MONTENEGRO	SCG	Mr Slobodan MILOSEVIC
SLOVAKIA	SVK	Mr Ivan MAJERCAK / Mr Lubor HALANDA
SLOVENIA	SLO	Mr Agustin MARTIN SANTOS / Mr Luis

		MUCHAGA
SWEDEN	SWE	Ms. Agneta ELMEGARD
SWITZERLAND	SUI	Mr Christoph STERN / Mr Roger SCHNEGG
TURKEY	TUR	Mr Hüsnü CAN / Mr Nafiz PEKEL
UKRAINE	UKR	Mr Mykola SYDORENKO Ms T. ROUBLEVSKAIA
WALES	WAL	
Interpreter:	GRE	Mr Periklis BAKODIMOS
	POL	Ms. Marta ALF
Special Guests:	Mr Jean-Pierre SEPPEY, FIVB General Manager Mr Klaus BÖGER, Senator for Education, Youth and Sport Dr Klaus STEINBACH, President of the National Olympic Committee (GER) Dr Rolf ANDRESEN, CEV Honorary President Mr Yuri DEREVIAGUINE, CEV Honorary Vice-President Mr Franz SCHMIED, CEV Honorary Member Mr Georges BOUDRY, Former CEV President Mr Fumitoshi TERAMOTO, Mikasa Corporation President Mr Tetsuo KITAMURA, Mikasa Corporation Managing Director Mr Roland ARNOLD, Mikasa Europe Director Mr Christian KUHN, Gerflor Sales Director Mrs Anne-Marie GANTOIS, Gerflor Sales Representative	

Opening of the XXIV General Assembly, Welcome Address by CEV President,

Mr André MEYER *[pictured addressing the General Assembly in 2003]*

“Dear Delegates, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen, It is with great pleasure that I welcome you all in Berlin on the occasion of our XXIV General Assembly. Today, it is with special appreciation that we welcome some very important personalities such as Mr Klaus BÖGER, Senator for Education, Youth and Sports, Mr Klaus STEINBACH, President of the National Olympic Committee, and Mr Jean-Pierre SEPPEY, General Manager of the Fédération Internationale de Volleyball (FIVB). We also welcome our Honorary President, Vice-Presidents and Honorary Members and friends: Professor Rolf ANDRESEN, Mr Yuri DEREVIAGUINE, Mr Franz SCHMIED and Mr Georges BOUDRY. Dear friends, your presence here today is a proof of a strong solidarity in the European Volleyball family. Thank you very much for coming. A hearty welcome also to our partners MIKASA, GERFLOR, ISA, and GSM, without whom it would be impossible to organise our top events in Europe. I also wish to thank those who were not able to be amongst us today. First, I would like to excuse our Honorary Vice-President, Mr Hugo FRUITHOF and Honorary Member, Mr Michalis MASTRANDREAS who could not be with us due to other commitments. I would also like to remember those who left us during the past year: Mr Vahit COLAKOGLU from Turkey, CEV



Honorary Member and former CEV President, and Mr Oleg TCHEKOV, Vice-President of the Russian Volleyball Federation and former International Referee. May I ask you for a minute of silence in their honour? All delegates and people present in the room stand up and respect a minute of silence, after which Mr MEYER continues with his welcome address.

This year, our gathering in Berlin coincides with some important events.

- After the big success in 2002 here in Berlin of the World Championships for Women, CEV is very happy to be able to organise together with the German Volleyball Federation the European Championships for Men. We are sure that, as for the preliminaries in Karlsruhe and Leipzig, the final games that we will see here in Berlin during the next 2 days will be top events;
- Only in a couple of weeks, we have the opportunity to gather again in Antalya and Ankara, in Turkey, for the Women's European Championships. As Germany for the men's competition, the Turkish federation is also a guarantee of a high level organisation.
- Finally, at the end of 2003 or beginning 2004, with hope that these dates will not change, CEV will be able to celebrate the opening of a new office in Luxembourg, with more space and which will allow our employees to work under better conditions.

The various activity reports, which you will find in your Handbook, will give us the opportunity to evaluate the last year activities, but also to discuss and prepare the future.

I wish all of you a successful day, marked by constructive and meaningful discussions, as well as far reaching decisions.

I thank you very much for your kind attention. “

Welcome Speech by the President of the German Volleyball Federation, Mr Werner VON MOLTKE

“Dear Mr President, Dear André, Dear Honorary Members of the European Volleyball Federation, Dear Mr SEPPEY, Dear Members of the Board of Administration, Dear Delegates,

On behalf of the German Volleyball Federation, I am honoured to welcome you today on occasion of the CEV General Assembly. I hope that you all had a nice journey coming here and that you are well and comfortably settled in the city of Berlin and more particularly in this hotel. If you have any wishes or need any sort of assistance, please do not hesitate to contact our employees who will gladly help you. I hope that you will have the opportunity to visit and enjoy Berlin. As a local proverb says, “It is always worthwhile coming to Berlin”, and I can only confirm that Berlin has become a lot more attractive in the past years.

I am also pleased to welcome and introduce to you my friend and new-elected President of the National Olympic Committee in Germany, Mr Klaus STEINBACH, who has won many medals in swimming in such competitions as the World Championships and is one of the most successful sportsmen here in Germany. We have great hopes that he will accomplish great things and help us be very successful in International Sports in the future.

I also welcome Mr Klaus BÖGER, Senator for Education, Youth and Sports and a great supporter of Sports. He gave us the opportunity to organise the Finals of the Men's European Championships here in Berlin and greatly assisted us in successfully preparing this organisation.

Berlin has a little over half a million inhabitants, is located in the heart of Europe and is closely connected with neighbouring countries, thus making it a better fit for the International sports and Olympic sports movements. 28 million members make up the different German Sports Organisations, Federations and Associations. The German Volleyball Federation, a member of the German Sports Federation, of the European Volleyball Confederation and other

International organizations, is made of over 500,000 members, organised in 5000 associations, and 72 teams, designed to attract and train many young people to become highly professional athletes. Today, Germany is amongst the leading volleyball nations in the world, thanks to the recruiting and training work done by the German Volleyball Federation to create teams made of the best men and women players in its organisation, as well as thanks to the good collaboration that exists between the German Volleyball Federation and all other associations.

We believe that we are well positioned for the World Championships and that we also stand many chances in Beach Volleyball. With the first European Championships Finals organised in Timmendorf next year and with the Beach Volleyball World Championships planned in Berlin, Volleyball has a very strong presence and impact in Germany and shows great prospects for the future. This year, we won many medals, including in Youth and Junior Volleyball, and we look forward and hope to win many more and to qualify as many teams as possible for the Olympic Games in Germany. We also aim at improving Volleyball's ranking in comparison with other sports, going from our current 11th position to being 5th. We also wish to increase our memberships from 500,000 to 800,000 in the coming years.

Finally, the German Volleyball Federation applied 4 years ago for the organisation of the Men's Senior European Championships and for hosting the CEV Annual Congress and we wish to thank CEV for trusting and giving us this opportunity. We strongly feel that we are a part of the international, and more specifically the European Volleyball family, and appreciate the collaboration that exists between our associations. Through these events, we continue to focus on our objectives: reaching top results in international Volleyball and Beach Volleyball and attracting a higher audience by employing professional speakers and integrating modern entertainment to our sport. In Leipzig, we had a very good example of how a professional speaker and quality entertainment can encourage a higher participation by the audience. Additionally, we were very happy to see that the audience not only welcomed and cheered our national team, but showed the same enthusiasm and support for all the foreign teams present in German.

For the past 3 years, we worked very hard to prepare and organise these European Championships, collaborating very closely with the cities of Karlsruhe and Leipzig, as well as with the local administrations here in Berlin. With this in mind, I wish to warmly thank my German colleagues for their hard work, and also wish to extend my gratitude to the CEV for its constant support.

Once again, I welcome you in Germany and wish you a very successful day."

Welcome Speech by the Senator for Education, Youth and Sports, Mr Klaus BÖGER

"Dear Mr MEYER, Dear Mr SEPPEY, Dear Mr VON MOLTKE, Dear Dr STEINBACH, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am very proud and honoured to welcome you today in Berlin, the capital of Germany, which not only sits as the centre of the Federal Government but also corresponds to one of the main sports locations in Germany. Berlin has hosted many successful sports events in the past years, making us very proud and reinforcing our beliefs that this will be an excellent weekend in the history of sports and a great emphasis on Volleyball in all of Europe.

As a result of our applications to host the Olympic Games, we have a magnificent sports hall here in Berlin, the Max-Schmeling-Halle, which you will all get to see this weekend on the occasion of the Men's European Championships. I am also certain that we will see many thrilling matches in that hall, accompanied by a very supportive and enthusiastic audience, making this enjoyable event a guaranteed benefit to the world of sports in general.



I must also share that I greatly appreciate the commitment and work accomplished by Mr VON MOTLKE, President of the German Volleyball Federation, who very heartedly welcomed me this morning. Without the commitment and passion that Mr VON MOLTKE possesses, Germany wouldn't be quite so privileged in terms of sports. Volleyball underwent enormous developments in 1972 during the Olympic Games in Munich, making it known and more easily accessible in Germany. And as Minister of Education, Youth and Sports, let me tell you that sports competitions also involve many important educational aspects, and that Volleyball is in our eyes very important to today's youth. Sports are an elementary step in the education of today's youth and play a vital role in the upbringing and formation of a strong future society.

I wish you a very successful and uplifting conference today, and hope that you will all find the time to visit the city of Berlin. Your hotel is located right in the centre of former West Berlin, making it easier for you to discover Berlin and the many changes it is undergoing. We look forward to a great competitions' weekend, and once again wish you all the very best in your meeting and during the competitions. “

Welcome Speech by the President of the National Olympic Committee, Dr Klaus STEINBACH

Dear Mr MEYER, Dear Mr SEPPEY, Dear Senator BÖGER, Dear Werner, Ladies and Gentlemen, Dear Delegates of the European Volleyball Confederation,

On my own behalf, and on behalf of the National Olympic Committee in Germany, I welcome you to your Congress here in Berlin. Since 1964, Volleyball has been a central part of the Olympic movement. Due to an extraordinary dynamic development, this sport has experienced a worldwide and special impetus during the last decades. Even in Germany, Volleyball is among the sports with the largest number of members, and one of the most popular sports.

As a team physician of the German Volleyball Federation, I have been able to convince myself of its qualities during the nineties, and since then, I am a strong advocate of your interest. Volleyball is a sport with extreme speed and attraction. It disposes of all the characteristics of a distinctive culture and performance. Volleyball encourages initiative, commitment and team spirit. It is also an important pedagogical basis for the education of our children. It promotes sociability, and it is above all, one of the most global sports, and thus an important medium of international understanding. Finally, Volleyball is an indispensable part of the Olympic Games.

After the Women's World Championships last year, the German Volleyball Federation is now hosting an important international event for the second time within one year.

I therefore wish to take this opportunity to thank all the honorary and full-time staff members of the German Volleyball Federation, and above all, it's President, my friend Werner VON MOTLKE, for their excellent commitment. German sports is very glad to be the host of these Championships and of your Congress, and we are very pleased to experience together with all of you, international guests, top performances by the top International teams.

I wish you the best of success for your Congress and for the Finals of these European Championships.”

Speech by Mr Jean-Pierre SEPPEY, FIVB General Manager

“Dear Sports Minister, Mr BÖGER, Dear National Olympic Committee President, Dr STEINBACH, Dear Mr VON MOLTKE, Dear Mr MEYER, Dear Mr TERAMOTO, MIKASA President, Dear Mr KITAMURA, MIKASA Managing Director, Dear Mr KUHN, GERFLOR-TARAFLEX Director, Dear CEV Members, Dear National Federations Presidents and Delegates, Dear Friends,

On behalf of the FIVB President, Dr Rubén ACOSTA, and in the presence of Mr Franz SCHMIED, I have the pleasure and the honour to bring to you today the FIVB greetings. FIVB is proud to be in Berlin today. We are proud to be with Mr VON MOLTKE. We are proud of Mr

VON MOLTKE and his teams who have been achieving for years a highly-appreciated contribution to the development and promotion of Volleyball in Europe and in the world. In 2002, they organised the Women's World Championships. This year, they organised the Men's European Championships and the Beach Volleyball Grand Slam. On 2nd January of this year, with Mr BÖGER, with Mr MÖSER from Berlin and with Mr VON MOLTKE, we planned together the future in Germany, we planned together the Grand Slam event for the next year, and we planned together the 2007 Beach Volleyball World Championship. We are sure and confident that Berlin will be the world city for Beach Volleyball in the future.

FIVB is one of the three biggest sports organisations in the world, with 217 National Federations, with 35 million licensed players. This success, this performance belongs to you. You are the actors of this success, you are the FIVB members. Additionally, the success of FIVB is also based on the following fundamentals:

- First of all, the direct affiliation of the National Federations to FIVB, which allows direct collaboration; which allows FIVB to give its direct support and the National Federations to give their feedback.
- The second fundamental of our success lays in the strict control and management of our rights, or our marketing and TV Rights. We can get the support of marketing agencies, but never forget that we are responsible for our rights and we will never abandon or give away our rights to anybody.
- Thirdly, the standardisation of our products in the World, the standardisation of our experience in the organisation of the tournaments.
- And last but not least, our Code of Conduct. As an International Company, we need management tools. We need a certain form of control, we need stricter rules. In Buenos Aires in 2002, we decided on and adopted a new Code of Conduct, which not only includes ethical principles, but also sanctions when an FIVB member does not respect our Constitution, our regulations. We need those sanctions for the benefit of our sport, and let me inform you that FIVB is one of the most advanced federations in the world in regards to its highly effective Code of Conduct.

Remember that we are a family, that we are a team, and that this is how we will prevail!

Thank you."

Nomination of Mr Georges BOUDRY, CEV Honorary Member

Following the speech by Mr SEPPEY, Mr MEYER, CEV President, takes the floor once again and announces to the Assembly that during their last Meeting, the members of the CEV Board of Administration unanimously agreed to nominate one of their friends and former CEV President, Mr Georges BOUDRY, as a CEV Honorary Member. Mr MEYER therefore asks the General Assembly to approve this proposal by the CEV Board of Administration for the nomination of Mr BOUDRY. The Assembly agrees with loud applause. Mr Georges BOUDRY takes the floor and thanks the CEV Board of Administration and the General Assembly for his nomination. He also shares that it has always been a great honour for him to cooperate with CEV and that he is looking forward to continuing to do so as Honorary Member. Mr MEYER thanks Mr Georges BOUDRY and the French Volleyball Federation in general for their much-appreciated collaboration.

Setting up of the XXVI General Assembly's Office

Record of Attendance

Upon completion of the nominative call against the record of attendance at the beginning of the congress:

- 43 federations are found present or validly represented,



- 11 federations are absent or not validly represented.

Appointment of four Members of the Credentials

Checking / Voting Commission

On behalf of the CEV Board of Administration, Mr Aloys FISCHER (SUI), President of the European Legal Commission, proposes to the General Assembly to appoint the following four CEV officials / federation delegates as:

Members of the Credentials Checking / Voting Commission:

- | | | |
|---------------------|-------|----------|
| • Mr Aloys FISCHER | (SUI) | Chairman |
| • Mr Peter STEVIK | (HUN) | Assessor |
| • Mr Norbert MARXER | (LIE) | Assessor |
| • Mr Ivan MAJERCAK | (SVK) | Assessor |

There being no objection, the General Assembly unanimously confirms the appointment of the above CEV officials / delegates of federation as members of the Credentials Checking and Voting Commission.

Report of the Credentials Checking Commission

Mr Aloys FISCHER (SUI), Chairman of the Credentials Checking Commission, confirms that out of the 54 member federations, 43 federations (= 79.6% of all CEV member federations) are present or legitimately represented by valid proxy in this General Assembly.

Mr Aloys FISCHER concludes that the condition laid down in Art. 5.2 - § 3 of the CEV Statutes - at least two thirds of the federations must be present or represented - is fulfilled.

Further to a control of the accreditations by the voting commission, Mr FISCHER announces that the number of votes amounting 43, the absolute majority stands at 22.

The following 11 federations, neither present nor represented by proxy, are considered as officially absent: Armenia (ARM) - Belarus - (BLR) - Bosnia & Herzegovina (BIH) - Ireland (IRL) - FYR of Macedonia (MKD) - Latvia (LAT) - Lithuania (LTU) - Malta (MLT) - Northern Ireland (NIR) - San Marino (SMR) - Wales (WAL)

Another count and nominative call will be made at the beginning of the afternoon session, seeing that the delegates of the Latvian Volleyball Federation (LAT) are expected to join the Congress with a proxy from Lithuania (LIT).

Approval of the Agenda

Mr MEYER, CEV President, informs the Assembly of the following amendments to be added to the agenda:

- Point 4: FIVB Resolution, by Mr Jean-Pierre SEPPEY, FIVB General Manager
- Point 12: World League and FIVB Grand Prix, by Mr Franz SCHMIED, FIVB Sports Advisor
- Point 15: Beach Volleyball Presentation by Mr Jean-Pierre SEPPEY, FIVB General Manager.

There being no objections or further comments, the Agenda of the XXIV General Assembly is approved.

FIVB Resolution

Taking the floor, Mr Jean-Pierre SEPPEY, FIVB General Manager, addresses the General Assembly concerning a point that is deemed very important. Through this point, Mr SEPPEY, on behalf of FIVB, commented on the current situation with the Federation of Argentina. He also wishes to discuss the suspension of Mr Luis MORENO, former President of the South

American Volleyball Confederation, before finally sharing the new FIVB resolution with the delegates present.

The accusations of Mr GOJIMAN were not legally founded, but based on his desire to destabilise FIVB following his suspension.

Mr SEPPEY opens the floor to questions or comments.

Mr MEYER, CEV President, confirms to the General Assembly that all Executive Committee Members received supportive documents that confirm Mr SEPPEY's account of the case.

There being no comments, Mr SEPPEY continues on with the situation concerning Mr MORENO, former President of the South American Volleyball Confederation and Member of the FIVB Board of Administration.

It was brought to FIVB's attention that there were certain irregularities in Mr MORENO's activities, pushing FIVB to set up an Inquiry Commission composed of Mr QUINTANA, Mr HOFFIZ (NORCECA President) and Mr SEPPEY himself. In May 2003, this commission went to Lima to conduct a thorough investigation, analysing the Federation's accounts, interviewing the employees and writing a report for the FIVB Executive Committee. Many administrative and financial irregularities were found during this investigation, including unjustified expenses of the money given by FIVB.

Mr MORENO has been suspended and the case is currently pending, with a final hearing expected shortly. Mr Ary GRAÇA, President of the Brazilian Volleyball Federation, has been elected to replace Mr MORENO as President of the South American Volleyball Confederation.

The floor is open to questions or comments concerning the case of Mr MORENO.

There being no questions or comments, Mr SEPPEY continues with the FIVB Resolution.

As a result of what happened in both cases, and as a way to avoid such situations in the future, Mr WEI Jizhong, FIVB 1st Executive Vice-President, proposed to create a resolution to be signed by all the National Federations affiliated with FIVB, showing their support and good faith.

Before collecting signatures from the European Volleyball Federations represented in the Assembly, Mr SEPPEY gives the floor to Mr MEYER, CEV President, and Mr BERBEN, CEV Vice-President and Treasurer, who will present the resolution to the General Assembly.

Mr BERBEN first takes the floor and reminds the Assembly that through these situations, FIVB used and strictly followed a complete procedure as foreseen in the FIVB Statutes and Internal Regulations, depending on the competence of the FIVB Executive Committee, Board of Administration and Legal Commission, and following the schedule mandating such cases.

The idea of this resolution is to guarantee the support of all National Federations and their willingness to entrust FIVB in the handling and decision-making of such cases.

Mr MEYER then reads the FIVB Resolution to the Assembly:

The European Volleyball Federations affiliated to the FIVB meeting in the 2003 ordinary Congress of the Confédération Européenne de Volleyball declare:

- Considering that we have been properly informed through the documents received from the FIVB General Manager with respect to the causes and facts that led the FIVB President and Board of Administration to take decisions to sanction the conduct of certain members of the FIVB;
- Considering that such decisions were necessary to maintain in force the principals of the Constitution, Code of Conduct and Regulations that govern the relations between the FIVB and its affiliated federations;

We have decided as follows:



- Firstly, to express publicly our solidarity with the International Volleyball Federation, its Constitution, Code of Conduct and Regulations which govern us and facilitate our sports relations, as well as with the FIVB President, General Manager and Board of Administration members, for their handling of the recent cases of disloyalty of certain FIVB Members;
- Secondly, to condemn firmly the defamatory campaign that the Argentinean Mr Mario GOJIMAN and his spokespersons have unleashed against the FIVB, its President and General Manager, and to object to the grotesque accusations that have been published;
- Thirdly, to repudiate the conspiracy against FIVB by Mr Luis MORENO and Mr Mario GOJIMAN who have been contacting IOC Members in an attempt to rally them to their disloyal cause;
- Fourthly, to express our solidarity with the FIVB Board of Administration's decision to suspend the Argentinean Volleyball Federation and initiate the procedure of expulsion, recognizing at the same time the task force in charge of reincorporating Argentinean teams in official International Volleyball competitions.

For the purpose of its publication, the document is signed in the city of Berlin, GERMANY on the 12th of September 2003.

Following the lecture of this resolution, Mr MEYER thanks Mr SEPPEY for the detailed information received on this day and hands over the document to the CEV Executive Director to circulate it around the room and collect signatures from the National Federations Delegates and Representatives.

Intervention by Mr Herman VAN ZWIETEN (NED)

Mr VAN ZWIETEN, despite being in support of FIVB's resolution, shares that he finds himself in a situation with a conflict of interest seeing that as former President of the FIVB Finance Commission, he was requested by the lawyers of Mr GOJIMAN to testify in court. Although he has not heard any further details on this matter, Mr Van ZWIETEN will testify if requested to do so by the court, thus putting himself in a conflicting situation with FIVB.

He does however reiterate his support to FIVB and shares his intention to sign the resolution as President of the Dutch Volleyball Federation.

Approval of the Minutes of the XXIII General Assembly in Luxembourg (LUX)

In absence of neither written nor oral remarks, the Minutes of the XXIII General Assembly held on 9th November 2002 in Luxembourg (LUX) are unanimously approved and adopted.

CEV Activity Report 2002/2003 by CEV President, Mr André MEYER (LUX)

"Dear Delegates,

Let me introduce to you some key words of my activity report: celebration, perseverance and innovation.

First of all, let's honour our institution, founded on 9th September 1973 in Scheveningen (NED) and therefore currently celebrating its 30th anniversary. A special jubilee, starting at its beginning with the Official Opening in Milan on 23rd March 2003, in the frame of a very special event in the Piccolo Teatro. Organised with the precious support of the Italian Volleyball Federation, this event attracted 27 Presidents of our affiliated federations, and 36 federations. The focus of this celebration was to underline the richness of our past, outlined in the speech by our Honorary President, Mr Rolf ANDRESEN, to recognize the best athletes who marked

the recent years, and to highlight the Finals of the Indesit European Champions League 2003, which constitute one of the top CEV sports Event.

It is in an analytical way that we would like to share our acquired knowledge of the past, present and future in our Yearbook, especially designed for the 30th Anniversary of CEV and created to mark the second leg of our celebrations, which will, I hope, also go on into 2004.

On behalf of my colleagues from the Board of Administration, I wish to emphasize the perseverance of our federations regarding our sports activities. Thanks to your commitment, your assiduity and your confidence in our institution, Europe distinguishes itself from the other confederations by its results, its ambitions and its high-quality competitions, which enjoy an excellent reputation worldwide. As proof, I would like to underline only the following facts:

- Two teams were awarded bronze medals, one a silver and another one a gold medal during the recent Women's and Men's World Championships 2002.
- In terms of Beach Volleyball, five men's and two women's couples belong to the ten best teams in the world.
- Twelve European teams out of 16 qualified for the latest edition of the World League, whereas seven out of eight teams qualified for the final phase in Madrid.
- The European Cup formula gathers more than 200 clubs throughout Europe.
- A prize money of EUR 845,000 is awarded for our most prestigious competition, the Indesit European Champions League.
- 460 hours of TV coverage and an estimated audience of over 40 million spectators mark this special competition.
- 41 men national teams and 35 women national teams participated in the qualifications for the Senior European Championships 2002/2003.
- Extension from 8 to 12 teams of the next European Championships for Youth.
- Creation and adoption of the statutes of 3 Zonal Associations NEVZA, MEVZA and BVA.

Finally, I could not end this roll of honour without recalling the number of years CEV has been organising one of our finest competitions: the European Championships. Here, in Berlin, just as in Karlsruhe and Leipzig, and thanks to the ongoing efforts of the Organising Committee led with the master touch of its President, Mr Werner VON MOLTKE and his Executive Director, Mr Jürgen LAMBERTY, the twelve best European men teams are fighting for the honour to become the European Champion.

Likewise in Ankara and Antalya, Turkey, and thanks to the perseverance of a big volleyball nation and its Organising Committee directed by its President Mr Hüsnü CAN, women's volleyball will shine throughout Europe in a couple of days!

Due to the efficient work of our marketing partners and Eurosport, we will be able to cover European-wide most of the matches of both European Championships.

Perseverance is also the right word in view of Beach Volleyball, which has been marked by the organisation of the European Championships in all categories this year:

- U-18 thanks to the collaboration of the Czech Republic
- U-20 with the support of the agency Laciga Emotions, the city of Salzburg and the Austrian federation
- U-23 thanks to the commitment of the Polish federation
- And finally, the senior category which, benefiting from an exceptional organisation under the direction of our marketing partner, Global Sports Marketing, could enjoy top European Championships. The Greek and Turkish federations can indeed be proud to have worked with such enthusiasm and efficiency for the establishment of this new competition, which will position European Beach Volleyball as one of the most attractive events of our sport.



I address my sincerest gratitude and my best wishes to all national federations which have worked, participated and collaborated so efficiently to make this year a very special one. The success of our Confederation acknowledges your endeavours!

The CEV is proud to be an important member of the biggest international sports federation and we would like to reiterate to FIVB not only our loyalty, but also our support to make Volleyball the number one sport in the world.

In conclusion, I would like to draw your attention to the exceptional work and the perseverance of our colleagues from the Board of Administration, of every member of our Commissions and Working Groups. Thanks to their commitment and their motivation, European Volleyball is able to continuously improve its performances. Several work fields prove that CEV repeatedly repositions itself and continues to tread new paths to broaden its horizons. Today, in the course of this General Assembly, the presentation of the Working Group Vision 2008 and the introduction of our new Web site confirm that the change has already set off and that our institution is becoming more and more dynamic. Tomorrow, the Working Group European Championships 2007 will open up new perspectives in terms of a new competition formula. It is essential that all these tasks and these reflections be carried out with the support and the active and concentrated collaboration of our federations. This marks a new policy which we would like to establish during this legislative and which will, I hope, in 2005 on the occasion of our next elections, allow us to present a concrete statement of all activities and convincing results for the benefit of European Volleyball's development. Such is the wish of our Board of Administration which, I am sure, complies with your expectations too.

Thank you for your confidence, which you show every year, and your everlasting commitment."

Financial Report

Financial Report – Accounts 2002 by CEV Treasurer, Mr Philip BERBEN (BEL)

Concerning the 2002 Accounts, Mr BERBEN only wishes to address the Assembly concerning the ongoing problem with old debts that certain National Federations have with CEV. For many years, he has been seeing the same Federations and can see no improvement. Therefore, during the CEV Executive Committee and Board of Administration Meetings which took place on 11th September 2003 in Berlin, Mr BERBEN and his colleagues of the Board of Administration agreed to start looking for new ways to handle this situation, while still keeping the European Volleyball family intact, acknowledging that certain federations face certain difficulties.

Intervention by Mr Jean-Pierre SEPPEY (FIVB)

Mr Jean-Pierre SEPPEY, FIVB General Manager, confirms that FIVB is in possession of a list concerning all those federations that still have significant debts towards CEV, and informs the delegates present that according to the FIVB Constitution and Regulations, such situations cannot be accepted. FIVB will therefore intervene, involving its Legal Commission, Executive Committee and Board of Administration to guarantee the Federations respect all conditions. Federations who still do not comply will face suspension.

Mr BERBEN thanks Mr SEPPEY for his intervention and shares that CEV hopes to find solutions through the establishment of new internal structures, in order to avoid having to go as far as requesting FIVB's intervention.

He also informs the Assembly that CEV, led by its President Mr MEYER, is constantly working on finding new ways to bring in money, and that with the current work being done to bring in new contracts and sponsorship, an increased income should hopefully be visible on the 2005 budgets which will be presented in next year's General Assembly.

Before asking the General Assembly to approve the above report, Mr BERBEN gives the floor to the Internal Auditors.

Internal Audit Report by Mr Leo DADEMA (NED) and Mr Michel HENNO (BEL)

“Dear Mr President, Dear Members of the Board of Administration, Dear National Delegates, Dear Guests, Dear Friends in Volleyball,

We, the undersigned, Leo DADEMA and Michel HENNO, have audited on 16th June 2003 the accounts of the CEV for the year 2002.

We sincerely thank Mr André MEYER, CEV President, Mr Philip BERBEN, CEV Senior Vice-President and Treasurer, and more particularly Mrs Sylvie COLLIGNON, in charge of the bookkeeping, for their assistance and explanations during our assignment.

The accounts of the CEV are subject to an external audit carried out by LUX-AUDIT RÉVISION S.à.r.l. We had the opportunity to meet Mr Marco CLAUDE, manager of this company, and discuss the options he took.

We controlled the bank statements and compared the results with the adopted budget.

We also checked the invoices using the random method.

The bookkeeping of the different transactions and the running of the financial accounts are carried out according to the rules, with the required precision and clearness.

We would like to make the following remarks:

1. The operating profit amounts to 66,166.96 €. This result is lower than the result in 2001, year of the European Championships and consequently different, and it is also lower than the result of the year 2000, which can better compare to this year.
2. We have found 3 main elements to explain this result:
 - a) Staff expenses, though lower than the available budget, are higher than that of the previous years.
 - b) Some amounts were already invested for the European Championships 2003. The total costs for the organisation will not exceed the estimated amount, but CEV advanced the payments for 2003, with respect to the contracts signed with the organisers.
 - c) The withdrawal of a designated sponsor for the organisation of the Beach Volleyball competition financially harmed CEV which had to fulfil its obligation to pay the prize money as originally planned. In comparison with the year 2000, this makes up for a difference of 140,000 €.
3. Some National Federations have debts older than one year, and as these amounts do not seem to be absorbed, it is important to take the necessary measures. Moreover, it is indispensable to develop and introduce a procedure for the National Federations which owe CEV money but are still allowed to participate in CEV competitions.
4. The new accounting frame established to closely monitor the financial results of the different organisations came into action: the expenses of the year 2002 have already been registered according to the new charge. The revenue will be treated the same way starting in January 2003. Starting in 2004, we will consequently be able to look at the results for each organisation and compare them accordingly. Moreover, the electronic transfer of data to the Fiduciary is now possible and has been used for the bookkeeping 2002. This will both save time and money on a really short-term basis.
5. All investments are well-managed and split between an available short term of 1 or 2 months and a medium-term reserve started in March 2001 for 3 years at the rate of 4.25%, and which proves to be today an unexpected yield.



Considering the above remarks, we propose to the General Assembly to approve the accounts and to unburden the persons in charge.”

In absence of any questions or comments, the financial Report (Item 7.1) and the Internal Audit Report (Item 7.2) are unanimously approved and adopted by the CEV General Assembly.

Budget 2004 – Budgets 2003 & 2004 vs. Accounts 2002 by CEV Treasurer, Mr Philip BERBEN (BEL)

Taking the floor and referring to the figures communicated to the Federations through the Handbook, Mr Philip BERBEN (BEL), CEV Treasurer, shares with the delegates that the 2004 budget took into consideration the 2002 accounts and the financial developments and situations of 2003. He also points out that the 2004 budget can be compared to the figures of the years 2002 and 2003 as to be better put into perspective. He then opens the floor for questions.

Intervention by Mr Jacob SHTOFMAN (ISR)

Mr Jacob SHTOFMAN takes the floor and shares that after carefully examining the expenditures and income for 2002, 2003 and 2004, he sees an obvious increase in Overall and General Management Expenditures with, referring to point 41 of the budget, figures going from 50,000 in 2001 to 90,000 in 2002 and finally 140,000 in 2003, thus showing numbers that practically tripled in 3 years. Similar trends, although not quite as extreme, are seen in Office Staff expenditures (Point 43) and Office Premises/Overheads (Point 44), whereby Point 47 for example, corresponding to Beach Volleyball expenses, shows much smaller amounts with little increase through the years. Mr SHTOFMAN therefore suggests to the Board of Administration to pay closer attention to the different trends and the way the money is spent, thus asking them to analyse different ways to use the money in more productive ways.

Answering to Mr SHTOFMAN's comments, Mr André MEYER, CEV President, points out that in the case of the CEV Office Staff expenditures, it is important to acknowledge that in a little over a year, 4 people have been added to the CEV Head Office. Although such additions were necessary, he assures the General Assembly that the CEV Office is now operating at full capacity and should not require any further hiring.

Mr BERBEN thanks Mr SHTOFMAN for his contribution and makes note of his remarks.

Finally, Mr BERBEN wishes to address his warmest thanks to the people who have helped him throughout the year with financial matters. Special thanks go to the Internal Auditors, Mr Michel HENNO and Mr DADEMA, and to the CEV Staff in Luxembourg and more particularly Mrs Sylvie COLLIGNON for her expertise and good collaboration. He also warmly thanks Mr MEYER, CEV President, for his involvement in all CEV financial matters and his commitment to CEV in general.

There being no further remarks, the 2004 budget and the report made by Mr BERBEN are unanimously approved by loud applause.

Amendments of the CEV Statutes

Taking the floor, Mr MEYER directs the General Assembly to page 46 of the Handbook, where the proposal by the Board of Administration to amend the CEV Statutes can be found.

Referring to certain legal requirements, Mr MEYER explains to the Assembly the procedure which accompanies Statutes modifications:

- Collect all signatures from the Delegates present who voted the changes.
- Publish the Amended Statutes according to Luxembourg's Law

As these procedures are time-consuming and cost money, it was found that Art. 14.4, which is quite restrictive, could be simplified in order to avoid such frequent amendments of the CEV Statutes. Therefore, the CEV Board of Administration proposes to drop the listing of all competitions and replace it by a general term referring to all of them, which will allow CEV to create new competitions without requiring an amendment to the statutes.

Version as adopted by the CEV General Assembly 2001 in Ostrava (CZE) NEW VERSION adopted by the CEV General Assembly 2003 in Berlin (GER)

Article 14.4

The official competitions of the CEV shall be:

1. The European Senior Championships,
2. The European Junior Championships,
3. The European Youth Championships,
4. The European Senior Beach Volleyball Championships,
5. The European Junior Beach Volleyball Championships,
6. The European Beach Volleyball Nations Cup,
7. The U23 European Beach Volleyball Championships,
8. The European Cups for National Champions,
9. The European Cups for National Cup Winners,
10. The CEV Cups for Club Teams.

All these competitions shall be run for both sexes. The official competitions of the CEV shall be run for both sexes and be extended to all Volleyball and Beach volleyball European competitions, respectively for each categories of age and/or competitions format.

Mr Aloys FISCHER asks the delegates to vote the approval of this article by hand.

Results: For: 43. Against: 0. Abstention: 0

The Amended Statute are approved and adopted unanimously by the CEV General Assembly.

CEV Commission Reports

European Beach Volleyball Commission

President: Mr Miguel Angel QUINTANA (ESP)

A written report by the EBVC was submitted to the National Federations in the General Assembly Handbook.

Since the last CEV General Assembly, the European Beach Volleyball Commission met only once in Rome in November 2002.

During the meeting, the work of the General Assembly was reported and debated together with the decisions of the CEV Board of Administration.

GSM Representatives were attending the meeting, and a thorough analysis of the corporate profile and beach development project was carried out, in a very fruitful and varied debate. Furthermore, time was devoted to the detailed study of current regulations and possible amendments required to reach the set objectives.

Unfortunately, the calendar of the senior activity in 2003 has not been agreed, but the parties – both GSM and CEV - are confident about a future agreement.



Regarding junior and youth activity, we are proud that positive and constructive contacts with National Federations and promoters have led to a calendar of activity which confirms the organisation of three more championships: U-23, U-20, U-18 having their organisers already confirmed their commitment till the end of the Olympic term. And such achievements are even more important if considering that the more young players join the sport, the greater the development and the opportunities lying ahead.

Even though numerous affiliated federations and their promoters have shown great interest in the Beach discipline, not all negotiations concerning the establishment of a European Beach Volleyball Circuit could come to a positive conclusion. We strongly believe that in the future, the experience and the tuning of procedures will allow the issuing of a competition calendar suiting the demand of all European players in all categories.

A special thanks goes to Poland and the Czech Republic - nations with a long volleyball tradition – which have newly joined the organisation of Beach Volleyball tournaments, to Laciga Emotions, Swiss marketing agency, who have been supporting U-20 events since 2002, to the Turkish Volleyball Federation hosting the Senior European Championships Final in Alanya and to Greece which will share in Europe its extremely valuable international experience along its way towards the Olympic Games in Athens.

Mr Miguel-Angel QUINTANA, President of the European Beach Volleyball Commission, wishes to emphasise the importance for all National Federations to organise or participate in Beach Volleyball activities, allowing for the sport's continuing development throughout the months. Only with the help of the National Federations, in collaboration with the CEV Board of Administration, can Beach Volleyball grow in Europe and can the athletes be well prepared for the Olympic Games.

Additionally, the idea of organising an important Beach Volleyball Seminar has emerged and needs to be implemented. The concept would not be to just invite the Technical Supervisors and Assistant Technical Supervisors, but to open the Seminar to all the people involved in Beach Volleyball activities. Unfortunately, a first attempt to organise this event in Greece failed due to a lack of interest by the National Federations. Mr QUINTANA therefore takes this opportunity to remind everyone of the importance of such events and activities, and to encourage the National Federations to be more involved in Beach Volleyball.

Also, Mr QUINTANA wishes to acknowledge the work accomplished throughout the year by CEV and its marketing partner, Global Sports Marketing (GSM). Despite termination of the contract with Challenge in 2002, several major Beach Volleyball events and competitions were successfully organised in Europe during the year, thanks to the competence and dedication shown by GSM. However, Mr QUINTANA emphasises the need to develop Beach Volleyball in all age categories, and more specifically in the Senior Category, focusing on promotional activities and TV Coverage.

Finally, Mr QUINTANA thanks Mr Erik SCHMIDT, Beach Volleyball Coordinator at the CEV Office in Luxembourg for his hard work and intensive efforts, and opens the floor for discussion.

Mr André MEYER, CEV President, thanks Mr QUINTANA for his report and confirms that CEV is taking the appropriate steps to improve the organisation of Beach Volleyball activities through its partnership with GSM, and that CEV definitely intends to develop Beach Volleyball activities and to organise a European Circuit with a minimum of 4 or 5 Beach Volleyball competitions.

In the absence of any further remark, the report presented by the European Beach-Volleyball Commission is adopted and approved.

European Cups Commission

President: Mrs Riet OOMS (NED)

COMPOSITION OF THE EUROPEAN CUPS COMMISSION.

The composition of the European Cups Commission did not change during the season 2002-2003. The composition was as follows:

President: Riet OOMS (NED)

Secretary: Ivan IRO (CZE)

Members: Peter LANGE (GER) - Bruno DA RE (ITA) - Max KJAER (DEN) - Marta ALF (POL) - Sandor HOBOTH (HUN)

Meetings:

- The ECC met for preparing a seminar for supervisors and presentation of the Indesit European Champions League in Rome (ITA) on 23rd and 24th November 2002;
- The ECC President and the CEV Competitions Director carried out the drawing of lots for the 1/8 Finals in the CEV Cup in Luxembourg on 13th December 2002;
- The ECC President, the ECC Secretary and the CEV Competitions Department carried out the drawing of lots for the 1/4 Finals of the TTC and the IECL on 25th January 2003,
- The annual plenary meeting of the ECC took place on 28th-29th April 2003 in Budapest (HUN);
- A plenary meeting at the occasion of the 1st drawing of lots for the Top Teams Cup and CEV Cup season 2003/2004 took place on 29th / 30th August 2003 in Luxembourg;
- The ECC will meet for organising a seminar for clubs participating in the IECL and NF's on Saturday 11th October 2003.

Competition Formula

In the season 2002-2003 the third edition of the Indesit European Champions League took place with 16 teams in the women's competition, (back to the format of 4 groups of 4 teams). In the men's competition the number of participating teams could even be extended from 16 to 20 teams. This competition was played in 5 groups of 4 teams. Due to calendar problems in the period of the European Cups, it was impossible to change the format of this competition for the men's part. We have to deal with the consequences of the problematic best second ranked team qualified, which also guarantees for excitement in all groups till the end of the League Round.

In the Top Teams Cup the number of teams, taking part in the League Round, was reduced from 24 to 16 teams, and therefore the number of pools from 6 to 4 with 4 teams each. In order to achieve the 16 teams for the League Round, Qualification tournaments with 4 teams have been organised in the first weekend of November 2002.

The formula of the CEV Cup remained unchanged.

Evaluation of the European Cups season

- The number of teams that entered the 2002/2003 season was the highest number ever: 224 teams registered for the 6 European competitions.
- The number of licences, prepared during the 2002/2003 season was approximately 2800.



The ECC came to the conclusion that especially for the Top Teams Cup 2003-2004 season the extremely overloaded competition calendar (European Olympic Pre-qualification Tournaments and the World Cup in Japan, etc.) is seriously jeopardising the program. For this reason the ECC proposed to the BoA to change the system for the Top Teams Cup ONLY FOR THE SEASON 2003-2004 as follows: the main phase will be composed of 1/8 finals and ¼ finals, and consequently NO LEAGUE ROUND will be played.

- Due to some problems with Technical Delegates, some Technical Delegates had to be removed from the list in some countries.
- In order to find organisers for the finals of the Top Teams Cup and CEV Cup, the ECC proposed a slightly modified competition calendar to the BoA. This modified calendar is adopted by the BoA for the CEV Cup and Top Teams Cup (there is more time now between the 1/4 finals and the final Four. Thus the ECC is of the opinion, that we give more preparation time to clubs, willing to organise the Final Four.

Evaluation of the INDESIT European Champions League Season

The second edition of the Champions League had been very successful, but the third edition, with again 16 teams participating in the women's competition, and the extension of the men's competition to 20 teams, can be mentioned as even more successful.

The sponsoring of Indesit as the Main Sponsor and Champion as the Gold sponsor has been continued and was – again - very successful. The official Presentation of the Indesit European Champions League took place on the 25th November 2002 in Rome.

The ECC, the CEV office, the clubs, National Federations and Supervisors have been working together in close co-operation.

The Working Group Indesit European Champions League (IECL) met on 1st March 2003 in order to evaluate the season 2002/2003 and to propose the main amendments for the next edition:

- The season 2002-2003 was considered as a real success (more than 30,000 spectators at the Men's Final Four in Milano) and a good basis for improving the image of this competition within the press and TV even more. The presence on Eurosport of 11 weekly magazines of 26 minutes each during the months of December – March, was certainly a great success.
- Also during this edition of the IECL, the special Working Group of the ECC was observing the work of the clubs very closely. The Working Group will continuously watch the progress of the organisation of each club in order to guarantee the quality of the IECL, in order to achieve better conditions for the next edition. All important items of the organisation have been checked: marketing, press, competition-regulations and supervisors.
- As most of the participating clubs are working well, the Working Group discussed a proposal of awarding the best organiser in the IECL. Detailed information concerning this subject will be given during the Official Presentation.
- In order to fulfil the requirements of our sponsors, we have to be stricter towards the clubs concerning the technical and TV obligations. Especially in the women's competition, where the ECC has been more flexible during the start of the IECL, CEV now starts a procedure of pushing the clubs to fulfil all requirements, without any exceptions.
- For the first time this season there was a huge problem in the IECL competition, where a team did not reach the competition venue in time. Together with the Legal Commission the ECC had to find solutions for this match and for the Regulations.

- For the Women's Indesit European Champions League, CEV managed to considerably raise the Prize Money, compared to the original amount.

Most of the work concerning PR, Marketing and Sponsoring was done carried out by Mr Roberto Ghiretti and Mr André Meyer. The ECC wants to thank both for their great involvement in the success of this project. For the future of the IECL it will be very important to attract also a Silver Sponsor.

Only in close co-operation with NFs and can we be really successful in making this competition the most attractive one in Europe, not only for the spectators, but also interesting for the clubs to participate.

On the 30th June 2002 a seminar for National Federations (Cups' Responsible) and participating clubs in the IECL took place in Luxembourg (in combination with the drawing of lots). Still too many clubs and/or NF's are not sending the correct people: the ECC really needs in these seminars the people, who are really working in this field during the whole season!

On the 24th November 2002 the IECL Seminar for Supervisors was organised (in Rome, Italy). Like last year, during this seminar, instructions were given to a selected group of Supervisors, who conduct all aspects of the competition. At the same time a seminar for statisticians of the participating clubs took place. During this practical seminar instructions were given by Data Volley from Italy. 35 participants were present at the Supervisors seminar and 35 at the seminar for statisticians. Both seminars were deemed a great success.

The public drawing of lots in Luxembourg for the Indesit European Champions League was organised on the 29th June 2002 in Luxembourg.

European Cups Season 2003/2004

The competition formula of the 2003/2004 IECL competitions were modified so that the organiser of the Final Four tournament will be directly qualified after the League Round and thereby guaranteeing good organisation of the Final Four tournament. This proposal is fully supported by the Board of Administration for the Indesit European Champions League (men and women).

The Working Group Indesit European Champions League decided to check more strictly all entries for the IECL season 2003-2004. In order to make it possible to move teams from the IECL to the Top Teams Cup, the drawing of lots for the TTC (and consequently also for the CEV Cup) was moved to 29th and 30th August 2003. This drawing of lots was organised in Luxembourg in a non-public session.

The Working Group IECL also decided to move the drawing of lots for the Indesit European Champions League 2003/2004 to the month of October together with the Official Presentation and the various seminars.

The sponsors, INDESIT and CHAMPION already signed for the season 2003-2004 which of course assists the preparations for the forthcoming season.

At the deadline for entry for the European Cups season 2003-2004 (15th June 2003) a total of 113 men's teams and 92 women's teams had entered. In total 205 teams. Compared with the previous year (a record ever with 224 teams) this means 19 teams less. Notably the entry for CEV cup is lower than the year 2002-2003.

Due to the new regulation that teams, which still have outstanding debts towards the CEV on the 30th of June will not be accepted in cup competition for the next season, a number of teams had to be eliminated from participation in the 2003-2004 editions.



CEV Head Office

The Competitions Department in the CEV Head Office is still led by Mr Jean Paul ROMMES, assisted by Mrs Isabelle FIDANZA & Ms. Kristina NIEMINEN.

The work in the Marketing and Communication Department is carried out by Ms. Marion MEYERS & Ms. Birthe MEYER.

Together with all other staff working in the CEV Head Office, they have done a great job and as in the past, they can always be relied upon.

Special items

Due to the fact that the regulations for team uniforms were not completely clear during the previous year, the ECC prepared new information concerning the team uniforms in all Cups competitions. Starting from the season 2003 – 2004 the ECC will very strictly control team uniforms.

As the European Cups season has just started, many changes have taken place since this report was released in June 2003. Mrs OOMS therefore adds the following remarks.

- Upon analysis of the registrations received for the European Cups competitions, it was clear that several clubs and National Federations were not fulfilling all conditions for participation. Some entry fees were not paid as expected or, as already discussed under the financial section of this Assembly, certain important debts towards CEV remained at the times teams registered. Consequently, it was decided in the CEV Board of Administration Meeting on 21st June that starting this year, teams with outstanding debts would no longer be approved to play in CEV Cups competitions. After this decision was made, numerous letters were sent out to the National Federations informing them of this new measure, and many teams quickly responded by settling their debts. Unfortunately, a few federations did not follow suite and 5 teams were therefore not allowed to participate in the competitions as they expected.
- The number of inscriptions for this season was lower than last year: following the expulsion of 5 teams who did not fulfil all requirements, 198 teams were registered to play in this year's European Cups competitions.
- Although the ECC expected and hoped for at least 16 teams to participate in the Women Indesit European Champions League, only 15 teams registered, thus making it a real challenge for the ECC to find a competition formula. However, during its last meeting in August 2003, the ECC found a system which was approved by the CEV Board of Administration on 11th September 2003. Detailed information on this matter will be sent to the concerned federations and clubs in due time.
- The Official Presentation and Drawing of Lots for the Indesit European Champions League, as well as the Seminars for the Supervisors, Statisticians, National Federations and clubs will take place in Vienna (AUT) on the weekend of 11th – 12th October 2003. The Drawing of Lots will be broadcasted live on television.
- Concerning entries to the different European Cups competition, it became evident after thorough analysis of all the paperwork received that several clubs and National Federations do not fill out their forms correctly, and send them to the CEV Head Office incorrect, incomplete or unsigned, thus creating more work and wasting precious time. Mrs OOMS therefore appeals to all National Federations to double-check all forms before sending them out to the CEV Head Office, as to avoid mistakes or lapses.

- Still concerning the registration of teams to certain competitions, Mrs OOMS points out that several federations have taken the initiative to set up their own regulations and enter the team they wish to see participate in a specific competition regardless of the ranking. Such situations cannot be accepted, and the ECC reminds all National Federations to follow ECC Regulations in this regard.

Finally, Mrs Riet OOMS would like to thank the CEV President, Mr André MEYER for his constant support, not only for the Indesit European Champions League but also for all European Cups competitions. She also thanks her colleagues of the European Cups Commission, but also her colleagues of the CEV Board of Administration for their ongoing support. Last but not least, Mrs OOMS thanks the staff of the CEV Head Office in Luxembourg for their hard work and dedication.

In the absence of any remarks, the written and verbal reports presented by the European Cups Commission are adopted and approved.

European Financial Commission

President: Mr Philip BERBEN (BEL)

As Mr Philip BERBEN had to leave the General Assembly to attend to his functions in the Men Senior European Championships, Mr André MEYER, CEV President, takes the floor and refers to the written report provided by the EFC and printed in the General Assembly Handbook.

The financial commission was created following the decision of the 1998 CEV General Assembly.

Besides others, this additional institution is in charge of checking and following-up the financial situation within de CEV.

As decided during the congress in Ostrava in 2001, this commission is composed as follows:

President: Philip Berben (BEL)

Secretary: Karl Hanzl (AUT)

Members: Susan Ahern (IRL) - Nenad Golijanin (SCG) - Alon Greenberg (ISR) - Levent Ilbay (TUR) - Antonio Valente (POR)

The commission gathered in Vienna on the 24th and 25th of May 2003. The following points were discussed:

1. Role, task and future of the Financial Commission
2. Decisions of the Board of Administration and their financial consequences
3. European Development Budget
4. Beach Volleyball financial situation
5. Accounting year 2002
6. Budget 2004
7. Financial Management

The President of the commission, as member of the CEV Executive Committee and the Board of Administration, in his capacity of Treasurer in charge of following up the daily financial life within the CEV. For this reason, he travelled several times to the CEV office in Luxemburg and had the opportunity to explain in the meetings of the Executive Committee and the Board of Administration the financial situation of the European Volleyball Confederation.



The 2002 accounts show a positive result even if in 2002 CEV had to face some financial problems due to the Beach Volleyball situation in that year.

A budget which has a good balance between the accounts from the past and the actual needs is presented for 2004.

Mr MEYER only wishes to underline the tight financial control which CEV benefits from, with the work of Internal Auditors and External Auditors. Additionally, the budget is carefully discussed and planned by the CEV Executive Committee, then controlled and if necessary, amended by the Financial Commission before being officially approved.

In the absence of any remark, the report presented by the European Financial Commission is adopted and approved.

European Legal Commission

President: Mr Aloys FISCHER (SUI)

The European Legal Commission (ELC) held two meetings - on 14th December 2002 and 10th May 2003 - in order to fulfil its duties and sustain the work of the Board of Administration.

The most important points which were dealt with were the following:

European Sports Forum

The Executive Committee appointed Mr Mavromatis, Secretary of ELC, as CEV Representative in the European Sports Forum organised by the European Commission (held in Copenhagen on 7th and 8th November 2002).

Mr Mavromatis gave a brief report about the Forum and the sports matters dealt by the European Union Institutions lately.

There were three subjects discussed during the Forum with the participants divided into three working groups:

1. taking account of sport in community policies and actions
2. voluntary work in sport
3. European Year of Education through Sport.

The most important working group was the first one regarding taking account of sport in community policies and actions. Most of the representatives of the governments of EU countries declared that it is necessary in the future to include in the European Union Treaty an article for sport in the sense of the declaration of Nice. Their main arguments were that sports are very important in the European Union and an article in the Treaty could prevent "unpleasant" actions of the Commission and decisions of the Court, plus the fact that the EU will be released to give funds for sports. On the other hand, some other representatives of the governments of EU countries and some of the representatives of the sports federations were against this because sports action should be independent even within the frame of EU. No decision has been taken, but all arguments were included to the conclusions of the forum.

The members of the ELC considered that it is very important that the EU does not oppose the different dispositions of the regulations of the sports federations which are not contradictory to the EU Treaty. It seems that especially after the declaration of Nice, sports independency is taken into consideration by the EU Institutions (Commission, Court etc.). Furthermore all sports confederations like CEV should always take into consideration that not all their members belong to the EU and should try to participate always in meetings and forums as the European Sports Forum where the future of sports is discussed. Mr Mavromatis has sent his report concerning this Forum to the CEV.

Zonal Associations

Different Zonal Associations have been created within the CEV:

- The Balkan Volleyball Association (BVA)
- The Middle European Volleyball Zonal Association (MEVZA)
- The North European Volleyball Zonal Association (NEVZA)

The ELC had to control the conformity of their Statutes with the Constitution of FIVB and the Statutes of CEV.

The ELC reported that the BVA and the MEVZA Statutes were practically in line with the Constitution of FIVB and the Statutes of CEV, but they needed improvement in some points. Both the BVA and the MEVZA accepted the proposed amendments of the statutes. Furthermore, the ELC had to study the possibility of asking the Zonal Associations to amend



their Statutes in a way to follow some basic principles put down by CEV in order to concentrate their activities on e.g. the junior and youth level of Volleyball.

According to the FIVB and CEV Statutes and regulations, there is no limitation deriving from these regulations for the activity of Zonal Associations. The only restriction is that they have to respect the FIVB and CEV calendars. So if CEV wants to limit their activities, i.e. only in Youth, Junior or Senior Volleyball or Beach Volleyball competitions, a new regulation must be established on the level of CEV and could be added as a new article in the Internal Regulations.

Anti-Doping Report

After the decision of the Board of Administration, the ELC carried out a survey by questionnaire in order to get an overview of the different dispositions, either on the level of national law or by the way of dispositions on the level of the national Sports Associations. The ELC adopted a report submitted by Mr Mavromatis and submitted this report to the Board of Administration to enable CEV to inform all NF's about the results.

- 46 Federations-Members of the CEV answered, which represents about 85% of the members of the CEV.
- 32 out of the 46 NF declared that in their country there is a national law concerning doping.
- 24 out of the 46 NF declared that in their country there are penal articles in the national law concerning doping.
- 41 out of the 46 NF declared that in their country there is a national anti-doping organisation.
- 31 out of 46 NF declared that doping control takes place during the national championships (at least of the highest level) and 32 out of 46 declared that there is also in their country provision for out of competition doping control.
- The most surprising result is that 13 out of 46 NF do not have any regulation containing disciplinary sanctions for doping cases. It is obvious that federations do not have a clear and common view of what they have to do in doping matters.

CEV should in accordance with the World Anti-doping Code of WADA and the relevant FIVB Regulations adopt in its regulations provisions for sanctions for doping offences.

Financial Responsibilities of NFs towards CEV

After taking into consideration a report by Mr Jörg Schwenk the ELC decided to submit to the Board of Administration the following:

- A provision for financial responsibility of a NF towards CEV according to the obligations of its member clubs could legally and politically be argued for or against. Such a provision will reassure the smooth running of the CEV competitions, but requires the previous agreement of the National Federations and its inclusion in the CEV Statutes.
- Within the existing legal framework of the CEV, it is doubtful that CEV has that right.
- ELC suggests that the text of the article 2.4 of the Code of Discipline should be amended, because it is not clear whether it contains a strict liability rule - that could be logical for severe cases, but needs further authorisation in the article 15.2 of the CEV Statutes - or it refers to a possible obligation of the National Federations to guarantee the payment of the fines owed from the clubs. The latter could be added in the article 1.3.3. of the European Cups Regulations.
- In case it is decided to amend the Statutes, CEV should consider establishing a top limit in order not to cause serious problems to National Federations. This should be included in the article 1.3 of the Statutes making clear that it is not a

strict liability rule, but a guarantee on behalf of the National Federation, which after paying the fine owed to CEV by a member club can take back the paid amount from the club.

Regulations about the restitution of financial damage

Based on a report by Mr Bruno Manzella about possible amendments of the CEV regulations in order to regulate the restitution of a financial damage occurred by mistake or by force majeure, the ELC decided to submit to the Board of Administration the following:

Decisions in such cases can be taken by out-of-court authorities only according to the international arbitration rules. According to the article 1.1.1 of the EVT Code of Procedure, all disputes about damages etc. in connection with the participation to the competitions can be submitted to the EVT mediation. It is important though to reassure previous agreement to that from all involved parties by signing a clause of arbitration, which can be foreseen and included in the form of participation sent to CEV by clubs or National Federations prior to their participation in European Cups or Championships. CEV should recommend to the clubs to have insurance for this kind of damages. In that framework, the ELC proposed to the CEV BoA some amendments of the regulations.

Additionally, the ELC President was involved in the solution-finding in the case Malaga – Luzhniki, concerning a match of the Indesit European Champions League. Fortunately the two clubs accepted a compromise after several interventions by the ELC President and the CEV Office.

Furthermore the President of ELC had the opportunity to assist the CEV with his legal advice in several cases.

Referring to the above written report, printed in the Handbook of the General Assembly, Mr FISCHER wishes to only underline two important points:

- Zonal Associations: In close collaboration with all zonal associations, all Statutes were reviewed and amended, and with just one last amendment to be added in agreement with CEV and FIVB, all Statutes are approved by FIVB and all 3 zonal associations can begin their important work.
- Anti-doping report: Results of the survey were printed and shared in the written report. The ELC will now have to draw conclusions from these results and propose to the CEV Board of Administration future steps in order to improve all procedures and measures in this field.

INTERVENTION BY MR JEAN-PIERRE SEPPEY (FIVB)

Mr Jean-Pierre SEPPEY, FIVB General Manager, shares his satisfaction in seeing that Zonal Associations are created and actively work towards developing Volleyball and organising competitions within certain regions, and underlines the importance of such associations for the good development of our sport.

He also confirms that the Statutes for NEVZA and MEVZA were reviewed and a few slight modifications were suggested, particularly in respect to the FIVB Constitution and Code of Conduct. Since these amendments were made, Mr SEPPEY, on behalf of FIVB, officially approves the Statutes of both Zonal Associations in the frame of the CEV General Assembly.

With loud applause from the delegates, Mr Jean-Pierre SEPPEY congratulates Mr Karl HANZL (MEVZA President) and Mr Seppo SAMMELVUO (NEVZA President) on the official approval of their statutes by FIVB and CEV.

There being no comment, the report of the European Legal Commission is unanimously approved.



European Refereeing Commission

President: Mr Jan REK (SUI)

Mr Jan REK, ERC President, takes the floor and underlines a few points listed in the ERC Report, available in the General Assembly Handbook.

Introduction

All in all the European Refereeing Commission (ERC) can look back on a very successful year. As presented in my last activity report, the putting into action of our ambitious goals for the period 2001-2005 was continued according to the planned schedule. Additionally, refereeing in the different official European Competitions was very successful. A serious analysis of a few hundred reports of the referee delegates shows that except for a few cases, all matches were conducted in accordance with the FIVB and CEV refereeing rules and regulations.

ERC Meetings

The most important meaning of our meetings is to organise and to guarantee a smooth running of the official European competitions from a refereeing point of view. To accomplish our tasks, the ERC held two regular Commission meetings (BUL, LUX) and two Working Group meetings (LUX) in 2002/2003. Additionally, the ERC welcomed the ERC ad-hock members in a joint meeting on the occasion of the European Refereeing Seminar in Velm (AUT) to exchange information and to openly discuss any problems.

Following, I would like to mention some of our most important regularly recurring services particularly:

Refereeing Database

An up-to-date database is a necessary platform for a reliable and efficient work within the ERC. Therefore ERC collects and updates every year all relevant data such as personal record sheets, availability lists and in close cooperation with the CEV medical commission, the bi-annual medical reports of all volleyball and beach volleyball international referees and candidate international referees likely to officiate in the European Championships and European Cups. Our refereeing database comprises all actual information of all active, inactive and retired licensed European referees. The quota of active referees being under ERC control presents itself as follows:

In the context of periodical controls, our data is coordinated with the data of the FIVB refereeing commission to avoid discrepancies.

Referees Appointments

In the competition period 2002 – 2003 the ERC made appointments for approximately 600 matches in European Cups and 400 matches in European Championships. Additionally, many of the European International Referees were appointed by the FIVB refereeing commission to officiate matches in the context of different important FIVB competitions. This pleasant fact confirms again the qualities of the European international referees. Obviously our referees are in confidence of the FIVB refereeing commission - this is for the ERC an additional incentive to further efforts to hold the high referee standard in Europe.

Referees Assessments

The classification of referees is an important instrument for a serious selection of best referees for top tournaments and matches. The first version of a new concept for the classification of the European international referees into four groups is available and was introduced on the occasion of the CEV Referee Seminar 2003.

ERC also decided on a new regulation which says that on the occasion of all official tournaments with a larger number of referees, all participating referees must pass a theory

test. With this measure, positive results are already ascertainable - the referees master the rules of the game better and the ERC has an additional objective information source about the standard and the knowledge of English of the individual referees.

European Referee Seminar

The CEV referee seminar, placed under the responsibility of the European Refereeing Commission, brought together this year Volleyball and Beach Volleyball Referees. In the framework of the European Refereeing Seminar 2003, 66 International Referees representing 36 National Federations affiliated to CEV, met in Velm, Austria, from 1st till 4th of May for their annual training.

The seminar was once again a big success and corresponded to a real need. Aside from treating current themes concerning the role of the ERC, National Federations and the seminar participants, the main theme was "Coaching in Sport Psychology for International Referees".

On this occasion, the two external specialists, Mr Franz Xavier WENDLER (AUT) and Mr Alberto CEI (ITA) exposed the different psychological aspects connected with the position of the referee in the management of different conflicts. They also shared practical methods to facilitate the management of the stress related to their position. Another interesting part of the seminar, titled "Technical Skills of Referees" was presented by Mr Benito MONTESI (ITA).

Thanks to the efficient work and perfect organisation of the Austrian Volleyball Federation, especially Mr Hanzl and Mr Lanschützer, this seminar combined training and social interaction, which will undoubtedly benefit the relations between the different federations. Just like last year, all seminar documents and information will be available on the CEV home page.

Beach Volleyball

Further examples of an excellent cooperation between the ERC and the FIVB Refereeing Commission are found in beach volleyball. We are very happy, that Mr Casanova (FIVB Beach Volleyball Refereeing Commissioner) has provided us with all actual information and beach volleyball resources. Particularly the Refereeing Guidelines and different manuals for auxiliary officials are very valuable for the further training of all officials. This way, a standardisation of all needs, standards and rule interpretation, is guaranteed. With an intensive training of our beach volleyball referees, we hope to eliminate the existing "teething troubles" in this recent and fast rising sport.

Apart from these current annual businesses, the ERC more specifically deals with the following projects and problems:

CEV Homepage

The CEV web site develops more and more to the main turntable for information related to all refereeing matters for the forthcoming seasons:

- Referee's directories will not be printed anymore but be only available on internet.
- Referee's appointments will first be communicated on the CEV website.
- All important documents, manuals, Referee's instructions, Referee's guidelines and the Match protocol will only be available on the CEV website.

Referee Uniforms (PO Company)

In close co-operation with CEV, the ERC makes every endeavour to solve the unsatisfactory situation concerning the referee uniforms and equipment as quickly as possible. A promising solution with a new partner is in view and should be available for the next competition period.



Referee Substitutions

During the past European Cups seasons and especially the last season, the European Refereeing Commission was confronted with a tremendous number of referee substitutions. This situation is NOT acceptable. The international referees and the national federations were already informed in writing about the unpleasant situation and have received clear instructions for the future. I want to draw your attention once more to the fact that referee replacements, which cannot be justified with serious reasons, will have negative effects on the further activities of the referee(s) in question.

Challenges 2003/2004

In the near future, the ERC will deal with the preparation of a new generation of high level Volleyball and Beach Volleyball Referees. It would also be a great success to lower the average ages of the new international candidates. For several years now, the average age has been standing at 35.

Furthermore we want to:

- improve the collaboration with National Federations and the FIVB Refereeing Commission,
- establish and develop the use of Internet as a main turntable for all information concerning refereeing affairs
- consolidate and unify the methods of referee assessments.

Last but not least, the ERC wants to thank the National Federations and particularly their international referees for the good work which has been done in the past. The Refereeing Commission is also very grateful for the excellent collaboration and support in the different European Commissions and would like to thank the staff of the CEV office for their enormous administrative work.

In the absence of any remarks, the report presented by the European Refereeing Commission is adopted and approved.

Sports Organising Commission

President: Mr Fabio SASSI (ITA)

Taking the floor, Mr Fabio SASSI refers to the written report presented by ESOC in the General Assembly Handbook and highlights the different steps and changes which have been adopted or are in the process of being analysed in order to improve the different competitions while still respecting the National and International Calendars.

During the period between the last Commission report (July 2002) and the month of June 2003, the Commission met 3 times:

- Belgrade: 25th and 26th October 2002
- Luxembourg: 24th and 25th January 2003
- Barcelona: 2nd and 3rd May 2003

As usual, the task of the Commission was to check the activity, to suggest or adapt the playing formulas, to prepare the regulations of some important events, but first of all the European Pre-Qualification and Qualification Tournament for the Olympic Games in Athens 2004, in order to harmonise in the best way the sports activity of the CEV with those of the National Federations and the FIVB.

In particular, concerning the European Olympic Qualification Tournament, it has been proposed to increase up to 8 participating teams for the final phase expected in the first ten days of January 2004. ESOC has suggested specific regulations for the carrying out of the Pre-Qualification Tournament (scheduled during the month of November in coincidence with

the World Cup) and the final part of the Tournament that is scheduled, as already said, in January 2004 in Germany (men's tournament) and in Azerbaijan (women's tournament).

Regarding the Senior's European Championship qualification, the men's and women's Qualification Tournaments ended in the month of May and June 2003 and the drawing of lots for the distribution of the teams in the two preliminary rounds of the respective final phases has been carried out.

In this regard, it is very important to remind that, starting from the next edition, all the qualification phases for the continental Championship must be finished within the month of September of the previous year of the final. This decision, adopted by the FIVB, will make necessary the concentration of the qualification period May/September 2004, while, in the same period are scheduled the last 3 Olympic Qualification Tournaments, the World League, the FIVB Women's Grand Prix and the Olympic Games in Athens. Therefore, it is necessary to pay particular attention to the calendar of the events in 2004.

Always speaking about the senior activity and the European Championships more specifically, the Commission is studying a proposal of the Danish Federation that – among other things – provides for the involvement in the same competitive season of all the Federation affiliated to the CEV, with a final including 16 teams instead of 12. The European Sports Organising Commission has already started the study of the proposal, which would however not enter into force immediately.

Regarding the Youth and Junior activity, the CEV Board of Administration, has accepted the proposal to bring the number of the teams to the final phase of the Youth Championships to 12 teams (instead of 8), in order to strengthen this championship absolutely necessary for the development of the future champions. Consequently, the Regulations have been updated and they will enter into force starting from the 2004/2005 edition. Moreover, proposals of change regarding some articles of the Junior and Youth European Championships Regulation has been advanced, in order to make easier the use of the players and to slim some administrative procedure.

The Commission has also proposed the distribution of the junior teams in the Qualification Tournaments to the World Championships of this category.

Also, ESOC has checked the proposals coming from the Federations included in the Group C (Small Countries) providing for the updating of the part of the European Championship Regulations regarding these Federations, to be submitted for the approval to the Board of Administration.

Concerning the control of the events, the Commission has followed the carrying out of the different events (Qualification phases and Finals) and arranged the Manual "Technical Organisation and Logistic for Tournaments and single matches", as well as the form for the final report of the sports events. Moreover, the Commission has provided to name its own members as Jury, Co-ordinators and Technical Delegates, when necessary.

I take the opportunity to thank all the colleagues of the Commission, including the ex-officio members, that have given their co-operation, the CEV Board of Administration, and in particular the President Mr Meyer for the trust relied on the ESOC; and finally to all the Competition Department staff for their steady help throughout the year.

Additionally, Mr Fabio SASSI reminds the General Assembly that a Working Group "SECH 2007" has been created and is meeting for the first time in Berlin on Saturday, 13th September 2003.

INTERVENTION BY MR ANDRÉ MEYER (CEV)

Mr André MEYER, CEV President, thanks Mr SASSI for his report and confirms CEV's and ESOC's intention to improve the European Championships starting in 2007.



As mentioned by Mr Fabio SASSI, the first meeting of the Working Group SECH 2007 will take place in Berlin on Saturday, 13th September. Another meeting is already scheduled for October, as it is planned to finalize this new project in January or February 2004 and give the National Federations the opportunity to study this new proposal and register teams for 2007. CEV hopes to receive enough applications for 2007 and to announce the Men and Women organisers during the next CEV Congress in October 2004.

There being no further comments, the report presented by the European Sports Organising Commission is adopted and approved by the Congress.

Medical Commission

President: Prof. Dr Manfred HOLZGRAEFE (GER)

The annual meeting of the EMC took place on 1st February 2003 in Luxembourg.

Health Certificates for referees

99% of the referees had a medical examination.

Doctors' accreditation in CEV Competitions

Following the process adapted during the Champions League the Board of Administration has decided to extend this accreditation to all European cups. The presence of CEV accredited doctors in CEV competitions improves the medical support. That means that each club which takes part in the different European cups has to accredit a doctor by the EMC (Dr DAWISKIBA).

Female Athletes Gender Control

Based on a proposal of the FIVB which defines the disposition "may be required" based on the decision of the IOC to cancel such controls, the Board has decided to leave this decision to the president of the jury and the nominated doctor of ordering such controls if they judge it necessary. In case of problems the responsibility remains with the National Federations.

Training of Doctors in charge of CEV Anti-Doping Controls during Official Competitions

Depending on the EMC budget it is planned the participation of two doctors during the first 3 days of the European Championships to have more experienced official CEV doctors for the different competitions.

Extension of Medical Supply to the different CEV Beach tournaments

Up to now it is open who will cover the expenses for travelling, board and per diem during these competitions.

Positive Doping case in Volleyball

National Federations involved in a positive doping case must inform the CEV Head Office about the results and sanctions by the National Federations in order to give the CEV Head Office the possibility to act according to the FIVB/CEV medical regulations. Regardless of the National Federations' sanctions the CEV will decide if further sanctions according to the FIVB/CEV medical regulations must be taken. Non-communication by the National Federations of a positive case will be sanctioned by the CEV.

Anti-doping Controls during the Final Four Tournaments in Milano

According to the decision of the Board, during the Final Four Tournament of the Champions League in Milano, anti-doping controls were carried out in cooperation with the FIPAV. All results were negative.

Referring to the above report, Prof. Dr HOLZGRAEFE wishes to underline two points:

- Accreditation: It will be necessary in the future for all doctors intending to sit on the bench during all CEV Competitions to be officially accredited by CEV or FIVB.
- Anti-doping: CEV has increased the number of anti-doping controls in hope to pursue its fight against doping in Volleyball. Controls are now conducted not only in European Championships, but in European Cup Competitions as well.

Additionally, and since the written report by the EMC came out, another problem arose and brought the EMC to analyse the issue. As the number of Beach Volleyball Competitions increases, it has become evident through analysis of the reports which show an increased number of medical time-outs, that the sometimes extreme climates at the venues of such events pose a significant threat to the health of the players.

Therefore, in order to protect the players and prevent serious accidents during Beach Volleyball competitions, the FIVB and CEV Medical Commissions have been working together to establish a guideline aimed at the organisers and the players to better inform them of the risks.

There being no remark, the report of the European Medical Commission is adopted and approved by the General Assembly.

CEV Working Group Reports

Marketing

Chairman: Mr André MEYER (LUX), CEV President

Task of the working group

The main task for this Working Group is to analyse, discuss and define future objectives in terms of sponsoring and bilateral cooperation with our external partners.

Cooperation with our consultants and marketing agencies

- Our cooperation with the outside consultants Mr Roberto Ghiretti and Mr Giorgio Rubini is excellent and thanks to their commitment new sponsorship opportunities have been identified.
- Our partner ISA has not taken the option for the Indesit European Champions League 2002/2003 and the whole organisation has been coordinated through the CEV Head Office, backed by the agency Sportsystem and the TV coordinator.
- ISA is however still holding the marketing and TV rights for the SECH 2003 in Germany and Turkey and till 2007 for the next Seniors European Championships. In this respect some problems are still to be settled as far as TV production and coverage in Germany are concerned, since two months before the Final Round in Berlin ISA has still not announced any TV partner and the issue about TV production is yet to be settled.
- The contract with Sportsystem has been prolonged for 2002/2003 and will also be for the season 2003/2004 as the cooperation has been very professional during the last season.

Sponsorship

Indesit European Champions League:

INDESIT and CHAMPION, respectively Main and Gold Sponsors for the edition of 2002/2003 and confirm their sponsorship for the next edition of the IECL 2003/2004.



For the next edition then, we will be able to announce also a COMPETITION SPONSOR for the IECL. The agreement has been signed in July in Milan. The official brand name will be communicated later on.

Moreover, an OFFICIAL PARTNER sponsorship package has been offered to a potential sponsor.

European Championships:

A sponsorship contract was signed with the company GERFLOR for Taraflex sports flooring for the SECH 2003 and 2005, as well as the JECH 2004.

Television

For the first time since its creation, the Indesit European Champions League matches have been transmitted through various highlight magazines on EUROSPORT, thanks to the joint effort between CEV and its Main Sponsor INDESIT.

Further to this report, Mr André MEYER wishes to share that the Indesit European Champions League 2002/2003 is now fully sponsored. He also confirms that CEV is very close to signing new contracts, which should guarantee sponsorship of all major CEV Competitions and cover other activities as well. Further information will be distributed in due time as new developments take place.

In absence of any remark, the report presented by the Working Group Marketing is approved and adopted by the General Assembly.

Media

Chairman: Mr Aleksandar BORICIC (SCG), CEV Vice-President

Introduction

After the CEV Board of Administration installed a new Working Group in 2003, this body started to work to help, assist and advise the CEV in media matters. Under the presidency of the CEV Vice-President Mr Aleksandar Boricic, this new Working Group Media will have a mandate till 2005. In this small activity report, all relevant information regarding the Media Working Group in the period 2002-2003 are detailed.

Members Contribution

Since the start of the mandate of the Working Group Media, this body was composed by:

President: Mr Aleksandar Boricic (SCG) CEV Vice-President

Secretary: Mr Arjen Meijer (NED) CEV Press Officer

Members: Mrs Elvira Atanes (ESP) EFE

Mr Avelino Azevedo (POR) OJOGO

Mr Jacek Dabrowski (POL) TV Pologna

Mr Gianluca Pasini (ITA) La Gazzetta dello Sport

Mr George Stefanis (GRE) ANA

Ms. Daniela Tarantini (ITA) Freelance volleyball photographer

After Mrs Atanes missed two meetings, the Working Group Media proposed to replace her with Ms. Agneta Elmegard of Sweden, who is journalist of Aftonbladet. Ms. Elmegard was present during the second meeting as an observer.

One of the major tasks of the WG media members is to contribute with news out of their respective region. This flow of news is increasing since last year. Other major tasks are:

- How to get volleyball in the major European media
- How to create new volleyball stars
- Advise the CEV and the CEV Press Officer about the media work the CEV is doing

Ms. Tarantini helped the CEV with being the official photographer during the Indesit European Champions League finals. Furthermore she is put in charge to analyse all photography-related items and will benefit starting in May 2003 of a specific agreement with CEV, as “CEV Official Photographer”.

Meetings

Since the CEV General Assembly in November 2002, two Working Group Media meetings were held. The first one was on the occasion of the presentation of the Indesit European Champions League in November 2002. The other meeting was held during the Final Four of the Men's Indesit European Champions League in March 2003. The next meeting is scheduled for September 2003 on the occasion of the Women's European Championship in Ankara, Turkey.

Items discussed in meetings

During the two meetings, important media items were discussed. The major issues discussed were:

- How to get rid of non-journalists with a press accreditation during important CEV events
- Media operations during CEV events
- Way of writing and distributing CEV press releases
- Star creation in European Volleyball
- Improvement of the CEV website
- Restructure of after match press conferences
- Improvement of Beach Volleyball in Europe

All details of the meetings can be found in the minutes.

Volleyball Media Structure in Europe

In the perception of the Working Group Media, there should be a structure created in which the members as regional correspondents and national federation press officers should work in close co-operation with the communication department of the CEV. The ideal situation is that all three parties involved exchange information and distribute it through their respective channels. With this way of working, all volleyball news can be spread all around Europe.

The first steps are already made. Press departments of some national federations (with Germany and Italy as the best examples) translate the CEV releases in their national language and distribute the news to their media contacts. This system should be extended in the future, so the number of volleyball publications in the media will be bigger and bigger.

Conclusion

The first meetings of the new CEV Working Group Media turned out to be a success and thanks to the support and input of the members, the standard of press facilities during CEV events and CEV press operations is constantly improving. The goal of the Working Group Media is to increase the relation between the CEV and the media and increase the number of volleyball publications in the media.

Referring to the written report of his Working Group, Mr Aleksandar BORICIC explains to the General Assembly that the Working Group divided its work in regional target zones, constituted right now of the Balkan Region, South West Europe, the Benelux, Middle West Europe,



Eastern Europe and Scandinavia. The region formed by the British Islands is the only zone still missing correspondents.

During its next meeting in Istanbul (TUR), the Working Group Media is planning to thoroughly discuss ways to bring Volleyball to all major European Media and ideas on how to encourage the rise of new Volleyball stars.

In the absence of any remark, the report presented by the Working Group Media is approved and adopted by the General Assembly.

Regulations and Fines

Chairwoman: Mrs Riet OOMS (NED), CEV Vice-President

Composition of the working group

As from the installation of the Working Group, this group is composed of the following members:

Chair of the WG:	Mrs Riet OOMS (NED) President of ECC
Members:	Mr Fabio SASSI (ITA) President of ESOC - Mr Miguel-Angel QUINTANA (ESP) President of EBVC - Mr Pierre MULHEIMS (LUX) Secretary of ESOC - Mrs Daniela DRAGO (ITA) - Secretary of EBVC - Mr Ivan IRO (SVK) Secretary of ECC - Mr Jean-Paul ROMMES (CEV) CEV Competitions Director

Task of the working group

The main task for this Working Group is to simplify and to harmonize all current Regulations of the CEV and to compare the sanctions in the different Regulations.

The second task of the Group is to find possibilities and solutions in order to avoid fines, where, at the same time, a good performance of Federations and Clubs is achieved, and our products will be improved.

Working Group meetings

After the first meeting of the Working Group in Luxembourg, 27th of April 2002, the members of the working Group started to work out the different Regulations (each member for his own commission). Very soon it appeared that the construction that has been chosen by the Working Group, was not workable. Whereas FIVB has to deal only with National Federations in all competitions, CEV has to work out competitions for national teams (ESOC), for club teams (ECC) and for beach teams – even more individual (EBVC). The Working Group decided to stop this process and to think over new possibilities to achieve the work.

Still the aim is to come to:

- General Regulations
- Specific Regulations for each Competition
- Handbook for each Competition.

On the 14th of June, 2003, a second meeting of the Working Group took place in Luxembourg. In this meeting the Working Group prepared a complete new structure for all Regulations of CEV. In this new structure not only regulations, but also technical and logistical requirements, guidelines for media and press, medical affairs, information for organisers, marketing, refereeing matters, etc. will be included.

In the future for each competition there will be a Regulation, starting with an index of all documents, required for this specific competition. By downloading the complete index, every user of the Regulation will have all information about all aspects of this competition. The final idea is to have all Regulations in a database, where it will be very easy for users to release all relevant information at once.

The Board of Administration accepted all proposals of the Working Group. The first draft for all new regulations will be forwarded to the BoA for the meeting of February 2004.

Further to this report, Mrs OOMS informs the General Assembly that the Working Group should finalize its project in time, thus making this the last time this Working Group will be on the Agenda, as its work has been accomplished successfully and its goals have been attained in the past year, with the simplification and harmonization of CEV's Regulations. Additionally, a CEV Database has been developed and a new website was created and both systems should help keeping up with the regulations.

There being no comments, the report of the Working Group "Regulations and Fines" is approved and adopted by the General Assembly.

Champions League

Chairwoman: Mrs Riet OOMS (NED), CEV Vice-President

Composition of the working group

This group is composed of the following members:

Chair: Mr André MEYER (LUX) CEV President

Members: Mrs Riet OOMS (NED) President of ECC & CEV Vice-President - Mr Ivan IRO (SVK) ECC Secretary - Mr Peter LANGE (GER) ECC Member - Mr Roberto GHIRETTI (ITA) CEV Marketing Consultant - Ms. Marion MEYERS (LUX) CEV Marketing Coordinator - Mr Jean-Paul ROMMES (LUX) CEV Competitions Director - Mr Olivier MOTTIER (SUI) CEV Executive Director

Task of the working group

The main task of this Working Group is to discuss and improve the organisation of the IECL, based on the experience of the current season and also on the feedback received from the supervisors, clubs, sponsors and the CEV Head Office.

Working Group meetings

The Working Group meeting was held in 2003 on March 1st. Before the meeting an inquiry was made, asking all the participating clubs and the supervisors for an accurate feedback on the competition as a whole. Each member of the WG made his remarks on the season 2002/2003 and more precisely, the following subjects were discussed:



- IECL Handbook & Regulations: necessity to clarify some of our regulations with a view to allow a better understanding of the latter and setting up of a schedule to prepare the handbook and the various important pre- and competition dates (e.g. official presentation, seminars, drawing of lots, proposal of match dates)
- Proposal of competition format where the organiser of the Final Four is directly qualified
- Marketing & TV items: discussion on improvements to be made and some changes foreseen in the regulations
- Discussion on general feedback received from the supervisors, clubs and CEV head office
- Raising/adjustment of the prize money for 2002/2003 women's competition after reviewing the overall competition's budget

The aim of the Working Group is to further improve the greatest European club competition, to raise its awareness in Europe and to strengthen its positioning further in the marketplace. Recurrent problems need to be discussed and a solution be found in the best interest of all participants.

Mrs Riet OOMS explains to the General Assembly that this Working Group is a permanent one with an ongoing job of improving this highly important European competition through regular evaluations. After 3 years of continued work, a thorough evaluation is due to see if all goals were reached. This item will be discussed with the different clubs during the Seminar in Vienna to get any possible feedback from the clubs concerned and guarantee that their objectives were reached as well.

There being no comments, the report of the Working Group Champions League is approved and adopted by the General Assembly.

Updated Record of Attendance and Report of the Credentials Checking Commission

The afternoon session starts at 14h30. Mr André MEYER gives the floor to Mr Aloys FISCHER, Chairman of the Credentials Checking Commission who, upon the accreditations of Latvia and Lithuania completes a new nominative call.

Upon completion of the nominative call against the record of attendance at the beginning of the afternoon session:

- 45 federations are found present or validly represented,
- 9 federations are absent or not validly represented.

Mr Aloys FISCHER (SUI), Chairman of the Credentials Checking Commission, confirms that out of the 54 member federations, 45 federations (= 83.3% of all CEV member federations) are present or legitimately represented by valid proxy in this General Assembly.

Mr Aloys FISCHER concludes that the condition laid down in Art. 5.2 - § 3 of the CEV Statutes - at least two thirds of the federations must be present or represented - is fulfilled.

Further to a control of the accreditations by the voting commission, Mr FISCHER announces that the number of votes amounting 45, the absolute majority stands at 24.

The following 9 federations, neither present nor validly represented by proxy, are considered as officially absent: Armenia (ARM) - Belarus (BLR) - Bosnia & Herzegovina (BIH) - Ireland (IRL) - FYR of Macedonia (MKD) - Malta - (MLT) - Northern Ireland - (NIR) - San Marino - (SMR) - Wales (WAL).

Vision 2008

Chairwoman: Ms. Snjezana MIJIC (CRO), CEV Vice-President

The initial meeting of the Working Group Vision 2008 was held on Saturday 24th May 2003 at the hotel Novotel in Luxembourg. All members of the Working Group were present at the meeting.

Mr Peter VAN DER LOO was nominated as the Secretary of the Group.

The Commission brought up a few proposals to the BoA meeting and all of them were adopted with just a single modification in the second proposal.

Instead of:

“Assure the operational relay of this project with regard to the function of the Technical Director or the General Secretary of an NF”, it is now “Assure the operational relay of this project with regard to the function of the General Secretary of an NF.”

Next action of the Vision 2008 is to inform all National Federations about the beginning of this project and ask for their collaboration (questionnaire) during the General Assembly.

We are planning a workshop for the General Secretaries or National Federations representatives at the General Assembly in Berlin on 13th September. We will also prepare detailed information about the Workshop, which will be included in the official Handbook for the Congress.

Many thanks to the members of the Executive Committee and Board of Administration Members who accepted the proposals, submitted by the WG Vision 2008. Also, thanks to the CEV Head Office for the good and close cooperation.

Through a PowerPoint presentation, Ms. MIJIC shares a few points concerning WG Vision 2008:

Composition

Chair:	Ms. Snjezana MIJIC (CRO)
Secretary:	Mr Peter VAN DER LOO (NED)
Members:	Mr Pierre BERJAUD (FRA) - Mr José CABRERA (ESP) - Ms. Nadia KARPOL (RUS) - Mr Frank ULRICH (GER)

MISSION

The Working Group aims at developing and putting together before the 2004 General Assembly a database containing all important information about Volleyball as a Sport, its practicing, its expertise, its history and its organisation in Europe.

Tasks

In order to get the project under way, the Working Group must first define the following:

- Target Groups (To whom are the services of this database addressed?)
- Product categories (List of documents/information/knowledge capable to support the work of the NF/Clubs)
- Sources of information (Usage rights of information/ethic control of the information)
- Links between the user and the database (search machine, catalogue), accessibility to and from the database to the user (languages, format)
- Requirements (Necessary technical equipment, manpower, promotion of the project, planning)



The Links

CEV DATABASE

- Must be centralised by CEV
- Must be accessible for everybody
- NF will be the provider of information
- Standard encoding parameters will be established
- Encoding with a login system supplied by CEV
- Searching system/general index/automatic classification procedure will be established
- Products can be presented in the language of the supplier
- English working language will be obligatory for the reference of the product
- English summary for the description of each product
- Validation of the admission to be effected by CEV
- Guideline to use the program created by WG

Workshop

A workshop is organised on Sunday, 14th September 2003 in Berlin, and will mark the official beginning of the creation of CEV Database. A representative of each Federation, preferably the Secretary General, is invited to participate in this workshop and share opinions, ideas and feedback.

There being no comments, the written and oral report of the Working Group "Vision 2008" are approved and adopted by the General Assembly.

Regional Activities

Report from the BVA

Mr Angelos TZIMOS, Secretary General of the Balkan Volleyball Association (BVA) and Secretary General of the Greek Volleyball Federation takes the floor and presents the General Assembly with a summary of the Regional Association's activities, which can also be found in a written report distributed to all National Federations and Board of Administration Members.

The Balkan Volleyball Association was started in 1998, but due to the challenging political situation in the Balkans, it had to temporarily cancel its activities. Under the initiative of the Greek Volleyball Federation and its President, Mr BELIGRATIS, the member federations of the BVA (Greece, Serbia & Montenegro, Bulgaria, Rumania, Turkey, Albania, FYR of Macedonia and Moldova) unanimously voted the re-establishment of the Association during an extraordinary General Assembly in Athens in 2000.

The purpose of this Regional Association is to further develop Volleyball and Beach Volleyball in the Balkan Region, in all age categories, Men and Women, as well as to create a friendship and good cooperation between the member federations, thus providing a good foundation for the establishment of peace in the Balkan Region.

The Greek Volleyball Federation was chosen as Headquarters of the Balkan Volleyball Association, taking into account the initiative it took and its extended experience in the organisational field.

A General Assembly is organised annually and brings together the 8 Presidents of the member Federations or their legal representatives. During its first General Assembly held in Athens in December 2000, Mr Aleksandar BORICIC (SCG) was elected as President, Mr Athanassios BELIGRATIS (GRE) as Vice-President and Mr Angelos TZIMOS (GRE) as Secretary General.

In 2002, the second General Assembly took place in Moldova, and the Members unanimously adopted the following composition for the Association's Executive Committee:



- Mr Athanassios BELIGRATIS (GRE) as President
- Mr Hüsnü CAN (TUR) as Vice-President
- Mr Angelos TZIMOS (GRE) as Secretary General

Additionally, the Members agreed on the creation of a website for their Regional Association, and decided to attach a journalist to each member Federation and each competition in order to guarantee a constant promotional support for all events.

The next General Assembly will be held in Athens (GRE) in October 2003.

The Balkan Volleyball Association feels privileged to have been officially approved by FIVB and CEV, and on behalf of all its Members, Mr TZIMOS wishes to thank Mr Rubén ACOSTA, FIVB President, and Mr André MEYER, CEV President, for their continued support.

The written report distributed to the General Assembly provides everyone with an overview of the Association's activities and competitions for the year 2003. Some of the most important competitions which were organised were the Boys Junior European Championships in Serbia and Montenegro, the Girls Junior European Championships in Turkey, the Girls Youth ECH in Albania, The Boys Youth ECH in Greece, as well as the Boys and Girls Beach Volleyball European Championships in Romania and the Men and Women Senior Beach Volleyball ECH.

Mr MEYER thanks Mr Angelos TZIMOS for his presentation and congratulates the Balkan Volleyball Association for the quality of its work.

Report from the MEVZA

Referring to MEVZA and NEVZA as the two newest Zonal Associations, Mr MEYER explains to the General Assembly that their activities aren't as developed as that of the BVA yet, but that CEV expects both of them to be very productive and successful in the coming year.

Mr Karl HANZL, MEVZA President, takes the floor and reminds the Assembly that the statutes of the Middle European Volleyball Zonal Association were just approved by both FIVB and CEV, giving the Association the opportunity to really start its work. A meeting is already planned for Saturday, 13th September 2003 in Berlin in order to discuss the next steps and future developments to take place.

The MEVZA aims at focusing its work and efforts on developing Youth Volleyball by assisting club teams and National teams.

Mr MEYER, CEV President, reminds Mr HANZL to make sure that all information concerning possible competitions be sent to the CEV Head Office in due time in order to include those activities in the CEV Calendar and obtain approval from FIVB, and wishes MEVZA luck and success in its work.

Report from the NEVZA

Mr MEYER gives the floor to Mr Seppo SAMMELVUO, President of the Finnish Volleyball Federation who will give a short report of this newest Zonal Association.

Mr SAMMELVUO shares that the Nordic Countries have already been associating for quite a long time. They have yearly meetings and have organised Men and Women Championships for the Nordic countries every second year, as well as Boys and Girls Championships every year. However, the Nordic countries felt the need to further develop their cooperation and regional activities. During a meeting in Luxembourg in 2002, the idea of a Regional Association emerged and was discussed thoroughly, thus leading to the official creation of the Northern European Volleyball Zonal Association (NEVZA) during a meeting in Norway in June 2003.

The following people were elected:

- Mr Seppo SAMMELVUO (FIN) as President
- Mr Henrik DAHL (DEN) as Secretary General



The Association's Statutes, submitted to CEV and FIVB for approval following the June Meeting in Norway, were officially approved and adopted during the CEV Congress. Special thanks are expressed to both associations for their approval and support.

NEVZA aims at developing exciting Volleyball activities in Northern Europe and wants to set new standards and opportunities for the players, the media and the sponsors.

A meeting is scheduled for Saturday, 13th September 2003 in Berlin, during which the members of NEVZA will discuss and establish in details the Association's goals and future activities.

Mr André MEYER thanks Mr Seppo SAMMELVUO for his presentation and wishes NEVZA full success in its future activities.

World League and FIVB Grand Prix

Mr Franz SCHMIED, FIVB World League Managing Director and CEV Honorary Member takes the floor and thanks the CEV Executive Committee and especially Mr MEYER, its President, for giving him the opportunity to address the General Assembly concerning FIVB Competitions.

Two short videos of the 2002 World League and FIVB Grand Prix are shown.

FIVB Competitions consist of 3 main events for Men and Women – the Olympic Games, the World Championships and the World Cup – as well as 2 special competitions which were briefly introduced in the videos – the World League for Men and the FIVB Grand Prix for Women. Both these events are highly successful thanks to the involvement of the European Volleyball Confederation and the highly-efficient collaboration which exists between FIVB and CEV.

The Olympic Games

Qualifications to this major event happen in 3 phases: the pre-qualification tournaments, the Continental Olympic Qualifications and the World Olympic Qualifications, resulting in the final qualification of 12 countries to participate in the Olympic Games. Clear regulations and information can be found on the FIVB Website and through FIVB's regular publications.

The World Championships

A similar qualification system, with the same regulations, exists for the World Championships, giving all countries from all continents the same opportunity to participate in this important competition.

The next Senior World Championships will take place in Japan in 2006 and will function under a new system of 4 pools of 6 teams, thus responding to past problems and bringing new advantages to the competition.

Junior and Youth World Championships are also organised every 2 years. This category however faces important challenges, especially due to higher financial needs and lack of financial support. In the past, the profit made from the Senior World Championships helped finance the junior competition, but with a decreasing profit in the Senior Championships, it has been much more difficult for FIVB to support the junior event.

This year, with just a few months left before the competition, the organisation of the Women Youth Championships was transferred over to Poland, while the organisation of the Women Junior Championships had to be handed over to Thailand.

The World Cup

This is one of the best-organised competitions in the FIVB, seeing that it is always organised in Japan and therefore presents a clear structure. Additionally, this competition serves as

Qualification Tournament for the Olympic Games and therefore attracts many of the best teams in the World.

It is organised every 4 years in the year prior to the Olympic Games.

The World League

This is a professional competition for men, totally self-financed, which must respond to 3 criteria:

- Bring together the best teams of the world
- Each continent must be represented
- Each participating team must present a TV contract and a sponsor contract or monetary guarantee

This year however, the World League faces a deficit and financial help may be required from FIVB. Additionally, for the past 2 years, it has been noticed that the competition's standards have lowered and the quality of the competition no longer justifies the USD 15 million prize money. Several possibilities are being considered, including cancellation of this competition and decrease in the competition's standards. For the next season, it has already been decided that the number of teams will be lowered to just 12, hoping to bring back the quality level expected in a world-class competition.

Further discussions on this matter will be taking place in the next few months to try and find solutions. CEV and FIVB are currently cooperating on a higher level to discuss the possibility of organising a European League which would serve as Qualifications for the World League.

The World Grand Prix

The competition this year faced both positive and negative situations. Due to the SARS disease, the competition, originally organised in Asia, had to be cancelled. However, in a last attempt to save the competition, FIVB found a solution and cooperated with Italy to organise a Final tournament organised with just a few weeks left.

This problem however allowed for the World Grand Prix to be taken out of Asia and to draw the European media's attention onto the competition. It also gave FIVB the chance to study a new structure for next year, with a qualification tournament in Europe and possibly another one in South America or Norceca, thus increasing the interest of the people in continents other than Asia. The second part of the competition will remain in Asia as with the previous years, but the Final Round will be organised in Italy for the next 4 years.

Mr SCHMIED thanks the Assembly for their attention and reminds the delegates to not hesitate to contact FIVB in case of questions or concerns.

A New Communication Flow: The CEV Website 2003

Mr André MEYER gives the floor to Mr Daniel BARTHELS, CEV IT Responsible in charge of the development of this project.

Before officially launching the new website created for CEV, Mr BARTHELS shares with the Assembly the different reflections that led to the creation and development of this project, from the first decision by the CEV Board of Administration, to the finalization of the product this month.

The newly-designed CEV website should correspond to the following major objectives:

- creation of a dynamic database, directly issued from the existing Competition Manager system
- definition of a more efficient and user-friendly navigation system



- creation of a high-performance work tool destined to support the administrative work of our National Federations
- definition of a new themes' structure and new directories

After weeks of extensive work which started back in April 2003 with the thorough analysis of the needs and the establishment of the tasks to be accomplished to reach our goal, the inauguration of this website today marks a major step in the development of the CEV Corporate Identity.

The new CEV Home page is composed of 3 different parts: the site structure area (top of the page), the news area (middle) and the main CEV Navigation subjects (bottom of the page).

The site structure area offers links to the sitemap, a search field, a contact page which allow users to send e-mails directly to the CEV Head Office, and a login area reserved for people who have access to the protected pages.

The news part consists of one highlighted news article and a direct link to a global CEV news page. All the latest news, reports and information can be found under this category.

Finally, and most importantly, the CEV Navigation system is composed of 7 different links, all identified by a different colour:

- The CEV (Institutional information – CEV Structure, National Federations, Referees, Statutes, etc.)
- Volleyball (Information about the different CEV Volleyball competitions and activities)
- Beach Volleyball (Information about the different CEV Beach Volleyball competitions and activities)
- Regulations (all CEV regulations for all European competitions)
- Media (Press releases, photos, TV, accreditations, etc.)
- Partners (Official bodies, sponsors, suppliers with contact information)
- Downloads (all CEV forms for all categories – Board of Administration, Competitions, Marketing, Referees, etc.)

Additionally, and in connection with the new CEV website, a groupware system, complete with login and password, is in the planning and will be made available within a few months. It will give members access to such functions as e-mail services, calendar, task planning, file exchange and an address book.

The presentation is unanimously approved with loud applause.

Mr André MEYER, CEV President, thanks Mr BARTHELS for his detailed report and shares with the General Assembly that although there is still some work to be done to finalize the new CEV website, he is hopeful that the new format and options available will facilitate the work of everyone.

National Federations are also encouraged to call the CEV Head Office and contact Mr BARTHELS directly if they have any questions concerning the new website or if they desire further information and details on its operation.

Future Organiser Presentations and Reports

2005 Senior European Championships in Italy and Serbia & Montenegro

Mr Renato ARENA (ITA) takes the floor and shares a short report concerning the organisation of this event.

For the very first time, the European Championships will be organised by two National Federations working in close collaboration. In the first part of September 2005, Italy and Serbia & Montenegro will host the preliminary round in Belgrade and Rome, while the Final Round

will take place in Rome in late September 2005, in connection with the 2005 CEV General Assembly.

In Serbia & Montenegro, matches will be played at the Belgrade Arena, which has a capacity of 20,000 seats, while in Italy, it is the Palacio dello Sport in Rome with a seat capacity of 40,000 which will serve as venue to this event.

Both National Federations collaborate very closely and aim at organizing a top-quality event which will demonstrate the power of Volleyball in Europe.

The Official Presentation is organised in Rome on 10th November 2003 in the presence of Mr MEYER, CEV President and mayors of Belgrade and Rome.

The report is unanimously approved with loud applause.

2005 Senior European Championships in Croatia

Mr Zdeslav BARAC, CRO Representative, takes the floor and shares with the General Assembly that this event will take place in the second half of September 2005, with a possible start of the competition on 13th September 2005. Exact dates and further details for the organisation of this event are still being discussed.

The competition will be played in two separate cities – Karlovac and Zagreb – and the Final Round will be organised in Zagreb. Competition halls and hotels have been chosen and are ready for inspection in November or December 2003.

The Organising Committee is already very active, working on several important points such as marketing and TV media negotiations.

Seeing that the Croatian Volleyball Federation has already organised several important events in the past, including the Youth World Championships, Mr BARAC is confident that Croatia will organise a successful event. Croatia, for whom organising the Senior European Championships represents a real challenge, is very thankful to have been given this opportunity and will do its outmost to prove its commitment and gratitude towards CEV.

The report is unanimously approved with loud applause.

Mr MEYER only wishes to add that set dates couldn't be decided on just yet due to conflicting calendars with the European Basketball Confederation. An agreement was however reached with them and discussions were established to avoid any such clashes in the future.

Procedure Schedule for Candidates 2007 European Championships and 2006 Junior European Championships

Taking the floor, Mr MEYER refers the General Assembly to the updated procedure schedule which was distributed to all delegates during the Accreditation Procedure:

31st May 2004 Official candidates must send to the CEV Head Office:

A comprehensive presentation in accordance with the detailed "CEV guideline for the Presentation".

Organisational Chart (tentative), General Questionnaire, Business plan, Budget, Plan of the global area with colour pictures, etc.

Letter of Intend of the Host Broadcaster

Letter of Sport of the Local Authorities

18th June 2004 The CEV Executive Committee will appoint the delegation responsible for analysing and following up each one of the candidatures.



End of June 2004	Official audit of each application in Luxembourg according to the "CEV guideline for the official presentation of the Senior European Championships 2007 and Juniors European Championships 2006"
	First Selection Information to the candidates accepted and planning of the inspection visits.
End of August	Visit of the venues retained.
September 2004	Presentation of each one of the accepted candidatures and report from the appointed CEV Executive Committee delegation during the Executive Committee Meeting.
September 2004	Negotiations between the candidates and CEV.
30th September 2004	Final report of the responsible Executive Committee delegates. Final proposal to be presented to the CEV Board of Administration.
1st October 2004	Approval of the CEV Board of Administration
2nd October 2004	Presentation of the accepted candidates during the XXV CEV General Assembly. Official nomination of the two organisers of the Senior European Championships 2007 (Men and Women) and Junior European Championships 2006 (Men and Women)
31st December 2004	Formal agreement between CEV and the host National Federations will be signed.

CEV will contact all concerned federations as soon as concrete proposals are available, in order to give each of them the opportunity to analyse if they can fulfil all the required conditions.

2005 Boys U-19 European Championships

Final Round

The 2005 Boys U-19 European Championships will be organised in Latvia. A short video is showed to the General Assembly, presenting the CEV Board of Administration and National Federation Delegates with a clear overview of the different sports amenities and accommodations available in Latvia for the organisation of this event.

The report is unanimously approved with loud applause.

2005 Girls U-18 European Championships

Final Round

In close collaboration with the Latvian Volleyball Federation and the organisation of the Boys event, Estonia will be hosting the Girls U-18 European Championships' Final Round in 2005.

Mr Aadu LUUKAS, EST President, shares some practical information about Tallinn, host city for this event and states that although Estonia is a relatively small country, it has favourable conditions and good prospects for the development of Volleyball.

A short presentation is showed to the General Assembly, relating the history of the Estonian Volleyball Federation and providing information concerning the organisation of the competition. 12 teams will participate and play on 6 competitions days in 2 sports halls and 2 training halls.

Estonia is looking forward to host this important event and promises a good organisation on its territory.

The report is unanimously approved with loud applause.

As a reminder, Mr MEYER shares that it will be the first time that these two particular competitions are organised with 12 teams, in comparison with the 8 teams participating in the past. This change obviously brings in a few additional strains, raising the cost of the organisation, and CEV is very pleased that Latvia and Estonia accepted to take up the challenge and host these competitions.

2004 Senior Beach Volleyball European Championship Tour

As an introduction to this item, a short video, produced by FIVB, is presented to the General Assembly to show the rapid growth of Beach Volleyball in the World and its appeal.

Referring to a point which was already briefly introduced during the 2002 Congress in Luxembourg, Mr Jean-Pierre SEPPEY, FIVB General Manager, lists a series of strategies to expand Beach Volleyball and increase the number of Beach Volleyball Tournaments.

- Invest in TV programming: FIVB mandated TV Producers and put together short highlight shows for each tournament
- Work more closely with the National Federations to promote Beach Volleyball in their country

Europe is currently Number 1 in organising and participating in Beach Volleyball Tournaments in the World, with competitions in such places as Klagenfurt, Berlin, Gstaad and other cities in Switzerland, Greece, Portugal, Italy, etc.

FIVB is however working to further develop this sport by setting new goals for itself and developing new strategies. Amongst other things, FIVB is aiming at bringing Beach Volleyball to Africa, as well as further developing and promoting this sport in Asia, South America and in the United States.

National Federations need to be aware that Beach Volleyball constitutes the second discipline of our sport, and that many opportunities exist in the World and more specifically in Europe to attract new sponsors, promote Beach Volleyball and organise tournaments.

In connection with the problems encountered in finding dates for the European Tour Finals, Mr SEPPEY is pleased to announce that in close collaboration with Mr MEYER, CEV President, and Mr VON MOLTKE, GER President, a solution was found: the European Tour Finals will be organised from 9th – 13th June 2004. Mr SEPPEY also reminds all National Federations that this competition provides an additional opportunity to win FIVB points and prize monies. Additionally, there will be an opportunity to organise an eliminatory tournament in May 2004.

The report is unanimously approved with loud applause.

Mr MEYER thanks Mr SEPPEY for his report and for his close collaboration and assures him that CEV will do its best to improve Beach Volleyball strategies in Europe.

Mr Miguel-Angel QUINTANA, EBVC President, takes the floor and makes a short presentation of the Beach Volleyball competitions which took place in the 2003 season: the European Championship Tour, The CEV Challenge, Junior U-23, Junior U-20 and Junior U-18 Championships.

The European Beach Volleyball Commission, working closely with the CEV, constitutes the foundation of the Beach Volleyball pyramid, and continuously aims at developing Beach Volleyball in all categories and in all parts of Europe. Additionally, FIVB and CEV are working together for the promotion of this discipline and are encouraged, as well as are all National Federations, to openly discuss and cooperate on the organisation and developments of Beach Volleyball competitions.

The organisation of the Beach Volleyball European Championship Tour in Greece and in Turkey was a true success for the promotion and development of Beach Volleyball in Europe.



These events were outstandingly organised in Rethymnon by the Hellenic Volleyball Federation and in Alanya by the Turkish Volleyball Federation, in close collaboration with Global Sports Marketing.

For the first time this year, Poland organised a Beach Volleyball competition which proved very successful both in terms of quality of its organisation and its participation level. Special thanks are expressed towards the Polish Volleyball Federation for its involvement.

For the first time also, a European Beach Volleyball competition was organised in Brno in the Czech Republic with very good results and high enthusiasm.

Mr QUINTANA is optimistic that the 2004 season will be as successful, if not more, and informs the General Assembly that the 2004 Beach Volleyball calendar is practically full in most categories already. Attention is also drawn onto the fact that the Tour's Finals represents one of the qualifying events to the 2004 Olympic Games.

Before ending his presentation, Mr QUINTANA emphasises the need to closely collaborate and to work together as one team for the development of Beach Volleyball, and requests full support from CEV to further promote Beach Volleyball in Europe.

The report is unanimously approved with loud applause.

Mr MEYER thanks Mr QUINTANA for his report and assures him that CEV is actively working to support the development of Beach Volleyball in Europe in close collaboration with FIVB.

Addressing the National Federations, Mr MEYER underlines that several different products and many opportunities exist in Europe to organise Beach Volleyball events.

Proposals from National Federations

No propositions were received within the statutory time limit.

Miscellaneous

Referring to problems in International transfers which were faced in the past, and more specifically in relations to the compensations to be paid for the transfer of a player, Mr Anton KONCNIK, SLO President, addresses FIVB and underlines the need for procedures to be revised and standardised. In his opinion, International transfers, when conflicts arise, should be dealt with more transparency and in closer collaboration between FIVB and the National Federations concerned, in order to avoid damaging the National Federations' credibility.

With this in mind, Mr KONCNIK calls the CEV Board of Administration Members and other knowledgeable CEV officials to sit with FIVB and discuss standards of remunerations to be paid as well as define more clearly the transfer procedures, especially in case of conflicts.

Mr Jean-Pierre SEPPEY, FIVB General Manager, thanks Mr KONCNIK for addressing this issue. However, he underlines that Volleyball Federations are some of the very few who still own control over transfer of their players, unlike Federations in other sports. Additionally, he explains that FIVB's idea was to not intervene in the definition of the fees to be paid for player transfers but to let National Federations keep this right. However, in case of a dispute, FIVB is obliged to investigate and collect information before taking a decision. This year, the Sports Event Council decided to determine and set the fees which need to be paid for International Transfers, possibly solving part of the problem. Additionally, Mr SEPPEY assures the delegates that FIVB is aware of the problem and is working in close collaboration with CEV and more particularly with Mr BERBEN to find solutions.

Finally, Mr MEYER confirms that this issue will be raised during a future Sports Event Council and that both CEV and FIVB will work at finding ways to solve this issue.

No additional interventions are made in regards to this point.

30th CEV Anniversary

As already discussed previously, CEV is celebrating its 30th Anniversary this year. Special events have marked this jubilee, and celebrations will last until the end of the year.

Date & Venue of the XXV General Assembly in 2004

The next CEV General Assembly will take place in Istanbul (TUR) on 2nd October 2004.

Mr Hüsnu CAN, President of the Turkish Volleyball Federation, presents a short video describing the different accommodations and meeting rooms available for this event.

Closing of the XXVI General Assembly

Mr MEYER thanks all the delegates for their attention and participation, as well as for their collaboration throughout the year. He also thanks his colleagues of the Board of Administration, the CEV Honorary Members and Mr Jean-Pierre SEPPEY for their much appreciated presence and productive work. Finally, special thanks and congratulations are addressed to Mr Werner VON MOLTKE and his colleagues of the German Volleyball Federation for their hard work and the excellent organisation.

Special thanks are also given to the CEV Staff which worked very hard to organise this General Assembly and to the Interpreters who did an excellent job during the whole day.

On behalf of the German Volleyball Federation, Mr André MEYER invites everyone to the Official Closing Dinner organised that evening in Hotel Berlin.

All activities and points of the agenda having been discussed, the CEV XXIV General Assembly is officially closed at 17h40.



2004

CEV BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING – PARIS (FRA) – 7TH FEBRUARY 2004

The following members are attending:

President: André MEYER (LUX)

Snr Vice-President & Treasurer: Philip BERBEN (BEL)

Vice-Presidents: Snjezana MIJIC (CRO) - Riet OOMS (NED) - Aleksandar BORICIC (SCG) - Jan HRONEK (CZE) - Carlo MAGRI (ITA)

Members: Thanassis BELIGRATIS (GRE) - Janusz BIESIADA (POL) - Aloys FISCHER (SUI) - Manfred HOLZGRAEFE (GER) - Vladimir PATKIN (RUS) - Maris PEKALIS (LAT) - Miguel ANGEL QUINTANA (ESP) - Jan REK (SUI) - Fabio SASSI (ITA) - Jacques SHAW (FRA) - Eric ADLER (DEN)

Executive Director: Olivier MOTTIER (CEV)

Apologies: Andreas STAVROU (CYP)

Opening of the Meeting

Mr MEYER opens the meeting by first thanking Mr Jacques SHAW, FRA President, for the excellent organisation of the Executive Committee meeting which took place the previous day.



The CEV Board of Administration members in Paris for the first meeting of 2004

On behalf of the FRA Federation, Mr SHAW welcomes the members of the CEV Board of Administration in Paris and thanks CEV for giving his federation the opportunity and the honour to host such an event. Additionally, Mr SHAW is pleased to announce that the FRA Federation will be moving to new premises in the coming months, thus allowing for better working conditions. He then proceeds to share some basic information concerning the French Volleyball Federation and Volleyball activities in France.

Mr MEYER thanks Mr SHAW for his presentation and congratulates him regarding the excellent collaboration and work provided by his federation and for the moving plans which will greatly benefit the federation. He also wishes France good luck in the qualifications for the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens.

Finally, Mr MEYER wishes to excuse Mr Andreas STAVROU (CYP) who could not attend the meeting for health related reasons.

Approval of the Agenda

Mr MEYER remarks that the Agenda is quite big and that the members will have to work to a tight schedule due to the program put together by the FRA Federation. Consequently, he asks that interventions remain short and clear as to avoid any delays during the day.

There being no further comments, the Agenda is approved.

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on 11th September 2003 at Hotel Berlin, Berlin (GER)

Minutes were approved by the Executive Committee on 8th November 2003.

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on 8th – 9th November 2003 at Hotel Polo, Roma (ITA)

Minutes were approved by the Executive Committee on 6th February 2004.

Approval of the Minutes of the Board of Administration Meeting held on 11th September 2003 at Hotel Berlin, Berlin (GER)

In the absence of any remark, the Minutes are approved.

Activity Report of the Executive Committee

Mr MEYER, CEV President, shares with its colleagues some points discussed during the last FIVB Board of Administration in Acapulco (MEX), and reminds his colleagues that most of these items have to be approved by the next FIVB Congress in Portugal.

FIVB is willing to construct its own premises either in Lausanne (SUI) or elsewhere. Mr Philip BERBEN is involved in the commission responsible to study the best location.

East Timor Volleyball Federation's provisional affiliation, as the 218th FIVB's affiliated member, to be approved by the 2004 FIVB Congress.

No payment will be made by FIVB to a Confederation whose outgoing President has not presented the last accounts report to the respective Confederation Congress which elects the new President.

2005 FIVB World Grand Prix

The 2004 European Qualification will be organised in September in Ankara (TUR). The three best teams, together with ITA as organiser of the Final, will be qualified for the FIVB World Grand Prix 2005, which will be staged in Asia, with the final in Italy – 27th July to 1st August 2005.

2004 Swatch FIVB World Tour

Final calendar available on the FIVB website. In future the final calendar of these competitions will be fixed in October by the FIVB World Council, in order to allow the CEV to choose the open dates for the European Tour.

Sports Aid Program

NF presenting debts towards FIVB/CEV will not be eligible for benefits.

Volleyball World Vision 2008 will be extended to 2012.

FIVB Constitution

NF and Confederations have to include a specific article in their own Constitutions and Registration Forms for National League/Championships: clubs/players by their signature of the registration form have to respect the FIVB'S legal policy's including the FIVB Code of Conduct.



FIVB Official languages

Portuguese will be an official FIVB language.

Disciplinary procedures

A sanction may not be imposed before a hearing process. Mr BERBEN underlines the fact that there should be a difference between administrative sanctions and disciplinary sanctions. He proposes to discuss further this point within the FIVB Legal Commission.

Launching Park Volley

Confederations are invited to follow up on the development of Park Volley competitions. This point has to be added to the agenda of the next CEV Congress.

Amendments to the Medical Regulations: Mr HOLZGRAEFE confirms that new medical regulations will be adopted in the next FIVB Congress. Concerning anti-doping tests, two different regulations will be in force (FIVB and WADA). The requirement to carry out gender verification tests will be eliminated.

Rules of the Games

The joust concept will be tested during the 2004 World League and Grand Prix.

Refereeing Commission

The list with the proposed nominations of International Referees is given to Mr Jan REK, ERC President.

FIVB Method of Point Awarding: the Sports Events Council made new proposals, which have to be adopted during the next FIVB Congress (Olympic Games, World Championships, World Cup, Continental Qualifications, Grand Prix and Continental Championships)

2006 World Championship Qualification Tournaments

To be member of a Zonal Association, an NF must participate in the qualification process for Senior World Championship. The consequences of this recommendation has to be carefully analysed in order to respect the fundamentals linked to the creation of Zonal Associations, whose activities are basically focused on youth and junior categories.

2006 World Championships in Japan

Entry deadline 28th May 2004, 18th June 2004 late entry deadline.

Volleyball Federation of Argentina

Grants a provisional affiliation with a new Board of Administration (FEVA). Definitive affiliation will be approved by the Congress.

2004 FIVB Congress

Interpreters are not admitted for those NF's whose delegates speak one of the official FIVB languages. NF's which have not paid their FIVB annual fees for three years will be suspended. The CEV has to confirm to the FIVB by 15th April 2004 which NF's are up to date with payment of their fees.

Action: Inform all NFs of the attendance requirements to the 2004 FIVB Congress - Administrative Department.

Activity Reports

Legal Commission – Mr Aloys FISCHER

The minutes of the last meeting of the European Legal Commission, held in Vilvoorde (BEL) on 13th December 2003, are approved.

Mr MEYER, CEV President, informs Mr FISCHER that the Executive Committee discussed during its meeting on 6th February 2004 the situation and problems that can occur with the organisation of friendly matches where the CEV regulations are not respected by the participating federations.

Mr MEYER proposes to allow the federations the possibility to apply for recognition of these friendly matches by forwarding to the CEV Office a copy of the bilateral agreements, thus also requesting CEV's intervention in case of problems.

Decision: Only in the case that a contract duly signed by the clubs and federations is presented, CEV will have the possibility to intervene in cases where the agreements made by the clubs are not respected.

Action: Inform NF of this new opportunity. Competitions Department.

Financial Commission – Mr Philip BERBEN

A meeting is planned for the month of May, after which the EFC will be able to discuss in detail the Accounts 2003 and the budget proposal for 2005.

Cups Commission – Mrs Riet OOMS

The European Cups Commission last met in Luxembourg (LUX) in August 2003. The minutes and various proposals were discussed during the Board of Administration meeting in Berlin on 11th September 2003. The printed minutes are now officially approved by the Board of Administration.

Mrs OOMS explains that since August, the Commission has mainly been working on the organisation of the Drawing of Lots and seminars and handling daily problems.

Sports Organising Commission – Mr Fabio SASSI

The European Sports Organising Commission held its last meeting in Luxembourg on 25th and 26th October 2003, in combination with the Drawing of Lots of the European Championships 2004-2005 Qualifications.

First of all, Mr SASSI wishes to remind the BoA members that the official regulations for the Youth European Championships must be reviewed and adopted, as the competition format for the finals has changed. The BoA members were asked during the Board of Administration meeting in Varna (BUL) in June 2003 to submit their feedback to ESOC in order to finalise the regulations before the teams' registration deadline in May 2004. Only 2 responses were received, so the regulations could not be finalised in time to be approved by the Board of Administration during this meeting.

Mr MEYER makes the following proposal to guarantee that the regulations come into force before the competition and that the participating federations be properly informed of the changes in due time.

Proposal: A draft of the document, based on the reports received, will be forwarded to all Board of Administration Members 10 days before the next Executive Committee meeting. BoA Members will then have one week to give their feedback.

The final document will be submitted for approval by the Executive Committee during its meeting on 24th April 2004.



Decision: The proposal is approved and the Board of Administration Members agree to empower the Executive Committee to approve the final document on its behalf.

Mr SASSI then covers a few points:

Sanctions

European Championships 2002/03

Non-conformity of player's uniforms: ROM (only 2 sets of shirts)

European Championships 2004/05 – Small Countries

Withdrawal after distribution of the teams in the Qualification Pools: NIR, MLT (Men and Women) and SMR (Men and Women)

Mr BERBEN, CEV Treasurer and EFC President, takes the floor. In the case of Romania, the regulations are clear and the situation calls for the usual sanction foreseen in such cases. In the case of NIR, MLT and SMR, which are all Small Countries, Mr BERBEN explains that the FIVB Board of Administration meeting decided in Acapulco (MEX) that Administrative sanctions issued against Small Countries, Youth and Junior categories should not exceed 10% of the maximum sanction foreseen in the CEV regulations. Consequently, CEV must adjust the sanctions to be inflicted on these 3 federations.

Junior European Championships 2003

Inappropriate behaviour of Mr Girt MARTINSONS, LAT Team Manager

Concerning the proposal to impose the appropriate punishment on Mr MARTINSONS, Mr BERBEN explains that a decision cannot yet be made as there is a need to further investigate the situation. Based on the report of the Technical Delegate and the reactions collected from the concerned federation, the Executive Committee will discuss the necessary sanction.

Last but not least, Mr SASSI takes this opportunity to discuss the way his commission has been working thus far and to analyse new ways of handling the work. In fact, ESOC is responsible for reviewing all reports received (supervisor, technical delegates, etc.) for all tournaments in all categories, discussing ways to handle each situation and then submitting proposals to the Board of Administration. However, Mr SASSI believes that the workload and decision-making should be handled differently:

1. ESOC should only directly handle technical issues. All administrative matters should be handled by the Competitions or Administrative Departments of the CEV Office.
2. ESOC should filter reports and distribute the information to the appropriate people. ESOC should not be responsible for decision-making.

A discussion takes place to analyse who should be responsible for making the different decisions. It appears clear that it is important to make any necessary decision in the shortest timeframe and to keep all matters that are strictly administrative in the hands of the CEV Office.

Decision: All strictly administrative sanctions following set regulations should directly be handled by the CEV Office.

In case of doubts, the Executive Committee is responsible for analysing the situations and providing the CEV Office with a decision and clear instructions on the steps to be applied.

Political issues should be discussed by the Executive Committee who will in turn submit a proposal to the Board of Administration for final approval, before finally giving instructions to the CEV Office on how to handle the situation.

Beach Volleyball Commission – Mr Miguel-Angel QUINTANA

Mr QUINTANA first informs his colleagues of the main points discussed during the FIVB World Council and the Permanent Committee for Beach Volleyball meetings in Lausanne on 24th October 2003.

Referring to the Minutes of the European Beach Volleyball Commission, Mr QUINTANA lists the different points and proposals submitted by his commission:

Players' representative: A proposal was made by the Executive Committee to invite a players' representative to participate in EBVC meetings. This proposal is also valid for ESOC meetings with the presence of a volleyball players' representative. However, Mr QUINTANA explains that the selection criteria are difficult and that he is not sure who could be the representative of the Beach Volleyball players within his commission.

Mr BERBEN, in agreement with Mr MEYER, explains that the appointed person should not so much be a player's spokesperson but someone with experience who can give technical advice and help CEV develop Beach Volleyball. For Volleyball, Mr BERBEN takes the example of Mr Peter BLANGE, former player, who was invited to speak at the 2000 CEV General Assembly in Luxembourg and who has showed interest in further sharing his experience and knowledge.

Decision:

- Maintain the proposal for ESOC to appoint a player's representative.
- Delay proposal for EBVC until next BoA Meeting.

Action:

- Contact Mr Peter BLANGE to check his availability and interest in being the representative for Volleyball. – ESOC.
- Study and present the Executive Committee before 24th April 2004 with some reflections on how to implement this concept in Beach Volleyball and introduce an experienced representative in the commission. – EBVC

U-23 competition format

The competition should be played using pool play and single elimination. Additionally, no CEV ranking points will be allocated.

U-18 and U-20

Both competitions should follow a common format, with double elimination. Additionally, all participating teams should be present during the Closing Ceremonies.

Mr HRONEK notes that the competitions format of the U-18, U-20 and U-23 are different. Such discrepancies cannot be allowed and the competition format with double elimination is essential for teams wishing to play a maximum of matches. Mr MEYER agrees by saying that young players should be given the opportunity to play as many matches as possible.

Decision:

- U-18, U-20 and U-23 competitions will all follow the same competition format with double elimination.
- No CEV Ranking Points will be allocated in the U-23 category.

European Beach Volleyball Championships Final 2004

24 teams in the Main draw, including host country, 20 teams selected according to CEV Ranking and 3 wild cards (country quota: 3 including the wild card).

Mr Jan HRONEK addresses his colleagues and explains that from his point of view, if this proposal is adopted with selection according to only CEV Ranking Points, the Qualification



Tournaments will not take place as the best teams will focus on qualifying for the Olympic Games and therefore participate in the FIVB Circuit. In his opinion, selection should be made according to FIVB Ranking Points, to ensure the European Beach Volleyball Final involves the participation of the best teams.

Mr QUINTANA explains that he thought it had been agreed that the main objective was to protect CEV competitions by solely using CEV Ranking Points, and he requests that this be clarified and become constant instead of ever-changing.

Mr MEYER informs his colleagues that there is a clash between the dates of the European Beach Volleyball Circuit in Turkey in May as a Men's competition of the FIVB World Tour competition will be organised in Serbia and Montenegro on the same dates. The consequence of this situation is that the best players will most likely choose to play in SCG rather than in Turkey and that they will in turn not have enough points to then play the Finals in Germany. If the calendar problem cannot be solved, he therefore proposes to split the selection by taking into consideration both the FIVB and CEV Ranking points:

Proposal:

24 teams in the Main Draw:

- 12 teams selected according to the FIVB Ranking Points
- 9 teams selected according to the CEV Ranking Points
- 3 Wild Cards

Decision: The above proposal is adopted.

Technical Supervisors Seminars

An annual seminar should be organised to allow the EBVC to inform, update and unify the approach of the Technical Supervisors. Financial support from CEV should be analysed.

Indoor Beach Volleyball: Mr MEYER wishes to add that during the last EBVC Meeting in Luxembourg which he attended, he asked the commission to analyse the opportunities offered by indoor Beach Volleyball and to advise CEV how to be ready to accommodate this new discipline. However, he read in the EBVC Minutes that the commission did not discuss this matter and is awaiting further news from FIVB.

Mr QUINTANA responded that a few players met over this matter and informed him that the National Federations were willing to accommodate a circuit. Mr QUINTANA and Mr Erik SCHMIDT have informed them that the commission is awaiting proposals from them on how to implement this. Mr MEYER agrees but underlines one more time that EBVC should take charge of these tasks and analyse the opportunities that exist, especially in the Northern European countries, seeing that Indoor Beach Volleyball may represent an excellent opportunity for teams from these countries to practice during the winter months without having to leave their countries.

Decision: EBVC will present opinions and proposals concerning Indoor Beach Volleyball during the next BoA Meeting in June 2004.

Supervisor / Technical Supervisor Appointments

Mr MEYER refers to the draft proposal received by the CEV Office from Mr Henrique TEXEIRA GOMES, EBVC Member, concerning Supervisors and Technical Supervisors' and notes that EBVC Members are not included on the list. Mr QUINTANA explains that this list is only a proposal of candidates and not a definite list, and that EBVC members are automatically a part of it.

Action: The CEV Office must create a new list of all candidates including EBVC members.

EBVC will then submit a list of the appointed members to Mr MEYER for approval before publication.

Mr BELIGRATIS just wishes to request that Mr Alexandros PARASKEVOPOULOS, EBVC Member, be relieved from his obligations as Supervisor/Technical Supervisor this year as he is currently engaged in the organisation of the 2004 Olympic Games. Mr MEYER and Mr QUINTANA confirm that Mr PARASKEVOPOULOS is relieved from these tasks.

Medical Commission – Prof. Dr Manfred HOLZGRAEFE

Mr HOLZGRAEFE first wishes to thank the CEV Office for the excellent organisation of the last EMC meeting in Luxembourg on 24th January 2004. He then goes over the minutes of this meeting and discusses the main points:

Anti-Doping tests in Beach Volleyball

There are currently no rules or procedures concerning anti-doping tests in Beach Volleyball. Mr HOLZGRAEFE proposes that tests be conducted in one Beach Volleyball tournament.

Decision: Anti-doping tests will be conducted in one Beach Volleyball tournament in the future. Conditions and budget requirements will be included in the organiser contract in the future.

Action: Inform GSM that anti-doping tests will be conducted during the European Beach Volleyball Championships Finals 2004 in Timmendorf (GER). Costs will be at the charge of CEV. – Competitions Dept.

Gender tests

These tests will no longer take place in Volleyball.

Alcohol tests for referees

These tests are yet to be implemented but Mr HOLZGRAEFE expresses his opinion that they really should be conducted.

Regulations about medical treatments

In case of a player's injury, it is important to determine which party is responsible for which part of the treatment. Following a specific situation in Leipzig, Mr HOLZGRAEFE points out that it is necessary to clearly establish guidelines in order to avoid any such future problems. Mr MEYER explains that the organiser's responsibility should strictly be limited to first-aid.

Decision: Clear stipulations on responsibility distribution should be included in the contract.

Teams should show proof of insurance during the preliminary inquiry to show that any medical needs that go beyond first aid are covered.

Action: Add this item to the preliminary inquiry forms. – Competitions Dept.

Positive Doping tests

A player from the Dominican Republic and a player from Egypt tested positive in the World Cup. The positive results for the Egyptian player came from a medication he was prescribed by his doctor. In fact, Mr HOLZGRAEFE realises that there are many CEV and FIVB accredited doctors who have a limited knowledge of the medical regulations in volleyball.

Action: Notify the NF that they have to be informed about the medical Regulations – Administrative Dept.

WADA Regulations

Mr HOLZGRAEFE informs his colleagues that according to the new WADA regulations, any National Federation with over 4 cases of positive doping will be suspended for 4 years from



all international competitions. Mr MEYER however remarks that these regulations are not yet approved by the FIVB Board of Administration.

Medical Regulations Proposal

Mr MEYER informs Mr HOLZGRAEFE that many of the proposals submitted by the EMC call for numerous regulation changes and that they must therefore be carefully examined before they can be approved.

Decision: Postpone until the next CEV Board of Administration meeting in June the discussion and approval of these proposals.

Medical problems in Beach Volleyball

Following the introduction of this problem during a past meeting, Mr HOLZGRAEFE carried out some research on the subject and informs his colleagues of his findings. Information on the matter should be given to the National Federations and Mr HOLZGRAEFE mentions a website that he found which contains a lot of valuable information. Considering that there are no specific rules about playing conditions in Beach Volleyball, Mr MEYER asks Mr QUINTANA to discuss this problem during the FIVB Council.

Action:

- Send a letter to all NFs to inform their players of the risks encountered in Beach Volleyball and to provide them with the website's link. – Administrative Department + EMC
- Add the website link (www.gssiweb.com/tackleheat/index.cfm) to the CEV Website on the Beach Volleyball page. – IT Department

Contact information for Accredited Doctors

Mr HOLZGRAEFE would like to obtain the e-mail addresses of all CEV Accredited Doctors in order to be able to communicate any relevant information directly to them.

Action: Send a letter to all NFs requesting contact information for all CEV accredited doctors. – Administrative Department

IECL Final Four Women

The EMC would like to know if it is possible to conduct anti-doping tests at this event in Tenerife (ESP) as he would like to take this opportunity to train a couple of doctors. Mr MEYER explains that as that controls are not planned in the existing contract, they cannot be conducted unless the CEV budget can cover these costs. Mr BERBEN believes the conditions of a Final Four tournament are not the best for conducting such tests and for training doctors.

Decision:

- No Anti-doping tests during the 2003/2004 IECL Final Four.
- Study a new proposal for the organisation of a specific training for the doctors - EMC

Administrative matters

Mr DAWISKIBA, EMC Secretary, is requesting access to the protected pages of the CEV Website. However, Mr MEYER explains that these pages are restricted to Board of Administration members. Additionally, Mr DAWISKIBA is requesting that all referee letters be sent to the CEV Head Office who will in turn send them in bulk to Mr DAWISKIBA as postal services are not regular in his region. Mr REK explains that these documents are being directly sent to Mr DAWISKIBA as they are confidential.

Refereeing Commission – Dr Jan REK

The minutes of the ERC meeting which took place on 30th August 2003 were discussed during the Board of Administration meeting in Berlin in September 2003.

In the absence of any questions following their publication in late September, the Minutes are officially approved.

The commission met again in Bratislava (SVK) on 31st January 2004. Mr Jan REK briefly summarises all the points discussed which will also be listed in the Minutes of the meeting to be released soon.

Referee Seminar 2004

This year's seminar will be organised during the Spring Cup in Brno (CZE) in order to include match observation as part of the training. Additionally, ERC is hoping to collaborate with ESOC on this occasion to discuss and clarify tests concerning different rules. Finally, a theory test will be included as part of the Seminar. No Beach Volleyball Seminar will be taking place in combination with this event as happened the previous year.

Referee Uniforms

Concerning logos on uniforms, Mr MEYER informs Mr REK and his colleagues that CEV and FIVB have agreed to the following: the FIVB logo will be printed on the left of the shirt while the CEV (or other confederation) logo can be printed on the right side of the shirt.

Zonal Associations

Mr REK remarks that he has started to see an increase in the number of seminars being organised directly by the Zonal Associations. His concern is that the information shared during these seminars may differ or not be in line with those of ERC seminars, which aim towards a single, unified line of thought at a European level.

Decision:

- Where there are seminars already organised at a European level by a specific commission, the Zonal Associations are not allowed to organise their own seminar in addition to the ones foreseen by CEV.
- In cases where CEV does not have a seminar foreseen in relation to a specific activity / training, the Zonal Associations can organise their own in the presence of a member of the respective CEV Commission.

Nominations

Mr MEYER communicates to Mr REK a list of 11 European International Beach Referees who will be officiating in the Olympic Games and who therefore should not be nominated for European competitions, in order to allow their preparation in the best conditions. Additionally, Mr MEYER notes on several occasions, the Judge Referee and one of the referees nominated came from the same country and this situation caused some issues.

Decision: Referees should not be appointed if the Judge Referee comes from the same country.

Finally, Mr Jan HRONEK takes this opportunity to recognise the work accomplished by European Referees in the past year and more specifically during the Olympic Qualifications in Leipzig and Baku. Mr HRONEK also thanks the members of the Special Refereeing Commission for their much-appreciated collaboration.



Institutions

IVT

In order to acknowledge the importance of the total independence of the IVT members, FIVB has demanded that the candidates do not hold functions inside any other organs of the confederations.

Consequently, the candidature of Ms. Agata PARLINSKA (POL), member of ELC, and Mr Robert MIKELSONS, EVT President are not valid unless they resign from their functions within CEV.

Action: Inform Ms. Agata PARLINSKA and Mr Robert MIKELSONS of the new conditions and ask for their decision. – Administrative Dept.

Replacement of EBVC Members

As a reminder, the Board of Administration decided in June 2003 to not replace the outgoing EBVC member until the next official elections in 2005. However, the Secretary of the commission, Ms. Daniela DRAGO, unexpectedly resigned in November 2003. Her position was open to the other EBVC Members, but in the absence of any interest, it was decided to open this position and the other one to outside candidates.

3 applications were received. Following the recommendations and proposal of Mr Miguel-Angel QUINTANA, EBVC President, who carefully examined all 3 applications, the following candidates are proposed:

- Mr Zdenek MAJER (CZE) as EBVC Secretary
- Mr Laos LUKAS (EST) as EBVC Member

Action: The proposal is approved.

- Inform NF of the composition of the EBVC. – Administrative Dept.
- Zonal Volleyball Associations – Information & Calendar

Referring to the NEVZA calendar of activities, Mr MEYER reminds his colleagues that the Zonal Associations should plan their calendars around that of CEV and collaborate closely so as to avoid any clashes. Unfortunately, the NEVZA calendar as it was announced has 2 clashes with Volleyball and 2 with Beach Volleyball.

Action: Request NEVZA to modify the dates of the competitions which are clashing with the CEV calendar. – Competitions Dept.

Additionally, Mr MEYER explains to his colleagues that as foreseen by FIVB, that each Zonal Association will have to present a verbal and written report of its activities during the annual CEV General Assembly, starting in October of this year. The written reports must be sent to the CEV Office in due time. The presentation during the General Assembly should be made using PowerPoint.

Finally, Mr Maris PEKALIS informs the BoA Members that the Eastern countries are in turn planning the establishment of a Zonal Association in their region. The Statutes have already been drafted and will be submitted along with all other required documentation in the next few months.

Recognised Federation in BIH

Mr Aleksandar BORICIC takes the floor and briefly reminds his colleagues of the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the numerous failed attempts to unify the Volleyball federations within the country. Mr BORICIC took part in a meeting with all the parties involved, and the proposal was made to have one federation divided in 2 groups, as is the case with the Belgian Volleyball Federation.

However, following a discussion with FIVB in Acapulco, the FIVB decided that the BIH Federation should be organised as one unit and that the current representatives of both sides involved should resign and make room for a new single representative to be elected in the near future. Mr BORICIC and Mr BERBEN were nominated by FIVB for the follow up of this case.

Sports Aid Program – Guideline to NF

Mr BERBEN explains that CEV has received numerous requests in the 2 years since the program was started but that very few actually meet the criteria. During its meeting the previous day, the Executive Committee approved a detailed guideline presented by Mr BERBEN to be sent to all European National Federations.

Decision:

- All the federations will be informed in details of the minimum requirements to apply for the Sports Aid Program.
- All requests received will be subject to investigation before a final decision will be made by the Executive Committee.

Action: Send a letter complete with the guideline to all National Federations detailing the minimum requirements to apply for this program. - Administrative Department

Additionally, Mr BERBEN also informs his colleagues that the European Union has declared 2004 “European Year of Education through Sports”. In order to extend this concept and benefit our National Federations, the Executive Committee proposes to contact the responsible authorities within the EU.

Decision: Mr BERBEN will contact the EU to find out what CEV can offer to its National Federations in the framework of this program and then share the information collected during the next Board of Administration meeting.

Working Group Media

The Working Group Media last met in Ankara (TUR) on 26th September 2003. Mr Gianluca PASINI was absent for the second time in a row. He has to be present during the next meeting in Tenerife (ESP).

Mr Aleksandar BORICIC, WG Chairman, reads the different proposals submitted by his Working Group:

- Replacement of a player taking part in an after-match anti-doping control in the press conference - Approved
- Implementation of a fine for player or coach non-attendance of the Press Conference - Approved. Mr MEYER and Mr BERBEN agree that players and coaches (even those from the losing teams) must attend the Press Conferences organised by the hosting federation. Mr SASSI underlines that the media should also use the mixed zone.
- English versions of all publications produced by the Organiser must be made available - Approved
- Addition of a live score box on the CEV Website - must be checked with CEV Office – IT Department
- Media Facilities and operations should meet the same high level during the W-ECH as they do in the M-ECH – Approved
- Enforce the respect of the suggestions made by the CEV Press Officer. Mr MEYER explains that this is the role of the Jury President, and that whether it is before or during a competition, the Press Officer can address his suggestions or concerns to him to enforce.



- Organiser should hire 6 month prior to any major CEV competition a professional local Press Director to assist in all media operations – Approved.
- Invite Mr Klaus WEGENER, GSM Press Officer, to the next WG Meeting – Approved
- Give the necessary tools to the CEV Press Officer and Official Photographer to upload their work online themselves - must be checked with CEV Office – IT Department.

Additionally, Mr BORICIC reports that the WG has been working towards the creation of European Volleyball stars, complete with biographies and data, and that they will be featured on the CEV Website in the near future.

Mr MEYER underlines that it is very important to prepare a general guideline concerning photographer issues during main tournaments in order to facilitate the work of the photographers' onsite.

Finally, Mr MEYER reminds Mr BORICIC that the WG members should not just identify the existing problems, but also handle them and find solutions.

The next WG Media meeting will take place in Tenerife (ESP) on 20th March 2004.

Working Group Fines & Regulations

The last meeting of the Working Group Fines & Regulations took place on 28th – 29th November 2003 in Luxembourg. Mrs OOMS apologises for the delay in sending out the Minutes of the meeting.

Referring to those minutes, Mrs OOMS reminds her colleagues that all the Commission's secretaries should update the format of their regulations by the new deadline of 31st January 2004. The working group has already received complete files from ESOC and ECC but is still awaiting those of the EBVC, which was delayed in its work due to the resignation of its secretary, Ms. DRAGO.

The different proposals submitted by the working group to the Board of Administration are approved.

Mr MEYER thanks Mrs OOMS for the excellent work accomplished to benefit the development of this project and, in agreement with Mrs OOMS, proposes to transfer the finalisation of this project and its numerous legal aspects, to Mr Aloys FISCHER, ELC President.

Mr FISCHER will be able to lead this Working Group to the end of its appointment and assist its work with his legal advice.

Working Group Vision 2008

After its presentation during the CEV Congress in September 2003, this Working Group held a workshop in Berlin (GER) on Sunday, 14th September 2003. Unfortunately, due to a late change in scheduling this event, many delegates had already left the city and only a few European National Federations were represented. However, the delegates present at the Workshop did show a clear interest in the project and submitted valuable opinions.

The following steps were discussed:

- Need to create a pilot project with the participation of a restricted number of National Federations.
- Each member of the WG was requested to fill out a questionnaire and return it completed to Ms. MIJIC, WG Chairwoman, before the end of the year.
- Collect all the data given by the members and put it together in a catalogue.
- Schedule the next WG meeting for the end of January.

Unfortunately, not all questionnaires were returned as expected so the meeting may have to be postponed by a few weeks. The Working Group is however hoping to be able to present its

conclusions and work during the next Executive Committee Meeting and then the next Board of Administration meeting.

Mr MEYER thanks Ms. Snjezana MIJIC for the work of her Working Group and reminds her that the Working Group is still expected to make its scheduled presentation during the next CEV Congress despite the delays accumulated thus far.

Financial Matters

Accounts 2003

Mr Philip BERBEN, CEV Senior Vice-president and Treasurer, first wishes to congratulate the CEV Staff and more particularly Mrs Sylvie COLLIGNON, bookkeeper, for its fast and efficient work. One month after the end of the year, he is in possession of the 2003 files and has been able to read through them already and has no particular problem to report. After a thorough review, a final report will be submitted during the next CEV Board of Administration Meeting.

Old Debts

Mr BERBEN names the federations who still have debts towards CEV, 4 of them have not reacted to the efforts to contact them made by CEV and are not showing any signs of wanting to settle their debts. Consequently concerning the 4 federations, CEV had to communicate the detailed situation of their debts to FIVB. In accordance with the decisions taken during the FIVB BoA meeting in Acapulco (MEX) in regards to the responsibilities of the different confederations, Mr BERBEN proposes the following:

Proposal: Suspend these 4 federations from all future CEV competitions and suspend their right to participate in the CEV General Assembly.

Maintain these disciplinary measures for as long as these federations do not pay off their debts towards CEV.

Should any of these 4 federations not pay their debts before the end of March 2004, a request for suspension will be sent to FIVB for approval during the next FIVB Congress in Portugal?

Decision: Proposals are adopted by the BoA.

Following the FIVB Congress to be held in May 2004, Mr BERBEN will share more details concerning this situation during the next CEV Board of Administration meeting.

Concerning the case of the POL Federation, Mr BERBEN assures his colleagues that the federation is collaborating closely with CEV and is working towards settling its debts in the near future. A meeting with both the CEV President and the POL President is scheduled for the next day to discuss the next steps.

Modification of the CEV budgets 2003 & 2004

Following the ongoing problems and difficulties with ISA, a meeting was organised in Luxembourg during which both parties reached some agreements and accepted to terminate the partnership. Consequently however, some revenues which had been planned in the budget were lost and the budget had to be modified accordingly.

Nevertheless, Mr BERBEN is proud to share that CEV has been actively working at creating new partnerships and replacing the revenues lost through the ISA situation with new contracts.

Both the amended 2003 and 2004 budgets will be presented to the National Federations during the next CEV General Assembly in October 2004.

However, Mr BERBEN remarks that such changes to the budget are exceptional and strictly due to the changes brought by the termination of the CEV – ISA partnership.



Case of SMR

Following the appeal of the SMR Federation to FIVB and the decisions announced by FIVB in regards to the calculation of sanctions for the Youth, Junior and Group C categories, CEV will follow the new recommendations and will revise the sanction to match 10% of the sanction usually imposed by the CEV regulations.

Decision: Reduce the sanctions previously issued against SMR and ISL in the scope of the European Championships 2002/2003 to only 10% of the regulatory amount.

Senior European Championships

2002/03 SEC in Germany – Report from the Jury President

Mr Philip BERBEN stated that the Senior European Championships in Germany benefited from excellent organisation and that his work as part of the Jury went very well thanks to an excellent collaboration with the other Jury members.

2002/03 SEC in Turkey – Report from the Jury President

Mr Jan HRONEK who was Jury President for the Women's competition in Turkey cannot unfortunately share the same level of work and satisfaction. Some medical problems were also encountered as detailed in the report provided by Dr AVILA ESPANA.

However, the Finals in Ankara were very well organised and were very successful in terms of TV coverage and spectator attendance.

Taking the floor, Mr Vladimir PATKIN draws the attention of his colleagues to the catering and medical problems encountered by the Russian team in Ankara: Most players and 5 of the delegation suffered from food poisoning. The Russian team will be playing again in Ankara in the near future, and special attention needs to be paid to avoid any such problems in the future.

Mr MEYER confirms that he was informed of these problems and that following this incident CEV has taken the appropriate steps to change the hotel and competition hall for the next competition. On the other hand, he underlines that players should be aware of the dangers that come with travelling to another country and in the case of Ankara, should know to stay clear from all non-bottled water and from food not prepared directly in the hotel's restaurant.

Medical Controls in TUR

Referring to the report of Dr AVILA ESPANA, Mr MEYER remarks that no report was made concerning the medical check-up of the referees before the competition in Turkey and asks Dr HOLZGRAEFE if he knows whether these were conducted as previously agreed.

Mr HOLZGRAEFE cannot confirm this for sure, but he believes the only tests that were conducted were concerning alcohol testing.

Mr MEYER underlines the importance of these medical check-up in referees for the future.

2004/2005 EC in ITA & SCG – Report from the Jury President

Mr Jan HRONEK reports that the preparation for the organisation of these events is underway and that a tentative calendar has already been announced:

April 2004	Local Organising Committee Meeting in Belgrade
May 2004	Common meeting with both Organising Committees in Belgrade Inspection visit in Belgrade (Mr PEKALIS / Mr MULHEIMS)
June 2004	Local Organising Committee Meeting in Italy Inspection visit in Rome (Mr PEKALIS / Mr BRUNINX)

2nd October 2004 Official Presentation during the CEV Congress in Istanbul
29th October 2004 Drawing of Lots in Belgrade
Common meeting ITA & SCG

2004/2005 EC in CRO – Report from the Jury President

Mrs OOMS informs her colleagues that her first official meeting concerning this organisation is scheduled for the beginning of March 2004, although contacts have already been established and the CRO Federation is already preparing the organisation.

The scheduling of the Drawing of Lots will have to be discussed with the organisers and confirmed at a later date. The Official Presentation will be made during the CEV Congress in Istanbul (TUR) in October 2004.

Concerning both the Men and the Women's competitions in ITA, SCG and CRO, Mr HOLZGRAEFE reminds Mr HRONEK and Mrs OOMS to remember to contact the local doctors as soon as possible in order to inform them of all the requirements and expectations and to ask them to send a proposal to Dr HOLZGRAEFE on how they plan to manage all the tests and facilities required.

Action: Inform the EMC of the availability of the official requirements and the organisation of the Anti-doping tests during the European Championships. Mr HRONEK & Mrs OOMS.

Proposals Group C

On behalf of the Group C Category and its President Mr Andreas Stavrou, Mr MEYER presents to his colleagues the following proposals:

Per Diem raise

Decision: The CEV BoA agrees to raise the per diem rate for the 2003/04 European Championships (incl. Qualifications and Final Tournaments) to € 40 per person per day.

Distribution of the CEV Financial Support

In respect of the 2004 budget, the financial support allocated to this competition are € 19,711 for 2003 and € 20,000 for 2004.

Decision:

- To allocate to each Qualification Event organiser the sum of € 6,000.
- To allocate to each Finals' organiser the sum of € 7,855.50 with the obligation to organise an inspection visit.

Duration of the tournament

Following a misunderstanding, it is necessary to apply the same procedure to the Qualifications and to the Final Rounds and to make a few modifications to the addenda of the Group C regulations to rectify this situation.



Decision:

- The same procedure will be applied to the Qualifications and Final Rounds and the regulations will be changed accordingly as proposed by the Group C federations.
- Up to 5 teams in the Qualifications and Final Round, to play within 3 days.
- More than 6 teams to play within 5 days.

2006/2007 SEC – Proposal from the WG EC 2007

Based on a proposal by ESOC, a Working Group managed by Mr Jan HRONEK was created and charged to study new possibilities and a new competition format for future Senior European Championships. Following 2 meetings of the WG in September and October 2003, a final proposal is presented to the CEV Board of Administration and to ESOC for approval.

Decision: The proposal is adopted unanimously.

Qualifications Round

1. The same system will be played for Men's and Women's competition
2. To extend the final round of the European Championships to 16 teams
3. 7 teams will be directly qualified for the final round (6 + 1 organiser; 5 + 2 organisers)
4. A qualification round with 6 pools of 4 teams in each pool, playing Home and Away matches (except teams participating in World League for Men and Grand Prix for Women upon request 2 tournaments will be played)
5. The 6 first ranked teams of the 6 qualification pools are qualified for the final round
6. The 6 second ranked teams of the 6 qualification pools, divided by drawing of lots, in 3 groups of 2 teams will play Home and Away matches and the winners will qualify for the final round

System to play the Final Round.

1. The same system is valid for men and women
2. 1 or 2 countries may organise the final round
3. Not more than 3 matches are played in the same hall and city per day

For the competition system NF has to refer to the next CEV information.

Mr Jan HRONEK and Mr MEYER thank the members of this Working Group for their extensive efforts and the excellent collaboration that marked their work.

2003/2004 U-19/20 European Championships

2004 U-19 EC Final Round in SVK – Report from the Jury President

Mr Philip BERBEN, initially appointed as Jury president for this competition, will be unable to fulfil his functions as he was also appointed for the Olympic Games, and will therefore be replaced by Mr Maris PEKALIS.

Mr HRONEK explains that the necessary inspection visits were already carried out in the presence of Mr PEKALIS, and that only one hotel remains to be checked.

2004 U-20 EC Final Round in CRO – Report from the Jury President

Mrs Riet OOMS informs the meeting that as she was already present in the same venue the previous year, she had made many comments and recommendations for the organisation of this event. Consequently, the CRO Federation is now ready for the main work of organisation.

Candidates 2006 U-18/19, 2007 U-19/20 EC & 2007 SEC

Applications

2006 Junior Men EC (U-20)	ISR, RUS
2006 Junior Women EC (U-19)	FRA
2007 Senior Men EC	CZE, FRA, POL, TUR, RUS, POR, NED, CRO
2007 Senior Women EC	AZE, BEL & LUX, POL, NED
2007 Youth Boys EC (U-19)	AUT

No applications were received for the 2007 U-18 Girls European Championships. Mr MEYER appeals to all the Federations interested to send in their application to the CEV Office.

Procedure

A detailed Procedure Schedule, complete with deadlines and clear instructions, was sent by the CEV Office to all the National Federations concerned.

Continental Olympic Qualification – Athens 2004

Men's OQ in Leipzig (GER) – Report from the Jury President

The organisation in Leipzig (GER) for this event was exactly the same as the one for the Senior Men European Championships, with only a few exceptions. The Organising Committee did an excellent job, and everything went smoothly.

Only one problem occurred during the Press Conference, namely the absence of some players and coaches, but this issue has already been discussed and solutions found.

Women's OQ in Baku (AZE) – Report from the Jury President

In general, the organisation was good and the competition successful in terms of public attendance and TV coverage. However, several problems must be noted:

The competition hall was different from the one used during the European Cup Final and it was obvious that the local Organising Committee was not well prepared to host a major Volleyball competition in this hall.

Decision: Inspection visits will have to be mandatory from now on for all CEV major competitions.

The local Jury Members did not have the required experience and did not speak English fluently, thus leaving only 2 Jury Members to carry out the job efficiently.

Decision:

- The Jury for such events will be composed of a minimum of 4 officials, including one local member.
- All appointments of local representatives to be involved in the Jury of such events should be approved by CEV.
- CEV also reserves the right to request a change if the person appointed is not deemed appropriate.

Grand Prix 2005 (Qualification in 2004)

The European Qualification Tournament for the 2005 World Grand Prix will be played in Ankara (TUR) from 22 – 26 September 2004 according to the rankings of the European Championships. The countries participating in this event should be TUR (as organiser), POL, GER, NED, RUS and BUL.



Mr Vladimir PATKIN (RUS) points out that the dates for this event cannot accommodate a guaranteed rest day for all teams, but that everything should be done to try to avoid having a team play for 5 consecutive days as it happened in Leipzig (GER) during the Olympic Qualifications.

Decision: The competition will be held from 21st to 26th September.

Action: Add in the contract the new dates and inform TUR - Mr MEYER

European League – project

Mr MEYER explains that the FIVB World League is faced with many problems including a current deficit. As a way to solve these problems and to raise the level of the competition, FIVB proposed to reduce in 2004 the number of participating teams to 12. Consequently, 4 European teams were removed from the competition (RUS, NED, GER and CZE). In order to compensate, FIVB then made the proposal to organise a Continental tournament for these 4 teams with exactly the same conditions as those of the FIVB World League, but the proposal was rejected by all 4 of them.

The idea then emerged to organise a Continental Qualification with more teams, and CEV discussed the project with FIVB which agreed to the possibility of Organising a European League on the same dates as the World League.

A first informational meeting was organised in Luxembourg on 17th January 2004 and the National Federations of AUT, BEL, CRO, CZE, DEN, EST, FIN, GER, HUN, NED, RUS, SLO & TUR were represented. The SVK federation excused itself stating that it's General Assembly and elections were taking place on the same dates.

As of today, the interested federations have received a complete application file (agreement with CEV, Official forms for TV agreements and competitions halls, minutes of the meeting, etc.). The deadline for returning these documents is 25th February 2004. By then, CEV will analyse the possibilities to organise this competition in 2004, basing its study on the documents received (8 teams are required, 2 pools of 4 each).

European Cups

CEV Cup, Austrian Airlines TTC Men & TTC Women

The participants for the Finals of these competitions have already been identified and information is available on the CEV webpage.

As is the case every year, problems and new issues arise during the season, and the European Cups Commission will be addressing each of these issues during its next meeting. However, Mrs Riet OOMS informs her colleagues of one particular situation.

The team of Portugal, registered to participate in the Women's Top Teams Cup in Turkey, had to withdraw from the competition for political reasons. As a matter of fact, 4 of the players of the team are US citizens, and due to the political situation presently unfolding in the Middle East, the US Embassy strongly advised them against travelling to Turkey. Consequently, deciding that without these 4 players the playing level of the team could not be guaranteed, POR preferred to withdraw its team from the competition.

Taking into consideration the fact that the club did not really make any mistake, as this was a "Force Majeure" case for which the club cannot be held liable, the Executive Committee has agreed to the following:

Decision: Impose a financial sanction against the club of Castello da Maia according to the regulations. The automatic suspension usually imposed in case of a withdrawal is in this particular case not enforced - Competitions Department.

Indesit European Champions League

Meeting with clubs on 29th November 2003 in Luxembourg (LUX)

Following requests by the clubs during the IECL Seminar in Vienna in October 2003, this meeting was organised to allow the participating clubs to express their ideas and provide their input for the organisation and development of the Indesit European Champions League.

The Working Group "Champions League" will be meeting in a few weeks to analyse and discuss all the remarks made and proposals submitted. Implementation of these proposals will then be studied during the next ECC meeting, before the final proposals for changes in the competition are submitted to the CEV Executive Committee in April 2004.

Mr Maris PEKALIS, as IECL Supervisor, just wants to add a couple of points:

- There was at least one known problem in regards to a club which had sent the requested marketing material to the CEV Head Office and was informed over a month later by letter that the CEV Office had not yet received anything.
- There were many changes made in the nomination of supervisors and this situation made it difficult for Mr PEKALIS to keep track of the changes and send all the necessary information to the newly-appointed supervisors.

Mr MEYER takes note of these remarks and will check with the CEV Marketing Department concerning the first item. As for the supervisor nominations, Mrs OOMS suggests the possibility of listing the appointment online as to make the information readily available to everyone.

Letter of RC Cannes & National Olympic Committee of FRA

A letter by the French club RC CANNES was sent to the CEV Office with copy to the National Olympic Committee of FRA concerning the distribution of prize money in the Champions League and the difference which exists between the men's and the women's competitions. Following this communication, the National Olympic Committee of FRA also sent a letter to the CEV to express its disapproval.

Mr MEYER highly deplores that such a letter was addressed directly to CEV and not through the French Volleyball Federation as is usually expected, and that a copy was sent to the National Olympic Committee. Mr MEYER also explains that the letter from RC CANNES was sent to the CEV despite the fact that information on this exact subject had already been communicated during the seminar in Vienna. Additionally, this request does not in any way take into consideration the differences of financial obligations which exist between women's and men's clubs.

Final Four Organisers & Inspection visits

Austrian Airlines TTC Men	Final Four in Innsbruck (AUT) on 13th and 14th March 2004.
TTC Women	Final Four in Bursa (TUR) on 13th and 14th March 2004.
CEV Cup Women	Final Four in Bergamo (ITA) on 6th and 7th March 2004.
CEV Cup Men	Final Four in Modena (ITA) on 5th and 6th March 2004.
IECL Women	Final Four in Tenerife (ESP) on 20th and 21st March 2004.
Inspection visits have already taken place and CEV and the organiser are working in close collaboration.	
IECL Men	Final Four in Belgorod (RUS) on 27th and 28th March 2004.



Inspection visits have already taken place and CEV and the organiser are working in close collaboration, especially in regards to the accommodations as one of the hotel needed is still under renovation.

European Beach Volleyball

2004 U-23 European Beach Volleyball Championships Brno (CZE) – 29.07 to 01.08. 2004

2004 U-20 European Beach Volleyball Championships Koper (SLO) – 22.07 to 27.07.2004

2004 U-18 European Beach Volleyball Championships Myslowice (POL) – 05.08 to 08.08.2004

Marketing

CEV – ISA collaboration

As already announced and discussed CEV dissolved its partnership with ISA Marketing Agency.

Olympic Qualifications Tournaments – TV Coverage

These two tournaments proved very successful in terms of TV coverage. There were over 130 hours of broadcasting on EUROSPORT over a week's time.

2004 EUROSPORT Calendar of the IECL

To follow-up on the contract signed between CEV and EUROSPORT in the scope of the Indesit European Champions League 2003/04, Mr MEYER informs his colleagues of the programs for the TV magazines:

Match	Date	Start	Finish	Type
Play-off Home	01/03	15h00	15h30	VTR
Play-off Home	02/03	09h00	09h30	RPT
Play-off Away	08/03	13h30	14h00	VTR
Play-off Away	09/03	09h00	09h30	RPT
Road 2 Final	15/03	15h30	16h00	VTR
Road 2 Final	16/03	09h00	09h30	RPT
Final Four Women	22/03	14h00	15h00	VTR
Final Four Women	23/03	10h00	11h00	RPT
Final Four Men	29/03	16h30	17h30	VTR
Final Four Men	30/03	10h00	11h00	RPT

Uniforms

Advertising

Mr MEYER explains to his colleagues the new regulations proposed by FIVB:

- To authorise up to two different sponsors on the team uniforms
- To authorise the sponsors to be inverted on the libero's uniform only
- To encourage athletic jerseys (sleeveless), in which case the publicity may be placed either on the collar or on the shoulders.

Youth are not obliged to use the FIVB homologated uniforms.

Mr MEYER also underlines that from this point on, the advertisement on the front of the shirt can either be placed above or under the player's number.

PO Company

To follow through with the FIVB Communication dated 7th January 2004, PO Company is no longer a supplier of uniforms to the National Federations. These uniforms are to be banned from all international competitions.

Concerning referee uniforms, new instructions will be released as soon as the new official supplier is known.

Miscellaneous

Next Meeting

The next Board of Administration meeting is scheduled for 18th – 20th June 2004 in Belgrade (SCG). The BoA Members will be accommodated at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Belgrade, just a short distance away from the new competition hall.

Remarks from the BoA Members

Dr HOLZGRAEFE would like to know if there is a percentage of spectators which followed the Olympic Qualifications on television. Mr MEYER does not have the specific number with him, but states that the TV ratings reached as high as 25% at times, which is extraordinary.

Mr PATKIN explains that the TV company contracted by CEV for the coverage of the Olympic Qualifications and the retransmission in Russia was a cable company and therefore not the best for wide coverage. In his opinion for any future competition, CEV should contact the RUS Federation in order to establish contacts with another TV company which could bring in much higher numbers in terms of TV spectators.

Closing of the Meeting

Mr MEYER thanks his colleagues for their participation and work during this busy and productive meeting. Special thanks are also addressed to the CEV Office for its support and for the organisation of this meeting, and to the French Federation for its hospitality.

Finally, seeing that the agenda for such meeting is always so full and that a lot of time is spent on the first items while the last ones are covered sometimes a bit too quickly, he suggests for the next meeting to place the reports of the Commissions and Working Groups in the second part of the agenda.

CEV BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING – BELGRADE (SCG) – 19TH JUNE 2004

The following members are attending:

President:	André MEYER (LUX)
Snr Vice-President & Treasurer:	Philip BERBEN (BEL)
Vice-Presidents:	Snjezana MIJIC (CRO) - Riet OOMS (NED) - Aleksandar BORICIC (SCG) - Jan Hronek (CZE) - Carlo MAGRI (ITA)
Members:	Thanassis Beligratis (GRE) - Janusz BIESIADA (POL) - Aloys FISCHER (SUI) - Manfred HOLZGRAEFE (GER) - Vladimir PATKIN (RUS) - Maris PEKALIS (LAT) -



Miguel Angel QUINTANA (ESP) - Jan REK (SUI) - Fabio SASSI (ITA) - Jacques SHAW (FRA) - Eric ADLER (DEN) - Andreas STAVROU (CYP)

Executive Director:

Olivier MOTTIER (CEV)

Opening of the Meeting

In the presence of several local journalists and cameras from 3 different TV channels, Mr Aleksandar BORICIC and Mr Slobodan MILOSEVIC in turn welcome the CEV Board of Administration members in Belgrade and wish them a successful and productive meeting. As one of the initial CEV members, the SCG Federation is very honoured to be hosting such an important event on its territory again and will do its utmost to continue actively participating in the development of volleyball in Europe.

Mr André MEYER, CEV President, thanks the SCG Federation for its warm welcome and officially opens the meeting. He excuses Mr Carlo MAGRI, Vice-President, who was present on Thursday for the European Championships 2005 coordination meeting but had to fly home for personal reasons. Mr Janusz BIESIADA, BoA member, is also excused, due to political obligations in Poland. Approval of the Agenda

Mr MEYER remarks that the order in which the usual topics will be discussed has been changed and that the Commission's activity reports will consequently be discussed last in order to be sure that there is enough time for all important matters. Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on Friday, 6th February 2004 at Hotel Marignan-Elysée, Paris (FRA)

In the absence of any questions or comments, the minutes of the meeting are approved.

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on Friday & Saturday, 23-24th April 2004 at Hotel ARNOLDS, Riga (LAT)

Page 6

Mr QUINTANA remarks that the dates for the Beach Volleyball Seminar in Brno (CZE) are not correct and should be 31st July – 1st August 2004.

Page 10

Mr Fabio SASSI remarks that although the decision to start the competition in Belgrade 1 day earlier than the one in Rome, it was never a proposal made by ESOC. The wording "ESOC proposal approved" must be deleted.

In the absence of any further remarks, the minutes are approved.



CEV President André Meyer expressing his gratitude to representatives of the Volleyball Federation of Serbia and Montenegro who hosted the Board in June 2004.

Approval of the Minutes of the Board of Administration Meeting held on 7th February 2004 at Hotel Marignan-Elysée, Paris (FRA)

Page 7: Beach Volleyball Commission, U-23 competition format

“Additionally, no CEV Senior Ranking points will be allocated.”

Additionally, Mr Aloys FISCHER suggests the following corrections:

Page 4, point 7.1: Legal Commission

“Mr MEYER, CEV President, informs Mr FISCHER that the Executive Committee discussed in its meeting on 6th February 2004, based on a written proposal of Mr FISCHER, the situation and problems that...”

Page 13: IVT

Mr Eric ADLER inquires about the status of the different applications and the decisions made by each candidate.

- Mr Robert MIKELSONS resigned from the EVT in order to join the IVT.
- Mrs Agata PARLINSKA withdrew her candidature in order to maintain her position within CEV.

Mr MEYER strongly insists any corrections or comments on the minutes of the meetings should be sent directly to the Secretary's at the CEV Office, to facilitate and centralise the corrections.

In the absence of any further remark, the Minutes are approved.

Activity Report of the Executive Committee

Mr MEYER, CEV President, feels that most of the points discussed during the Executive Committee meeting on 17th – 18th June 2004 will be discussed later on as part of the agenda. A couple of points are however not included but were discussed in the scope of the Executive Committee:

- FIVB letter concerning the registrations for the 2006 World Championships informing CEV that 25 Women teams and 32 Men teams are currently registered and reminding the European National Federations of the registration deadline of 9th July 2004. The Drawing of Lots is organised in Rome on 15th July 2004 in the presence of Dr Rubén ACOSTA, FIVB President and of all the Confederations' Presidents.
- FIVB suggestion that the teams for the 2006 World Championships should be distributed into regional pools and FIVB request to have the different Confederations make proposals on how this could be accomplished.

Mr Fabio SASSI comes back to the FIVB proposal to create regional pools for the 2006 World Championships and states that exact conditions, details (i.e. number of vacancies) and a deadline must be communicated to the Confederations before a clear proposal can be made.

Mr STAVROU mentions that this new format would greatly benefit the Group C Federation as the old format was making their participation difficult due to the high travel costs it entailed.

Finally, Mr MEYER shares with his colleagues that CEV finally reached an agreement with the Luxembourg Government and that the CEV will consequently be moving into newer and bigger offices in the autumn of 2004. An Official Opening Ceremony in the presence of all European National Federations will be organised in early 2005.

Institutions

FIVB Congress in Porto (POR)

Since most Board of Administration members were present in Porto in May 2004 on the occasion of the FIVB Congress, Mr MEYER does not see it necessary to elaborate on this matter.

Zonal Volleyball Association – Statutes EEVZA - Calendars

EEVZA

Mr Aloys FISCHER, ELC Member, has reviewed the EEVZA Statutes and asked that corrections or additions be made to Art. 1.1, Art. 1.2, Art. 1.8 and Art. 6.

Mr Maris PEKALIS explains that the first meeting still has to be organised but that the dates are not determined yet because of the current unavailability of the POL Federation. The meeting should be taking place before the CEV General Assembly in Istanbul and FIVB and CEV will be informed in due time of its organisation.

Concerning the amendments to be made to the statutes, they were sent directly to the POL Federation and have not been adopted yet.

BVA

Mr MEYER informs his colleagues that Mr Achilleas MAVROMATIS has taken over the function of BVA Secretary and that the BVA offices are consequently moved from Athens to Thessaloniki until the association's next General Assembly.

The calendar proposed by the BVA is approved.

NEVZA

The calendar proposed was reviewed by the CEV Competitions Department and is approved by the CEV Board of Administration

As a clarification, and in view of the invitation sent out by the SLO Federation Mr BORICIC asks if Zonal Associations are allowed to invite federations that are not part of the association to participate in a Zonal competition. Mr MEYER clearly explains that this idea was formally rejected and that Zonal activities cannot be extended outside of the association's boundaries.

Action: Send a reminder letter to all Zonal Associations. – Administrative Dept.

Recognised federation in BIH

It is stated in the FIVB statutes that only one National Volleyball Federation should govern one territory. In BIH however, there are still 2 different organisations needing to be united (SRPSKA + BIH), and until this can be achieved, several Volleyball clubs are unable to participate in the territory's general volleyball activities.

Mr Philip BERBEN, who was appointed by FIVB to study the situation and come to a final decision, travelled to Sarajevo 6 weeks ago in order to hear both organisations proposals and find an agreement. Mr BERBEN proposed that both organisations be officially recognised as Zonal Associations belonging to one single governing National Federation. One of the two organisations refused to sign this agreement, and a final deadline for closing this matter was set, 15th June 2004. Since no responses were received, a report including the proposal of Mr BERBEN was sent to the FIVB who will now be in charge of making a final decision.

Request of AND

Following the decision of the Board of Administration in Paris on 7th February 2004 to reduce the sanctions of San Marino to only 10% of the amount usually foreseen the AND Federation which had been inflicted a similar sanction sent a letter to the CEV Board of Administration requesting its members to review the sanction issued and already paid in full.

Decision: Based on a proposal by the Executive Committee, the request of AND is approved.

Action:

- Send a letter to the AND Federation informing them of the revision and partial reimbursement of the sanction. – Administrative Dept.
- Re-calculate the sanction amount and issue a reimbursement for the amount overpaid. – Administrative Dept.

Complaint of SMR and MLT

In response to a sanction issued against them for withdrawing from the preliminary qualifications tournament for the European Championships Men & Women, the Federations of SMR and MLT both sent a letter of appeal to CEV asking for the sanctions to be reconsidered.

Mr FISCHER, ELC President, was asked to establish a report of the situation based on the actual facts and regulations in force and to present it to the Board of Administration for discussion. Several points and regulations likely to create some confusion were identified and will need to be clarified or amended in order to avoid further confusion in the future. The ELC and WG Fines & Regulations are currently working in collaboration to improve and clarify all regulations and should hopefully be resolving this type of problem soon.

Finally, concerning the multiplication of a sanction by the number of matches, Mr MEYER explains that such a situation is not foreseen by FIVB in its competition and that CEV should consider aligning its regulations accordingly.



After analysis of the different points, the following decision is made with one abstention:

Decision: The sanctions issued against SMR and MLT will be reviewed as to eliminate the multiplication of the sanction. The sports sanction remains.

Action: Send a letter to both the SMR and MLT Federations informing them of the decision to review the sanctions issued against them but clearly stating that the other matters listed in their letters were misinterpretations. – Administrative Dept. & ELC

Request of ISR

Following the increase of violent terrorist attacks in Israel in the past few years and the similar measures taken by other sports organisations, it was decided during the Board of Administration meeting in Ostrava (CZE) in September 2001 that all international volleyball matches would be suspended in Israel until further notice.

Based on a recent lift of the suspension by other sports organisations and a letter by the Israeli government guaranteeing the security level in Israel, the ISR Federation submitted a request to the CEV Board of Administration to review its position and once again allow international matches to be played in Israel.

An open discussion takes place during which the following important points are mentioned:

1. CEV responsibility and conditions
2. Authority of the CEV
3. Control of the situation and its developments, and urgent decisions
4. Registration of the clubs and consequences

Following this analysis, and based on the proposal made by the Executive Committee, the CEV Board of Administration agrees on the following dispositions:

Decision: Agree to re-introduce international matches in ISR, under the following conditions:

- At all times, and based on the evolution of the conflicts or violent acts perpetrated in ISR, CEV reserves the right to suspend this re-introduction.
- The matches will have to be organised only in Tel Aviv.
- ISR is responsible for the security of the participants and will have to provide the CEV with a detailed proposal of the protection measures that will be established.
- A written contract will have to be signed between CEV and ISR on 27th June 2004 based on these conditions.

Working Group Media – Minutes of the Meeting held on 20th March in Tenerife (ESP)

The last meeting of the WG Media took place in Tenerife on 21st March 2004. 3 members were not present, including Mr G. PASINI (ITA) who was absent for the 3rd time in a row and is consequently definitely excluded from the Working Group.

Action: Inform Mr PASINI by official letter that he is no longer a member of the WG. – Administrative Dept.

Mr Aleksandar BORICIC, WG Chairman, reads the different proposals submitted by his Working Group:

- Implementation of an online version of the program book for the IECL - Cannot be approved because CEV is not able to analyse the technical aspects and implement this idea until the actual data can be received.
- Test a system of accreditations that can be bought for the journalists who are not in possession of an official AIPS card - approved.

- Reward VIENNA HotVolleys (men) and Mladost ZAGREB (women) for their press work during the 2003/04 IECL - Done
- Reduce the number of European Cups and cancel the organisation of the Top Teams Cup - will be discussed under European cups.
- Provide a mixed zone facility during all major Beach Volleyball events - approved
- Adopt a new journalist accreditation form likely to be used for CEV competitions - approved
- Individual awards to be given during all major CEV competition and MVP award to be chosen by statistics and Media onsite, as follows:

MVP – chosen by the media onsite.

Best scorer – 100 % statistics (VIS or Data Volley).

Best attacker – 100 % statistics (VIS or Data Volley).

Best blocker – 100 % statistics (VIS or Data Volley).

Best server – 100 % statistics (VIS or Data Volley).

Best setter – 100 % statistics in case of VIS, chosen by media in case of Data Volley.

Best libero – 100 % statistics in case of VIS, chosen by media in case of Data Volley.

Best receiver – 100 % statistics (VIS or Data Volley)

Approved

- Amend regulations of Beach Volleyball tournaments to state that no individual awards are allowed – approved
- Ms. ELMEGARD to be responsible for feeding the CEV website with Olympic Games news focused on the European teams - approved. Must contact Ms. Shelly BICKENDORF, CEV Press Officer.
- Allow journalists to be present during the CEV General Assembly - rejected. However the Press Conference following the Congress is to be retained.
- Media presentation to be made during a possible seminar for the National Federations - approved if such seminars are organised in the future.
- Improvements to be made on the CEV webpage (more information on the front page, less links and clicks required, addition of a general European Volleyball Activity calendar) - The calendar option is already under works. The rest will need to be analysed.
- Invite Mr WEGENER (GSM Press Officer), the Press Officer of the Austrian Volleyball Federation and a representative from EUROSPOORT to the next meeting.

Decision: Analyse the possibility to ask the Press Officer of the AUT Federation to replace Mr PASINI, former Member.

Approved, but the minutes need to be modified to reflect the situation with Mr PASINI and a proposal to replace him with the AUT Press Officer. A second proposal will reflect the possibility to invite Mr WEGENER and a EUROSPOORT representative to the next WG meeting.

- Analyse the possibility to control and ensure that 2 teams playing against each other wear shirts of contrasting colours – approved

Action: Based on the colour contrasts as seen on TV, advise ESOC of the possible choices and contrasts for the players' shirts. – WG Media

Finally, Mr BORICIC confirms that the next Working Group meeting will be held in Belgrade on the occasion of the Drawing of Lots for the 2005 European Championships.



Mr FISCHER reminds Mr BORICIC that all commissions and working groups are asked to study their regulations and submit proposals or amendments to the WG Fines & Regulations and that no feedback has been received from the WG Media yet.

Mr SASSI wishes to suggest to the WG Media that detailed press guidelines be an integral part of the Organiser handbook in order to improve the preparation work connected with the organisation of major volleyball events.

Action: Press guidelines to be redefined for the major CEV events. – WG Media

Mr SHAW proposes to the WG Media to organise a seminar for all National Federations' Press Officers. Mr MEYER however explains that this idea, although very good, cannot yet be implemented because many European National Federations do not currently have such officers. It is consequently more important to first inform all National Federations of the need and use for such people. A survey should determine the actual situation concerning the press officers in each European National Federation.

Working Group Regulations & Fines – Minutes of the Meeting held in Luxembourg on 1st May 2004

Mr Aloys FISCHER, WG Chairman explains that during the last meeting which was held on 1st May 2004 in Luxembourg, the members focused their work on comparing the different regulations and only one proposal was made to add Beach Volleyball in Art 2.6 of the CEV Statutes. However, Mr REK points out that the general wording "Organising the Continental Championships and Continental Cups competitions" incorporate both Volleyball and Beach Volleyball competitions. Following the comparison work accomplished by the WG, the different commissions and working group Presidents were contacted and asked for their collaboration in reviewing their part of the regulations. Apart from the ERC and EMC, no answers were received yet and a deadline is set to the end of September 2004.

Action: Submit their proposals to the WG before the end of September 2004. – EFC, WG Marketing & WG Media

Mr FISCHER also wants to underline the importance of adjusting the CEV computer programs in order to enable automatic regulation changes and avoid once again having discrepancies between the different regulations.

Mr MEYER confirms that the idea is to set up a computer database of all regulations in order to facilitate the work in the future, but also adds that the WG Regulations & Fines was precisely created to prepare the way and guarantee the conformity of the regulations before a program is launched.

Working Group Vision 2008 – follow up

Ms. Snjezana MIJIC informs her colleagues that the pilot project will be presented during the next CEV Congress. This project was based on the feedback provided by only 3 federations, CRO, RUS and GER as there have been communication problems and a general lack of involvement from the other federations represented in the Working Group. With this in mind, the composition of the Working Group will be re-evaluated at the CEV General Assembly.

Mr MEYER appeals to all BoA Members to look within their respective federations for information (books, articles, videos, etc.) which could be used towards this project.

Additionally, he informs Ms. MIJIC that the Working Group should not only be collecting information, but should also start analysing ways to make that information accessible through a database (core of the project), by assessing key words and organisation of the information.

Action: Provide the CEV Office with the material and tools needed to launch the online project.
– S. MIJIC

Financial Matters

Accounts 2003

The numbers for the 2003 accounts are reported in the draft of the 2005 budget. However, Mr BERBEN underlines that the figures provided are not definite until the 2003 accounts have been audited. The final details and figures for the 2003 accounts will be given during the Board of Administration meeting connected with the General Assembly in October 2004.

He takes this opportunity to thank Mrs Sylvie COLLIGNON, CEV Bookkeeper, for her hard work and continued assistance.

Old Debts – situation of NF's which could be suspended by FIVB

Certain federations still have aged debts with the CEV, despite all the steps taken to recover the outstanding payments. The federation of Northern Ireland (NIR) finally paid its debts in full, leaving just 3 National Federations with aged debts. As announced during the last BoA member, CEV submitted the list of those National Federations to FIVB asking for assistance during the FIVB Congress in Porto in May 2004. The FIVB has decided to extend the payment deadline and is sending those 3 federations a letter giving them 3 months to pay off their debts towards CEV before they are automatically officially suspended.

Action: Check with the FIVB whether the previously mentioned letter has been sent – O. MOTTIER

Additionally, Mr BERBEN reminds his colleagues that in order to be accredited to participate in the CEV General Assembly, the National Federations will have to have paid all debts accumulated up till 30th June 2004.

Budget 2005

Mr BERBEN explains that he met with Mr MEYER, Mr MOTTIER and Mrs COLLIGNON in Luxembourg to prepare this draft of the 2005 budget based on 3 items:

- Figures of the 2003 accounts
- Movements in 2004 (revenues based on signed contracts)
- Expectations for 2005 (new offices, inauguration, European League)

Looking at the figures for 2004 and 2005, Mr BERBEN underlines that although the contract with ISA marketing agency was ended, positive results were obtained thanks to the dedication of Mr MEYER in finding new sponsorship opportunities.

Additionally, Mr BERBEN proposes to adopt new financial procedures that allow the CEV to use positive financial results in order to create a reserve in order to maintain the finances of CEV in case of unexpected circumstances (breach of contract, economic situation, sponsoring, etc.). With this optic, CEV would be able to maintain its strategic targets (competitions, prize money, etc.) despite possible negative results certain years and without having to suffer repercussions of the bi-annual system of the major CEV competitions.

Finally, and as a side note, Mr BERBEN shares with his colleagues that in view of the work accomplished by the Bookkeeping department of the CEV and the auditors (internal and external), it has been decided to reduce the activities of the Financial Commission which will continue to exist statutorily but will no longer be holding regular meetings.

The 2005 budget is approved.

Per Diem – analysis for the future

The CEV Executive Committee analysed the possibility to raise the Per Diem paid to the officials on their CEV assignments and to extend the Per Diem payments to the Commission members for their regular meetings.



Decision:

- Maintain the current Per Diem rate of € 50 for 2004.
- Starting on 01.01.2005, allocate a per diem of €50/day to the members of the CEV Commissions.

European Championships

2004 JEC Final Round in SVK

Mr Maris PEKALIS, Jury President, shares that the preparation for this event is going well and that the problem that existed with the hotel in the city of Presov is resolved as it was fully renovated.

There was a misunderstanding concerning the Drawing of Lots but it was resolved as the Drawing of Lots will now be organised in collaboration with the CRO Federation.

Action: Check that the SVK Federation will be adequately represented for the Drawing of Lots in Croatia. – M. PEKALIS

Mr MEYER also reminds all that for the future that the organisation of the Drawing of Lots falls under the responsibility of the coordinators.

2004 JEC Final Round in CRO

Mrs OOMS, Jury President, confirms that in CRO all the preparations are running smoothly and there is regular contact between Mrs OOMS and the CRO Federation. No changes have been made to either the venues or the hotels and there is consequently no reason to organise a 2nd inspection visit.

Mrs OOMS also confirms that the Drawing of Lots for both the Men and Women JEC Final Rounds will be organised in Zagreb (CRO) on 26th June 2004 in connection with a meeting with the local Organising committee.

2005 Girls' YEC Final Round in EST

Mr BERBEN confirms that he was in Tallinn (EST) from 21st - 23rd May 2004 for an inspection visit and that the EST Federation already has some experience in organising volleyball events.

3 competition halls were proposed, 2 of which meet the necessary requirements. The hotels also meet the required standards although a few suggestions for improvement were made to the hotel reserved for the athletes. Additionally, Mr BERBEN made some recommendations concerning press matters and the playing system. The Drawing of Lots will be organised in collaboration between the EST and LAT Federations and will take place in Riga (LAT) on 22nd January 2005.

Taking this into consideration, he has no doubts that the competition will benefit from a very good organisation.

For their information, Mr BERBEN also shares that the 2005 European Youth Olympic Festival will be taking place in Italy the first week of July and that the National Federations will be asked if they want to register teams for this event. Registration will be made through each National Federation's Olympic Committee and depends on whether or not another sport from the same country is already being represented. Additionally, Mr BERBEN shares that Volleyball and more specifically the Italian Volleyball Federation was very well represented. Mr MEYER adds that CEV has a very close and productive collaboration with the European Olympic Committees and that it is pleased to be working with them on developing such an event.

2005 Boys' YEC Final Round in LAT

Mr HRONEK shares that a first inspection visit was made in connection with the Executive Committee meeting in Riga in April. The hotels and competition halls meet the requirements

and no problems are foreseen with this organisation. A 2nd inspection visit can be organised if necessary.

The Drawing of Lots will take place in Riga on 29th January 2005.

2005 Men's SEC Final Round in ITA & SCG

Mr HRONEK explains that a meeting with the organisers took place in Belgrade on 17th June 2004 in the presence of the ITA President, Mr C. MAGRI and the SCG President, Mr A. BORICIC. Two inspection visits were also organised: one in Italy by Mr PEKALIS and Mr BRUNINX and the other in Belgrade by Mr PEKALIS and Mr MULHEIMS, and although no official report has been written yet, it appears that the organisation in both countries is going well and that no problems were identified. The Drawing of Lots will be organised in Belgrade (SCG) on 29th October 2004 for both pools.

The travel arrangements to be made for the referees to travel between Belgrade and Rome must still be discussed. The organisation of a referee clinic in both hosting cities must also be analysed.

Action: Analyse and make a proposal for the organisation of one or two referee clinics in the scope of this event (to be discussed during the next ExCom meeting). – Mr Jan REK

Mr André MEYER also confirms that he took part in the meeting held on 17th June 2004 and helped reach an agreement concerning the contract and marketing conditions. For information, Mr MEYER shares that following the end of the contract with ISA, all marketing and TV rights belong to the CEV, but a decision was made to make these marketing rights available for "purchase" by the organisers. The finalised contract with clear distribution of the marketing rights will be signed on 14th July 2004 on the occasion of the Drawing of Lots in Rome.

Decision: The proposal to start the competition in Belgrade one day before the competition in Rome was commonly agreed to by the 2 organisers and approved, and will benefit the competition, the players and the media.

Concerning anti-doping tests, Mr HOLZGRAEFE confirms the need to make all the necessary arrangements as soon as possible.

Action: Decide whether the tests will be conducted in Belgrade or Rome and inform the CEV Office. – ITA / SCG

2005 Women's SEC Final Round in CRO

Mrs Riet OOMS assures her colleagues that the preparation for this event in CRO is going very well and should benefit from the extended experience the Federation has in Organising major CEV events. Last year, CRO hosted the Final of the Youth EC, this year it is hosting the Junior EC and next year the Senior EC.

Mr Fabio SASSI, Coordinator for this event, shares the details from his report: the city of Zagreb is considered as meeting all the requirements for the organisation of this event. The only point to note is that the hotel selected will be hosting both the teams and the officials because the hotel selected for the teams originally does not meet the level expected of the Senior European Championships.

In contrast with Zagreb, the city of Karlovac, initially selected as 2nd venue for this event, is not meeting the requirements: the competition hall has a seat capacity of just 1,700 spectators and the hotels are too small and will have problems with noise (due to traffic).

Decision: The city of Karlovac is not approved as 2nd venue and will have to be replaced.

Action:



- Provide within the next 2 weeks another 2nd venue fulfilling all the conditions. – CRO Federation
- Set up the next inspection visit in September. – CRO Federation and coordinators

Additionally, it will be important during this 2nd inspection visit to inspect the Press and Medical facilities and to analyse the possibilities that exist for all doping-related matters (laboratories, transport schedules, etc.)

Action: Inform the CEV Office of the official laboratory nomination as well as of the complete procedures concerning the anti-doping controls. – CRO Federation

Applications 2006 and 2007

The status of the applications for the 2006 and 2007 Championships is:

SEC 2007 – Men FRA, POL, RUS, NED (TUR, POR, CRO, CZE all withdrew applications)

SEC 2007 – Women BEL & LUX / RUS / NED (AZE application)

YEC 2007 – BoysAUT

YEC 2007 – GirlsCZE

JEC 2006 – Men ISR, RUS

JEC 2006 – Women FRA

Decision: The CEV Executive Committee confirms the following procedures:

26 – 27 June 2004 First review of all the applications (A. MEYER, P. BERBEN & J. HRONEK)

End of August 2004 Planning of the necessary visits, to control the validity of the logistics proposed on site

30 September 2004 Report to the ExCom

1 October 2004 Report to the BoA

Nomination of the winners by secret vote

2 October 2004 Public and official announcement of the winners during the CEV General Assembly

Publicity on Uniforms – approval of the new regulations

New rules and procedures concerning advertising on uniforms were established based on FIVB standards and will be replacing the old CEV regulations.

Decision: The new Publicity on Uniforms regulations are unanimously approved. The old regulations are no longer valid.

Action: Inform all National Federations of these new regulations and publish them on the CEV website. – Marketing Dept.

ESOC Proposals

Mr SASSI, ESOC president, presents his commission's proposals one by one:

- Junior World Championships 2005: As it was decided by the FIVB to reduce the number of participating teams from 16 to 12, the number of vacancies for European teams will be reduced as well. Consequently, there is a need to review the European Qualification procedures - Needs to be discussed with FIVB.

Action: Contact FIVB to discuss a possible change in the European Qualification process – André MEYER

- Inspection Visits: Following a recent problem during an inspection visit, the idea of establishing an inspection visit contact form to be sent to the CEV Technical Delegate 2 weeks before the inspection visit is considered - Approved.
- Form CH-05: Following the approval to extend the number of players from 18 to 22 on the CH-05 form, the proposal is that on this form the players' jerseys be numbered from 1 to 18 and that for the additional 4 players, no jersey numbers are to be announced - Approved. However, the extension of numbers from 18 to 22 was adopted to stay in line with FIVB, yet FIVB once again changed its decision and went back to just 18 players on one form.
- Collective License: All players participating in a Final Round, including those from a team that is directly qualified, must be listed on the collective license. Players not in possession of a license must apply for one by sending the form CH-04 along with Form CH-05 to the CEV Head Office (applicable to all the players listed on the form CH-05) - Approved

Action: Inform all NFs of the new collective license requirements. – Competitions Dept.

- World Grand Prix European Qualifications: Player licenses are necessary as from 2005 - Approved.

Decision: All teams need to be in possession of a license. The teams that have already applied for a license for the European Championships can use that same license for the Grand Prix European Qualifications in 2005.

Action: Inform all NFs of the new license dispositions for the World Grand Prix European Qualifications. – Competitions dept.

- World Grand Prix Qualifications: Need to organise the inspection visit at least 2 months before the start of the competition - Approved.

Action: Include this stipulation in the official communications. – Competitions dept.

- Senior European Championships Final Round: Seeing that this proposal was already approved for the Youth and Junior EC Final Rounds, it is proposed to make the presence of a Press Officer or journalist mandatory during the Senior EC Final Round - Approved.

Action: Update the relevant regulations and include this information in the official communications. – Competitions dept.

European League 2004

Mr MEYER shares that this new CEV Competition is currently underway and is running very well with 8 National Federations participating this year.

The European League Final Round will take place in Opava (CZE) on 10th and 11th July 2004.

Mr MEYER expresses his concern regarding the 2004 edition stating that the TV and public numbers are not meeting the expectations. Several countries only manage to attract low spectator numbers while others managed more. There is an obvious need to find a solution for the impact to be greater for the next editions.

Mr PATKIN also mentions that a serious problem arose with the TV broadcasting of the match on 5th – 6th June between RUS and TUR as the TUR Federation, host of the match, did not make the signal available free of charge to the RUS TV as required by the contract.

Action:



- Send a written complaint to the CEV Office. – RUS Federation
- Send a warning letter to the TUR Federation and issue a sanction. – Administrative Dept.

Grand Prix 2005 (Qualification in 2004)

Mr Jan HRONEK, Jury President, informs his colleagues that the new hall outside Ankara has a seating capacity of over 5000. The only problem foreseen is that it was found during the inspection visit that Mondo flooring does not exist in Turkey and a solution will need to be found.

Additionally, Mr HRONEK shares that a hotel meeting all the requirements was found and assures the members that all games will be televised and no problem is foreseen. A detailed program will be sent to the CEV Office.

European Cups

2004/05 Registration of clubs

Mrs OOMS informs the BoA that a total of 198 teams registered for the 2004/05 edition of the European Cups. An evaluation of the last 3 year's registrations will be made based on a chart to be created by the European Cups Commission in order to identify trends.

Mrs OOMS also reminds her colleagues that all the registrations received will need to be checked in order to guarantee that they meet the requirements, especially in the Indesit European Champions League. Additionally, any club still owing monies towards CEV by the final deadline of 25th June 2004 will not be allowed to participate next season.

Indesit European Champions League 2004/05

In addition to the teams who qualified to participate in the 2004/05 IECL, a few reserve teams which were officially relegated from the previous European Cups season were allowed to register as well and participate if there were vacancies.

For the Men, the final number of registrations is of 21, consisting of 18 qualified teams from 11 different National Federations and 3 reserve teams.

For the Women's competition, 11 qualified teams from 8 different federations registered, as well as 1 reserve team, bringing the total to 12.

With these numbers, it is currently planned that the Men's competition will be played with 20 teams while the Women's competition will be played with 12.

Each entry will have to be studied in order to guarantee that all requirements are met, including the TV contract and sponsor requirements.

ECC Proposal – future competitions format for the CEV Cups

Following the decision made during the last Executive Committee meeting in Riga (LAT), Mrs Riet OOMS shows a PowerPoint presentation of the ECC proposal for a new system. This presentation briefly summaries the history of the European Cups and offers 4 alternatives, including the current system, along with their advantages and disadvantages.

A special working group, composed of several ECC members and of NF delegates representing both the stronger and weaker European National Federations will be created and will be in charge of analysing these alternatives taking into consideration the point of view of the different NFs and some basic principles CEV would like to follow.

Mr MEYER expresses his concern that the time line proposed by the ECC is too tight and underlines the need to study this matter very thoroughly. Consequently, he proposes that no new system should be considered before the 2006/07 season.

Decision: A final proposal will be presented by the ECC in order to guarantee an implementation for the 2006/07 European Cups season.

Action: Send a copy of this presentation as appendix to these minutes to all National Federations with a request to submit their comments or concerns to the CEV Head Office within a set timeframe. – Competitions Dept.

ECC Proposal – Closing Ceremony Procedures

Following a decision by the CEV Board of Administration, ECC studied introducing a new closing ceremony procedure. Mrs Riet OOMS presents the first draft for a new closing ceremony and shares the main differences.

Mr Eric ADLER underlines the need to keep the ceremony short in order to maintain the interest of the public and to take into consideration the needs of the media.

Action: Include the analysis of these new procedures in the agenda of the next meeting. – WG Media

Decision: Following the proposed actions defined by the Executive Committee, the ECC will finalise this proposal by the next BoA meeting, by making 2 distinct documents for the different CEV competitions (cups and championships).

This new closing ceremony will be tested during the Junior Championships 2004.

European Beach Volleyball

2004 Senior European Beach Volleyball Tour and Championships

Mr MEYER takes the floor and briefly explains that following the announcement that an FIVB competition would be organised in Puerto Rico and the consequent reaction of the players, FIVB accepted to protect the European competition by restricting the participation of European athletes in Puerto Rico, which caused several players to react very strongly against CEV and FIVB.

Mr QUINTANA distributes to his colleagues copies of the different correspondences exchanged between some of the players, FIVB and CEV.

Mr MEYER explains that FIVB and CEV worked in close collaboration on this matter and maintained their position, and that more discussions and possible measures will be taken to solve the problem of players uniting against CEV and FIVB.

Other Competitions 2004 – report and future

Mr QUINTANA reports that the Italian Open benefited from a good organisation as did the Final of the European Championships Tour in Timmendorf. Following the Italian Open however, there is an obvious need to increase the level of the competition.

Concerning the 3 Junior categories, Mr QUINTANA states that inspection visits were conducted in Poland for the U-18 and in the Czech Republic for the U-23 competitions and that both organisations are looking good. No inspection visit is foreseen in Slovenia for the U-20 as Laciga Emotions, organiser for this event, has enough experience to guarantee a good competition.

For the future, Mr QUINTANA underlines the need to review the contracts for 2005 especially in the 3 junior categories and to guarantee the involvement of the different agencies contracted. Additionally, he explains that it is important to ask the National Federations and their local promoters for their input in order to understand why so few of them are willing to organise a major Beach Volleyball event in collaboration with GSM.



Action: Contact GSM and ask for a list of the countries which were contacted to organise an event in the last 2 years and contact each of these National Federations individually to find out the reasons behind their refusal. - EBVC

Players representatives – proposal

The need to strictly maintain the correspondence between CEV and the National Federation becomes more evident and the idea to consider nominating players' representatives should be considered further. However, considering the current conflict and the lack of answers at this time, Mr MEYER suggests postponing this discussion until the situation has been clarified.

Indoor Beach Volleyball - proposal

A questionnaire on this matter was sent to all National Federations. As the deadline was set to 18th June 2004, the results have not yet been analysed and therefore cannot be shared at this time.

Action: Include this point in the agenda of the next BoA meeting. – Administrative Dept.

Official warning - Beach Volleyball European Championships

FIVB sent an official warning to CEV concerning the competition formula for the last Beach Volleyball European Championships. A reply and necessary explanations will be provided in collaboration with Mr QUINTANA.

Activity Reports – CEV Commissions

Legal Commission – Mr Aloys FISCHER

The last meeting of the European Legal Commission took place in Stuttgart (GER) on 24th May 2004.

Mr Aloys FISCHER, ELC President, shares that the members of his commission focused their work on two main points:

1. Problems related with the Friendly matches between NFs or Clubs: Mr FISCHER explains that his commission further discussed the problems related to the withdrawal of a club or a National Federation from a friendly match (damages, responsibility, CEV involvement) and that a proposal to amend the CEV regulations in order to include friendly matches will be made to the Working Group Regulations & Fines.
2. Structure of the different CEV regulations: sanctions & Fines: in connection with the work of the Working Group Fines & Regulations, the ELC analysed the different CEV regulations and considered possible changes to improve and clarify them.

Finally, and although this is not a point of the ELC minutes, Mr FISCHER mentions the problems related to foreign player transfers within the newly expanded European Union as the issue came up when a Slovenian player contacted CEV for advice on how these should be handled now.

Mr Philip BERBEN explains that he has been in close contact with FIVB regarding this issue and that FIVB will discuss this important matter in August. Until then, it is important for all questions or requests to be answered in collaboration with Mr BERBEN and FIVB in order to provide unified answers and avoid clashes.

Decision: All questions or requests concerning international transfers within the EU will have to be directed to FIVB until the matter has been discussed by FIVB and an official guideline has been communicated to CEV.

Financial Commission – Mr Philip BERBEN

Given no meeting of this commission was organised since May 2003 and that all the important financial points were discussed under the point Financial Matters, there is no report to be made.

Cups Commission – Mrs Riet OOMS

The European Cups Commission last met on 2nd and 3rd April 2004 in Copenhagen (DEN).

Mrs Riet OOMS lists the different proposals submitted by her commission:

- Investigation of the situation concerning the competition halls in National Federations and their requirements for their highest division - Already approved and added to this year's registration forms
- Fine of 140 euros and possible 1-year exclusion to be issued against the Technical Delegate who does not hold the technical meeting 1 day before the competition - The fine of 140 euros is approved. Exclusion will be decided pending an investigation of each individual case.
- New closing ceremony procedures - Already discussed.
- Registration modifications for the 2004/05 season - Already approved and enforced.

Sports Organising Commission – Mr Fabio SASSI

The European Sports Organising Commission last met in Helsinki and Ylläs (FIN) on 15th and 16th April 2004.

Considering that the different proposals submitted by ESOC were already discussed separately, Mr SASSI has no further points to discuss.

The next meeting of this commission will take place in Belgrade (SCG) on 29th - 31st October 2004 in connection with the SECH 2005 Drawing of Lots.

Beach Volleyball Commission – Mr Miguel-Angel QUINTANA

The European Beach Volleyball Commission last met on 23rd and 24th April 2004 in Luxembourg. Mr QUINTANA briefly reviews the minutes of this last meeting and shares the only proposal submitted by his commission:

- Forbid the organisation of a same category National Beach Volleyball event at the same time as a Final event organised by CEV - Approved.

Additionally, a letter of complaint was received from the SMR Federation and Mr QUINTANA briefly exposes the situation.

Finally, Mr QUINTANA proposes a new competition format for the junior category. However, since this proposal was not submitted in writing in time for the BoA members to analyse, it cannot be discussed or approved at this time.

Action: Create a clear presentation of this new competition format to be presented during the next Board of Administration meeting. – EBVC

Medical Commission – Prof. Manfred HOLZGRAEFE

Prof. Manfred HOLZGRAEFE, EMC President, lists several different points and proposals from his commission:

- Conduct anti-doping tests in the Senior Beach Volleyball Championships and include this point in the contract with the organisers - Approved.

Action:



- Establish a clear guideline defining the different types of injuries and treatments (first aid vs. extended treatment) to be distributed to the organisers. - EMC
- Create medical guidelines with all necessary recommendations for the teams. – EMC
- Guidelines of medical matters for teams and organisers of official CEV Volleyball Competitions in order to improve the medical care provided during CEV competitions.
 - ❖ The wording in paragraphs 2 needs to be changed to read “must have knowledge of” instead of “should have knowledge of”.
 - ❖ 5 Approved with the following condition: The M-4 Health Certificate will be checked by the CEV Supervisor in the IECL men & women at the start of the competition. For other cups, it will only be checked for the Final Four.
 - ❖ Approved with the above-listed changes
- Remind all National Federations and their doctors that the new WADA regulations are in force

Action: Send a circular letter to all NF's informing them of the new WADA regulations and of the M-4 dispositions. – EMC & Administrative Dept.

Refereeing Commission – Dr Jan REK

Dr Jan REK gives a brief overview of the different points his commission has been working on:

- Seminar in Brno (CZE): very good organisation, very good attendance with 37 NFs present.

The main subject discussed were:

- ❖ International score sheet
- ❖ Observation of the work of referees
- ❖ Lecture by FIVB Rules of the Games expert presenting the evolution of the rules over time
- Analysis of the regulations: the commission requested more time to turn in its report
- Official Game protocol: Information from players that the protocol's time schedule is a bit too short.
- Seminar – New FIVB regulation: Each continent can organise only 1 international candidate course per year, making it difficult for CEV to provide a large number of referees with the adequate training (limited space)
- International referees: a certain quota of signatures must be reached in order to become an International referee. However, with the current system, it is difficult to find enough matches to obtain all the required signatures. If Zonal matches could count towards that quota, there would be enough opportunities to collect signatures.
- SMR referee – Mr Marco LIBRIZZI: CEV received a letter from the SMR federation asking about the suspension of Mr LIBRIZZI and the reasons behind this decision.

Action:

- Send a letter to SMR explaining that the decision to suspend Mr LIBRIZZI was not made by CEV but by FIVB.
- Include as appendix to the letter the relevant part of the minutes of the FIVB Congress. – Administrative Dept.

Miscellaneous

Official Nominations – competitions 2004/05

Mr MEYER really deplores the difficulties encountered to find officials for the different CEV competitions and the lack of availability showed by several commission members.

Action:

- Analyse the current selection criteria for commission members.
- Propose possible changes to guarantee in the future a minimum involvement and availability by the commission members elected. - ELC
- Consider a possible change to the regulations to enforce the work of the members and take measures against them if necessary – ELC

Next meeting & CEV General Assembly

The next CEV Board of Administration meeting will take place in Istanbul on 1st October 2004 on the occasion of the CEV General Assembly. Unlike the previous years, the meeting will last a full day.

Concerning the CEV General Assembly itself, Mr MEYER states that he would like to improve the level of the Congress and requests that the presentations made by each of the commissions and working groups be made with PowerPoint and with just a few key points to be discussed.

Full written reports will be published and distributed as part of the Congress Handbook.

Action:

- Send the written reports covering the period Sept. 2003 – Sept. 2004 to the CEV Office by Monday, 28th June 2004 at the very latest.
- Send the PowerPoint presentation to the CEV Office by Friday, 10th September 2004 – CEV Commissions & Working Groups

Remarks from the BoA Members

Mr Miguel-Angel QUINTANA: On behalf of the ESP National Federation, he announces that the Board of Administration meeting initially planned in Madrid at the end of January 2005 may be moved to Almeria instead and that the dates might be changed to 21st and 22nd January 2005.

Decision: CEV Board of Administration meeting: 21 – 23rd January 2005

To accommodate this change, the Drawing of Lots in Riga will be postponed by one week and be organised on 29th January 2005.

Closing of the Meeting

Mr MEYER thanks his colleagues for their active participation and for the work accomplished, and closes the meeting.

CEV BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING – ISTANBUL (TUR) – 1ST OCTOBER 2004

The following members are attending:

President:	André MEYER (LUX)
Snr Vice-President & Treasurer:	Philip BERBEN (BEL)
Vice-Presidents:	Riet OOMS (NED) - Aleksandar BORICIC (SCG) - Jan HRONEK (CZE) - Carlo Magri (ITA)
Members:	Janusz BIESIADA (POL) - Manfred HOLZGRAEFE (GER) - Vladimir PATKIN (RUS) - Maris PEKALIS (LAT) - Miguel Angel QUINTANA (ESP) - Jan Rek (SUI) - Fabio



Sassi (ITA) - Jacques SHAW (FRA) - Eric ADLER (DEN)
- Andreas STAVROU (CYP)

Executive Director:

Olivier MOTTIER (CEV)

Opening of the Meeting

Mr André MEYER opens the meeting and welcomes his colleagues to Istanbul. He also takes a minute to excuse several colleagues who could not be present. Mr Manfred HOLZGRAEFE had a very important meeting to attend the same day but will be present on 2nd October 2004 for the CEV General Assembly. Mr Athanassios BELIGRATIS had to stay in Greece for the duration of the CEV Congress because the GRE Federation was holding an extraordinary General Assembly with elections the same weekend. Finally, Ms. Snjezana MIJIC and Mr Aloys FISCHER were not able to be present due to health reasons.



The CEV BOA in TUR 2004

Action: Send a letter of offering best wishes to S. MIJIC and A. FISCHER. – Administrative Dept.

Mr MEYER also informs his colleagues that the President of the Turkish Volleyball Federation, Mr Hüsni CAN, will join the meeting at the beginning of the afternoon session and share some information about his federation and its activities.

Approval of the Agenda

Mr Miguel-Angel QUINTANA asks that 2 points be added:

- XI Games of the Small States of Europe: 29th May – 4th June 2005
- Mediterranean Games: 27th June – 3rd July 2005
- Additionally, Mr Philip BERBEN would like to add one point: Case of BIH

There being no further comments, the Agenda is approved.

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on 17th – 18th June 2004 at Hotel Hyatt Regency in Belgrade (SCG)

The minutes were approved by the Executive Committee on 30th September 2004.

Minutes of the Board of Administration Meeting held on 19th June 2004 at Hotel Hyatt Regency in Belgrade (SCG)

In the absence of any questions or comments, the minutes of the meeting are approved.

Activity Report of the Executive Committee

Mr MEYER shares the main points which were discussed in the scope of the Executive Committee meeting the previous day:

- Sports Events Council: Many discussions took place in order to solve problems with the Qualification system for the World Championships 2006. Some calendar problems still remain though, and were sometimes caused by the National Federations themselves. A specific problem can be seen in January where 2 tournaments organised by the ENG federation are clashing with competition dates fixed by FIVB.
- Grand Prix Qualifications 2005: the Qualification tournament took place in Ankara (TUR) one week prior to the CEV Congress. 2 unfortunate situations happened:

1. First, CEV was informed during the Sports Events Council that the Russian Women National team had been expelled from the Qualifications tournament and from the 2005 Grand Prix, and the team of Romania was asked to fill the vacancy.
2. The match between GER and POL was influenced so as to guarantee the qualification of both teams.

Action:

- Send an official warning to both National Federations concerned. – Administrative Dept.
- Analyse a possible modification of the competition system in order to avoid such dishonest calculations in the future. – ESOC and ECC

All other points discussed during the Executive Committee Meeting will be discussed individually according to the agenda.

Institutions

FIVB World Championships 2006 – Memo and actual situation

Mr MEYER explains to his colleagues that the CEV competitions department sent guidelines to the National Federations with proposed dates to investigate if they are interested in Organising qualification tournaments. He also underlines the fact that several federations are not following the recommendations given to them which causes calendar clashes that need to be solved.

Mr Fabio SASSI, ESOC President, asks to take into consideration the fact that the documents and relevant information on this matter were communicated rather late due to the changes which were made to the system and the Drawing of Lots, and explains that it is consequently difficult to study the different problems encountered with several National Federations. Mr SASSI also suggests taking advantage of the presence of the National Federations for the CEV Congress to inquire about the missing information and dates in order to be able to tackle any possible problem immediately.

Mr MEYER takes this opportunity to inform his colleagues that these calendar problems should be avoided in 2009 as the Confederations' Presidents and FIVB have already fixed periods for the organisation of the Qualifications. These fixed periods should be stipulated in the FIVB minutes and should leave no opportunity for clashes.

Concerning the 2005 Junior World Championships, Mr SASSI asks for more information regarding the registration deadline and the teams which registered in order to determine the next steps to be taken.

“Proseries” – FIVB non-authorised Beach Volleyball Event

Several European teams participated in the “Proseries” Beach Volleyball Tour which was not authorised either by FIVB nor CEV. CEV received a copy of letters sent by FIVB to the National Federations concerned announcing that the players who participated in this event were suspended for one year effective 9th September 2004 from all FIVB, Continental and National Beach Volleyball events and that those who choose to transgress this sanction will be suspended for 5 years from all Beach Volleyball and Volleyball events at any level, including National Championships.

Working Group Media

Mr Aleksandar BORICIC shares that in the past 2 years, the WG Media submitted many proposals to the CEV Executive Committee and Board of Administration, most of which were approved. However, the problem of news distribution remains but is in the process of being resolved with the hiring of a full-time Press Officer within the CEV Head Office who will facilitate



the distribution of news in a timely manner and will be the centre of the communication network.

With this in mind, Mr MEYER confirms the desire of CEV to improve the communication flow and news distribution and presents 2 new projects created for that very purpose: a yearbook relating CEV events, activities and competitions, as well as official results over the course of one year; and a newsletter (E-news) which will be available on the CEV website for download CEV Officials, CEV Partners, and of course media relations. Mr MEYER also asks his colleagues to regularly send all news or important information concerning their National Federations and competitions directly to Ms. BICKENDORF in order to include them in the E-news. Finally, Mr MEYER takes this opportunity to congratulate the CEV Office for its hard work and dedication to the creation of these 2 projects.

Referring to a decision of the BoA to require each team participating in the Junior or Senior Championships finals to bring a journalist, Mr Maris PEKALIS unfortunately reports that not all teams meet that requirement. Mr MEYER reminds his colleagues that this decision is very recent and was only applied once so far, leaving room for improvement with the next competition concerned.

An open discussion takes place to determine what the requirements really are and how to solve this problem for future editions in order to guarantee proper coverage of the events in the different countries.

Decision:

- On the official team registration form, ask the team to provide the name of the journalist who will be accompanying them. – Competitions dept.
- To increase the promotional activities, it will be mandatory for all NFs participating in European Championships (Qualifications or Final phase) to send the press clippings, including all the press releases of their country.

After a competition, each organiser will be asked to send to the CEV Office a post-event report. The content will be defined and included in all regulations.

It will be stipulated in all future organiser contracts that the financial contribution from CEV will depend directly on the good organisation of the event and on the reception of this post-event report.

Working Group Regulations & Fines

Mrs Riet OOMS explains that this Working Group is still waiting for the contribution of certain working groups and CEV commissions before it can finalise its work. Reminders were sent to the Presidents and Chairmen concerned, given them a new deadline for the end of September.

Once all the CEV regulations will have been compiled and corrected internally, they will also be put in line with the FIVB regulations.

In order to finalise the project and prepare the database, Mrs OOMS explains that additional people will be needed in the CEV Head Office towards the end of year to assist the WG and hopefully close this project by January 2005.

Working Group Vision 2008

Mr MEYER informs his colleagues that the work and the activities of this Working Group didn't reach the level of success expected, and that consequently, the CEV Executive Committee has opted to suspend its activities for the time-being and reconsider its constitution and determine a new plan of action.

However, he also reminds his colleagues that CEV still needs a basis and the material to launch this project, and that all National Federations should continue sending in the materials they have available.

With this in mind, Mr SHAW shares that the city of Montpellier in France has a Centre of Resources which could help CEV in its research for materials. He will provide the CEV Office with the address and contact information for this centre.

Financial Matters

Accounts 2003 vs. 2004/05

Mr Philip BERBEN reports that the 2003 accounts were closed and verified both by CEV's Internal Auditors and by KPMG as required by FIVB. Mr BERBEN is also pleased to confirm the report was positive with a general profit that Mr MEYER, CEV President, helped create by establishing new contracts with sponsors and partners.

Mr MEYER takes this opportunity to explain that the report established by KPMG will only be considered final if it is approved by the Board of Administration members, and consequently asks them to sign a paper stating they have seen it and approve it.

Concerning the 2005 budget, Mr BERBEN explains that it will be presented as approved by the BoA to all National Federations the next day during the CEV General Assembly and explanations will be provided if there are any questions.

Old Debts

Mr BERBEN reminds his colleagues of this situation which concerns 4 National Federations with old debts towards CEV.

Currently, CEV is waiting for FIVB to take the necessary administrative steps in regards to the National Federations still with old debts. These federations are currently suspended from all CEV competitions and activities, and their FIVB membership could also possibly be suspended.

Concerning MKD, one of the federations concerned, Mrs Riet OOMS explains that although the federation is suspended MKD clubs have been allowed to participate in the Cups competition after it was confirmed that the clubs had paid all their dues and that the debts of the federation was not theirs.

Mr BERBEN however shares the view that the National Federations are deemed responsible for the debts of their clubs and that a new discussion should take place to discuss the liability in such cases and whether or not it is appropriate to let one team play when others cannot.

Reserve Fund 2005

As discussed during the last BoA Meeting, and seeing the profit made in 2003, Mr BERBEN underlines the importance of creating reserve funds. CEV should indeed be able, regardless of its marketing and sponsorship successes, to ensure the organisation of all its competitions and to protect its athletes and the sport from any form of financial or organisational dependence.

Mr MEYER agrees on the need to create such a fund and explains that in 2004 for example, the contract between CEV and one of its partners will be coming to an end and will not be renewed due to some problems encountered, but that it might be difficult to find a replacement before the year ends and could consequently decrease the year's profits.

Decision: The Board of Administration unanimously approves the creation of this Reserve Fund which will be kept separate from the running budget but will be available in times of need.



European Championships

2004 Men's JEC Final Round in SVK

Mr Maris PEKALIS takes the floor and reports that the Junior European Championships in Slovakia benefited from very good organisation, with high spectator attendances. The local staff were very experienced and knowledgeable. He also wishes to thank the Jury members, Special Refereeing Commission and referees for their work. The following additional remarks are made:

- Very good cooperation of and relations with the mayors of Presov and Bardejov.
- Poor interest by the journalists for the Press Conference, but very good use of the mixed zone for media purposes.
- This competition served as a test for the new closing ceremony. He remarks that a few mistakes were made and that a few aspects of it might need to be changed, but that overall the new procedures went well.

Action:

- Submit a report with remarks concerning the new closing ceremony to CEV. – M. PEKALIS
- Send congratulatory letter to the SVK Federation. – Administrative Dept.
- Need to review the presentation items distributed to officials in the future. – Administrative Dept.

2004 Women's JEC Final Round in CRO

Mrs Riet OOMS explains to her colleagues that with CRO having already organised the Youth Championships in 2003 and given this year's Junior competition served as a test for the organisation of the Senior Championships in CRO in 2005. Unfortunately, the level of organisation did not improve and was actually less efficient than in 2003. Some of the problems noted were:

- Insufficient and inexperienced local staff
- No official representation or presence during any part of the competition
- Basic services lacking (accommodation, transports, etc.)
- Requests not fulfilled fast enough

Mrs OOMS also adds that in comparison with the other junior event in SVK, the closing and award ceremony went relatively well.

Mr REK takes this opportunity to inquire about the first impressions both Jury Presidents have of the new protocol which gives the teams 10 minutes instead of 6 for warming up. Since the feedback is positive, it is decided to officially keep this new protocol.

Decision: Officially change the warming up time to 10 minutes in the protocol. – Competitions Dept.

Concerning the overall organisation in CRO, Mr MEYER states that such poor level of organisation cannot be accepted in the future and that necessary measures should be taken.

Decision:

Reduce the financial support for this competition by 50%.

2005 Girls' YEC Final Round in EST

Mr Philip BERBEN, Jury President for this event, reports that the Spring Cup was organised in EST with great success and that the organisation of the Youth event is going according to plan. The inspection visit in Tallinn highlighted a minor problem with the training schedules and revealed a lack of facilities for the journalists, but solutions were found in collaboration

between the federation and Mr BERBEN. Competition halls, hotels, transportations and the local staff are all well within CEV's expectations, and Mr BERBEN foresees a successful competition.

2005 Boys' YEC Final Round in LAT

Mr Jan HRONEK, Jury President in LAT, takes the floor and shares that all conditions for this organisation are fulfilled and no problems are foreseen. A joint Drawing of Lots for the Girls and Boys competitions will be organised in Riga (LAT) on Saturday, 29th January 2005. Additionally, Mr HRONEK confirms that a small meeting is scheduled with the LAT and EST delegates in the scope of the CEV General Assembly in order to finalise the organisation of this Drawing of Lots.

2005 Men's SEC Final Round in ITA and SCG

The organisation in ITA and SCG is progressing according to the schedule. The Drawing of Lots will take place in Belgrade on Saturday, 30th October 2004 in the presence of the Mayors of Belgrade and Rome. Additionally, a common Organising committee meeting (ITA – SCG – CEV) is scheduled for the following day in Belgrade in the presence of Mr André MEYER, CEV President. Finally, Mr HRONEK also shares that another Organising committee meeting is scheduled on 23rd October 2004 in Rome in combination with the inspection visit for the 2005 CEV Congress.

An official laboratory in Rome will be responsible for the anti-doping tests connected with both cities.

2005 Women's SEC Final Round in CRO

As mentioned earlier, the 2004 Junior Finals in CRO served as a test for the organisation of the 2005 Senior European Championships. Mrs OOMS explains that she attended a meeting with the new President of the CRO Federation before the junior competition took place, and that at the time, the organisation looked good and no major problems were foreseen, but as described earlier, the reality of the facts was much different. Unfortunately, the level of organisation was unsatisfactory and leaves questions as to whether or not CRO is ready to organise a competition of such high level in 2005.

Concerning the different inspection visits, Mr MEYER reminds his colleagues that the 1st inspection visit was not successful because the city of Karlovac was rejected as an official venue. However, upon request of the CRO President, Mr SASSI and Mr FISCHER were requested to conduct a 2nd inspection visit, which confirmed the many deficiencies already noted. Additionally, the CRO Federation did not provide an alternative venue as had been requested by the CEV.

An open discussion takes place and the different Board of Administration members are invited to give their opinion on the situation. In conclusion, Mr MEYER can only note the lack of organisation the CRO Federation showed in 2004, and explains to his colleagues that a decision must be made in regards to the organisation of the 2005 Senior European Championships. In order to facilitate the decision making, the President of the CRO Federation will be invited to explain the situation and to present the developments on the 2005 organisation.

Minutes of Special Meeting with the CRO President at 17h30

Mr MEYER explains to his colleagues that a special meeting took place as it was decided by the Board of Administration and that it was decided to give the CRO President the opportunity to explain the situation in front of the whole CEV Board of Administration before a final decision is made. Mr MEYER therefore gives the floor to Mr Ante BAKOVIC, CRO President.



Firstly, Mr BAKOVIC apologises for the problems encountered in Croatia with the organisation of the Junior European Championships in 2004 and explains that a lot of them were due to financial debts accumulated over the last 4 years and to the major changes which took place in the Croatian Federation with the arrival of a new President and General Secretary.

Concerning the Senior 2005 European Championships, Mr BAKOVIC confirms that the CRO Federation is aware of the importance of this event and will do its utmost to guarantee a successful competition. Details are given in regards to the different steps already taken towards this organisation, including an investment of over € 125,000 and marketing contracts signed for the cities of Zagreb and Pula.

After a few questions are asked, Mr BAKOVIC is asked to leave the room so that the CEV Board of Administration can have a final discussion on this case and make a decision.

Based on the private meeting which took place between Mr MEYER, Mr BERBEN and Mr BAKOVIC, and based on the report made by Mr BAKOVIC in front the CEV Board of Administration, a secret vote takes place to determine whether or not to leave the organisation of the 2005 Senior European Championships to Croatia.

Decision: Maintain the organisation of the Women SECH in Croatia in 2005 (by majority of votes) under the following conditions:

- The CEV coordinators will be responsible of CRO's Organising committee and will control the progress in Croatia on a regular basis, in cooperation with the President of the Jury in 2005.
- The costs of these additional controls will be covered by the CRO Federation
- An addendum to the contract summarising these conditions will have to be signed by the CRO President on 03/10/2004.
- In the event that these newly established conditions are not respected, CEV reserves the right to end the contract without any financial compensation.

Designation of the 2006 & 2007 Organisers

Considering that this point is directly depending on the meeting that will be taking place with the CRO Federation, Mr MEYER proposes to postpone the nomination of the organisers to the end of the afternoon session.

European League 2004

2004 Conclusions

Mr MEYER explains that 2004 marked the first edition of this new competition. He reminds his colleagues of the timeline and history behind this competition, and shares that although it was organised with limited time and resources, it was highly successful and holds great hopes for the future. A few problems were encountered in the organisation though, especially with regards to the different marketing aspects including TV coverage and spectator attendance.

Mr MEYER also takes this opportunity to remind his colleagues that this competition should never overshadow or be in conflict with the European Championships, and that the number of teams in the 2005 edition will remain at 8. Additionally, considering that not all teams played with their best players in 2004 (most certainly due to the Olympic Games), Mr MEYER explains that measures must be taken to guarantee a minimum number of top players in each of the participating teams in order to make the competition more attractive for the organisers and the media.

Next Edition and Planning

Mr MEYER informs his colleagues that a coordination meeting for the organisation of the 2005 edition is scheduled in Luxembourg in November 2004 with 12-15 federations invited. Some

of the topics which will be discussed include a review of the 2004 edition, a project discussion for 2005 and the conditions for participating in this event. The federations will then have approximately 3 weeks to confirm their participation, and the organisation will officially be underway.

Finally, he confirms that the general concept of the competition will remain the same as in 2004, meaning that it will be organised on the same dates as the World League, except for the Finals which might be organised in August 2005 and consequently also serve as final preparation for the teams qualified to participate in the European Championships.

Action: Analyse possible dates in August for the organisation of the Finals. – Competitions Dept.

FIVB Grand Prix Qualification Tournament 2005

Mr Jan HRONEK, Jury President, feels that this year's organisation in Turkey was excellent and gave full credit to everyone involved; a new sports hall was available in Ankara and the hotel provided for the officials and the teams met all the expectations, leaving no traces of the unfortunate incident of the previous year. Mr HRONEK also confirms that all games were televised, including in Germany and in the Netherlands, but unfortunately remarks that there were problems with public attendance in the matches which did not involve the TUR team.

Finally, Mr HRONEK confirms that the only real problem encountered came from the shameful behaviour of the Polish and German teams during their match which entitled both of them to qualify for the Grand Prix in 2005, and underlines the need to find solutions to avoid such incidents in the future.

Action: Send letter of congratulations to the TUR Federation. – Administrative Dept.

European Cups

Drawing of Lots IECL 2004/05 and Seminars

Mrs OOMS confirms that the IECL Drawing of Lots took place in Vienna on 2nd September 2004 in combination with seminars for the teams, NF responsible and Supervisors.

She also explains that the Supervisor seminar was divided into 2 groups: one for the experienced supervisors where only new information was shared, and one for the new supervisors who received complete information about the IECL. The supervisors were also invited to participate in the Seminar for the clubs and teams and to instruct them on the different important items they are responsible for.

Finally, Mrs OOMS reports that the Drawing of Lots was highly successful and was broadcast live on Austrian television as was the case the previous year.

Creation of a Working Group

Mr MEYER reminds his colleagues that a first meeting took place during the BoA meeting in Belgrade to discuss the possibilities to change the system of the European Cups. Following this discussion, it was decided to create a new Working Group responsible for this analysis. The structure of the Working Group was agreed during the Executive Committee meeting on 30th September 2004 as follows:

- 1 representative from a top team
- 1 representative from a middle-level team
- 1 representative from a Group C federation
- 1 representative from a NF with a decreasing participation in the Cups competitions
- 1 representative from a NF with an increasing participating in the Cups competitions



The presidency and representation of one ECC member in the WG will be determined by Mr André MEYER in close collaboration with Mrs Riet OOMS.

In order to respect the need for diversity, there will be no additional member selected from National Federations already represented in the European Cups Commission.

Overall, this Working group should follow a similar structure and work line than the WG SECH did. Additionally, Mr MEYER explains that he would like to have a first meeting scheduled for June 2005 at the latest during which an inventory will be done to determine the next steps to follow. However, no changes will be made to the Cups system in the 2005/06 season.

Action: Completed list to be finalised by the next ExCom meeting. – A. MEYER, in close collaboration with R. OOMS

European Beach Volleyball

The meeting is interrupted for a few minutes to welcome the President of the TUR Federation, Dr Hüsnü CAN, who shares a few key points about the Turkish Volleyball Federation and about Volleyball in general in Turkey. Additionally, he takes this opportunity to thank CEV for giving Turkey the opportunity to host an event as important as the CEV General Assembly.

Mr MEYER thanks Dr CAN for his words and for hosting this event. Additionally, and on behalf of the CEV Board of Administration, he also congratulates Dr CAN and the whole TUR Federation for the excellent organisation of the 2005 FIVB World Grand Prix Qualification Tournament in Ankara.

U-18, 20, 23 European Championships – Final Reports

Firstly, Mr QUINTANA acknowledges the increased interest showed by many European National Federations to participate in the different Beach Volleyball events this year.

He also apologises to CEV for the problems encountered with the organisation of the U-20 competition in Slovenia and for the extra work caused due to the date changes. However, these changes greatly benefited the competition which turned out to be highly successful and has a significant spectator turnover.

He also reports that the U-18 competition in Poland and the U-23 competition in the Czech Republic were highly successful, with a good local organisation and high spectator numbers.

Finally, he explains that the U-23 competition really showed the launch of a new generation of Beach Volleyball players with the increased interest and participation of National Federations other than the Mediterranean countries.

European Championships Tour 2004

Two Beach Volleyball Opens were organised in Italy and in Spain with good participation both in the Men and in the Women categories. Mr QUINTANA also reports that the Finals in Timmendorf (GER) were highly successful and very well organised.

Two challengers were also organised this year: one in Zagreb (CRO) with the participation of 21 federations represented by 38 men teams and 24 women teams, and in the other in Slavkov (CZE) with 18 men teams and 17 women teams representing 12 different European Federations.

Mr QUINTANA underlines the possibility that exists for National Federations who cannot organise a Beach Volleyball Open to consider Organising a Challenger instead and thus offer an additional opportunity for Beach Volleyball players to participate in a CEV event.

Finally, he wishes to underline the success of the Olympic Games 2004 in Athens and the participation of a high number of European teams with 2 medals won, which showed the importance of Beach Volleyball in Europe today.

Seminar in Brno

Mr QUINTANA thanks CEV for its support and the CZE Federation and especially Mr Jan HRONEK for having hosted this event which proved highly successful. The interest was very high and the presence of several personalities during the closing ceremony proved the increasing importance of Beach Volleyball in the Czech Republic and the involvement of the local government in this sport.

Mr MEYER thanks Mr QUINTANA for his reports and underlines the need to provide more details to CEV concerning the organisation of seminars and to follow the guidelines. In this case, only 16 people attended the Seminar in Brno when the usual minimum requirement set by CEV is of 20.

Activity Reports – CEV Commissions

Legal Commission – Mr Philip BERBEN

Mr Philip BERBEN excuses Mr Aloys FISCHER, ELC President, who could not be present today due to health reasons as already announced at the beginning of the meeting. As there was no ELC meeting since the last Board of Administration meeting, there is not much news to share at the European level. A thorough report of the year's activities will be shared on 2nd October 2004 during the General Assembly.

However, Mr BERBEN shares with his colleagues that an FIVB legal meeting took place during which the statutes of the different confederations were finally approved.

Action: Send to FIVB the CEV Statutes as requested by FIVB. - ELC

Finally, Mr BERBEN shares that the next ELC meeting will take place in Luxembourg on 4th December 2004.

Financial Commission – Mr Philip BERBEN

Seeing that no meeting of this commission took place since the last Board of Administration meeting and that all the important financial points were discussed under Financial Matters, there is no report to be made. The next EFC meeting will be organised in Belgrade (SCG) on 7th May 2005.

Cups Commission – Mrs Riet OOMS

Referring to the minutes of the last ECC meeting, Mrs OOMS underlines that all actions listed were fulfilled. Additionally, a few proposals were made which could not wait for a decision of the CEV Board of Administration and were therefore presented to the Executive Committee for approval.

Mrs OOMS also shares that the Commission carried out several inspection visits for the new teams registered to participate in the IECL 2004/05.

Finally, Mrs OOMS remarks that Mr Bruno DA RE, ECC member, was absent from the meetings for the 2nd consecutive time.

The CEV Competitions Director Mr Jean-Paul ROMMES takes the floor and explains that there was a clash of dates between the ECC meeting and the Drawing of Lots for the World Championships in Rome and the Final of the World League. Probably Mr DA RE was absent from the ECC meeting because he needed to attend the other event.

Decision: Request from Mr Bruno DA RE a written explanation for his absence from the ECC meeting.

A decision will be made after the explanation has been received.



The next ECC meeting should be organised in April 2005, but exact dates have not been set yet.

Sports Organising Commission – Mr Fabio SASSI

As the last ESOC meeting took place in April 2004 and all proposals were already discussed and/or approved during the last BoA meeting, there are no new proposals to make at this time.

However, Mr SASSI underlines the need to obtain more details concerning the Youth and Junior World Championships in order for the Commission to know whether or not tournaments will need to be organised in Europe in 2005.

The next ESOC meeting is scheduled for 13th November 2004 in Belgrade (SCG). As for the 2005 meetings, no dates have been set yet, but Mr SASSI shares that as usual, 2 meetings should take place; one in April/May and the other in November.

Beach Volleyball Commission – Mr Miguel-Angel QUINTANA

No EBVC meeting was organised since the last Board of Administration meeting. However, Mr Miguel-Angel QUINTANA explains that the next EBVC meeting could be scheduled for the last week of November or first week of December based on the dates of the Permanent Committee and FIVB World Council, or could also be organised in the first trimester of 2005 depending on the need. Confirmation will be given to the CEV Head Office at a later date.

Additionally, the following points are mentioned:

- Need to analyse possibilities for the future (renewal of contract with GSM, situation with Laciga Emotions)
- U-18 & U-23 to be organised by the National Federations

Action: Inform the NFs of this possibility and ask those interested to send in their application. – Competitions' Dept.

- Need to clarify the CEV calendar in order to communicate it to the FIVB. The CEV Executive Director Mr Olivier MOTTIER confirms that a meeting should be organised on 20th November 2004 with the NFs interested in Organising an Open in 2005, and that the CEV calendar will hopefully be finalised by then.

Finally, Mr QUINTANA asks his colleagues to send him any questions they may have concerning Beach Volleyball to be discussed during the FIVB World Council.

Medical Commission – Mr Manfred HOLZGRAEFE

As Dr Manfred HOLZGRAEFE is excused from the meeting, there is no report to be shared at this time. However, Mr Olivier MOTTIER, CEV Executive Director, takes this opportunity to thank the federations of ITA and SCG for having sent in the requested information concerning anti-doping controls in Rome and Belgrade for the 2005 Senior Men European Championships.

Refereeing Commission – Mr Jan REK

As the minutes of the last ERC meeting were not yet sent to the Board of Administration members, Mr Jan REK summarises the main points discussed during that meeting:

- International Referee Candidate course in POL: Information was received that all European candidates including one female candidate passed the course successfully.
- Information received that no European Federation applied to organise the International Referee Seminar for 2005.
- Referee Uniforms: no solution found yet, but FIVB is working on signing a new contract within the next month.

- Cups regulations: it is stipulated in the Cups regulations that referees must take over the work of the Technical delegate if the latter is not present during the technical meeting, however clarifications are needed as it is obvious that referees cannot take over the full responsibility. Mrs OOMS explains that these regulations were put in place to guarantee that a technical meeting always takes place the day before the match and that the licenses and passports are being checked as required.
- Olympic Games: Only referees who fulfil the CEV requirements should be allowed to officiate in the name of FIVB. However, one of the referees who officiated in the Beach Volleyball events was not an active CEV referee.
- IECL: A complaint was received from the ESP federation that there were no Spanish referees nominated to officiate in the IECL. Mr REK explains that the referees were nominated for this top competition according to their ranking (list 1 & 2 only).
- → Mr QUINTANA asks that the lists of referees be made available to the National Federations.
- Low-fare airlines: Mr REK inquires about the possibilities that exist for certain referees to fly low-fare airlines to travel to a venue. An open discussion takes place to determine the risks and responsibilities of using such airlines.

Decision: Continue to use regular airlines and official airports. However, if a referee chooses to travel using a low-fare airline, it is at his risks and he will be responsible for any consequences there may be.

- Zonal Association matches: FIVB confirmed that signatures cannot be collected from Zonal matches and will not be counted to obtain the Intl. Refereeing license.

XXV CEV General Assembly

Mr BERBEN explains that accreditations for the National Federations will be taking place on 1st October 2004 from 21h30 until 23h30, and again on 2nd October 2004 from 07h45 to 08h30. He will be responsible for checking the financial aspect of the accreditations while Mr Maris PEKALIS, Mr Luis MUCHAGA, Mr Willy BRUNINX and Mr Karl HANZL will represent the Credential Checking Commission.

Mr Philip BERBEN then summarises the general timetable and expected developments for the General Assembly on 2nd October 2004.

Mr Olivier MOTTIER, CEV Executive Director proceeds to explain the logistics of the General Assembly, including the official seating and presentation procedures.

Miscellaneous

2005 Meetings Calendar (ExCom, BoA, Commissions, WG)

All dates that could not be confirmed during this meeting will have to be communicated to the CEV Office by the mid-December along with the official venues for future meetings.

Action: Communicate the meeting dates to the CEV Office by 15th December 2004 – Commissions' Presidents

2004 Best Players Awards

Mr Aleksandar BORICIC explains that the Executive Committee decided on 30th September 2004 that the Awards Ceremony would be organised in combination with the Official Opening Ceremony of the new CEV Office in Luxembourg in February 2005.

He also underlines that as was done the previous year, players will be awarded MVP awards in the senior category in both Beach Volleyball and Volleyball.



Further details will be communicated during the next CEV Executive Committee meeting.

XI Games of the Small States of Europe

Mr Miguel-Angel QUINTANA shares that the Games of the Small States of Europe will be organised in Andorra from 29th May – 4th June 2005, and announces that it will be the first time that Beach Volleyball is played in this event.

Mediterranean Games

The Mediterranean Games will take place from June 22nd till July 4th 2005, and it will also be the first time that Beach Volleyball is represented in this event. Mr QUINTANA underlines the need for National Federations to register teams for this event and to guarantee that the best Beach Volleyball teams participate in order to promote this sport.

Finally, Mr QUINTANA informs his colleagues that he has been nominated as Technical Supervisor for both competitions and will therefore not be able to attend the CEV Board of Administration meeting in Russia in June 2005.

Case of BIH

FIVB and CEV are still working on finding a solution to this problem, and a deadline has been set of 1st November 2004 to hopefully find a final solution and close this case.

Remarks from the BoA Members

Mr Andreas STAVROU believes that there is a clash of dates between the Games of the Small States of Europe and the Group B championships in which Cyprus is playing, but a solution is being worked on with CEV.

Mr Vladimir PATKIN proposes for the future to nominate a neutral Technical Delegate not only for the preliminary tournaments but also for single matches in both the men and women categories. This proposal comes after an incident during a home and away match in Spain during which a Portuguese referee took back a decision without a protest.

Action: Proposal to be analysed by ESOC.

Nomination of the 2006 and 2007 Organisers

Before starting the process, Mr André MEYER, CEV President, informs his colleagues that folders containing all the applications are available on a table in the room and can be consulted by the BoA members before a vote is being made.

Additionally, a PowerPoint presentation is made to present a general overview and the conclusions drawn for each of the applications presented.

Decision:

- AUT is officially awarded the organisation of the U19 Boys' European Championships 2007.
- CZE is officially awarded the organisation of the U18 Girls' European Championships 2007.
- FRA is officially awarded the organisation of the U19 Women's European Championships 2006.

Before proceeding with the secret ballot to determine the organisers of the remaining competitions Mr André MEYER explains to his colleagues the voting process and counting. In order to keep the results a surprise until the General Assembly, Mr MEYER will be solely responsible for counting the votes but will sign a protocol and include all voting cards in a sealed envelope. When the winners are announced during the General Assembly, Mr Leo DADEMA and Mr Michel HENNO, CEV Internal Auditors, will be handed the sealed envelopes to verify the authenticity of the results.

Following these explanations, the BoA members are handed voting cards and place their secret votes in the following order:

- Junior U-20 European Championships 2006 (candidates RUS and ISR)
- Women's Senior European Championships 2007 (candidates POL and BEL/LUX)
- Men's Senior European Championships 2007 (candidates POL, FRA and RUS)

Closing of the Meeting

Mr MEYER thanks his colleagues for their active participation throughout the day and thanks the Turkish Volleyball Federation for hosting this event.



XXV CEV GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING – ISTANBUL (TURKEY) – 2ND OCTOBER 2004

Board of Administration

The following members are attending:

President:	André Meyer (LUX)
Snr Vice-President & Treasurer:	Philip Berben (BEL)
Vice-Presidents:	Snjezana Mijic (CRO) - Riet Ooms (NED) - Aleksandar Boricic (SCG) - Jan Hronek (CZE) - Carlo Magri (ITA)
Members:	Thanassis Beligratis (GRE) - Janusz Biesiada (POL) - Aloys Fischer (SUI) - Manfred Holzgraefe (GER) - Vladimir Patkin (RUS) - Maris Pekalis (LAT) - Miguel Angel Quintana (ESP) - Jan Rek (SUI) - Fabio Sassi (ITA) - Jacques Shaw (FRA) - Eric Adler (DEN) - Andreas STAVROU (CYP)
Executive Director:	Olivier MOTTIER (CEV)
Internal Auditors:	Michel HENNO (BEL) - Leo DEDEMA (NED)

Congress Opening

President A. MEYER welcomes all the attendees and thanks the Turkish Federation and its President Dr Hüsnü CAN for the quality of the organisation.

He highlights the important improvement of the CEV activities with the increase of European Federations registered in the next World Championships, 35 European men's teams out of 95 registered and 28 European women's teams out of 77 registered.

The CEV Financial health is also very satisfactory with balanced budgets thanks to the development of broadcasting and media rights.

Finally, he confirms the relocation of the CEV Administration office in a modern office block thanks to the support of the Luxembourg Government. This represents the best working conditions and efficiency to all the delegates, representatives and CEV staff.

FIVB General Director Mr Jean Pierre SEPPEY's address

On behalf of President R. ACOSTA, Mr JP. SEPPEY is very satisfied with the collaboration between FIVB and CEV which was shown by the appointment of Mrs Toril FALEYDE (Norway) and Mr Vicente ARAUJO (Portugal) to the ad-hoc commissions to identify the National Federations which could benefit from development plans such as centres or technical/management programmes within the 2010 World Plan context to improve the competitions levels.

Turkey Youth and Sports Minister Mr Mehmet ATALAY's address

After welcoming the attendees, Mehmet ATALAY underlines the importance of the event for Turkey, especially this year (2004) which saw the Olympic Games take place in Athens.

Turkish Volleyball Federation President Mr Hüsnü CAN's address

Mr Hüsnü CAN expresses its gratitude to CEV and its president to have appointed Turkey as Congress organisers. He reminds all of his Federation development which lead to a total of 60,000 players registered amongst 700 clubs. He conveys Turkey's wishes to organise as often as possible European or World Volleyball events.

Approval of authorities

The authorities and voting commission is made up of: President: Maris PEKALIS (Latvia)

Auditors: Willy BRUNINX (Belgium) - Karl HANZL (Austria) - Luis MUCHAGA (Spain)

Who confirm that 46 National Federations out of 54 are attending or being validly represented?
The assembly can now vote since the required voting majority is of 24 votes.

The 8 following National Federations not attending or not validly represented are pronounced as absent:

Armenia - Belarus - Macedonia - Lithuania - Malta - Monaco - San Marino - Wales.

2003/2004 CEV Activities report

President A. MEYER first highlights the great results for the European teams who took part in the Olympic Games in Athens:

- Silver medal for Italy men
- Bronze medal for Russia men
- Silver medal for Russia women
- Silver medal for BOSMA-HERRERA (Spain) in Beach Volleyball
- Bronze medal for HEUSCHER-KOBEL (Switzerland) in Beach Volleyball

He is delighted with the constant improvement of the organisations and their impact on the media. The Olympic qualification tournament in Leipzig for men and in Baku for women



The 2004 CEV General Assembly was held in Turkey's megalopolis Istanbul

attracted over 88,000 spectators with a potential 50 million television spectators over 200 hours of direct broadcasting.

He highlights the success of the European League which saw 8 men teams play in two groups then in a final in Opava (Czech Republic) which was won by the Czech Republic team.

The Senior European Championships' format have been modified: the qualification phases are over a year before the final competition and the final phase will included 16 teams from 2007.

The Youth Championships have also been modified with the final phase including 12 girls' and 12 boys' teams.

Some important improvements need to be made to Beach Volleyball. The European Championships stages were successfully organised by the Federations of Germany, Italy and Spain.

Finally, since the negotiations have reached an agreement with the Luxembourg government, the head office unveiling will take place in February 2005.

A. MEYER concludes the meeting by thanking all the National Federation, the Board of Administration members and the CEV staff for their efficient and active participation.

Mr Toomas OJASSO (England) on behalf of Mr Henn VALLIMAE (Estonia) steps in to report that Estonia has been removed from the list of the countries who are members of the Eastern Europe Regional Association (EEVZA). It must clearly be a mistake.

President MEYER answers that since EEVZA is still being created, its statutes and members list are not yet clearly defined. It is obvious that Estonia will be included in the list.

FIVB Message delivered by General Director JP. SEPPEY (Switzerland)

After the usual greetings, JP. SEPPEY introduces a video on the FIVB newly created competitions in 2004.

He highlights the need to develop external communication with the media and internal communication via new technologies.

He insists on the need for a vital collaboration between FIVB and CEV. 281 National Federations are now affiliated to FIVB which tries not to favour some Federations to the detriment of others.

In order to succeed, the support of the Federations is vital. On the other hand, JP. SEPPEY develops his vision when it comes to world events organisation. He acknowledges Asia is favoured as an organiser since there is an important volleyball television coverage on this continent. Television is of course the most important media especially for the sponsors. Europe needs to reach that broadcasting level and FIVB commits to helping it reach its goal.

Finally, JP. SEPPEY deplores the lack of interest from some Federations for Beach Volleyball as they do not consider it as a Volleyball activity in its own right. There is a need to react to this and make the Federations understand there are no hierarchies between the sport variants but that they are complimentary and can only benefit to all.

Financial report

Treasurer Philip BERBEN (Belgium) introduces the accounts and the 2003 fiscal year which was particularly beneficial thanks to President A. MEYER who managed to attract new partners and sponsors. He mentions the problems CEV encountered with the company ISA who want to terminate the contract.

He then gives the floor to the auditors Mr Leo DADEMA and Mr Michel HENNO who first thank Mr MEYER and Mr BERBEN for making their work easier and Mrs Sylvie COLLIGNON, CEV accountant.

It is reminded that following the decision taken by the 2003 Congress, an external audit is carried out by KPMG (FIVB approved auditors).

In order to guarantee a continuity in the financial account management, the Board of Administration has decided to keep collaborating with Mr Marco CLAUDE, independent financial adviser.

The auditors confirm:

- Having checked the bank statements and matched the budget plan with the results,
- Having checked invoices at random.

They observe that the accounting and the financial operations are in keeping with the applicable regulations and carried out clearly and precisely.

They note that the operating costs +771,824.36 € are not only higher than those of 2002 but also 2001 when the European Championships took place and can provide a comparison.

The following elements contribute to this result:

- The European Championships global results have fortunately been influenced by the anticipated payment in 2002 of some invoices.
- The Beach Volleyball organisation is making a profit of 68,000.00 € compared to a deficit of 100,000.00 € in 2002.
- The Athens Olympic Games qualifications and the Grand Prix organisation have brought in additional revenue.
- The European Cups and IECL in particular have had very positive results.

Moreover, the settling of debts from some Federations is ongoing. Three countries are administratively suspended and their files have been sent to FIVB who has given them three months to settle their debts. Should there be no payments, the amounts will be transferred on a specific bank account for “questionable debtors”.

The new accounting plan which was set up in 2003 with electronic data transfer gives full satisfaction and saves time and money.

An accrual of 910,000.00 € for the IECL has been approved as well as the CEV’s careful approach of indexing the costs based on the sponsors and marketing variations.

The auditors advise to show caution with regard to the new partners and their commitment behaviour.

Following the audit and based on the comments made, the auditors suggest the General Assembly discharge the concerned individuals for the accounts by approving them.

The financial report and the auditors’ report are unanimously approved.

2004 and 2005 Budgets

Treasurer P. BERBEN introduces the 2005 budget plan which was prepared based on the 2003 accounts and the actual budget in 2004. The competitions amendments (European League), the new contracts and the potential sponsors have all been taken into account.

P. BERBEN confirms the 2004 budget execution is to date consistent with regard to the expenditures and the forecast but with a slight increase with regard to revenue.

CEV Honorary Member Mr Franz SCHMIED congratulates the treasurer for the presentation on the FIVB contribution showing clearly all the allocations. He asks for the FIVB contribution



toward the CEV press activities to be rectified as it shows an amount of 30,000.00 € when it should be an amount of 30,000.00 CHF.

Mr L. SVENSSON (Sweden), after having been explained what “paying off in instalments/amortisation” means, views the special budget amount dedicated to the CEV Head office relocation (32,000 € in 2004, 50,000 in 2006) with a total of 82,000.00 € as excessive. Mr A. MEYER explains that since the new location is bigger and has more conference rooms and offices, it needs appropriate equipment that integrates new technologies.

Mr Jacob SHTOFMAN (Israel) suggests the CEV profit excess should be allocated to small Federations to support them in their development. Mr MEYER and Mr BERBEN explain that seminars and training courses will be organised in 2005 by CEV, mainly for General Secretaries in order to support the National Federations management efforts.

The 2005 budget plan is unanimously approved.

Beach Volleyball Commission

President Mr A. QUINTANA informs that following the resignation of EBVC Secretary Miss Daniela DRAGO (Italy), 2 vacancies still need filling. Mr Zdenek MAJER (Czech Republic) is appointed Secretary and Mr Laos LUKAS (Estonia) is appointed member.

Two EBVC meetings take place in Luxembourg on 21st, 22nd and 23rd November 2003 and on 23rd, 24th and 25th April 2004.

Mr A. QUINTANA lists all the competitions and events which took place in 2004:

- CEV Technical Delegates seminar
- Under 18 Beach Volleyball European Championships in Poland
- Under 20 Beach Volleyball European Championships in Slovenia
- Under 23 Beach Volleyball European Championships in Czech Republic
- CEV Challenger in Croatia
- CEV Challenger in Czech Republic
- European Championships Open in Italy and Spain
- European Championships Finals in Germany
- Olympic Games

GSM Marketing Director Mr Christian SCHOLBROCK sums up the sponsorship of his company during Beach Volleyball tournaments in the men and women categories with a huge media coverage (over 140 event broadcasted) and 850,000.00 USD worth of money prizes.

GSM would like to take part in 5 to 7 tournaments per season mainly in Italy, Spain and Germany but is open to other locations.

Mr Edgar BROKS (Norway) would like the National Beach Volleyball championships to be planned on specific dates in order to avoid conflicts with the CEV Calendar.

Mr QUINTANA and Mr MEYER acknowledge the issue but remind him that the FIVB and CEV calendars have priority and that the National calendars should then be communicated to the CEV secretary office within the set period.

Mr L. SVENSSON (Sweden) is a bit concerned for the sport credibility with regard to the animation and “sexy” outfits displayed around the courts, including during the Olympic Games.

Mr SEPPEY agrees these questions are an issue. Nevertheless the outfits are approved by the athletes and the majority of the spectators. This topic will be on the agenda of the next FIVB's World Beach Volleyball Council.

The report of the Beach Volleyball commission is approved.

European Cups Commission

ECC President Mrs Riet OOMS (the Netherlands) reports on the commission's activities:

- 10th/11th October 2003: European League Champions supervisors' seminar in Vienna. Televised drawing of lots for the first time.
- 28th October 2003: drawing of lots of the Top Team Cups 1/8th Final in Luxembourg.
- 10th November 2006: drawing of lots for the men European Cups.
- 25th November 2006: drawing of lots for the women European Cups.
- 29th May 2003: audition of 2 Women's clubs and 3 Men's clubs taking part in the Champions League on their request.
- 7th February 2004: drawing of lots of the Champions League play-off in Paris.
- 6th March 2004: preparation sessions to the 2004/2005 season in Luxembourg.
- 2nd and 3rd April 2004: plenary session in Copenhagen (Denmark).
- 16th and 17th July 2004: plenary session and drawing of lots of the European Cups in Luxembourg.
- 2nd September 2004: drawing of lots of the Champions League during the supervisors, organisers and participants seminar in Vienna.

Other topics were also discussed, in particular:

- The 2004/2005 registration rules,
- The new Champions League formula,
- The future of the various European Cups,
- The duties of the persons responsible for European Cups within their Federations.

Following a question from Mr Philippe SCHURMANN (Liechtenstein), Mrs Riet OOMS confirms the organiser of the Indesit European Champions League finals is picked amongst the clubs who qualified during the play-offs.

Mr Philippe BEUCHET (France) points out that in the new competition format, the number of away games increases as much as for home games and that this increases the costs for the participating teams based on the proportional increase of the participation fees and the decrease in allocated benefits. Mrs R. OOMS agrees but reminds Mr BEUCHET that this change corresponds to a demand from the clubs. In any case, a careful review of this format will be done by CEV and its findings will be published.

President A. MEYER reassures the attendees and underlines the fact that the registrations fees have decreased and that new advertising space has been allocated to clubs. With regard to the allocated benefits, they correspond to a minimum guaranty that can be modified upwards according to the final result.

The European Cups Commission report is unanimously approved.

European Financial Commission

President Philip BERBEN (Belgium) points out the commission has not met since the 2003 Congress. Based on the explanations given by the Treasurer in his previous report, the topic from the agenda is considered as dealt with.

European Legal Commission

Due to the absence of Mr Aloys FISCHER (Switzerland) for health reasons, Mr Philip BERBEN reports on the ELC activities.

The commission met on two occasions, in Vilvoorde (Belgium) on 13th December 2003 and in Stuttgart (Germany) on 24th April 2004.



It essentially focused on the reviewing or the addition of:

- Administrative sanctions within the Regulations,
- Disciplinary sanctions within the Code of Conduct,
- Complaints procedure within the Code of Procedure,
- Obligations of the National Federations organising friendly games.

The report of the ELC is unanimously approved.

European Refereeing Commission

President Jan REK (Switzerland) reminds the meeting that the ERC has held two plenary sessions in Luxembourg and in Slovakia. 2 working groups have also met in Luxembourg. Additionally the commission members took part in the European seminar for International referees in Brno (Czech Republic) with 47 referees representing 37 Federations.

363 referees officiate in Europe and represent 46 countries. They refereed 1000 games in 2003/2004.

Mr Jan REK highlights some issues encountered to become international referee.

He communicates the details of the new page on the CEV website which allows the updating of information and appointments.

The ERC projects for the forthcoming season are:

- Preparation of a new generation of referees,
- The setting up of new referee reviewing forms,
- The strengthening of the cooperation between the FIVB refereeing commission and that of the CEV in order to standardise the regulations and their interpretations.

Mr Valentin ZHUKOV (Russia) is surprised that for the first time a Russian referee was not appointed for the 2004 Olympic Games. FIVB Sport Counsellor Mr Franz SCHMIED (Switzerland) declares CEV is not responsible for appointing referees at the Games. Mr SCHMIED insists on the continental commissions to take extra care in the Youth and Junior continental competitions refereeing as this could be a reason why there was no Russian referee appointed at the 2004 Olympic Games.

The ERC report is unanimously approved.

European Sport Organisation

The ESOC met twice: on 25th and 26th October 2003 in Luxembourg and on 15th and 16th April 2004 in Finland. A third meeting is planned in November 2004 in Belgrade (Serbia).

President Fabio SASSI (Italy) points out that the drawing of lots of the 2004/2005 European Championships qualification phases took place during one of these meetings. A conference on the calendar in the presence of most of the National Federations registered in the competition also took place, taking into account the FIVB recommendation to complete the qualification phases a year prior to the final competition.

A working group has been set up to amend the Senior European Championship format by ensuring a wider participation of national teams as early as 2007.

- The ESOC also discussed:
- Olympic qualification tournaments (men and women) with a total number of 8 teams per category,
- The organisation of the first European League in 2004,

- The new regulations of the 2007 Youth and Senior European Championships,
- Providing technical delegates and number of juries for the various competitions.

Mr Fabio SASSI is very pleased with the excellent cooperation from the CEV Competition department and especially thanks Miss Kristina NIEMINEN and Mr Jean-Paul ROMMES.

Mr A. MEYER also mentions the deplorable action of 2 teams during the 2005 FIVB Grand Prix who influenced the rest of the competition during their game by protecting their respective qualifications. Such anti-sport behaviour damages the image of Volleyball. Mr JP. SEPPEY on behalf of FIVB agrees with Mr MEYER's comments.

The ESOC report is unanimously approved.

European Medical Commission

The EMC held its annual meeting in Luxembourg on 24th January 2004. President Dr Manfred HOLZGRAEFE (Germany) points out some important changes which took place in the medical regulations:

- In the new FIVB/CEV medical regulations, there is no longer gender control.
- Therapeutic exceptions are taken into account.
- The new WADA regulations have been adopted, modifying amongst other things anti-doping control procedures.
- The FIVB consistently reports to WADA all the positive cases. Some cases are still being investigated.

Dr Mr HOLZGRAEFE points out the National Federations are responsible for forwarding the information to FIVB and CEV.

Some attention must be drawn to some potential isolation issues relating to Beach Volleyball (athletes, officials and spectators).

The CEV website contains specific information.

The EMC started gathering and analysing all the responsibilities and obligations with regard to the participating teams. Each team will have to present an insurance document which covers any health issues during CEV competitions. Additionally each athlete will have to provide a valid health certificate.

The National Federations are advised that any doctor wishing to be allowed to sit on the players' bench will have to be accredited.

Mr JP. SEPPEY informs the General Assembly that the FIVB has not wished to follow the IOC in its acknowledgment of transsexual athletes.

The EMC report is approved.

CEV Working groups reports

Marketing

President A. MEYER gives some information on the traditional CEV Partners: Austrian Airlines, Indesit, Champion, Mikasa and Gerflor.

He highlights the effort of the group with regard to broadcasting since the Volleyball coverage is the most determining element of advertising success.

Since the ISA contract has been terminated, the CEV has retained Media Partners for the 2005 and 2007 Men and Women European Championships.

Following a question from Mr Jan SVENSSON (Sweden), Mr A. MEYER confirms the existence of a contract with Eurosport which is being renewed.



The working group report is unanimously approved.

Media

President Aleksandar BORICIC (Serbia) mentions the efforts made to develop the media coverage across all competitions, international, regional and national and this is spite of some Federations not showing any interest as they do not understand its importance.

Regulations and Sanctions

Due to the absence of President Aloys FISCHER (Switzerland), Mrs Riet OOMS points out the group has focused on the simplification and unification of European Competitions regulations, in compliance with the FIVB main directives.

The work is about to be finalised (in December 2004) and will be presented for approval at the Board of Administration meeting in January 2005.

Regional Activities

Balkans region

In the absence of Mr MAVROMATIS, the report is presented by Mr Levent ILBAY, BRA (Balkans Region Association) General Secretary.

The political situation in the Balkans has made the life of BRA harder since its creation in 1998. However, the member Federations (Greece, Serbia, Bulgaria, Romania, Turkey, Albania, Morocco, and Moldova) have managed to define a working plan in Athens in 2000.

The next General Assembly meeting will take place in Istanbul (Turkey) in 2004. The General Secretary will be moved to Thessaloniki at the Greek Federation head office.

ARB Main objectives:

- Volleyball and Beach Volleyball development in all the member countries with training camps and official competitions,
- Website and activities promotion development.

Central Europe region

- The report is presented by Mr Karl HANZL, CERA (Central Europe Region Association) President. The association is made up of 7 National Federations since the withdrawal of Switzerland. After the statutes approval, the first championships took place for Cadets and Juniors in Volleyball and Beach Volleyball.
- The next General Assembly meeting is planned on 10th December 2004 in Austria.

Northern Europe region

The report is presented by President Edgar BROKS who reminds that NERA (Northern Europe Region Association) was set up in June 2003 and that it is made up of 7 National Federations (Denmark, Faroe Islands, Finland, Greenland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden).

Austrian Airlines presentation – official CEV partner

Official CEV airline and partner of several competitions, European Director Anton BILLY confirms that in spite of issues encountered by the aviation industry, Austrian Airlines will remain CEV partner as it is an ideal partnership for the image of the company.

He highlights the great work done by his colleagues Mrs Elfriede HAWLICZEK and Mrs Christa BLUEMEL as well as the efficient collaboration of the CEV staff.

Report on forthcoming events

2005 Men European Championships in Italy and Serbia and Montenegro

For the first time, the competition will be organised by 2 Federations and will take place in Belgrade (Serbia-Montenegro) and Rome (Italy).

The organisers give some details on the accommodation and competition halls, in particular the sports hall in Belgrade (18,000 seats) for one of the preliminary groups and the Palalottomatica of Rome for the other group and the final.

The semi-finals and the final will be played on 10th and 11th September 2005 and the anti-doping control will be conducted by the Rome Laboratory (accredited by the IOC).

Italian Organising Committee President Carlo MAGRI and Serbia and Montenegro General Secretary Slobodan MILOSEVIC congratulate each other on the excellent collaboration and guarantee the organisation will be exemplary.

2005 Women's European Championships in Croatia

Croatian President Anton BAKOVIC introduces Miss Iva JANEIC who presents the details of the organisation. She informs that the Croatian Federation has signed a contract with a sport marketing company to capitalise on the event and another contract with an IT company who will manage the programme specific to the organisation in all its areas (technical, administrative).

2005 Under 19 Youth Boys European Championships in Latvia

The drawing of lots of the two categories (boys and girls) will take place in Riga (Latvia) on 29th January 2005.

Mr Maris PEKALIS confirms the boys' final phase will take place in Riga (Latvia) from 29th March to 4th April 2005. The officials and teams will stay at the Maritime Hotel in Riga.

The preliminary group B games will take place in the football sports complex and the preliminary group A as well as the quarter, semi and finals in the Daugava Hall.

2005 Under 18 Youth Girls European Championships in Estonia

Mr Adu LUUKAS confirms the competition will take place from 29th March to 3rd April 2005 for the 12 qualified teams. Officials and teams will be staying at two different hotels. 2 halls of a capacity of 2000 seats each will welcome the competition.

Mr LUUKAS highlights the support from Latvia to make these 2 European Championships an example of European cooperation.

Organisers appointments for forthcoming events

President MEYER explains the procedure since several National Federations applied to organise the same competition. As a result, the Board of Administration voted by secret ballot on 1st October 2004. The president and only him then checked the votes and sealed the envelopes with the results. The envelopes containing the bulletins of the Board of Administration members' votes will be given to the auditors (Mr Michel HENNO and Mr Léo DADEMA) who will then check the results.

2006 Under 20 Junior Boys European Championships

Two applicants: Russia and Israel

President MEYER opens the envelope and announces Russia as organiser.

Mr HENNO and Mr L. DADEMA confirm the result.

The competition will take place in Kazan, Tatarstan Republic capital.



2006 Under 20 Junior Girls European Championships

France is confirmed as organiser since it is the only applicant. The competition will take place in Saint Dié des Vosges.

2007 Under 19 Youth Boys European Championships

Austria is confirmed as organiser since it is the only applicant. The competition will take place in Vienna and Krems.

2007 Under 18 Youth Girls European Championships

The Czech Republic is confirmed as organiser since it is the only applicant. The competition will take place in Brno where there is a hall with 3,500 seats.

2007 Senior Women's European Championship

Two applicants: Poland and Belgium / Luxembourg.

After opening the envelope, President MEYER announces Belgium and Luxembourg as co-organisers for the competition.

Mr HENNO and L. DADEMA confirm the result.

On behalf of the Royal Belgium Volleyball Federation Mr Willy BRUNINX gives some details about the organisation which will see his country welcome the 2 preliminary groups in Hasselt and Charleroi.

The Luxembourg Volleyball Federation President Mr Peter EICHSTÄDT adds some more details and confirms the semi-finals and finals will take place in the new La Coque sports centre with a seating capacity of 8,000 spectators.

2007 Senior Men's European Championships

Three applicants: France, Russia and Poland.

After opening the envelope, President MEYER announces Russia as organiser.

Russian Federation President Mr Valentin ZHUKOV plays a video which shows the hotels and competition halls in St Petersburg (7,500 seats) and Moscow (10,000 seats).

The preliminary phase will take place from 7th to 13th September 2007 and the semi-finals and the finals on 15th and 16th September 2007.

New CEV office unveiling – Luxembourg

The negotiations with the Luxembourg government are now resolved. The CEV Office relocation will take place in November 2004 with the inauguration in February 2005 in the presence of the Board of Administration members and the representatives of the 54 National Federations.

2005 26th General Assembly Meeting location and date

The next General Assembly meeting will take place in Rome (Italy) on 9th September 2005 during the Senior Men's European Championships.

Miscellaneous

President MEYER reminds the National Federations of the importance to submit applications to the FIVB in order to organise training courses for international referee candidates in Europe in 2005.

Since no comments or applications have been received, Mr HENNO and DADEMA are re-appointed unanimously as auditors.

2004 General Assembly meeting closing

President MEYER thanks all the participants who contributed to the success of the Congress and underlines that the European Volleyball development and promotion will depend mainly on the quality of event organisation such as the European Championships and European Cups. Marketing and media depend on these events and this requires a joint effort between experts and competencies. The commissions and working groups must make sure they surround themselves with such skills.

There needs to be a permanent re-assessment of the competitions and of the administrative management of the organisation.

2005

CEV BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING – ALMERIA (ESP) – 22ND JANUARY 2005

The following members are attending:

President:	André MEYER (LUX)
Snr Vice-President & Treasurer:	Philip BERBEN (BEL)
Vice-Presidents:	Riet OOMS (NED) - Aleksandar BORICIC (SCG) - Jan Hronek (CZE) - Carlo MAGRI (ITA)
Members:	Thanassis BELIGRATIS (GRE) - Aloys FISCHER (SUI) - Andreas STAVROU (CYP) - Manfred HOLZGRAEFE (GER) - Vladimir PATKIN (RUS) - Maris PEKALIS (LAT) - Miguel Angel QUINTANA (ESP) - Jan REK (SUI) - Fabio SASSI (ITA) - Jacques SHAW (FRA)



Opening of the Meeting

Mr André MEYER opens the meeting and welcomes his colleagues to Almeria (ESP). Before officially starting on the agenda, Mr MEYER excuses three Board of Administration Members who could not be present on this day. Firstly, Mrs Snjezana MIJIC, CEV Vice-President, absent for the second consecutive time from a Board of Administration meeting and not reachable. Then, Mr Janusz BIESIADA (POL) who could not travel to Almeria because his National Federation refused to pay for his travel costs; and finally, Mr Eric ADLER, who did arrive in



The members of the CEV Board pose at the end of their meeting held in Almeria in January 2005

Almeria the previous evening but unexpectedly had to catch an early flight home due to some family health issues.

Action: Send a letter offering good wishes to Mr Eric ADLER. – Administrative Dept.

Approval of the Agenda

In the absence of any comment, the Agenda is approved.

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on 30th September 2004 at Hotel Radisson SAS in Istanbul (TUR)

The minutes were approved by the Executive Committee on 21st January 2005.

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on 4th December 2004 at Hotel Divani Acropolis in Athens (GRE)

The minutes were approved by the Executive Committee on 21st January 2005.

Administration to coordinate and accelerate decision-making.

In the absence of any further comments, the minutes of the meeting are approved.

Activity Report of the Executive Committee

Seeing that most points will be discussed individually during the meeting, Mr MEYER only shares a few additional matters which were covered in the Executive Committee meeting the previous day:

Men's Final Four IECL 2004/05

After a thorough examination of the five applications received, the Executive Committee decided to grant this organisation to the club of Iraklis THESSALONIKI (GRE). Additionally, Mr MEYER informs his colleagues that unlike the past, there should be no problems finding organisers for each of the different cup competitions.

Unveiling of the new CEV Offices

The Executive Committee members finalised the program for the CEV Unveiling, which will be combined with the first General Secretaries' Seminar and with the 2004 Best Players' Award Ceremony.

Next BoA meeting

As was the case in June 2004, CEV will be Organising and paying for the flights of the Board of Administration members attending the next BoA meeting in Moscow (RUS) in June 2005. Flight tickets will be provided by Austrian Airlines from the nearest departing airports it serves, through Vienna and on to Moscow. Schedule proposals will be forwarded to the BoA Members in February. Additionally, Mr MEYER reminds his colleagues that a copy of their passport (and copy of passport from their accompanying partner or interpreter) should be given to Mr PATKIN (RUS) as soon as possible to arrange for visa requests.

Institutions

2005 FIVB Junior World Championships Qualification

Following a letter received from FIVB, Mr MEYER confirms that there will be no continental qualifications for the 2005 Junior World Championships. Concerning such qualifications in the future, Mr MEYER informs his colleagues that further information will be received during the FIVB Board of Administration meeting in April 2005.

Mr Jacques SHAW underlines that it would be necessary for the National Federations to be informed about such decisions well in advance of the competition. Mr MEYER reminds Mr SHAW that this decision was made late because there was a change in the number of teams participating in this competition and a new continental quota therefore had to be decided.

Responding to a point made by Mr Fabio SASSI concerning the choice that teams sometimes have to make to either participate in the European Championships or in the World Championships, Mr BERBEN emphasises the possibility of using the European Championships as Qualifications for the World Championships should be analysed by ESOC and discussed with FIVB as it would not only allow teams to participate in both competitions, but would also save them a lot of time and money.

FIVB – CEV Beach Volleyball Issue

Referring to the different documents included in the meeting's handbook, Mr MEYER explains that FIVB and CEV met in Lausanne during a special meeting in the presence of Mr Olivier MOTTIER, CEV Executive Director and Mr Erik SCHMIDT, CEV Beach Volleyball Coordinator, in order to discuss the problems faced in Beach Volleyball and the existing calendar clashes. In the opinion of CEV, the minutes of this meeting did not however reflect all the discussions and decisions made, and a debate is consequently underway to clarify these misunderstandings and correct the calendar in order to reflect the decision made during the FIVB World Council in Acapulco (MEX) to allow the Continental Federations to choose their



dates for Beach Volleyball competitions after the annual FIVB Council which takes place every year in October.

Additionally, Mr Olivier MOTTIER points out that certain discussions and decisions were made during the FIVB World Council concerning Beach Volleyball in Europe, and are related in the minutes of this meeting. He draws the attention of the Board of Administration that such specific decisions concerning continental matters should not be made in a meeting where CEV is not represented.

Mr MEYER confirms that these different matters will be thoroughly discussed during the FIVB Board of Administration meeting in April 2005, and further information will be given to the CEV Board of Administration members during their meeting in June.

Working Group Regulations and Fines

A draft of the minutes of the last Working Group's meeting is distributed to the Board of Administration members for their information. Mr Aloys FISCHER, WG Chairman, explains that this meeting was originally foreseen on 6th November 2004, with the idea of controlling and finalising all parts of the different regulations for the different competitions based on the submissions received from the different commissions and working groups. However, most of the documents requested were not submitted on time, and the meeting was therefore postponed until 26th – 27th November 2004 with the participation of one representative for each of these commissions /WG's.

Following this meeting, Mr FISCHER can confirm that the Working Group has nearly completed its main task of controlling and finalising the different regulations. He confirms that the content of the regulations was normally not changed, but that modifications were made to the form and wording of these regulations in order to harmonise them. The financial part of the regulations still needs to be submitted and reviewed by the Working Group, before a database containing all the different regulations can be created.

Mr Philip BERBEN, EFC President, informs Mr FISCHER that the Financial Commission can only do its work once the other commissions have finalised their part of all the documents.

Action: Amend the draft of the WG minutes. – Mr A. FISCHER

Mr Manfred HOLZGRAEFE states that a few important points are missing in the draft of the medical regulations as finalised by the Working Group when they were in fact listed in the original document submitted by the Medical Commission. In his opinion, these missing points are important and should be listed in details somewhere.

Mr Aloys FISCHER confirms that his Working Group reduced some of the documents received in order to keep the regulations compact and clear. He explains that details concerning the different regulations can be found in the different handbooks and should not necessarily be included in the final draft of the regulations, especially since a lot of the conditions listed in the medical field for example can vary from competition to competition and can be changed quite regularly. In his opinion, the final draft of the regulations should be presented in a concise and easy-to-read format, and all detailed information concerning the different parts should be kept separate.

Mr MEYER reminds his colleagues that when it was created, the main task of this Working Group was not to rewrite the regulations, but to harmonise them. New texts concerning technical matters should first be presented to the Board of Administration for approval, while existing texts can be added to the database as they are or with a few modifications to present an easy-to-read format for everyone. These modifications should however be done in collaboration between the Working Group and the representatives of the different commissions in order to not leave out any important information.

Action:

- Review the draft of the Medical Commission in collaboration with the EMC. – A. FISCHER
- Coordinate a working session between Mr FISCHER and the CEV IT Specialist, with the support of the ELC Secretary Mr MAVROMATIS if possible, in order to finalise the database. – WG Regulations & Fines

Decision:

- Present a draft of the regulations as finalised by the WG during one of the next Executive Committee meetings.
- Any new text added to the regulations will be presented for approval by the Board of Administration during its meeting in June 2005.
- Finalise the texts and database by the next CEV General Assembly in September.
- Print the final version for the last time to be distributed in September during the Congress. After September, these documents will only be available as downloads from the CEV website (no more paper versions). Future modifications will be communicated to people via e-mail.

Working Group Future of European Cups

The proposed composition of this Working Group is the following:

Chairman: Mr André MEYER

Secretary: Mrs Riet OOMS

Members: Mr Peter LANGE (GER) - Mr Peter KLEINMANN (AUT) - Mr Stewart DUNNE (ENG) - Mr Luis MUCHAGA (ESP) - Mr Jussi JOKINEN (FIN) - Mr Periklis BAKODIMOS (GRE) - Mr Jean-Marie LEYDER (LUX)

The first meeting is scheduled for 9th and 10th April 2005 in Luxembourg. A first questionnaire which will serve as basis for the Working Group's work has been sent to the different participating National Federations.

The goal of the Working Group is to finalise its work and be ready to implement the new competition system for the 2006/07 season if a change is deemed necessary.

Decision: Present the CEV Board of Administration with a first draft of the possible new European Cups competition system in January 2006.

Following a suggestion by Mr Jacques SHAW to add a television representative to this Working Group, Mr MEYER says that the composition of this Working Group is now fixed but that the members are ready to rely on experts and seek out professional and technical advice in terms of marketing / television as needed.

BVA Calendar 2005

Mr MEYER confirms to his colleagues that the Balkan Volleyball Association is the only European Zonal Association with regular activities, and as such, was recognised and congratulated during the Executive Committee meeting, for its excellent work and continued efforts to further develop Volleyball in its region.

Mr MEYER also informs his colleagues that the Executive Committee decided to once again support the work of this Zonal Association in 2005.

Action: Contact Mr MAVROMATIS, BVA Secretary, to discuss and arrange the support from CEV. – Administrative Dept.

Following is the calendar as proposed by the BVA:

- Junior Men's Balkan Championships in ROM between 20 – 30.07.2005



- Junior Women's Balkan Championships in TUR between 5 – 15.07.2005
- Youth Men's Balkan Championships in MLD between 5 – 15.08.2005
- Youth Women's Balkan Championships in SCG between 5 – 15.07.2005
- Senior Men & Women's Beach Volleyball Balkan Championships in ROM
- Junior Men & Women's Beach Volleyball Balkan Championships in ALB

Decision: The BVA Calendar is approved as proposed.

Mr Miguel-QUINTANA, EBVC President, wishes to remind the BVA Secretary to respect the CEV and FIVB Beach Volleyball calendars when choosing dates for its Beach Volleyball competitions, and asks that the dates be made available on the CEV website once they have been officially approved.

Mr MEYER confirms that all competition dates, once approved by the CEV, are published on the CEV Website under the *Calendar* tab and can be easily accessible to all.

Additionally, Mr MEYER wishes to extend this point to the other zonal associations, and starts by mentioning that a meeting is planned with the MEVZA President in February to discuss the current situation of that Zonal Association. Indeed, MEVZA's activities are not meeting the expectations and conditions agreed upon when it was created (club competitions related activities). A discussion will also take place with the NEVZA President or representatives to determine the status of the Zonal Association.

He then asks Mr PEKALIS (LAT) about the status of the creation of a new Zonal Association in Eastern Europe (EEVZA).

Mr PEKALIS explains that the creation of this new Zonal Association came to a standstill after the elections in Poland during which a new National Federation's President was elected. Documents from the original work accomplished are still in the hands of Mr BIESIADA, former POL President, and have unfortunately not yet been forwarded. In the meantime, it was decided to start a new, and the statutes, which were presented a first time in 2003, were modified according to the recommendations of the ELC. Finally, a Youth tournament was organised in December 2004 in Riga (LAT) and Tallinn (EST) as rehearsal for the Youth European Championships to take place in 2005 in the same cities.

Mr MEYER thanks Mr PEKALIS for his report and hopes to hear positive updates in the near future.

ESOC Proposals

Mr Fabio SASSI, ESOC President, presents one by one the different proposals submitted by his commission to the CEV Board of Administration for approval.

- Approval of a competition Hall – Form CH-03: Following some deadline problem encountered in the Qualification Round of the YECH Boys and Girls in 2005, ESOC proposes to change the deadline for submitting the CH-03 form (complete with pictures and architectural plan) from 2 to 3 months prior to the competition, thereby communicating the competition venue sooner – Approved
- Official composition of a delegation: In order to control the number of people which constitute a delegation and to limit the costs for the organisers, ESOC proposes to include in the Official Regulations of all European Championships the article 4.5.5 of the FIVB Sports regulations stating that a specific function or position cannot be transferred from the authorised person to a substitute in case of absence of the former.

→ Mr MEYER raises the question of being able to control people's functions and legitimacy. In principal, the proposal of ESOC is justified, but can only be approved if there is an official way of checking people's true function within the delegation.

Action: Find a solution and make a proposal to the BoA during its next meeting on how to possibly control people's functions within a delegation. – ESOC

- Presence of a Team Manager (Youth and Junior competitions): As it was noted during the European Championships that several teams were not accompanied by a Team Manager as requested, ESOC proposes to give the authority to the CEV Technical Delegate or Jury to designate another person of the delegation to fulfil that function and to abandon his previous duties and the right to sit on the bench with the players.
- Mr MEYER explains that the Executive Committee discussed this proposal and that the following steps should be adopted in relation to this problem:
 - ❖ The CEV Office tests the team list and the nomination of a team manager (sole function)
 - ❖ In the event that the delegation comes to the technical meeting without a team manager, the Technical Delegate or Jury coordinates the nomination of this person in collaboration with the delegation
 - ❖ If despite these efforts no solution can be found, the technical delegate or jury are responsible for designating this person on their own
 - ❖ Either way, if a team arrives at a Technical Meeting or Preliminary Inquiry without a Team Manager, a sanction must be considered (sanction higher than the costs of nominating a team manager)

Decision: Although the designated Team Manager shall make his new function his priority, he is still eligible to fulfil his other tasks within the delegation.

Action: Study and submit a fine proposal. – EFC

- Revision of the Berger Table: Based on a request received from Mr MEYER, ESOC reviewed the Berger Table and makes the proposals to maintain the options of the Berger table for competitions with 5 or 6 teams in Youth and Junior Championships, and to allow CEV to amend the match calendar and time schedule if deemed necessary in the competitions involving the development of CEV commercial opportunities (must be stated in the written contract) – Approved
- Results manipulation in qualification tournaments: Following the situation which arose during the FIVB Grand Prix Qualification with the teams of POL and GER, ESOC analysed a couple of ways to modify the competition system in order to avoid results manipulation.
- According to the Board of Administration members, the most important point should be to let National Federations know that such occurrences will not be tolerated and that sanctions exist in the Code of Conduct for such bad sporting behaviour.
- Based on an analysis of this problem by the European Legal Commission, it is concluded that “it is very difficult to prove that certain results in a match were falsified, but in case any kind of agreement, written or – most possibly – oral can be proved even by evidence of witness, it can be punished according to the article 5.1.1 of the Code of Discipline (Dishonesty in competitions).”
- With this in mind, it is necessary to remind the Technical Delegates/Jury members that they have the authority to stop a match and apply the Code of Discipline (Art. 5.1.1) if deemed necessary. The other technical solutions proposed by ESOC will be applied case by case, depending on the competition and its format.
- Women's World Grand Prix 2006 and European Qualifications 2005: ESOC proposes to qualify the teams for the 2006 Grand Prix and 2005 Qualifications based on their ranking from the 2003 European Championships – Approved
- Small Countries: ESOC proposes to change the competition calendar to avoid certain clashes with the prequalification Round of the European Championships 2007.



Additionally, based on a request made by the CZE Federation to postpone to the month of June the Qualification tournaments for the Junior European Championships, ESOC proposes to maintain the competition dates as originally scheduled for the last weekend of May. Both proposals are approved

Mr MEYER draws the attention of Mr SASSI to the fact that the Addendum to the CEV Regulations states that the first 2 teams qualified have the right to move to the Group B Category, when in reality, Group B no longer exists.

Action: Prepare a proposal in collaboration with the Small Countries. – ESOC

Once all the proposals submitted by ESOC have been discussed, Mr Maris PEKALIS takes the floor and asks the CEV Board of Administration to determine, as stipulated in the Youth Regulations Art. 7.1.2, the amount to be paid by the teams for their participation in the Final Round of the Youth European Championships. Based on the amounts paid the previous years, Mr PEKALIS proposes to fix the participation fee to 673 EUR per team.

Decision: The participation fee is set to € 673 per team as was the case the previous years.

Financial Matters

Accounts 2004

Mr Philip BERBEN explains that he receives on a regular basis bookkeeping documents from the CEV Office informing him about the current state of accounts of the CEV, its expenses and income compared to the planned budget. For 2004, although the accounts are just now in the process of being closed, Mr BERBEN confirms to his colleagues that the CEV finances are well within the limits of the budget with an actual profit which will be redistributed within the CEV Provisional Funds.

Specific details concerning the 2004 accounts, audited and closed, will be distributed to the CEV Board of Administration during its meeting in June 2005.

Dr Manfred HOLZGRAEFE, EMC President, informs Mr BERBEN that although not all the money foreseen in the 2004 budget for the Medical Commission and medical matters was used, it is important to not reduce these amounts for the future as they will surely be needed.

Mr BERBEN confirms that it is a normal process to calculate the new budget according to the actual incomes and expenses of the previous years, but that under special circumstances, commission members have the right to submit a written request in good time to the EFC to be taken into consideration during the budget planning for the following years.

Mr MEYER also reminds his colleagues that Commissions also have the possibility to intervene during the June Board of Administration meeting when they are requested to approve the budget proposals, thus giving not them one, but two occasions to state their needs and preferences.

Old Debts

Mr BERBEN informs his colleagues that to date, two National Federations still owe the CEV money, and that despite several attempts, CEV was unable to establish contacts with either of them. Consequently, the Executive Committee discussed the situation of these two National Federations and based on its proposal, the CEV Board of Administration makes the following proposal to the General Assembly

Proposal to the General Assembly

The National Federations of ARM and WAL are considered as administratively suspended under the following conditions:

- Suspension of the administrative costs related to their membership with CEV for a period of 5 years;
- Suspended from participating in or Organising any European competition
- Possibility to administratively re-join CEV under the condition that the National Federations pay all their debts towards CEV.

The above-stipulated conditions are subject to prior approval by the FIVB.

Memberships Fee Proposal

Mr BERBEN explains that the Executive Committee has decided to propose a change in the Categories system currently in place (A, B and C) in order to benefit the National Federations who wish to actively participate within the CEV but have limited economic possibilities (active Group C Federations).

Decision:

Small Countries:

- Include at the administrative level the 15 National Federations considered as “Small Countries” in the C Category
- New annual fee consequently set at 340 EUR, regardless of the competitive results obtained by these National Federations
- NFs with financial difficulties:
 - Possible support from CEV through the Sports Aid Program
 - Complete file and supporting evidence to be sent to CEV for analysis.

These special dispositions should be valid starting in 2006.

A final proposal will be presented to the General Assembly.

Additionally, a new analysis of the fees will be presented to the General Assembly in 2005, taking into account the new formula developed for the European Championships in 2006 / 07.

European Championships

2005 Men's SECH

Mr Jan HRONEK, Jury President, shares some information concerning this organisation in ITA and SCG:

- The inspection visits were conducted.
- The nomination of officials and Jury members is completed.
- The ERC will present a proposal concerning the nominations of the referees for the qualifications' phase and Final Round. This proposal will be studied during the next common meeting.
- The bulletin N°1 will be edited end of January, after the ITA Federation have confirmed the composition of its committee following its General Assembly and elections.
- The next common meeting between ITA, SCG & CEV is planned on 27th February 2005 in Italy. Mandatory presence of the OC Presidents.

Action: The two Organising Committees must submit their plan for communication, merchandising and advertising to the CEV for approval. – ITA/SCG

- Last common meeting planned on 9th & 10th July 2005 in Belgrade. Mandatory presence of the OC Presidents.
- The ITA Federation has made the special request to move the match Russia – Italy on 8th September 2005 to 21.00hrs instead of 20.30hrs for TV broadcasting reasons.



Decision: The match RUS – ITA will be played on 8th September 2005 at 21.00hrs as requested.

2005 Women's SECH

As was decided during the last Board of Administration meeting, the CRO Federation is now requested to send a monthly progress report to the CEV concerning the organisation of this competition. Based on these reports and on her last visit in Croatia on the occasion of the Drawing of Lots, Mrs Riet OOMS, Jury President, can confirm that the CRO Federation is fulfilling its obligations and meeting the expectations of CEV. As can be found in her complete report, these main points can be noted:

- The planning of activities closely follows the preparation schedule (calendar finalised and 1st bulletin sent out)
- The merchandising developments are well underway (promotional campaign started)
- Next meeting scheduled in February 2005.

Mr MEYER, who was present in Croatia on the occasion of the Drawing of Lots, confirms Mrs OOMS' report that all conditions are now being fulfilled and that this organisation should be very successful.

2005 YECF Final Round in LAT and EST

Mr Philip BERBEN and Mr Jan HRONEK share a few points concerning these organisations:

- The Drawing of Lots is scheduled for 29th January 2005 in Riga (LAT)
- ESOC established a clear guideline which should guarantee a smooth and precise running of this Drawing of Lots
- The change of hotel as proposed by EST is accepted
- Special measures must be taken to facilitate the visa requests

Mr Maris PEKALIS (LAT) unfortunately informs his colleagues that only one National Federation apart from the organisers accepted the invitation to the Drawing of Lots in Latvia.

Although nothing can be done about this situation in time for this Drawing of Lots, Mr MEYER explains that as was already decided during the Executive Committee meeting in Athens in December 2004 concerning the Senior Championships, it will now also be mandatory in the future for the National Federations participating in the Final Phase of a Youth or Junior Championships to be represented during the Drawing of Lots. This requirement will be added to the Official regulations, and a fine will be studied for those National Federations not fulfilling their obligation.

Action:

- Add this requirement to the Youth and Junior Official Regulations. – Competitions Dept.
- Study and submit a fine proposal. – EFC

Finally, taking into consideration the fact that there will be 2 competition days with 3 consecutive matches played, Mr Jan REK takes this opportunity to request that the original number of 3 members of the Special Refereeing Commission be kept instead of the two previously agreed. Seeing that 3 members are stated in the regulations, this request will be accommodated.

European League 2005

Meeting held on 6th November 2005

Ten European National Federations were represented during the meeting which was organised in Luxembourg on 6th November 2005, during which various points, including the framework of the competition, competition format and calendar were discussed.

Mr MEYER also confirms the following points:

- Competition played with 8 teams, split into 2 pools of 4
- Matches will be played on the same dates as the World League 2005, with the Finals on 23rd – 24th July 2005
- The Finals will be organised in the city of Kazan (RUS)

Next Edition and Planning (subject to modifications)

FIVB Grand Prix Qualification Tournament 2005

Mr MEYER confirms the following points:

- This qualification tournament will be organised in Baku (AZE) on 26th – 31st July 2005
- Competition format: 2 pools of 4 teams
- A Drawing of Lots will be organised after the pool play to determine the distribution of the teams in the semi-finals
- Entry fee to be paid by the participating federation for the first time in this competition
- Prize money will be paid for the first time in this competition (1st – 4th place)

Decision: These new conditions for the FIVB Grand Prix Qualification Tournament 2005 are approved.

INTERVENTION BY THE ESP FEDERATION

At the beginning of the afternoon session, Mr MEYER welcomes Mr Agustin MARTIN SANTOS, President of the Spanish Volleyball Federation.

On behalf of his National Federation, Mr MARTIN SANTOS is much honoured to welcome the CEV Board of Administration members in Almeria and thanks CEV for this opportunity and for the trust placed in the Spanish Federation. He assures the Board of Administration that Spain is ready to host any organisation and to assist CEV in any possible way with further developing Volleyball in Europe. He wishes the BoA members much success in their meeting and a pleasant stay in Spain.

Mr MEYER thanks Mr MARTIN SANTOS for his intervention and for the great support and collaboration which exists between the Spanish Federation and the CEV.

European Cups

Final Fours 2005

As already announced, the organisation of the Men's IECL Final Four was awarded to the club of Iraklis THESSALONIKI (GRE).

The organisers for the other Final Fours (CEV Cup and Top Teams Cup) will be decided based on the various applications received and will officially be announced after 26th January 2005.

IECL Drawing of Lots 2005

The Drawing of Lots for the 2005/06 Indesit European Champions League will be organised in Vienna (AUT) on Friday, 12th August 2005 in combination with a Gala ceremony which will be broadcasted live on television and the annual seminars foreseen on this occasion.



European Beach Volleyball

U-18, U-20, U-23 European Championships – 2005 Organisations

To date the following applications were received and registered by the CEV Office:

U-18	UKR – Illichivsk	11th – 14th August 2005
	ISR – Tel Aviv	4th – 7th July 2005
U-20	NED – The Hague	Letter of Intent
	UKR – Illichivsk	11th – 14th August 2005
	ISR – Tel Aviv	tbc
U-23	POL – Myslowice	27th – 31st July 2005
	GRE	Verbal agreement

European Championships Tour 2005 – CEV Calendar

Mr QUINTANA presents the tentative competition calendar as currently planned and proposed by GSM, with a minimum of 5 tournaments, including the European Championships Finals.

He then delivers a presentation concerning the European Championships Beach Volleyball Tour 2005, mentioning such things as the distribution of the Prize Money and a proposal concerning the competition format and organisation of the Tour. Mr QUINTANA also asks if GSM sent information concerning the Tour Bonus conditions by 11th January 2005 as was agreed. Mr MEYER answers that such information was not received.

Concerning the payment of the Prize Money in Beach Volleyball competitions, Mr MEYER refers to a point mentioned in the EBVC minutes stating that “the players will be responsible for the individual tax declaration in their respective countries”, and underlines that CEV shouldn’t so much worry about whether or not the players will declare that money in their own country, but should ensure that the promoters who pay the Prize Money in the Organising country contact the local authorities and inquire about the local tax conditions in order to avoid any problems. Either way, CEV should not be held responsible for any tax payment not made in the hosting country as this is the sole responsibility of the promoter.

Concerning the proposal of GSM to reduce the number of teams from 24 to 16 and consequently reduce the costs for the organisers, Mr QUINTANA shares that the EBVC supports this proposal but only for this year as a test and under certain conditions for the Main Draw, Qualification Tournament, Wild Cards and CEV Ranking. Mr MEYER underlines the need to make a decision concerning the competition format and number of teams to be applied to future competitions as well, in order to avoid having to discuss these issues, to change the regulations and to re-negotiate the contracts with GSM on a yearly basis.

Action: Study a long-term competition format which can be used for a minimum of 3 years. – EBVC

Mr MEYER then takes a few minutes to explain the current situation and problems between CEV and GSM, mainly due to the calendar problems encountered.

Activity Reports – CEV Commissions

Legal Commission – Mr Aloys FISCHER

The European Legal Commission met on 4th December 2004 in Luxembourg. Mr FISCHER submits several proposals to the CEV Board of Administration for approval:

- Duties of Commission Members: Add a new article 4.8 and modify the Candidature form accordingly, renumber the former Art. 4.8 to Art. 4.9, and modify article 11.8 of the CEV Statutes.

→ Concerning Art. 4.8.1, the wording "... including FIVB Functions" should be replaced by "within CEV".

→ Approved with the above-mentioned modification.

Action: Submit a similar text concerning BoA members. – ELC

- Guidelines for Observers: Taking into consideration the number of observers attending official National Competitions, the ELC was asked to submit a formal guideline which should be valid for all CEV Volleyball Competitions

→ Approved.

Decision: This guideline is only applicable to Volleyball competitions, but if problems arise in Beach Volleyball, a similar guideline will be proposed for those competitions as well. – ELC

- Regulations 2007 Senior European Championships: Final wording

→ Approved with the amendments noted under Point 7 of the ELC minutes.

- Regulations regarding Protests: The final wording of the Art. 3.6 "Protests" shall be included in the CEV Internal Regulations.

→ Concerning Art. 3.6.4 "Proceedings in case of protest for Final Phase Tournaments", point D, the question is raised that if the protest concerns a refereeing matter, it should be necessary for one of the two Jury members appointed to be a member of the Special Refereeing Commission.

Decision: This regulation is approved as long as the wording is changed to reflect the possibility to include a Special Refereeing Commission member in the Appeal Committee if applicable.

Finally, Mr FISCHER informs his colleagues that Agata PARLINSKA (POL), ELC Member, could not attend the meeting due a refusal of the Polish Volleyball Federation to cover her travel costs to Luxembourg. In his opinion, and seeing that the same situation happened with Mr Janusz BIESIADA, BoA Member, an official warning or fine should be applied against the Polish Volleyball Federation according to Art. 7.1 of the Code of Discipline.

Decision: The POL Federation will receive a fine for both times it failed to meet its obligations. The fine shall be higher than the cost of a flight ticket.

Action:

- Send a sanction to the POL Federation. – Administrative Dept.
- Include in the official applications for the upcoming elections in September 2005 a clear stipulation stating that National Federations presenting a candidate have the obligation to cover the travelling costs and support the work of their candidate for the full 4 legislative years.

The next ELC meeting is planned for 14th May 2005 in Tel Aviv (ISR). Another meeting is foreseen on 17th December 2005 in Luxembourg.

Financial Commission – Mr Philip BERBEN

Seeing that no meeting of this commission took place since the last Board of Administration meeting and that all the important financial points were discussed under Financial Matters, there is no report to be made.

The next EFC meeting will be organised in Belgrade (SCG) on 7th May 2005.



Cups Commission – Mrs Riet OOMS

As no meeting of the European Cups Commission was scheduled since the last Board of Administration meeting, Mrs Riet OOMS only wishes to draw the attention of her colleagues on two major problems which arose in the period September 2004 – January 2005:

- Clash of dates: Due to the organisation of a Qualification tournament for the World Championships in England in January 2005, and due to the fact that the National teams of Spain and Serbia and Montenegro were participating in this tournament while also being registered respectively in the IECL Women and TTC Women competitions in the same period, a clash of dates occurred and the ECC, in close collaboration with the Executive Committee, found alternatives to still guarantee the smooth running of both competitions and the participation of the ESP and SCG teams in the IECL and TTC. Mrs OOMS also shares that a proposal will be submitted to the Executive Committee to include in the IECL calendar for the next season a reserve date only to be used by CEV in case of unforeseen circumstances.
- Behaviour of supporters in a match of the Men IECL: During the IECL match L-033 Levski Siconco SOFIA – Panathinaikos ATHENS which took place in Sofia (BUL), the supporters of the local team became aggressive and violent towards the Greek supporters. Following a thorough analysis of the different reports received, CEV decided to issue a sanction against the Bulgarian club. Additionally, supervisors will be provided during the next Supervisor Seminar with specific instructions and tools on how to manage such situations when they arise in the scope of a CEV competition.

The next meeting of the ECC is organised in Warsaw (POL) on 2nd April 2005.

Sports Organising Commission – Mr Fabio SASSI

The last ESOC meeting was organised in Belgrade (SCG) on 12th – 13th November 2004. All proposals submitted by the commission were already discussed.

Mr Fabio SASSI, ESOC President, only wishes to add that the regulations for the Senior European Championships 2007 were drawn up according to the different remarks received from the other commissions and will need to be approved during the next CEV Board of Administration meeting in June 2005.

Action: Send the regulations to the CEV Office to be added on the agenda of the next BoA meeting. – ESOC / Administrative Dept.

The next ESOC meeting is scheduled in Rome (ITA) on 16th – 17th April 2005.

Beach Volleyball Commission – Mr Miguel-Angel QUINTANA

The last EBVC meeting was organised in Luxembourg on 7th – 9th January 2005. A lot of time was spent reviewing the minutes of the FIVB Beach Volleyball Permanent Committee and FIVB Beach Volleyball World Council and drawing the basic conclusions / decisions directly linked with European Beach Volleyball. Mr Miguel-Angel QUINTANA, EBVC President, presents the different proposals submitted by his commission:

- List of candidates who could be appointed in 2005 as Technical Supervisor and Assistant Technical Supervisor
- Review of the regulations for the Senior Beach Volleyball Competitions (listing all possible competition formats)
- Review of the regulations for the U-18 / 20 Beach Volleyball Competitions (listing all possible competition formats)

Decision: All proposals are approved and the regulations will be updated accordingly.

Additionally, Mr QUINTANA briefly mentions the following points:

- Laciga Emotions: Mr QUINTANA reminds his colleagues that the partnership with Laciga Emotions for the Junior events has temporarily been suspended for 2005, but a meeting will take place in April 2005 with CEV to discuss a possible contract for 2006.
- Meeting with FIVB: Mr QUINTANA explains that in the scope of a meeting which took place on 4th November 2004 in Lausanne with Mr Jean-Pierre SEPPEY and Mr Angelo SQUEO, the decision was made to cancel the Warning issued on the occasion of the 2004 CEV Championships Finals in Germany.
- Beach Volleyball Training Centre: Based on a request by several National Federations and players, the EBVC and GSM are currently analysing possibilities in Europe to develop training centres to be used year round by players from all European National Federations.
- Indoor Beach Volleyball: Three requests were received for the organisation of Indoor Beach Volleyball events, but as yet, no decision has been made in this regard.
- Ecoflag Program: Mr QUINTANA gives some very brief information about this program to help raise environment awareness through sport. Mr BELIGRATIS (GRE) informs the CEV that the Greek Volleyball Federation already joined this program.

Decision: CEV will be following in FIVB's footsteps and will join the Ecoflag Program.

Action: Add the Ecoflag logo and link on the CEV website. – Administrative Dept.

Finally, Mr QUINTANA wishes to thank Mr Erik SCHMIDT, CEV Beach Volleyball Coordinator, for his collaboration and hard work.

Medical Commission – Mr Manfred HOLZGRAEFE

As there was no European Medical Commission meeting since the last Board of Administration meeting, Prof. Dr Manfred HOLZGRAEFE only briefly says that there will be several European Championships in 2005 involving medical matters, mainly anti-doping tests. With this in mind, Dr HOLZGRAEFE suggests to the Jury Presidents for the competitions in Zagreb, Belgrade and Rome that the medical doctors involved in the competitions should be invited to the next OC meeting to discuss medical matters such as anti-doping tests. This suggestion comes after a letter and complete guidelines were sent to the doctors in these Organising countries inviting them to send their questions or comments to Dr HOLZGRAEFE, and no replies were received.

Action:

- Send a copy of this letter and guidelines to the Jury Presidents. – Administrative Dept.
- Invite the doctors involved in the SECH 2005 in CRO, ITA and SCG to attend the next OC meeting. – Jury Presidents

Mrs Riet OOMS also confirms that an inspection visit should be planned in Croatia to check that the organisation of the Women SECH 2005 meets all the medical requirements. Dr Fernando AVILA ESPANA should most likely be responsible for this inspection visit. Mr Olivier MOTTIER, CEV Executive Director, takes this opportunity to thank the federations of ITA and SCG for having sent in the requested information concerning anti-doping tests in Rome and Belgrade for the 2005 Senior Men's European Championships.

Finally, Dr HOLZGRAEFE mentions that a problem recently arose with regards to the new WADA regulations which state that each player needing to take drugs for medical reasons should send a Therapeutic Use Exemption form for approval prior to the competition. However, it is not clear which body should be responsible for receiving these forms and approving the use of such drugs.

An open discussion takes place on the subject and the following conclusion is drawn:

The Therapeutic Use Exemption form should be sent for approval to:

- The National Federation for National competitions



- The CEV for European competitions
- The FIVB for International competitions

However, Mr Andreas STAVROU raises the question of whether or not these different bodies should indeed be receiving documents and giving approvals for matters that directly depend on the competence and authority of WADA.

Action: Procedure to be clarified and confirmed. – EMC

The next EMC meeting is scheduled on 29th January 2005 in Luxembourg.

Refereeing Commission – Mr Jan REK

As no ERC meeting took place in the period since the last Board of Administration meeting in Istanbul (TUR), Mr Jan REK only briefly mentions a few points:

- Annual Referee Seminar: This seminar will be organised in Perugia (ITA) from 5th - 8th May 2005.
- Referee Uniforms: This ongoing problem should be finalised within the next few weeks as FIVB will sign a new contract with MIKASA for the referee uniforms.
- CEV Website: Mr REK is very pleased to inform his colleagues that new features have been made available on the CEV website for referees to not only check their nominations online but to also modify their personal data and availability.
- Men's SECH 2005 in SCG and ITA: As most of the referees will be flying home after the preliminary rounds, it is important to inform the National Federations responsible for organising their travel plans to reserve open-return tickets allowing the referees to fly home on any given day. Mr MEYER also adds that the CEV Head Office in charge of reserving the flights for the Neutral referees will need to organise open-return reservations as well.

Action: Include in the next official bulletin information concerning these travel arrangements. – Competitions Dept.

Reserve Referee

Mr REK confirms that the Reserve Referees in the IECL must be active International referees. Mr FISCHER comments that on two occasions in Tenerife (ESP), the Reserve Referee was not an International Referee as per the regulations.

Action:

- Clarify the situation in the regulations (Handbook) and send a warning to the ESP Federation. – Competitions Dept.
- Submit a proposal for the next season to be approved by the Executive Committee. – ERC

CEV Head Office Unveiling

Mr Olivier MOTTIER, CEV Executive Director, informs the Board of Administration members that the official inauguration of the new CEV Head Office will take place in Luxembourg on 18th and 19th February 2005.

Four different events will be organised on this occasion:

- Official Unveiling of the new offices: Visits will be divided into different groups (General Secretaries, Board of Administration members and VIP, etc.)
- Gala Dinner & Award Ceremony for the 2004 Best Players
- 1st CEV Seminar for NF's General Secretaries
- Extraordinary Executive Committee meeting

Practical information as well as the official reply form will be forwarded to all Board of Administration members within the next few days. CEV will cover the accommodation costs of all BoA Members and NF's General Secretaries from 18th till 20th February 2005 (2 nights). Travel costs will have to be borne by the respective National Federations

Seminar for General Secretaries

As mentioned, the 1st Seminar for the National Federation's General Secretaries will be organised in combination with the CEV Unveiling.

The seminar, presented by the CEV Office Staff, will be split into 3 different parts:

- Administrative matters on Friday afternoon, followed by a workshop in the presence of Mr MEYER, Mr BERBEN and Mr BORICIC
- Competition matters on Saturday morning, followed by a workshop in the presence of Mrs Riet OOMS, Mr Fabio SASSI, Mr Jan REK and Mr Miguel-Angel QUINTANA.
- Marketing, Communication and Medical matters on Saturday afternoon, followed by a workshop in the presence of Mr André MEYER, Mr Aleksandar BORICIC and Prof. Dr Manfred HOLZGRAEFE.

Miscellaneous

2005 Meetings Calendar (ExCom, BoA, Commissions, WG's)

A complete calendar of all meetings planned in 2005 was printed and included in the meeting's handbook. This calendar is also available from the CEV website under the tab *Calendar* and is updated on a regular basis.

Action: Check the dates published for the different Commissions and Working Groups meetings and inform CEV of any changes or additions. – Commissions' Presidents and WG Chairmen.

Awards Ceremony

Mr Maris PEKALIS explains that in his opinion, during the closing ceremony, it does not look good when a team is called to receive its award that all players move in front of the awards table and wait for their turn to receive a medal. Instead, the team should remain on the side, and the players should walk to the table to receive their medal one by one, then step on the podium.

Similarly, during the personal awards ceremony, the officials giving the awards should step away once they have handed the award to the players and make room for the next official and next player to be awarded. This would help focus the attention of the media and the spectators on the players themselves rather than on the group of officials present on the court.

Mrs Riet OOMS confirms that there were trials during the Youth Championships and that the proposal for the closing ceremony have already been changed but still needs to be approved by the CEV Executive Committee.

Mr MEYER states that there is no need for the Executive Committee to approve this change and that the new procedure should be tested as soon as possible.

Action:

- Finalise the new Awards Ceremony procedure. – R. OOMS
- Publish the new procedure on the CEV Website. – Administrative Dept.



Remarks from the BoA Members

Mr Manfred HOLZGRAEFE

Concerning the regular CEV news and official communications sent out by e-mail, Mr HOLZGRAEFE only wishes to underline the need to double-check the information communicated before it is sent out in order to avoid any mistakes.

Mr Philip BERBEN

The work to reunite the two Volleyball associations in Bosnia and Herzegovina is still in progress. Additionally, he informs his colleagues that he has been nominated as Technical Delegate for the European Youth Olympic Festival in Italy.

Next ExCom and BoA Meetings

The next Board of Administration meeting will take place in Moscow (RUS). Based on an invitation by the Russian Volleyball Federation, Executive Committee members and Board of Administration members will be arriving on 1st June 2005 and leaving on 5th June 2005, thus allowing them an extra day to visit the city of Moscow.

Mr MEYER asks the Board of Administration members to confirm their availability for these dates and personal wishes as soon as possible given that the CEV Head Office will be coordinating all travel reservations through its partner Austrian Airlines.

The next Executive Committee meeting will be organised in Luxembourg on 19th February 2005 on the occasion of the CEV Unveiling.

Closing of the Meeting

Mr MEYER thanks his colleagues for their active participation and contribution, the technicians for their useful assistance and the CEV Staff for the preparation of this meeting. Finally, Mr MEYER once again thanks and congratulates the Spanish Volleyball Federation for their hospitality and good organisation of the meetings.

CEV BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING – MOSCOW (RUS) – 4TH JUNE 2005

The following members are attending:

President:	André MEYER (LUX)
Snr Vice-President & Treasurer:	Philip BERBEN (BEL)
Vice-Presidents:	Snjezana MIJIC (CRO) - Riet OOMS (NED) - Aleksandar BORICIC (SCG) - Jan HRONEK (CZE)
Members:	Thanassis BELIGRATIS (GRE) - Aloys FISCHER (SUI) - Fabio SASSI (ITA) - Manfred HOLZGRAEFE (GER) - Vladimir PATKIN (RUS) - Maris PEKALIS (LAT) - Jacques SHAW (FRA) - Eric ADLER (DEN) - Jan REK (SUI)

Opening of the Meeting

Mr André MEYER opens the meeting and welcomes his colleagues to Moscow. He especially welcomes the First Vice-President and General Director of the Russian Volleyball Federation, Valentin ZHUKOV and Yuri SAPEGA.

The absent BoA members, Carlo MAGRI, Miguel Angel QUINTANA and Andreas STAVROU are excused by Mr MEYER. Mr QUINTANA is involved in the Games of the Small States of

Europe in Andorra as the FIVB Official. Mr STAVROU is also in Andorra as member of the Cypriot Olympic Committee. Mr MAGRI is absent, as he was honoured by the Italian Government for his work for the Italian volleyball during a ceremony by Silvio BERLUSCONI, the Italian Prime Minister. Mr BIESIADA, informed the RUS NF of his non-attendance only two hours before his planned arrival in Moscow without giving any reasons and is therefore considered to be absent without excuse.

Mr MEYER gives the floor to Mr ZHUKOV who welcomes all and wishes a successful Board of Administration meeting, also on behalf of the President of the Russian Federation, Mr Nikolai PATRUSHEV, who cannot attend. He gives a short summary of the development of volleyball in Russia. Both Volleyball and Beach Volleyball are developing steadily.



Members of the Board of Administration at work during the meeting held in Moscow in June 2005

The Russian NF will therefore have to expand and will move to bigger premises in 2007. In closing he wishes that Europe should do its utmost to maintain its supremacy with regards to Volleyball. Mr SAPEGA also welcomes the BoA members to Moscow.

Mr MEYER thanks Mr ZHUKOV and Mr SAPEGA for the invitation to Moscow and the warm welcome; he also addresses his thanks to Mr Vladimir PATKIN, Secretary General of the RUS NF who organised the entire program. He sends his regards to Mr PATRUSHEV.

Approval of the Agenda

The agenda is approved after reviewing the order of the presentations made by the Commissions' Presidents.

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on 21st January 2005 at the Hotel Tryp Indalo, in Almeria (ESP)

The minutes were approved by the Executive Committee on 3rd June 2005.

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on 18th – 19th February 2005 at CEV Head Office, in Luxembourg (LUX)

The minutes were approved by the Executive Committee on 3rd June 2005.

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on 23rd April 2005 at the Ramada Park Hotel, in Geneva (SUI)

The minutes were approved by the Executive Committee on 3rd June 2005.

Minutes of the Board of Administration held on 21st January 2005 at the Hotel Tryp Indalo, in Almeria (ESP)

The minutes are approved, with an amendment on page 17:

“Duties of commission members are stipulated in the internal regulations and not in the statutes”

Activity Report of the Executive Committee – FIVB Board of Administration meeting on 29-30th April and 1st May 2005

Finance

Mr MEYER explains that the FIVB BoA decided to automatically suspend any NF that fails to pay its CEV annual membership fee for more than three consecutive years. The Confederations have to inform FIVB about the financial status of their affiliated NFs twice a year. This disposition should concern the NF of ARM and WAL in Europe.

The new volleyball federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina

Being the only NF unable to find a solution to merge their organisation in their country, the new volleyball federation of BIH will now be able to jointly participate in CEV activities. The first application from the NF could be for the European Cups with the deadline of 8th June 2005. A solution to involve teams of both Federations will have to be examined.

FIVB moving

The FIVB acquired a new Head Office in Lausanne, where it will probably be able to move to within the next two or three years.

FIVB player's agreement for Beach Volleyball

FIVB requested the beach volleyball players to sign a player's agreement through their NF. Now slight modifications have been made. The athletes do no longer have to take part in more than 50% of the FIVB competitions, but mandatory have to play the World Championships, the three Grand Slams and four other FIVB tournaments.

Continental circuits

The FIVB Calendar will always prevail over the Continental Calendar. Confederations do not have the right restrict nor force in any way whatsoever the participation of their athletes in Continental Events and should find a qualification system that does not oblige the athletes to take part in a certain number of preliminary events.

Implementation of a high level development centre of excellence in Montpellier (FRA)

Mr LECLERCQ and Mr Thorsteinsson will study how to introduce this centre. A second review is being carried out for NOR, where a second centre could be established.

TV & Media

The General Manager inquired with EUROSPORT the costs of broadcasting a World League match played during the week on Saturday to facilitate distribution to broadcasters outside the host country.

Appointment of the MVP

FIVB set up guidelines to select the MVP after the Olympic Games. One of the criteria is that the athlete has to come from one of the two finalist teams of the tournament.

Application of a BoA member to become a candidate to the FIVB presidency

Amendments to the FIVB General Regulations were approved by the FIVB BoA.

Match USA vs. BRA during the Olympic Games

The team of BRA was suspected of not having played in the spirit of fair play. To avoid these doubts, it was agreed upon a drawing of lots after qualifications pools have been played. Secondly, regarding rankings - the point ratio should be taken into consideration before the set ratio, as it is more difficult for the athletes to follow the point ratio than the set ratio.

Decision: CEV will analyse such opportunity to change the system related the ranking of a team within a pool, taking into consideration that any modification will have consequent impact on the actual CEV database.

Equipment

For senior competitions teams were only allowed to play with shoes of the same colour. Now players can wear shoes of different style and colour as long as the shoe manufacturer is homologated by FIVB, except for shoes with black leather or with black soles, following a request from TV broadcasters.

Alcohol tests for officials

For the future, these tests will include all categories of officials (referees, scorers, and line judges)

Amendments to the Medical Regulations

Specific requirements will be included in the medical examination regarding vision and hearing.

Action: Inform CRO, ITA and SCG of this new procedure, in order to implement it for the SECH 2005 – Administrative Dept.

Final Report on electronic score sheet

It was decided to test two different programmes during the 2005 Men's Grand Champions Cup.

Institutions

FIVB/CEV Beach Volleyball Issues

Analysing the obligations towards GSM in the ExCom meeting held on 3rd June 2005, the ExCom decided to consider future policies in order to forge closer collaboration with FIVB and the best competitive opportunities in Europe. In addition to keep monitor the contract between CEV and GSM, since GSM is guaranteed to have the option to continue the partnership with CEV.

Working Group Regulations & Fines

Mr Meyer gives the floor to Mr Aloys FISCHER, President of the WG Regulations & Fines. Mr Fischer draws the attention of the members to the report of the previous WG meeting in Luxembourg the week before. The meeting was very intense but also very fruitful. In the future, more time and a higher budget would be needed to re-examine the regulations and fines efficiently.

Mr MEYER thanks Mr FISCHER for the work achieved by the WG also ensuring him that he is aware of the difficult situation regarding time and budget. It will be the task of the new BoA to decide on this issue after the elections in September 2005. Mr MEYER also mentions that



CEV received a proposal from a computer company concerning a program which would facilitate the modifications of the regulations.

Decision: Based on the proposal received analyse the implementation of a new database – Administrative Dept.

Working Group Media

Mr Aleksandar BORICIC opens his report by thanking the GRE NF for the hospitality during the previous WG meeting in Thessaloniki on 22nd March 2005. He points out that the Press Officers of the different NFs sometimes are faced with a lack of information regarding major Volleyball events, which is a pity, as Volleyball needs to be promoted, with the help of pictures and profiles of the most popular athletes.

Proposals:

- All NFs should send information on players, including pictures, to the Organiser in good time prior to a competition.
- To submit weekly articles or information about one NF (players, teams, activities) on the CEV/NFs' website(s) as a pool of information for the other NFs
- All Zonal Associations must create their own website in English
- The content of the NFs' websites should be in two languages, one of them being English, to improve and facilitate the circulation of information
- Teams should be available for an official picture 5 minutes before the start of game protocol and after a final
- A workshop for Press Officers should be organised within the organisation of the CEV Congress

Mr Boricic also emphasises that the press work has improved greatly after the employment of a full-time CEV Press Officer and thanks Ms. Shelly BICKENDORF for the work done so far.

Mr MEYER explains that the composition and the subjects treated by the Working Group Media need to be reviewed, since it needs to work more efficiently and actively.

Concerning the different proposals, Mr MEYER says that in the future the links and logos of the different Zonal Associations will be published on the CEV website.

Regarding the bilingual websites of the Zonal Associations, CEV could give financial support to the associations upon an evaluation of costs.

Mr Meyer thinks that the organisation of parallel seminars for General Secretaries and Press Officers is excellent and will be examined.

Decisions:

- Teams must be prepared for an official team picture before the start of the official protocol.
- Confirm in the IECL & EL official handbook that the organiser and the NFs participating in a tournament must send pictures of players and their teams to CEV to be published on the CEV website.

Action: Analyse the practical implementation of the modification in the official Handbooks.

Working Group Future of European Cups

M. MEYER briefly reminds the BoA members that the WG was founded to examine the actual situation of the cups competitions and to find out whether the current system is still valid and how it could be modified for future competitions. Two more meetings are needed to analyse the entire situation until a proposal can be submitted to the BoA in January 2006 and come into effect for the season 2006/2007.

Mr André MEYER underlines the fact that various scenarios are being analysed, i.e. to keep three cup competitions with modifications, particularly with regards to the qualifications for the IECL.

Mr Philip BERBEN reminds his colleagues that to implement possible changes for the season 2006/2007 might be too short notice, as the Federation and clubs already start negotiating with sponsors and local authorities before the start of their national league in September/October.

Mr André MEYER agrees and ensures that this is one of the things taken into account when analysing the situation.

Working Group European Champions League

Mrs OOMS explains that there are no proposals to be discussed, as the work carried out by the WG has already put into action and sent out to the clubs and NFs via the 2005/06 IECL Handbooks in April.

Mr MEYER adds the evaluation of the previous IECL confirmed that the season was very successful. Thanks to the new competition format, the visibility of volleyball on television has grown enormously. Mr Ruben ACOSTA, FIVB President, during the FIVB BoA meeting congratulated CEV during the confederations' activity reports on the big success of the European Cups.

European Legal Commission proposals

Mr FISCHER draws attention to the fact that there is a mistake in the last BoA minutes. During the previous meeting the BoA accepted proposals regarding the duties of commission members. The duties of the commission member are stipulated in the internal regulations and not, as stated in the minutes, in the statutes.

Action: Amend the minutes of the BoA meeting in Almeria (ESP), 21st January 2005 – Administrative Dept.

Decisions:

- To amend the duties of BoA members in the internal regulation, within the next year
- To amend the application form by including the new duties of BoA members
- To include members of the Special Refereeing Commission into the Appeal Committee

Zonal Associations activities

Mr PEKALIS explains that the work to establish the EEVZA is making good progress and that the first meeting could be held during the months of July/August 2005.

Action: Send the proposed Statutes to FIVB for last approval – Administrative Dept.

Mr MEYER says that BVA has sent a new competition calendar, which does not have any clashes with the CEV competition calendar. Unfortunately no other reports or competition calendars were received from NEVZA or MEVZA. He points out that no report can be made during the General Assembly if the written report was not submitted sent to CEV office in due time before. Moreover, the General Secretaries of the Zonal Associations will be invited to Luxembourg to discuss their tasks.

Action: Organise the meeting with the Zonal Associations – Administrative Dept.



CEV Statutes modifications

Mr BERBEN explains that, one of the FIVB Legal Commission's tasks was to check the statutes of the different Confederations. The CEV has the special status of an 'A.S.B.L.' a non-profit making association, due to its seat in Luxembourg. This also ensures that CEV follows Luxembourgish legislation. Since CEV, as an umbrella organisation, also has to comply with the FIVB regulations and certain articles, requested by FIVB, cannot be included in the CEV statutes, a separate, unconditionally linked, agreement needs to be signed with FIVB.

Mr FISCHER adds that an agreement has already been signed by Mr ACOSTA, FIVB President, and the previous CEV President, Mr ANDRESEN. This agreement was not renewed, but an amended version was presented to Mr SEPPEY, FIVB General Manager, during the General Assembly in Berlin 2003. This proposal was not rejected but has not been signed as yet.

Decision: Mr BERBEN will take two original copies of the agreement, already signed by Mr MEYER to the next FIVB Legal Commission meeting in Lausanne.

2005 – 2009 Official Applications

Mr MEYER says that a provisional document including all official applications received by CEV is in the hands of Mr MOTTIER and can be consulted. A final version will be published shortly before the congress.

Mr FISCHER points out that the European Legal Commission will have to check the applications before the General Assembly on 9th September 2005 in Rome.

Action: Sent a copy of all applications received to Mr A. FISCHER – Administrative Dept.

EUROSPORT contract 2005 – 2008

Regarding the contract established between EUROSPORT and CEV, Mr MOTTIER says that the agreement was sent to a lawyer to be reviewed. Generally, the proposal of EUROSPORT is in line with the demands of CEV, although certain paragraphs concerning the exclusivity of rights need to be examined carefully.

Mr MOTTIER explains that the contract is valid for 2005/2006 with an option for 2007/2008. The Indesit European Champions League will be broadcasted (Play-Offs, Final Round, highlights of 26 or 52 minutes). For the European League the home and away matches of RUS – GER and FIN – GER will be covered as well as the final in KAZAN (RUS). The women's Grand Prix Qualification Tournament in QUBA (AZE) will be covered with live matches. In 2008 the transmission of the European Olympic Qualification Tournament should also be an option for EUROSPORT.

Activity Reports – CEV Commissions

Cups Commission

Mrs Riet OOMS explains briefly the details of her Commission's minutes whose major part has already been validated by the Executive Committee of 23.04.2005:

- Analysis of the reasons for the non-participation of certain teams in the TTC via the NF (not understanding key rights, financial problems, etc.)
- Problems concerning the research of organisers during the Cups Finals. Necessity to modify the current regulation.

Decision: To modify the Minutes of the Executive Committee from 23rd April 2005, adding the obligation to play the match 3/4 in should an organiser not be found.

Action:

- To revise the Cups regulations in order to integrate new regulations concerning the format of the finals in case of absence of an organiser (Format of the competition, finances) – Competitions Department
- To transmit the new information to the participating clubs – Competitions Department

Concerning the Final Four, Mrs OOMS confirms the excellent organisation of all finals of the 2004/2005 season.

Mr MEYER informs his colleagues about the proposals presented on page 10 of the Minutes that were refused by the Executive Committee and modified as follows:

- Nicknames are maintained and allowed
- No special form for teams participating in the European Cups to declare that they are fully aware of all duties
- Medals will be maintained for the fourth ranked team (not in the official protocol)

Decision: The Minutes of the ECC from 1st - 2nd April 2005 are accepted with the amendments that are required by the Executive Committee.

Mr BERBEN reminds the members that the Minutes must be accepted as they are but that the decisions of the Executive Committee/BoA always reflect up to the Minutes.

An open discussion starts about the use of nicknames and the necessity or not to register them on the official forms.

Decision:

- Nicknames must be directly related to the names of the players.
- The responsibility for the use of nicknames belongs to the NF.

Action: Add a new space for the nickname on the application for licence.

Refereeing Commission

Mr REK details the most important activities carried out by his Commission since January 2005:

ERC Meeting in Moscow (RUS) was very well organised

Mikasa uniforms

Problems are solved and referees were informed during the seminar in Perugia (ITA). In a few weeks every referee should receive the new uniform details. CEV decides to use these uniforms starting from 1st September 2005 in all CEV Competitions.

Annual check of ID records of referees

It was completed successfully in April via the internet and by the CEV office. Those not correctly registered will have to wait until July 2005.

CEV Homepage

All necessary information as well as the documents are now available on the website.

IECL

Modification made in the Handbook concerning the obligation to allocate an international reserve referee.

Concerning this matter, Mr HRONEK recommends nominating international referee candidates in order to let them benefit from a formative experience.



Mr MEYER underlines that in the frame of a competition of this level only the best referees should be invited to officiate.

Mr BERBEN explains that within his NF the referee candidates are invited to observe the matches.

Mr HOLZGRAEFE asks about the progress of implementation of a Body Mass Index control. Mr REK adds that by now the information has been transmitted to the referees and that the ERC will apply it internally to the regulations.

Concerning the referees' uniforms Mr MEYER reminds all that in the future Mikasa will have the exclusive rights on these uniforms and that no other uniform will be accepted.

Decision: The ERC Minutes from 28th – 30th January 2005 are accepted.

Mr REK also thanks the Italian Volleyball Federation for their excellent organisation of the referee seminar in Perugia (ITA), with 73 participants from 39 different NFs.

Mr MEYER proposes the participation of the EMC at the next European Referee seminar.

Action: To coordinate the collaboration between ERC and EMC for the next seminar.

Medical Commission

Mr HOLZGRAEFE informs his colleagues about the following points:

- SECH 2005: Confirmation of participation from local doctors in the competition
- Medical check list transmitted to the local responsible doctors
- TUE-Forms was established within the CEV and NFs were informed. Mr HOLZGRAEFE underlines the importance of each NF being informed about the new procedures concerning the use of the TUE-Forms

Action: To remind all NF of the procedures related to the use of the TUE-Forms and their responsibilities – Administrative Department

- Email addresses: List to be updated
- Case of MLD: After the problems of quarantine of some players, the CEV decides to continue with the match as scheduled
- Plan for transportation of samples: essential for the organisation of anti-doping tests

Action: To inform the EMC about the transport details of the samples – SECH 2005 Organisers

Participation of Mr BEREC in Rome: Mr MOTTIER confirms that the information has been transmitted to ITA. Mr BEREC will be trained by Mr HOLZGRAEFE during the first three days.

Decision: The EMC Minutes are approved, except the nomination of Dr Rafael THEIN for his training on anti-doping tests.

Legal Commission

Mr FISCHER informs his colleagues that the meeting planned for May was cancelled. The following subjects have meanwhile been studied:

- Duties of the BoA Members, whose proposals have been accepted by the present BoA
- Changes of Internal Regulations
- Control of the EEVZA Statutes
- Sanctions of POL concerning the non-presence of Mr BIESIADA. Sanction executed.

Sports Organisation Commission

Mr SASSI draws the attention of his colleagues on the most important points of the ESOC Minutes from the meeting held on 15th and 16th April 2005 in Rome:

Decisions:

- Obligation of medical insurance for teams should be included in all Official Regulations
- Promotional plan must be part of the guideline for organisers of YECH
- The presence of an ESOC Member at YECH inspection visits is refused
- Addendum of the Official Regulations of the Junior EC for "Small Countries" is accepted
- Composition of a team (Youth, Junior, Senior)

"Should any one of the functional positions not be filled by the properly authorised or accredited person, the official delegation will be reduced accordingly"

- Visa costs for CEV officials and Referees

Action: To propose a unitary regulation for all CEV competitions

- Approval of a Competition Hall: Modify the Senior and Junior Regulation with a new deadline for returning the ad hoc forms
- Junior World Championships: European Qualification has to be maintained in accordance with FIVB, independent from the number of vacancies for Europe
- Database of Competition Halls: Project accepted but without publishing on the CEV website

Decision: The Minutes are approved with the previous comments.

Mr MEYER reminds the BoA members that all irregularities highlighted concerning the competitions must appear in the Final Report. Mr MEYER underlines that concerning the uniforms only the uniforms that are recognised by the FIVB can be considered as valid, except for the category Youth and Small Countries.

Competitions Calendar 2006/2007

An open discussion starts concerning the next competitions calendar (Cups, Championships, European League, etc.). In accordance with the new concept, a harmonisation of the calendar is necessary. Several factors have to be integrated – pre-qualification, philosophy to be maintained with home/away matches, number of teams that are susceptible to register, etc.

In order to deliver these needs new Working Group has been created.

Decision: To establish the proposals of a new calendar 2006/07 through a Working Group composed by Mr J. HRONEK, A. MEYER, P. MULHEIMS, F. SASSI, P. BAKODIMOS, E. ADLER & J-P. ROMMES

Financial Matters

Accounts 2004 & Budget 2006

Mr Philip BERBEN, CEV Senior Vice-President and Treasurer briefly comments on the accounts for 2004 that were finalised by Lux-Fiduciaire and the official external auditor KPMG, nominated by FIVB.

Decision: The BoA accepts the accounts 2004 as presented and signs the approval protocol prepared by KPMG.

Actions:



- To send the signed protocol to KPMG – Administrative Dept.
- To propose, based on this decision, the approval of the accounts 2004 to the General Assembly on 9th September 2005.

Suspension ARM / WAL and Memberships fee proposal

Mr Philip BERBEN presents the new proposal concerning the categories of Federations and their respective annual contributions.

With the principal objective to reduce these contributions, the Executive Committee proposes to establish new fees:

Category A, all National Federations except those of Group C = 500€

Category B, Federations currently included in Group C = 250€

Category C for administratively suspended Federations = 0€/year

In this context, Mr BERBEN also proposes that for the two National Federations of ARM and WAL, likely to be suspended by the FIVB, the CEV exceptionally concedes to eliminate their debts in order to minimise their difficult financial situation and to improve their potential reactivation.

Decision:

- The BoA accepts the new proposal of categorisation, valid from 1st January 2006 onwards.
- It agrees to erase the old debts of ARM and WAL.

Proposal: To propose to the General Assembly to accept the new categories of membership fees.

Mr BERBEN concludes his report informing his colleagues about the last EFC meeting, where the principal activity was to detail the different tasks and competences related to their activity.

European Championships

2005 Men's SEC – Report of the Jury President

Mr Jan HRONEK reports the latest information concerning this organisation:

- VIP tribune reserved for the National delegates present at the General Assembly 2005 for a total of 120 persons
- Next inspection visit planned 17th June 2005 (Organisation of the Congress and marketing)
- Bulletin No. 1 to be issued by Italian Volleyball Federation (FIPAV)
- Next common meeting between SCG/FIPAV and the CEV planned for the 09th – 10th July 2005 in Belgrade

Mr Manfred HOLZGRAEFE confirms that he has not yet received any information concerning his flight ticket.

Action: To inform FIPAV about the necessity to issue the all flight tickets for the officials appointed – Administrative Dept.

2005 Women's SEC – Report of the Jury President

Mrs Riet OOMS informs her colleagues regarding the preparations:

- A coordination session between CRO and the CEV took place in Luxembourg
- The monthly report received from CRO indicates the status of the current preparations

- Mr Fabio SASSI will benefit from his stay in Zagreb for the qualification tournament for World Championships to control the selection and training of the necessary human resources.

2005 YEC in LAT and EST – Report of the Jury Presidents

Mr Jan HRONEK confirms the professional organisation in Riga, particularly in regard to the high number of spectators and the presence of political authorities including the Prime Minister.

Mr Philip BERBEN also states the good organisation of the Estonian Federation in Tallinn for the girls' tournament. Nevertheless, he regrets the lack of communication that affected this event.

Action: To include in the guideline for the future organisers of these competitions the necessity to develop a communication plan – Administrative Dept.

Mr Maris PEKALIS brings up the problem linked to the increased of the number of teams participating to 12. For the future he proposes an analysis of the possibility of an additional free day during the competition week.

Action: To analyse the necessity for such a measure – ESOC.

2007 Senior European Championships Regulations

Mr Aloys FISCHER, Chairman of the Working Group Regulations & Fines, comments briefly on the work established by his group. He confirms the absolute necessity to revise the specific financial parameters of each competition.

Mr André MEYER requests a better definition and wording of the new regulation. A simplification of certain terms would permit a better comprehension. He proposes to adapt the analogue system of the FIVB where each step of the qualifications for the World Championships is classified by rounds (1st round, 2nd round, etc.). The consequent commercial value of this is largely beneficial to all participating teams.

On the other hand he underlines that the use of a diagram would allow an easier understanding of the qualification process.

Action: To revise the final version of the regulations for approval in the frame of the next BoA.

Small Countries Addendum – Senior and Junior

A proposal has been worked out concerning the adaptation of specific regulations for these competitions for teams included in Group C.

Decision: The BoA accepts the proposal as presented.

European League 2005

Mr MEYER informs his colleagues that the Final Four in Kazan (RUS) will be transmitted by EUROSPORT and EUROSPORT 2.

Action: To appoint the referees for the Final Four - ERC.

2006 FIVB Grand Prix European Qualification

Mrs Riet OOMS confirms that the tournament will take place in QUBA (AZE). The control of the preparations as well as the necessary actions are complete and in case the organiser will not respect the deadline fixed for 1st July, the competition will be moved to Baku (AZE).



European Beach Volleyball

U-18, 20, 23 EC – 2005 Organisation

U-20: 28th – 31st July 2005 in Tel-Aviv (ISR). The requested security measures have been confirmed by the Federation and the competent authorities. CEV Representative – A. BORICIC

U-23: 4th – 7th July 2005 in Myslowice (POL). CEV Representative – J. HRONEK

U-18: 11th – 14th August 2005 in Illichivsk (UKR). CEV Representative – M. PEKALIS

Nestea European Championship Tour 2005

Confirmed Calendar:

<u>Competition</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>CEV Representative</u>
Open in ESP	07.-10.07.2005	Valencia	R. OOMS
Open in SUI	06.-09.08.2005	Lucerne	J. HRONEK
Final in RUS	25.-28.08.2005	Moscow	A. MEYER

As Mr Miguel QUINTANA is excused, the BoA Members take note of the Minutes of the EBVC Meeting held on 13th – 16th May 2005 in Alanya (TUR).

New nominations have been proposed for Assistant Supervisors of the next competitions.

As the Executive Committee approved on 23rd April 2005 a different nomination list, the proposal of the EBVC has to be further analysed.

Decision: The request of the EBVC concerning the possible introduction of an athlete contract, identical to that of the FIVB, is refused.

Concerning the Organisation of the Senior Championships 2005, and particularly the competition format of the Open Events which was reduced to 16 teams, there are now different conclusions by the EBVC.

Mr MEYER determines that in this case it is difficult to see a clear strategic line and that the competition system of these Championships has to become stabilised in the long-term.

Action:

- To clarify the Supervisors nominations – Competition Department
- To include the approval of the EBVC Minutes on the Agenda of 08.09.2005 – Administrative Dept.

Miscellaneous

Awarding Ceremony

As the new proposal to organise the awarding ceremony has been tested successfully during the Youth European Championship 2005, the BoA confirms the validity of this guideline.

Action: Publication of the new guideline on the CEV website – Competitions Dept.

XXVI CEV General Assembly 9th September 2005 – Rome (ITA)

Provisional Agenda

6th September 2005 Arrival of the Executive Committee members

7th September 2005 Arrival of the Board of Administration members

Meeting of the Executive Committee: 09.00 – 12.30h

Meeting of the Board of Administration: 15.00 – 19.00h

8th September 2005 Arrival of the Congress delegates and CEV guests

Meeting of the Board of Administration: 09.00 – 13.00h

Accreditation of the delegates for the Congress: 15.00 – 20.30h

Special meetings (NEVZA, MEVZA, BVA, Small Countries) to be confirmed

9th September 2005 XXVI General Assembly

10th September 2005 Meeting of the Executive Committee: 09.00 - 10.00h

Meeting of the Board of Administration: 10.00 – 11.30h

CEV Press Conference: 11.30 – 12.15h

Indesit European Championships 2005

11th September 2005 Crossed Semi-finals

Classification Match

Final

12th September 2005 Departure CEV guests, Executive Committee, Board of Administration Members and CEV delegates.

Concerning the presentation of the commission reports, each President has to prepare a PowerPoint file.

Action: Collect the different presentation to adapt them to a standardised layout – Administration Dept.

Concerning the 2005 elections, an open discussion takes place to determine the system to be applied. The elections can be carried out by one single round or in two separate rounds for women and men.



Decision:

- First one round for the nominated women: 3 candidates for 2 places
- Second one round for the nominated men: 15 candidates for 12 places

TTC & CEV Cup

Mrs Riet OOMS confirms that the drawing of lots of TTC and CEV Cups will take place in Luxembourg on 2 July 2005. The drawing of lots for the Indesit European Champions League will be carried out in Vienna on 12 August 2005.

European Youth Olympic Festival – Lignano (ITA)

Mr Berben informs the BoA members that the participating NFs must appoint the referees officiating during the matches.

Action: Reminder to the concerned NFs – Competitions Dept.

BIH Case

Until today, 8 clubs only from the former BIH federation have been registered for the season 2005/2006. Actually, no club of the Republic of SRPSKA is registered and the equality required by the FIVB within the new federation is therefore not respected.

Decision: Mr Siliak is no longer considered responsible and his signature is from now on not-valid. Only the group nominated by FIVB (4 persons) is in charge of the office management of the reunited federation of BIH.

Action: Carefully follow the official registrations of the clubs from BIH and transmit all necessary information to Philip BERBEN – Competitions Dept.

Closing of the Meeting

Mr Meyer thanks his colleagues for the intense work and closes the meeting.

CEV BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING – ROME (ITA) – 7TH & 8TH SEPTEMBER 2005

The following members are attending:

President:	André MEYER (LUX)
Snr Vice-President & Treasurer:	Philip BERBEN (BEL)
Vice-Presidents:	Snjezana MIJIC (CRO) - Riet OOMS (NED) - Jan HRONEK (CZE)
Members:	Janusz BIESIADA (POL) - Aloys FISCHER (SUI) - Manfred HOLZGRAEFE (GER) - Vladimir PATKIN (RUS) - Miguel Angel QUINTANA (ESP) - Jan REK (SUI) - Fabio SASSI (ITA)

Opening of the Meeting

Mr André MEYER opens the meeting at 15.00h and welcomes his colleagues to Rome. He excuses Mr Athanassios BELIGRATIS, Mr Carlo MAGRI and Mr Aleksandar BORICIC who are attending the FIVB World League Meeting in Lausanne (SUI) as well as Mr Maris PEKALIS, who is officiating as CEV Jury Member during the Indesit European Championship in Belgrade. However, all BoA members, except for Mr Carlo MAGRI, are supposed to attend the second session of the BoA meeting on the following day.

Mr MEYER explains the meeting was split into two sessions, as the entire Thursday afternoon is needed to prepare the accreditation procedure for the General Assembly.

Approval of the Agenda

In the absence of any comments, the Agenda is adopted.

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on 3rd June 2005 at Hotel MEZHDUNARODNAYA, Moscow (RUS)

No questions were raised.

Minutes of the Board of Administration Meeting held on 4th June 2005 at Hotel MEZHDUNARODNAYA, Moscow (RUS)

Regarding page 4 of the minutes, it was proposed to take the point ratio into consideration before the set ratio. Mr MEYER informs the BoA members that another possibility was discussed in the Sports Events Council in Lausanne the day before. Concerning the ranking within a pool, a combination of the two systems is being tested now by the FIVB, i.e. to take the ratio of points plus the ratio of sets and divide them by two. If this new system proves to be successful, it will be decided upon by the FIVB Board of Administration in April or May 2006.

In the absence of any further remarks or questions, the minutes are adopted.

Activity Report of the Executive Committee

Mr Meyer informs his colleagues about the last Executive Committee meeting. The points discussed were:

- Organisation of the European Championships 2005
- New agenda of the XXVI CEV Congress
- Overview of pending items

Mr BERBEN takes the floor to give a short summary of the European Youth Olympic Festival in Italy and congratulates the Italian Volleyball Federation on their excellent organisation of this event. Out of the eleven disciplines, volleyball was among the three best organised.

The next European Youth Olympic Festival will be staged in Belgrade (SCG). The European Olympic Committee will get in contact with the different European sports associations to examine the possibility of organising qualifications for the European Youth Olympic Festival instead of inviting the respective teams.

Institutions

FIVB – CEV Meeting – future of European Circuit

Mr MEYER refers to a memo issued by FIVB concerning the free choice of beach volleyball players to select the tournaments where they want to play. Within the CEV office problems occurred, as this memo was misinterpreted, but these misunderstandings have been resolved in the meantime and the regulations will be respected as already communicated to the CEV partner GSM on 7th July. The players are at least to play the World Championships and 4 Grand Slam tournaments and are free to choose 4 other World Tour events they want to take part in.

Moreover, Mr MEYER congratulates the Russian Federation on the organisation of the European Championships Final in Moscow.

In order to define the Beach Volleyball strategy in Europe, a meeting between FIVB President Mr ACOSTA, FIVB Beach Volleyball Coordinator Mr SQUEO, CEV President Mr MEYER and CEV Senior Vice-President & Treasurer M. BERBEN is scheduled for 20th September 2005.



The tentative competition calendar for the seasons 2006/2007/2008 will be discussed during the meeting with FIVB.

Mr Manfred HOLZGRAEFE excuses himself and leaves the meeting (15.30h), as he has to officiate during the Indesit European Championship matches played later on in the evening.

Zonal Associations activities: Minutes of the meeting held on 28th June 2005 in Luxembourg

Mr MEYER refers to the minutes of the meeting held in Luxembourg announcing that these meetings will be organised on an annual basis from now on. During the meeting CEV decided to give support to the Zonal Associations by subsidising a common website. The webpage of the BVA is already working and can be taken as a good example. In this regard Mr MEYER also thanks Mr Achilleas MAVROMATIS who has helped realise this project and who can be contacted in case of further questions.

In point 5.7 of the meeting's minutes it referred to old debts resulting from the Spring Cup staged more than four years ago. As this competition is officially recognised, CEV took care of the situation and talked to the President of the concerned Federation, who promised to settle the outstanding debts.

Mr MEYER attended the meeting for the establishment of the EEVZA in Riga. In the meantime FIVB has also confirmed the statutes of this new regional association.

All four Zonal Associations (BVA, EEVZA, MEVZA and NEVZA) will have the possibility to present their activities during the Congress.

Upon the elections of the new Board of Administration a Coordinator will be nominated to follow up the activities of the Zonal Associations and to improve communication with CEV.

Mr MEYER says that the proposal to organise 1st Round Qualifications of major competitions at Zonal Association level was discussed during the Sports Events Council. This would lower the travelling costs of the NFs for example.

Financial & Marketing Matters

Old debts – situation of NFs which should be suspended by FIVB

In terms of the administrative status of ARM and WAL, the FIVB has now officially confirmed the suspension of these two NFs. As long as their outstanding debts remain unpaid this status will be maintained.

EUROSPORT contract

Mr BERBEN says that the contract has been passed on to EUROSPORT after careful examination by the CEV President and a lawyer. The signed or amended version of the contract is therefore expected to reach the CEV Head Office in the following days.

Mr Meyer points out that in principle the contract between CEV and EUROSPORT is already running, although it has not been signed by both parties yet. The contract is valid for two years.

Mr MOTTIER, CEV Executive Director, adds that the contract valid for 2005/2006 covers the following competitions:

- Indesit European Champions League – play-offs and Final Round
- European League – League Round and Final Round
- World Grand Prix (Qualification Round)

The contract also includes an option to extend the agreement for two more years (2007/2008). In this case the contract could also cover the transmission of the European pre-qualification and qualification tournaments for the Olympic Games. The contract signed with EUROSPORT

respects all agreements already made by clubs, for example in terms of the Indesit European Champions League.

Mr STAVROU takes the floor to congratulate CEV on the establishment of this partnership with EUROSPOORT. Then he refers to the suspended NF of WAL. The Small Countries tried to get in touch with the NF of WAL but neither they nor their neighbour federations could reach anybody. He is afraid that this NF no longer exist, but will follow up the case within the frame of the next meeting of the Small Countries.

European Championships

2005 SEC Final Round in ITA and SCG – Progress Report from the Jury President

Mr HRONEK takes the floor to give a summary of the running Indesit European Championship, explaining that the competition has almost entered the final phase. The opening ceremony in Belgrade was excellent with 400 dancers on the court. Mr HRONEK sincerely congratulates the NFs of ITA and SCG on the excellent organisation of the ECH realised so far.

Mr MEYER adds that in terms of spectator attendance the competition can already be considered very successful. In total more than 150,000 spectators are estimated to have seen the matches. Furthermore he states that it has not been an easy task to organise the European Championship in two different countries, especially with regards to communication. However, the project can be evaluated positively, particularly in view of the Women's European Championships jointly organised by BEL and LUX in 2007.

2005 SEC Final Round in CRO – Progress Report from the Jury President

Mrs OOMS takes the floor to explain that the coordination with the Croatian NF was very difficult at the beginning and had to be followed up closely. Fortunately, this has changed a lot during the previous months and the communication can now considered to be very good, particularly regarding the communication flow with the CEV Press Officer and Marketing Coordinator.

However, problems with a TV broadcaster occurred and have still not been resolved after having slightly changed the match schedule.

Mrs OOMS points out that the CRO NF faced many problems when they tried to receive the pictures and rosters of the participating teams in order to print their promotional material, brochures etc. 4 – 5 NFs did not send any pictures at all.

Decision: To send a fine to NF for not supplying the required information of their team.

2004/05 Men's European Championship – Case of Georgia

Mr MEYER informs the BoA members that the President of the Georgian NF attended the ExCom meeting to explain the case from his point of view. Problems arose when the team did not get the visas from the French embassy in time to play a match in Sweden.

The case will be dealt with during the next ExCom meeting.

Calendar 2006 – Report of the Working Group

Mr ADLER takes the floor explaining that the meeting held in Luxembourg was very fruitful and that the recommendations of the BoA had been taken into account.

- The competition system for the pre-qualifications and qualifications based on home and away matches has been followed (except for the teams playing in the World League)
- Clashes have been avoided regarding the European Cups in December 2005 and January 2006



- To organise the finals of the Junior Men's (RUS) and Women's (FRA) European Championships simultaneously from 26th August to 3rd September 2006

The Working Group has made the following additional proposals:

- The Drawing of Lots of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd rounds are to be held together on 19th and 20th November 2005 in Luxembourg
- Proposed dates for the European League 2006
 - ❖ 1st leg – 8th & 9th July
 - ❖ 2nd leg – 15th & 16th July
 - ❖ 3rd leg – 22nd & 23rd July
 - ❖ 4th leg – 29th & 30th July
 - ❖ 5th leg – 5th & 6th August
 - ❖ 6th leg – 12th & 13th August
 - ❖ Finals – 19th & 20th August
- The European League is a promotional event, but the priority has to be given to the European Championships
- To coordinate the competition dates between ESOC and the ECC in order to fix the next calendar

Decision: The calendar and the proposals of the Working Group are accepted, except for the World League considering the calendar starting after the European Championships Qualification Round is finished. No exceptional dates will be fixed for teams participating in the World League.

Following the proposal of the Working Group, teams of the same pool can decide by majority to play two tournaments, this will be accepted.

European Championship Regulations

The BoA comments on the different sections of the regulations as follows:

- SECH Competitions Regulations
- SECH Technical Organisation
- SECH Refereeing Regulations
- SECH Medical Regulations

Decision: The regulations are approved with amendments

Action: Finalise the regulations of the SECH – Competition Department

A discussion regarding the calculation system for the classification of teams within a pool started:

- Currently the classification depends, in first instance, on the sets ratio
- The new system of the FIVB, which was tested during the Youth and Junior World Championships takes into account the points ratio in first instance
- During the previous session of the FIVB Sports Events Council, another system has been suggested adding together the sets and the point's ratio and dividing the result by two.

Decisions:

- Modify the calculation system for the classification of teams taking into account the points ratio
- This decision is valid for all official CEV competitions starting on/after the 1st October 2005

Actions:

- Inform all NFs – Competition Department
- Extend the registration deadline for the SECH 2006/07 to the 1st November 2005 and distribute the ad-hoc forms including the new regulations to all NFs – Competition Department
- CCC to update the competition manager in that way that all 3 possibilities can be used for the future (points ratio, sets ratio, sum divided by 2)

European League 2005 and future

Final Four in Kazan (RUS)

During the League Round and the Final Four of the European League in Kazan several problems (already been discussed by ExCom), arose:

- Some NFs did not respect the obligations in terms of TV coverage during the League Round
- Some NFs did not send their best team to the matches of the Final Round
- Some teams did not attend the closing dinner in Kazan

As these three factors seriously harm the image of European volleyball, a sanction, which is to be deducted from the prize money, should be issued to the concerned NFs.

Decision: To sanction the NFs who failed to respect the above-mentioned points according to the ExCom proposal.

Action: Set the sanctions against the prize money for the European League 2005 and inform the concerned NFs accordingly – Administration Department

Health Problems - Hotel Dedeman – Ankara (TUR)

For the second time athletes have suffered from food poisoning during or after a stay at the Hotel Dedeman in Ankara (TUR). As virology examinations from a medical expert produced a positive result, the Medical Commissions recommends refusing the Hotel Dedeman for any further competition.

In general, the result of the latest hygienic visit carried out by the local authorities should be requested prior to a competition or a hygienic visit should be organised a few days before the start of a competition to avoid any risk of infection.

Decision: The hotel Dedeman in Ankara (TUR) will be refused for any competition in the future.

Action: To inform the NF of TUR accordingly – Competition Department

Next edition and Planning

The FIVB plans to organise the World League with 16 teams instead of 12.

The CEV will examine the future carrying out of the European League 2006 with the NFs which are interested in participating in the competition.

Decision: To organise the European League meeting on 20th November 2005 in Luxembourg from 09.00h – 12.00h. This meeting will be held after the Drawing of Lots and the calendar conference of the SECH 2006/07 taking place on 19th November 2005 at 15.00h in Luxembourg.

European Qualification 2006 FIVB World Grand Prix

Final Report from the Jury President

Mrs OOMS explains that the tournament venue had to be changed from Baku to QUBA as the competition hall in Baku did not meet the CEV regulations (no air-conditioning). This change



resulted in other problems regarding the infrastructure and logistics in QUBA. As the hotel, streets, training hall etc. had only just been built the service which could be provided to the teams was unfortunately very limited.

However, Mrs OOMS congratulates the NF of AZE on the good promotion, the excellent spectator attendance and the material provided to CEV (Final Report, press clippings etc.). Thanks to this success the NF of AZE has already enquired to play the Indesit European Champions League matches of Azerrail BAKU in QUBA as well.

Decision: Refuse QUBA as a venue for IECL matches due to the problems which occurred during the Grand Prix.

Action: Examine if the IECL matches can be played in BAKU provided that an air conditioning system has been installed – Competition Department

European Cups

Drawing of Lots IECL 2005/06 and Seminars

Mrs OOMS takes the floor explaining that the Drawing of Lots was held in Vienna on 12th August 2005. Although she was afraid that not all clubs and Supervisors could attend the meeting in the holiday season, the attendance was even better than in the previous years. The organisation of the Drawing of Lots was excellent.

The European Cups Commission will examine how to make the seminars more attractive for the experienced clubs and Supervisors. It would also be feasible to organise the seminars with longer intervals (every two years for example).

Case of BIH

Mrs OOMS refers to the previous BoA meeting, where it was decided to treat entries from the NF of BIH for the upcoming European Cups season with flexibility. Unfortunately, no official document or completed forms were received in due time, which will hopefully change for the next year.

The CEV Competitions Director, Mr Jean-Paul ROMMES adds that CEV did receive documents from the NF of BIH, but they were not accepted by FIVB.

European Beach Volleyball

U-18, 20, 23 EC Final Reports

Mr QUINTANA explains that 47 teams from 20 NFs participated in the U-18 European Beach Volleyball Championship in Illichivsk (UKR) from 11th to 14th August 2005. Pairs from POL, LTU and SLO won the medals in the men's category while CZE, GER and LTU occupied the first three places in the women's category.

Some problems related to food and accommodation arose. Unfortunately, no Final Report has been sent by the Technical Supervisor Mr Geir VESTBO (NOR) yet. Moreover, a complaint letter was sent by AND, because the team missed the connecting flight and had to pay for new tickets.

Mr MEYER takes the floor to explain that these problems have an important impact on the organisation of such an event. Provided that the same problems are mentioned in the Final Report the BoA should not consider the NF of UKR for the organisation of upcoming tournaments.

Mr HRONEK adds that he spoke to Mr PEKALIS who officiated as CEV Representative during the competition. Mr PEKALIS confirmed that the conditions under which the organisation was carried out were not sufficient and that a private company had been in charge of the running of the competition. There was no support by the NF of UKR.

Mr QUINTANA points out that it was decided to carry out an inspection visit, which, in the end, did not take place.

Mr MEYER proposes to take Mr Geir VESTBO (NOR) off the list of Technical Supervisors, as he failed to fulfil his function during the U-18 European Beach Volleyball Championship.

Decision: Mr Geir VESTBO (NOR) will no longer be considered as Technical Supervisor.

Actions:

- Send a warning to the NF of UKR
- Examine the additional travelling cost with the NF of AND due to the missed flight
- Send a reminder to Mr Geir VESTBO to send the Final Report

Mr BORICIC joins the meeting at 09.30.

Regarding the U-20 European Championship held in Tel Aviv (ISR) from 28th to 31st July 2005, 28 teams participated in each category. Pairs from LAT, POL, and GER won medals in the men's category while NED, AUT and GER occupied the first three places in the women's category.

The NF of ISR closely collaborated with the local authorities which delivered a very good outcome in terms of organisation. Mr QUINTANA adds that the day of the final was a Sunday, which is a normal working day in Israel. He suggests taking into account this kind of circumstances for all competitions to avoid low spectator attendance.

Mr BORICIC, who was the CEV Representative during the competition welcomed the decision to stage a tournament in ISR after many years of embargo. Furthermore he mentions that there was a small problem with the time schedule, which, for security reason, could not be changed shortly before the event started.

Mr QUINTANA continues with his reports and covers the U-23 European Beach Volleyball Championship, which was organised in Myslowice (POL) from 4th to 7th August 2005. 40 teams from 20 NFs took part in the tournament. Pairs from LAT, FIN, and GER won medals in the men's category while two teams from GER and another one from CZE occupied the first three places in the women's category.

The organisation of the event was good, the NF of POL is interested in organising the U-18 European Championship next year.

Mr HRONEK, who officiated as CEV Representative on site confirms that the organisation was very good. However, it was regrettable that the weather was very bad (temperature around 15°C and rain) and that the President of the NF of POL was not present during the competition.

Nestea European Championship Final 2005

Mr MEYER explains that the European Championship Tour and the Final were a big success attended by no less than 84 teams from 23 NFs. The level of organisation was very high and all players were greatly satisfied with the professionalism of the hosting NFs. Some issues arose between the CEV Technical Supervisor and the GSM representative.

Mr MEYER also mentions the problems which arose between CEV and GSM during the Final in Moscow (RUS). No GSM representative attended the closing dinner. In addition he regrets that not many spectators came to see the matches, especially as the final was transmitted by EUROSPORT. He congratulates the RUS NF on the excellent organisation of the Final.

Action: In order to prepare the next meeting between GSM and CEV, a written report will be prepared – Administration Department



'Pro Series' – CEV/FIVB non-authorised tournaments

Mr MEYER explains that, although much information was sent to the NFs regarding the prohibition of Beach Volleyball competitions not authorised by FIVB/CEV, the 'Pro Series' tournaments were organised in Europe. CEV does not accept any other European Beach Volleyball Championship that is not authorised by CEV or FIVB. Players taking part in non-authorised competitions will receive a warning and/or a suspension. Those who have already received a warning during the previous season will be suspended for two years.

Decision: In accordance with the FIVB and the Beach Volleyball Coordinator, Mr Angelo SQUEO

- Athletes taking part in non-authorised Beach Volleyball competitions will receive a suspension for one year for all continental and national Beach Volleyball events
- Athletes, who have already received a warning regarding this matter, will be suspended for two consecutive years from all continental and national Beach Volleyball events as well as Volleyball events

Activity Reports – CEV Commissions

Legal Commission – Mr Aloys FISCHER

Mr FISCHER explains that no meeting was held after the previous BoA meeting in Moscow. The next meeting is scheduled for 17th December 2005.

In the meantime the following subjects have been dealt with:

- Internal Regulations: a revised version was prepared in order to manage all questions which could arise regarding the procedure of protest etc. during Championships.
- Code of Discipline: a revised version was prepared, partly adapted to the FIVB Code of Conduct including all sanctions, which are actually present in different regulations.
- Advice was given to members of the BoA and the CEV Head Office.

Action: The newly elected BoA will have to comment and correct, if necessary, the proposed 'Internal Regulations' and 'Code of Discipline'

Mr BELIGRATIS and Mr BAKODIMOS join the meeting at 10.30

Financial Commission – Mr Philip BERBEN

Mr BERBEN reminds his colleagues that the role of the Financial Commission has to be updated taking into account that CEV already benefits from efficient bodies directing the financial control of the institution (Internal Auditors, KPMG).

Besides this, the development of marketing projects including the management of the corresponding contracts is assured internally.

Cups Commission – Mrs Riet OOMS

As the minutes were already adopted during the last BoA meeting, Mrs OOMS has no other specific proposal of item to be discussed.

Sports Organising Commission – Mr Fabio SASSI

Mr SASSI underlines that all major points have already been treated within the frame of this agenda. No other supplementary commentary is necessary.

Finally, Mr SASSI announces that, for personal reasons, he will not stand for another term of office as President of the ESOC. However, he will be pleased to continue to give his support

as member of this Commission, as he has always been very proud to be a member of one of the most important CEV Commissions. He thanks the BoA for their good cooperation and the trust they have showed in him.

Mr MEYER also thanks Mr SASSI for the outstanding work he has done during the past 22 years and wishes him the best for the future.

Refereeing Commission – Mr Jan REK

Mr REK briefly refers to the previous meeting of the Refereeing Commission in Luxembourg. The minutes of the meeting will be sent out as soon as possible.

He also informs his colleagues that he will take part, as observer, in the next FIVB Refereeing Commission meeting in Lausanne from 22nd to 24th September 2005.

Mr HRONEK suggests improving certain referee nominations taking into account the nationalities of the Supervisors nominated. Mr REK confirms that this remark is correct, however, the nominations are not always easy to make and the Commission does its utmost to avoid this kind of nationality conflicts.

Having finished his report, Mr REK leaves the BoA meeting to attend a meeting of the referees officiating in the Indesit European Championship at 10.00h.

Beach Volleyball Commission – Mr Miguel A. QUINTANA

Regarding the Olympic Qualifications, Mr QUINTANA enquires about the qualification procedure. Mr MEYER points out the following:

- Homologated circuit by FIVB
- 2 European Championships 2006 and 2007
- The ranking is based on the best eight participations of a team.

Moreover, Mr MEYER assures Mr QUINTANA that he will receive all necessary information following the meeting on 20th September 2005 at the FIVB with Mr ACOSTA and Mr SQUEO.

Mr MEYER also confirms to Mr QUINTANA that the winners of the U-23 Championship will receive a wild card for the Senior European Championship in the following year. Mr MEYER refers to page 4 of the EBVC minutes welcoming the idea to open all qualification tournaments to all interested NFs following a model of FIVB.

Then Mr QUINTANA asks the BoA member to accept the minutes of the EBVC.

Decision: The minutes of the previous EBVC are accepted.

Finally Mr QUINTANA thanks the BoA members for their support and loyalty towards the EBVC. The collaboration between the BoA and the EBVC has always been professional, although, sometimes, the same opinions were not shared. He wishes that the ideas and projects started in the past four years will be maintained in the future. He addresses a very special thank you to Mr Erik SCHMIDT, CEV Beach Volleyball Coordinator, for the outstanding work he has done for the EBVC and his dedication to Beach Volleyball.

Medical Commission – Mr Manfred HOLZGRAEFE

Mr HOLZGRAEFE explains that the EMC has not organised a meeting following the previous BoA meeting.

Regarding the joint organisation of the European Championships by two NFs, he mentions that problems were faced in terms of the analysis of the doping control samples, since the laboratory in Rome was closed and the samples had to be taken to Vienna (AUT). In this regard it was difficult to respect the 'unbroken line of supervision/transportation' of the samples. Only on the day of Mr HOLZGRAEFE's arrival in Rome, could these problems be solved together with Austrian Airlines, which was a bit too late.



Mr MEYER thanks the Commission Presidents for their quick and precise reports.

XXVI CEV General Assembly – Practical Information

Mr MEYER informs the BoA members that the reports of the different Commissions will be supported by Power Point presentations of a common layout. Moreover, some video clips will also be shown along with the reports.

Mr MEYER also reminds the BoA members to only present the major highlights of their work not going into too many details. Then he asks Mr FISCHER to present the proposal regarding the candidates of the Credential and Voting Commission.

Mr Fischer presents the following candidates:

- Mr Péter STEVIK (HUN)
- Ms. Margaret Ann FLEMING (SCO)
- Mr Stefan POTYKA (AUT)
- Mr Bengt WICKSELL (SWE)

Mr MEYER points out that the ExCom and BoA meetings were organised respecting the time needed for the accreditation of all NFs. Therefore no delays and overtime will be accepted.

Mr MOTTIER informs the BoA members that those who will make a presentation will receive a printout at the end of the meeting. He reminds the BoA that they do not need an accreditation for the General Assembly as members of the BoA. However, they will have to go to the office of the Italian Volleyball Federation to collect their accreditation for the competition hall.

Mr MEYER takes the floor to invite the BoA members to the Gerflor lunch taking place the next day and to the Austrian Airlines lunch on Saturday following a press conference and a reception, which is also sponsored by the airline.

Mr MEYER addresses himself to Mr BIESIADA who will no longer be a member of the BoA and thanks him for his excellent work and cooperation during the past years. Moreover, he wishes good luck to those BoA members running for an additional term of office in the BoA.

Miscellaneous

Mr HRONEK points out that the NFs who will organise the ExCom and BOARD meetings in the following year still need to be named. A list will be distributed during the meeting of the newly elected BoA.

Mrs OOMS is glad to announce that the interest in women's volleyball is growing. She gives a brief summary of the inspection visit in Cannes (FRA), where a new competition hall has just been built. The women's team of RC CANNES has already applied for the organisation of the IECL Final Four 2006, before the competition has even started.

Mr MEYER proposes to honour Mr Carlo MAGRI, who will no longer stand as a candidate for the CEV BoA, by appointing him as CEV Honorary Vice-President.

Decision: Mr Carlo MAGRI will be announced CEV Honorary Vice-President during the General Assembly.

Closing of the Meeting

Mr MEYER thanks his colleagues for the precious work during the past four years and informs them that he was congratulated during the Sports Events Council on the competition system of the CEV, particularly with regards to the Indesit European Champions League. In the future more emphasis has to be put on Beach Volleyball.

Mr MEYER thanks the CEV Head Office for the good preparation of the ExCom and BoA meeting and looks forward to a very fruitful General Assembly.

CEV XXVI GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING - ROME (ITA) - 9TH SEPTEMBER 2005

The following members are attending:

President: André MEYER (LUX)

Snr Vice-President & Treasurer: Philip BERBEN (BEL)

Vice-Presidents: Snjezana MIJIC (CRO) - Riet OOMS (NED) - Aleksandar BORICIC (SCG) - Jan HRONEK (CZE) - Carlo MAGRI (ITA)

Members: Thanassis BELIGRATIS (GRE) - Janusz BIESIADA (POL) - Aloys FISCHER (SUI) - Manfred HOLZGRAEFE (GER) - Vladimir PATKIN (RUS) - Maris PEKALIS (LAT) - Miguel Angel QUINTANA (ESP) - Jan REK (SUI) - Fabio SASSI (ITA) - Jacques SHAW (FRA) - Eric ADLER (DEN) - Andreas STAVROU (CYP)

Internal Auditors: Mr Michel HENNO (BEL) - Mr Leo DADEMA (NED)

Executive Director: Mr Olivier MOTTIER

Competitions Director: Mr Jean-Paul ROMMES

IT Specialist: Mr Daniel BARTHELS

Press Officer: Ms. Shelly BICKENDORF

Secretaries: Ms. Birthe MEYER - Ms. Kristina NIEMINEN

Delegates of the European National Federations

<u>FEDERATION</u>		<u>REPRESENTED BY</u>
ALBANIA	ALB	Mr Gjergj LEQEJZA / Mr Leonard TASE
ANDORRA	AND	Mr Agusti BOLDU / Mr Ferran JEREZ
ARMENIA	ARM	
AUSTRIA	AUT	Mr Peter KLEINMANN Mr Stefan POTYKA
AZERBAIJAN	AZE	Mr Elshan ISMAYILOV Mrs N. ISMAYILOVA
BELGIUM	BEL	Mr Willy BRUNINX
BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA	BIH	
BELARUS	BLR	Mr Aliaksandr PIMAKHIN Mr Oleg SIZOV
BULGARIA	BUL	Mr Dancho LAZAROV / Mr Ilia ILIEV
CROATIA	CRO	Ms. Valentina BIFFLIN
CYPRUS	CYP	Mr Yiannakis PROCOPIOU
CZECH REPUBLIC	CZE	Mr Antonin LEBL / Mr Pavel KUCERA
DENMARK	DEN	Mr Eddy MADSEN / Mr Jan HERNETH
ENGLAND	ENG	Mr Richard CALLICOTT / Mr Toomas OJASOO



SPAIN	ESP	Mr Agustin MARTIN SANTOS
ESTONIA	EST	Mr Aadu LUUKAS / Mr Henn VALLIMAE
FAROE ISLANDS	FER	Mr Niclas JOENSEN
FINLAND	FIN	Mr Seppo SAMMELVUO Mr J. VERTAINEN
FRANCE	FRA	Mr Gil PELLAN / Mr Daniel MURAIL
GEORGIA	GEO	Mr Levan AKHVLEDIANI
GERMANY	GER	Mr Werner VON MOLTKE Mr Lutz ENDLICH
GIBRALTAR	GIB	
GREECE	GRE	Mr Achilleas MAVROMATIS
GREENLAND	GRL	Mr Hans JENSEN
HUNGARY	HUN	Mr Peter STEVIK / Mr Sandor HOBOTH
IRELAND	IRL	Mr John CLARKE
ICELAND	ISL	Mr Jason IVARSSON Mr Oskar HAUKSSON
ISRAEL	ISR	Mr Jacob SHTOFMAN
ITALY	ITA	Mr Renato ARENA
LATVIA	LAT	Mr Atis SAUSNITIS Mr Mareks SEGLINS
LIECHTENSTEIN	LIE	Mr Philippe SCHÜRMANN Mr J. ALBRECHT
LITHUANIA	LTU	Mr Andrius STEPONAVICIUS
LUXEMBOURG	LUX	Mr Peter EICHSTÄDT Mr Pierre MULHEIMS
MACEDONIA	MKD	
MOLDOVA	MLD	Mr Alecsandr DUDICOV
MALTA	MLT	Mr Nello CALLEJA
MONACO	MON	
THE NETHERLANDS	NED	Mr Jaap BOOM / Mr Matthijs HUIZING
NORTHERN IRELAND	NIR	Mr Paddy MURPHY Mrs Marie MURPHY
NORWAY	NOR	Mr Edgar BROKS Mr Arne-Morten KNUTSEN
POLAND	POL	Mr Miroslaw PRZEDPELSKI Mr W. CZAYKA
PORTUGAL	POR	Mr Vicente DE ARAUJO / Mr Manuel PEREIRA
ROMANIA	ROM	Mr Gheorghe VISAN / Mr Viorel MANOLE
RUSSIA	RUS	Mr Valentin ZHUKOV / Mr Yuri SAPEGA

SERBIA-MONTENEGRO	SCG	Mr Slobodan MILOSEVIC
SCOTLAND	SCO	Mrs Margaret Ann FLEMING Mr K. BARTON
SLOVENIA	SLO	Mr Anton KONCNIK / Mr Igor DOLINSEK
SAN MARINO	SMR	
SWITZERLAND	SUI	Mr Christoph STERN Mr Roger SCHNEGG
SLOVAKIA	SVK	Mr Lubor HALANDA
SWEDEN	SWE	Ms. Agneta ELMEGARD Mr B. WICKSELL
TURKEY	TUR	Mr Hüsni CAN / Mr Levent ILBAY
UKRAINE	UKR	Mr Volodymyr TUROVSKIY
WALES	WAL	

Observers:	Mr Karl HANZL – MEVZA President (AUT)
Honorary President:	Mr Michalis MASTRANDREAS
CEV Honorary President:	Mr Hugo FRUITHOF - Mr Yuri DEREVIAGUINE
Special Guests:	Mr Yuri CHESNOKOV FIVB Vice-President
	Mr Helgi THORSTEINSSON FIVB Technical Director
	Mr Gianni RIVERA Representative of the Italian Government
	Mr Ottavio CINQUANTA ITA National Olympic Committee Member
	Mrs Elfriede HAWLICZEK Austrian Airlines
	Mrs Christa BLUEMEL Austrian Airlines
	Mr Roland ARNOLD MIKASA Europe Director
	Mr Christian KUHN Gerflor Commercial Manager
	Mrs Silvia SORDELLI Media Partners
	Mr Christian SCHOLBROCK Global Sports Marketing Director

Opening of the XXVI General Assembly

Welcome Address by the CEV President, Mr André MEYER

“Dear Delegates, distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen would like to extend my warmest welcome and communicate my best wishes to our guests, our partners and all the National Federations’ Representatives, including those participating to a CEV General Assembly for the first time. The presence of 47 Federations out of 54, which is a record for CEV, is the proof of the strong solidarity that exists in the European Volleyball Family.

We are very grateful to the National Federation of Italy, which successfully organised this year’s CEV General Assembly under the Presidency of Mr Carlo MAGRI.

Today, we welcome Mr Gianni RIVERA, Representative of the Italian Government, as well as Mr Ottavio CINQUANTA, Member of the National Olympic Committee who will join us later on. We also welcome from the FIVB Mr Yuri CHESNOKOV, Vice-President, here to represent Dr



Rubén ACOSTA H., FIVB President, and Mr Helgi THORSTEINSSON, FIVB Technical Director. I also would like to welcome our Honorary Vice-Presidents, Honorary Members and Friends, Mr Hugo FRUITHOF, Mr Michaelis MASTRANDREAS and Mr Yurii DEREVIAGUINE. Our Honorary President, Mr Rolf ANDRESEN, and Honorary Member Mr Georges BOUDRY, could unfortunately not be among us today due to health-related problems, but both asked me to pass along their best regards and wish us all the very best for this General Assembly. I also extend a hearty welcome to our Partners MIKASA, Gerflor, Media Partners, GSM, Champion, Indesit and Austrian Airlines. Without their help it would be impossible for us to organise our top events in Europe.

Also this year, our Congress here in Rome coincides with some important events. CEV is very happy to be able to organise with the collaboration of the National Federations of Italy and Serbia and Montenegro the Indesit European Championships. Based on what we have seen during the preliminaries in Belgrade and in Rome, I am convinced that the final games to unfold over the next couple of days will be top events. I already now want to sincerely thank and congratulate both National Federations for the outstanding work they have done to this day.

In just a couple of days, we will also have the opportunity to witness top Volleyball with the Women's European Championships organised in the cities of Zagreb and Pula in Croatia. As was the case for the Men competition in Italy and Serbia and Montenegro, Croatia guarantees us a high competition.

The various activity reports which you can find in your Official Handbook and which will be presented by the different commissions and working groups will give you the opportunity to evaluate the activities and competitions which took place over the course of the last year and to discuss and to prepare for the future.

I wish you all a successful day marked by constructive and meaningful discussions as well as far-reaching decisions, and thank you for your attention."

Welcome Speech by Mr Renato ARENA

In the name of Mr Carlo MAGRI, ITA President:

"Dear Volleyball Friends,

On behalf of Mr Carlo MAGRI, President of the Italian Volleyball Federation, who cannot be present at the moment due to other institutional engagements but will surely be present later, I am very happy to welcome in the beautiful city of Rome Mr André MEYER, CEV President, Mr Yury CHESNOKOV, FIVB Vice-President, all the CEV Board of Administration Members and all of you, guests, partners and National Federations' Delegates.



VIPs, Board members and delegates in attendance at the 2005 General Assembly in Rome

This occasion marks a very important event for European Volleyball, because simultaneously to the CEV Congress, the Indesit European Championships were organised this year by two different countries working in close collaboration; Serbia and Montenegro and Italy. Surely,

this marks a historical event for European Volleyball and the beginning of fruitful work and unity amongst people. We hope that all of you present here will share with live with us this important competition and that the beautiful city of Rome will offer you the very best.

The Italian Volleyball Federation wishes you all a pleasant stay placed under the sign of a long and deep friendship. Thank you.”

Welcome Speech by the FIVB Vice-President, Mr Yury CHESNOKOV

“Dear Mr President, Dear Board of Administration Members, Dear President of the Italian Volleyball Federation, Dear Colleagues, Presidents and Delegates of the National Federations, Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the FIVB Executive Committee, its President, I am very honoured to address Dr Acosta’s message and warm greetings to the delegates attending this XXVI CEV General Assembly of the European Volleyball Confederation affiliated to FIVB.

CEV as well as FIVB, we are both, the driving forces of the whole Volleyball family which makes our unity essential to strengthen and consolidate the success of Volleyball institutions, officials and players.

We convey our warmest congratulations to the National Federations that made possible to hold in Europe a series of successful Continental Rounds leading to the 2006 World Championship, to those countries which have taken part in this stage and who which will receive a commemorative Diploma celebrating their performance, and to those teams that succeed in their bid for a place in the 2006 World Championships Final Round in Japan. As a proof of our support to this continent, more than one third of the finalists will come from Europe.

Finally, the FIVB Executive Committee wants you to know that Mr Jean-Pierre SEPPEY is no longer working for the FIVB, and that, on the proposal of the FIVB President, the FIVB Executive Committee will be in charge of the situation.

At this stage, the FIVB has no further comments to make.

We thank you for your kind understanding and solidarity.”

INTERVENTION BY MR ANDRÉ MEYER, CEV PRESIDENT

Mr MEYER joins Mr CHESNOKOV in congratulating the National Federations which took part in the World Championships. He addresses special congratulations to the Men’s team of Estonia which played marvellously well to try and qualify, and to the Women’s team of Serbia and Montenegro for covering the longest road to qualify.

Setting up of the XXVI General Assembly's Office

Record of Attendance

Upon completion of the nominative call against the record of attendance at the beginning of the congress:

- 47 federations are found present or validly represented,
- 7 federations are absent or not validly represented.

Mr MEYER underlines that this corresponds to the highest number of National Federations ever represented in a CEV Congress and thanks all the Federations’ representatives for their presence.

Appointment of four Members of the Credentials Checking / Voting Commission

On behalf of the CEV Board of Administration, Mr Aloys FISCHER, ELC President and Chairman of the Credentials Checking Commission, proposes to the General Assembly to appoint the following four CEV officials / federation delegates as:



Members of the Credentials Checking / Voting Commission

- Mr Stefan POTYKA (AUT)
- Mr Peter STEVIK (HUN)
- Mrs Margaret Ann FLEMING (SCO)
- Ms. Agneta ELMEGARD (SWE)

There being no objection, the General Assembly unanimously confirms the appointment of the above CEV officials / delegates of federation as members of the Credentials Checking and Voting Commission.

Report of the Credentials Checking Commission

Mr Aloys FISCHER (SUI), Chairman of the Credentials Checking/Voting Commission, confirms that out of the 54 member federations, 47 federations (= 87% of all CEV member federations) are present in this General Assembly. There are no proxies.

The condition lay down in Art. 5.2 - § 3 of the CEV Statutes - at least two thirds of the federations must be present or represented - is fulfilled.

Further to a control of the accreditations by the Checking/Voting Commission, Mr FISCHER announces that the total number of votes amounting 47, the absolute majority stands at 24.

He also remarks that out of 47 National Federations present, 8 could not present the original Credential Letter during the accreditations, thus requiring further investigations concerning the identities of the delegates. He therefore underlines the necessity for all National Federations to bring the original Credential Letter with them to the Congress to be compared with the copy sent prior to the CEV Head Office.

The following 7 federations, neither present nor validly represented by proxy, are considered as officially absent: Armenia (ARM) - Bosnia-Herzegovina (BIH) - FYR of Macedonia (MKD) - Gibraltar - (GIB) - Monaco (MON) - San Marino (SMR) - Wales (WAL).

Approval of the Agenda

Mr MEYER, CEV President, informs the General Assembly that no amendments to the Agenda were received.

There being no objections or comments, the Agenda of the XXVI General Assembly is approved.

Approval of the Minutes of the XXV General Assembly in Istanbul (TUR)

In the absence of any written or oral remarks, the Minutes of the XXV General Assembly held on 2nd October 2004 in Istanbul (TUR) are unanimously approved and adopted.

CEV Activity Report 2004/2005 by CEV President, Mr André MEYER (LUX)

Mr André MEYER takes the floor and starts his activity report by briefly mentioning the success met by the European teams in Volleyball and Beach Volleyball during the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens.

In order to provide new grounds for competing for the National Federations qualified for the European Championships through the previous edition, a new yearly competition was created in collaboration with several National Federations. The European League was therefore organised for the very first time in 2004 with the participation of Croatia, Czech Republic, Finland, Germany, The Netherlands, Slovakia, Russia and Turkey. The Final Four were played in Opava (CZE) and won by the CZE National team.

A second edition of the European League took place in June and July 2005 with the Finals organised in the city of Kazan (RUS).

The 5th edition of the Indesit European Champions League proved even more successful than the previous one, mainly thanks to its new and more attractive competition format.

In the Men's competition, 102 matches were played, corresponding to an increase of 31% compared to the previous edition. 230,000 spectators were present (+36%). For the Women, 70 matches were played (+42%) under the delightful eyes of 126,000 spectators (+46%). Both categories combined over 1000 hours of TV broadcasting (+38%) and a total of 875,000 EUR were paid in prize money (+38%).

For the six events which constitute the European Cup competitions, Mr MEYER shares that a total of 198 teams registered for the 2004/05 season.

Regarding European Championships, 2005 is a historical year with the first organisation of a Senior competition by two National Federations working in close collaboration; Italy and Serbia and Montenegro for the Men's event. Croatia is hosting the Women's Senior Championships to start just 2 weeks after the CEV Congress. The innovation of two organisers working together has proved highly successful already in terms of popularity. Due to the fact that all matches involving the ITA and SCG teams were played at home, the preliminaries games already drew a very high number of spectators. With the upcoming finals here in Rome, these Championships are expected to break the record for spectator audience.

In addition to the 54 National Federations, four Zonal Associations are now also directly linked to CEV, with a new one joining just weeks ago. After the Balkan Volleyball Association (BVA) 5 years ago, it was the turn of the Middle European Volleyball Zonal Association (MEVZA) and the North European Volleyball Association (NEVZA) to be created in 2004, and finally the Eastern European Volleyball Zonal Association (EEVZA) which was recognised in August 2005 by FIVB.

Several important Beach Volleyball competitions also took place in the 2004/05 season, and Mr MEYER underlines the special attention given to the promotion of Beach Volleyball in the younger categories with the organisation of several European Championships such as the U-23 in Myslowice (POL), the U-20 in Tel-Aviv (ISR) and the U-18 in Illichivsk (UKR).

Finally, Mr MEYER lists the different goals set and achieved over the course of the last mandate (2001-2004) and the institutional activities which took place this past year:

- First stage of a financial consolidation allowing CEV, if necessary, to ensure the viability of its competitions without the support of economic partners
- Reinvestment of 87% of its income directly in the different competitions
- For the first time in February 2005, CEV organised in Luxembourg a Seminar for General Secretaries which proved highly successful. Based on the interest shown by the National Federations, the CEV Board of Administration plans to organise such seminars every couple of years in combination with the CEV General Assembly.
- Consolidated promotion of Volleyball in Europe through the contacts established directly with European television channels, particularly Eurosport, but also with new International economic partners
- Enhancement of the CEV Head Office with better facilities and a larger working area. CEV moved offices in November 2004 and all Board Members and National Federations were invited for the Official Inauguration in February 2005.

Concerning this last point, Mr MEYER wishes to acknowledge the financial support provided by the Government of Luxembourg in order to make this move possible.

Mr MEYER thanks the delegates for their attention and opens the floor for questions.

The complete presentation can be found as appendices to these minutes (Appendix I).



In the absence of any questions or comments, the report presented by Mr André MEYER is adopted and approved.

Financial Report

Financial Report – Accounts 2004 by CEV Treasurer, Mr Philip BERBEN (BEL)

As an introduction to his presentation, Mr Philip BERBEN shares with the General Assembly that thanks to the excellent marketing work accomplished by Mr André MEYER, CEV President and thanks to the great collaboration that existed between them, the CEV Executive Committee and the CEV Staff, CEV's finances were managed without too many problems encountered over the course of the past four years.

Regarding the 2004 accounts more specifically, Mr BERBEN briefly lists the different expenses incurred by CEV, underlying that in most cases, the expenses amounted to less than the numbers foreseen in the budget. He draws special attention to the hiring of a full-time CEV Press Officer stating this is essential for the further development of the communication flows inside the CEV institution and internationally. The move of the CEV offices and consequent purchase of new furniture and material constituted an extraordinary but necessary expense in 2004. Expenses were also higher in the scope of the European Cups Competition with the increase of the total Prize Money paid, as well as in the scope of the European Championships with the creation of the European League. Finally, additional money was spent on the development of new projects such as the creation of an annual Yearbook.

All these expenses were however counterbalanced by increased incomes in several categories, including the FIVB support received and the income brought in by the development of new sponsorship and marketing projects. The only income lower than expected came from problems faced in Beach Volleyball as GSM struggles to develop the circuit as planned.

Overall, 2004 was a positive financial year for CEV with a net income of almost half a million euros.

Details of the different expenses and incomes for 2004 can be found in the appendixes to these minutes (Appendix II).

Before asking the General Assembly to approve the above report, Mr BERBEN gives the floor to the Internal Auditors.

Internal Audit Report by Mr Leo DADEMA (NED) and Mr Michel HENNO (BEL)

"Dear Mr President, Dear Members of the Board of Administration, Dear National Delegates,

We, the undersigned, Leo DADEMA and Michel HENNO, have audited on 3rd May 2005 the accounts of the CEV over the year 2004.

We sincerely thank Mr André MEYER, CEV President, Mr Philip BERBEN, CEV Senior Vice-President and Treasurer, Mr Olivier MOTTIER, Executive Director, and Mrs Sylvie COLLIGNON, in charge of the bookkeeping at the CEV Head Office, for their assistance and explanations during our assignment.

The accounts of the CEV are audited by KPMG (same audit company for all continental federations) and on charge of the FIVB.

We met, during our duty, Mr Marco CLAUDE, independent consultant of the CEV for financial matters. We controlled the bank statements and made the comparison between the results and the adopted budget. We also checked the invoices using the random method.

The bookkeeping of the different transactions and the running of the financial accounts are carried out according to the rules, with the required precision and clearness.

We would like to make the following remarks:

- The operating profit amounts to 444,551.82 EUR. This result is remarkably higher than the result in 2002, comparable with 2004, and also higher than the amount of 222,552 EUR foreseen in the budget.
- We have found 4 elements to explain this result:
 - ❖ Negative: reductions of value for an amount of 159,337.65 EUR were carried out on the outstanding debts of two federations and applied on a sponsorship contract related to the 2003/2004 Indesit European Champions League (IECL) organisation.
 - ❖ Positive: all expenditures related to the CEV Board of Administration, Commissions, Office Staff and Premises (Budget items 41 to 44) are under the provisions. This is remarkable in the year of the moving of the office to the new location.
 - ❖ Positive: incomes and expenditures of the European Cups are in balance, even after the applied reduction (Budget items 45 and 85).
 - ❖ Positive: the benefit of the European National Teams activities (Budget items 46 and 86).
- The old debts of the national federations are limited to just a few countries. The actions of recovery were unsuccessful for two of them. On their debts of 9,337.65 EUR is applied a reduction of value.
- The CEV is suing a 2003/2004 IECL sponsor for an amount of 150,000 EUR. This amount is in the meantime reduced in the bookkeeping and will be as an exceptional income by recovery. This confirms our warning of 2004 about the necessary caution by signing new sponsorship.
- Two outstanding debts amounting to a total of 75,000 EUR (TV rights) are on the way to be solved.
- The provision for liabilities for the IECL Prize Money of 690,000 EUR is determined following the same prognosis as the previous years. This method is confirmed through the first detailed result of the books about IECL 2003/2004.
- We think that the increased deposits by the bank could bring up more interests without risks and suggest to further investigate this matter.

Considering the above remarks, we propose to the CEV General Assembly to approve the accounts and to unburden the persons in charge."

INTERVENTION BY MR ANDRÉ MEYER, CEV PRESIDENT

As the audits are conducted a few months ahead of the Congress, Mr MEYER would like to add two remarks which could not be taken into consideration at the time the reports were written.

CEV engaged in legal proceedings and reached an agreement in order to recover the debts of 150,000 EUR accumulated in the scope of the 2003/04 IECL.

Regarding bank deposits, and due to the economic situation in Europe, bank interest rates were significantly lowered. However, CEV was able to negotiate a special rate of 3.5% which will guarantee a certain income for the future.

External Audit Report - Accounts 2004 by CEV Treasurer, Mr Philip BERBEN (BEL)

As foreseen in the CEV Statutes and Luxembourg's legislation, all CEV accounts were also submitted to an external audit by KPMG. Mr P. WIES, Auditor for KPMG, wrote the following report:

"We have audited the accompanying annual accounts of CONFEDERATION EUROPEENNE DE LUXEMBOURG a.s.b.l. for the year ended December 31, 2004. These annual accounts



are the responsibility of the Board of Administration. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these annual accounts based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the annual accounts are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the annual accounts. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall annual accounts presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the attached annual accounts give, in conformity with Luxembourg legal and regulatory requirements, a true and fair view of the financial position of CONFEDERATION EUROPEENNE DE VOLLEYBALL a.s.b.l. for the year ended December 31, 2004 and of the results of its operations for the year then ended.

Luxembourg, June 4th 2005.

Mr P. WIES - KPMB Audit Sarl.”

In the absence of any questions or comments, the Financial Report (Item 6.1), the Internal Audit Report (Item 6.2) and External Audit Report (Item 6.3) are unanimously approved and adopted by the CEV General Assembly.

Mr MEYER then announces that Mr HENNO and Mr DADEMA have accepted to continue their functions as CEV Internal Auditors for the coming year. In addition, it was decided that a 3rd auditor should join them in their task as replacement, and Mr MEYER therefore asks the assembly if anyone is interested. Mr Jacob SHTOFMAN (ISR) agrees to fulfil this new function within CEV.

Budget 2006 – Budgets 2005 & 2006 vs. Accounts 2004 by CEV Treasurer, Mr Philip BERBEN (BEL)

Referring to the figures communicated to the National Federations through the Official Handbook, Mr Philip BERBEN explains that the 2006 budget was prepared based on past numbers and experiences, current contracts and incomes, and projects and competitions planned for 2006.

Concerning the 2005 accounts, Mr BERBEN shares that based on the updated figures received shortly before the Congress, CEV is found in line with the budget planned for the year, with actually a slightly higher income than was foreseen.

In the absence of any question or remark, the 2006 budget is unanimously approved with loud applause.

Membership fees proposal by CEV Treasurer, Mr Philip BERBEN (BEL)

Mr BERBEN announces that the CEV Board of Administration has decided to restructure the different existing categories and to review downward the membership fees paid by the National Federations.

He underlines that the new structure and fees only concern the National Federations' memberships and do not in any way affect their right to participate in certain competitions.

The three categories A, B and C will remain but their composition and fees will change as such:

A complete list including the countries listed under each category was printed in the Official Handbook and distributed to all National Federations.

Mr BERBEN informs the assembly that the National Federations of Armenia and Wales were both placed under Category C after they failed to pay their debts towards CEV and FIVB. They however remain members, and CEV hopes to be able to help them start up their activities again and return to the competition.

With this in mind, Mr MEYER shares that he has met the newly elected President of the ENG Federation, Mr Richard CALLICOTT and that they will together do their outmost to bring Wales back into the CEV family.

In the absence of any question or remark, the new classification of Affiliated European National Federations and membership fees are unanimously approved.

Mr MEYER takes this opportunity to thank Mr Philip BERBEN for his work and commitment as CEV Treasurer and congratulates him for all the efforts put forth over his four-year mandate. The assembly approves with loud applause.



CEV Commission Reports

European Beach Volleyball Commission

President: Mr Miguel-Angel QUINTANA (ESP)

As an introduction to his report, Mr QUINTANA shows a brief video of the Finals of the Nestea European Championship Tour which took place in Moscow (RUS).

He then explains that his commission met on two different occasions since the last CEV General Assembly. A first time in January 2005 in Luxembourg (LUX) and then in Alanya (TUR) in May 2005. Additionally, Beach Volleyball was thoroughly discussed in the scope of the CEV General Secretaries' Seminar organised in Luxembourg in February 2005, and productive exchanges took place in this regard. CEV's marketing partner GSM focused a lot of its efforts on finding sponsors and partners for the Nestea European Championship Tour. This Senior competition was constituted of three Opens in Turkey, Spain and Switzerland and of the Finals in Russia. All events were broadcasted on television, and over 500,000 EUR were paid in Prize Money.

Other competitions and activities organised this season were:

- The Beach Nations' Cup for Covered Beach Volleyball which started in February 2005. Additional initiatives to organise Covered Beach Volleyball events to mainly benefit climatically challenged National Federations are welcome.
- The U-18 in Ukraine, U- 20 in Israel and U-23 in the Poland, all with a high participation from the National Federations.
- A Seminar for the Technical Supervisors. This second edition was organised in Alanya (TUR) in May 2005 in combination with the Turkish Open and may become an annual event.

To conclude, Mr QUINTANA appeals to all National Federations and Regional Associations to pursue their efforts to promote Beach Volleyball in their country, and thanks them for their much appreciated contribution.

The complete EBVC presentation can be found appendixes to these minutes (Appendix III).

INTERVENTION BY MR ANDRÉ MEYER, CEV PRESIDENT

Mr MEYER thanks Mr QUINTANA and the European Beach Volleyball Commission for its work and the efforts put forth in further developing youth events in Europe. He joins Mr QUINTANA in encouraging National Federations to organise such events to help train the younger players and lead them to higher levels.

INTERVENTION BY MR ARNE-MORTEN BROKS (NOR)

Referring to a question asked during the previous CEV General Assembly in Istanbul (TUR) concerning the possibility for National Federations to be given fixed dates to organise the National Senior Beach Volleyball Championships, Mr BROKS questions whether or not this question was discussed and solutions were found.

Mr MEYER explains that calendar problems once again emerged in 2005 and that CEV is working towards avoiding them in the future. A meeting with the FIVB President is scheduled for the end of September during which this particular problem will be brought up and the request made by the General Assembly will be discussed. The National Federations will be informed as soon as a solution has been found.

In the absence of any further remark, the report presented by the European Beach-Volleyball Commission is adopted and approved.

At this point of the day, and Mr Carlo MAGRI, ITA President, Mr Ottavio CINQUANTA, Member of the National Olympic Committee, and Mr Gianni RIVERA, Representative of the Italian Government, join the General Assembly.

They congratulate the CEV Board of Administration and the European National Federations for the progresses made in Volleyball and Beach Volleyball over the past few years and for their concentrated efforts to further develop and promote their sport in Europe and in the world.

They also thank the European Volleyball Confederation for the trust and support demonstrated on the occasion of the organisation of the 2005 European Championships. It is with great honour that the Italian Volleyball Federation and the City of Rome and its region collaborated with determination to perfect the organisation of this important event.

Mr MEYER thanks Mr MAGRI, Mr CINQUANTA and Mr RIVERA for their kind words and contribution to this Congress. He also takes this opportunity to inform the General Assembly that Mr MAGRI, who served as CEV Executive Committee Member for several years, has decided to not present his candidature for the new mandate due to the many other obligations and functions he already holds.

Mr MEYER therefore officially thanks Mr MAGRI for his contribution as CEV BoA Member and for his work in Italy and in Europe, and asks the General Assembly to approve the decision of the CEV Board of Administration to appoint Mr Carlo MAGRI as Honorary Vice-President.

The General Assembly approves with loud applause.

European Cups Commission

President: Mrs Riet OOMS (NED)

As an introduction to her presentation, Mrs OOMS shows a video highlighting the Final Four of the Men's Indesit European Champions League in Thessaloniki (GRE).

Considering that the written report printed in the Official Handbook was very detailed, Mrs OOMS only makes a brief presentation summarising her commission's work and goals for the future.

Firstly, she exposes the total number of teams registered in the Cups Competitions for the different seasons, explaining that the number of teams varied from season to season depending on their financial situation. However, the registrations over the past couple seasons remained similar, and Mrs OOMS is glad to report that almost every year, the Cups Competitions greet new teams or federations who participate for the first time.

In order to make these competitions more interesting and attractive to a higher number of National Federations, the European Cups Commission worked towards stabilising the Indesit European Champions League by maintaining a similar format over the different seasons. On the other hand, the ECC is trying to find ways to improve the Top Teams Cup in order to attract more clubs to participate in it.

In general, the ECC has the following goals for the near future:

- To strengthen and extend the Indesit European Champions League (men and women)
- To give the possibility to the winner of the IECL to defend the cup in the next season
- To adapt the registration process for the Champions League to the marketing and TV needs
- To start a new, more clear ranking system, in order to clarify the rights of the NF's to a certain number of teams in the different Cups



A working group was created in order to study the different possibilities, and a final report should be made during the January 2006 Board of Administration meeting. The ECC hopes to be able to implement this new system for the 2006/07 season.

Finally, as her 4-year mandate is coming to an end, Mrs Riet OOMS thanks Mr MEYER for his support and her fellow ECC colleagues and CEV Staff Members for their hard work.

To close the report of the European Cups Commission, a brief video of the IECL Drawing of Lots in Vienna is shown.

The complete ECC presentation can be found as appendixes to these minutes (Appendix IV).

INTERVENTION BY MR ANDRÉ MEYER

Mr MEYER thanks Mrs OOMS and the ECC commission for their hard work during the past 4 years and for all the positive changes brought to the European Cups Competitions.

Mr MEYER then thanks the Austrian Volleyball Federation for its collaboration and for hosting, year after year, Drawing of Lots such as that of the Indesit European Champions League. He also forwards his sincerest thanks to the Vice-Mayor of Vienna for her support and for making such events possible.

In the absence of any further remarks, the report presented by the European Cups Commission is adopted and approved.

European Financial Commission

President: Mr Philip BERBEN (BEL)

Mr Philip BERBEN, CEV Senior Vice-President and Treasurer takes the floor to thank his colleagues of the Financial Commission for their work over the past four years.

The European Financial Commission last met in Belgrade (SCG) in May 2005 and worked on such items as the 2004 accounts or budget 2006 already discussed under Point 6 of the Congress.

Additionally, the EFC Members discussed the future of their commission and agreed that it is necessary to review the role and tasks of the EFC and make it a more active commission. This item will be thoroughly discussed during one of the next Board of Administration meeting.

In the absence of any further remarks, the report presented by the European Financial Commission is adopted and approved.

European Legal Commission

President: Mr Aloys FISCHER (SUI)

The European Legal Commission met in Luxembourg in December 2004 and discussed the following main items:

- Duties of Commission Members: Despite the fact that it is clearly stated in the candidature forms that each Commission Member should set aside 15 days per year to fulfil his CEV duties, it became evident that many members were not respecting this obligation. Consequently, and following a request from the Board of Administration, the ELC proposed several amendments to the Internal Regulations and Candidature Form in order to avoid such problems in the future.
- Guidelines for Observers: Following an increase of the number of observers present during the different competitions and seeing that several complaints were received, the ELC created specific guidelines for the regulations of the presence of observers, for their club or for their National Federation, and the competition's organisers.

- Structure of the Different CEV Regulations: The ELC supported the work of the WG Regulations & Fines by controlling the different sections specifically related to legal matters and complaints.

INTERVENTION BY MR ANDRÉ MEYER

Mr MEYER thanks Mr FISCHER and his commission for the extent of the work accomplished and for the tremendous support given to the WG Regulations and Fines.

As a reminder, Mr MEYER explains that the WG Regulations and Fines was created a year prior with the main task of reviewing and restructuring the existing regulations in order to unify them and simplify their updating. With the work of the Working Group coming to an end, focus is now shifted on how to implement this new structure using a specific database.

The complete ELC presentation can be found as appendixes to these minutes (Appendix V).

In the absence of any further remarks, the report presented by the European Legal Commission is adopted and approved.

European Refereeing Commission

President: Mr Jan REK (SUI)

Referring to the written report printed in the Official Handbook, Mr Jan REK begins his presentation by sharing some basic statistics. On 31st July 2005, there were 376 European referees coming from 46 different countries, including a high number of International Referees.

To continually improve the high standard of refereeing in Europe, a European Referee Seminar was organised in Perugia in May 2005 with the participation of 71 referees representing 39 National Federations. Several Volleyball professionals and analysts were also invited as speakers and shared their expertise with the referees present.

In addition to organising such a successful event, the ERC worked closely with the CEV Head Office to create a referees' database directly accessible from the CEV website. As a result, European Referees can have access to the referees' directory, to their appointments and to all important documents, and can update their personal information as needed, thus facilitating the administrative work of the ERC and CEV Head Office.

Finally, Mr REK shares that the European Refereeing Commission is constantly working towards maintaining the high standards of refereeing in Europe. With this in mind, its goals for the future are to analyse new ways to assess the work of the referees in order to guarantee that the best referees are appointed for the most important competitions. In addition, the ERC will be focusing its work towards preparing a new generation of high level Volleyball and Beach Volleyball Referees. It will also continue contributing to the worldwide uniform rule interpretation in close collaboration with the National Federations and with the FIVB Refereeing Commission.

The complete ERC presentation can be found as appendixes to these minutes (Appendix VI).

INTERVENTION BY MR ANDRÉ MEYER

Mr André MEYER addresses his thanks to Mr Jan REK and to his colleagues of the European Refereeing Commission.

In the absence of any remarks, the report presented by the European Refereeing Commission is adopted and approved.



Sports Organising Commission

President: Mr Fabio SASSI (ITA)

Since the last CEV Congress, the European Sports Organising Commission met on two separate occasions in Belgrade (SCG) in November 2004 and in Rome (ITA) in April 2005.

During the past year, the ESOC analysed and set up a new competition formula for the 2007 Senior European Championships, and increased to 12 the number of teams to participate in the Finals of the Youth European Championships. To reflect these changes, the ESOC also worked on updating the regulations related to the different championships and wrote an addendum to the regulations of the Small Countries.

Based on the reports made by the CEV Technical Delegates and Jury Presidents attending the different competitions, the ESOC also discussed problems as they arose and made proposals to the Board of Administration to solve these issues and guarantee the smooth running of the competitions.

The President and Secretary of the commission also took part in two Working Groups: the European League Working Group in charge of overseeing the planning and organisation of the 2005 European League, and the Working Group Regulations and Fines for which they were responsible to update the regulations of the different Championship competitions.

The Commission also oversaw the organisation of several events and its members worked as Coordinators or Technical Delegates in the scope of the following competitions:

- 2005 European League
- 2004 and 2005 European Qualification Tournaments for the FIVB World Grand Prix
- 2004 Junior Women's Final Rounds in Slovakia
- 2004 Junior Men's Final Rounds in Croatia
- 2005 Youth Qualification Tournaments
- 2005 Youth Girls' Final Rounds in Estonia
- 2005 Youth Boys' Final Rounds in Latvia

To close his report, Mr SASSI exposes the different main items which were treated over the course of the 4-year mandate (new competition formulas, creation of the European League, and organisation of several important events), and thanks Mr MEYER and the CEV Board of Administration for their support during this period. He also thanks his colleagues of the commission and the CEV Staff for their precious collaboration.

Finally, Mr SASSI announces that he has decided not to apply for the position of ESOC President anymore, but that he will continue working in the field of Volleyball and supporting the promotion and development of our sport in the future.

A brief video highlighting the finals of the 2005 European League in Kazan (RUS) is shown as conclusion to this report.

The complete ESOC presentation can be found as appendixes to these minutes (Appendix VII).

INTERVENTION BY MR ANDRÉ MEYER

Mr André MEYER sincerely thanks Mr Fabio SASSI for his commitment to Volleyball as he has been part of the European Sports Organising Commission for 22 years and directly contributed to the development of Volleyball in Europe and success of many CEV competitions.

Mr MEYER also underlines that although Mr SASSI will no longer be President of the ESOC, he will continue to offer his collaboration and knowledge to CEV.

There being no further comments, the report presented by the European Sports Organising Commission is adopted and approved by the Congress.

Medical Commission

President: Mr Manfred HOLZGRAEFE (GER)

The regular meeting of the EMC took place in Luxembourg on the 29th January 2005. Mr Manfred HOLZGRAEFE informs the General Assembly that the following items were treated by his commission of the course of the year.

Medical insurance for teams during CEV competitions

From now on teams participating in official CEV competitions are obliged to present a valid insurance policy from their home country, covering treatment in hospitals. This insurance has to be presented to the CEV delegate during the technical meeting. The organiser only has to arrange first aid and transportation to the hospital.

Heat related problems in Beach Volleyball

All important items can be found on the CEV website. Besides this information the FIVB Medical Commission is working on this medical problem.

Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE)

WADA has issued the World Anti-Doping Code including the international standards for Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE). All sports organisations and world-wide confederations are also compelled to set up a TUE commission. TUEC is assigned with the organisation and co-ordination of medical controls required for the athletes treated according to the TUE.

The members of the CEV TUE Committee are:

- Prof. Dr M. Holzgraefe
- Dr Jan Berec / TUEC coordinator between CEV and NFs
- Dr Fernando Avila Espana

At national level, the NF is responsible for TUE. However, Mr HOLZGRAEFE feels that the information is not going out properly as too many athletes still do not respect this regulation. He therefore appeals to the National Federations to inform their clubs and athletes better and points out that more information regarding this particular regulation is available on the CEV website.

Accreditation of the CEV team doctors

From 1st January 2006 all team doctors taking part in CEV competition need a new accreditation. To obtain one, they must present a copy of their medical diploma, submit a recent passport photo, and be recommended by the National Federation they are working for.

Medical checks of the referees for the season 2004-2006

The medical certificates are valid from 1st July 2004 – 30th June 2006. The new medical certificates, which will be valid for 2006-2008, have to be sent before 28th February 2006.

Medical checklist for European championships

The medical commission has worked out a medical checklist which is a guideline for SECH organisers, containing general information about first aid, medical examinations of referees, organisation of required anti-doping controls, personnel, rooms and equipment as well as useful materials.



Finally, Mr HOLZGRAEFE thanks his colleagues and more specifically Dr Sigmund Dawiskiba, EMC Secretary, for the excellent work accomplished over the course of the past 18 years. He then informs the General Assembly that Dr DAWISKIBA has now retired.

The complete EMC presentation can be found appendixes to these minutes (Appendix VIII).

INTERVENTION BY MR ANDRÉ MEYER

Mr André MEYER thanks Dr HOLZGRAEFE and the members of his commission for their contribution to the Volleyball and the Beach Volleyball.

There being no further comments, the report presented by the European Medical Commission is adopted and approved by the Congress.

CEV Working Group Reports

Marketing

Chairman: Mr André MEYER (LUX), CEV President

Taking the floor, Mr MEYER starts by thanking the Marketing Department of the CEV Head Office, and explains to the General Assembly that this Working Group can be better defined as a “Marketing Unit” continuously developing marketing strategies through sponsorship, TV partnerships, communication and PR events destined to further develop and promote our sport.

After detailing the role of this Working Group, Mr MEYER explains the process of developing a marketing strategy through three distinct phases (launching, growth and maturity) each containing several important steps to be followed.

CEV currently has 5 sponsors - Mikasa, Indesit, Champion, Austrian Airlines and Gerflor - and signed a partnership with Media Partners launched during the Senior European Championships and with Eurosport. The new contract with Eurosport includes the IECL, the European League and the FIVB Grand Prix European Qualifications for the years 2006 and 2007. This contract has an option for two additional years (2007 and 2008) with a specific option for the 2008 European Olympic Qualifications.

The success of these marketing strategies and TV contracts can be well illustrated by the comparison of facts and figures related to the Indesit European Champions League, one of CEV's most important competitions. Indeed, in just 4 years, the number of broadcasted matches, hours of TV coverage and number of spectators have significantly increased. As an example, the TV coverage was 5 times higher in 2005 than it was in 2001.

Finally, Mr MEYER exposes the goals of his working group for the future, including but not limited to finding new technologies concerning visibility of advertising (LED), analysing the structures of the National Federations in terms of competitions, licenses, clubs and activities, and working on establishing a corporate profile for the CEV to be presented during the next CEV Congress.

To conclude, Mr MEYER thanks the National Federations for their collaboration and all the CEV Partners without whom CEV wouldn't know the marketing success it knows today.

The complete presentation can be found appendixes to these minutes (Appendix IX).

In absence of any further remarks, the report presented by the Working Group Marketing is approved and adopted by the General Assembly.

Media & Communication

Chairman: Mr Aleksandar BORICIC (SCG), CEV Vice-President

Mr Aleksandar BORICIC shares that although the work of this Working Group since its creation has not been an easy one, things are moving forward now and he believes that more will be accomplished in the future.

This year, the Men's Indesit European Championships 2005 were organised for the very first time by two National Federations working in close collaboration, thus making it more attractive to the media. Consequently, the CEV Board of Administration made a few recommendations to guarantee a smooth running of the media and press activities, including the need to organise a common meeting between the CEV Press Officer and the National Press Officers of each participating team, and the obligation for each team to provide pictures and profiles of each of their players.

Moreover, the WG Media has analysed ways to encourage the communicate flow between CEV, its Regional Associations and National Federations and the following decisions were made:

- Each Zonal Association must have its own Press Officer
- A link between CEV and the Zonal Associations' websites must be created
- A section of the CEV e-news will be reserved to Regional and Zonal activity reports.
- Each Zonal Association will develop its own website with English translation
- Encourage the National Federations to hire professional photographers to take quality pictures to be used by the media
- Organise a mandatory photo shoot for the teams before the start of the competition

Mr BORICIC thanks his colleagues and more particularly Ms. Shelly BICKENDORF, CEV Press Officer, for their collaboration.

INTERVENTION BY MR ANDRÉ MEYER

Mr MEYER thanks Mr BORICIC and the members of the WG Media for their work.

He also explains to the General Assembly that the CEV Board of Administration has decided to help the Regional Associations in terms of media activities by financially supporting the development of their own website.

In addition, Mr MEYER underlines that the full collaboration of all National Federations and Regional Association is needed to provide information and activity reports to be put on the website.

Introducing Ms. Shelly BICKENDORF as the new full-time CEV Press Officer, Mr MEYER explains to the General Assembly that Mr Arjen MEIJER is still working for CEV as Press Delegate. He then gives the floor to Ms. BICKENDORF who will present a summary of the CEV communication.

Taking the floor, Ms. Shelly BICKENDORF, CEV Press Officer, thanks Mr MEYER and the Board of Administration for having the opportunity to speak in the scope of this Congress and present her work and achievements made since April 2004.

She exposes the objectives of the CEV Press Office and CEV Working Group Media which, in collaboration with the National Federations and the clubs, work to grow the reputation of Volleyball and Beach Volleyball in Europe by increasing the media network and the services provided to the media by CEV, and lists the criteria necessary to be successful in these tasks.

Ms. BICKENDORF details the achievements made over the course of the 4-year mandate:

- Development of a CEV Media Network through regular Press Releases sent to over 350 journalists part of the CEV Media List



- Development of the CEV Website: The CEV Website was improved to include such things as a front page regularly updated with recent news article, a Download section, search links and an e-news index. These changes proved highly successful with a significant increase of the number of visitors and hits registered every day
- Creation of a CEV Yearbook and CEV Anniversary commemorative book
- E-news & online subscription: CEV issues monthly e-news downloadable from the CEV website or sent directly by e-mail following an initial subscription
- CEV live scores: Starting in 2004, CEV added to its website a live score section providing visitors with direct results generated directly by the club statisticians
- CEV Post Event Reports: Each organiser must send a post-event report to the CEV to evaluate the event from a communication and press standpoint
- CEV Photo Gallery: High quality pictures of the different events are kept on the CEV website and made available to the public
- CEV Awards for Best Press Activities.

Finally, Ms. BICKENDORF underlines the importance for CEV to work in close collaboration with the National Federations and reminds them that it is important for each of them to have a Press Officer who can be in direct contact with the CEV Head Office. At this point, 33 National Federations out of the 54 fulfil this requirement.

The complete presentation can be found appendixes to these minutes (Appendix X).

In absence of any remarks, the report presented by the Working Group Media & Communication is approved and adopted by the General Assembly.

Mr MEYER thanks Ms. BICKENDORF for her detailed presentation. He then closes the morning session and invites the delegates to the lunch offered by CEV's partner Gerflor. The afternoon session will start at 14h45.

The afternoon session begins at 14h45. Mr BERBEN proceeds with the call of the delegates. 47 federations are found present or validly represented.

Regulations and Fines

Chairman: Mr Aloys FISCHER, CEV BoA Member

Mr Aloys FISCHER reminds the General Assembly of the main task of his Working Group: to simplify and unify the different regulations of the European competitions according to the FIVB principles.

The biggest part of this work has already been accomplished with the different commissions and working group revising their part of the regulations. The Working Group will once again be meeting at the end of the month to now work on unifying all these regulations into a simpler, more structured format.

A chart illustrating this concept can be found in the presentation appendixes to these minutes (Appendix XI).

There being no comments, the report of the Working Group Regulations and Fines is approved and adopted by the General Assembly.

Regional Activities

Report from the BVA

Mr Achilleas MAVROMATIS, BVA Secretary General since 2004, takes the floor and starts his presentation by sharing the history of the Balkan Volleyball Association created in 1998 and composed of 8 European National Federations. The Head Quarters of the Balkan Volleyball Association were moved in 2004 from Athens to Thessaloniki and is this year under the

direction of Dr Hüsni CAN (TUR), President; Mr Georghe VISAN (ROM), Vice President; and Mr Achilleas MAVROMATIS, General Secretary.

The main objective of this Regional Association is to promote and develop Volleyball and Beach Volleyball in the Balkans, mainly in the Youth category, and provide a solid foundation for the establishment of peace in the Balkan region through a fruitful collaboration between the member federations.

The following events were organised in 2004 and 2005:

- Junior Balkan Championships (Men and Women)
- Youth Balkan Championships (Boys and Girls)
- Senior Beach Volleyball Balkan Championships (Men and Women)
- Junior Beach Volleyball Balkan Championship (Women in 2004, and Men and Women in 2005)

The last General Assembly of the BVA was organised in Istanbul in December 2004 and the following decisions were made:

- A minimum participation of 6 teams for Volleyball and 8 teams for Beach Volleyball was decided for the 2005 competitions
- For every competition a BVA Delegate from a country other than the organiser will be nominated.
- BVA will help support the transfer and accommodation costs of the poorer federations in order to allow them to participate in all BVA events.
- A Technical Commission and a Financial & Marketing Commission were created
- Authorisation was given to start developing a BVA website destined to improve the communication lines between the member federations.

Additionally, the first meeting of the Technical Commission was organised in April 2004, during which the 2005 competitions were finalised and the new BVA website was presented.

Mr MAVROMATIS is also proud to report that the BVA is working in good collaboration with its member federations as well as with CEV and FIVB, and shares that both institutions have financially supported BVA activities in the past two years. He finally shares that the next BVA General Assembly will be organised in Tirana (ALB) in November 2005, and invites Mr MEYER to attend.

To conclude, Mr MAVROMATIS makes a short demonstration of the BVA website which was launched in April 2005 and has received over 10,000 visitors since then. Its URL is www.geocities.com/balkanvolley.

The complete BVA presentation can be found appendixes to these minutes (Appendix XII).

INTERVENTION BY MR ANDRÉ MEYER

Mr MEYER thanks Mr MAVROMATIS for his presentation.

He informs the General Assembly that CEV will work in collaboration with the BVA in order to help the other Regional Associations set up their own website, and takes this opportunity to ask these Associations to provide CEV with data and information to be used towards that purpose.

Report from the MEVZA

Mr Karl HANZL, MEVZA President, takes the floor and makes a brief presentation.

The Middle European Volleyball Zonal Association is composed of 6 countries (Austria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Hungary, Slovenia and Slovakia) and is led by Mr Karl HANZL, President and Mr Anton KONCNIK (SLO) and Mr Pavel KUCERA (CZE) as Vice-Presidents. Additionally, five coordinators were designated: Mr Ivan IRO (CZE) for Indoor Volleyball, Mr



Stefan POTICKA (AUT) for Beach Volleyball, Mr Harald ROTTER (AUT) for Administrative matters, Mr Klaus LANTSCHUTZER (AUT) as Competition Director, and Mr Laszlo HERPAI (HUN) for Refereeing matters.

Several meetings were held in either Vienna or Schwechat (AUT) and competitions were organised in the different countries for the Youth and Junior categories.

For the future, MEVZA is hoping to organise Youth competitions on a yearly basis while junior competitions will be organised every other year. Taking into consideration the fact that about 25% of the teams registered for European Cups Competitions come from one of the 6 countries affiliated with MEVZA, a new club competition, the Middle European League, was also created and should hopefully prove highly successful in the future.

INTERVENTION BY MR ANDRÉ MEYER

Mr MEYER thanks Mr Karl HANZL for his presentation and is pleased to see MEVZA focus its work on promoting and developing the Youth and Junior categories.

He also asks MEVZA to send regular updates on the developments made to be included on the CEV website.

The complete MEVZA presentation can be found appendixes to these minutes (Appendix XIII).

Report from the NEVZA

Mr Edgar BROKS, NEVZA President, presents the activity report of his Regional Association.

The North European Volleyball Zonal Association is composed of 7 National Federations: Greenland, Iceland, Faeroe Islands, Denmark, Finland, Sweden and Norway.

Since its creation in 2003, the activities of NEVZA have significantly increased, and Mr BROKS, briefly summarises the activities organised in 2005:

- Beach Volleyball trainer course
- Meeting of the General Secretaries in combination with the Power Cup in Finland
- Beach Volleyball camp for Youth in Norway
- U-17 Volleyball in Finland
- U-19 Volleyball in Norway

Mr BROKS also shares that NEVZA is currently working on creating its own website with the help of Ms. Agneta ELMEGARD (SWE) and should be available soon.

Finally, Mr BROKS exposes the NEVZA activities for the end of the year and for 2006, with a few new events such as a Workshop for the Beach Volleyball coordinators in December 2005, an indoor Beach Volleyball Tournament in January, a Top Level Trainer Course in July and the Club Championship Tournament for seniors in September.

The main goal of this Regional Association is to promote Volleyball and attract more people, children and adults, to play this sport in the Northern countries, and Mr BROKS is hopeful that his Regional Association will achieve just that in the coming year.

The complete NEVZA presentation can be found appendixes to these minutes (Appendix XIV).

INTERVENTION BY MR ANDRÉ MEYER

Mr MEYER thanks Mr Edgar BROKS for his presentation and wishes luck to NEVZA for the coming year.

Report from the EEVZA

Mr MEYER shares that a fourth Regional Association, the Eastern European Volleyball Zonal Association was created recently and that he had the honour to be present to the founding

General Assembly in Jurmala (LAT) on 20th August 2005. Mr Hannu KANANEN, FIVB Board Member, was also present.

8 National Federations constitute this newly-founded Regional Association: Russia, Poland, Ukraine, Belarus, Latvia, Estonia, Lithuania and Azerbaijan.

Mr Maris PEKALIS, EEVZA President, explains that during the first General Assembly, the EEVZA statutes, officially approved by the FIVB, and the financial matters were accepted as presented. Additionally, the members voted to elect their Executive Committee composed of Mr Maris PEKALIS (LAT) as President, Mr Vladimir PATKIN (RUS) and Mr Miroslaw PRZEDPELSKI (POL) as Vice-Presidents and Mr Guntis LAZDA (LAT) as Secretary General. Three permanent commissions were also created: the Marketing and Promotion Commission, the Sports Organising Commission, and the Beach Volleyball Commission.

Seeing that only a few short weeks have gone since its creation, there are no activities to report yet, but Mr PEKALIS lists a number of Youth events foreseen for 2006 and underlines that the next EEVZA General Assembly will be taking place on 10th September 2005. He invites the delegates of the different member federations to attend this meeting during which a more detailed competition calendar for 2006 will be established and the commission members will be elected.

The complete EEVZA presentation can be found appendixes to these minutes (Appendix XV).

INTERVENTION BY MR ANDRÉ MEYER

Thanking Mr PEKALIS for his report, Mr MEYER expresses his congratulations and support to EEVZA for its ambitious calendar of activities.

Mr MEYER also wishes to remind all Zonal Associations that they must provide the FIVB with a yearly report of their activities in order to justify the support they are getting from FIVB.

Progress Reports of the 2006 Organisers

Junior Men's European Championships 2006 in Russia

The Junior European Championships 2006 for Men will be organised in Kazan from 26th August till 3rd September 2006.

A video highlighting the Republic of Tatarstan in Russia and its capital, Kazan is shown. In addition to presenting the city of Kazan from a historical and cultural point of view, the video created by the RUS Federation also provides information concerning the international airport, the hotels and the sports halls.

Mr ZHUKOV, Vice-President of RUS, also adds that a lot of work was done in the city in the past few years, making it even more suitable to welcome important events, such as these European Championships or the Finals of the European League which were already organised in Kazan in 2005.

INTERVENTION BY MR ANDRÉ MEYER

Mr MEYER thanks the RUS for its presentation.

He also adds that he was present in Kazan for the Final Four of the European League 2005 and confirms the quality of the accommodations and sports halls. Furthermore he adds that based on an agreement with Kazan's Sports Minister, air conditioning will be added to the competition halls.

Junior Women's European Championships 2006 in France

A brief video is shown highlighting the cities of St-Dié and Metz in France where the Junior Women's European Championships 2006 will be played.



Mr Gil PELLAN, FRA President, then takes the floor and informs the General Assembly that the French Federation is already busy preparing for this competition which will be organised in a region where there is a lot of interest and great potential for Women's Volleyball. Using their knowledge and expertise after having organised in 2005 a Qualification tournament for the Women World Championships, and a match for the Men's World League, two teams forming the Organising Committee are working in close collaboration to organise these Junior Championships and guarantee a high-level and successful competition.

INTERVENTION BY MR ANDRÉ MEYER

Mr MEYER thanks Mr Gil PELLAN for his intervention and is convinced that based on its experience, France will once again organise a high-quality competition

Park Volley Development

Mr André MEYER informs the General Assembly that this point was included in the Congress Agenda in order to promote this discipline and hopefully encourage all European National Federations to follow the lead of France which has been very successful at developing Park Volley on its territories.

Mr Daniel MURAIL, FRA General Secretary, explains that Park Volley can be defined by four missions, a concept, basic rules, and other rules that can be adapted to any specific tournament. It has the benefit of encouraging the development of outdoor and collective sports and Volleyball in particular, and can be classified as a family activity with no age distinction. In France, Park Volley is seen as a form of leisure competition with simplified rules and easily accessible to all.

Park Volley is usually played with teams of four players, possibly mixed. The court size and net height are directly adapted to the age of the players, and there is a possibility for self-refereeing. However, these basic rules can be adapted to meet the needs of a specific tournament.

Mr MURAIL then shares that a great number of regions use football or rugby fields during Spring to organise Park Volley Tournaments which unfold over the course of one or two days and bring together between 300 and 500 players. He then gives information about two well-known Park Volley events in France.

The Tournament of Ile de France was created in 2001 and is an annual tournament organised in June. It brings together over 2500 players, boys and girls between the ages of 10 and 20 years old, who play in teams of four.

The Cat'Size tournament organised in Normandy brings together on average 400 players who play in teams of either 2, 3, 4 or 6. The net height is adapted to the players' height, and the tournament is split into three height categories (small, medium, high) and played on courts of 8m x 8m.

The complete presentation can be found appendixes to these minutes (Appendix XVI).

INTERVENTION BY MR ANDRÉ MEYER

Mr MEYER thanks Mr MURAIL for his interesting presentation and congratulates France for all its work. He also once again invites all National Federations to follow this example and develop promotional activities such as Park Volley in their own region.

Proposals from National Federations

No proposals were received within the statutory time limit.

Election of the CEV President

Mr Aloys FISCHER, President of the Voting Commission, takes the floor and details the voting procedure in accordance with the CEV Statutes and laws in Luxembourg.

INTERVENTION BY MR VALENTIN ZHUKOV (RUS)

Mr ZHUKOV explains that in his opinion, if there is only one candidate for a specific position as is the case here, the General Assembly should proceed with an open vote.

Mr Philip BERBEN, CEV Senior Vice-President and Treasurer, takes good note of this point for the future. However, he underlines that even a sole candidate should have the choice to remain with the current procedure of confidential voting.

Election

According to the statutes, each National Federation present in the General Assembly receives a ballot. Once all National Federations have received theirs, they proceed with casting their vote. Mr FISCHER then calls all 47 National Federations to come deposit their ballot one by one in the official ballot box.

Deliberation

The Voting Commission withdraws behind closed doors in order to count the votes.

After deliberation, the voting commission returns and Mr Aloys FISCHER, announces the following results:

- Collected ballots: 47
- Invalid ballots: 0
- Majority: 24 votes

Mr André MEYER is re-elected as the new CEV President with 45 votes.

The General Assembly applauds the re-elected President with a standing ovation.

Mr MEYER thanks the National Federations for their trust and promises that he and the new Board of Administration will do their outmost to continue developing the Volleyball and the Beach Volleyball in Europe, and supporting the work of the National Federations.

Election of the Board of Administration Members

Mr Aloys FISCHER explains that two seats in the CEV Board of Administration are open to women, and in accordance with a decision made by the FIVB, the delegates must first elect the two women to fill these vacancies.

INTERVENTION BY MR RICHARD CALLICOTT (ENG)

Seeing that there were 3 candidatures received from women interested to become members of the CEV Board of Administration, Mr CALLICOTT asks why only two seats are made available for them, thus giving no chance for the third woman to be elected as Board Member.

Mr Aloys FISCHER explains that according to the FIVB, CEV must include two women in its Board of Administration. The Board of Administration therefore chose this voting procedure in order to guarantee that two women are elected and become members, but in view of Mr CALLICOTT's question, the CEV Board of Administration is open to any proposal.

Proposal by Mr Richard CALLICOTT (ENG)

Mr CALLICOTT proposes to maintain the first voting phase as is, meaning that the delegates must vote to elect two out of the three women who applied. The candidature of the woman who will not have been elected through this vote will then be added to the ones of the men applying for the remaining positions within the CEV Board of Administration.



Mr FISCHER explains that according to this proposal, the third woman not elected in the first round but allowed to present her candidature again alongside that of the other male candidates would have an added chance at being elected. This does not seem fair to all the other candidates who only get one chance.

Proposal by Mr Jacob SHTOFMAN (ISR)

Taking into consideration the remark made by Mr FISCHER, Mr SHTOFMAN suggests a single voting procedure bringing together male and female candidates. Two women out of the three will automatically be elected according to the number of votes they received, while the third one will only be elected as well if she received enough votes to beat several male candidates and legally be voted in the Board of Administration.

Mr MEYER agrees to combine the two votes in order to give all candidates equal opportunities to be elected, but Mr FISCHER explains that in this case, it is not legal to officially elect a person who may receive less votes than another, and the consequence may be that only one woman may receive enough votes to become a Board of Administration member, thus not fulfilling the obligation to have two women as CEV Board Members.

Proposal by Mr John CLARKE (IRL)

In this case, Mr CLARKE suggests using the single voting procedure combining male and female candidates, with the obligation for all National Federations to cast votes for at least two women. With this procedure, two women will surely be elected while the third may be elected based on the number of votes she received in comparison with the other candidates.

Mr FISCHER rejects this proposal as it goes against the idea of free voting.

In view of the difficulties encountered to find a solution and of the different proposals made, Mr MEYER agrees to apply the first proposal made by Mr CALLICOTT and to allow the candidature of the 3rd woman not elected in the first voting procedure to be added to the other candidatures to be voted in the second voting procedure.

Part 1: Election of the female BoA members

After deliberation, the President of the Voting Commission announces the following results:

- Collected ballots: 47
- Invalid ballots: 0
- Majority: 24 votes

<u>LAST NAME</u>	<u>FIRST NAME</u>	<u>FEDERATION</u>	<u>VOTES</u>
Mrs OOMS	Riet	NED	37
Mrs CAN	Banu	TUR	27
Ms. BIFFLIN	Valentina	CRO	24

The General Assembly congratulates Mrs Riet OOMS and Ms Banu CAN as they are elected to the CEV Board of Administration.

In respect of the previous decision, Ms. Valentina BIFFLIN will also take part in the next vote.

Part 2: Election of the remaining BoA Members

The National Federations must now vote for 12 people to join the Board of Administration. Ballots containing more than 12 crosses will be considered invalid.

After deliberation, the President of the Voting Commission announces the following results:

- Collected ballots: 47

- Non-valid ballots: 0
- Majority: 24 votes

Have obtained the absolute majority (i.e. 24 votes) and are thus elected in the first round:

<u>LAST NAME</u>	<u>FIRST NAME</u>	<u>FEDERATION</u>	<u>VOTES</u>
Mr BERBEN	Philip	BEL	39
Mr ARENA	Renato	ITA	38
Mr BORICIC	Aleksandar	SCG	37
Mr PATKIN	Vladimir	RUS	35
Mr SHAW	Jacques	FRA	34
Mr ADLER	Eric	DEN	33
Mr MARTIN SANTOS	Agustin	ESP	33
Mr STAVROU	Andreas	CYP	32
Mr BELIGRATIS	Thanassis	GRE	32
Mr HRONEK	Jan	CZE	31
Mr PEKALIS	Maris	LAT	29
Mr PRZEDPELSKI	Mirosław	POL	24

Received votes:

Ms. Valentina BIFFLIN (CRO)	18
Mr Dancho LAZAROV (BUL)	15
Mr Gheorghe VISAN (ROM)	8
Mr Levan AKHVLEDIANI (GEO)	5

The General Assembly applauds the new-elected members for their results.

Recess for the Board of Administration Meeting

Mr MEYER calls all elected members to join him in a meeting of the Board of Administration to nominate the Executive Committee Members and the different Commissions' Presidents.

Approval of the Nomination of the Commissions' Presidents

After deliberation with the newly elected BoA Members, Mr André MEYER, CEV President, announces the names of the new Vice-Presidents of the CEV Board of Administration, as Executive Committee Members, and the names of the CEV Commissions' Presidents.

Joining Mr André MEYER as elected Members of the Executive Committee are:

Mr Philip BERBEN	Senior Vice-President and Treasurer
Mrs Riet OOMS	Vice-President
Ms. Banu CAN	Vice-President
Mr Renato ARENA	Vice-President
Mr Aleksandar BORICIC	Vice-President
Mr Jan HRONEK	Vice-President in charge of Administrative Affairs

Proposed as Presidents of the 7 Commissions:



Mr Stefan POTYKA	European Beach Volleyball Commission
Mrs Riet OOMS	European Cups Commission
Mr Philip BERBEN	European Financial Commission
Mr Aloys FISCHER	European Legal Commission
Prof. Dr Manfred HOLZGRAEFE	European Medical Commission
Mr Jan REK	European Refereeing Commission
Mr Pierre MULHEIMS	European Sports Organising Commission

The General Assembly approves the new composition of the CEV Board of Administration for the period 2005-2009 as presented by the CEV President.

The new CEV Board of Administration is composed as follows:

<u>EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE</u>	<u>LAST NAME</u>	<u>FIRST NAME</u>	<u>NF</u>
CEV President	Mr MEYER	André	LUX
Senior Vice-President/Treasurer			
EFC President	Mr BERBEN	Philip	BEL
Vice-President	Mr ARENA	Renato	ITA
Vice-President	Mr BORICIC	Aleksandar	SCG
Vice-President	Ms. CAN	Banu	TUR
Vice-President of Administrative Affairs	Mr HRONEK	Jan	CZE
Vice-President / ECC President	Mrs OOMS	Riet	NED

<u>BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION</u>	<u>LAST NAME</u>	<u>FIRST NAME</u>	<u>NF</u>
BoA Member	Mr ADLER	Eric	DEN
BoA Member	Mr BELIGRATIS	Athanassios	GRE
BoA Member / ELC President	Mr FISCHER	Aloys	SUI
BoA Member / EMC President	Mr HOLZGRAEFE	Manfred	GER
BoA Member	Mr MARTIN SANTOS	Agustin	ESP
BoA Member / ESOC President	Mr MULHEIMS	Pierre	LUX
BoA Member	Mr PATKIN	Vladimir	RUS
BoA Member	Mr PEKALIS	Maris	LAT
BoA Member / EBVC President	Mr POTYKA	Stefan	AUT
BoA Member	Mr PRZEDPELSK	IMirosław	POL
BoA Member / ERC President	Mr REK	Jan	SUI
BoA Member	Mr SHAW	Jacques	FRA
BoA Member	Mr STAVROU	Andreas	CYP

The members of the new Board of Administration will meet for the first time on 10th September 2005 and will appoint the members of each commission.

Date and Venue of the XXVII General Assembly in 2005

The next CEV General Assembly will take place in Luxembourg (LUX). Mr MEYER proposes to organise it in September 2006. The exact dates will be confirmed at a later time pending the confirmation of the availability of the Congress hall in Luxembourg.

Miscellaneous

Mr MEYER opens the floor to any questions or recommendations anyone may have.

In the absence of any questions or comments, Mr MEYER moves on to point 19 of the Agenda.

Closing of the XXVI General Assembly

Before closing the General Assembly, Mr MEYER thanks all those who worked for the CEV during the four-year mandate which just ended. He especially thanks those Board of Administration or Commission members that were not re-elected or will not be appointed for the new mandate, for their commitment and contribution to Volleyball.

Mr MEYER then thanks all the delegates present in the room for making this General Assembly a successful one and for their work throughout the year. He is convinced that CEV will continue to develop and widely promote Volleyball in Europe with the help of the European National Federations. CEV will focus its efforts on the following tasks: organise quality events, develop marketing, large-scale advertising and publicity for the different competitions and outstanding individuals, and increase the presence of Volleyball and Beach Volleyball on television. This kind of work requires the collaboration of specialists which CEV is very fortunate to have as members of its commissions and working groups, and Mr MEYER therefore takes this opportunity to thank all of them for the work they have done and will continue to do in the future.

A permanent questioning of the responsibilities and activities will help CEV increase the interest of Volleyball in Europe. Therefore, Mr MEYER shares that CEV will work on improving its competition system, starting with the 2007 Senior European Championships, and probably by developing a new concept for the Cups Competition system, taking into consideration the



media aspect in order to make Volleyball more competitive with other sports and more attractive for the sponsors and the public. CEV will use the success of the Champions League, the Qualification Tournament for the World Grand Prix and the European League as guide to reach this goal. "Perfection is achieved, not when there is nothing more to add, but when there is nothing left to take away." - Antoine de St-Exupéry.

Mr MEYER explains that CEV will use this philosophy as guideline for the future, and he assures the National Federations that the newly elected Board of Administration and CEV Commissions will do their best to achieve this goal.

Finally, Mr MEYER thanks those who were involved in the preparation and organisation of this Congress: his colleagues of the Executive Committee and Members of the Board of Administration, the CEV Executive Director, Mr Olivier MOTTIER and the CEV Staff Present, the Italian Volleyball Federation and the local organisers, the translators and the technical staff.

Mr MEYER officially closes the XXVI General Assembly at 18h30.

2006

CEV BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING – ATHENS (GRE) – 28TH JANUARY 2006

The following members are attending:

President: André MEYER (LUX)
Senior Vice President: Philip BERBEN (BEL)
Vice Presidents: Aleksandar BORICIC (SCG) - Jan HRONEK (CZE) - Riet OOMS (NED) Renato ARENA (ITA) - Banu CAN (TUR)
Members: Eric ADLER (DEN) - Thanassis BELIGRATIS (GRE) - Aloys FISCHER (SUI) - Manfred HOLZGRAEFE (GER) - Pierre MULHEIMS (LUX) - Vladimir PATKIN (RUS) - Maris PEKALIS (LAT) - Stefan POTYKA (AUT) - Miroslaw PRZEDPELSKI (POL) - Jan REK (SUI) - Agustin MARTIN SANTOS (ESP) - Jacques SHAW (FRA) - Andreas STAVROU (CYP)

Opening of the Meeting

Mr André MEYER opens the meeting and welcomes his colleagues to Athens and also thanks the Greek federation for their warm welcome and the organisation of this board meeting particularly addressing himself to Mr Thanassis BELIGRATIS, President of the Greek NF.

Mr BELIGRATIS takes the floor and welcomes the BoA members on behalf of the Greek federation. He underlines the importance of Volleyball and Beach Volleyball in Greece, particularly regarding the organisation of the previous Olympic Games in Athens. He also recalls the commitment of his federation in terms of Volleyball and Beach Volleyball within Europe and expresses his wish to maintain the privileged relationship between his federation and the CEV. Finally he wishes the BoA members the best of success for their meeting.



The members of the CEV Board of Administration pose at the end of their meeting in Athens

Mr MEYER thanks Mr BELIGRATIS for his ongoing support. He greets Mr Miguel-Angel QUINTANA and Mr Theofanis TSIOKRIS, FIVB Vice-Presidents, who will follow the meeting as ex-officio members without voting right but with the right to take the floor and express their opinion, if they wish to.

Approval of the Agenda

Based on the considerations made during the preceding Executive Committee, Mr MEYER proposes to add the following points to the agenda:

Miscellaneous

- Veterans Volleyball in Europe
- Counting system

Mr Jacques SHAW also wishes to give new information on the Development Centre in Montpellier (FRA).

Miscellaneous

- Montpellier – Training Centre

Mr Miroslaw PRZEDPELSKI would like to present a video clip about Volleyball produced by the TV partner of the Polish NF.

The agenda, including the new points, is accepted.

Minutes of the Executive Committee held on 16/17th December 2005 at Hotel Novotel, Luxembourg (LUX)

In the absence of any further remarks or questions, the minutes are adopted.

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on 7th September 2005 at Hotel Four Points SHERATON, Rome (ITA)

Mr Eric ADLER suggests the definition of the geographic criteria in terms of the possible participation of countries in Zonal Associations needs greater clarity. Particularly regarding countries with geographic borders that are not necessarily adjoining Zonal Associations, but who are very active and are motivated to become a member of a Zonal Association.

Mr MEYER reminds his colleagues that during the creation of the Zonal Associations by the FIVB the criteria of geographic compliance were established in order to avoid big distances between the member countries. However, he explains to Mr ADLER that this definition might be reconsidered. Moreover he informs the BoA members that Mr Jan HRONEK has been appointed Coordinator for the Zonal Associations by the Executive Committee.

Approval of the Minutes of the Board of Administration Meetings 7/8/9th September 2005 at Hotel Four Points SHERATON, Rome (ITA)

In the absence of any remarks or questions, the minutes are adopted.

Activity Report of the Executive Committee

The Executive Committee held a meeting in December 2005 in the presence of all Commission Presidents in order to approve the directives and their activities for the period of 2006 – 2009 as well as a short presentation of their activity plan.

Concerning the CEV marketing activities, some agreements have ended and Mr MEYER worked at extending these contracts as well as finding new sponsorship partners (Indesit, Champion, Austrian Airlines, Gerflor, EUROSPORT, and Media Partners).

Furthermore, the following important recommendations have been made during the previous meeting of the Executive Committee:

- The development of veteran volleyball
- The counting system and its analysis
- The procedure regarding the applications for the European Championships 2008/2009
- The activities of the Working Groups

These points will be re-examined for approval during this Board of Administration session.

Institutions

FIVB/CEV Beach Volleyball Issues

During the last meeting with the FIVB President, Dr Ruben ACOSTA, Mr Angelo SQUEO, Mr Philip BERBEN and Mr André MEYER in Lausanne (SUI), an agreement has finally been reached upon and signed by both parties.

Apart from the different problems related to the Beach Volleyball calendar and the recognition of its competitions in Europe, which have been agreed upon by FIVB and CEV, both parties confirm as follows:

- Their common will to sanction the participation of European athletes in competitions not authorised by FIVB and CEV
- Their intention to integrate a new CEV Beach Volleyball ranking system with the possibility to take into account the FIVB ranking for some players
- To not interfere in the dates/calendars for Beach Volleyball of the national federations
- In terms of Volleyball, the following dispositions were discussed:
- International transfer procedure and financial fee requested by European NFs
- Situation of the United Kingdom in view of the Olympic Games 2012 will be the subject of an analysis of the four countries (England, Wales, Northern Ireland and Scotland) to be submitted to the FIVB
- Financial support of 10,000 CHF allocated to MEVZA for their activities respectively in 2004 and 2005

CEV Internal Regulations

Mr Aloys FISCHER, ELC President, first informs his colleagues of the modifications which have to be adopted and which are based on the current statutes and which consequently do not affect the existing regulations. The wording of the latter has simply been updated.

Based on the recommendations of the Executive Committee and the amendments of the Board of Administration members, the document is approved.

Decision: Taking into account the remarks and amendments, the regulations, newly-named 'CEV General Regulations', are approved.

Code of Discipline

Mr MEYER thanks Mr FISCHER as well as the members of his Commission for the excellent work completed regarding the regulations. He also wishes to inform the Board of Administration members that, taking into account the new proposals and recommendations formulated by FIVB, the revision of the regulations should be postponed.

In this way, the CEV would be able to take into account possible modifications requested by FIVB and to only deal with one single revision of the regulations.

Decision:

- Report on the final version of the CEV Code of Discipline after the FIVB Congress 2006
- Adopt the version according to the proposal forwarded to the Board of Administration on 10th September 2005

Working Group Regulations & Fines

The revision of the Beach Volleyball regulations will be made on 18th & 19th February 2006 in Luxembourg in the presence of Mr Aloys FISCHER, Mr Roger SCHNEGG, Mr Achilleas MAVROMATIS and Mr Jean-Paul ROMMES.



Working Group Future of European Cups

Mrs Riet OOMS, CEV Vice-President, reminds her colleagues that the current cups system had to be reviewed in order to make the different competitions more attractive for interested clubs.

These two major points have been developed:

- A new ranking system of the national federations, defining the number of places granted in the different European Cups
- A new competition system, maintaining three different cup competitions

This new structure should be applied as for the season 2007-2008. A test will be run during the Champions League 2006/2007 with the possible participation of 24 teams in the men's and 16 teams in the women's category.

Mr Jacques SHAW is afraid that a competition played with 24 teams is difficult to deliver regarding the calendar and the number of matches the athletes will have to play.

Mr MEYER confirms that the transition from 20 to 24 teams in the men's and from 12 to 16 in the women's category does not have any impact on the number of weeks played during the competition. He adds that the test to be run during the season 2006/2007 will show the interest of the NFs and clubs in participating in this new competition formula.

Mr SHAW would like to know if some links will be created between the Champions League and the other CEV Cups.

Mrs OOMS confirms that as from the season 2007/2008 at the end of the League Round of the IECL, the third and fourth ranked team and the best fifth ranked team will enter into a Challenge Round of CEV Cup

Decision: The minutes and proposals of the WG Future of the European Cups are approved.

Action: Next meeting on 18.02.2006 in VIENNA (AUT)

Working Group Media & Communication

Mr Aleksandar BORICIC reminds his colleagues that, with the support of the CEV Press Officer, Ms. Shelly BICKENDORF, and a new communication strategy has been established.

Mr Andreas STAVROU wishes to reinforce the communication flow among the national press officers including a possible training.

Mr MEYER confirms that the organisation of a seminar within the frame of the CEV Congress 2006 will be examined by the Executive Committee.

Working Group Vision 2012

Mr MEYER informs his colleagues of the reactivation of this Working Group, with the following objectives:

- Collect data from all European NFs relating Volleyball and Beach Volleyball (development, training, medical issues, nutrition, doping, marketing, communication, events, etc.)
- Classify this information in a database (search engine and classification system to be developed)
- Publication of this information on the CEV website

A first presentation of the project shall take place during the next CEV Congress in 2006.

Action: The information and the data concerning Volleyball and Beach Volleyball of the different NFs are to be transmitted to Ms. Banu CAN, Chairwoman of the WG Vision 2012.

Zonal Associations activities & CEV Coordination

Decision:

- Mr Jan HRONEK, CEV Vice-President in charge of administrative affairs, is appointed Coordinator of the Zonal Associations
- The competition program 2006 of the BVA is approved:

Beach Volleyball

Senior Men/Women, ALB, 10th – 20th August 2006

Volleyball

Junior Men, MKD, 5th – 15th August 2006

Junior Women, ROM, 5th – 15th August 2006

Youth Men, GRE, 20th – 30th August 2006

Youth Women, TUR, 20th – 30th July 2006

The category Junior Men/Women, which will be played in ROM from 20 - 25.08.2005 is only approved provided that the European Beach Volleyball Championships U-18, U-20, U-23 are not organised during the same period.

Tasks of the ExCom & BoA Members

Mr André MEYER – WG Marketing, WG Future of the Cups

Mr Philip BERBEN – International transfer items, Sports Aid Program

Mr Jan HRONEK – Administrative Affairs, Coordination Zonal Associations

Mr Aleksandar BORICIC – WG Media & Communication

Ms. Banu CAN – WG Vision 2012

Mr Renato ARENA – WG Veterans

Mr Aloys FISCHER – WG Regulations & Fines



Financial Matters

Accounts 2005

Mr Philip BERBEN, Senior Vice-President & Treasurer, informs the Board of Administration members of the accounts 2005:

- Apart from the additional monies due, the accounts 2005 have been finalised
- The internal and external auditing will be organised in March 2006
- The closure of the accounts is foreseen for the middle of April 2006
- The accounts are exactly in line with the budget

Action: Presentation of the final accounts 2005 during the next BoA session on 10th June 2006

Aged Debts ARM/WAL – Sports Aid program

Mr BERBEN recalls that further to the failure to settle their debts towards CEV and FIVB, and upon FIVB decision, ARM and WAL were officially suspended and placed under the category C.

He confirms that the existing debts will be amortized during the closure of the fiscal year 2005, through the Sports Aid Program. He also underlines that CEV wishes to support the possible reactivation of these federations and hopes to be able to help ARM and WAL to start up their activities again.

Regarding the Sports Aid Program, Mr BERBEN expresses his disappointment about the small number of applications. He reminds the Presidents of the Zonal Associations that they can submit their proposals also to CEV.

External Audit 2005

The external audit 2005 will be conducted by Lux Audit-Revision. From 2006 on, CEV will collaborate with an auditor designated by FIVB, namely Ernst & Young.

Mr BERBEN reminds his colleagues that the internal audit will be executed by Mr Leo DADAMA (NED) and Mr Michel HENNO (BEL), nominated by the General Assembly 2005. Mr Jacob SHTOFMAN (ISR) will substitute in case a replacement is needed.

Insurance coverage for CEV competitions

Mr Meyer presents the recommendations made by the Executive Committee concerning the medical insurance for athletes and officials during their participation in CEV competitions (European Championships, European Cups, European League, etc.)

The following points have been established with BJD Services:

- Cover:
 - ❖ Assistance and repatriation
 - ❖ Medical expenses – max. 100,000 EUR/per case

Events insured:

All men's and women's European volleyball competitions organised for each age category and/or type of competition (excluding beach volleyball)

- Advantages:
 - ❖ Unification of all medical services and price guarantee at the charge of all countries
 - ❖ Solidarity between all NFs
 - ❖ Simplification of proceeding with hospitals and doctors in case of illnesses or accidents
- Price:

- ❖ 15.50 Euro per person/per year
- ❖ costs to be integrated in administrative registration of athletes and officials.

Mr Meyer opens the discussion regarding the implementation of such insurance.

Mr BELIGRATIS underlines that certain NFs already benefit from similar services, but he congratulates the CEV on this initiative to create an insurance cover all NFs can equally benefit from.

Mr PEKALIS mentions that certain teams only participate in a few official matches and that the price to be paid by the NFs could be too high.

Mr SANTOS asks if this insurance only covers official CEV competitions. Mr Meyer confirms that the services will only be valid within the frame of official CEV volleyball matches and will not cover national championships.

Mr Manfred HOLZGRAEFE underlines that the price of 15.50 Euro per person is a fair rate as these services ensure coverage for more than 4,000 persons.

Decision: Introduction of a medical insurance for all athletes and officials registered on official CEV volleyball competitions as discussed before.

Action: Analysis of the necessary administrative procedures will be carried out and will allow the introduction of this new measure from 2007 on. – Administrative Dept.

European Championships

Men's SEC – Final Report of the Jury President

Mr Jan HRONEK congratulates the NFs of ITA & SCG on their excellent joint organisation.

However, he makes two remarks, future organisers might benefit from:

- The accreditation of the players and officials in case of an organisation by two NFs, has to be coordinated more efficiently
- The allocation of seats and accreditations for CEV Officials has to be organised in a stricter way

Concerning the accreditations, especially of the teams, Mr Manfred HOLZGRAEFE, EMC President, explains that several identification problems occurred at the officials table, as the officials' accreditations did not contain sufficient information. In the future, it should be obligatory to include on the accreditations the name/ first name/ country / number of the player.

Action: Create an official layout for future organisers – Competition Dept.

Mr Maris PEKALIS also mentions that the organisation of SCG was of very high quality and that this organisation benefited from outstanding professionalism.

Concerning the charges related to the costs of the anti-doping tests, Mr MEYER reminds the two organisers that, unfortunately, the invoices of the accredited laboratories still have not been paid.

Action: Proceed to payment to the laboratory as soon as possible. ITA/SCG

Mr Manfred HOLZGRAEFE explains that serious problems occurred during the anti-doping tests, due to the transportation system (information regarding exact arrival times, monitoring procedures during transport etc.)

2005 Women's SEC – Final Report of the Jury President

Mrs OOMS explains that she is highly satisfied with the high level of organisation delivered by the Croatian federation. All delegations were very pleased.



However, Mrs OOMS points out that the spectator attendance and the development of a promotional plan was insufficient. For the future, organisers will have to make plans to guarantee a sufficient number of spectators during the competition.

2006 JEC in FRA and RUS - Report of the Control Committee Presidents

As to the women's Championships, which will be held in Metz and St. Dié (FRA), Mr Philip BERBEN confirms that the inspection visit has been completed and that the date for the Drawing of Lots will be fixed soon.

Concerning the men's Championships, which will be held in Kazan (RUS), Mr Jan HRONEK confirms as follows:

- Dates of the competition 6th – 14th September 2006, modified following the request of the Russian federation (national day)
- Drawing of Lots 24th June 2006
- The Jury is completed by the nomination of Mr Jacques SHAW, Jury Secretary

Mr Pierre MULHEIMS remarks that the new dates could create a clash with the third round of the SECH Men and Women, which will be played on 9th & 10th September 2006.

Decision: the dates of the Junior Men European Championship are modified. The new dates are 6th – 14th September 2006

2007 Men's SECH - Report of the Control Committee Presidents

Mr Aleksandar BORICIC confirms that the inspection visit will be made on 15th June 2006

2007 Women's SECH - Report of the Control Committee Presidents

Mr Jan HRONEK confirms that the inspection visit will be made on 30th June 2006. The coordinator of the BoA, Ms. Banu CAN, and ESOC, Mrs Inara BROKANE, will be there at the same time.

2007 Boys' U-19 ECH – Report of the Control Committee Presidents

Mr Philip BERBEN confirms that the inspection visit will be organised on 23rd June 2006 and that the dates of the Drawing of Lots will be confirmed.

2007 Girls U-18 ECH – Report of the Control Committee Presidents

Mr Renato ARENA confirms that the inspection visit will take place from 05th – 7th May 2006 in Brno (CZE).

2008 and 2009 European Championships Applications – Procedure and Planning

Mr MEYER explains the procedure transmitted to all federations:

15th April 2006:

Official candidates must send their complete applications to the CEV Office including:

- A presentation in accordance with the detailed 'CEV guideline for applications'; sent out by the CEV Head Office upon request of interested NFs
- Letter of support of the authorities (government, Ministry of Sports, mayor of the city etc.)
- Business plan, budget and TV opportunities, promotional plan, etc.

May 2006:

Start of the official audit of each application in Luxembourg until the end of August including visits of the applying countries and venues.

October 2006:

The organiser of 2008/2009 Championships will be appointed during the BoA meeting and announced during the General Assembly, held on 14th October 2006.

Mr PRZEDPELSKI asks if it would be possible to modify the dates of the men's and women's competition in order to organise the men's Championships in the second half of September 2009.

Mr Meyer confirms that the proposed dates have already been submitted to FIVB and approved.

CEV Officials nomination

Mr Jan HRONEK informs his colleagues of the new nominations for the finals of the European Cups and the modifications regarding certain competitions.

European League Meeting held on 20th November 2005 in Luxembourg

Mr MEYER recalls the efforts made during this important meeting in order to define and harmonise the calendar of this competition and its different matches. At this point, seven teams have confirmed their participation on the basis of the calendar proposed by CEV (ESP, GRE, GER, CRO, TUR, SVK, and EST).

The Netherlands are facing difficulties in terms of TV partnership and have been granted an additional deadline.

The final of the EL 2006 will be held in Izmir (TUR) from 19th –20th August 2006.

Mr MARTIN SANTOS explains that the dates in the calendar, as proposed by CEV, causes certain problems, particularly regarding the designation of the matches: certain teams do not play all teams or have a different number of matches as other teams.

Mr MEYER confirms the complexity of the competition format, which unfortunately does not offer any other alternatives with eight teams. He also stresses that the calendar is based on the proposal designed and confirmed by all participating teams.

FIVB Grand Prix Qualification Tournament 2006

The valid applications for the organisation of the European Qualification Tournament were submitted by POL, BUL and TUR. The application of RUS, which would have needed to be revised regarding the dates, was not considered.

Mr Meyer reminds his colleagues that POL and TUR have already organised this competition and that in terms of sporting criteria, marketing and technical requirements, all files received were considered.

Decision: The BoA approves the recommendation of the ExCom and appoints BUL as organiser 2006.

The competition format, according to the recommendation of the ESOC, is approved:

- Two pools with four teams
- Drawing of Lots before the semi-finals in order to define the places of the two best second ranked teams in the semi-finals

Mr Vladimir PATKIN proposes to postpone the dates of this competition, taking into account that many athletes need a period to recover following the World Championships in Japan. As this problem is related to the competition calendar of the European Cups, Mr MEYER proposes firstly to discuss a possible modification regarding the dates.



European Cups

Final Four 2006

Decisions: The BoA, following the recommendations of the ExCom, approves the following organisations:

- 25th – 26th March 2006 – IECL Men in Rome (ITA)
- 18th – 19th March 2006 – IECL Women in Cannes (FRA)
- 12th – 13th March 2006 – Austrian Airlines Top Teams Cup Men in Palma de Mallorca (ESP)
- 12th – 13th March 2006 – Top Teams Cup Women in Moscow (RUS)
- 4th – 5th March 2006 – CEV Cup Men in Padova (ITA)
- 3rd – 4th May 2006 – CEV Cup Women in Torino (ITA)

Competition calendar 2006-2007

Mr PATKIN wishes to make a new proposal regarding the dates of the Cups Calendar 2006-2007, taking into account the following points:

- In view of the World Championships, the best teams like BRA, CAN, JPN, CUB will focus their organisation on the preparation of their athletes
- Consequently, some of these players will not be available in Europe for the beginning of the competition as proposed by CEV
- In order to also leave enough time for the preparation of the national championships, it is necessary to re-examine the proposed dates or to modify the competition format

Mr MEYER understands the worries of the federations, but he underlines that it is not preferable to eliminate any possibility to start the cups competition after the European Championship, which would reduce the impact of the competitions regarding the sponsors and exclude Europe from TV for three months.

Mr Aleksandar BORICIC confirms that the establishment of a competition calendar is very complex as many different factors like national, international and European championships have to be taken into account. It is therefore necessary to set priorities.

Following an open discussion and a new proposal from the ECC, the BoA approves the following decisions:

- Extend the preparation period of the athletes for the national team matches to five weeks
- Postpone the date of the Final Fours of the men's and women's Champions League by one week:

IECL Men Final Four: 30th March – 1st April 2007

IECL Women Final Four: 24th – 25th March 2007

- Approve the new calendar for the Champions League

IECL drawing of lots 23rd June 2006 in Vienna (AUT)

Mr MEYER confirms that the Drawing of Lots will take place in Vienna on 23rd June 2006 and cordially invites his colleagues to assist this important event organised in close collaboration with the Austrian Federation and the city of Vienna. He also explains that, on this occasion, the best players for the year 2005 will be awarded:

Volleyball:

Mr Alberto CISOLLA (ITA): Best Player 2005

Ms. Dorota SWIENIEWICZ (POL): Best Player 2005

Beach Volleyball:

Mr Pablo HERRERA (ESP): King of the Beach 2005

Ms. Vassiliki KARADASSIOU (GRE): Queen of the Beach 2005

Action: The respective National Federations have to ensure the presence of their athletes during the ceremony.

Mr Meyer expresses his opinion that the awarding of the best players 2005 is too late and that for the future the CEV for the future has to think over the procedure in order to have the opportunity to celebrate the awarding end of the year or beginning of the next year.

European Beach Volleyball

2006 Senior European Championships Regulations

The regulations was analysed in detail and corrected according to the amendments of the BoA members.

Decision: Based on the recommendations made, the regulations of the 2006 Senior European Championships are adopted.

U-18, 20, 23 EC - 2006 Organisation

The following NFs expressed their interest:

AUT – U-23 10th 13th August 2006 in St. Pölten

SVK – U-18 26th 30th July 2006 in Bratislava

Mr Stefan POTYKA reminds his colleagues from the different federations that still no organiser for the U-20 category has been found.

Action: Finalise the contracts 2006 with AUT and SVK. – Marketing Dept.

European Championships Tour 2006 – CEV calendar

Mr MEYER wishes to come back to the existing conflict between the dates of the final of the NECT 2006 in the Netherlands and the organisation of the Junior World Championships announced by the Polish Federation for the same time. Given that the CEV Beach Volleyball calendar had already been published and accepted by FIVB in November 2005, Mr MEYER points out that it is negative for the competition that the Polish Federation has chosen the same dates.

Action: Mr PRZEDPELSKI, President of the POL Federation has to analyse the modification of these dates, given that the FIVB and Mr Angelo SQUEO have already agreed to this.

Warning FIVB/CEV – Non-recognised tournaments and athletes' suspension

Mr MEYER reminds his colleagues of the procedures established following the common agreement between FIVB and CEV. Only those international tournaments which have been approved by CEV or FIVB can benefit from the participation of European athletes. Failure to respect of this constitutional principle will result in severe sanctions for the athletes and their NF.

Action: The NFs, sole authorities at national level, control Volleyball & Beach Volleyball in their territory regarding the organisation of international beach volleyball tournaments and have to transmit all necessary information to FIVB/CEV.



ITA/SLO/CRO/EST/SMR are particularly requested to avoid the organisation of the so-called 'Pro Series' tournaments and all commitments of their athletes within the frame of these competitions are not recognised by FIVB and CEV.

CEV Commissions – Minutes & Objectives 2006-2009

Beach Volleyball Commission – Mr Stefan POTYKA

Mr MEYER explains that every Commission President is in charge of presenting the work established during the previous session of his commission as well as the objectives 2006-2009 and a plan of the activities foreseen.

Mr POTYKA presents the objectives of his commission:

1. New ranking system for NECT, as a combination of FIVB, CEV and national championships in order to allow the top players to participate in European competitions
2. Mr MEYER is worried about taking into consideration the national championships. Mr POTYKA confirms that this system allows the recognition of the NFs' championships without having a significant impact on the ranking.

To create and improve the guidelines for an indoor Beach Volleyball Tour

3. Mr Meyer underlines that it is essential to analyse the impact of such an organisation and events, as the CEV has to give clear instructions and directives to the NFs.

U-18, 20, 23 Championships

- To announce the hosting country one year earlier
- The applications for 2006 have already been sent
- Maintain the participation fee of € 100 per team/for all categories
- Costs per player: € 35 per day for food and accommodation.

Mr HRONEK recommends the adoption of these measures of financial support related to the youth and junior categories.

The list of supervisors for the season 2006 is submitted for approval:

<u>Competition</u>	<u>TS</u>	<u>Assistant TS</u>
Alanya TUR	O. Dieterle GER	M. Everaert NED
Hamburg GER	J.-P. Fleutiaux FRA	D. Decher SUI
Moscow RUS	L. Lukas EST	R. Schnegg SUI
Valencia ESP	H. Gomes POR	F. Brasili ITA
Lucerne SUI	L. Lukas EST	T. Kramar CRO
The Hague NED	S. Potyka AUT	E. Cirulis LAT
U23	H. Gomes POR	None
U20	A. Misiak POL	B. Bugarcic SCG
U18	Z. Meier CZE	M. Nasca ITA

Furthermore, it was accepted that the costs for the Assistant Supervisor, where the CEV feels there is a need for 2 persons to cover the tasks, will be paid by the promoter.

Regarding the Senior European Championship Final 2006-2008 the following proposals are made:

Format

2006: Double Elimination

2007 and 2008: Will be determined by the FIVB in the frame of the Olympic Qualification process

Teams

2006: 24 teams per gender

- max. 19 foreign teams
- min. 2 teams from Host Country
- 3 Wild Cards
- no Qualification Tournament

2007 and 2008: 32 teams per gender (because of Olympic Qualification Process)

- max. 27 foreign teams
- min. 2 teams from Host Country
- 3 Wild Cards
- Country Quota
- Host Country: max. 3 teams, foreign countries: max. 2 teams

Regarding the Nestea European Championship Tour events 2006, following proposals are made:

Format

Double Elimination

Teams

- 16 per gender:
- 8 teams by ranking (directly)
- 2 teams from Host Country (directly)
- 2 Wild Cards
- 4 teams from Qualification Tournament

In case of unused Wild Cards, the best ranked teams of the entry list will be admitted directly to the Main Draw.

Country Quota - host Country 3 teams, others 2 teams (one more possible from Qualification Tournament)

Continue with the Country Quota playoff system like 2005: Maintain Country Quota matches and play these Country Quota matches at the end of the Qualification Tournament.

Regarding the Beach Volleyball Challengers and Satellites, Mr POTYKA reminds his colleagues that, following an FIVB recommendation, these categories have to be renamed. Following proposals are made:

- Categories: Only 1 category
- Name: European Beach Trophy (TBC)
- (Other names discussed: Future or Talents Tour, Stars Cup, Golden Sand...)
- Prize Money: Minimum 5,000 Euro, Maximum 30,000 Euro
- System: Double Elimination

Junior Opportunities

The EBVC proposed to build up a European Junior Circuit by bringing existing junior tournaments together through a ranking and information system



Mr HRONEK also proposes to take into account, if possible, the points collected during the participation in competitions organised by the Zonal Associations.

Coaching Course

Mr POTYKA presents a project dealing with the organisation of a seminar for coaches in order facilitate the exchange of experiences and the training particularly regarding the problems related to the medical preventions, procedures concerning the regulations for the activities of physiotherapists etc.

Mr MEYER points out that this is not really the task of the CEV and that this is rather the mission of the NFs knowing the function of the 'coach' is not mentioned in our regulations.

Mr SANTOS underlines that the designation and recognition of the coaches invited to such a seminar should be made via the NFs

IT System

For the future the EBVC recommends to analyse the possibility to simplify the registration of the athletes (digital registration process) and the management of information and data related to competitions (ranking system, results, sanctions etc.).

Mr MEYER underlines that the registration of players should only be ensured via the administration of the NFs. Moreover he confirms that an in-depth analysis of the existing database (COMA) is being carried out, but before the finalisation of the new database no other investment will be made.

Decision: The proposals made by the EBVC are approved by the BoA, taking into account the previous remarks.

The minutes of the EBVC meeting of 10th – 12th November 2005 are approved.

Cups Commission – Mrs Riet OOMS

The ECC intends to set up the following main goals for the period 2006-2009:

- To prepare minimum Technical Requirements for the Top Teams Cup and CEV Cup competitions, in order to raise the technical level of matches played in European competitions, whilst at the same time raising the level of the National competitions.
- To prepare minimum Organisational Requirements for the Top Teams Cup and CEV Cup competitions. Both requirements (Technical and Organisational) are to help the organisers raise the standard of European Cup matches.
- To implement promotional plans, to be prepared by all participants in Cup competitions, in order to attract more public to the matches.
- To ensure better placement CEV Logos etc. during the European Cups events (image building). Items to be developed in close collaboration with the CEV Marketing Department (obligations of the participating teams).
- Improve the website and communication with the National Federations and Clubs.
- Increase the number of women's teams in the European Champions League.
- Supervise the implementation of the new competition system.
- Work closely with ESOC and EBVC to solve the calendar problems.

Time schedule for delivery

- Evaluation of the current requirements of National Federations for the highest ranked National Championship - 2006

- Introduction of the minimum technical and organisational requirements for TTC and CC - 2007-2008
- Popularisation of the European Cups with different publications or videos in close cooperation with the Marketing Department - 2007-2009
- Publishing the teams and players biographies via the website by creating links to the sites of the clubs - 2006-2007
- Explore the reasons of the Women's Teams' absence from the European Champions League - 2006-2007
- Introduction of the ranking system of the National Volleyball Federations for European Cups 2007
- Supervise the implementation of the new competition system - 2007-2009
- Joint meetings with ESOC - 2006-2009

As for the minutes of the ECC meeting of 25th & 26th November 2005, Mrs OOMS mentions problems regarding the information flow between two national bodies responsible for doping tests.

Mr FISCHER informs his colleagues that his commission is examining new proposals in this matter in close collaboration with the EMC.

However, Mr Manfred HOLZGRAEFE reminds his colleagues again that, as far as doping tests are concerned, the national institutions have the right and the authority to proceed according to their specific regulations.

Decision: The proposals made by the ECC are approved by the BoA.

The minutes of the ECC meeting of 25.-26.11.2005 are approved.

Financial Commission – Mr Philip BERBEN

Taking into account the decisions taken by the Executive Committee regarding the role of this commission, Mr Philip BERBEN confirms the following tasks:

- Maintain a mandatory annual meeting in Luxembourg
- Immediately following the closing of the accounts, send all related documents as well as the budget for the next year to all commission members
- The EFC will remain available to make recommendations for the ExCom regarding all financial matters of necessary financial measures

Legal Commission – Mr Aloys FISCHER

The activity plan for 2006 is as follows:

- Re-examine the CEV Statutes and propose amendments in it as well as consecutive amendments in the Internal Regulations and the Code of Discipline, if necessary
- Discuss with the EMC the different items concerning anti-doping tests in order to communicate adequate information in terms of legal aspects to all concerned
- Formulate reasoned opinions on any sanctions or other decisions when asked by any CEV institution

The working plan of the European Legal Commission for the period 2006-2009 is as follows:

- Propose amendments to the statutes and the different regulations taking into consideration the development of volleyball and the needs of CEV
- Assist the CEV BoA and all CEV Commissions in finding solutions to all legal matters



- Formulate reasoned opinions on any sanction or other decision when asked by any CEV institution
- Examine the Statutes and Regulations of Zonal Associations

Decision: The proposals made by the ELC are approved by the BoA.

The minutes of the ELC meeting of 26th November 2005 are approved.

Medical Commission – Mr Manfred HOLZGRAEFE

Mr HOLZGRAEFE recalls the problems faced within the frame of certain insufficient hygienic services encountered in different hotels. As laid down in the minutes of the 3rd December 2005, it would be beneficial to include certain regulations concerning this matter in the Terms & Conditions of the organiser (hygienic certificate two weeks prior to a competition).

Mr MEYER adds that the requirements should be included in the task description of one of the Committee members of the local organiser. He also underlines that the CEV Jury should be in charge of the control of this procedure.

Regarding the capability of a referee to whistle a match when he is seriously ill, Mr REK, ERC President, wishes to get clear instructions.

Mr MEYER and MR HOLZGRAEFE confirm that the Technical Delegate/Supervisor has to decide. Then the referee needs to undergo a medical examination which might consequently lead to a release from their nomination.

Action: Forward specific information on this procedure to the Technical Delegates – Competition Dept.

Concerning certain problems faced regarding the transport of anti-doping test samples during the SECH in Rome, Mr MEYER underlines that the process needs to be under the authority of the Jury, which also has to control the process at all stages.

Action: Include this task in the task description of the Jury.

In order to avoid conflict with the authorities and national institutions within the frame of doping tests, all authorities able to carry out these tests should be informed before every official competition.

Action: Inform the local authorities of ITA, FRA, TUR, BEL, LUX and RUS of the doping tests CEV plans to carry out for 2006/2007.

Mr BERBEN informs Mr HOLZGRAEFE that, within the frame of bigger sports organisation in Belgium, a Medical Congress could be held at the same time.

The working plan of the EMC for the period 2006-2009 is as follows:

- To continue the medical support to all competitions organised under the CEV authority, including AD testing and medical care
- Accreditation of the Team Medical Doctors
- To cooperate with Refereeing Commission in the field of medical matters
- To create a questionnaire recognising the standard of medical care and support of National Teams of the CEV affiliated countries as well as teams competing in the European Cups
- To organise a Medical Congress dealing with medical problems relating to Volleyball and Beach Volleyball
- To support a study and testing of sports injury preventing activities on Youth Volleyball Players as a preparation and installation of standards for pre-season testing on Volleyball players
- To document and evaluate injuries in volleyball (M-10 forms)
- To continue within EMC the AD training to guarantee their procedures

Decision: The proposals made by the EMC are approved by the BoA.

The minutes of the EMC meeting of 03.12.2005 are approved.

Refereeing Commission – Mr Jan REK

Mr Jan REK briefly summarises the main points of the previous meeting of his commission (20th – 21st February 2005).

- Better structure regarding the appointment of referees in Volleyball and Beach Volleyball events
- The Seminar 2006 in Brno will contain video analysis of SECH in Rome 2005 with practical observations and psychological analysis
- Lack of clarity regarding special items, e.g. line limiting the coaching area, ten minutes break after the second set, advertising panels in front of the player's benches. All arose during European Cup matches

Regarding these points, Mr Meyer explains that, as to the 'coach line', the FIVB will take their final decision. The 10 minutes break after the second set has been cancelled. The libero score sheet will also be obligatory in the future.

For the identification of the reserve referee, it is recommended to use the ID card, which is possessed by all International Referees.

Action: Confirm the changes in the next Official Communication. – Competition Dept.

Working Plan of the European Refereeing Commission during the period 2006-2009 (the projects marked with 'x' have priority during the next two years).

- Development of Refereeing in Europe
 - ❖ Evaluation system x
 - ❖ European Referees Seminars
 - ❖ Identification/Education of new talents x
 - ❖ Promotion of female referees
 - ❖ Support to national federations
- Effective organisation and administration
 - ❖ CEV website x
 - ❖ Referees' database x
 - ❖ Nomination
 - ❖ Working Documents x
- ERC in Competition Environment
 - ❖ Clinics
 - ❖ Contribution to Regulations
- Special efforts in beach volleyball refereeing
 - ❖ Effective utilization of resources x
 - ❖ Management structures x

Decision: The proposals made by the ERC are approved by the BoA.

The minutes of the ERC meeting of 25th – 27th November 2005 are approved. The minutes of 20th & 22nd February 2005 are approved except point 3, page 1. Concerning this point the remark made in the minutes of 25th – 27th November 2005 "in the women's competition, ERC members and referees were not able to participate in a technical meeting", is considered to be the only one which is valid.

Sports Organising Commission – Mr Pierre MULHEIMS

Mr MULHEIMS refers to the principal points made during the meeting of the ESOC on 18/19.11.2005.



Men's Final Report (ROME/BELGRADE – ITA/SCG) - Remark on the closing ceremony

Regarding the absence of certain players nominated for awards, it is essential that the athletes are correctly informed to guarantee their presence during the awards ceremony.

Mr MEYER underlines that this is the responsibility of the Jury, with one of the members being an ESOC member.

Letter of MKD concerning a sanction imposed by CEV against MKD

As to the sanction issued against FYROM for the non-conformity of uniforms, a revision of the decision is being done taking into account the special financial conditions of the NF.

Decision:

The issued sanction stipulated in the regulations of € 2,016 is cancelled as:

- Only half of the amount, i.e. € 1,008 now due from the NF of FYROM
- If, within the period of three years, the NF of FYROM commits the same mistake during a competition involving their team(s), the sum of €1,008 has to be paid immediately as well as € 2,016 for the new failure to follow CEV regulations.
- The amount of € 1,008 has to be paid before 8th May 2006. Should the NF of FYROM not pay the amount by this deadline, the entire sanction of € 2,016 will have to be paid by FYROM.

Action: Issue the credit note and inform FYROM accordingly. – Administration Dept.

Letter of LAT concerning a sanction imposed by CEV against LAT

As to the sanction issued against LAT for the non-conformity of uniforms, a cancellation of the sanction is proposed by ESOC.

Decision: The issued sanction against LAT is cancelled.

Letter of SWE concerning sanction and debts to be paid by GEO (to CEV) and MLD (to SWE):

Concerning the non-payment of certain debts between NFs, the ESOC proposes to apply as laid down in the regulations of the European Cups obliging every participating NF to clear their debts with CEV or the other NFs in order to be admitted to participate in official competitions.

Decision: Modify the regulations of all official CEV competitions defining that every NF has to settle their debts with CEV or an NF before entering in an official competition. - ELC

Youth European Championships BOYS U19 and GIRLS U18 in 2007:

Decision:

To correct the Official Regulations for the YOUTH EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS as follows:

1.Article. 2.1.8.

Match 19Loser 15 – Loser 14

Match 20Loser 13 – Loser 16

2.Article 2.1.10 to add:

Upon request of the Organising Federation an additional free day can be added between the (3rd and the 4th) or (4th and the 5th) competition days. This request must be presented to the CEV at the latest at the first inspection visit.

The Final Rounds of the Boys' European Championship 2007 will be held in AUT, with the Girls' European Championship 2007 in CZE.

ESOC will propose its representatives in the next ESOC meeting.

For the Qualification Round 2007, a special exception is requested for the starting day of the qualification Tournament as the qualification tournaments must take place during the first full week in January (Monday 1st – Sunday 7th January 2007):

Decision: In case of a tournament with 5 or 6 teams ESOC propose to "END" the Qualification Round on Monday, 8th January, instead of Sunday, 7th January, to avoid the travel of the CEV Technical Delegate on the 1st January 2007.

Small Countries

Regarding the competition calendar of the Small Countries, Mr MEYER proposes to simplify the existing proposals and to publish the competition dates in the ad hoc regulations.

Decision: the pre-qualifications, qualifications and finals of the Small Countries Division will be staged between April and June according to the adopted regulations.

Concerning the proposed Junior Championships drawing of lots together with the Senior Championships Mr MEYER wishes that a full Drawing of Lots will be organised for the juniors separately. Mr MULHEIMS notes this request for the future underlining that for the 2006 European Championships carrying out of a Drawing of Lots was impossible as the composition of the pools depended on the tournament organiser's applications.

Working plan of the European Sports Organising Commission during the period of 2006-2009

- Annual ESOC plan
- Review Junior and Youth European Championships by comparison with the Seniors European Championships
- Update: TECHNICAL Organisation & Logistics for organisers of a Pre-qualification and a qualification Round of the European Championships
- Update: TECHNICAL Organisation & Logistics for organisers of a Final round of the European Championships
- Updating and re-styling the forms for European Championships
- Improve the work of the CEV TECHNICAL DELEGATES in single matches and also in tournaments
- Report of Inspection Visits for QUALIFICATION - and FINAL Rounds
- Evaluate the new Junior Championships for Small Countries Division and analyse the entry of teams
- European League: review the competition format; the regulations; logistics
- Review Junior European Championships
- New qualification system for Junior European Championships
- Develop a competition for Women, similar to the European League for Men
- Proposals to develop the European League
- Forms: reports of inspection visits
- Develop a competition calendar 2006-2009 together with the ECC
- Competition calendar EUROPE Competitions and FIVB Competitions. List with all Calendar Activity Problems

Decision: The proposals made by the ESOC are approved by the BoA.

The minutes of the ESOC meeting of 03.12.2005 are approved.



Miscellaneous

XXVII CEV General Assembly

Mr MEYER informs his colleagues that the XXVII CEV General Assembly will take place on 14th October 2006 in Luxembourg.

The meeting of the Executive Committee and the Board of Administration will be organised taking into account the other meeting organised afterwards (seminar, Zonal Associations etc.)

Actions:

- Officially invite all NFs to the XXVII CEV General Assembly in Luxembourg on 14.10.2006.
- Develop the detailed program. – Executive Committee

2006-2009 Meetings Calendar (ExCom, BoA)

Mr Jan HRONEK confirms that the organisation of the different meetings 2006-2009 are being planned in close collaboration with the different interested NFs.

Action: Inform the Organising NFs of the calendar 2006-2009 to enable them to confirm their commitment. – Administration Department

Veterans Volleyball

Mr MEYER reminds his colleagues that in 2005, following a request of the Polish Federation, CEV approved a competition for veterans (men and women). This approval was granted to the Polish NF to make a test in order to gain experiences and collect information about this new sector.

Unfortunately, no information (post event report) whatsoever has been sent to CEV.

Moreover, since this competition had been staged, a “European” institution has been established following the initiative of Mr Viktor FEDYUSHIN (UKR) without any prior notice to any of the institutional bodies of the CEV (General Assembly, Board of Administration, Legal Commission, NF etc.)

Decisions:

Considering that this course of action is illegal and non-constitutional

- a. All competitions organised by this “institution” are considered to be non-approved by the CEV
- b. This “institution” has to be cancelled with immediate effect
- c. A letter must be sent to all NFs by CEV informing them that any participation in those competitions not recognised by CEV will be sanctioned severely
- d. In order to create these competitions under the auspice of CEV, a WG will be established. Mr Renato ARENA, CEV Vice-President, will be in charge of the matter.
- e. From 2007 and in collaboration with the Greek federation, a European competition will be staged

Training centre in Montpellier (FRA)

Mr Jacques SHAW informs his colleague that, following an initiative of French authorities, the city of Montpellier and the French Volleyball Federation will be recognized as an FIVB Development Centre.

Ranking system

Mr MEYER reminds his colleagues that during the previous meeting of the BoA it was decided to introduce a new ranking system for all volleyball competitions, namely to use the set points quotient before the set quotient in case of a tie.

However, after an in-depth analysis of this ranking system, given experiences gained during the first part of the 2005-2006 European Cups season, CEV considers that some dangerous situations could still arise.

Mr MEYER and Mrs OOMS give some real examples regarding the ranking based on the new system for home and away matches as well as pool matches.

Acknowledging these negative effects on the development of volleyball, the BoA takes the following decision:

Decisions: In order to avoid the loss of credibility of future competitions (playoffs IECL men, women, Junior European Championships 2007/2008) the Executive Committee recommends the following:

- to re-establish the former ranking system for all official volleyball competitions
- for all final phases of competitions played in pool-play, to introduce the obligation to carry out a Drawing of Lots between the second ranked teams to define their place in the semi-finals
- to continue with more analysis to implement a system excluding all possibilities of manipulation - ESOC

TTC 2006-2007

Mrs OOMS reminds her colleagues that, based on the minutes of the WG Future of CEV Cups which have been adopted within the course of this BoA session, the League Round of this competition is cancelled.

Agendas

Mr PEKALIS wishes to receive the agenda of the Board of Administration meetings earlier.

Mr MEYER proposes that the agenda to always be sent by regular mail, but that an electronic version could be published in the protected zone for the BoA on the CEV website. This way the information is quickly accessible without even having to print it.

Next BoA meeting

The next meeting will take place on 9/10 June 2006 in Palermo (ITA).

Action: Inform Mr Renato ARENA by email of the arrival/departure times of the participants and possible partners.

Closing of the Meeting

Before closing the meeting, Mr MEYER wishes to give the floor to Mr Miguel QUINTANA, FIVB Vice-President.

Mr Miguel-Angel QUINTANA addresses himself to all BoA members thanking them for the confidence and support during his function as BoA member of the CEV. Disregarding a few discrepancies, he points out that the spirit and the value of the CEV management has largely contributed to the growing success of Volleyball and Beach Volleyball. Mr QUINTANA wishes the CEV all the best for the future, particularly addressing himself to Mr Stefan POTYKA, new EBVC President, ensuring him of his support whenever it is needed.



Mr MEYER thanks Mr QUINTANA for his words. Then he also addresses himself to Mr BELIGRATIS thanking him for the excellent organisation of the meeting and the warm welcome by the Greek NF.

He thanks his colleagues for their fruitful work and closes the meeting.

CEV BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING – PALERMO (ITA) – 10TH JUNE 2006

The following members are attending:

President: André MEYER (LUX)

Senior Vice President: Philip BERBEN (BEL)

Vice Presidents: Aleksandar BORICIC (SRB) - Jan HRONEK (CZE) - Riet OOMS (NED) - Renato ARENA (ITA) - Banu CAN (TUR)

Members: Eric ADLER (DEN) - Thanassis BELIGRATIS (GRE) - Aloys Fischer (SUI) - Manfred HOLZGRAEFE (GER) - Pierre MULHEIMS (LUX) - Vladimir PATKIN (RUS) - Maris PEKALIS (LAT) - Stefan POTYKA (AUT) - Mirosław PRZEDPELSKI (POL) - Jan REK (SUI) - Agustin MARTIN SANTOS (ESP) - Jacques SHAW (FRA) - Andreas STAVROU (CYP)

Opening of the Meeting

Mr André MEYER opens the meeting by welcoming his colleagues.

The President of the Regional Committee of Sicily is delighted to welcome the Board of Administration in Palermo. He thanks the CEV President, Mr André MEYER, as well as FIPAV President, Mr Carlo MAGRI, for the confidence and wishes the best of success to European Volleyball, especially for this meeting.

Mr MEYER thanks him for his warm welcome and wishes him all the best for the development of Volleyball in his region.

Approval of the Agenda

Mr Andreas STAVROU would like to receive all necessary information regarding the FIVB decision in terms of international transfers. Mr MEYER confirms that he will explain all the important details. There being no other remarks, the agenda is approved.

Minutes of the Executive Committee held on 27th January 2006 at Hotel Divani Acropolis Palace, in Athens (GRE)

The Board of Administration members take note of the adoption made by the Executive Committee.

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on 25th March 2006 at Hotel Park Aran, Rome (ITA)

The Board of Administration members take note of the adoption made by the Executive Committee.



CEV President André Meyer, Senior Vice President Philip Berben and FIPAV President Carlo Magri at the CEV Board meeting in Palermo

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on 22nd April 2006 at Hotel Polat Renaissance, Istanbul (TUR)

The Board of Administration members take note of the adoption made by the Executive Committee.

Approval of the minutes of the Board of Administration meeting on 28th January 2006 at the Hotel Divani Acropolis Palace in Athens (GRE)

There being no remarks, the minutes are approved.

Activity report of the Executive Committee

Mr MEYER gives a brief summary of his activities undertaken since January 2006:

- The WG Future of the European Cups met on 18th February in Vienna and finalised the new ranking system 2007/08;
- Attendance of the lawsuit Mr M. GOJIMAN against FIVB at the court of justice in Lausanne (SUI);
- Travel to Rome and Cannes to represent the CEV during the Final Fours of the Indesit European Champions League 2005/06;
- WG IECL, 25th March in Rome;
- Meeting with FIPAV to analyse the CEV & FIVB international calendars;
- Meeting in Luxembourg with the new President of SMR, Mr Paolo RONDELLI;
- Participation in the meetings of the internal and external CEV auditors in Luxembourg;
- Meeting with the FIVB and Swiss Volley, 3rd April in Lausanne;
- Meeting with Mr Georges BOUDRY, CEV Honorary President in Luxembourg to review the CEV archives in order to edit a book about the development of volleyball in Europe;
- Meeting with Mr M. PRZEDPELSKI, President of the Polish Federation regarding their application to host the next European Championships;
- Meeting with the agency Noos Institute regarding a new competition project "Euro Nations Cup" in Valencia 2010
- Meeting with Gerflor on 13th April to get to meet the new representative following the signing of the new contract 2006 – 2009.

Institutions

FIVB-CEV report

Mr Meyer informs his colleagues about the Executive Committee and Board of Administration meetings of the FIVB, which were held in Lausanne (SUI) in May. He explains that with regard to the amendments proposed in terms of the FIVB Constitution and the different internal regulations, the CEV Executive Committee had gathered in Luxembourg before in order to carefully prepare the work within the frame of these documents.

Mr Philip BERBEN, CEV Senior Vice-President and member of the FIVB Legal Commission confirms that the preparation carried out by CEV was excellent regarding these new regulations and the texts proposed by FIVB. He underlines the outstanding collaboration with FIVB and the confidence in the work of the CEV. The amended texts will be approved during the FIVB Congress in Tokyo.

Mr MEYER briefly summarises the main decisions of the FIVB Board of Administration:



Financial support of the Confederations

- The annual support allocated to every confederation by FIVB will be 250,000 CHF

Legal Commission

- The FIVB adopted new regulations regarding the transfer of players.
- In order to ease the smooth running of international competitions, transfers will be suspended between 15th May and 15th October every year.
- A new regulation will allow a change to the federation of origin of an athlete provided the joint agreement of the two respective National Federations.

Competition

In light of this new regulation, Mr MEYER underlines the importance that every NF must respect the necessary deadlines regarding the transfers 2006/07. The period between September and November is indeed extremely difficult in terms of transfers, as the FIVB person responsible will be in charge of the preparation of the Congress and the World Championships.

Action: Inform all federations of the necessary steps to be taken within the frame of transfers (deadlines, complete files) – Competition Department

Mr MEYER informs his colleagues that the fee for every transfer was increased by FIVB from 2,000 CHF to 2,000 US\$. However, this new regulation is still to be confirmed during the FIVB Congress in Tokyo.

Decision: The 5% normally received by CEV will be distributed to the respective receiving NFs

Mr SANTOS is worried that the increase of the fee might have a negative impact on the clubs, as the sport is depending on the activity of the European clubs. It is regrettable to burden the institutions with this new change.

Mr MEYER understands this view and confirms that no particular reason was given by FIVB to justify the increase of the transfer fee.

However, the problems related to transfers are subject to the Sports Event Council, who are responsible for revising the existing regulations.

Coaches Commission

The commission has introduced a new concept concerning the possibility to nominate an additional libero. Every NF, based on the relevant registration form, has the opportunity to list a second libero. It will be up to the team to decide if it wants to play with one or two libero's or without any.

Working Group Regulations & Fines

Mr Aloys FISCHER, chairman of the working group, summarises the outcome of the last three meetings.

He points out that there is a mistake in the minutes of the meeting of 2nd & 3rd June 2006 in Zürich (SUI): Mr Roger SCHNEGG is Swiss and not German.

The working group has revised the Beach Volleyball regulations and aligned them with the spirit and objectives of the commission.

Mr MEYER underlines that, at the same time, the specific database is developed in close collaboration with an expert company.

Working Group Media

Mr Aleksandar BORICIC explains that no meeting has been held this year. New objectives are to be set.

Actions:

- Positioning of the role of the working group and its next tasks
- Organise a meeting during the FIVB World Grand Prix Qualification Tournament in Varna (BUL)

Working Group Future of European Cups

Mr MEYER confirms that this Working Group finished its work during its last meeting in February 2006. The details of the implementation of the new system will be worked on over the next few months.

Actions:

- Inform each National Federation of their ranking and of the number of places vacant in each European Cups competition, based on the results their clubs obtained during the 2003/04, 2004/05 and 2005/06 seasons. – Competitions Dept.
- Plan to include in the Seminar for the General Secretaries a presentation to explain in detail the new regulations. – Competitions Dept.

Working Group European Champions League

The Working Group European Champions League last met in Rome on 25th March 2006 and reviewed a detailed analysis of the 2005/06 season, discussing the sporting aspects of the competition as well as the promotional, organisation and financial sides of the competition.

The 2005/06 season ended with an excellent financial result and resulted in an increase to the budget allotted for the payment of Prize Money by 75%.

Moreover, the ambitious project to increase in the 2006/07 season the number of teams from 20 to 24 for the Men and from 12 to 16 for the Women became a reality.

Working Group Vision 2012

Ms. Banu CAN briefly reveals the activities of her Working Group:

- 2 meetings were organised, in Luxembourg (LUX) and in Belgrade (SCG)
- The Working Group was able to clearly define its objectives and work planning
- A specific questionnaire was created and sent to all National Federations in order to gather all the information available
- A promotional plan was established

Actions:

- Establish a first catalogue regrouping the information / articles gathered from the National Federations. – WG Vision 2012
- Create a first draft of the database. – Administrative Dept., D. BARTHELS

Working Group Veterans Volleyball

Mr Renato ARENA, Chairman, presents the work accomplished by the Working Group Veterans Volleyball during its first meeting in Loutraki (GRE) on 20th May 2006.

Aside from the general concept of this new European competition category, the Working Group examined the following factors:

- age category



- clubs or NFs affiliation
- licenses
- administration (insurance, costs, etc.)

The first test event will take place in Greece in 2007 (May / June).

Concerning the determining factors highlighted by the Working Group, and following an open discussion on the subject, the Board of Administration recommends that the following recommendations be adopted:

- In order to simplify the organisation of this first competition, only two categories per gender should be established
- The principle to manage this competition via the National Federations is essential
- A financial contribution from the participants must be established

Zonal Associations Activities

Mr Jan HRONEK, Vice-president and Coordinator for the Zonal Associations, informs his colleagues of the different meetings held:

EEVZA

A meeting with the representatives of the member federations was organised on 8th May 2006 in Riga (LAT).

CEV – ZA Meeting

A meeting between CEV and the representatives of the 4 Zonal Associations is planned on 22nd June 2006 in Vienna (AUT).

Mr MEYER underlines that it is essential that the Presidents of the member federations attend the General Assemblies of the Zonal Associations. He also expresses his surprise that the development of EEVZA's website was made without the collaboration of CEV, against the decision made in 2005.

Mr Maris PEKALIS, BoA Member and EEVZA President, confirms that the National Federations' Presidents will be invited to participate in the General Assembly and notes that main objective of the meeting on 8th May 2006 was to develop a process for future activities to be submitted for approval by the General Assembly.

Concerning the website, Mr PEKALIS confirms that a person within the association developed the website site for EEVZA following a technical discussion between the BVA and EEVZA.

Mr MEYER adds that EEVZA should at least have informed CEV of this project so that CEV could have made further resources available.

Concerning the support granted by FIVB, Mr MEYER underlines that it is mandatory for each Zonal Association to send an activity report to FIVB in order to receive their financial support.

Action: Inform CEV once the Activity Report has been sent to FIVB. – Zonal Associations

Finally, Mr MEYER states that political discussions should not be started in the scope of these Zonal Associations activities and that ZA's should instead focus their efforts on promoting and developing youth volleyball within their geographical remit.

Valencia 2010 – ESOC Proposal

Mr Pierre MULHEIMS, ESOC President, presents the concept of a new competition, the Euro Nations Cup, developed by a Spanish institution called Noos Institute and supported by the Spanish Volleyball Federation. This proposal is defined by the following principles:

- Opportunity to organise new sports events

- Possibility to organise a multi-sports event in Valencia in 2010
- Each sport selected is responsible for defining its format, qualification system, competition system and number of participants.
- The best athletes in 20 different sports could be selected, with in total up to 3,500 participants.

Mr MEYER underlines that the organisers are currently studying this project, first by evaluating the interest such a competition could gain and whether this sort of event fits into the CEV vision. Only the best athletes in Volleyball and Beach Volleyball should be selected in the senior category.

An open discussion takes place and highlights the following points:

- possible difficulties due to the overloaded calendar
- possibility to register only one category (Men or Women) in one discipline
- new marketing opportunities to be defined
- the month of August as proposed is not the best time

Mr Vladimir PATKIN also remarks that similar experiences were already attempted without much success due to the complexity of the calendars.

Actions:

- Inform the organiser Noos Institute that CEV will analyse in detail this new opportunity. Financial conditions must be defined in detail (costs, marketing, TV rights, etc.). – Administrative Dept.
- Establish the potential interest of other European Sports Federations. – Administrative Dept.

CEV Statutes Modifications

Mr Aloys FISCHER, ELC President, reminds his colleagues of the principles which govern these documents and their modification:

- It is necessary to adapt the existing provisions according to the development of the sports environment, its economy and structure
- It is necessary to adjust their content to the articles and regulations issued by FIVB

Mr FISCHER then presents the modifications of the current statutes as proposed by his commission.

Mr MEYER thanks Mr FISCHER and congratulates him for the excellent work of his commission. Taking into account the remarks made, Mr MEYER suggests that the modifications of the Statutes be made following the FIVB Congress in Tokyo thus allowing the ELC to take into consideration possible new regulations adopted by FIVB (Constitution and Internal Regulations).

Mr Andreas STAVROU also takes this opportunity to remind Mr FISCHER that he had forwarded several proposals concerning the integration of a female quota in the CEV institutions.

The Board of Administration approves the proposal of Mr MEYER and also proposes to review the CEV Statutes in their entirety starting in 2007, including the necessary proposals to be made regarding the procedure for voting the Board of Administration.

Decision:

- The review of the CEV Statutes is postponed until 2007.
- The BoA approves a specific article concerning a reprieve when a sanction is decided.



Action: Introduce in the General Regulations an article related to this new notion of “reprieve”.
– Administrative Dept.

Financial Matters

Accounts 2005

Mr Philippe BERBEN presents to his colleagues the 2005 closed accounts.

The accounts show a net profit of 915,446 euros.

Mr BERBEN thanks the CEV staff and more specifically Mrs Sylvie COLLIGNON, CEV Bookkeeper, for her excellent management of the accounts. Concerning long-term investments, Mr BERBEN details the steps taken to guarantee a profit for CEV in the long run.

Finally, Mr BERBEN underlines that the Internal Audit was conducted this year by Mr Leo DADEMA (NED) and Mr Jacob SHTOFMAN (ISR). The latter replaced Mr Michel HENNO (BEL) who could not be present due to health reasons.

Budget 2007

Mr BERBEN presents to his colleagues the 2007 budget, detailing the following points:

Per Diem

Increase from 50 € to 60 € starting on 1st January 2007 (weekdays and weekends). The existing contracts (Youth and Senior) will remain as agreed and the difference in Per Diem will be paid by CEV. Increase from 60 € to 70 € starting on 1st January 2008.

European Championships

Payment of the contractual amounts due to the organiser

Beach Volleyball

18,000 EUR allocated for the development of the U-18, U-20 and U-23 Championships.

Sports Aid Program

It is necessary to only present projects likely to be supported by CEV through the National Federations. A reminder will be given during the next Congress.

Corporate Identity

Investment of 250,000 EUR to position European Volleyball in the market and promote the CEV competitions through future sponsorship.

Affiliations

In accordance with the decisions made during the last CEV Congress.

Sponsorship

Based on the signed contracts

Decision: The Board of Administration approves budget a majority.

Action: Present the 2007 budget to the General Assembly for approval.

European Championships

2006 Boys and Girls JEC – Report of the Jury Presidents

Men Junior European Championships: Mr Jan HRONEK, Jury President, informs his colleagues that the Drawing of Lots will take place on 23rd June 2006 at 14h30 in Kazan (RUS).

Women Junior European Championships: Mr Philip BERBEN, Jury President, shares that the Drawing of Lots will take place on 17th June 2006 in Metz (FRA).

2007 Boys and Girls YEC – Report of the Jury Presidents

Boys Youth European Championships: Mr Philip BERBEN, Jury President, explains that an inspection visit is scheduled for 24th and 25th June 2006 in Krems and Vienna (AUT).

Girls Youth European Championships: Mr Jan HRONEK, Jury President, shares that the inspection visit was conducted alongside the Congress of the Spring Cup. The Drawing of Lots should be organised in the Czech Republic in during the Boys Championships.

Mr MEYER remarks that it is no longer necessary to print the detailed competition program in the inspection report.

2007 Men and Women SECH – Report of the Jury Presidents

Men's Senior European Championships

In the place of Mr Aleksandar BORICIC, absent for personal reasons, Mr Pierre MULHEIMS, BoA Coordinator, confirms that the inspection visit will take place between 14th and 18th June 2006 in St. Petersburg and Moscow (RUS). A meeting with the Organising committee is planned in Moscow after this visit.

Action: Dates of the Drawing of Lots to be communicated to CEV. – Mr V. PATKIN

Women's Senior European Championships

Mr Jan HRONEK, Jury President, announces that the Drawing of Lots is scheduled on 23rd September 2006 in Charleroi (BEL). The inspection visit will take place on 30th June and 1st July 2006 in Hasselt, Charleroi and Luxembourg.

2008-2009 Applications

Mr MEYER lists the valid applications received within the deadlines:

2009 Men	SECH	TUR
2009 Women	SECH	ITA and POL
2008 Men	JECH	CZE
2008 Women	JECH	ITA

These bids will be reviewed in Luxembourg on 18th June 2006. A detailed report of the applications will be shared during the next Board of Administration meeting.

European League

CEV is currently cooperating with EUROSPORT to guarantee the TV coverage of this competition, in addition to the regular TV coverage guaranteed contractually with the host television of each participant.

2007 FIVB World Grand Prix Qualification Tournament

Mrs Riet OOMS, Jury President, briefly shares the results of her inspection visit:

- the competition hall is the same as the one used in the 2003 European Championships
- the hotels and logistics meet the guidelines of CEV
- the competition system remains to be clarified

Mr MEYER confirms that the competition system was modified following a late proposal from ESOC. Taking into consideration the fact that 4 vacant posts remain for the final in 2007, ESOC had to develop a competition system more attractive than the existing one, seeing that



the 4 qualified teams were automatically qualified for the semi-finals and finals following the qualifications.

Decision:

The Board of Administration approves the new system:

- 2 pools with 4 teams each
- Round Robin for the qualification phase
- The first ranked teams of each pool are automatically qualified for the final on Sunday
- The second and third-ranked teams of each pool play the semi-finals on Saturday.

European Cups

Registration to the 2006/07 European Cups

Mrs Riet OOMS, ECC President, draws the attention of her colleagues to the fact that several clubs still have debts towards CEV and are therefore not allowed to participate in the 2006/07 European Cups season. Concerning the Indesit European Champions League, the men will play the competition in 4 pools of 6 teams each, while the women will go from 12 to 16 teams in total and play in 4 pools of 4 teams each. A final deadline of midday, 15th June 2006 has been set for the clubs which did not finalise and submit their entry.

Drawing of Lots TTC & CEV Cups

Mrs OOMS confirms that the number of teams registered is the same as the previous edition.

The Drawing of Lots will take place on 18th June 2006 in Luxembourg.

IECL Drawing of Lots & Seminar on 24th – 25th June 2006 in Vienna

All the participating clubs are required to be presents along with their Organising Director and Statistician, as well as the European Cups Responsible of each federation whose teams have registered for this competition.

The Drawing of Lots will take place in Vienna's Town Hall at 20h15 and will be broadcasted by ORF.

European Beach Volleyball

U-18, U-20 and U-23 European Championships – 2006 Organisation

Mr Stefan POTYKA, EBVC President, confirms the following organisations:

U-18 Bratislava (SVK) from 27 to 30th July 2006

U-23 St. Pölten (AUT) from 10 to 13th August 2006

Concerning the U-20 Championships, a promising contact was established with the Slovenian Federation.

For 2007, the following Federations confirmed their interest to organise:

U-18 Czech Republic

U-20 Latvia

Nestea European Championships Tour 2006

Mr Stefan POTYKA, EBVC President, gives a brief summary of the beginning of the 2006 season, underlining the quality of the organisations in place. He also remarks that the new

ranking system allows for the equitable management of the results obtained, both in the CEV and FIVB tournaments.

Mr MEYER regrets that the existing regulations concerning the withdrawal of players allow them to register both in CEV and FIVB tournaments when the contractual sanctions foreseen by CEV are a lot less important than that of FIVB.

Proposal

In agreement with FIVB, the CEV Board of Administration proposes:

- To review if necessary the CEV regulations related to players' withdrawal
- To unify the sanctions between FIVB and CEV

Actions:

- Contact FIVB and ask for its approval. – Administrative Dept.
- Subsequently modify the existing regulations. – Competitions Dept.
- Inform the National Federations of the new changes. – Competitions Dept.

Indoor Beach Volleyball

Mr Stefan POTYKA, EBVC President, presents the different concepts developed by his commission. He reminds his colleagues that this concept must primarily be developed in the Northern European countries and that GSM has developed for the past 2 years the "Beach Nations Cup."

3 types of competitions could progressively be developed:

- The European Indoor Beach Volleyball Cup
- The European Indoor Beach Volleyball Championships
- The Beach Nations Cup

The cups format should primarily be developed through the National Federations but following clear CEV guideline.

The first step could be the organisation of National Championships, later followed by a Beach Nations Cup bringing together the different countries interested.

Mr POTYKA also explains that the formula 4 v 4 is not yet officially recognised and no activity should be planned until it is.

Mr MEYER adds that the area of Indoor Beach Volleyball belongs to CEV and that CEV is solely responsible for deciding the obligations and conditions necessary to set up such competitions.

Action: Finalise the necessary guidelines and inform the National Federations interested in the organisation of these tournaments. – EBVC

Miscellaneous

Nomination of Officials

Mr Jan HRONEK informs his colleagues that there were unfortunately many substitutions which had to be made this season with the nominations of officials, delegates and referees.

These late modifications not only create more work for the CEV Office, but also cause problems for the organiser who must organise and pay a second flight ticket, often a lot more expensive than the first one due to the late reservation.

The Board of Administration deplores the fact that the organiser must pay the cost of these late modifications and proposes the following changes:

Actions:



In the event that a nominated referee or technical delegate is not available, the following administrative measures will need to be followed:

1. For the referee, the Refereeing Commission is responsible to appoint the substitute referee. For the officials and technical delegates, Mr Jan HRONEK will be in charge of the substitutions.
2. The organiser will be responsible for reserving new flight tickets for the substitute referee/technical delegate.
3. The cost of the first flight ticket reserved by the organiser will have to be fully reimbursed by the National Federation of the unavailable referee / technical delegate.
4. It is the responsibility of the National Federation to take the necessary measures against their nominated referees / technical delegates who are not available without valid reasons.

CEV Seminar for NFs General Secretaries – 13th October 2006

The second edition of the NFs General Secretaries Seminar is approved and will be organised the day prior to the CEV Congress in Luxembourg.

Action: Finalise the program and inform the National Federations. – Administrative Dept.

XXVII CEV General Assembly – 14th October 2006

Each President of the Commissions / Working Groups is requested to send to the CEV Office the following:

- their activity report for the year 2005/06
- a PowerPoint presentation, detailing the main points of their activities during the time frame (to be sent before 1st September 2006)

Next meetings BoA & ExCom

European Youth Olympic Festival

Mr BERBEN confirms that he will represent CEV during the next meeting in Belgrade (SCG) on 29th September – 1st October 2006.

ISR Case – SECH Qualification Tournament in CRO

Mr MEYER summarises the various points discussed during the Executive Committee meeting concerning the absence of the ISR men's team in the 2nd Round SECH Qualification tournament in Croatia.

Taking into account the facts currently known and the need to investigate this case further, the Executive Committee made the temporary decision to let ISR play in the next tournament in Estonia.

EU Sports Association meeting

Mr FISCHER informs his colleagues about the work carried out by UEFA and shares information concerning the meeting which took place on 31st May in Nyon (SUI). An independent report was written to stipulate the legal conditions necessary to the development of sport within the European Union.

Action: Prepare a written summary of this document for the next Board of Administration meeting. – A. FISCHER

Activity Reports – CEV Commissions & Minutes

Legal Commission – Mr Aloys FISCHER

Seeing that most of the essential points concerning this commission's work were already covered earlier, Mr FISCHER has nothing additional to discuss.

The minutes of the meeting held on 29th April 2006 in Tel Aviv (ISR) are approved.

Financial Commission – Mr Philip BERBEN

Mr Philip BERBEN confirms that following the approval of the 2005 accounts and 2007 budget by the Board of Administration, these documents will be forwarded for information to the members of the commission.

Action: Send the 2005 accounts and 2007 budget to the EFC members. – Administrative Dept.

Cups Commission – Mrs Riet OOMS

Concerning the minutes of the meeting held on 25th – 27th March 2006 in Roma (ITA), Mrs Riet OOMS covers a few points to be changed:

Page 5, point 8: Amendment of the Financial Sanctions for IECL, TTC and CC

- Preparation phase N°11: withdrawal / forfeit after the formal acknowledgement of its application until the Drawing of Lots
- Main phase N°20: withdrawal / forfeit after the Drawing of Lots until the end of the competition main phase

Decision: The Board of Administration approves the amendments as proposed.

Page 6, point 10: Preparation of the 2006/07 Top Teams Cup and CEV Cup season

The ECC proposes to modify by making more flexible the technical requirements of the competition halls.

Decision: The Board of Administration approves the amendments as proposed.

Page 6, point 11: EC Regulations

- The commission proposed that in case the supervisor or International Referee have to arrive two days before the match, pocket money must be paid for the whole duration of the stay
- The commission also proposes that the allowances of referees & CEV Officials in IECL competitions should be increased to 80 € / day
- Due to the fact that during the 2006/07 season the TTC competitions will be organised exactly the same way as the CEV Cup, the fourth Drawing of Lots is no longer needed
- The presence of the Technical Delegate for Tournaments (CEV Cup and TTC) will be reduced to one day before the tournament
- All teams participating in the European Cups must have applied for a minimum of 6 players (home or transferred) before a certain deadline
- ECC will prepare a proposal for the Regulations in order to assure an appropriate number of entrance tickets (normal tickets or VIP tickets) for opponent teams in all Cup matches
- The form CH-09bis (team information) will also be used in the CEV Cup and TTC
- ECC proposes to impose a fine for failure to provide ball retrievers & moppers in all European Cup matches.

The increase of the Per Diem for referees and CEV Officials to 80 € is refused.



Concerning the number of tickets to be fixed for the finals, Mr MEYER underlines the importance of fixing these numbers in the contract and in the regulations.

Decision: Apart from the proposal concerning the increase of the Per Diem, the Board of Administration approves the proposals made.

Concerning the organisation of a new competition format for the cups finals ("best of three" for TTC and CEV Cups), the ECC will analyse in detail the main conditions to be followed.

Action: Review the guidelines of the Final Four. – ECC & Marketing Dept.

Sports Organising Commission – Mr Pierre MULHEIMS

Mr Pierre MULHEIMS reviews the minutes of the meeting which was held on 5th – 7th May 2006 in Guadalajara (ESP).

Page 3: Uniforms of JECH and YECH

ESOC proposes that in the Final Round of the CEV competitions, jersey and shorts must comply with FIVB Official Volleyball Rules Art. 4.3, as well as with the FIVB Standards for Volleyball Uniforms, which are available on the FIVB website. Only FIVB homologated uniforms are acceptable for the Final Round of the CEV competitions.

Decision: The Board of Administration approves the proposal.

Page 4: Participation costs for Extra persons

Following an open discussion, the Board of Administration accepts to modify the proposal of ESOC as such:

Decision: Modify the Official Regulations (Junior and Youth, Chapter 7 – Financial Regulations – art. 1.5) to read:

"The participation costs for these 3 additional extra persons cannot exceed 100 € / per person per day.

Page 9, point 10.2: Junior World Championships 2007

The qualification system for the World Championships 2007 must be analysed in details by ESOC.

Page 10: Drawing of Lots

The Board of Administration adopts a modification of the Official Regulations (European Championships:

Decision: Official Regulations, Senior European Championships, Chapter 1, Art. 4.5.5:

It is mandatory that the President, General Secretary, or at least a member of the Board of Administration, as well as at least one accredited journalist of each participating National Federation in the Final Round of the Senior European Championships, be present at the Drawing of Lots. This article is no longer valid for the Youth and Junior categories.

Beach Volleyball Commission – Mr Stefan POTYKA

Mr POTYKA confirms that no meeting has yet taken place in 2006, but that one is planned for August 2006 during the final tournament of the Nester European Championships Tour in The Hague (NED).

Mr MEYER confirms that the FIVB World Beach Council will be held in Lausanne (SUI) on 22nd September 2006. He also confirms that the qualification deadline for the Olympic Games in Beijing, which will take place from 9th – 24th August 2008 for Beach Volleyball, is 22nd July 2008. The final of the Nester European Championships Tour should take place simultaneously with the World Tour Event in Canada between 9th and 13th July 2008.

Medical Commission – Prof. Manfred HOLZGRAEFE

Prof. Manfred HOLZGRAEFE informs his colleagues that there were no meetings organised since the beginning of the year, but confirms the organisation of anti-doping tests in the scope of the following competitions:

- Final Four IECL 2005/06 in Cannes (FRA) and Rome (ITA)
- Final Four European League 2006 in Izmir (TUR)

Concerning the next 2007 European Championships Final in Russia, Luxembourg and Belgium, the following actions must be taken:

Action: Contact the RUS, BEL and LUX Federations concerning the following points: (Administrative Dept.)

- Nomination of the accredited laboratory and signed contract to be received by CEV
- Administrative procedures and check-list to be confirmed by organisers
- Reply deadline: 30th August 2006

Mr MEYER also underlines that FIVB maintains the alcohol tests are mandatory for the semi-finals and finals of the FIVB competitions, with random tests in the preliminary phases.

Refereeing Commission – Mr Jan REK

Mr Jan REK summaries the current matters at hand:

New coach lines & 10' break

Each National Federation should receive detailed information on this matter before the beginning of the European Cups season.

Nominations for the Final Fours of European Cups

A new system was tested with the simultaneous nomination of an experimented referee and a younger referee who could benefit from this experience.

Refereeing seminar in Brno

This second edition of the Refereeing seminar was again very successful with 55 referees present and 37 National Federations represented. A written summary of the seminar will be made available on the CEV website.

Mr MEYER reminds his colleagues that each National Federations is allowed to organise 2 courses for International Referees. However, there will be no such courses this year in Europe as no National Federation expressed interest in organising one.

Mr MEYER also confirms that the nomination of a Referee Delegate in BVA competitions should help support the training of regional referees.

Closing of the Meeting

Mr MEYER thanks his colleagues for their excellent work and wishes them all the very best in their upcoming activities.

CEV BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING – LUXEMBOURG (LUX) – 12TH & 13TH OCTOBER 2006

The following members are attending:

President: André MEYER (LUX)



Senior Vice President : Philip BERBEN (BEL)

Vice Presidents: Aleksandar BORICIC (SRB) - Jan HRONEK (CZE) - Riet OOMS (NED) - Renato Arena (ITA) - Banu CAN (TUR)

Members: Eric ADLER (DEN) - Thanassis Beligratis (GRE) - Aloys FISCHER (SUI) - Manfred Holzgraefe (GER) - Pierre MULHEIMS (LUX) - Vladimir PATKIN (RUS) - Maris PEKALIS (LAT) - Stefan POTYKA (AUT) - Mirosław PRZEDPELSKI (POL) - Jan REK (SUI) - Agustin MARTIN SANTOS (ESP) - Jacques SHAW (FRA) - Andreas STAVROU (CYP)

Opening of the Meeting

Mr André MEYER opens the meeting by welcoming his colleagues in Luxembourg and sharing some practical information about the evening's and next day's program.

He also informs the Board members that Mr Philip BERBEN, Senior Vice-President, will be taking over the presidency of the meeting while he opens the 2nd Edition of the General Secretaries Seminar, and then goes to the airport to personally welcome Mr ACOSTA, FIVB President, and his wife.

He then reminds his colleagues that during the next day's session, the federations of Poland and Italy will make a present their application to host the 2009 Women Senior European Championships and that the Board of Administration will proceed with a secret vote to determine the winner.

Finally, he reminds his colleagues to keep their presentations during the Congress short and to the point, and shares that a record 51 federations will be present or represented during the General Assembly.

Approval of the Agenda

The following points are added: European Youth Olympic Festival and Working Group for Veterans Volleyball.

There being no other remarks, the agenda is approved.



The members of the CEV Board of Administration portrayed at the end of their meeting in Luxembourg City

Minutes of the Executive Committee held on 9th June 2006 at Hotel Mondello Palace in Palermo (ITA)

The Board of Administration members take note of the adoption made by the Executive Committee.

Minutes of the Board of Administration Meeting held on 10th June 2006 at Hotel Mondello Palace in Palermo (ITA)

In the absence of any remarks, the minutes of the Board of Administration meeting held in Palermo (ITA) are adopted.

Activity report of the Executive Committee

Since most of the points discussed in the scope of the Executive Committee will be discussed in details in the scope of this meeting, Mr MEYER only makes the following remarks:

- As information for those planning to travel to Tokyo for the FIVB Congress, the continental meeting initially planned on 22nd October 2006 at 15h00 has been postponed to 18h30 – 19h30 on the same day.
- The Executive Committee thoroughly analysed the level of organisations of the recent events and noted problems in the following organisations:
 - ❖ European League Finals: Low spectator attendance
 - ❖ Grand Prix Qualifications in Varna (BUL): Low spectator attendance
 - ❖ Men's Junior European Championships in Kazan (RUS): Insufficient preparation
 - ❖ Women's Junior European Championships in Metz and St. Dié (FRA): Insufficient preparation

Most problems in the Junior European Championships directly resulted from a lack of communication between the National Federation and the local organisers.

The Executive Committee analysed ways to avoid such problems in the future by improving the cooperation and communication between CEV, the National Federation and the local organisers, and will continue discussing this specific item in the course of the next Executive Committee meeting in December. On this occasion, the Jury Presidents of future competitions (Senior and Youth Championships in 2007) will be requested to make a detailed evaluation of the preparation work accomplished by the Organising National Federations.

Mr MEYER underlines that CEV and the Organising Federations have greatly improved the marketing and media sides of the competitions and that it is imperative to prevent technical and logistical problems from damaging the image of the CEV competitions, whether it be in Volleyball or Beach Volleyball.

Finally, he also underlines that the decisions to prevent these problems are political and not technical, and will be addressed by the Executive Committee without interferences from the Commissions.

Institutions

FIVB Disciplinary Committee – European membership proposal

A letter was sent by the FIVB to inform the Confederations that a Disciplinary Committee will be set-up and will be responsible for treating all cases violating the FIVB Code of Conduct. This Committee will analyse the facts in each case and propose to the Executive Committee if necessary sanctions to be applied.

Mr Philip BERBEN, CEV Senior Vice-President and member of the FIVB Legal Commission, proposes to change the name of “Disciplinary Committee” to “Investigation Committee” in order to avoid misunderstandings and underline the fact that this Committee does not have the power to inflict sanctions, but is just investigating cases and proposing suitable sanctions.

Mr MEYER underlines that this matter will be discussed in the scope of the next FIVB Board of Administration meeting to clear up any misunderstandings or problems.

Additionally, he informs his colleagues that each Confederation has been requested to present up to 2 candidates to be members of this committee. Based on the criteria of neutrality, extensive knowledge of Volleyball and non-affiliation to any Volleyball institution, Mr MEYER proposes Mr Hugo FRUITHOF as candidate.

Mr Manfred HOLZGRAEFE suggests looking for a second candidature in order to increase CEV's chances of being represented in this Disciplinary Committee.

FIVB – Administrative Fees for International Transfers

Mr MEYER informs his colleagues that the FIVB will be changing the currency of its administrative fees, moving from 2,000 CHF to 2,000 USD per transfer starting in the 2007/08 season, which consequently means the National Federations are facing a new increase.

An extensive discussion takes place regarding the justification of this increase and the different problems faced by European clubs and National Federations in regards to International transfers.

Following a specific question from Mr BELIGRATIS inquiring about the distribution of this money, Mr MEYER explains that 10% of the income from a transfer is paid back to the receiving National Federation, while 5% is paid back to the Confederation. However, CEV has decided that in Europe the CEV 5% will also be paid to the receiving National Federation.

Mr Agustin MARTIN SANTOS points out that the regulations concerning transfers are not very clear and can lead to some misunderstandings, and he therefore proposes that they should be reviewed in order to avoid confusion and misinterpretation problems for the clubs.

Mr Andreas STAVROU also wishes to underline that European countries are even more liable to transfer problems than other Continental Confederations, and as such, it is important to fight unfair measures.

Given the extensive discussions concerning transfers, Mr BERBEN proposes to prepare a written legal document with the help of Mr Aloys FISCHER and Mr Achilleas MAVROMATIS, to address the concerns of the European federations and ask the FIVB for its legal standpoint in this matter.

Decision: CEV will convey its concerns and present a written proposal to the FIVB.

Action: Prepare a written document expressing concerns and submitting a proposal to the FIVB, to be reviewed and approved by the BoA in January 2007 – P. BERBEN

ISR Case – 2nd Round SECH Qualification in CRO

Mr MEYER explains that thus far the CEV has not received the written statement providing all the facts in this case and giving an official explanation of the decision made by the Israeli authorities to stop the Men's team from travelling to Croatia.

A last reminder will be sent to the ISR Federation to request the results of the investigation and close this case.

Action: Send a last reminder to ISR. – Administrative Dept.

SMR Case – recognition of the President elected

Mr MEYER briefly explains that after elections were held in the SMR federation, the results and re-election of Mr Paolo Rondelli were disputed, and the National Olympic Committee therefore closed the bank accounts and the office of the federation.

A legal battle is currently underway with a final court date in December. New elections might have to be organised in order to close this case.

Until then, and based on FIVB regulations, CEV continues to recognise Mr Paolo RONDELLI as President of the SMR Federation.

ARM – Lifting of the administrative suspension

Mr MEYER is happy to inform his colleagues that the National Federation of Armenia, administratively suspended in 2004, has fulfilled all its obligations in order to be reinstated. Elections were held in order to form a new Executive Committee and Board of Administration, and all debts were paid, including the 2006 membership fees, thus leading CEV to request the FIVB to officially reinstate the National Federation of Armenia.

With this success, only one European federation remains inactive and administratively suspended; the National Federation of Wales. Mr MEYER will try to re-open communication through the English Volleyball Association.

Zonal Associations' meeting – 22nd June 2006 in Vienna (AUT)

All details concerning the Zonal Associations' meeting are available in a written report included in the Agenda of the Board of Administration meeting.

Mrs Riet OOMS, CEV Vice-President and ECC President, notes that the Zonal Associations are organising more and more club competitions. She recalls that it was initially clearly stated that these Zonal Associations should not organise competitions that would create problems for the European Cups, and that such matches would only be played as preparation. Instead of which these matches are often being organised during the same period as the official CEV Cups competitions are taking place.

Mr MEYER clarifies that the teams qualified to play in European Cups must participate in these official competitions. If they do not register to participate, they are not allowed to play in the Zonal Associations matches either. However, the other teams who are not qualified to play in European Cups have no restrictions and can play in Zonal Associations' matches which are organised during the European Cups season.

Mr MEYER also shares with the members that a discussion took place in Vienna to analyse the reasons why some National Federations do not register for European Cups competition. It was concluded that many of these Federations face geographical and financial restrictions that do not make these competitions attractive for them.

Finally Mr Jan HRONEK reminds his colleagues that several Zonal Associations meetings are organised in Luxembourg for Friday, 13th October and that he and Mr MEYER will shortly visit each meeting separately.



Independent European Sport Review

Mr Aloys FISCHER, BoA Member and ELC President, informs his colleagues that he and Mr Olivier MOTTIER, CEV Executive Director, were invited to attend a meeting of the European Team Sports Federations on 31st May 2006 in Nyon (SUI), during which the “Independent European Sport Review” by Mr Luis ARNAUT was thoroughly discussed.

A follow-up meeting will be organised between UEFA and the EU institutions.

Following the meeting in Nyon, Mr FISCHER wrote his own report of the Independent European Sport Review for the attention of the Board of Administration members, and sent a letter to Mr Luis ARNAUT suggesting that all European Team Sport Federations be invited to participate in the follow-up meeting as they too share the same legal issues faced by the UEFA in the European Union.

Mr FISCHER suggests contacting Mr ARNAUT and asking him to organise a discussion specifically about Volleyball, and/or to contact the UEFA in order to find out if a follow-up ever took place or when it is planned.

Sport Governance in Europe

Mr Philip BERBEN attended a meeting in Brussels (BEL) on 20th September 2006 concerning Sport Governance in Europe. Based on the suggestion of Mr FISCHER, the UEFA organised and invited representatives of the other Team sport federations (Basketball, Handball, Ice-hockey, Football and Volleyball) to participate in a follow-up meeting in the morning. The federations present signed a common document listing all the legal items needing to be addressed with the EU.

Mr BERBEN adds that another meeting with Mr Jan FIGEL, Sports Commissioner for the EU, and in the presence of IOC representatives, also that afternoon in the presence of representative from all other sports.

In conclusion Mr BERBEN explains that Mr Jan FIGEL is working on trying to help the Team Sports Federations, but it will be a long process to obtain recognition of the problems specifically faced by team sports and unify the regulations of all sports.

Seeing the political importance of such meetings, Mr MEYER reminds Mr BERBEN to submit written reports of all discussions and developments concerning this item.

Financial Matters

Per Diem regulations

Mr MEYER explains that the per diem paid to officials will be raised to 60 EUR per day starting on 1st January 2007.

Organisers who have already signed a contract with CEV will be responsible for paying the 50 EUR /day previously agreed, while CEV will cover the difference of 10 EUR/day.

Finally, Mr MEYER explains that a document concerning per diem will be finalised in December 2006 and integrated as part of the General Regulations in order to clarify situations when necessary. This document will also clearly specify what the per diem covers and who will be responsible for the payment so as to avoid any future confusion.

European Championships

2007 SECH Final Round in RUS – Progress Report

Mr Aleksandar BORICIC, President of the Control Committee, informs his colleagues that the Drawing of Lots took place in Moscow (RUS) on 6th October 2006 in the presence of all participating Federations, except Bulgaria. The Drawing of Lots was followed by a Press Conference hosted in the presence of many journalists and TV Broadcasters.

Mr Pierre MULHEIMS and Mr Slobodan MILOSEVIC carried out a first inspection visit in St. Petersburg and Moscow (RUS) and their first impressions were positive.

A short meeting will be organised with the Russian Federation on 13th October 2006 to discuss the next steps and the coordination of the next inspection visit.

Mr Vladimir PATKIN thanks Mr MULHEIMS and Mr BORICIC for their close collaboration, and confirms the interest of the public and media in the scope of the Drawing of Lots. Mr PATKIN realises there were problems with the organisation of the Junior Championships this year, but confirms that his federation is working very hard for the organisation of the senior event and is confident that the 2007 Men Senior European Championships will benefit from an excellent organisation.

Mr MEYER points out the importance of good communication and organisation between the National Federation and the local organisers, especially as the competition will be played in two different cities far apart from each other.

2007 SECH Final Round in BEL and LUX – Progress Report

Mr Jan HRONEK, President of the Control Committee, explains that the Drawing of Lots for the Women's competition was organised in Charleroi (BEL) on 23rd September 2006. He notes that the federations of Bulgaria and Russia were not present.

A first inspection visit took place in Charleroi, Hasselt and Luxembourg. A second inspection visit in Hasselt was organised because the competition hall did not fully comply with the regulations. Mr HRONEK will stay in close contact with the local organisers in order to ensure that the CEV requirements are implemented correctly.

Based on the reports of the Drawing of Lots in Moscow and Charleroi, Mr Agustin MARTIN SANTOS, BoA Member, is concerned that not all participating National Federations attend the Drawing of Lots, and fears that it may become a trend in the future.

Mr André MEYER underlines the following points:

- It is clearly stated in the regulations that all participating Federations must be represented during the Drawing of Lots
- Necessary measures (sanctions) will be taken against the National Federations who were not represented
- According to the regulations, a journalist from each Federation should also be present at the Drawing of Lots. However, based on the problems faced by some National Federations, and the lack of information distribution observed, it was suggested to review the regulations in order to oblige the National Federations to come to the Drawing of Lots accompanied by a Press Officer in charge of distributing the information to the media.

Decision: The regulations will be modified to request the presence of a Press Officer from each National Federation participating instead of a journalist.

Action: Sanctions will be issued against the RUS and BUL Federations. – Administrative Dept.

2007 SECH Final Rounds – Medical Services to be confirmed

Mr Manfred HOLZGRAEFE, EMC President, explains that he has contacted the Federations of Russia, Belgium and Luxembourg several times to obtain the names and information of the contact doctor responsible for the anti-doping tests at each venue, but has yet to receive the information requested. He also underlines that it is imperative for the contact doctor to speak English.



Mr PATKIN confirms Ms. Natalia VAGANOVA will be the contact doctor as well as the doctor responsible for all items on site. He will however double check whether or not she speaks English.

The Belgian Federation confirms that Dr Koen VAN MEERBEEK is the contact doctor also in charge of all items onsite.

2007 YECH Final Round in AUT – Progress Report

Mr Philip BERBEN informs his colleagues that he conducted an inspection visit in Vienna and Krems (AUT) and confirms that both cities are ready to welcome the Youth Championships. The only problem faced at this point is the hotel in Krems which does not have enough rooms with single beds.

For information, Mr Harald ROTTER was appointed by the Austrian Federation as local coordinator for this event, and will liaise with CEV.

Finally, Mr BERBEN shares that the Drawing of Lots will be organised in Vienna (AUT) at the same time as the Indesit European Champions League game in January 2007, thus taking advantage of the public and media already onsite.

2007 YECH Final Round in CZE – Progress Report

Mr Renato ARENA confirms that the first inspection visit in Brno took place and that everything is going according to the regulations in terms of accommodation and competition hall.

Mr Jan HRONEK confirms that the Drawing of Lots for the Girls (CZE) will be organised in combination with the DOL for the Boys in Vienna.

2006 JECH Final Round in FRA – Final Report

Mr Philip BERBEN refers to the written report already printed and shares that from the teams' perspective, everything went well and there were no specific problems. However, from an organisational point of view, there were several problems which occurred, mostly due to the fact that the expectations and demands of CEV were not always met, especially in terms of transport, press activities and other technical aspects.

These problems mainly resulted from a lack of communication between the National Federation and the local organiser, the limited number of staff present onsite, and the lack of information and means available to that staff.

Therefore, Mr BERBEN underlines the importance for the National Federation to properly inform the local organisers and to have regular communication before and during the event.

On the other hand, Mr BERBEN recognises the excellent promotional job carried out, in addition to the involvement and support of the local authorities, and comments that the local Mayor was present in the hall every day of the competition.

Mr MEYER adds that the French Volleyball Federation could not maintain the TV contract in place for Junior Championships, and although a solution was found, it did not fully complying with CEV's requirements.

2006 JECH Final Round in RUS – Final Report

Also referring to the printed final report, Mr Jan HRONEK commented that the competition in Kazan was very successful and demonstrated great performances and a high level of refereeing.

However, several problems, mainly technical, had to be noted:

- The first 2 days before the start of the competition, the computers, faxes, and copy machines were not working and the CEV officials therefore did not receive the level of assistance they were expecting.
- The home-nominated referee did not arrive at the competition venue as planned.
- The teams accommodated in Hotel Safa complained that the food was not good, and the problem was never solved.
- Although stipulated in the regulations that statistics should be issued daily in the bulletins, there was no statistical program in place until the Finals.

Based on these two reports, Mr MEYER explains that the Executive Committee agreed that the levels of organisation both in France and Russia were not satisfactory and will be sanctioned. Even though the junior competitions do not require the same high standards of organisation as the senior events, the work must be of a high standard and must comply with the regulations and expectations to match the image of the CEV.

Decision: The financial support of 10,000 EUR paid to each National Federation will be reduced by 25%, thus reducing the payment to 7,500 EUR.

Action: Inform the FRA and RUS Federations accordingly and submit payment of 7,500 EUR to each. – Administrative Dept.

Finally, Mr MEYER requests that the Inspection visit reports and Technical Reports only be sent to the Board of Administration members and to the Federations concerned. Additionally, he mentions that the standard post-event letters sent to the organiser and the post-event reports of the Control Committee must reflect the reality and be based on the actual facts instead of just being courteous.

Junior World Championships – European Qualifications

Mr MEYER reminds his colleagues that the Board of Administration decided during one of its previous meetings to reinstate European Qualifications to participate in the Junior World Championships, mainly based on the requests of the National Federations who were receiving government support for their teams as long as they participate in a certain quota of competitions.

Given this fact and seeing that the next Junior World Championships will take place with 12 teams instead of 16, Europe has been allotted 4 places.

To designate the 4 participants, 2 options are available:

- 1 + 3: Automatically qualify the Continental Champion + attribute the 3 other places through qualification tournaments
- 0 + 4: Attribute all 4 places through qualification tournaments

The Executive Committee recommends organising a qualification tournament for all 4 spots, thus rejecting the automatic qualification of the Continental Champion, thus increasing the interest of the National Federations and giving them a greater chance of qualifying.

A long discussion takes place where both formulas are considered.

Mr MULHEIMS, ESOC President, explains that the formula with the automatic qualification of the Continental Champion constitutes an additional reward for the winner of the European Championships and values their performances. It also adds value to the European Championships. However, he also notes that the Junior European Championships were already played and the winner determined without prior knowledge of this new automatic qualification, and recognises that it could be a problem.

Mr Eric ADLER shares that in his opinion by adding the incentive of the automatic qualification, CEV is lowering the value of the European Championships by turning it into a qualification tournament. His argument is that winning the European Championships should be a reward in



itself, and National Teams shouldn't need an additional incentive to be interested in participating. Finally, he also underlines the fact that it is important to keep the same rules for all categories of the European Championships, meaning that if this automatic qualification is decided for the junior event, it should also be applied to the senior competition.

Mr MEYER underlines that CEV strictly follows the FIVB and there is no possibility to automatically qualify the Senior European Champion to the Senior World Championships.

To conclude the discussion, Mr MEYER reminds his colleagues that the number of slots available to European teams was reduced because of the lower number of European teams registering in comparison with other continents which have seen an increase in the number of their entries. He also reiterates his idea that by lowering the number of slots made available through the qualification tournament from 4 to 3, CEV may also reduce the interest of the National Federations to participate because they will have fewer chances of qualifying.

An open vote takes place to determine the qualification system for the next season:

- 11 votes in favour of the automatic qualification of the European Champion
- 7 votes against
- 1 abstention

Decision: The winner of the Junior European Championships is automatically qualified to participate in the Junior World Championships. The other teams will have to play in qualification tournaments to win one of the other vacancies (3).

Actions:

- Issue a bulletin relating to the above decision and informing the Federations that the registration deadline is set to 1st December 2006 – Competitions Dept.
- Establish a competition formula based on the number of teams registered and the 3 slots available - ESOC
- Inspection visit – Tasks of the Jury and the Coordinators

Based on the many problems faced in the past, it is necessary to review the current coordination and control system in place in order to help the National Federations start their work earlier and provide high-level competitions.

Mr MEYER points out that the system of appointing the Jury President as Coordinator is failing because the Jury President does not follow closely the preparation phase. Additionally, it is noted that some of the officials appointed to conduct an inspection visit were new members of a Commission and did not have the knowledge or experience to fulfil their task properly. The following modifications are suggested:

- To improve the Jury President's tasks as coordinator, closely monitor the work of the Organising federation right from the start
- Request from each organiser an update by the end of the year
- Provide the new commission members (ESOC and ECC), as well as Board of Administration members, with information and instructions to better carry out inspection visits.
- ESOC should re-evaluate the actual system with just 1 inspection visit one year prior to the start of the competition and consider the possibility adding an inspection visit earlier than currently is the case (to allow more time for alternative venues be found should one not be suitable).

Mr Pierre MULHEIMS, ESOC President, confirms that a training session is already planned in the scope of the next ESOC meeting. He also suggests changing the Competition Hall approval system currently in place in order to avoid having to exceptionally approve a competition hall that is not valid because there is no time left to find alternative.

Mr HOLZGRAEFE suggests sending a doctor along for the inspection visit.

Action:

- Organise training sessions during inspection visits in the course of the next commission's meeting – ESOC and ECC
- Analyse the current inspection visit system and present conclusions during the next Board of Administration meeting. – ESOC and ECC

European Youth Olympic Festival

Mr Philip BERBEN reminds his colleagues that the European Olympic Committee organises the European Youth Olympic Festival every 2 years, with the next edition to take place in Belgrade (SCG). As Volleyball coordinator in this event, Mr BERBEN attended a technical meeting in Belgrade the week before and had the opportunity to visit the venue. He also shares the following information:

- Eleven (11) sports will be represented, with each country only able to be represented in one team sport.
- SCG, ITA, POL, BEL, TUR, FIN, CRO and UKR are pre-selected to play in Women's Volleyball. The respective National Olympic Committees have until the end of October to confirm to this invitation.
- The competition is open to players born on 1st January 1991 and thereafter
- Each delegation will be composed of a maximum of 12 players + 2 officials + 1 referee
- The referee will be appointed by ERC based on a proposal by each National Federation
- The Drawing of Lots will be organised in April 2007, in combination with a 2nd inspection visit
- Each National Olympic delegation is accompanied by a journalist tasked with reporting and promoting the European Youth Olympic Festival in their country.

Finally, he shares that for the future, the European Olympic Committee is considering the possibility to not base the participation of teams on an invitation but on results obtained in a qualification tournament.

Working Group Veterans

Following a first report during the Board of Administration meeting in June 2006, the Working Group Veterans established a proposal to be approved by the Board of Administration before being presented to the General Assembly.

Mr Renato ARENA, Chairman of the Working Group, makes a short PowerPoint presentation revealing the conclusions of his Working Group and the following main points:

- Age categories for Men: A = 40 – 49 years / B = 50 years and older
- Age categories for Women: A = 35 – 44 years / B = 45 years and older
- Each National Federation can only register one team per gender and category
- The registration will be made through the National Federation which is also responsible for covering the registration costs
- Each delegation must be composed as such: minimum of 10 and maximum of 12 players identified on a collective team license + 5 officials
- A test event will be organised in Loutraki (GRE) the first 2 weeks of October 2007 as long as a minimum of 6 teams enter
- Registrations must be sent before 12th December 2006
- The competition format will be determined by ESOC based on the number of registered teams



- The Championships will be played according to the Official Volleyball Regulations of the FIVB
- Starting in 2009, Veteran Championships will be organised every 2 years in the year of the Junior Championships.

Decision: The Board of Administration approves the project. Mr MEYER thanks the members of this working group for their excellent work.

The Working Group is released of its work and ESOC will be taking over.

Action: Issue a first bulletin to be sent to the National Federations. – Competitions Dept.

European League 2006 and future

Final Four in Izmir (TUR)

Mr Jan HRONEK explains that the Final Four was played in Izmir (TUR) on 19th and 20th August 2006 with the teams of CRO, GRE, NED and TUR. The organisation was good, but there were fewer spectators in the Finals than in the semi-finals due to the 3rd place of the Turkish team.

Unsportsmanlike behaviour of the CRO Head Coach

Mr Jan HRONEK reports that the head coach of the Croatian delegation displayed unsportsmanlike behaviour during the semi-finals by being physically aggressive and trying to enter the opponent's playing court. He also reports that the referee of the game unfortunately did not use disciplinary measures at the time, but Mr HRONEK himself, as CEV Supervisor, issued an official communication to the National Federation of Croatia with possible sanctions to be discussed by the Board of Administration.

Based on this communication, he recommends officially warning the head coach and sanctioning the CRO Federation with a minimum fine of 5,000 EUR should the head coach misbehave again within the next 2 years, additional sanctions will be imposed.

A discussion takes place identifying the damage caused to the CEV and its competition, and determining the degree of sanction that should be imposed against the Croatian coach and the Croatian Federation.

Finally based on Art. 4.5 Of the Official CEV Regulations, the Board of Administration decides the following:

Decision:

- Sanction of € 2,000 against the head coach
- Sanction of € 3,000 against the CRO Federation
- Should the head coach misbehave again in the next two years, CEV reserves the right to take additional action

Action: Issue the sanctions as decided. – Administrative Dept.

Next Edition

A meeting will be organised in Luxembourg in November 2006 to draw conclusions from this past season and develop the next edition in collaboration with the potential participants. Mr MEYER also shares that the Portuguese Volleyball Federation has expressed its desire to participate in the 2007 European League and to organise the finals.

Mr Miroslaw PRZEDPELSKI, BoA Member, joins the meeting.

The first half of the meeting ends at 18h35 on Thursday, 12th October 2006 and continues the following the morning, Friday 13th October.

In the absence of Mr MEYER, Mr Philip BERBEN, CEV Senior Vice-President and Treasurer, chairs the meeting.

Qualification Tournament of the 2007 FIVB Grand Prix

Final Report from the Jury President

Mrs Riet OOMS, Jury President, reports that the Qualification Tournament of the 2007 FIVB Grand Prix in Varna (BUL) benefited from an overall good organisation and that the teams were satisfied. There were however several problems of note:

- An obvious lack of spectators, clearly visible on TV
- Statistics and TV signal problems that were only solved a few minutes before the start of the first match of this competition

European Cups

Drawing of Lots IECL 2006/07 - Report

The Drawing of Lots for the Indesit European Champions League 2006/07 took place in Vienna on 23rd June 2006.

There were unfortunately unforeseen problems that occurred during the Drawing and which unfortunately resulted in some confusion to the public present and the viewers on television. The final decision concerning the distribution of teams in the pools was correct towards all teams and completely in compliance with the ECC Regulations.

New Ranking System for the European Cups 2007/08

Based on numerous requests by the clubs and National Federations, ECC has created a general Ranking System which will be based on a points system. Federations will earn points through their teams participating in different Cups competitions based on the following 2 principles:

- The higher the competition, the higher the points awarded.
- The farther teams go in a competition (1/8 finals, 1/4 finals, etc.), the higher their points will be.

This new system is also encouraging National Federations to register more teams to participate in European Cups competitions in order to earn more points in total for the federation and thus be higher ranked.

It was decided that the ranking list should be established over a period of 3 years. However, seeing that the European Cups competitions used a variety of competition formats over the past 3 years, and that the previous year cannot be counted towards the ranking, the proposal is to start this season based on just 1 year, then add one year with each new season until the 3 years of ranking history are reached.

Finally, if two National Federations achieve the same number of ranking points, their ranking will be based on the number of teams entered. The higher the number of teams participating the higher the National Federation will be ranked.

Detailed information will be given to the National Federations during the General Secretaries' Seminar as well as in writing.

Mr Manfred HOLZGRAEFE underlines that with this new ranking system, National Federations whose clubs are not participating in European Cups competitions will be lower ranked on the list although in reality they may have a higher playing level than those ranked higher.

Mr Jean-Paul ROMMES, CEV Competitions Director, explains that the aim of this Ranking List is to encourage the best teams to participate in the competitions and earn their way to the top.



Mrs Riet OOMS also explains that if a National Federation is awarded 3 slots for example in the Champions League and only registers 2 teams, the last vacancy will be used as a Wild Card and attributed by the CEV. Additionally, if a team that is eligible to play in a higher competition refuses, it will also not be allowed to play in any other European Cups competition. The clubs cannot choose their competitions; they must play in the one they are eligible for, or they do not play at all.

Lastly, Mrs OOMS states that the names of the competitions will be reviewed to be more attractive. The name of the highest competition (Champions League) will remain, but the others will be changed once the new CEV corporate identity has been established.

Date of the Drawing of Lots IECL 2007/08

The next Drawing of Lots for the IECL 2007/08 will once again be organised in Vienna (AUT) in the month of June. The exact date remains to be determined.

New Cups Regulations – Drawing of Lots

Based on the problems which occurred at the Drawing of Lots in Vienna, the European Cups Commission has analysed ways to avoid such a situation in the future. Mrs Riet OOMS, ECC President, simulates a Drawing of Lots to explain the two proposals her commission is presenting.

The goal of the new Drawing of Lots procedure is to avoid that 2 teams from the same country will be drawn in the same pool of the League Round, without risking drawing a team, then have to put it aside and draw again. The advantage is that each team drawn will immediately have a place in a pool and there can no longer be any confusion.

Decision: The Board of Administration approves the Drawing of Lots system presented.

Action: Send detailed information to the National Federations concerning the new system for the IECL Drawing of Lots. – Competitions Dept.

The Working Group Regulations and Fines will be meeting in November 2006 in order to finalise the work of the European Cups Commission and align the regulations to the new system. The work of the Working Group will then be presented in the Board of Administration meeting in January 2007.

European Champions League – Final Four participants and organiser

Following a discussion in the Working Group Future of the Cups as well as in the European Cups Commission on 16th September 2006, the ECC proposes 2 options concerning the system for qualifying teams for the Final Four of the European Champions League.

The first option is based on the following conditions:

- Maximum 2 teams per country can qualify for the Final Four event
- If two teams from the same country qualify, they must meet in the semi-final matches
- The Drawing of Lots for the Playoff rounds must be prepared in such a way that if three teams from the same country qualify for the Playoffs, one of them must be eliminated in the Playoffs.

The second option is based on the following conditions:

- Maximum one team of each National Federation is participating in the Final Four Tournament (Final Four with 4 teams of 4 different countries)
- The Drawing of Lots for the Playoff rounds must be prepared in such a way that teams from the same National Federation must be eliminated at the latest at the Playoff 6 round.

Based on the advantages and disadvantages of each option and on the recommendations of the Executive Committee, the Board of Administration makes the following decision:

Decision: The first option with a maximum of 2 teams from the same country in the Final Four is approved by majority.

The European Cups Commission is also proposing to open the organisation of the Final Four Tournaments of the European Champions League to National Federations who do not have any teams participating in the competition or to National Federations with at least one team participating. In this case though, the organiser would have to accept that it is responsible for carrying on the organisation of the Final Four regardless of the results obtained by its team(s).

Decision: The Board of Administration approves by majority the option to extend the right to organise the Final Four of the Champions League to all National Federations, regardless of the number of teams that are participating in the competition and regardless of their results.

Based on the future results obtained with this new option, CEV may consider validating applications sooner in order to inform the participating teams in time about the playing system of that year, as the system will differ when a neutral organiser will be nominated (in that case there will be a Play-Off system with 16 teams – more matches, etc.).

Before going to the next point, Mr BELIGRATIS asks Mrs Riet OOMS why an extra set occasionally had to be played in home and away qualification games of the Top Teams Cup.

Mrs Riet OOMS explains that it became evident that some teams had calculated that they only needed to win only one set in order to qualify for the next round and were therefore not giving their full performance during the whole match. This was affecting the image of the competition and the interest of the public, and it was therefore decided that in order to qualify teams must win 2 matches instead of one. The extra set was occasionally added if there was a tie in order to designate the ultimate winner qualified.

She adds that playing this extra set (in case of a 1-1 tie) is a test for the season 2006/2007 and that the Cups commission will evaluate the result of this test in the meeting of April 2007.

European Beach Volleyball

U-18, U-20, U-23 European Championships – Final reports

Mr Stefan POTYKA, EBVC President, explains that in general the level of organisations were not as good as usual due to the fact that the organisers were found really late and did not have as much time to work.

U-18 in Bratislava (SVK): The competition was organised in the main city square and attracted a lot of spectators.

U-20 in Ankaran (SLO): good organisation despite the late appointment of the organiser and short preparation time.

U-23 in St. Pölten (AUT): The centre court was located by a lake out in the countryside, and due to the bad weather and rain, there were fewer spectators than anticipated. Additionally, Mrs OOMS adds that there weren't enough staff onsite (ball retrievers, etc.) which caused a few problems.

Nestea European Championships Tour 2006

Mr Stefan POTYKA, EBVC President, explains that this year's Championship Tour was very successful with the organisation of 5 tours and 1 Final event.

He underlines that Global Sports Marketing is the overall organiser of the individual tour events and provides the National Federations with a lot of infrastructure. However, the actual success



of the event is directly dependent on the work of the National Federations to create interest locally and attract the spectators, and there is still work to be done in this area.

The different CEV Representatives make a short report of each event:

- Alanya (TUR) – J. HRONEK: Normal organisation but very few spectators and some rain.
- Hamburg (GER) – R. OOMS: Good organisation and good spectator attendance despite the rainy weather. Note: the side courts were too far from the main courts.
- Moscow (RUS) – A. BORICIC: Good organisation but can be improved; low attendance in the beginning and rainy weather.
- Lucerne (SUI) – P. BERBEN: With Switzerland being the home country of GSM, this organisation was good and did not face any problems other than a low public attendance and bad weather.
- Valencia (ESP) – P. BERBEN: Very good organisation with only a good spectator attendance in the evenings.
- The Hague (NED) – J. HRONEK: Very good organisation, wide interest of the public and good support from the local authorities. For a first Beach Volleyball event in the Netherlands, it was a success.

To conclude this point, and concerning the Finals in The Hague, Mr POTYKA explains that the tournament and organisation were good, but he believes that the organisation of the Finals of the Championships Tour should aim higher and be better promoted as the ultimate European Beach Volleyball competition.

New Ranking System

Mr Stefan POTYKA, EBVC President, explains that the EBVC has analysed a proposal to ask the FIVB to establish a new ranking system which would take into consideration the results obtained in continental competitions, meaning that European teams would win points through the CEV competitions.

He also reminds his colleagues that the European Ranking System was modified last season and that the European Beach Volleyball Commission will further discuss these changes and submit a written proposal during the next Board of Administration meeting in January 2007.

Mr MEYER, who just joined the meeting, takes the floor and warns Mr Stefan POTYKA that FIVB matters are mainly political and that the EBVC is overstepping its boundaries by submitting such a proposal. Any such proposals must be thoroughly discussed and approved by the CEV Board of Administration before ever being discussed elsewhere.

Mr POTYKA confirms that he discussed the possibility of a new ranking system with Mr Angelo SQUEO at the Klagenfurt tournament but that no actual proposal was made, because it was first to be discussed inside the EBVC then presented to the CEV Board of Administration.

Indoor Beach Volleyball - Regulations

The main principles of Indoor Beach Volleyball were presented during the last Board of Administration meeting in June 2006 and the EBVC is still finalizing the regulations and technical aspects of this project, so the finalised version will be presented during the next Board of Administration meeting in January 2007.

Action: Return to the CEV Office the revised regulations for Indoor Beach Volleyball. – EBVC, ELC, EMC, ERC, Marketing WG & Media WG.

Mr POTYKA briefly explains that the following structure is planned:

- Simple tournaments to be organised within each country with limited restrictions or obligations

- One Team Cup tournament with qualification rounds of home and away matches and finals organised in one country (similar to the European Cups competitions)
- Indoor Championships are also a possibility but will not be organised until Indoor Beach Volleyball has proven to be successful

Mr MEYER reminds Mr POTYKA that the organisation of indoor Beach events should remain with the National Federations and be placed under the authority and regulations of the CEV and not be governed by GSM like other Beach Volleyball events.

Activity Reports – CEV Commissions

Legal Commission – Mr Aloys FISCHER

The European Legal Commission last met on 29th April 2006 and Mr Aloys FISCHER, ELC President, therefore has nothing to report.

The next meeting will be held on 25th November 2006 in Luxembourg.

Financial Commission – Mr Philip BERBEN

Mr Philip BERBEN will be presenting the 2005 accounts and 2007 budget during the General Assembly on 14th October 2006, along with the auditors' reports. There are no specific remarks to be made to the Board of Administration members.

Cups Commission – Mrs Riet OOMS

The European Cups Commission last met on 15th – 18th June 2006 in and focused its work on the different items discussed earlier in the meeting.

However, one item on page 4 of the Minutes of the ECC meeting still needs to be approved by the Board of Administration:

“The organisation of a Drawing of Lots for the semi-final in the Top Teams Cup & CEV Cup will only be necessary if the four participating teams come from different countries. When there are two teams from the same NF in the Final Four, automatically these teams will meet each other on the first day.”

Decision: The proposal is approved by the CEV Board of Administration.

Sports Organising Commission – Mr Pierre MULHEIMS

With the last ESOC meeting organised in Madrid (ESP) on 5th – 7th May 2006, Mr MULHEIMS does not have any specific points to report.

The next meeting of the European Sports Organising Commission will be organised in Luxembourg on 3rd – 5th November 2006.

Mr HRONEK underlines the need to validate the decision made on 12th October 2006 concerning the Junior European qualifications to the World Championships.

Mr MEYER asks Mr MULHEIMS to announce this decision during the General Assembly on 14th October 2006 and inform the National Federations that the deadline for sending in their registration is set to 1st December 2006.

Beach Volleyball Commission – Mr Stefan POTYKA

The last European Beach Volleyball Commission meeting was organised in The Hague (NED) from 26th till 28th August 2006, and the next meeting will take place in Luxembourg on 27th – 29th October 2006.

Problems and proposals will be discussed in the January Board of Administration meeting as needed.



Mr Stefan POTYKA only wants to draw the attention of the CEV Board of Administration members on the fact that the medals and trophies awarded by the organisers to the Beach Volleyball players are rarely representative of the competition they participated in, and therefore suggests including this item in the new CEV Corporate Identity.

Mr MEYER confirms that CEV will change this system and include the design of new medals and trophies both in Volleyball and Beach Volleyball as part of the new CEV Corporate Identity.

Lastly, Mr POTYKA reminds his colleagues that CEV is still looking for candidates to organise the Age Group European Championships in 2007. As incentive, he underlines that CEV helps the organisers by giving them 6,000 EUR to be used towards this organisation.

Medical Commission – Prof. Dr Manfred HOLZGRAEFE

Prof. Dr Manfred HOLZGRAEFE, EMC President, discusses the following points:

Anti-doping tests were successfully organised in Izmir (TUR) during the European League. All results coming back were negative.

In Izmir (TUR), medical delegates arrived on the first day of the competition. Mr HOLZGRAEFE believes it is important to plan the arrival of these medical delegates one day earlier in order to allow more time to control the facilities and procedures in place.

There were reports of a positive doping control in France this year. However, no official report was either sent to the CEV or the Medical Commission.

It is suggested to organise an inspection visit to check the medical facilities on the venues of main European competitions

Names of the main doctor in RUS, BEL and LUX for the 2007 Senior European Championships must still be provided. It is important to verify that this contact doctor speaks fluent English.

Ms. VAGANOVA is the contact for RUS. Mr PATKIN will confirm today whether she speaks English or not.

Mr VAN MEERBEEK is the contact doctor for BEL and speaks English.

The contact doctor for Luxembourg must still be communicated.

Action:

- Confirm that Ms. VAGANOVA speaks English. – RUS Federation
- Provide name and contact information of LUX doctor. – LUX Federation

Finally, Mr MEYER asks Dr HOLZGRAEFE to clearly specify in the Medical Guidelines that the medical doctor present at a competition venue must provide a fax number reachable at all times (ex. Hotel).

Concerning the positive doping case in France, Mr BERBEN reminds his colleagues that some doping tests are conducted by the local authorities outside of CEV tournaments and that in these cases, the sanctions are directly issued by these authorities and usually only applicable in that country. If the information is not communicated to CEV or FIVB, there are no ways to apply these sanctions to European and World competitions.

Refereeing Commission – Mr Jan REK

Mr Jan REK makes a brief summary of his commissions' activities since June 2006 and points discussed by his Commission:

- Mr REK was invited to make a refereeing presentation during the Champions League Seminar in Vienna (AUT) and thanks CEV for this opportunity
- ERC Meeting in Luxembourg on 7th – 9th July 2006: The Commission made the appointments of over 650 referees to the different competitions

- The Refereeing Seminar next year will be focusing on Beach Volleyball Refereeing
- Preparation of international database containing information and evaluations for each referee.
- Mr REK was invited in September 2006 as an observer to the FIVB Refereeing Commission. He states that this opportunity allows coordinating European Refereeing with FIVB Refereeing and guarantees a close collaboration between CEV and FIVB.
- Mr REK also informs his colleagues that he presented his candidature to become a Member of the FIVB Refereeing Commission.

The next ERC meeting will be organised on 2nd – 4th March 2006 in Helsinki (FIN).

Revisiting the incident which happened in the European League match in Izmir (TUR), Mr Jan HRONEK informs his colleagues that although the Board of Administration only discussed sanctions for the CRO Federation and head coach, the European Refereeing Commission took the appropriate measures against the referee who was officiating at the match.

Applications European Championships 2008/09

Report of the Executive Committee members appointed

Based on the fact that only one valid application was received, the Board of Administration confirms the following organisations:

- | | |
|--|-----|
| • 2009 Youth Boys European Championships | NED |
| • 2009 Youth Girls European Championships | NED |
| • 2008 Junior Women European Championships | ITA |
| • 2008 Junior Men European Championships | CZE |
| • 2009 Senior Men European Championships | TUR |

Two applications were received for the organisation of the 2009 Senior European Championships: ITA and POL. The Board of Administration will proceed with a secret vote to determine the winner.

Mr MEYER, Mr BERBEN and Mr HRONEK went to Turkey, Italy and Poland to control that the applications presented match the reality before validating them.

- Mr MEYER confirms that all conditions were met in Turkey.
- Mr BERBEN confirms that all conditions were met in Italy. He also adds that the region of Lombardy is the biggest in Italy and has an extensive knowledge and experience in organising such events.
- Mr HRONEK confirms that in Poland also, all conditions were met. He shares that he also had a meeting with the Mayor and that Poland has the full support of its government for the organisation of this event.

The federations of POL and ITA are given the opportunity to each make a presentation of their project.

Mr Miroslaw PRZEDPELSKI, POL President, starts with a PowerPoint presentation identifying the strengths of the Polish Federation and the impact of Volleyball in Poland. He then shares a short video revealing the three cities of Warsaw, Katowice and Lodz where the 2009 Senior Women European Championships will unfold, and highlighting the support of the local government and the public's interest and enthusiasm.

Mr Renato ARENA, BoA Member, presents a short video highlighting the beauty of Italy and presenting the different cities which will host the Senior Women European Championships in 2009. Mr ARENA underlines the experience accumulated by Italy over the years in



successfully Organising major Volleyball events and the trust shown by the CEV and the FIVB in the past.

Official Vote of the Board of Administration

Before proceeding with the secret ballot to determine the organisers of the 2009 Senior Women European Championships, Mr André MEYER explains to his colleagues that the voting process and vote count will be the same as in Turkey in 2004. In order to keep the results a surprise until the General Assembly, Mr MEYER will be solely responsible for counting the votes but will sign a protocol and include all voting cards in a sealed envelope. When the winners are announced during the General Assembly, Mr Leo DADEMA and Mr Michel HENNO, CEV Internal Auditors, will be handed the sealed envelopes to verify the authenticity of the results.

Mr MEYER also underlines that as there are 20 people voting, the majority is 11. If there are 10 votes for each candidature, a second round will take place. If after the second round the votes remain equal, the winner will be determined by a drawing of lots.

Following these explanations, the BoA members are given voting ballots and place their secret votes in the box.

After having left the room to count the votes, Mr MEYER returns and shares that the organiser was voted by majority. The results will be announced during the General Assembly on 14th October 2006.

XXVII General Assembly

Practical Information

Mr MEYER shares that Dr Rubén ACOSTA and his wife will be present during this year's General Assembly and that the FIVB will take this opportunity to present to the National Federations present a financial report and internal audit of the FIVB accounts.

For the presentations to be made by each Commission President, Mr MEYER underlines the need to only read the important points listed in the presentation and to mention new items which may have occurred since the reports were made. He also reminds his colleagues to be prepared to answer questions as needed.

Finally, Mr MEYER shares some basic information concerning the time schedule of the General Assembly and the closing dinner offered by CEV in the Atrium at Hotel Sofitel.

Concerning the accreditations procedure, Mr BERBEN asks his colleagues to remind the National Federations' delegates to respect the hours set.

Decision: The agenda of the General Assembly is approved.

Action: Distribute the final agenda during the accreditations. – Administrative Dept.

Credentials Checking Commission

Mr Aloys FISCHER proposes to nominate the following delegates to be members of the Credential Checking Commission: Mrs Agneta ELMEGARD (SWE) - Mrs Margaret Ann FLEMING (SCO) - Mr Sandor HOBOTH (HUN) Mr Dimitris PROCOPIOU (CYP)

Following a question from Mr BERBEN, Mr Aloys FISCHER confirms that 4 delegates are needed in addition to the President in the Credentials Checking Commission.

Miscellaneous

Concerning the applications of European delegates for the FIVB Congress, Mr MEYER shares that the list of candidates communicated to the CEV Board of Administration has not changed, except for the President of the Bulgarian Federation who withdrew his application. Votes will

be placed by all Confederations to determine which European delegates obtain a seat in the FIVB Board of Administration.

Closing of the Meeting

Mr Miroslaw PRZEDPELSKI, POL President, takes the floor and invites his colleagues to Warsaw (POL) to attend the next Board of Administration meeting on 26th – 27th January 2007. He informs them that they will be accommodated at the 4-star Hotel SOBIESKI and that the Polish Volleyball Federation is looking forward to welcoming them all.

Mr MEYER thanks his colleagues for their work and for the important decisions made. He then closes the meeting.

CEV XXVII GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING - LUXEMBOURG (LUX) – 14TH OCTOBER 2006

The following members are attending:

President:	André MEYER (LUX)
Senior Vice President :	Philip BERBEN (BEL)
Vice Presidents:	Aleksandar BORICIC (SRB) - Jan HRONEK (CZE) - Riet OOMS (NED) - Renato ARENA (ITA) - Banu CAN (TUR)
Members:	Eric ADLER (DEN) - Thanassis BELIGRATIS (GRE) - Aloys FISCHER (SUI) - Manfred HOLZGRAEFE (GER) - Pierre MULHEIMS (LUX) - Vladimir Patkin (RUS) - Maris Pekalis (LAT) - Stefan POTYKA (AUT) - Miroslaw PRZEDPELSKI (POL) - Jan REK (SUI) - Agustin MARTIN SANTOS (ESP) - Jacques SHAW (FRA) - Andreas STAVROU (CYP)
Internal Auditors:	Mr Michel HENNO (BEL) - Mr Leo DADEMA (NED) - Mr Jacob SHTOFMAN (ISR)
Executive Director:	Mr Olivier MOTTIER
IT Responsible:	Mr Daniel BARTHELS
Competitions Director:	Mr Jean-Paul ROMMES
Finance:	Mrs Sylvie COLLIGNON
Secretaries:	Ms. Birthe MEYER - Ms. Emilie PATRICOLA
Interpreters:	Mr Sergey KOLMAKOV (RUS) - Mr Luis MUCHAGA (ESP)
Special Guests:	Mr Jeannot KRECKE Sports Minister of Luxembourg Mr Marc THEISEN President of the LUX National Olympic Committee Dr Rubén ACOSTA H. FIVB President & Mrs Malu ACOSTA Mr Cristóbal MARTE HOFFIZ FIVB Executive Vice-President Mr Guy Fusenig LUX Commissioner for Physical Education and Sports
Honorary Presidents:	Mr Michalis MASTRANDREAS - Mr Georges BOUDRY - Dr Rolf ANDRESEN
Honorary Vice-Presidents:	Mr Yuri DEREVIAGUINE - Mr Hugo FRUITHOF Mr Franz SCHMIED



Other Guests: Mr Xavier NICOLAU Gerflor
 Mr Christian SCHOLBROCK Global Sports Marketing
 Mr Roland ARNOLD Mikasa Europe
 Mr Bernard DEILLON BJD Assistance

Delegates of the European National Federations

<u>FEDERATION</u>		<u>REPRESENTED BY</u>
ALBANIA	ALB	Mr Gjergj LEQEJZA / Mr Leonard TASE
ANDORRA	AND	Mrs Marta IBANEZ
ARMENIA	ARM	Proxy to Austria (AUT)
AUSTRIA	AUT	Mr Peter KLEINMANN / Mr Karl HANZL
AZERBAIJAN	AZE	Mr Elshan ISMAYILOV
BELGIUM	BEL	Mr Georges DE DONCKER
BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA	BIH	Mr Ahmet ZAHIROVIC
BELARUS	BLR	Proxy to Belgium (BEL)
BULGARIA	BUL	Mr Ilia ILIEV / Mr Stanislav NIKOLOV
CROATIA	CRO	Mr Andrija POPOVIC / Mr Petar RILOVIC
CYPRUS	CYP	Mr Dimitris PROCOPIOU
CZECH REPUBLIC	CZE	Mr Antonin LEBL / Mr Ivan IRO
DENMARK	DEN	Mr Eddy MADSEN Mr Jens ALBAGAARD
ENGLAND	ENG	Mr Richard CALLICOT Mr Toomas OJASOO
SPAIN	ESP	Mr Juan Pedro SANCHEZ Mr Juan ALONSO
ESTONIA	EST	Mr Henn VALIMÄE
FAROE ISLANDS	FER	Mr Niclas JOENSEN
FINLAND	FIN	Mr Jari HELLSTEN / Mr Antti HEIKKINEN
FRANCE	FRA	Mr Gil PELLAN / Mr Daniel MURAIL
GEORGIA	GEO	Mr Levan AKHVLEDIANI
GERMANY	GER	Mr Werner VON MOLTKE
GIBRALTAR	GIB	Not represented
GREECE	GRE	Mr Achilleas MAVROMATIS
GREENLAND	GRL	Proxy to Faroe Islands (FER)
HUNGARY	HUN	Mr Sandor HOBOTH
IRELAND	IRL	Mr John CLARKE / Mrs Karen MORGAN
ICELAND	ISL	Mr Jason IVARSSON Mr Julius HAFSTEIN
ISRAEL	ISR	Mr Jacob SHTOFMAN

ITALY	ITA	Mr Carlo MAGRI / Ms. Laura LODOVISI
LATVIA	LAT	Mr Atis SAUSNITIS / Mr Guntis LAZDA
LIECHTENSTEIN	LIE	Mr Philippe SCHUERMANN
LITHUANIA	LTU	Mr Andrius STEPONAVICIUS
LUXEMBOURG	LUX	Mr Peter EICHSTAEDT Mrs C. SCHOMER
MOLDOVA	MLD	Mr Anatolie MOCRAC Mrs Maria CAMENSCIC
MALTA	MLT	Mr David FALZON
MACEDONIA	MKD	Proxy to Serbia and Montenegro (SCG)
MONACO	MON	Not represented
THE NETHERLANDS	NED	Mr J. R. NIEUKERKE Mr Mattys E. HUIZING
NORTHERN IRELAND	NIR	Proxy to England (ENG)
NORWAY	NOR	Mrs Torill FALEIDE Mr Arne-Morten KNUTSEN
POLAND	POL	Mr Andrzej KISZCZAK Mr Wojciech CZAYKA
PORTUGAL	POR	Mr T. DE CARVALHO Mr M. DE C. PEREIRA
ROMANIA	ROM	Mr Gheorghe VISAN / Mr Viorel MANOLE
RUSSIA	RUS	Mr Valentin ZHUKOV Mr S. SHEVCHENKO
SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO	SCG	Mr Slobodan MILOSEVIC Mr D. DROBNJAK
SCOTLAND	SCO	Ms. Margaret Ann FLEMING
SLOVENIA	SLO	Mr Igor DOLINSEK
SAN MARINO	SMR	Mr Paolo RONDELLI
SWITZERLAND	SUI	Mr Christoph STERN
SLOVAKIA	SVK	Mr Lubor HALANDA / Mr Tomas SINGER
SWEDEN	SWE	Mrs Agneta ELMEGARD Mr Bengt WICKSELL
TURKEY	TUR	Mr Erol Ünal KARABIYIK/Mr Mehmet CAKMAK
UKRAINE	UKR	Mr Volodymyr TUROVSKYY
WALES	WAL	Not represented

Opening of the XXVII General Assembly

Welcome Address by the CEV President, Mr André MEYER



FIVB President Ruben Acosta and CEV President André Meyer shaking hands at the 2006 CEV General Assembly in Luxembourg City

“Dear Dr ACOSTA, Mr FUSENIG, Government Commissioner of Physical Education and Sports, Mr THEISEN, President of the National Olympic Committee, Dear Delegates, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen,

On behalf of the Confédération Européenne de Volleyball and its Board of Administration, I am delighted to welcome you back to Luxembourg on the occasion of our XXVII General Assembly.

This congress will provide the opportunity to take stock of the activities of the newly-composed managing bodies, our

commissions and working groups. Immediately after the elections in Rome in 2005, we started to plan the activities of our sports organisation very carefully. In this regard, we already generated in November 2005, in close collaboration with the presidents of each of our commission, a 'Master Plan 2006-2009'. This guideline lays down the principle tasks and objectives in order to bring our federation closer together and to galvanise our sport in Europe.

The season 2005/06 has already confirmed our credo proven by the performances of our athletes and the high quality of your organisations. The final round of the Men's European Championships 2005 in Serbia & Montenegro and Italy, with more than 530 hours of TV coverage and half a million of spectators are the perfect example for your outstanding commitment. The common success achieved by the cities of Belgrade and Rome, thanks to an exceptional preparation, will always stay in our memories as prime example for perfection, professionalism, passion and performance.

The success of volleyball and Beach Volleyball along with the achievements of our athletes, clubs and national federations will be treated in detail in the activity report 2005. You will see that it is perfectly in line with our common ambition, which is to develop the attractiveness and popularity of our sport. We should make every endeavour to analyse every potential future road to success in order to be able to efficiently respond to all structural, economic and sportive challenges of tomorrow.

Following key factors will have to be analysed within the next years:

- Harmonisation of competition calendars
- Political fragmentation of certain European countries
- Training of modest national federations
- Creation of new solidarity, financial and sportive principles
- Free mobility of the athletes and the legal expression of our sport in Europe
- Positioning of Volleyball and Beach Volleyball on TV
- Dynamism of our institutions and their structural challenges

Many more subjects need all our attention and I am looking forward to examining them and solving all problems for the benefit of our sport in close collaboration with my colleagues from the Board of Administration and the commissions as well with the support of your federation.

I would like this General Assembly to process in this spirit opening a bright future for our sport and a harmonised development of our respective institutions. Based on the excellent results

which you will find in the different reports, we are looking forward to further developing a strong and solidly united institution.

The united institution is the most important goal we have to achieve in the close future. I know that you as federations have recently been contacted by some people trying to put trouble in our institutions. I strongly advise you not to follow this lead, but to follow what we have achieved together in the past. This will be the basis for our common future.

Thank you.”

Welcome Speech by the Government Commissioner of Physical Education in Sports, Mr Guy FUSENIG

“Dear Mr MEYER, President of the European Volleyball Confederation, Dear Dr ACOSTA, President of the International Volleyball Federation, Dear Mr THEISEN, President of the National Olympic Committee, Dear Delegates,

On behalf of the Ministry of Sports, I am very glad to be with you this morning for the opening ceremony of the General Assembly here in Luxembourg. Our minister, Mr Jeannot KRECKE, will be with you later this afternoon as indicated in the program. This morning at 10 o'clock, he is inaugurating the Foire just a short distance away from where we are.

I am therefore attending in his place this morning, and wish you a good stay in Luxembourg for your General Assembly and appendixes working sessions.

4 years ago, I was already here with you for the CEV General Assembly in 2002. At the time, we discussed the future move and new location of the European Volleyball Confederation, and thanks to Mr MEYER and his team, the inauguration of these new offices took place in February 2005. This year marks 16 years already that the confederation has been in Luxembourg, and with Mr MEYER as President and with the assistance of everyone else working for the European Volleyball Confederation, I have high beliefs that CEV will continue to do a lot for Volleyball as a sport and education, and will continue to set a good example for other sports.

And so with this in mind, I wish you a good General Assembly and a pleasant stay here in Luxembourg.

Thank you for your attention.”

Welcome Speech by the President of the National Olympic Committee, Mr Marc THEISEN

“Dear Mr President, Dear Mr FUSENIG, Distinguished guests, Dear Delegates,

I am happy to welcome you here in Luxembourg on the occasion of your General Assembly. Like Mr FUSENIG, I was already present during your last General Assembly in Luxembourg 4 years ago.

There are two reasons to be very proud today about the European Volleyball Confederation. Firstly, the Head Office has been here in Luxembourg since 1988, and with the new relocation last year, we can all be assured that CEV will continue to be successful with its important work. Secondly, the National Olympic Committee as well as all sports authorities in Luxembourg are very proud and happy to welcome next year in Luxembourg the Senior Women European Championships Finals. I know first-hand that the preparation for this event are moving right along and I am convinced that next year's European Championships in Belgium and Luxembourg will be a success.

I also want to add that the Volleyball Confederation in Luxembourg is a very important institution for us to have. They are doing a very good job and I can ensure that we have always



had excellent relations with Mr MEYER, whether it is now as CEV President or before when he was President of the Luxembourgish Volleyball Federation.

With that said, I wish you a very good congress today and look forward to joining you tonight at the Official Closing Dinner.

Thank you.”

Welcome Speech by the President of the International Volleyball Federation Dr Rubén ACOSTA H.

“Dear President of the National Olympic Committee, Dear Commissioner of Sports and Education, Mr André MEYER, President of the European Volleyball Confederation, Delegates of the European National Federations, Dear Colleagues and Friends,

First of all, I would like to thank you all for your invitation to attend this General Assembly on the eve of the 68th anniversary of the FIVB. This is an excellent opportunity for you and for me to take a good look at the global vision that we have conceived together for our sport, and to respond to the questions you may have about what the FIVB is doing to maintain and consolidate Volleyball on its present successful course that is helping National Federation to be better perceived in their own countries, and the Confederations to have a dynamic image in the world of continental sports, and the FIVB to be recognised as a major protagonist in the world of sports.

National Federations, Continental Confederations and FIVB, we are doing our best to achieve the dreams of many generations before us. We have to succeed, and we have done it at our respective levels in enhancing and positioning Volleyball as a highly competitive sport for spectators, and selling to the public, the media and the sponsors directly all through marketing agencies by means of on-court publicity, hospitality lunches and other public relations and other promotional activities. We have not neglected the grass root activities either, such as the school programs, regional and zonal competitions, in accordance with our programs of affiliated partners, school sport organisations, regional associations or governmental institutions. We have concentrated most of our time and resources on activities leading to having a maximum spectator attendance in our events, to concentrate to improve the match results and the information world-wide. And we have already many comments printed on the front pages of newspapers in Europe and on other continents.

TV coverage is one of our most important tool in events such as the European League, World Championships, World League, Grand Prix, etc. They have better TV coverage than ever, because our sport has reached maturity. We have established a business partnership with professional promoters who know how to sell events. National Federations, Confederations and the FIVB, we have succeeded in selling the sports events, negotiating the sponsorship contracts and TV broadcasting contracts and whenever possible, we have associated our respective organisations with professionals in sports marketing, keeping for ourselves the control of technical and organisational affairs. And the proof of this is that some of the most successful Beach Volleyball events we have around the World is the Klagenfurt tournament in Austria. We have very proud of this achievement by the Austrian Federation and the promoter Mr Hannes Jagerhofer. He will receive a recognition from FIVB in Tokyo, because we are the highest Volleyball authority in Volleyball world-wide. In one continent where people are succeeding, we immediately go and recognise the work done and offer our support. We know we have different tasks to accomplish in the years to come. All the success we are enjoying today has brought our sport serious grievances, and from internal politics, financial abuses, and exaggerated personal ambitions of a few dishonest people that after the advice of our lawyers, and with the unanimous agreement of the FIVB Executive Committee and Board of Administration, we had to dismiss. Some of you could have been deceived by such dishonest people, some others might not. But I am certain that all of you would like to have a clear picture of the dangers that we have just overcome and understand how fortunate the FIVB has been

in discovering this plot. This plot was discovered in due time to prevent more serious damage to the future of our organisation.

Mr André MEYER and myself have discussed the situation, and in order to have the European federations better informed, we decided to invite Mr Cristobal MARTE HOFFIZ, Member of the FIVB Finance Commission and FIVB Executive Vice-President, to brief you on this delicate situation. When we decided to dismiss these people, we knew the risks we were taking. When we decided to remain loyal to the principles approved by the Board of Administration, in the case of the Argentinean GOJMAN, FIVB decided not to enter in negotiations with him because we are not here to compromise with the truth.

I have expressed previously the sports associations need a leader ready to face new challenges and deploy their activities or even the hardships of today's social and human conditions. The FIVB is an efficient structure managed in accordance with the decisions of its governing institutions. I want to hear very clearly by some people that have been expressing criticisms to FIVB without having ever attending one single meeting of our Congress or Board of Administration. For those people, I can tell them that we do not need lessons from anyone about democracy, honesty, responsibility or any other value. Our organisation has the strictest Code of Conduct, and an efficient decision-making process, and this process can start with the input of just one single National Federation, followed by discussions in the commissions, continued by the Executive meeting and Board of Administration. And whenever needed, we go to the Congress for the Congress to make the final decision. If this is not democracy, then we do not know what democracy could be!

I have no doubt that we share the same principles, ideas and objectives, with which we make our sport more competitive and reliable each day, and which make our solidarity more effectively contribute to the bringing of Volleyball sports leaders together in the pursuit of making Volleyball a professional, dynamic and popular sport with the media in Europe and in all other continents.

Thank you for your kind attention and support."

Setting up of the XXVII General Assembly's Office

Record of Attendance

Upon completion of the nominative call against the record of attendance at the beginning of the congress:

- 51 federations are found present or validly represented,
- 3 federations are absent or not validly represented.

Appointment of four Members of the Credentials Checking Commission

The following delegates were designated as Members of the Credential Checking Commission:

Ms. Agneta ELMEGARD (SWE)

Ms. Margaret Ann FLEMING (SCO)

Mr Sandor HOBOTH (HUN)

Mr Dimitris PROCOPIOU (CYP)

There being no objection, the General Assembly unanimously confirms the appointment of the above CEV officials / delegates of federation as members of the Credentials Checking Commission.



Report of the Credentials Checking Commission

Mr Aloys FISCHER (SUI), Chairman of the Credentials Checking Commission, explains that all delegates were controlled during the Accreditations procedure and the results were submitted to the Credential Checking Commission.

Mrs Margaret Ann FLEMING (SCO) takes the floor and confirms that out of the 54 member federations, 51 federations (= 94% of all CEV member federations) are present or validly represented in this General Assembly. 6 countries have designated a representative by proxy.

The condition lay down in Art. 5.2 - § 3 of the CEV Statutes - at least two thirds of the federations must be present or represented - is fulfilled.

The total number of votes amounting 51, the absolute majority stands at 26.

The following 3 federations, neither present nor validly represented by proxy, are considered as officially absent: Gibraltar (GIB) - Monaco (MON) - Wales (WAL)

Before moving on to the working points of the Agenda, Mr MEYER thanks all the delegates for their presence and acknowledges the absence of Mr Aadu LUUKAS, President of the EST Federation, who passed away unexpectedly just a few days before the Congress. In his memory, the General Assembly respects a minute of silence.

Approval of the Agenda

Mr MEYER, CEV President, informs the General Assembly that no amendments to the Agenda were received.

There being no objections or comments, the Agenda of the XXVII General Assembly is approved.

Approval of the Minutes of the XXVI General Assembly in Rome (ITA)

In the absence of any written or oral remarks, the Minutes of the XXVI General Assembly held on 14th September 2005 in Rome (ITA) are unanimously approved and adopted.

CEV Activity Report 2005/2006 By the CEV President, Mr André MEYER (LUX)

"Dear Dr ACOSTA, Dear Honorary Members, Dear Board of Administration members, Dear Delegates of the national federations, Dear Distinguished Guests,

European Volleyball can be proud to add some more beautiful pages to its history with the season 2005/06 confirmed by the excellent performances of our athletes, the compliance with our management plan and a very healthy financial situation.

On behalf of the Board of Administration, I congratulate every federation on its work, which is the basis of our success. Thanks to you, Europe has again made big progresses in the hierarchy of team sports on its territory and continues to set the benchmark in the world of Volleyball.

The confederation is proud to share this success with the FIVB with which we have always maintained an efficient dialogue, also in precarious moments. I sincerely thank the FIVB and especially Dr Ruben ACOSTA, FIVB President, for this precious collaboration.

Dear Mr President, I personally want to express my gratitude for always listening to our concerns and caring for the needs of our institution as well as for your efforts to solve the problems we encounter every now and then. You can be assured that Europe is standing solidly behind you and wishes to be at your side when the FIVB is celebrating future successes. I am sure that the congress in Tokyo will be the next occasion. CEV has 54

federation which are with FIVB and CEV will have 55 federations supporting the FIVB after the Congress in Tokyo.

Among the numerous achievements in Volleyball and Beach Volleyball during the past season, I only would like to mention the most outstanding success.

The outstanding organisation of the men's European championships in Belgrade and in Rome crowned by the success of the teams of Italy, Russia and Serbia and Montenegro. The women's championships, with a more modest audience, have, for the second time, been marked by the excellent performance of the Polish team followed by Italy and Russia. We are also proud to report that 310 hours of matches were broadcasted for the Men event and 226 hours for the Women. 7 Men's teams and 6 Women's teams have directly qualified for the next edition of the Senior European Championships 2007, with Final Rounds in Moscow and Luxembourg respectively.

The Indesit European Champions League 2005/2006 marked some impressive growths in terms of broadcasting, with over 500 matches broadcasted for the Men and 320 for the Women, constituting an increase of 31% and 42% respectively. The final rounds of the Indesit European Champions League in Cannes and Rome, both prepared with much passion and professionalism by the federations of France and Italy, were a sensational spectacle won by teams of Foppapedretti BERGAMO and Sisley TREVISO. The 2006/07 season will be played for the first time with 24 teams for the Men and 16 teams for the Women competition. Apart from the impressive prize money of more than 1 million euros, the number of spectators also increased significantly. 350 thousand people watched the matches live onsite and over 60 million viewers followed the 1400 hours of TV broadcasting of the matches.

During the finals of the Austrian Airlines Top Teams Cup, women's Top Team Cup as well as the CEV Cup men and women, which were perfectly organised by the federations of Russia, Spain and Italy, the latter confirmed its supremacy with the victories of Lube MACERATA, Copra PIACENZA, Sant'Orsola NOVARA and Scavolini PESARO. In the season 2005/06, a total of 198 teams participated in the European cups. As innovation for the 2007/08 season, new regulations and a new ranking system have been adopted in order to develop these competitions further and make them more attractive.

The 2006 European League played again this year with 8 teams (CRO, ESP, EST, GER, GRE, NED, SVK and TUR) was crowned by the victory of the Dutch team in the Final Four tournament played in Izmir (TUR). Croatia and Greece won the 2nd and 3rd place. All matches of the Final Four were broadcasted on Eurosport, leading to a total of 52 hours of TV coverage followed by 18.5 million spectators.

Junior European Championships Finals were also played in 2006. The men's finals played in Kazan (RUS) were clearly dominated by the domestic Russian team, followed by France and Italy, whereas in the women's finals in St. Dié (FRA), Italy convinced with a strong performance, relegating Croatia to the 2nd place followed by Ukraine on the 3rd.

The European qualification tournament for the FIVB World Grand Prix 2007 was disputed in Varna (BUL) with the teams of BUL, ITA, NED, POL, RUS, SCG and TUR being the contenders for the much desired tickets. Russia, The Netherlands, Italy and Poland finally ensured their participation for next year. All matches were broadcasted live on Eurosport.

The growing success of the Nestea European Championship Tour is owed to our partner Global Sports Marketing and the hosting federations Turkey, Spain, Switzerland, Germany and Russia. Thanks to this efficient partnership, the Confédération Européenne de Volleyball can be proud to offer a high quality circuit to their athletes, which was attended by no less than 279 teams in the 2006 season. A competition calendar developed in close collaboration with the FIVB as well as a total prize money of 750,000 EUR make the Championship Tour a truly attractive Beach Volleyball event.



In the Nestea European Championships Final in The Hague (NED), the German men's team BRINK / DIECKMANN and the women's team SHIRYAEVA / URYADOVA convinced with strong performances.

European Beach Volleyball in the junior and youth categories is also constantly progressing. Three championships have been organised by the federations of Austria (U23), Slovenia (U20) and Slovakia (U18).

These outstanding results are owed to the significant and convincing performances of the European teams in worldwide competitions. 27 teams have participated in the qualifications for the World Championships and 35 in the women's category. This equals a European share of 35% in the men's and 37% in the women's competition out of all participating teams. I take this opportunity to congratulate the European National Federations for their efforts and support of the qualification process put in force by FIVB, and express our happiness for this European contribution to a worldwide event.

Moreover, we should not forget to mention the improvements made in the field of management, which has also marked the previous season in an exceptional way.

In terms of presence in the media and on television, our sport could be seen during 2,173 hours of transmission on the European TV screens. In total, Volleyball and Beach Volleyball were brought into the homes of 1,123,415,000 potential viewers via more than 61 European TV channels.

In addition, our institution has again confirmed its financial health and closes the accounts 2005 with significant profits. An encouraging result representing the progress of the CEV within the field of sponsoring and TV rights, which enables us already today to ensure 98% of the expenses related to our competitions with the benefits made by the Marketing Department.

In order to support our National Federations and to improve our cooperation, the Confédération Européenne de Volleyball offers regular seminars, such as the 2006 Refereeing Seminar organised in Brno (CZE) with 55 person from 37 federations present, and the 2nd General Secretaries' Seminar held on 13th October 2006 in the presence of 39 persons from 35 National Federations.

New challenges are also being faced and mastered. A new competition system for our European Cups is about to be created and will, I am sure, galvanise the future participation of teams from every federation. Following the example of the UEFA or the European Handball Federation, a ranking system for the federations will be introduced which will allocate the places in the European Cup competitions in the season 2007/08. Within the frame of national competitions, a new competitive dimension will be tested in 2007 with the first European Championships for veterans in Greece.

The Confédération Européenne de Volleyball has proven to be able to live up to the structural demands of modern sports: close to its partners, federations and FIVB, and thanks to an ongoing, active dialogue, showing more solidarity with growing investments for the benefit of our competitions and federations and increased professionalism with acknowledged competence.

I hope that this vision and our ambitions correspond to the expectations of our partners and wish the best of success for European Volleyball and Beach Volleyball.

Let us enjoy an excellent congress and lead fruitful discussions. Thank you for your attention."

The complete presentation can be found appendixes to these minutes (Appendix I).

In the absence of any questions or comments, the report presented by Mr André MEYER is adopted and approved.

Report of the Administrative Audit of the FIVB Accounts by Mr Cristobàl MARTE HOFFIZ, FIVB Executive Vice-President

Before giving the floor to Mr Cristobàl MARTE HOFFIZ, FIVB Executive Vice-President and Member of the FIVB Finance Commission, Mr MEYER underlines the excellent work accomplished by Mr MARTE HOFFIZ in surveying the problems recently faced by the FIVB. The results of these investigations were shared in the scope of the FIVB Executive Committee and Board of Administration meetings and were supported with strong evidence and proofs that could not be refuted.

The delegates present at the CEV General Assembly in Luxembourg are the first to officially see those results and be informed in details of the reasons that led FIVB to dismiss Mr Jean-Pierre SEPPEY, former FIVB General Manager, and other dishonest former FIVB employees. Finally, Mr MEYER underlines the necessity to respect the confidentiality of the information shared.

Mr Cristobal MARTE HOFFIZ takes the floor and thanks Mr MEYER and the CEV Board of Administration for giving the FIVB the opportunity to speak in front of the General Assembly and present the report and administrative audit of Mr Jean-Pierre SEPPEY's activities to the delegates present.

Mr MARTE HOFFIZ explains that Mr SEPPEY has been distributing false and defamatory information about the FIVB and its President. The report and administrative audit will provide the delegates with the results of the administrative audits ordered immediately after the dismissal of Mr SEPPEY in August 2005, based on documents and evidence that are filed in folders made available to the delegates for viewing.

Mr MARTE HOFFIZ then proceeds with a PowerPoint presentation highlighting all the facts related to the employment of Mr SEPPEY at the FIVB and his financial activities.

Mr SEPPEY was hired on February 1st, 2001. He was given authorisations to sign payments up to a certain limit, which was raised after the FIVB President, Dr ACOSTA fell ill and relied on Mr SEPPEY to manage the day-to-day administrative activities. From the moment Mr SEPPEY's limits were raised and his responsibilities within FIVB increased, Mr SEPPEY authorised payments that were not in compliance with FIVB and allowed himself ever-increasing personal expenses such as credit card purchases and vacations. The total amount embezzled by Mr SEPPEY reached 4,689,210 CHF. His fraudulent activities and dishonesty were finally discovered and Mr SEPPEY was dismissed on 17th August 2005. The case is now being handled in court in Lausanne.

Mr MARTE HOFFIZ once again thanks CEV for the opportunity to make this presentation and thanks the General Assembly for its attention.

Dr Rubén ACOSTA just wishes to add that Mr Jean-Pierre SEPPEY did not act alone and that the people who helped him were dismissed. He also explains that two professional certified accountants were hired the previous year and are in charge of tightly controlling all expenses and incomes, and that Ernst & Young was hired for the external audits of the FIVB accounts.

Finally, he underlines the importance of working together and staying united and encourages all National Delegations to fight for their rights and support the institution they are all a part of.

Financial Report

Financial Report – Accounts 2005 by CEV Treasurer, Mr Philip BERBEN (BEL)

Mr Philip BERBEN, CEV Treasurer, announces that 2005 was a good year for CEV. CEV has a benefit of 915,514 EUR, corresponding to a decrease of 14% fewer expenses than foreseen in the budget.



Mr BERBEN takes a few figures from the financial report printed in the handbook to explain some of the extra expenses which were incurred by CEV, such as the travel costs of the Board of Administration in June 2005, the organisation of meetings in Luxembourg and the costs of travel insurance for all CEV officials and referees.

Mr BERBEN takes this opportunity to underline that the budget allocated to the travel insurance will be increased in 2007 based on a decision to offer insurance to all athletes and officials participating in CEV official Volleyball competitions.

Concerning the increase of 26% percent noted in the European Cups, Mr BERBEN explains that CEV has been investing more money in these competitions seeing their value and importance. More marketing and sponsoring contracts have been signed, the prize money has been increased, and CEV has been contributing money in supporting travel expenses and other costs directly benefiting the teams participating.

Only 55% of the money allocated to the new projects and media activities was used in 2005. However, the amount allocated will quadruple over the next few years to support the development of the new CEV Corporate Identity and database.

To summarise the expenses, Mr BERBEN reminds the delegates that CEV thoroughly calculates the return of investment by evaluating it in relation to the sponsoring income, thus keeping a straight balance between the expenses and incomes.

Concerning the incomes recorded in 2005, Mr BERBEN once again underlines the policy of CEV to gain income not from the National Federations but from outside sources through marketing contracts and sponsorships.

However, he remarks that the income resulting from the sanctions and fines paid by the National Federations in 2005 amounted to 127,000 EUR ! Mr BERBEN also explains this figure is brought down to 0 EUR in the 2007 budget, and encourages all National Federations to comply with the CEV regulations and guidelines in order to keep this balance to a minimum and save themselves some unnecessary fines.

Other significant incomes could be seen in the European Championships with the organisation of the European League and FIVB Grand Prix Qualifications, as well as in the Beach Volleyball circuit. Mr BERBEN underlines the great results obtained in Beach Volleyball competitions in 2005 thanks to a good collaboration with CEV's partner Global Sports Marketing, and is happy to report that Beach Volleyball is at last in a stable situation financially.

Overall, 2005 was a very good financial year for CEV with a net income of over 900,000 EUR.

Details of the different expenses and incomes for 2005 can be found in the appendixes to these minutes (Appendix II).

Before asking the General Assembly to approve the above report, Mr BERBEN gives the floor to the Internal Auditors.

Internal Audit Report by Mr Leo DADEMA (NED) and Mr Jacob SHTOFMAN

Before reading the Internal Audit Report, Mr Leo DADEMA acknowledges the presence of Mr Michel HENNO at the General Assembly despite health problems which kept him from being present at the audit in April 2006.

"Dear Dr ACOSTA, Dear Mr President, Dear Members of the Board of Administration, Dear National Delegates,

We, the undersigned, Jacob SHTOFMAN and Leo DADEMA, have audited on 29th March 2006 the accounts of the CEV over the year 2005. We especially focused on the major accounts.

We sincerely thank Mr André MEYER, CEV President, Mr Philip BERBEN, CEV Senior Vice-President and Treasurer, Mr Olivier MOTTIER, CEV Executive Director, and particularly Mrs Sylvie COLLIGNON, in charge of the bookkeeping at the CEV Head Office, for their assistance and explanations during our assignment.

During our working session, we also met Mr Marco CLAUDE, Director of Lux-Audit Révision S.à.r.l., in charge of the 2005 CEV external audit.

We controlled the bank statements and made the comparison between the results and the adopted budget.

We also checked invoices using the random method.

The bookkeeping of the different transactions and the running of the financial accounts are carried out according to the rules, with the required precision and clearness.

We would like to make the following remarks:

The operating profit amounts in 2005 to 915,539.92 EUR: an increase of 106% compared to the accounts 2004 (444,551.82 EUR) and of 30% compared to the foreseen budget (702,990 EUR).

We consider the balance sheet as solid.

As mentioned before, we investigated some of the major accounts like:

An increase of 43,5% of the 2005 sponsorships, which amounts to 2,395,281 EUR compared to the accounts 2004 (1,668,736 EUR).

The increase of expenditures to 40% according to the budget of the European Cups and to 55% according to the budget of the European Championships was explained by Mr André MEYER, CEV President: such an increase of expenditures always depends on and is decided upon the analysis of the final revenues accounted (+ 22% for European Cups and + 64% for European Championships), as it is very difficult to foresee the exact values at the moment of creating the budget. It is important to mention that CEV, for the establishment of the budgets, is only taking into account the already signed contracts or financial guarantees.

Mr MEYER, CEV President, also explained to us that the criteria for the final attribution of the IECL Prize Money depends on the final accounted CEV income and is always decided by the Executive Committee or the Board of Administration after the financial negotiations with the sponsors have been concluded and after the global financial analysis of the related competition has been evaluated.

CEV financial support attributed to European Championships, as Mr MEYER confirmed us, is also a matter of income and is decided by the Board of Administration. Based on the budget foreseen, the CEV negotiates then these supports with the national federations appointed, taking into account the various organisational and potential marketing costs of each federative partner.

Another point of our concern was the control of the financial investment made by CEV in July 2005.

Facts:

- CEV makes a net deposit of 2,700,000 EUR in a special fund in July 2005.
- The value on 31.12.2005 which appears on the balance sheet is 2,558,229 EUR.

Fortis Banque Luxembourg S.A. however guarantees CEV for 100% on the mentioned deposit. The final profit however will be known at the end of the contract in 2009. In February 2006, we expect the first payment of interests as they are due only every 6 months. Mr MEYER showed us the contract with Fortis Banque Luxembourg S.A. which contains the mentioned guarantee to make it possible for us to inform the General Assembly correctly.



We might however have a problem when CEV wants to take out a part/the total of the investment before the end of the contract because, in this case, the final payment will depend on the rate of that moment and can be positive or negative.

A value adjustment has been made for the remaining debt of 137,500 EUR due by a 2003/2004 IECL sponsor: the Italian company SPORTSITE PULEO, which paid in 2005 12,500 EUR. CEV is actually to the court regarding this matter (see our remark N°4 of last year).

Furthermore, we asked for the adjustment of two wordings in the balance sheet.

The outstanding debt amounting to a total of 75,000 EUR (TV Rights), as underlined in our report of last year, has been paid for.

Considering the above remarks, we propose to the CEV General Assembly to approve the accounts and to unburden the persons in charge.”

INTERVENTION BY MR ANDRÉ MEYER, CEV PRESIDENT

Concerning point 4 of this report, Mr MEYER wishes to underline that there will not be any problems with the investment made by CEV and that interests have started to get paid. He also explains that this placement concerns money that is not needed by CEV in the near future and therefore will not need to be taken out.

Concerning point 5 of the report, Mr MEYER confirms that this problem is currently handled by a court in Italy and that a solution to recover the debts owed by Sportsite Puleo should be found by the end of the year. A first instalment was already paid in 2006, and the remaining balance plus interests should hopefully be paid soon.

Mr DADEMA, Mr HENNO and Mr SHTOFMAN agree to continue in their function as CEV Internal Auditors for the coming year. The General Assembly approves with loud applause.

External Audit Report - Accounts 2005 by CEV Treasurer, Mr Philip BERBEN (BEL)

As foreseen in the CEV Statutes and Luxembourg’s legislation, all CEV accounts were also submitted to an external audit by Lux-Audit Revision in Luxembourg. Mr Marco Claude, External Auditor for CEV, made the following report:

“Following our appointment, we have audited the accompanying annual accounts and the statement of changes in financial position of the Confédération Européenne de Volleyball a.s.b.l for the year ending December 31st, 2005. These annual accounts are the responsibility of the Board of Administration. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these annual accounts and on the statements of changes in financial position based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the annual accounts are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the annual accounts. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made, as well as evaluating the overall annual accounts presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the attached annual accounts give, in conformity with the Luxembourg legal and regulatory requirements, a true and fair view of the financial position as of December 31st, 2005, of changes in financial position and of the results of its operations for the year that ended of Confédération Européenne de Volleyball a.s.b.l. “

Mr Marco Claude, External Auditor, Lux-Audit Révision Sarl.

This external audit by Lux-Audit Révision was made in agreement with the FIVB. However, starting with the 2006 accounts, the external audits will be conducted by Ernst & Young to follow the lead of FIVB.

In the absence of any questions or comments, the Financial Report of the 2005 accounts (Item 7.1), the Internal Audit Report (Item 7.2) and External Audit Report (Item 7.3) are unanimously approved and adopted by the CEV General Assembly.

Budget 2007 by CEV Treasurer, Mr Philip BERBEN (BEL)

Before going over the different figures communicated in the Official Handbook, Mr BERBEN explains that CEV's budget is always based on numbers from the previous year, but taking into consideration new projects or situations as well, thus presenting figures that are always realistic.

Mr BERBEN then proceeds to explain a few figures that are standing out:

Travel Insurance: the budget foreseen for travel insurance is over 5 times higher than the previous year because CEV is planning to extend the travel insurance services to all athletes and officials.

Prestigious Events: A 50,000 EUR budget has also been allocated to this account as CEV plans to invite guests and partners in Luxembourg on the occasion of the Finals of the Senior Women European Championships. This will be a perfect opportunity for networking and promoting Volleyball.

EU Cups – Prize Money: Based on the figures from the previous years, CEV estimates a minimum amount for prize money. This amount is however not fixed and subject to increases pending on the contracts to be signed.

CEV Corporate Identity: CEV plans to develop a new Corporate Identity to make the institution and its competitions more attractive

All other figures are calculated on known facts and numbers from the previous year and are not subject to any major changes.

INTERVENTION BY MR ANDRÉ MEYER, CEV PRESIDENT

Mr MEYER explains that over the past few years, CEV has worked hard to develop its competitions and position Volleyball in Europe. However, CEV has an institution still struggles to find its place in the world of sports and marketing.

With this in mind, CEV has hired a company to conduct a European-wide analysis of volleyball in Europe including full figures and statistics, which will help it position itself on the market and make Volleyball more attractive to the sponsors and media. These results should be available by the end of the year 2006 and will serve as basis for developing new strategies in the future. This development plan also includes the creation a new Corporate Identity, including a new logo that will galvanise the image of the CEV.

INTERVENTION BY MR VALENTIN ZHUKOV (RUS)

In the opinion of Mr ZHUKOV, the Nestea Beach Volleyball Championship Tour is not bringing in as much income as it possibly could and that CEV and GSM should work harder to increase the income in Beach Volleyball. He also adds that the National Federations are required to cover certain expenses that Mr ZHUKOV deems unnecessary.

Mr MEYER explains that CEV signed a new agreement with GSM for the next 5 years in which both parties commonly agreed that CEV could control the financial impact of the competition. Additionally, Mr MEYER reminds the National Federations that they should read the contracts in detail before signing, and should point out to CEV any conditions or costs that they do not deem appropriate.



INTERVENTION BY MR GIL PELLAN (FRA)

Mr PELLAN expresses his satisfaction over the transparency and positive results of CEV and appreciates the goals of CEV to further develop Beach Volleyball. However, he regrets that CEV mainly focuses on the event and spectacular aspect of the discipline instead of invest more money into developing the practice and interest of the youth for Beach Volleyball in Europe by supporting the National Federations in their work. He also underlines the need to develop the educational side of the sport rather than the competitive one.

Mr BERBEN understands the position of the RUS and FRA federations and the request to develop Beach Volleyball further, but explains that until recently, CEV had been faced with problems in Beach Volleyball which made it really difficult to invest more money into these competitions, but that the situation should change based on the new better financial and contractual conditions.

Mr MEYER also points out that in the 2005 accounts, there was an income reported which corresponded to the payment of organiser fees by the organisers. In the 2007 budget, that income is gone and replaced by expenses, meaning that CEV is no longer asking for organiser fees but providing financial support, which constitute a first step towards helping the National Federations develop Beach Volleyball.

In the absence of any further question or remark, the 2007 budget is unanimously approved.

Mr BERBEN thanks Mr MEYER for his work in marketing and for facilitating the work of the Financial Commission. He also thanks the Internal Auditors, Mr Leo DADEMA, Mr Michel HENNO and Mr Jacob SHTOFMAN for their expertise and advice. Finally, he thanks the CEV Staff and more particularly Mr Olivier MOTTIER, CEV Executive Director, and Mrs Sylvie COLLIGNON, Bookkeeper, for their hard work and continued collaboration.

CEV Commission Reports

European Beach Volleyball Commission

President: Mr Stefan POTYKA (AUT)

As an introduction to his presentation, Mr Stefan POTYKA briefly introduces his 6 colleagues from the European Beach Volleyball Commission and Mr Jeff BREHAUT, ERC Representative, who greatly assisted the commission with refereeing matters in Beach Volleyball.

He then makes a brief report of the Nestea European Championship Tour which was composed in 2006 of 5 masters in Turkey, Germany, Russia, Spain and Switzerland, on the finals in The Netherlands. This competition proved highly successful both in terms of participation and interest of the public and media, and a total of 700,000 EUR in prize money was paid to the players.

Mr POTYKA also points out the work of Global Sports Marketing over the past few years in helping develop the Nestea European Championship Tour promotionally and organisationally and make it into the successful event it is today. He agrees with the comments made earlier in that CEV has now reached a point where it is necessary to analyse the possibilities for the future. Although the promotion and media awareness have been very well developed, it is now necessary to focus on the local organisation of the events and better support the hosting National Federations in organising, but also promoting not just the Tour but the sport as a whole in Europe.

He also explains that his commission is working on improving the ranking system in Beach Volleyball in order to not only guarantee that the best players are participating in the tournaments, but also to reflect the performances and value of each team.

Youth Championships were also successfully organised in Bratislava (SVK) for the U-18, in Ankaran (SLO) for the U-20 and in St-Pölten (AUT) for the U-23. He especially underlines the great work accomplished by the Slovakian federation in Bratislava and the exceptional presence of the public in the city-centre stadium despite the absence of the local team in the semi-finals and finals.

The Beach Volleyball Commission will be looking to further promote Beach Volleyball in the Youth category, to develop more playing opportunities for the young players and to encourage their transition into the senior level.

Mr POTYKA encourages all National Federations who have not yet organised a Beach Volleyball event to consider hosting an event such as a Beach Cup for example which would not only close the gap between the junior and senior competitions, but also encourage the development and promotion of Beach Volleyball in their country.

Concerning covered beach volleyball which was already mentioned in the 2005 General Assembly and is aimed to benefit climatically challenged countries, a framework has been defined but will need to be approved by the CEV Board of Administration. Mr POTYKA also underlines that one of the advantages of Covered Beach Volleyball is the possibility it offers to teams to practice their discipline in the winter, and encourages National Federations to support this possibility by hosting covered tournaments.

Additionally, the commission is aiming at creating a calendar of junior competitions which would serve as preparation for the Championships and facilitate the communication flow in Europe to allow players to participate in competitions in other countries.

Finally, Mr POTYKA is happy to report that refereeing in Beach Volleyball really improved over the past year thanks to the collaboration of the European Refereeing Commission.

To conclude a short video produced by GSM and highlighting the European Championship Tour is shown.

Mr MEYER thanks Mr POTYKA and his commission for their work and underlines the progress made in Beach Volleyball and in the Nestea European Championship Tour more particularly. He also acknowledges the ambitious program drafted for the next few years and reiterates the necessity to further develop Beach Volleyball for the Youth.

The complete EBVC presentation can be found appendixes to these minutes (Appendix III).

INTERVENTION BY DR RUBÉN ACOSTA H., FIVB PRESIDENT

Dr ACOSTA underlines the importance to pay attention to the venues where Beach Volleyball is played and to respect the fact that Beach Volleyball is initially a sport to be played outdoors and in good weather conditions. Although covered beach volleyball indeed offers possibilities to play indoors during the colder months or in regions where the weather is not ideal, it goes against the essence of the discipline and could damage the whole image of Beach Volleyball as a “sky, sun and sand” sport.

He therefore recommends limiting indoor activities to training during the winter months, but keeping Beach Volleyball competitions outside in the summer.

In the absence of any further remark, the report presented by the European Beach Volleyball Commission is adopted and approved.

European Cups Commission

President: Mrs Riet OOMS (NED)

Following the detail activity report printed in the Handbook, Mrs OOMS only made a brief summary of her commission’s activities since the written report was submitted in June 2006:

- Meeting of the commission on 16th June 2006



- Drawing of Lots for the Top Teams Cup and CEV Cup on 17th June 2006
- Drawing of Lots for the Indesit European Champions League and Gala on 23rd June 2006
- IECL Seminars on 23rd – 24th June 2006

Meeting on 16th September 2006 to align the regulations with the new cups system proposed for 2007/08

Mrs OOMS then shares some figures highlighting the number of teams registered to participate in the different cups competitions, with a total of 202 teams from 36 National Federations in the Men and Women categories combined. Mrs OOMS underlines that the number of participating teams was increased to 24 Men's teams and 16 Women's team in the 2006-2007 season of the Indesit European Champions League as a test. This change proved successful as all vacancies were filled and additional teams wanted to register.

Additionally, the commission analysed ways to improve the quality of the Cups competitions. One of the first step was to create a database of all the competition halls available and their specific criteria, and to approve competition halls based on certain minimum requirements. It was however noted that some competitions halls did not meet these minimum requirements, but CEV showed some flexibility and granted exceptional approvals in certain cases to allow the clubs to play. Mrs OOMS however underlines that it should be a common goal for CEV and the National Federations or clubs to raise the standards of the competitions, and explains that with clear guidelines and requirements, the clubs may have the possibility to obtain financial support from their local authorities to improve the state of their halls and facilities.

The commission also took over the conclusions of the Working Group Future of European Cups and developed the new competition format and regulations for the 2007/08 season. The final work will be presented to the Board of Administration in January 2007, but information has already been sent to the National Federations.

This new ranking system should be implemented starting in the 2007/08 season with the aim to attract more teams to participate in the different cups and to raise the level of the teams and games.

By establishing a new system, the ECC aims to reflect the importance and levels of each cup competition and give all teams the possibility to play in European cups competitions no matter what their ranking is. Based on their ranking, each club is attributed a competition in which to play. Higher ranked teams must play in the higher-ranked competitions and earn points to remain at the top of the ranking list, while lower ranked teams can play in a lower ranked competition and earn points and experience this way.

The new ranking system will be based on a period of 3 years. However, seeing that the European Cups competitions used a variety of competition formats over the past 3 years, and seeing that the year prior cannot be counted towards the ranking, the proposal is to start this season based on just 1 year, then add one year with each new season until the 3 years of ranking history are reached.

The ranking of the National Federations, based on a points system, will be directly dependent on the level of participation of teams in the different European Cups competitions and the performances achieved within each of these competitions.

To conclude her presentation, Mrs OOMS once again underlines the importance to maintain a good cooperation between CEV and the National Federations and a good balance between the National competitions and CEV competitions. This collaboration will help increase the popularity of Volleyball in Europe both in the Men and Women categories.

The complete ECC presentation can be found appendixes to these minutes (Appendix IV).

INTERVENTION BY MR KARL HANZL (AUT)

Concerning the new competition format for the Champions League, Mr HANZL believes CEV should not stop at 16 teams for the Women and 24 teams for the Men, but should increase further the number of vacancies and take into consideration the interest of other clubs and National Federations to participate. This increase would directly benefit the image of the Champions League and make it more attractive to the media.

Mrs OOMS confirms that this item was discussed in the Working Group and Cups Commission and reminds Mr HANZL that the initial goal of CEV when the Champions League was created was to have 32 teams in each category. That number has slowly been increasing over the seasons, starting with just 6 and now up to 24 for the Men and 16 for the Women. Furthermore, she explains that with the new system, if teams who are eligible decide not to play, their vacancy can be used as a wild card for another club from a National Federation not already taking part in the Champions League.

Mr MEYER confirms that CEV's goal to further increase the number of participants remains, but that it should be done gradually as to allow the National Federations and clubs interested to prepare themselves and meet all the requirements.

INTERVENTION BY MR GIL PELLAN (FRA)

Mr PELLAN agrees with Mr HANZL on the necessity to further develop the Champions League seeing as how it is the competition that attracts the media first and foremost.

However, he wishes to draw the attention of the CEV and FIVB to keep this competition financially viable for the clubs and National Federations by not raising the requirements too high (competition halls, etc.) and by better harmonising the International calendar.

Mr MEYER understands the point of Mr PELLAN and once again underlines the need to take the time necessary to help the National Federations position themselves financially and competitively to allow their clubs to participate in the Champions League not just once, but repeatedly without meeting any difficulties.

INTERVENTION BY DR RUBÉN ACOSTA H., FIVB PRESIDENT

Dr ACOSTA underlines that the international calendars issues are not recent and that CEV and FIVB are doing their best to accommodate the National Teams and the clubs. He also shares that a special task force will work on studying these issues and proposing solutions.

INTERVENTION BY MR HENN VALLIMAE (EST)

Mr VALLIMAE would like to know if there is a policy governing the number of foreign players playing for a club, remarking that in many clubs, the foreign players outnumber the National players.

Mrs OOMS confirms that according to the CEV regulations, the number of foreign players participating in the Cups competitions is unlimited and shares that although in some countries they have restrictions to participate in National competitions, CEV has no intention to restrict foreign players from playing in Europe Cups.

In the absence of any further remarks, the report presented by the European Cups Commission is adopted and approved.

At this point of the day, Mr MEYER closes the morning session and invites the delegates and guests to the lunch offered by Gerflor.

The afternoon session starts at 14h30. Mr BERBEN proceeds with the call of the delegates. 51 National Federations are found present or validly represented.



European Financial Commission

President: Mr Philip BERBEN (BEL)

Mr Philip BERBEN, CEV Senior Vice-President and Treasurer of the CEV takes the floor and explains the role of the European Financial Commission, which was created in line with the Financial Commission of the FIVB.

This commission is assisted in many ways inside CEV, with the daily bookkeeping work accomplished in the administrative department of the CEV Head Office. The President and Treasurer then control the accounts and manage daily financial activities, which are then again controlled yearly by Internal Auditors and External Auditors. The Commission itself mainly plays the role of advisor as needed.

Mr BERBEN then shares that a meeting of the commission should be organised in 2007 to have a general view and discuss the activities over the past two years in terms of sponsorships and contracts and compile opinions and advice from the members to further improve the finances of the CEV.

Additionally, Mr BERBEN takes this opportunity to remind the National Federations that CEV supports National Federations through the Sports Aid Program. He expresses his astonishment that very few federations have taken advantage of this opportunity and invites them to review the conditions required to apply for support and to submit their request if needed.

In the absence of any further remarks, the report presented by the European Financial Commission is adopted and approved.

European Legal Commission

President: Mr Aloys FISCHER (SUI)

Considering that a detailed description of the work accomplished by the European Legal Commission was printed in the written report, Mr Aloys FISCHER takes the floor to briefly summarise the essence of his commission and nature of its work.

He explains that in order to promote volleyball in Europe, CEV has to constantly progress and adapt to changing conditions. Such changes entail that the regulations of the CEV (General Regulations, Code of Discipline and Competitions regulations) be adapted and that the CEV Statutes be changed if needed. It is the main task of the ELC to prepare and propose amendments to the statutes and regulations, while always paying attention to stay in line with the statutes and regulations of the FIVB. Additionally, the commission is responsible for providing legal advice and assisting the Executive Committee in case conflicts arise, and to propose solutions and sanctions as needed.

Mr MEYER thanks Mr FISCHER for his presentation and for the work of his commission throughout the year. He also informs the General Assembly that the ELC will be presenting modifications of the CEV Statutes and regulations to be approved by the General Assembly in September 2007, taking in consideration the new texts approved by the FIVB Congress in Tokyo.

The complete ELC presentation can be found appendixes to these minutes (Appendix V).

In the absence of any further remarks, the report presented by the European Legal Commission is adopted and approved.

European Medical Commission

President: Prof Dr Manfred HOLZGRAEFE (GER)

Prof Dr HOLZGRAEFE starts his presentation by briefly presenting the members of the European Medical Commission as elected during the General Assembly 2005.

The main tasks of the Medical Commission are to overview all medical matters in Volleyball and to continue the fight against doping. Prof Dr HOLZGRAEFE explains that his commission first aimed to improve the situation in Europe by establishing a rule dictating that each European club must be accompanied by a CEV, FIVB or IOC-accredited doctor. Keeping in mind that over 600 games were played just in the European Cups competition last year, the need for good medical assistance for the teams has greatly increased. In just one year, 48 team doctors of 19 different nationalities were accredited by CEV.

Additionally, the Medical Commission and Refereeing Commission have associated to increase the cooperation between the two commissions concerning medical matters. Each International referee is required to present a valid medical certificate attesting of his good health condition in order to officiate in CEV competitions. However, Prof Dr HOLZGRAEFE explains that it was noted in the scope of the European Championships that some of these referees present health problems despite presenting a valid certificate, and it was therefore decided to submit all referees to a short medical check before each CEV game. Prof Dr HOLZGRAEFE shares that information was distributed to the referees during the Referee Seminar in Brno (CZE) in order to underline the need to be in good shape and condition to be efficient in their job and limit their health risks.

Concerning health insurance, Prof Dr HOLZGRAEFE confirms what has already been said by Mr MEYER that CEV will now be providing through its partner BJD Assistance medical coverage for all athletes and officials to guarantee that all teams are properly covered in the scope of the CEV Volleyball competitions.

Prof Dr HOLZGRAEFE then talks about the fight against doping in Volleyball and underlines that although there have only been a few minor cases of positive tests in Europe, the Medical Commission has increased the number of its control. In 2006, anti-doping controls were conducted in the Men and Women Final Four of the Champions League as well as in the European League Finals and also served as training for the new doctors.

Finally, he explains the importance of the Therapeutic Use of Exemption forms and the need for all athletes requiring medical drugs to properly inform the respective authorities 21 days before the tournament in order to avoid problems in case of anti-doping controls.

The complete EMC presentation can be found as appendixes to these minutes (Appendix VI).

In the absence of any remarks, the report presented by the European Medical Commission is adopted and approved.

Sports Organising Commission

President: Mr Pierre MULHEIMS (LUX)

A video highlighting the Final Four of the European League in Izmir (TUR) is shown as an introduction.

After briefly introducing his colleagues of the European Sports Organising Commission, Mr Pierre MULHEIMS presents the work program of his commission for the mandate 2005-2009, which includes reviewing the Junior and Youth European Championships, updating the Technical Organisation and Logistics documents for the organisers of the Qualifications and Finals of the European Championships, and renewing the forms used for the European Championships competitions.

Additionally over the past year, ESOC overviewed the organisation of the Qualifications tournament of the Junior European Championships in 2006, put in a place a new competition formula for the Senior European Championships 2007, and changed the regulations of the



Youth championships in order to allow the organisation of this competition in 2 different venues.

Mr MULHEIMS then proceeds to show a chart detailing the participation ratio of European teams in the different categories of the European Championships since 1996. In the Senior category in 2006/07, over 80% of the National Federations participated in the Men's competition and 73% in the Women's, while in the Junior category, 69% participated for the Men's and 63% for the Women. Mr MULHEIMS also underlines that 2006 marked the first year a Small Countries tournament was organised in junior category, with finals played in Liechtenstein for the Men and in San Marino for the Women and a total of 5 teams participating. In the Youth European Championships, only 55 % of National Federations are registered to play in the Men's category and 57% in the Women's, and Mr MULHEIMS therefore calls out to all National Federations to not underestimate the potential of the Youth competitions and to register their young players to participate in the future.

Concerning the World Championships, Mr MULHEIMS explains that the Junior World Championships will be played in 2007 with 12 teams for the Men and 12 teams for the Women. Europe has been allocated 4 vacancies in the Junior World Championships for each category, and the CEV Board of Administration has decided that the winner of the Junior European Championships would automatically earn the right to play in the World Championships, thus leaving 3 vacancies to fill through Qualification tournaments. The ESOC President also explains that only teams which have participated in the Junior European Championships are allowed to register for the World Qualifications, and reminds the winners of the Junior Championships that they are required to register as well even though they are automatically qualified. Seeing that the results of the qualifications must be communicated to FIVB by the end of May 2007, ESOC will be discussing during its next meeting in November the competition formula to be approved by the CEV Executive Committee in December 2006.

The 3rd edition of the European League was played in 2006 in 8 tournaments, with each participating country organising one tournament. The finals were played in Izmir (TUR) on 19th – 20th August 2006, with the Netherlands as winner, followed by Croatia, Greece and Turkey.

A coordination meeting for the organisation of the 2007 European League will be organised in Luxembourg on 25th November 2006.

European Qualifications for the FIVB World Grand Prix 2007 were played in Varna (BUL) from 26th September till 1st October 2006. The National Federations of Russia, The Netherlands, Italy and Poland won their place to the FIVB World Grand Prix next year.

During its next meeting, the European Sports Organising Commission will be preparing the European Qualifications for the World Grand Prix 2008 and will be presenting a proposal to further develop this competition to the CEV Board of Administration.

In addition to managing the organisation of the above listed competitions, the commission also organised the coordination meeting for the 3rd edition of the European League, and participated in the activities of the Working Group Regulations and Fines.

To conclude his presentation, Mr MULHEIMS thanks the members of his commission, the CEV Board of Administration and the competitions department of the CEV Head Office for their work and collaboration.

In addition to the work presented by Mr MULHEIMS, Mr MEYER explains that ESOC will also be responsible for finalising the new regulations for the 2007 senior competition and 2008 Youth and Junior Championships. Mr MEYER thanks Mr MULHEIMS and his colleagues for their work.

The complete ESOC presentation can be found as appendices to these minutes (Appendix VII).

There being no further comments, the report presented by the European Sports Organising Commission is adopted and approved by the Congress.

European Refereeing Commission

President: Mr Jan REK (SUI)

Mr Jan REK starts by presenting the permanent members of the European Volleyball Commission and the ex-officio members who assist the commission in its work. Mr REK specifically thanks Mr Jeff BREHAUT (ENG) who greatly assisted the commission in improving refereeing in Beach Volleyball. In 2006, the commission counted a total of 382 referees and made over 1,600 nominations in both Volleyball and Beach Volleyball competitions. Mr REK underlines the poor representation of Women in refereeing with just 10 women referees in Volleyball, constituting a small 3% of the total, and 13 women, or 21%, in Beach Volleyball.

One of the highlight of the past year was the European Refereeing Seminar organised in Brno (CZE) in May 2006 with the participation of 55 people from 37 National Federations and in the presence of all ERC members as well as Mr André MEYER and Mr Jan HRONEK from the CEV Board of Administration. Mr REK underlines the importance of these seminars as training and exchange opportunities, and calls all National Federations to participate in the future. He then shares the program of the last seminar and the lectures led by 4 external speakers.

Additionally, the ERC accomplished a lot of practical work with match observations as well as assessments of referees.

Mr REK then shares the working plan of his commission for the mandate 2005-2009, identifying 4 main projects:

Development of refereeing in Europe, through seminars to continue the education of existing referees, promote female refereeing and find new talents. Additionally, the ERC is developing an evaluation system which will allow to evaluate and record the work of the referees in the CEV database, which will facilitate the work of the ERC when nominations are made.

Effective organisation and administration

ERC in Competition Environments

Special Efforts in Beach Volleyball Refereeing: the ERC aims at setting the same standards in Beach Volleyball as already exist in Volleyball by training a new generation of referees and improving the performances of already existing referees.

Mr REK thanks the delegates for their attention and closes his presentation.

Mr MEYER thanks Mr REK for the work of his commission and thanks Dr ACOSTA and the FIVB for its collaboration and support through the FIVB Refereeing Commission and Rules of the Games commission.

The complete ERC presentation can be found as appendixes to these minutes (Appendix VIII).

INTERVENTION BY MR PETER EICHSTÄDT (LUX)

Concerning candidate referees, Mr EICHSTÄDT underlines that it is difficult for Small Countries candidate referees to obtain the signatures required to become International referees as there are fewer competitions for which they can be appointed. He therefore inquires about the possibility to add National Tournaments such as the Novotel Cup on the list of tournaments for which candidate referees can obtain signatures.

Mr REK understands the problem but explains that the criteria are very strict and the list of official competitions is established by the FIVB and that the ERC does not have the authority to extend this list.



Dr ACOSTA confirms that FIVB has established clear guidelines of competitions in which candidate referees can obtain signatures, and suggests that Mr EICHSTÄDT contact Mr Bob CLARKE at the FIVB if he has questions concerning this list.

There being no further comments, the report presented by the European Refereeing Commission is adopted and approved by the Congress.

To conclude the presentations of the different commissions, Mr MEYER presents a brief video of the Drawing of Lots for the Champions League which was broadcasted live in Vienna (AUT) on 23rd June 2006. He also takes this opportunity to underline the importance of work surrounding the Indesit European Champions League, CEV's most prestigious competition.

Mr MEYER also takes this opportunity to thank Mr Michalis MASTRANDREAS, CEV Honorary President and father of the Drawing of Lots Gala in Vienna, for his commitment and hard work to promote the Champions League. The General Assembly agrees with loud applause.

CEV Working Group Reports

As an introduction to the presentations of the Working Groups, Mr MEYER reminds the delegates that Working Groups are created as needed and appointed for a set period to achieve specific tasks. Once those tasks have been accomplished, the Working Group is ended.

As President of the Working Group Marketing, he explains that his Working Group works continuously on promoting Volleyball and developing its marketing side. Although Mr MEYER will not make a specific presentation since the main points have already been presented in the scope of the CEV Activities Report and in the written Handbook, he underlines that additional contracts were signed since the written report was printed, such as a long-term TV partnership until 2011, and that CEV is working on prolonging for another 4 years the contract with Mikasa.

In the absence of any remarks or questions, the General Assembly approves with loud applause the work of the Working Group Marketing.

Media & Communication

Chairman: Mr Aleksandar BORICIC (SRB)

Mr BORICIC starts his presentation by sharing the main objective of his working group, which is to promote Volleyball and Beach Volleyball in Europe both nationally and internationally by further developing the media and communication network. In 2005/06, several key achievements took place to underline this ongoing development and promotion, such as a record number of spectators in CEV competitions and the increasing interest of the public visible through the number of e-news subscriptions and visits on the CEV website.

Concerning the CEV website, Mr BORICIC is proud to report a 40% increase of the visits on the CEV website in 2005/06, with a record number of visitors during the 2005 European Championships, 2006 FIVB Grand Prix Qualifications and 2006/07 IECL. The interest was high on the competition venues as well with record number of spectators for the 2005 Men Senior European Championships in Belgrade and Rome, for the Final Round of the 2005/06 Indesit European Champions League in Rome and for the 2006 Junior Boys European Championships Finals in Kazan.

Mr BORICIC also shares that the live score system on the CEV website as well as a new feature of live statistics were available for all matches of the European Champions League. Additionally, the live score system was extended to the Senior and Junior European Championships, the European League, the FIVB Grand Prix Qualifications and the European Cups Finals.

The CEV E-news, launched in 2003, is becoming increasingly more successful with the number of subscriptions having multiplied by 6 in just 3 years. Mr BORICIC takes this

opportunity to remind the National Federation of the important role they play in providing CEV with information concerning their activities and competitions to be included in the E-news.

Mr BORICIC also shares that the 3rd edition of the CEV Yearbook was printed in 2006 with 167 pages of photos and reports and a CD compiling the results of the 2004/05 and 2005/06 seasons. A book sponsored by the SCG Federation was also produced and covers the history of the European Championships complete with all results.

Finally, he explains that all Zonal Associations now have their own website directly linked to the CEV website, and shares that CEV hired Mr Philip SCHÜTZ (SUI) to replace Mr Arjen MEIJER (NED) in the quality of CEV Press Delegate.

To conclude, Mr BORICIC lists the future goals of his Working Group, including the review of the data and results entry system in order to increase the speed of the information flow, the unification of the procedures and guidelines, and the further development of the CEV and Zonal Associations' websites. He also underlines the need to improve the communication flow between CEV and the National Federations and Zonal Associations through a list of actions.

Mr MEYER thanks Mr BORICIC and underlines the importance of this Working Group to help develop and promote Volleyball in Europe. He also congratulates Mr BORICIC and his National Federation for the book printed on the history of European Championships.

The complete presentation can be found as appendices to these minutes (Appendix IX).

In absence of any further remarks, the report presented by the Working Group Media & Communication is approved and adopted by the General Assembly.

Regulations & Fines

Chairman: Mr Aloys FISCHER (SUI)

Mr FISCHER explains that the duty of this working group is to modify and unify all the CEV regulations.

The Working Group has already finished modifying the European Championships and the Beach Volleyball Regulations, while the modifications of the European Cups regulations should be finished before the end of the year.

Mr FISCHER also takes this opportunity to thank Mr Achilleas MAVROMATIS for his help and hard work.

Mr MEYER thanks Mr FISCHER and Mr MAVROMATIS for their difficult work. He also underlines that there are a great number of regulations governing the different CEV competitions. These regulations make up to over 100 pages, and one of the tasks of the working group was to facilitate the modification's process. Mr MEYER therefore proudly shares that the regulations will be fully computerised and available on the website in the future.

The complete presentation can be found as appendices to these minutes (Appendix X).

In the absence of any remarks, the report presented by the Working Group Regulations & Fines is approved and adopted by the General Assembly.

As President of the Working Group Future of European Cups, Mr MEYER takes the floor and thanks his secretary Mrs Riet OOMS as well as the other members for their hard work and accomplishments. The tasks of this Working Group being finished, the European Cups Commission will be responsible for the follow-up.

Veterans

Chairman: Mr Renato ARENA (ITA)

Mr MEYER briefly explains that this working group was created to analyse the possibilities to develop activities and competitions for older players based on the interest and requests of the



National Federations. He then gives the floor to Mr Renato ARENA, Chairman, to present the work and conclusion of his Working Group.

Based on the already existing competitions, the Working Group Veterans analysed possibilities to organise Veteran competitions in Europe by studying the standards to be applied to such competitions and creating a first test event. The first step was to establish two clear age categories for both the men and women competitions, but leaving room for more categories if desired. It was also decided that the Veteran competitions would be subject to the same rules and regulations as the other CEV competitions, and that the competition would be played in the period of May - June, starting in 2009, every 2 years the year of the Senior European Championships.

A first test competition will be organised in October 2007 in Lutraki (GRE). Details concerning the venue and competition were distributed to all delegates during the accreditations procedure.

The complete presentation is included in the appendixes to these minutes (Appendix XI).

Mr MEYER thanks Mr ARENA and his working group for their work and confirms that the competition in Loutraki will serve as test and will help determine the interest of the National Federations and public, as well as further steps to be taken in this field.

The tasks of this Working Group being finished, the European Sports Organising Commission will be responsible for the follow-up and management of the first competition.

There being no comments, the report of the Working Group Veterans is approved and adopted by the General Assembly.

Vision 2012

Chairwoman: Ms Banu CAN (TUR)

Mr MEYER briefly explains that the Working Group Vision 2012 was created following the example of the FIVB to further develop the communication flow and assist the National Federations to promote and develop Volleyball in their country with the help and tools provided by other federations or partners. He then gives the floor to Ms Banu CAN, Chairwoman, who introduces the members of her Working Group and takes this opportunity to thank Mr Daniel BARTHELIS, CEV IT Responsible, for his assistance.

She explains that the main mission of this Working Group was to establish a database grouping all relevant information and documents concerning the practice, management, history and organisation of Volleyball and Beach Volleyball in Europe. The purpose of this exchange database is to provide a place for all National Federations to consult information as needed, but also make their own references and experiences available to others.

With this in mind, Ms CAN encourages all National Federations to make use of this database by not only searching but also adding tools such as books, educational materials or internet links concerning a variety of subjects related to Volleyball such as competitions, management, marketing and communication. So far, 8 National Federations have already joined this database, but with a demonstration to follow, Ms CAN hopes to spike the interest of others to actively participate in this project and increase the number of products referenced in the database.

Following this introduction, Ms CAN makes an online demonstration of the system available to the National Federations. She starts by navigating the website from a visitor's point of view, showing the different features available. A variety of documents and products can be found online using different search criteria, and while some products are directly downloadable online, others can be ordered through a contact person. The link for this website is the following: infosys.cev.lu.

Ms CAN then presents the website from an Administrator's point of view, as someone wanting to add documents or products. The link in this case is infosys.cev.lu/admin. Each National Federation will be given its own username and password and will have access to its own folder to edit or add documents. While the Administrator has the possibility to register a document and fill in the search criteria, the documents entered will not be published and visible to visitors until the Working Group has reviewed and approved them.

Seeing that the demonstration made by Ms CAN was only a short introduction of the program, the National Federations interested in participating in this project should contact the CEV Head Office for further information and user guidelines.

The complete presentation is appended to these minutes (Appendix XII).

Mr MEYER thanks Ms CAN for her presentation and calls all National Federation to join in this project and make their own documents and products available to others through the database.

There being no comments, the report of the Working Group Vision 2012 is approved and adopted by the General Assembly.

Regional Activities

Report from the BVA

After sharing some brief information concerning the history of the BVA, Mr Achilleas MAVROMATIS, BVA Secretary General, shares that in 2005/06, elections were held in the scope of the General Assembly to determine the new President, Vice-President and General Secretary, and that the federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina applied to join the regional association which already counts 8 member federations.

In addition to the yearly General Assembly held in Tirana (ALB) in November 2005, the BVA also held a technical commission and a Marketing and Financial Commission meetings, and managed several competitions including the Youth and Junior Balkan Championships Men and Women, as well as the Junior and Senior Balkan Beach Volleyball Championships Men and Women. Regarding competitions, Mr MAVROMATIS explains that like CEV, the BVA sets certain criteria for their organisation, such as clear guidelines concerning competition halls, specific forms to be used, nomination of neutral delegates. Additionally, the BVA financially supports the federations with fewer means in order to facilitate their participation in the different competitions.

To improve the communication lines with CEV, the media and the public, the BVA website changed to an easier URL (www.balkanvolleyball.org), and printed the first edition of a yearbook with pictures, results and reports of all Balkan competitions.

Concerning the communication lines with CEV and FIVB, Mr MAVROMATIS underlines the crucial collaboration which exists between them and the BVA and thanks them for their financial contributions and support over the past 3 years.

Finally, Mr Achilleas MAVROMATIS also takes this opportunity to support the remark made by Mr Peter EICHSTÄDT (LUX) earlier stating that candidate referees of the Small Countries, do not have enough opportunities to obtain the much-needed signatures to become International Referees. He therefore suggests changing the FIVB sports regulations to include competitions of the Zonal Associations as official competitions.

To conclude, Mr MAVROMATIS assures that the BVA is doing its outmost to develop Volleyball in the Balkan region and to promote peace and friendship in a geographical area that has known so many conflicts.

The complete BVA presentation can be found as appendices to these minutes (Appendix XIII).



Dr ACOSTA congratulates the BVA for its hard work and for its very developed competition program. He also expresses FIVB's full support, administratively and financially, for the BVA and other Zonal associations.

Mr MEYER also acknowledges the excellent work accomplished by the BVA and reminds the delegates that the BVA was the first Zonal Association created in Europe and the first to have its own internet site. He also encourages the other Zonal Associations to follow the example of the BVA and be as active.

Report from the MEVZA

Mr Karl HANZL, MEVZA President, briefly presents the composition of MEVZA, its Executive Committee and its member federations.

In addition to 6 different meetings which were organised in the past year, MEVZA also organised a Middle European League for both Men and Women and Middle European Championships for the Youth.

Concerning the newly created Middle European League, Mr HANZL explains that only teams which participated in European Cups competitions were allowed to register to participate in the Middle European League. 9 teams played in the Men's tournament with 2 Austrian clubs placing first and second, while two clubs from Slovakia out of 9 Middle European clubs participating won first and second place in the Women's competition.

For the 2006/2007 season, 10 teams are registered to play in the Men's League, and 8 in the Women's League.

The future competition plan for the Youth and Junior categories foresees that Youth Middle European Championships for Boys and Girls will be played yearly in December, while Junior Championships will be organised in 2008 and 2010 in the period of April – May. The next General Assembly of the MEVZA is scheduled on 5th December 2006 in Vienna (AUT).

Mr MEYER thanks Mr HANZL and his association for its presentation and for the developments made in the past year. Concerning the Middle European League, he explains that CEV initially had doubts regarding the organisation of such a club competition, but the agreement to only allow clubs participating in the CEV cups competitions to register proved to be a good decision.

The complete MEVZA presentation can be found as appendices to these minutes (Appendix XIV).

Report from the NEVZA

Mrs Torill FALEIDE (NOR) takes the floor and makes a brief presentation of NEVZA's annual report. NEVZA is composed of 7 countries and has its offices in Oslo (NOR). She also announces that Mr Edgar BROKS was re-elected as President on 13th October 2006 during NEVZA's annual General Assembly.

The 2005 General Assembly was organised in combination with the CEV Congress in Rome in September 2005, and it was decided to create a new club competition in addition to maintaining U-17 and U-19 competitions. NEVZA also continues its development work in Beach Volleyball.

The 2005 U-17 and U-19 NEVZA Championships were organised in Finland and in Norway respectively, while they were organised in Sweden and in Denmark in September 2006.

NEVZA is collaborating closely with CEV and the FIVB for the organisation of its activities, and has been receiving financial support from the FIVB for the past 3 years.

Finally, Mrs FALEIDE is proud to announce that NEVZA now has its own website (www.nevza.org), and thanks the Balkan Volleyball Federation and CEV for their collaboration and support.

The complete NEVZA presentation can be found as appendices to these minutes (Appendix XV).

Mr MEYER congratulates NEVZA for its work and officially launches the new NEVZA website which will undoubtedly facilitate the communication between CEV and NEVZA. He also announces that CEV will cover the costs associated with the development of the NEVZA website as is done for the other websites respecting the common guidelines established by CEV and the Zonal Associations.

INTERVENTION BY DR RUBÉN ACOSTA H., FIVB PRESIDENT

Dr ACOSTA appreciates the work of the different Zonal Association and the importance of the communication and collaboration between them, CEV and FIVB. He also suggests promoting this collaboration by connecting all websites together through direct links posted on each site.

Report from the EEVZA

Mr Maris PEKALIS (LAT) starts his presentation by explaining that EEVZA is the last Zonal Association, created in August 2005, and is composed of 8 Eastern National Federations – Azerbaijan, Belarus, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Russia and Ukraine. The EEVZA is constituted of the Executive Committee, led by Mr PEKALIS himself as President, and 2 Vice-Presidents, Mr Vladimir PATKIN (RUS) and Mr Miroslaw PRZEDPELSKI (POL) as well as one Secretary General, Mr Guntis LAZDA, and 3 commissions. Four official meetings, including the founding General Assembly, were organised in the year 2005/2006.

Despite the difficulties connected with the distances separating the different EEVZA countries, a first competition could already be organised in 2006. The Junior Men EEVZA Championships were organised in Kharkiv (UKR) in May, while the Women's Championships were organised during the same period in Moscow (RUS). Additional competitions are foreseen in 2006, with the Boys and Girls Pre-Youth Championships in November and the Boys and Girls Youth Championships in December.

The same competitions will again be organised in 2007. However, EEVZA will also be adding U-16 Beach Volleyball Championships in June or July 2007.

Additionally, and like the other Zonal Associations, the EEVZA already has its own website (www.eevza.com) which includes a competition calendar, official regulations and information on the teams and contact persons.

Finally, Mr PEKALIS takes this opportunity to thank his colleagues and the representatives of the National Federations associated with EEVZA. He also thanks Dr ACOSTA for the time devoted to meeting with EEVZA to coordinate different points, and thanks Mr MEYER and Mr HRONEK for their support and assistance.

The complete EEVZA presentation can be found as appendices to these minutes (Appendix XVI).

Mr MEYER thanks Mr PEKALIS and his colleagues for their work and congratulates EEVZA for the work accomplished in one year. He acknowledges the efforts to develop youth Volleyball in order to train younger players for the future.

Before moving on the next point, Mr MEYER takes this opportunity to congratulate Mr Carlo MAGRI and the ITA Federation for their future organisation of the 2010 Men World Championships and underlines the importance of this competition in Europe.

Mr MAGRI takes the floor and expresses his gratitude to the CEV and FIVB for the good collaboration and friendship that exists between them and the Italian Federation, taking as examples the organisation of the CEV Congress and Men Senior European Championships in Rome in 2005 and the nomination of Italy as organiser of the Men World Championships in 2010. He is convinced that this new organisation will only reinforce the trust and respect Italy



already has for the FIVB, and thanks Dr ACOSTA and the FIVB for this opportunity to shine light on European Volleyball.

Volleyball in School: Peque Voley

Presented by Mr Luis MUCHAGA, ESP Technical Director

Mr André MEYER explains that following the presentation of France in the 2005 Congress concerning Park Volleyball, the Spanish Volleyball Federation will also present one of its own program destined to further promote and develop Volleyball nationally. The idea is to give the opportunity to federations which have such programs to share their ideas with other National Federations. The item discussed this year is related to Volleyball in school, which constitutes the first step in promoting Volleyball and attracting new players.

Mr Luis MUCHAGA, Technical Director of the Spanish Volleyball Federation, takes the floor and thanks Mr MEYER for this opportunity to present to the CEV Congress the program Peque Voley which was created to introduce Volleyball in school and raise awareness on this discipline that often does not appear as attractive as other big sports.

In the scope of this program, several schools were chosen to carry out the program by offering mini-volley sessions to their students aged 11 or 12 years old, during school hours and managed by the school's physical education teachers. For support, each school is given a material kit and several pedagogic tools with complete instructions and explanations for the teachers.

In addition to providing technical support and information, the Spanish Volleyball Federation also financed the 150,000 EUR the test program cost in 2006, and with this in mind, it is 1000 schools and 100,000 students who benefited from the program in 2006.

Following its success and thanks to an extensive promotion of the program in the scope of seminars and presentations, the Spanish Ministry of Education decided to include Peque Voley in a promotional campaign for sports in school in 2007 and to financially support the further development of this project.

Mr MEYER congratulates the Spanish Volleyball Federation for this ambitious program and hopes this presentation will encourage other National Federations to follow this example.

The complete Peque Voley presentation can be found as appendices to these minutes (Appendix XVII).

Progress Reports of 2007 Organisers

Youth Boys European Championships 2007

Mr Karl HANZL (AUT) takes the floor and shares the Youth Boys European Championships will be organised in the city of Krems and Vienna (AUT). In Krems, teams will be accommodated at the Park Hotel while referees and officials will be staying in the Hotel Klinglhuber, and games will be played in the Sport Halle Krems. In Vienna, the competition will take place in the Budo Center and teams, officials and referees will be accommodated in the Austria Trend Hotel Bosei.

The Drawing of Lots will be organised in Vienna in January 2007.

The preliminary rounds will be played with 2 pools in both cities simultaneously on 11th – 13th April 2007. The final rounds will be played on Krems for the places 9-12 on 14th – 15th April 2007 and in Vienna for the places 1-8 from 14th till 16th April.

Live TV coverage has already been decided for the opening match and for the final.

To conclude, Mr HANZL briefly presents the organising structure and thanks CEV for its collaboration.

Mr MEYER thanks Mr HANZL and believes the organisation in Austria will be successful seeing the experience of the Austrian Federation and quality of organisation demonstrated in the past.

Girls Youth European Championships 2007

Mr Ivan IRO (CZE) is pleased to invite everyone to attend the Youth Girls European Championships 2007 in Brno (CZE) from 10th to 15th April 2007. He explains that the organising committee has already been working for one year on this project under the leadership of Mr Jan HRONEK, and is currently under negotiations with the Czech television for the coverage of this event.

He then shares a short video highlighting the city of Brno, its hotels and competition hall.

Mr MEYER wishes the Czech Federation all the very best with this organisation which he thinks will be highly successful based on past competitions organised in the city of Brno.

Men's Senior European Championships 2007

Mr Valentin ZHUKOV (RUS) thanks the CEV for trusting the Russian Volleyball Federation to organise the Men's Senior European Championships and 2007 CEV Congress in Russia, and makes a brief summary of this organisation.

The preliminaries and finals in Moscow will be played in the Olympiski Sport Palace which can accommodate 17,000 spectators. The teams will be staying in Hotel Cosmos which is located just 15 minutes away from the competition hall.

In St. Petersburg, preliminaries will be played in the Jubileum Sports Palace which can welcome 8,000 spectators and is located 25 minutes from the Baltiski Hotel where teams will be accommodated.

Mr MEYER is convinced the Russian Federation will organise high-quality Championships in 2007 and wishes them good luck for the continuation of their work.

Women's Senior European Championships 2007

Mr Peter EICHSTÄDT (LUX) and Mr Georges DE DONCKER (BEL) take the floor and present a short video highlighting the Drawing of Lots which took place in Charleroi (BEL) on 23rd September 2006.

Mr MEYER thanks Mr EICHSTÄDT and Mr DE DONCKER for their presentation and looks forward to welcoming the Women Senior European Championships 2007 in Luxembourg and Belgium.

Mr Jeannot KRECKE, Sports Minister of Luxembourg, joins the meeting at this time of the day. Mr MEYER welcomes him and informs the delegates that Mr KRECKE will be taking the floor before the official closing of the General Assembly.

Official Nominations of Future Organisers

Seeing that only one valid application was received for the organisation of the Boys and Girls Youth and Junior European Championships, as well as for the Men's Senior European Championships, Mr MEYER asks the General Assembly to approve the following nominations.

Men's Junior European Championships 2008

The General Assembly approves the nomination of the Czech Republic for the organisation of the Men's Junior European Championships 2008.

Women's Junior European Championships 2008

The General Assembly approves the nomination of Italy for the organisation of the Women's Junior European Championships 2008.



Ms Laura LODOVISI, ITA Representative, takes the floor and makes a quick presentation of the cities which will be hosting this event.

Boys Youth European Championships 2009

The General Assembly approves the nomination of The Netherlands for the organisation of the Boys Youth European Championships 2009.

Girls Youth European Championships 2009

The General Assembly approves the nomination of The Netherlands for the organisation of the Girls Youth European Championships 2009.

Men's Senior European Championships 2009

The General Assembly approves the nomination of Turkey for the organisation of the Men's Senior European Championships in 2009.

Mr Erol Ünal KARABIYIK, President of the TUR Federation, takes the floor and thanks CEV for this opportunity to organise this major competition in 2009 and presents a short video of the venue.

Women's Senior European Championships 2009

Two applications were received for the organisation of the 2009 Senior European Championships: ITA and POL.

Mr MEYER explains that both candidatures were thoroughly analysed and validated by the Executive Committee and that the members of the CEV Board of Administration proceeded with a secret vote in the scope of their meeting on 13th October 2006 to determine the winner of this organisation.

The sealed envelope containing the votes is handed over to the Internal Auditors who verify and confirm the counts. Mr MEYER then announces that the winner is the federation of Poland.

Mr Mirosław PRZEDPELSKI, POL President, expresses his happiness and gratitude that this organisation was granted to the Polish Volleyball Federation which has never organised Senior European Championships before. He then shares a short video revealing the three cities of Warsaw, Katowice and Łódź where the 2009 Senior Women European Championships will be organised, and highlighting the support of the local government and the public's interest and enthusiasm.

Mr MEYER congratulates Mr PRZEDPELSKI and the Polish Volleyball Federation and looks forward to the organisation of this event in 2009.

Proposals from National Federations

No proposals were received within the statutory time limit.

XXVIII General Assembly 2007 in Moscow

The 2007 CEV General Assembly will be organised in Moscow (RUS) in combination with the organisation of the Senior Men European Championships Finals in September 2007.

Mr MEYER invites the President of the FIVB, Dr Rubén ACOSTA H., to attend the Congress in Russia.

Miscellaneous

Mr Karl HANZL (AUT) addresses the issue of rising costs in International Transfers. He explains that at the moment, each club must pay 2,000 CHF per year for the transfer of each foreign player, but he has heard that FIVB plans to increase those fees from 2,000 CHF to 2,000 USD. When comparing these fees with those paid in other sports, Volleyball transfers

are by far the most expensive, and with the geography and situation of Europe where people move and work in others countries, these transfer fees are a real problem for most European clubs. Mr Karl HANZL therefore proposes to reduce the International Transfer Fees to 250 EUR as is the case in Basketball and asks the General Assembly and CEV Board of Administration to support this proposal.

INTERVENTION BY DR RUBÉN ACOSTA H., FIVB PRESIDENT

Dr ACOSTA thanks Mr HANZL for his intervention and assures him that detailed information on this matter will be provided during the FIVB Congress. However, he wishes to underline that those transfer fees are only applicable to players playing in a club eligible to participate in International competitions, and reminds the National Federations that they have the right to sign bilateral agreements and avoid yearly transfer fees. He also reminds the General Assembly that the FIVB pays back to the receiving National Federation 10% of the transfer fee paid and 5% to the Confederation.

Finally, Dr ACOSTA informs Mr HANZL that proposals to be presented to the FIVB Congress must be submitted at least 6 months prior and that this specific proposal to reduce the transfer fees will not be treated before the next FIVB Congress in 2007.

Mr André MEYER thanks Dr ACOSTA for his explanations but underlines the concerns of the CEV and European National Federations in relations to this new increase, and hopes that CEV and FIVB will be able to discuss this problem further.

Speech by Mr Jeannot KRECKE, Sports Minister

Mr MEYER invites Mr Jeannot KRECKE, Sports Minister for Luxembourg, to take the floor. He takes this opportunity to thank Mr KRECKE for his much-appreciated assistance and support in finding new offices of the CEV Headquarters in Luxembourg.

“Dear Guests,

Coming to an International association, you usually feel as strangers, but for me this is not the case. First of all, this building is very familiar to me because I am also the Minister of Economy and Foreign Trade, and as such the Chamber of Commerce is the place where I spend most of my time if I am not in my office. Secondly, I know Mr MEYER quite well because he is working for me an administrative employee for the Ministry of Economy in the Statistics department. As such, it is a pleasure for me to be invited in a Congress he is chairing, and I give him my full support. Thirdly, I feel familiar with the topics at hand because I was an International football player myself and am therefore quite used to the kind of agenda you are addressing, including the problems with International Transfers. Fourth, I was encouraged by Mr Pierre MULHEIMS and pushed by my wife who was captain of the National Volleyball team to join the Volleyball family and practice this sport, but not at a very high level because it was complementary to my football career.

So with that said, I am happy to welcome you here in Luxembourg. You currently find yourself in a part of the city which hosts a number of European institutions (Parliament, Commission, Court of Justice). I think CEV's partnership with Luxembourg's government is good and long-lasting, and CEV was strongly supported by the government when it arrived in Luxembourg in 1988. Your confederation is one of the two located here in Luxembourg. I was present at the opening of your new offices a year ago, which marked your 3rd location in Luxembourg, showing that you are not only moving around, but also growing. Of course I am very proud and very supportive of this growth because Luxembourg tends to be very business-friendly and intends to be sports friendly as well, and most of the time the two are tightly linked.

Another thing that I am proud of and want to congratulate you for are the many developments that have taken place in Volleyball. I look at the state of things when I played Volleyball and what the sport has become today and see that quite a lot has changed. You modified the rules,



you made Volleyball more spectacular and attractive, and I can only wish my own sport – football – would follow that example. However football authorities are more conservative, and the rules there have not changed much at all although they would really need it. I therefore congratulate you for making your sport more interesting for the public and for the media. Additionally, I personally think that the development of Beach Volleyball constituted a brilliant idea. I attended a Women's match in Athens on the occasion of the Olympic Games, and I must say I thoroughly enjoyed it and view it as a wonderful sport. But of course the development of this discipline is more difficult in the countries where the climate is not favourable and new indoor facilities must be provided to allow players to train, and of course this causes some problems for the authorities who must financially support these developments.

But as far as I can see, CEV is well established here in Luxembourg, your financial situation seems healthy, and I hope this situation and our good relations remain in the future.

Unfortunately, despite the support shown on special occasions, the people making the important decisions at the Government level often lack the continued interest needed to help the sports progress.

In general, the value of sport to our society is not well-recognised, and in most countries we often have to go through educational, social and health elements to explain the importance of sport. What we did not manage so far is to explain to the decision-makers that sport is part of the development of a person. More and more, looking just at the health aspect, we see that the young people now in the European Union are in a very bad shape because they lack movement. In addition to malnutrition, this will surely lead to the increase of diseases and health problems that we will all have to pay for eventually. But nobody seems to care for the moment because the situation simply isn't bad enough yet to justify reacting. However, we all know that when the problem is small, the solution is small, but the longer we wait, the harder and more expensive it will be to fix the problem-

Sports of course bring other experiences and values which help develop an individual. Looking as some of my colleagues in politics, I realise many do not know share the values that I learnt through sports. First of all, the team spirit – most politicians are individuals and work independently. Secondly, providing efforts and learning to occasionally suffer. Thirdly, learning to accept criticism. Lastly, learning to occasionally lose. Some of my colleagues never lost, and when they lose the first time, it is a big drama. If you are playing a sport, you get used to sometimes losing important games, and I think for me it was a good school.

The problem is that what is true at the National level is also true at the level of the European policy, but Sports is not for the moment in the European Community policy. I know that it will never be a complete policy, it will remain local, regional and national, but we need some support at the level of the European Union and council of Europe. Please do not underestimate the influence that is now being operated by the 27 countries that constitute the European Union.

You spoke about transfers... I can say that in a number of our sport federations, we have court problems because sports has something that is no longer existing at the level of the European Union; the National aspect. We have National teams, but there is no concept of nationality in any other sectors anymore. Sport remains the only one to still hold the specificity of the nationality, and as was already stated, we now live in a world where people are moving. In the European Union more specifically, people are free of movement, which means that tomorrow, you could have 12 players in a club that are all coming from other countries but the one they are playing for. Then of course, federations have National Teams and want to have good clubs where their National players can also play, but then we are no longer respecting the rule of non-discrimination, and we are not complying with the free-movement policy if there are people who are being paid, and of course we all know that is a regular occurrence in sports. People

are not aware that we sometimes end up in court because of such cases. Remember what the Bosman judgement changed in the world of football... Be careful, this can happen at different levels for other sports. So what happens at the level of the European Union should not be left aside, and above all, a European Confederation such as yours should pay special attention to this issue. The European commission is currently drawing up a white paper on these, and I firmly believe that the specificities and particularities of sport should be underlined and serve as basis of this white paper. If we do not manage to get these ideas onto this white paper, we will run into big problems at the level of the European Court here in Luxembourg. So please, if you are being contacted, do not leave this invitation aside, take it and please take the time to discuss the problems you meet every day. And if you are not contacted by the commission, contact them and ask to speak with them. This is most important in my opinion, and although some of us may not see things the same way, as one of those who are constantly working in this field, believe me when I say that there is a number of items that will become problematic in the future. We need to remain united in these matters, and we must not forget that all sports are more or less in the same boat right now. It is never unnecessary to show up, and even if some of you are not part of the European Union, pay attention to the fact that half of your members are meeting these issues, while the other half may not even understand what the issues are, thus dividing your membership. This is what I wanted to convey to you when I listened to the problem of transfer fees.

Another topic that you brought up and I can directly speak of is doping. It is a very serious problem occurring more and more these days, but fortunately not too much in Volleyball yet. We however have to pay close attention to what is happening in this field, and I believe we have to trust the Wada. Through the UNESCO, the Wada laws are now becoming National Laws and are supported by the National Governments. This was approved last autumn in Paris, and I urge you to fully support it. It is the only way to guarantee the same level in all sports, and I hope you are supporting those in your country who are supporting the Wada convention.

Last but not least, coming from a small country, I will simply try to attract your attention to the problems faced by small countries. Be aware that if you steadily leave aside small countries because you organise competitions differently, your risk losing the interest of the public and government for volleyball in those countries and risk losing essential support as well. It is important to remember that the value and popularity of a sport is also related to the number of nations who are playing this sport, and a confederation can only be big if it is supported by many members. As small countries, we try to work more on the trans-border levels, we try to increase the cooperation with other countries, the best example being the Women Championships organised by Luxembourg and Belgium together. You are now in a country where 40% of the people who live here are foreigners, and 40% of the working force comes over the border every day. In our heads, there is no border anymore, but unfortunately in sports, those borders are still very much present.

So anyway, these are some of the problems I wanted to bring forward today. I know we are all looking forward to tonight's nice dinner so I will now stop. I thank you for this opportunity and look forward to welcoming you again in Luxembourg for the Finals of the Women's European Championships in 2007.

Thank you."

Mr André MEYER thanks Mr KRECKE for his intervention and underlines that the points he brought forward reached a lot of people.



Closing of the XXVII CEV General Assembly

Before closing the General Assembly, Mr MEYER gives the floor to Dr Rubén ACOSTA H., FIVB President.

Dr ACOSTA, who has attended many confederations meeting, states that this Congress was the best the European Confederation has ever organised. In his opinion, this is a clear sign of progress and professional approach, and shows the dedication given to Volleyball.

Dr ACOSTA then underlines to Mr KRECKE that the issue discussed earlier had nothing to do with the administrative registration of players, but was referring to the money paid as transfer fee, so not preventing the free movement of players.

To conclude, Dr, ACOSTA thanks the delegates for their presence and attention and congratulates Mr André MEYER for this excellent Congress.

Mr MEYER then takes the floor and makes the following closing speech:

"I would like to thank all of you for your contribution that made this General Assembly a big success. You just heard from President ACOSTA that he was very satisfied, and this shows that we are on the right way. Never before, the number of present and represented National Federations was so high. This is a record for CEV, and also shows how much you have appreciated our work in the past and especially in the last year. For me and for my colleagues of the Board of Administration, your highly-appreciated presence will be an important basis for improving our sport in the next year and in the future. I believe that we are on the best way to promote our sport European-wide, with the help of the National Federations and Zonal Associations represented today by you, CEV will for sure succeed in promoting Volleyball in all categories and all levels. Our efforts should be centered in the quality of our organisations, on marketing and large scale advertising and publicity for our competitions and outstanding individuals, as well as the presence of Volleyball in all kind of media. This kind of work requires the collaboration of specialists and people well aware of the subjects that concern us. These people work in our commissions and working groups, and I would like to thank all of them for their contribution in our sport. A permanent questioning of our responsibilities and activities will help us to increase the interest and level of our sport. Therefore we have to improve our cups competition system starting in 2007 as well as the European Championships, and to develop the extension of Beach activities together with our partners. All these modifications were necessary in order to follow the media requirements in order to make our sport competitive with other sports and more attractive for the teams, the sponsors and the public. The huge success of the Champions League will be one of the guides to reach this goal on other levels.

Dr ACOSTA, I believe that today you had the possibility to appreciate the high level of work which is done by CEV, the European National Federations and the Zonal Associations. You should know, and this General Assembly has shown, that Europe is a strong Confederation with a lot of activities based on a perfect understanding of friendship and loyalty for our sport. The congress in Tokyo will be a very important one for the future of our sport, and for a future of respect and cooperation. I am sure that after some troubles in the past, FIVB, its confederations and National Federations are ready to affront all challenges in order to protect our sport. For you personally, I wish you all the best for the future. Europe will always be a reliable partner for you and FIVB. Together and united, we will be able to achieve a lot for our sport in the future.

Before we come to the end of the General Assembly, I would like to thank those who were involved in the preparation and organisation of this Congress. My colleagues of the Executive Committee and Board of Administration, our Executive Director and the staff of the CEV Head Office who had to do a lot of work and did it in an excellent way, and specially thanks to the translators and interpreters of this General Assembly. I believe they deserve big applause.

I thank you very much and wish you a nice evening on the occasion of the closing dinner in the hotel. I hope to see you in Tokyo next week, and in 2007 in Moscow on the occasion of the European Championships and our next General Assembly.”

Mr MEYER officially closes the XXVII General Assembly at 18h40.



2007

CEV BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING – WARSAW (POL) – 27TH JANUARY 2007

The following members are attending:

President: André MEYER (LUX)
Senior Vice President : Philip BERBEN (BEL)
Vice Presidents: Aleksandar BORICIC (SRB) - Jan HRONEK (CZE) - Riet OOMS (NED) - Renato ARENA (ITA) - Banu CAN (TUR)
Members: Eric ADLER (DEN) - Thanassis BELIGRATIS (GRE) - Aloys FISCHER (SUI) - Manfred HOLZGRAEFE (GER) - Pierre MULHEIMS (LUX) - Vladimir PATKIN (RUS) - Maris PEKALIS (LAT) - Stefan Potyka (AUT) - Miroslaw PRZEDPELSKI (POL) - Jan REK (SUI) - Agustin MARTIN SANTOS (ESP) - Jacques SHAW (FRA)

Opening of the Meeting

Mr André MEYER opens the meeting and welcomes his colleagues to Warsaw on the occasion of the first Board of Administration of the year.

He then gives the floor to Mr Miroslaw PRZEDPELSKI, President of the Polish Volleyball Federation and member of the CEV Board of Administration.

Mr PRZEDPELSKI wishes all his colleagues a warm welcome in Warsaw and thanks CEV for this opportunity to host the meeting in Poland. He underlines that Volleyball is very well positioned in his country, placed only second after football, and that the Federation has the full support of the Polish Government.

Mr MEYER thanks Mr PRZEDPELSKI for his welcome and confirms the interest of the Polish Government and importance of Volleyball in the country, explaining that he had the opportunity to meet with the Prime Minister on Thursday, 25th January 2007 in the presence of no less than 3 different TV broadcasters. He also takes this opportunity to congratulate for the excellent results of his National Team in the recent World Championships.



CEV President André Meyer presenting Polish Volleyball Federation President Miroslaw Przedpelski with a plate to commemorate the Board meeting

Approval of the Agenda

The following point is added: European Youth Olympic Festival

There being no other remarks, the agenda is approved.

Minutes of the Executive Committee held on 11th – 12th October 2006 in Luxembourg (LUX)

The minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held in Luxembourg on 11th and 12th October 2006 were approved by the ExCom during its meeting in Rotterdam (NED) on 9th December 2006.

The Board of Administration takes note of this approval.

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on 9th – 10th December 2006 in Rotterdam (NED)

Mr MEYER reviews the different proposals made by the Executive Committee in its meeting in December 2006 in Rotterdam:

- Small Countries Division – Status: Mr MEYER explains that FIVB received a letter from the Small Countries Division asking to be recognised as a Zonal Association. Seeing as how these Small Countries are scattered over Europe and cannot be grouped geographically, FIVB and CEV have commonly agreed to maintain the status of the Small Countries Division as it is, but to discuss the possibility of granting them the same support as received by Zonal Associations - Adopted
- Support & General Assembly: In view of the absence of certain National Federations in the CEV General Assembly and their consequent lack of interest, the Executive Committee proposes to only offer support to those federations present at the CEV Congress - Adopted
- 2007 Women's Senior European Championships – Transfers: In order to reduce the transfers and their costs, the Executive Committee proposes to ask the BEL and LUX Federation to organise jointly the travelling between the 3 venues - Adopted
- 2007 European Qualifications FIVB World Grand Prix 2008: This proposal from ESOC will be discussed later.
- Minutes of the Commissions and Working Groups: Taking into consideration that the proposals included in these minutes are to be considered as basis for internal work, the Executive Committee has proposed that the first draft of the Minutes should be marked as such and only be sent internally to the BoA Members until they have been approved or revised. Items which require immediate action and need to be communicated directly to the National Federations could be sent in the form of a letter by the CEV Office. The final version of the Commissions and Working Groups minutes will then be sent to the BoA and Commission members and be available on the web. This version will specify the decisions of the Board of Administration (adopted, rejected, and amended). Adopted

Mr Aloys FISCHER, ELC President, remarks that the wording should be changed in the 2nd line of this proposal to read "the necessary information will be sent..."

- Sanction CZE and POL: The Executive Committee proposes to suspend the Beach Volleyball players who withdrew from the competition to participate in another tournament during the same period. These players will be suspended for the first 2 masters of the 2007 NECT. □ Adopted
- Best Players 2006 & Awards Ceremony: This proposal will be discussed later.
- CEV Official Nominations – Women SECH 2007: Mr Renato ARENA, Secretary of the competition in Belgium and Luxembourg, needs to be added in the list of nominations for Luxembourg.

In the absence of any additional remarks, the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held in Rotterdam (NED) are adopted.



Minutes of the Board of Administration Meeting held on 12th– 13th October 2006 in Luxembourg (LUX)

The following remark is made:

FIVB International Transfer Fees: Mr Eric ADLER notes the action that was decided and inquires about the status of this matter. Mr MEYER informs his colleagues that the letter mentioned was not sent but that he personally had a discussion with Mr Bob CLARKE of the FIVB a couple of weeks earlier and jointly agreed that CEV should write a draft relating the transfer activities and problems faced in Europe, then send this draft to the Sports Events Council which will forward it to the FIVB Board of Administration.

In the absence of any additional remarks, the minutes of the Board of Administration meeting held in Luxembourg (LUX) are adopted.

Activity Report of the Executive Committee

Since most of the points handled by the Executive Committee are an integral part of this meeting's agenda, Mr MEYER only makes the following remarks:

- Several CEV BoA Members officiated in the scope of the World Championships which were organised in Japan after the FIVB Congress. Mr MEYER regretfully notes that the match calendar, especially in the Women's competition, did not allow for optimum TV coverage of the games in Europe. He also explains that the general feeling of the Control Committee members was that the organisation in Japan has become more of a business opportunity than an actual sports event.
- As explained in last BoA meeting, CEV has contacted a big International marketing agency in order to study the current positioning of Volleyball in Europe and design a new corporate identity for the CEV. Ogilvy, the marketing agency, provided CEV with a first detailed report of the situation, highlighting quite a few areas that will require a lot of changes in order to improve the image of Volleyball in Europe. Additionally, Mr MEYER explains that the active participation of the European National Federations is needed to deliver these improvements, and therefore recommends organising a seminar on the matter.

Decision: A seminar involving the Presidents of the National Federations and the BoA members will be organised in Vienna (AUT) on the occasion of the IECL Drawing of Lots in June 2007.

Action: Add the report to the CEV website under the BoA protected page – Administrative Dept.

The current contract with MIKASA will be ending in March 2008. Mr MEYER met with MIKASA during his trip to Japan to discuss a possible future contract, and a final decision should be made by February. The signature of the contract will take place during the CEV Congress in Moscow (RUS).

Institutions

2006 World Championships

Mr MEYER already shared his remarks concerning the 2006 World Championships and no other comments are made by other BoA members.

CEV Statutes & General Regulations

Mr MEYER reminds his colleagues that the Board of Administration decided in January 2006 to postpone all the modifications of the CEV Statutes until after the FIVB Congress in Tokyo

in order to align these modifications with any decisions or modifications of the FIVB. The European Legal Commission is currently working on modifying the General Regulations, and possible modifications in the CEV Statutes will be submitted to the General Assembly in Moscow (RUS) to be adopted.

Mr Aloys FISCHER wishes to underline that his Commission must follow the laws of Luxembourg and explains that it will therefore adapt the regulations and statutes in strict accordance with these laws.

FIVB Transfer Fees

Mr MEYER shares that Mr Karl HANZL (AUT) and Mr Peter EICHSTÄDT (LUX) intervened during the FIVB Congress concerning the increasing International Transfer Fees and that Dr Rubén ACOSTA explained that these transfers should be revised.

Mr MEYER therefore underlines the need to include in the written draft concerning International Transfers not only the necessary changes in procedure, but also the need to find a solution regarding the high transfer fees.

Zonal Associations Activities

Based on the latest report of the Balkan Volleyball Association, Mr MEYER congratulates this Zonal Association for its work and for the detailed documents forwarded to CEV.

Mr Aleksandar BORICIC, Member of the BVA, says that the BVA General Assembly was held in Skopje (FYROM) in December 2006 and that the BVA now has 2 new member federations, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Montenegro. He underlines the excellent relations between all 10 member countries and the quality of their meetings despite their different political situations. Finally, he adds that the BVA will continue its efforts in Youth Volleyball but also intends to start a new project by Organising Cups competitions in order to create more playing opportunities.

BVA Statutes

Mr MEYER refers to the updated statutes included in the agenda's appendixes and explains that the BVA had to modify its statutes to include the 2 new federations. The Legal Commission has reviewed these modified statutes, and in the absence of any remarks, they are confirmed as being in accordance with the FIVB regulations.

Decision: The modified statutes of the BVA are adopted.

Actions:

- Write a protocol identifying the adoption of the statutes by the CEV BoA and send it to the FIVB for final adoption. – Administrative Dept.
- Double-check that the BVA activity report was received by FIVB and confirm the payment of the financial support. – A. MEYER

Mr BORICIC adds that 5 of the member Federations have decided that the support will mainly serve to cover the costs of participation of the youth and junior teams from ALB, MLD, MKD, MNE and BIH.

Mr Jan HRONEK takes this opportunity to inform his colleagues that the General Assembly of MEVZA was organised in Vienna on 25th June 2006. Mr Karl HANZL (AUT) was elected President and Mr Pavel KUCERA (CZE) and Mr Peter KONCNIK (SLO) were elected Vice-Presidents.

Additionally, he received information today that NEVZA has almost finalised its calendar for the year 2007.



Finally, he confirms that the common meeting of all Zonal Associations will be taking place on 21st June 2007 in Vienna (AUT).

Financial Matters

Accounts 2006

Mr Philip BERBEN confirms the excellent financial situation of the CEV accounts in 2006. Details concerning these accounts will be shared in next BoA meeting in June 2007. In the meantime, the Internal Auditors will be invited to Luxembourg at the beginning of March to conduct their audit and will be followed by the External Auditors in mid-March. CEV will also be working on the 2008 budget during that period.

Mr BERBEN states that the 2006 accounts followed the 2006 budget quite closely. He however notes that under point 42, there were less expenses reported as well as an increase in the income, which directly contributed to CEV's excellent situation along with the good marketing management led by Mr MEYER.

Concerning the 2008 budget, Mr BERBEN reminds the commission members to submit their requests for next year.

Action: Send the budget proposals to Mr BERBEN before 1st April 2007. – Commissions' Presidents

Mr MEYER then informs his colleagues about the status of the investment made by CEV and which was reported at the General Assembly. He explains that the investment is not yet bringing in any income, but underlines that in another investment made, CEV has obtained a 4.5% interest rate in 2006 which should bring in more money.

European Championships

2007 Men's SECH Final Round in RUS – Report

Mr Aleksandar BORICIC, President of the Control Committee, refers to the report sent by the Russian Federation concerning the progress made in the organisation of the 2007 Men's Senior European Championships and adds that since the report was sent, an additional organising committee meeting took place and the handbook was reviewed in detail.

Mr BORICIC then suggests organising a short coordination meeting today with Mrs Riet OOMS and Mr Pierre MULHEIMS to discuss the reconstruction work planned for the competition hall in St. Petersburg, as well as with Prof Dr Manfred HOLZGRAEFE concerning medical matters.

Prof Dr Manfred HOLZGRAEFE takes this opportunity to add that the medical regulations must be added to the handbook.

Mr Vladimir PATKIN (RUS) confirms that a big meeting took place on 23rd January 2007 with over 50 people from the organising committee and other services working on this competition. He also confirms the following points:

- Clear picture of the financial distribution for the organisation of this event
- The RUS Federation will now be starting to work on the welcome documents and organise the involvement of the Russian government in St Petersburg and Moscow to facilitate entry visa and other formalities
- Certified WADA Laboratory in Moscow with all the contact information of the responsible person
- Hospitals, doctors & ambulances will specifically cover the events in St. Petersburg and Moscow
- On 5th February, inspection visit in St. Petersburg is foreseen with the responsible representatives of the RUS Volleyball Federation

- Organising committee members working on a constant basis in St Petersburg to solve any remaining problems there may be
- The official bulletin will be issued and sent 6 months before the start of the event.

Action: Send the draft of the official bulletin to the Jury President for approval before issuing it. – RUS Federation

Mr MEYER reminds the RUS Federation that the Jury Presidents should be invited to attend the coordination meetings and inspection visits such as the one organised in January and foreseen again for 5th February.

After information from Mr PATKIN that such meetings are being organised twice a month on average, they agree that the Jury President should be invited at least every 2 or 3 months to be regularly informed of the progress and situation.

Mr PATKIN then explains that the organisation is facing problems in terms of TV coverage mainly due to the TV rights that belong to CEV's partner in Italy. NTV+, a cable network from Russia with about 350,000 subscribers has signed a contract with Media Partner but there is still the need for bigger coverage in Russia. Therefore Mr PATKIN is of the opinion that a solution should be found to solve these TV difficulties directly linked with the problem of TV Rights owned by the Italian company.

Mr MEYER understands Mr PATKIN's concerns yet explains that he was not aware that Mrs SORDELLI from Media Partners had been invited to Russia to discuss these issues.

Action: Check the information received in the office about the communication between Media Partners and the RUS Federation. – Marketing Dept.

Mr Miroslaw PRZEDPELSKI, President of the POL Federation, supports the position of Mr PATKIN and explains that in his opinion, the Federations should have more freedom in terms of television rights and gain more benefits from the contracts signed between CEV and its partners.

Prof Dr Manfred HOLZGRAEFE thanks Mr PATKIN for the information concerning the laboratory in Moscow but wishes to remind him that doping tests are carried out differently in different sports and that it is imperative to check that the laboratory is specifically equipped to handle tests of Volleyball.

Mr Pierre MULHEIMS explains that a draft of the preliminary round matches was distributed after the Drawing of Lots and reminds the organisers that they have until the end of January to submit any comments they may have. A meeting will be organised with Media Partners and CEV concerning the rights and how the matches will be played in the Preliminary Round. He then inquires about the planning after the Preliminary Round.

Action: Provide CEV with a planning of the matches for the following rounds by the end of January at the latest. – RUS Federation

Mr Jan REK inquires about the location of the refereeing clinic given there are two venues. In his opinion, it is best to have a central clinic in Moscow, and the referees officiating in St. Petersburg will then travel there. A second smaller clinic will be organised in the sports hall with the local staff. Mr MEYER confirms that this was already covered in the inspection visit report.

Women's SECH Final Round in BEL and LUX - report

Mr Jan HRONEK, President of the Control Committee, shares that the last joint meeting was held in Luxembourg on 21st December 2006 under the Presidency of Mr André MEYER.

He then confirms that the hall of Hasselt which presented several problems now meets the CEV requirements with 3,300 seats.



Mr HRONEK informs his colleagues that the Control Committee is still waiting to hear from Media Partners because it is currently in the middle of negotiations with certain Federations. Additionally, he remarks that Luxembourg and Belgium are still discussing marketing matters and a meeting is scheduled in April to hopefully find a common agreement.

2007 Girls U-18 European Championships - Report

Mr Renato ARENA starts by thanking the Czech and Austrian Volleyball Federations for their organisation of a joint Drawing of Lots in Vienna with a very good organisation and TV coverage. He particularly thanks the CZE Embassy for its participation and support of the event.

He explains that a meeting with Mr Ivan IRO and Mr Jan HRONEK took place to discuss TV coverage and the match schedule.

Mr MEYER joins Mr ARENA in congratulating both Federations for their organisation of the Drawing of Lots.

2007 Boys U-19 European Championships - Report

Mr Philip BERBEN confirms the quality of the Drawing of Lots in Vienna and explains that he also participated in a meeting with the local organisers.

Concerning the problems of beds in the hotel selected in Krems for the teams, he explains that the hotel owner agreed to change all the beds to meet the requirements. However, Mr BERBEN and Mr Harald ROTTER (AUT) have agreed that if the change is not made soon, they will start looking for another hotel.

A first draft of the match calendar recently received presented problems in the match schedules and following the remarks of Mr MULHEIMS, Mr BERBEN received a second draft that he will be reviewing with Mr MULHEIMS and Mr ROMMES later today.

Mr MEYER thanks Mr BERBEN and adds that he should remind the AUT Federation to issue their first bulletin after the match calendar is approved.

European Youth Olympic Festival

Mr Philip BERBEN explains that this year's festival will probably be the last one organised based on invitations sent to selected sports. Indeed, the format of this event and the participation criteria will be changing in the near future, and Mr BERBEN confirms that the European Olympic Committee will contact the European Sports Federations for further discussions.

As a reminder, the following countries will be represented in Volleyball: SRB (organiser), TUR, ITA, BEL, POL, FIN, CRO and UKR. All federations have been informed accordingly but some must still send their proposal for a referee.

Action: Send a reminder to POL, TUR and SRB that they must provide CEV with the name of a referee to officiate in this event. – Competitions Dept.

The Drawing of Lots and a second inspection visit will be organised in Belgrade in April 2007. Mr BERBEN confirms that the training hall has been changed and that according to the draft of the 1st technical bulletin, there should not be any problems.

Mr Jan REK inquires about the control and authority over the Volleyball event. Mr BERBEN states that this competition is placed under the authority of the European Olympic Committee and that the Serbian Federation is in charge of the organisation and communicates to him all the technical matters concerning Volleyball. Concerning refereeing matters, Mr BERBEN explains that this competition is not officially recognised for the referees, but he nonetheless proposes to send to Mr Jan REK a post-event refereeing report.

Mr Agustin MARTIN SANTOS explains that his Federation has been contacted by the General Secretary of the Spanish Olympic Committee who confirms their interest to include Volleyball in the agreement between CEV and the European Olympic Committee. He however remarks that the Spanish Olympic Committee is having difficulties protecting the dates proposed with FIVB. Mr BERBEN confirms that Volleyball should be included in future Youth Olympic Festivals along with 3 other main team sports based on an agreement made with the European Olympic Committee, and that all technical matters, including the protection of the dates, will be discussed in detail in the next few months.

Mr MEYER confirms that CEV has received a copy of the agreement in place and intends to protect this event. He also explains that based on the current format, Volleyball can only be represented in the men's category, which in his opinion constitutes discrimination, and that CEV will follow this aspect very closely.

Finally, Mr FISCHER inquires about the protection of dates and the clashes it may cause with all the other competitions already protected. Mr MEYER explains that this event will be handled just like the Spring Cup: the organisers will submit the exact dates on which they would like the event to take place, CEV will then check the calendar and if those dates are available, they will protect the dates and confirm the availability to the organiser.

CEV Officials Nomination 2007 - 2009

Mr Jan HRONEK, coordinator for the nominations, lists the competitions one by one and completes the gaps.

Action: Submit the names of the 2 medical delegates who will officiate in the Men's and Women's IECL Final Four. – M. HOLZGRAEFE

As soon as venues are confirmed in the NECT Beach Volleyball, confirm whether or not Assistant TS are needed. – S. POTYKA

The deadline for sending in applications for the Olympic Qualifications is set to the end of May.

Following a request by the Russian Federation to exchange the nominations of Mr S. TITOV and Mr G. ZHARIKOV, the following decision is made:

Decision: Mr ZHARIKOV will be officiating in St. Petersburg as requested. Mr TITOV will be substituted.

Action: Send a proposal to the CEV for the replacement of Mr TITOV in St. Petersburg, taking care of the fact that the substitute must speak perfect English. – RUS Federation

European League 2007

Meeting held on 25th November 2006 in Luxembourg

A coordination meeting for the organisation of the 2007 European League was organised in Luxembourg on 25th November 2006. Referring to the Minutes of this meeting which also include a competition calendar, Mr MEYER informs his colleagues that although there were at the time 12 National Federations who expressed their intention to participate in this competition, there are now 2 federations which have not yet confirmed their participation: NED and EST. While the first one should hopefully confirm soon, the EST Federation is currently not in a position to confirm its participation due to the financial requirements and the upcoming elections of a new President.

Mr MEYER then explains that if only 11 teams are confirmed, CEV will give the opportunity to the newly created Great Britain team to participate in the competition.

Considering that this is the second time teams have expressed their interest, only to retract it later, and considering that the calendar was already fixed and now might need changing, Mr MEYER explains that the Executive Committee has decided for the future to set all the



conditions and ask for the definitive position of each National Federation during the meeting. This will prevent the need to later change the competition format and calendar and will not jeopardise the participation of the other teams.

Mr Eric ADLER expresses his concern regarding the significant spectator decrease that was noted between the 2004 and 2006 seasons and wishes to know what CEV's plans are to reverse that tendency.

Mr MEYER explains that the 30% decrease referred to in the minutes comes mainly from the change in competition format which occurred between the two seasons. Indeed, the home and away format first used attracted many spectators who were obviously eager to watch their National Team play at home. In 2006 however, each National Federation organised a tournament, and unless the National Team was playing, the spectators did not really watch the games. Mr MEYER however explains that CEV will not consider such a format anymore, even though it was easier from an organisational point of view.

Mr Agustin MARTIN SANTOS adds that the Spanish Federation was not satisfied with the distribution of the pools which they thought was mainly based on geographical criteria. Mr MEYER confirms that the distribution was based on regional location but remarks that the ESP representative present at the meeting agreed to such a distribution. Nonetheless, he takes note of Mr MARTIN SANTOS's remark.

2007 Calendar

Based on the possible modification of the competition format following the problems with NED and EST, the calendar proposed cannot be finalised.

FIVB World Grand Prix Qualification Tournament 2007

Referring to the proposals made by ESOC in the minutes of its November 2006 meeting, Mr MEYER explains that CEV cannot accept the proposal with home and away matches. Based on the EUROSORT contract, CEV must guarantee TV coverage for all matches, and it is unfortunately not always possible for organisers to find TV coverage for all home and away matches, especially in women's competitions.

Therefore, Mr MEYER states that an organiser must be found for each tournament who can guarantee the broadcast of all matches.

Secondly, he also disagrees with the idea that the 4 teams participating in the FIVB qualifications will not all be treated the same way, meaning that teams 1 and 2 go directly to the Final while teams 3 and 4 must participate in a further qualification tournament.

Based on the opinions expressed by the teams in Varna, the Executive Committee therefore proposes to directly qualify for the Final the 4 European teams participating in the World Grand Prix 2007.

Mr MEYER then refers to a letter sent by the RUS Federation concerning the dates of this competition.

Mr PATKIN takes the floor and explains that with the national calendar already being overloaded until the 15th October, the organisation of tournaments such as the European Championships, the World Cup and the World Grand Prix, it is very hard for the players to also participate in a qualifications tournament in early September as was suggested by the CEV Executive Committee. Indeed, the RUS team will be in China until the 27th August, will then participate in the Grand Prix Qualifications from 30th August to 16th September, and will then play in the Senior European Championships from 20th September on. The Russian Federation therefore asks for the possibility to play these tournaments in July instead of September, thus also constituting a good preparation for the European Championships.

Mr BORICIC supports the position of the Russian Federation and suggests that CEV should send proposals to the FIVB Sports Events Council to find a solution to this problem.

Mr SHAW also agrees that the calendar is very full and that a solution should at least be found for the years of the Olympic Qualifications and Olympic Games.

Mr MEYER understands the problem but underlines that it is not possible to play the qualifications for next year's Grand Prix before this year's Grand Prix is finished. Additionally, to answer a question on the existence of such qualifications, he reminds his colleagues that qualifications were created 3 years ago to give more European teams the chance to qualify on the basis of their performances and not by invitation process.

He also explains that CEV considered Organising the Grand Prix Qualifications in November, but due to the large number of registrations for the Continental Olympic Qualifications, an Olympic pre-qualification tournament had to be scheduled in November. So with that, Mr Pierre MULHEIMS proposes that the Qualifications for the 2008 Grand Prix be played between 3rd and 9th September 2007. Pre-qualifications can be played either between 5th – 10th June 2007 or 26th June – 1st July 2007.

Decision: The Qualifications for the 2008 FIVB Grand Prix will be played between 3rd and 9th September 2007.

Junior World Championships – European Qualifications

The Board of Administration members received a document prepared by Mr Pierre MULHEIMS and the CEV Competitions Department listing the registrations received for the Junior World Championships European Qualifications 2007 in both categories and distributing the pools accordingly based on the competition format explained in the ESOC minutes.

In the men's competition, based on the FIVB decision to include the federation of Montenegro (MNE) in the qualifications process, the number of teams registered totals 19 (in addition to the directly qualified European Champion, RUS), meaning that a 1st Prequalification round will need to be organised to qualify 2 of the last 3 teams registered. Concerning the 2nd Round, ESOC proposes to distribute the teams in 3 pools of 6 teams each based on the ranking of the 2006 European Championships and using the serpentine system to avoid as much as possible that teams from the same 2nd round pool in the Junior European Championships meet again.

GRE will organise the first round of the qualifications. The organisers of the 3 second rounds are BUL, SVK and SLO.

Mr MEYER however informs his colleagues that the entry of Croatia is currently pending. He explains that CRO did not pay its debts towards MEVZA and a laboratory in Vienna by the 31st December deadline set despite an agreement signed in October 2006, and that the ExCom has therefore made the decision to extend the deadline to the 15th February 2007. If all the debts have not been paid by this last possible deadline, CRO will not be allowed to participate in either the Men or Women's European Qualifications.

Action: Prepare for the possibility that CRO will not participate and make a draft of the competition format without CRO in either the Men or Women's competition. – P. MULHEIMS

In the Women's competition, there are 15 teams registered besides ITA, the European Champion, and ESOC therefore proposes to play in 3 pools of 5 teams each, distributed using the serpentine system. The organisers will be CRO, POL and RUS. Once again, Mr MEYER asks that a solution be found in case CRO is not allowed to participate and a new organiser must be found.

Mr MEYER then gives the floor to Mr Jacques SHAW who explains his reasoning that led him to write a letter to CEV concerning the high costs related to tournaments with 6 teams. He explains that one of the reasons for this is that some teams know they are out after 2-3 games lost yet stay at the venue until the tournament is over, thus causing the Organising federation



unnecessary costs. He therefore suggests Organising 2 tournaments in each pool with only 3 teams in each tournament, thus allowing eliminated teams to return home sooner.

Mr MEYER understands the position of Mr SHAW and confirms that this principle is usually in place when there are 8 teams entered, playing in 2 pools of 4, mainly in the senior competitions. He however explains that the principle behind the Youth and Junior formats is to allow the teams to play as many matches as possible. Additionally, and although he agrees that the organiser would have less expenses if tournaments of 3 teams were organised, he also reminds Mr SHAW that in the scope of Junior competitions, the participants pay a fee of 35 EUR per day per person to help the organiser cover the expenses, and that the participating teams are directly penalised by such a format since they would have to buy open-return tickets, which cost a lot more than regular tickets.

Although he agrees with the financial argument, Mr BORICIC believes it is important to maintain the number of matches and give the junior and Youth teams the opportunity to play more often. He therefore supports the current format in place.

Action: Analyse the nomination of the organisers taking into consideration the remarks of Mr SHAW, in order to possibly reduce the costs of the organisers. – ESOC

Decision: The competition format proposed by ESOC is adopted, keeping in mind that some changes might be necessary pending the situation with CRO.

European Veterans Championships

Based on the registrations received, Mr ARENA confirms that there is clear interest from the National Federations for this new competition, with 11 countries represented in Category A of the Men's competition, 9 in Category B, 9 countries in category A of the Women's competition and 4 in category B.

Mr BAKODIMOS then briefly presents the venue of Loutraki, with its good transport system, many tourist attractions and favourable weather, followed by a description of the organisation. Included in the event is an opening ceremony, an excursion on the rest day, a beach gathering and a closing ceremony. There are 4 sports halls available on site, all the medical facilities necessary with doping tests planned, and the GRE federation is still working on organising the possible live broadcasting of the event, especially of the finals. Finally, Mr BAKODIMOS explains that the participation fee, based on the level of accommodation (from 2-stars to 4-stars) includes lodging, transports, excursions and ceremonies.

Mr Pierre MULHEIMS notes that only 4 teams are registered in Category B of the Women's tournament, when it was initially decided that there should be a minimum of 6 teams registered at least. He also underlines the high participation costs which he thinks could deter some of the teams from participating.

Mr MEYER explains that the prices announced were just estimates, but that they will probably decrease now that the exact number of entries is known.

Concerning the first remark of Mr MULHEIMS, Mr ARENA also reminds his colleagues that the competition in Loutraki is a test event and that it is important to keep the competition attractive for the teams, so the Category B event in the Women's competition should be maintained.

The GRE Federation will now forward all the detailed information to the teams pre-registered and will be in close contact with them concerning the logistics.

Decision: The 2007 European Veteran Championships will be played in 4 different categories.

Olympic Qualifications – European Qualifications Tournament

Mr Pierre MULHEIMS, ESOC President, presents a chart summarising the continental qualification process for the 2008 Olympic Games.

The Qualification tournament will be constituted of 8 European teams: the organiser + 3 best-ranked from European Championships + 1 wild card for the World Cup + 3 vacancies left to be won through a pre-qualification tournament.

If no wild card is given to Europe for the World Cup, then the 4th best-ranked team from the European Championships will participate in the qualification tournament.

There are in total 26 men's teams and 21 women's teams registered to participate in the qualification process.

For the men, the pre-qualification tournaments will be organised from 28th November – 2nd December 2007 with 18 teams (the 15 directly qualified + 3 winners of elimination round in September).

For the women, the pre-qualification tournaments will be organised between 7th and 11th November 2007.

Concerning the final qualification tournament, it will be organised between 7th and 13th January 2008 for the Men, and 14th – 20th January 2008 for the Women. There will be 2 pools of 4 teams in each category and 3 matches played per day.

As a reminder, CEV will apply the same bidding procedure for the registrations as was used 4 years ago.

European Cups

Final Four applications

Mrs Riet OOMS informs her colleagues that the application deadline for the organisation of the Final Four tournaments expired on 26th January 2007 and the following were received:

- TTC Men: One full application was received - Modena (ITA)
- Remark: The court dimensions need to be modified to allow enough space around the court
- TTC Women: No application received.
- CEV Cup Men: No full application received, only a letter of intent from a Turkish club which only wants to organise if they are guaranteed to be participants in the Final Four.
- CEV Cup Women: One application received (without TV form) - Perugia (ITA)

As agreed during the Executive Committee meeting, the application deadline for the two remaining competitions will be extended by another week. If no applications are received by then, the final phase will be played with home and away matches.

Decision: The two applications from ITA are approved as long as the TV form from Perugia is received within the next week.

As announced the week prior, Mrs Riet OOMS also confirms the organisation of the IECL Final Four Women's tournament: IECL Women - Zurich (SUI)

The organiser of the Men's IECL Final Four will be announced in one week during the Drawing of Lots in Luxembourg.

IECL Drawing of Lots 2007

The IECL Drawing of Lots will be organised in Vienna (AUT) on the 22nd June 2007 alongside the annual supervisor seminar. However, Mrs OOMS remarks that this year's seminar will only



need to be attended by the new clubs, NFs, statisticians and Supervisors or those whose work is still not satisfactory.

European Cups Ranking System - review

Mrs Riet OOMS explains to her colleagues that she has been studying the outcome of the new ranking system and believes that this Ranking System reflects the principles that were adopted in various BoA meetings over the past two years.

Nevertheless, the CEV Executive Committee is concerned about the consequences such a ranking system could have on top clubs, and therefore thinks a better solution be found to protect their place in the IECL.

Mr MEYER further illustrates this by explaining that the participation of clubs in the IECL is directly dependent on the number of teams registered in the other European Cups from the same federation, meaning for example that if a team registered in the IECL is the only one of that federation to participate in the European Cups, it could lose its place in the IECL because it is Federation may not earn enough points despite the teams good performances. The non-participation of such high-performing clubs in CEV's highest competition could obviously damage the image of the Champions League itself, which must be avoided at any cost.

Decision: The WG Future of European Cups will be meeting again to find a solution to this problem.

Action: Following the decision of the BoA, finalise and present a new proposal to be approved by the ExCom in its extraordinary meeting at the end of March

Anti-sporting Behaviour

Referring to results and statistics provided in the Agenda's appendixes, Mrs Riet OOMS explains that some teams have been calculating their points and determining the composition of their teams accordingly, meaning that if they calculated they already had enough points to qualify for the next round, they decided not to make their best players participate in subsequent matches, thus lowering the level of the games and reducing the interest of the public.

Actions:

- Send a warning letter to all National Federations with participating teams. – Competitions Dept.
- Make a proposal to avoid such calculations in future seasons. – ECC
- Analyse the results of the test which was made in the Top Teams Cup competition with the addition of an extra set. – ECC

Taking into consideration the overloaded calendars some National Federations face, Prof Dr HOLZGRAEFE believes that some clubs are making these decisions to protect their best players and allow them to rest when they are not necessarily needed.

Mr MEYER understands the argument of Dr HOLZGRAEFE but also explains that some teams are simply putting their own National League ahead of the Indesit European Champions League, thus keeping their best players to play in national competitions. Additionally, he underlines that such calculations have consequences for other teams which may have worked hard to qualify for the next round only to lose regardless of all their hard work. This goes against the rules of fair play and action must be taken now.

European Beach Volleyball

U-18, U-20 and U-23 Organisers

Mr POTYKA announces the organisers for the following competitions:

- U-18 Brno (CZE)

- U-20 The Hague (NED)
- U-23 Paralimni (CYP)

Based on the number of applications received, Mr POTYKA explains that requests for applications should be sent earlier, and that it might be a good idea to start finding organisers now for the 2008 competitions, this in order to give all organisers enough time to prepare and guarantee a good level of their competition.

Nestea European Championship Tour 2007

There are 6 events scheduled in the 2007 Tour, as follows:

- Austrian Master - St. Pölten
- Russian Master - Moscow
- German Master - Hamburg
- Swiss Master - Lucerne
- Dutch Master - The Hague
- Final - Valencia (ESP)

Official Regulations 2007

EBVC has reviewed the official competition regulations of the Senior Beach Volleyball European Championships as well as the U-18, U-20 and U-23 Championships. Referring to the handbook highlighting all the modifications made, Mr Stefan POTYKA lists the main points that need to be approved by the Board of Administration. The following points are discussed in further details:

Senior Regulations

Chapter 1, Point 4.7.2.1 CEV Entry Ranking:

Mr MEYER is afraid that this new measure will discourage teams from participating in European competitions because he has calculated that teams earn more ranking points by participating in 3 FIVB tournaments than they do in participating in 5 CEV tournaments.

Mr POTYKA however believes that this should not be a problem because the results in FIVB competitions will all be related to the Grand Slam where it is much harder to earn points than in European competitions. He thinks this new measure will give the best teams a choice of which competition they want to earn points in, while it will also provide the less performing teams with more incentives to play in European competitions.

Decision: EBVC will compare both the old and new entry ranking system and if the proposal presented does not harm the CEV competitions, the CEV Board of Administration gives its approval through the Executive Committee.

Chapter 2, Point 4.4 Food & Lodging of CEV Officials and Referees

Mr JAN REK does not agree that CEV Beach Volleyball referees should be accommodated in double rooms while all other officials benefit from single rooms.

Action: Contact GSM to notify the change requested and check on additional costs. - Competitions Dept.

Chapter 2, Point 5.2 Final Inspection Visit

If the competition venue does not meet the CEV requirements by the final inspection visit, the Technical Supervisor should refer to the office before any decision is taken.

Chapter 3, Point 1.2 Duties

Mr MEYER underlines that there should only be one reference manual for Jury members and believes it should be in the form of a handbook summarising the duties and tasks of all Jury members as well as regulations and guidelines from the FIVB Referee Delegate Manual.



Chapter 4, Point 3.4 CEV Flag

Mr MEYER underlines that the flag layout provided here is the one for the flags used indoors and explains that the Beach Volleyball flag dimensions are different.

Action: Contact GSM and check on beach flag dimensions. – Marketing Dept.

Age Group Regulations

Chapter 1, Point 4.2.3.4 Order of the teams within the pools

Mr POTYKA explains that a long discussion took place within his Commission to improve the method of determining the 3rd place in a pool. Before, the system only looked at the points ratio, while the decision was made to from now on first look at the sets ratio, then the points ratio. ☐ Approved

Chapter 2, Point 5.5 Closing Meeting

Mr MEYER underlines that the closing report discussed during the last meeting should be acknowledged and countersigned by the organiser.

Minutes & Activity Reports – CEV Commissions

Legal Commission – Mr Aloys FISCHER

Mr FISCHER explains that his commission is currently working on the review and modification of the CEV regulations. During its last meeting, ELC reviewed the financial regulations and is proposing new text to be adopted by the BoA.

There are however two points for which Mr FISCHER is seeking further opinions. One concerns the stipulation on overdue debts, which Mr FISCHER asks the Financial Commission to review and confirm whether it should be left as it is or should be modified. The other concerns annual allowances that are not currently mentioned in the regulations.

Concerning the annual allowances, Mr MEYER explains that these are under the control of the Board of Administration since they are included in the annual budget which is adopted by the Executive Committee, European Financial Commission and Board of Administration. Any changes during the year which would affect the budget are also presented to the Board of Administration for approval.

Mr BERBEN, CEV Treasurer, confirms that all monies paid are reported in the budget, and underlines the distinction between the annual allowances (President's allowance, employee salaries, etc.) and the Per Diem which is paid per person per day according to the meetings attended.

Mr MEYER however explains that the amount calculated for the President's allowance is based on the Per Diem format, and that the wording in the budget can be changed if it causes confusion.

Concerning the specific regulations which the ELC is presenting for adoption, the following remarks are made:

Art. 5.1.1: Per Diem: the words "or stay" on line two must be deleted.

Art. 5.1.2: Per Diem: Mr MEYER proposes to add the following sentence: "The Per Diem paid covers all costs of any kind related to the journey (taxi, parking, national travelling costs...)."

Mr Jan REK takes the floor and underlines that from the moment Per Diem is associated with the travel schedule of someone and not his job, there could be confusion when for example an official cannot fly home on the foreseen day due to a cancelled flight. Who would then be responsible for paying the official the extra Per Diem day?

Mr FISCHER explains that such cases are not the fault of anyone (force majeure) and neither the organiser nor the CEV should be held responsible. Therefore, it is the person travelling who must unfortunately cover any extra costs related with their flight cancellation.

Art. 5.2.1: Travel Expenses, Meetings and Activities: Mr MEYER underlines that the last sentence is not correct because CEV does not cover the travelling costs of its officials for all meetings. However, CEV does cover the travel costs of all WG meetings and Executive Committee meetings if they are not organised in around or at a BoA meeting.

Art. 5.2.2.2 Travel Expenses of CEV Officials and Referees: Mr MULHEIMS underlines that the regulations were changed and that during the Youth European Championships, it is no longer CEV but the organiser who must cover the travelling expenses. He also adds that the term of "Pre-qualification Round" is no longer used and is replaced with "1st, 2nd, 3rd Round".

Additionally, the Executive Committee would like to add an Art. 5.6 stating that cases not mentioned in the other articles will be handled by the Executive Committee.

Decision: The above-listed amendments are adopted.

Mr FISCHER then shares that the WG Regulations & Fines recently met to work on the European Cups regulations and finished the section concerning the Champions League. Based on this corrected version, the working group will finalise the sections related to the Top Teams Cup and CEV Cup during its next meeting in a couple of weeks.

Financial Commission – Mr Philip BERBEN

Mr BERBEN explains that his commission will be meeting sometime in May 2007 following the various audits of the CEV accounts, and details and figures will be shared at the June Board of Administration meeting.

Cups Commission – Mrs Riet OOMS

In the absence of any meeting of the Cups Commission since the last BoA meeting in September, Mrs Riet OOMS shares a few goals that her Commission would like to accomplish before the end of its mandate:

- Minimum requirements for halls: In order to ensure that the minimum halls requirements in the TTC and CEV Cup are met and to improve the playing conditions, the CEV Office is working to collect the data of all halls connected with these two competitions.
- Marketing/Branding: Starting with the 1/8 finals of the TTC and CEV Cup, the organisers had to include a CEV banner with the name of the competition inside the sports halls.
- Website: Add team pictures to the website and for the Champions League, also add individual pictures of all the players for use by the clubs as required and for promotional purposes.
- Extra set: In its next meeting in March 2007, the ECC will evaluate the results obtained with the addition of an extra set in the scope of TTC matches.

To conclude, Mr MEYER urges his colleagues to forward any feedback or comments they may have to Mrs OOMS, especially concerning the extra set. He also adds that only one complaint regarding this matter was received and will be thoroughly analysed in the scope of the March meeting.

Sports Organising Commission – Mr Pierre MULHEIMS

Mr Pierre MULHEIMS covers the minutes of the last meeting of ESOC held on 3rd – 5th November 2006 and presents the proposals of his Commission:



- Statisticians (page 3): ESOC proposes to allocate fixed places for all statisticians during matches - rejected because this proposal goes against the regulations in place which requires 2 reserved places for statisticians. Mr MEYER however underlines that the other statisticians can still sit in the reserved area for teams.
- Technical Organisation and Logistics for Organisers (page 3): ESOC proposes to approve these documents as adjusted according to the new regulations - considering that the documents are technical documents, the BoA agrees to let ESOC approve these documents internally.
- Reserve Referee (page 4): ESOC proposes to nominate a reserve referee in tournaments without a referee delegate - approved
- Participation of players in multiple competitions (page 4): Following a specific case of a player involved in the Men's Junior European Championships in Kazan (RUS), ESOC proposes to add a stipulation in the competitions' regulations to forbid players from participating in 2 competitions with overlapping dates - approved
- Libero player (page 5): ESOC proposes that the replacement libero should remain the same for the duration of the tournament - rejected, but will be studied.
- Inspection visits (page 5): In case a hotel needs to be changed for any reason, the replacement hotel must meet the same minimum standards and a written request must be sent to CEV for approval - approved
- List of fines (page 6): ESOC proposes to add fines to the current list in place - approved
- ESOC member nominations (page 7) - The nominations of POL must be removed, because Poland's application has not yet been approved.
- Licenses (page 7): ESOC proposes to develop a new system to simplify the application for new licenses - rejected because such a change needs to be thoroughly analysed before it can be presented to the BoA for approval.

Action: Study a possible new system and submit a proposal to the BoA. – ESOC

Beach Volleyball Commission – Mr Stefan POTYKA

Mr POTYKA explains that the players were given the opportunity at the end of the 2006 season to express their views and make any suggestions they had. The following issues were brought up several times with the players and in meetings of EBVC:

- The introduction of 2 distinct ranking systems, a more promotionally oriented one taking into consideration the Nestea Tour, and an entry-seeding ranking which takes into consideration the technical level of the team, caused some confusion for a lot of players. Due to this, the EBVC has decided for this new season to stick with the system, but to simplify it by counting only the Grand Slam and not the other FIVB tournaments. This would also add an incentive to participate in the Nestea Tour - The final version of the CEV ranking system should be approved by the next ExCom.
- The views concerning the Wild Card distribution system were not always positive, and the EBVC is therefore proposing that a group of 3 persons including 1 player representative, the CEV President and a member of the EBVC should be responsible for designating teams who receive a Wild Card. - rejected. Mr MEYER explains that the distribution of the wild card is a political decision and that players cannot be included in this process. Additionally, he underlines that the decision is made based on a list of teams provided by the EBVC and taking into account financial, political and performance criteria.
- With the tight schedules in place in age group competitions, the EBVC is proposing to either reduce the number of games by not organising games to determine places 17-24 and play double elimination instead of Round Robin, or to add one extra court on site to relieve the schedules a bit but maintain a maximum number of matches - Mr HRONEK does not believe in the solution of adding an extra court because he has noticed that most teams who should play on side courts to determine their place in the

17-24 range choose not to play. He believes that while it is important to keep a maximum number of matches, it is also important for the lower-ranked teams to have the right to watch the final instead of being asked to play their match on a side court at the same time. Despite the idea of keeping a maximum number of matches as possible, Mr MEYER believes that the absence of the teams in the last matches shows a certain lack of interest, and therefore rejects the idea of adding an extra court, at least in the 2007 season.

Action:

- Review the statistics concerning the no-shows to the last matches of the age group competitions over the past 3 years and for all 3 categories. – Competitions Dept.
- Based on the statistics, discuss and present a proposal to the next BoA. – EBVC

Indoor Beach Volleyball

Due to the intervention of Dr ACOSTA, FIVB President at the CEV Congress, the EBVC has stopped working on these regulations for this discipline and therefore recommends using it as an exhibition format only.

Mr MEYER asks the EBVC to finalise the format and regulations surrounding it.

Mr POTYKA explains that these were the main points his commission wanted to raise. He however adds that EBVC is still working on trying to increase the number of technical supervisors on the Tour in order to increase the quality of the tournaments, however there are several issues making it impossible right now. Additionally, is in favour of setting up a web-based registration and ranking system which would greatly simplify the work of EBVC and CEV Beach Volleyball Coordinator. Last but not least, Mr POTYKA explains that EBVC is trying to set up a calendar of U-20 tournaments with the idea of having at least 2-3 events per year for this age group and is still working on organising the Beach Cup Tournament for seniors.

Medical Commission – Prof Manfred HOLZGRAEFE

In the absence of a commission meeting since the last BoA meeting in September, Prof HOLZGRAEFE wishes to remind his colleagues that the Medical Commission does not only deal with doping matters but with all medical related matters, and that in any competition, even if there are no doping tests planned, there must be a minimum of 3 people handling the other medical matters.

Prof HOLZGRAEFE then explains that he has received the names of the medical representatives from Belgium and Russia for the upcoming 2007 European Championships, but is still awaiting some confirmation.

Action: Request the medical doctors of RUS, BEL and LUX to contact Dr HOLZGRAEFE directly. – Administrative Dept.

Finally, Dr HOLZGRAEFE informs his colleagues that the Organising federations received a detailed checklist of all that needs to be taken care of and organised.

Action: Publish the medical checklist for the 2007 European Championships on the CEV website. – Administrative Dept.

Refereeing Commission – Mr Jan REK

As there has been no meeting since the last BoA Mr Jan REK does not have much information to share and explains that he will be reporting more information during the next BoA meeting in June 2007.

Mr REK however requests the approval of the Board of Administration members to replace Mr Hans GRÖSCHEL (GER), ex-officio member of the commission in charge of Beach Volleyball who is retiring, by Mr David COX (NOR).



Mr MEYER also wishes to explain that the Norwegian Federation had presented an application in the name of Mr COX at the time of the elections, but that the application had arrived one week past the deadline, hence the reason why he was not considered at the time.

Decision:

- The Board of Administration approves the nomination of Mr David COX as ERC ex-officio member.
- Mr REK should propose another candidate for ex-officio member for Beach Volleyball.

Action:

- Send information letter to GER and NOR. – Administrative Dept.
- Update ERC member information in the directory and on the CEV website. – Administrative Dept.

Miscellaneous

IECL Regulations

Mr MEYER explains that the complete IECL Regulations will be sent by regular mail to all BoA members for review and comments. Any remarks can be sent before 15th March 2007.

Based on the comments received, the Executive Committee will finalise and approve these regulations during its next meeting at the end of March 2007.

2006 Best Players Awards - Proposals

Mr MEYER explains that only two proposals were received from Mrs Riet OOMS and Mr Jacques SHAW.

In the absence of any further reaction from the Board of Administration members, the Executive Committee will be nominating the best player awards based on their performances in the Champions League and World Championships and Beach Volleyball Nestea Tour.

Awards Ceremony 2006 & Proposals for the future

The 2006 awards will be distributed during the IECL Final Four event.

The Board of Administration would however like for the future to hold these award ceremonies closer to the end of the year.

Since very few proposals were received, the deadline is extended for Board of Administration members to send their ideas by the end of April.

Next ExCom and BoA in Paris (FRA)

Mr MEYER confirms that the next BoA meeting will be organised in Paris (FRA) from 15th till 17th June 2007, with a possible meeting on Sunday.

He reminds his colleagues that it is imperative that they all respect the meetings timetable communicated in their invitation letter and plan their flights accordingly.

He also takes this opportunity to inform his colleagues that the 2008 CEV Congress will be organised in Spain. The exact venue will be confirmed at a later date.

Closing of the Meeting

Mr MEYER thanks his colleagues for their good work and collaboration despite the busy agenda of the day. He also thanks the POL President for his warm welcome in Poland.

Mr PRZEDPELSKI, POL President, is then given the floor to communicate the details of the evening program to the Board of Administration members.

CEV BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING – VIENNA (AUT) – 21ST JUNE 2007

The following members are attending:

President: André MEYER (LUX)
Senior Vice President : Philip BERBEN (BEL)
Vice Presidents: Aleksandar BORICIC (SRB) - Jan HRONEK (CZE) - Riet OOMS (NED) - Renato ARENA (ITA) - Banu CAN (TUR)
Members: Eric ADLER (DEN) - Thanassis BELIGRATIS (GRE) - Aloys FISCHER (SUI) - Manfred HOLZGRAEFE (GER) - Pierre MULHEIMS (LUX) - Vladimir PATKIN (RUS) - Maris PEKALIS (LAT) - Stefan POTYKA (AUT) - Miroslaw PRZEDPELSKI (POL) - Jan REK (SUI) - Agustin MARTIN SANTOS (ESP) - Jacques SHAW (FRA) - Andreas STAVROU (CYP)

Opening of the Meeting

Mr André MEYER opens the meeting and welcomes his colleagues to Vienna on the occasion of the CEV Board of Administration meeting, organised in combination with the IECL Drawing of Lots and Gala. He excuses Ms Banu CAN, Vice-President, who could not be present due to professional reasons, and explains that Mr MARTIN SANTOS will be joining the meeting at a later time because his flights were delayed.

Approval of the Agenda

Given Mrs Riet OOMS will be absent from the afternoon session due to the preparation work required for the IECL Drawing of Lots, all the items related to the Cups Commission and competitions will be discussed earlier in the meeting.

Additionally, the following points are added: Small Countries Division and Games of the Small States of Europe. There being no other remarks, the agenda is approved.

Minutes of the Executive Committee held on 25th – 26th January 2007 in Warsaw (POL)

The Board of Administration members take note of approval made by the Executive Committee.

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on 31st March – 1st April 2007 in Moscow (RUS)

In the absence of any remarks, the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held in Moscow (RUS) are adopted.

Approval of the Minutes of the Board of Administration Meeting held on 27th January 2007 in Warsaw (POL)

Referring to a letter received by Mr Aloys FISCHER concerning the minutes of the commissions and working groups, Mr MEYER underlines that these minutes are internal documents and must contain the decisions of the Board of Administration before being distributed.

Mr FISCHER makes the following remarks:



- The minutes are written by persons who attended the respective meetings. It is not possible that the minutes can be changed by somebody who did not attend the meeting.
- Comments cannot be added after the fact, as minutes relate to discussions that took place within the meeting, not after.
- The new headline proposed for these minutes, "Proposals to be submitted for the approval of the Board of Administration" should not be put because it has always been automatic for all proposals to be discussed by the Board of Administration before being approved or rejected.
- Due to this new system, there is a large delay between a meeting and the sending the minutes to the respective body after approval by the Board of Administration. Consequently, a second meeting could have taken place without the participants having the proper documentation (adopted minutes), as was the case with the ELC.

So while Mr FISCHER agrees that minutes of the Commissions and working groups are internal working documents, he firmly believes that the new system is not necessary and that the system used prior was better, but of course without sending the minutes further.

Decision:

The following procedure, after further discussion between Mr FISCHER and Mr MEYER, is adopted:

1. The minutes of the Commissions/working groups are sent to the CEV Office
2. These minutes are formatted (A4) and sent to the relative Commissions members.
3. These minutes are then included in the BoA handbook for the next meeting.
4. Any comments and decisions by the Board of Administration concerning these minutes have to be included in the minutes of the Board of Administration.
5. The Commissions' minutes will no longer be printed individually as they will be included as appendix to the BoA minutes.

Concerning the point about the Legal Commission, Mr FISCHER once again raises the subject of annual allowances and explains that the financial regulations of the CEV need to be clarified concerning this point.

In the absence of any other remarks, the minutes of the Board of Administration held in Warsaw (POL) are adopted.

Activity Report of the Executive Committee

Since most of the points discussed by the Executive Committee are an integral part of this meeting's agenda, Mr MEYER only explains that he recently visited the Turkish Volleyball Federation and that the contracts for the Olympic Qualification tournament, the Grand Prix and the SECH 2009 were signed during that visit.

Institutions

FIVB ExCom & BoA Meetings – Report of the CEV President

Mr MEYER reports on the following points:

- The FIVB has hired 3 new people to add to its team: Mr Seppo INNANEN comes from Finland as Chief Operating Officer, Piero Rebaudengo from Italy will take over the FIVB Volleyball Events Department, and Mr Fabrizio Rossini, an Italian journalist, was hired as the new Press Officer.
- Additionally, the FIVB headquarters will probably be moving in the months of October or November 2007.

- The different Confederations can now choose their own external auditors. The auditing reports and final accounts must be sent to the FIVB by the 15th of March, so one month earlier than before.
- The support provided by the FIVB to the Zonal Associations has been raised from 10,000 CHF to 15,000 CHF.
- The FIVB membership fees will be collected by the Confederations from now on.
- The World League Finals will be played in Katowice (POL)
- The national federation of San Marino has been officially suspended because conditions set by the FIVB were not met.
- Concerning the confusion connected with the concept of federation of origin, it was decided that the players must wait 2 years after the application of change was received before they are eligible for that official change. Mr BERBEN however underlines that the new texts do not cover all the possible situations, and explains that the citizenship of the new country must be obtained before the application for change can be made. This point will need to be further clarified by the FIVB.
- The decision was made to allow a 2nd libero under certain conditions, but a maximum of 12 players are allowed regardless of how many libero's are included. This point will need to be further clarified by FIVB.
- The list of international referees must be sent to the FIVB by 31st July 2007 at the latest
- The contracts for the Olympic European Qualification tournaments were signed a week before the CEV Board of Administration meeting. Turkey will organise the Men's competition and Germany will be the Women's organiser. The Drawing of Lots is scheduled on 4th December 2007 in Halle (GER).
- The next FIVB World Congress will be held in Dubai on 15th – 16th June 2008.
- The Calendar meeting should be organised prior to the Sports Events Council in September.

Mr Agustin MARTIN SANTOS, BoA member, joins the meeting

International Transfers - Memo

Referring to the problems encountered regularly regarding international transfers, Mr BERBEN explains to the members of the Board that he was requested by Mr MEYER to prepare a memo of the specific problems encountered in Europe due to the free movement policy and to submit that report to the FIVB for analysis.

Mr MEYER confirms that Dr ACOSTA, FIVB President, is willing to discuss the special situation of Europe in during the FIVB Sports Events Council meeting, hence the reason why a written memo must be sent.

Mr Aleksandar BORICIC would like clarification as to what constitutes and differentiates a professional player from an amateur one.

Mr BERBEN underlines that regardless of whether a player is professional or amateur, the regulations governing free movement and transfers are the same for all.

Action: Include an article in the memo concerning the Bosman case and identifying the conflicts arising from the differences between professional and amateur players.

Mr PRZEDPELSKI also mentions the need to discuss and clarify the status and rights of players' agents. He explains that the FIVB Board of Administration decided that such agents must be recommended by the National Federations and must be registered on the FIVB list. Only based on such conditions can they actually represent a player and be added on the player's certificate.



Mr BERBEN confirms that a text already exists identifying the exact function and rights of such agents and is available at the FIVB. He however underlines that it is important not to forget that not only FIVB regulations but also national laws are governing the work of these agents and that it is important for the National Federations and players to be well aware of all these.

CEV Statutes & General Regulations

Mr BERBEN explains that in order to legally exist in Luxembourg, the European Volleyball Confederation was established as a non-profit organisation and must therefore register its statutes with the Luxembourgish government.

The statutes were revised by the Legal Commission to accommodate new changes in regulations or procedures, and will be presented to the CEV General Assembly for approval. Mr FISCHER reviews the CEV statutes and covers the changes being proposed.

At the beginning of the afternoon session, Mr Stefan TWERASER, President of the Austrian Volleyball Federation, joins the meeting and makes a brief presentation of his National Federation, its strategy and objectives for the future.

Austria counts over 608,000 active players and offers significant potential for the growth of volleyball. Many attractive Volleyball and Beach Volleyball events are organised in Austria, some of them annually, and the Austrian national team along with several Austrian club teams have been highly successful over the past few years.

The vision of the Austrian Volleyball Federation is to build on these successes and continue to host international events in its country in order to attract more spectators, which will in turn attract the media and sponsors.

In addition to qualifying for the 2008 Olympic Games and qualifying for the upcoming European and World Championship Final Rounds, the Austrian Federation ambitiously aims at eventually winning medals in the 2012 and 2016 Olympic Games.

To conclude, Mr TWERASER presents the application of his National Federation for the organisation of the Women's European Championships in 2011, highlighting the many advantages existing in Austria.

WG Vision 2012

In the absence of Ms CAN who is the President of this Working Group, Mr MEYER only shares that the Executive Committee discussed the situation of this working group the previous day and agreed, that the work of this working group and its members should be re-evaluated.

Decision: The minutes of the WG Vision 2012 will once again be included in the next BoA agenda to be discussed in the next Board of Administration meeting, along with the general work of the WG.

WG ELC / EMC

Referring to the minutes of the ELC/EMC meeting which took place on 10th February 2007 in Zurich (SUI), Mr FISCHER reaffirms that the subject discussed was that of doping in Volleyball, and it was generally agreed in the scope of the meeting that there is still a significant lack of information available within the CEV on that matter.

The two Commissions therefore propose to include this important topic in the General Secretaries' or Supervisor's seminars in order to extend the information to as many people as possible within the National Federations.

Information concerning prohibited items and the Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE) should be made more readily available.

Mr FISCHER therefore suggests that each doping related item should be analysed and ways should be found to better communicate this information within the CEV, the National Federations and the clubs.

To conclude, Dr HOLZGRAEFE reminds his colleagues that each National Federation is responsible for not only preventing positive doping cases, but also for reporting the appropriate information to the players and to the correct authorities when needed.

Zonal Associations activities

A meeting with the representatives of each Zonal Association will be held in Vienna (AUT) on Saturday, 23rd June 2007.

Mr Jan HRONEK explains that the main goal of the meeting will be to discuss and prepare the activity reports which will have to be presented during the CEV General Assembly in September. A short meeting concerning the Spring Cup will be taking place just after the ZA meeting.

Small Countries Division

Mr STAVROU shares that the Small Countries Division held its last meeting on 11th May 2007 in Glasgow (SCO).

The following points were raised:

- In order to grow, it is important to motivate all affiliated nations to register teams and participate in all the competitions, both junior and senior, including the federations of Wales and Monaco who have been inactive in the past couple of years.
- All tournaments, and more specifically the final rounds, must benefit from high-quality organisations. To do so, it is important to organise such tournaments in major cities, to respect the regulations including those regarding ceremonies, and to better communicate information through reports and by sending the results more regularly.
- For the junior competition, it was proposed that a qualification round should be organised if more than 6 teams register.
- The National Federations of Greenland and Monaco both have unsettled debts for which a solution must be found.
- The next Executive Committee meeting will be held in Moscow, while the next General Assembly of the Small Countries Division will be held in Luxembourg during the Women's European Championships.

Games of the Small States of Europe

Mr STAVROU reports the following information concerning the Games of the Small States of Europe held in Monaco:

- In the Men's competition, only Malta and Liechtenstein did not register a team.
- Out of 6 nations participating, Cyprus won Gold, San Marino Silver and Luxembourg Bronze.
- Malta, Monaco and Andorra did not participate in the Women's competition
- Out of 5 participants, Cyprus won Gold, Luxembourg Silver and Liechtenstein Bronze
- Despite its success at the Small Countries Division tournament in Glasgow, Iceland was not able to win a medal in this competition.
- In Men's Beach Volleyball, San Marino, Liechtenstein and Andorra won medals
- In Women's Beach Volleyball, Luxembourg, Monaco and Iceland won medals.

Mr STAVROU reiterates that many improvements were noticed in both the men's and women's categories, although an average of 3 – 4 foreign players were included within each delegation as allowed by the current regulations.



Mr MEYER thanks Mr STAVROU for his report and wishes to underline that the Small Countries have been benefiting from special conditions for the past few years to facilitate their transition, but that such a transition should now be over and the Small Countries should adapt to the regulations in place for all other federations. He specifically mentions the situation of closing ceremonies and explains that Small Countries are required to participate in the ceremony and will be fined accordingly if they do not.

European Youth Olympic Festival

The European Youth Olympic Festival will be held in Belgrade from the 21st to the 28th of July 2007. 8 European teams will be taking part in the Volleyball event. The referees proposed by the participating National Federations were verified and approved by the European Refereeing Commission.

The Serbian Volleyball Federation will be present on site to offer its assistance, and the halls used for the Volleyball competitions are professional ones and should therefore guarantee a good competition.

Mr BERBEN explains that once the 2007 festival is over, the European Olympic Committee will contact the European Confederations to discuss the format of this event with the hope of making it more like the Olympic Games with real qualifications.

Financial Matters

Accounts 2006

The Auditors reports as well as figures concerning the 2006 CEV accounts were sent to all Board of Administration members for their review before the meeting.

Mr BERBEN once again reminds his colleagues that all accounts are subject to the daily bookkeeping in the CEV office, to an internal audit, to an analysis by Lux Audit and to an external audit conducted this year by Ernst & Young.

The 2006 accounts were also sent to all the members of the Financial Commission. In the absence of any remarks, they were considered as approved by the Commission.

Comparing the 2006 accounts with the 2006 budget, Mr BERBEN highlights two points concerning expenditures:

- Point 45 – European Cups: The difference in the figures between the budget and the accounts result directly from the increased Prize Money paid to the teams and to some unforeseen expenses that CEV had to take over from EUROSPORT.
- Point 49 – Financial Matters: This point concerns the investment made by the CEV in 2005. Although CEV is guaranteed to recover the full amount of its investment, it is necessary for bookkeeping reasons to record annually the loss caused by decreasing markets.

Regarding incomes, Mr BERBEN notes the following point:

- Point 83 – Sponsorship/Marketing: Thanks to the work of Mr MEYER, CEV was able to develop its marketing strategy and deliver significant earnings.

Budget 2008

Mr BERBEN underlines that all figures were calculated based on the planned meetings, competitions and other activities. He then opens the floor to any question anyone may have.

Mr FISCHER notes that in the 2007 budget, there was a point titled “Presidency” that no longer exists, and underlines the importance of clearly identifying and differentiating the Per Diem to other allowances paid.

Mr BERBEN explains that the wording was changed and the same point is now titled "Management Allocations" based on a recommendation by Ernst & Young. Additionally, a clear text was written concerning Per Diem and will be added to the financial regulations to avoid any confusion in the future. This text does mention that special cases will be handled by the Executive Committee, and the money paid in these cases will come out of the "Management Allocations" budget.

The regulations governing Per Diem will be discussed in further detail later on.

Concerning point 421 07 – Medical Commission, Dr HOLZGRAEFE notes that the budget allocated to the Medical Commission will be lower in 2008. In his opinion, it is not fair for Commissions which have been limiting their expenses to be penalised by a reduced budget. He also underlines the importance of taking into consideration the possible anti-doping tests that may be take place during CEV competitions.

Mr Jan REK makes the same remark concerning the Refereeing Commission's budget, and underlines that his Commission also uses the money to train referees and with a decreased budget, it is more difficult to extend the training programs.

Mr BERBEN clearly explains the budget is always calculated based not only on the previous year's activities and figures, but also on the planned activities for the coming year, including upcoming competitions. He however underlines that if necessary, the budget can be increased if there are unforeseen additional expenses, and asks all the Presidents to inform the CEV ahead of time when a special project is planned.

Decision: In the absence of any other remarks, the proposed budget is approved by the Board of Administration and will be presented to the General Assembly for adoption.

Per Diem Regulations

Based on a request by the CEV, Mr BERBEN was asked as Treasurer and EFC President to write a text of regulations governing Per Diem and other related items in order to clarify these payments and lift any possible confusion.

Before reading the text to the Board of Administration for approval, Mr BERBEN underlines that this general guideline should cover a majority of the frequent situations, and that any special cases that require further discussions will be handled by the Executive Committee.

The floor is open for questions and comments.

Mr FISCHER brings up the special situation of the President and explains that in his opinion, it is not sufficient to include it as a special case, but it is necessary to have a more detailed text concerning the Per Diem and payments allocated to the President.

Action: Present to the Board of Administration a text which will be part of the Financial Regulations and which will clarify the situation of the management expenses. – A. FISCHER

Following several interventions regarding special cases, Mr MEYER reminds his colleagues to consider the text as a general guideline, and once again reminds them that special situations will be handled according to point 3.1, "case by case by the Executive Committee of the CEV."

Decision: The text proposed by Mr BERBEN is adopted with 17 votes in favour and 1 abstention.

European Championships

2007 Men's SECH Final Round in RUS – Report

Mr Aleksandar BORICIC, President of the Control Committee, explains that a meeting was organised in Moscow with the organisers and that an inspection visit was then organised in St. Petersburg.



Everything in Moscow, including the hotels, competition halls and transportation means, are according to CEV requirements.

A few problems remain in St. Petersburg with the competition hall and the hotel selected for the officials. A final inspection will be made to ensure that all problems have been resolved.

Mr BORICIC wishes to underline the need for the RUS federation to keep the Control Committee properly informed of any changes and any meetings taking place regarding the organisation.

He also proposes to change two nominations as follows:

Decision:

- Mr Pierre MULHEIMS will officiate in Moscow
- Mr Slobodan MILOSEVIC will take his place in St. Petersburg

Mr MULHEIMS also wishes to clarify the situation of transfers inside Russia for the teams playing in St. Petersburg and later having to fly to Moscow.

Action:

Inform the RUS Federation of their obligation to organise and cover the costs of the team transfers between St. Petersburg and Moscow. – A. BORICIC

Mr Vladimir PATKIN also wishes to clarify that a joint Jury meeting will be organised in Moscow and that all officials working in St. Petersburg will then be transferred that evening. The same is true for the referees who will have a refereeing clinic in Moscow before transferring to St. Petersburg for their local clinic.

Concerning the playoff rounds that will be organised in St. Petersburg and in Moscow, Mr MULHEIMS also highlights the need to have a very clear guideline and strict organisation as very little time will be available. A special organisation meeting will have to be scheduled. Media Partners should be invited to this meeting to help coordinate all TV and other media related activities.

Considering that the M-1 form available at the CEV is outdated, Dr HOLZGRAEFE informs his colleagues that a Russian document available in both English and Russian and WADA-certified will be used for these Championships.

Finally, the Board of Administration members are reminded that they should return the appropriate form concerning the CEV Congress and their attendance, back to the CEV Office by 15th July 2007 at the latest.

2007 Women's SECH Final Round in BEL and LUX - report

Referring to the written report printed in the agenda, Mr HRONEK explains that the last coordination meeting was organised in Luxembourg on 11th June 2007 and that everything is going well. The organisers are waiting to find out if the King of Belgium and Grand Duke of Luxembourg will be present for the competition or not. All the transfers between the 3 cities are booked, and the referees and other officials have already been appointed.

Dr HOLZGRAEFE confirms that all logistics regarding medical matters are in place.

2007 Girls U-18 European Championships - Report

The 2007 U-18 European Championships for Girls took place in the Czech Republic and benefited from a good organisation.

Mr MEYER explains that Mr ARENA had some problems with his report because the form he should have used for his report had not been made available on the website. His written report, signed by the President of the Organising Committee, will therefore exceptionally be

considered valid, but Mr MEYER nonetheless reminds his colleagues that the appropriate form should be made available and should be used accordingly.

2007 Boys U-19 European Championships - Report

Mr Philip BERBEN confirms the excellent organisation of these Championships in Vienna and Krems.

He however reports the unacceptable behaviour of certain teams at the final dinner, who caused much damage to the hotel. He therefore reminds his colleagues that all participants have an obligation to respect and properly behave even after the competition has ended.

Action: Monitor this situation closely and propose in collaboration with the President of the Legal Commission a first report including possible consequences for the teams concerned. – Mr BERBEN.

2008 Junior SECH in Italy - Report

Mr Philip BERBEN and Mr Luis MUCHAGA conducted an inspection visit in the different cities that will host this event and received confirmation that all aspects of the organisation meet the CEV's requirements.

He reiterates that Italy wants to organise its Drawing of Lots in June 2008, but underlines the importance for Italy to communicate with the CEV before fixing the exact date as the FIVB Congress and one CEV Board of Administration meeting will also be taking place that same month.

2008 Junior SECH in the Czech Republic - Report

In the absence of Riet OOMS, President of the Control Committee, Mr Jan HRONEK only confirms that the visit of Mrs OOMS is foreseen on 25th July 2007, followed by an inspection visit by Mr Maris PEKALIS and Mr Slobodan MILOSEVIC, coordinators, is confirmed for 13th – 14th October 2007.

Youth European Championships – Competition format analysis

Mr MEYER explains that he was present at both competition sites and had discussions with both delegations about the competition format used thus far for the Youth competitions. The first round with pools of 3 teams is generally considered disappointing, and as happened in Austria based on this format, it was already clear on the first competition day which teams were qualified for the second round, making the other matches of the first round meaningless.

The problem was reported to ESOC who have been charged with finding a new, more suitable competition format.

CEV Official Nominations 2007 – 2009

One modification is made according to the decision for Men's SECH in Russia.

For the Veterans Championships, the number of CEV officials should either be of 3 or 4 depending on the number of competition halls that will be used.

European League 2007

An inspection visit was conducted in Portimao (POR) where the European League finals will be held and the following points noted:

- The competition hall is only 6 months old, meets all the criteria and can accommodate up to 3,500 spectators
- The hotels are all 4 or 5 stars
- TV transmission is confirmed for both days



- There could be problems with travel as the teams participating in the finals will only be known a very short time before the competition

FIVB World Grand Prix Qualification Tournament 2007

This tournament will be organised in Ankara (TUR) in September 2007.

Due to the withdrawal of the Netherlands, it was confirmed that Bulgaria, the next best ranked team, has the opportunity to play in its place.

Decision: The ranking will not be changed and the distribution of the teams in the pools will remain the same. BUL will replace NED wherever it was distributed.

Junior World Championships

Mr MULHEIMS only shares that these tournaments were played and that the results were communicated to the FIVB to identify the teams who will be participating in the final round.

European Veterans Championships

Mr Thanassis BELIGRATIS reports that he had the chance to meet with the Greek President and with Volleyball players and it was agreed to organise these Championships under the auspice of the Greek Republic.

Mr Renato ARENA confirms the following points:

- The competition will be played in Loutraki from the 7th to the 13th of October 2007
- The Drawing of Lots is planned on 9th July 2007 in Loutraki
- 11 teams are registered in category Men A (3 pools), and 8 teams in category Men B (2 pools)
- 8 teams are registered in Women A (2 pools) and 4 teams in Women B (1 pool)
- Discussions are still underway to determine if 3 or 4 competition halls will be used
- Hotels, transfers and side events are all booked
- The calendar will be sent to the CEV after the Drawing of Lots

Actions:

- Establish a list of former International Referees to be sent to the ERC. – GRE Federation
- Nominate referees from the communicated list. – ERC
- Nominate 3 or 4 neutral CEV referees – ERC

Mr MEYER explains that the decision to send neutral referees was made to ensure an International representation of the event. Their travelling costs, accommodations and Per Diem will be covered by the CEV.

2008 Olympic Games

Mr MEYER reminds his colleagues that the Women's qualification will be played in Halle (GER) and the men's qualifications in Izmir (TUR).

Mr MEYER explains that it will be necessary to wait for the results of the continental Championships to know which teams are qualified for the World Cup in Japan and to know the organiser of the pre-qualification tournament.

The chart illustrating the competition format of both qualification tournaments distributed and explained at the January Board of Administration meeting in Warsaw was updated by Mr MULHEIMS with a list of the National Federations who have registered to participate in these competitions.

Mr MULHEIMS briefly summarises the principle of the qualification process.

He also submits 3 proposals by the European Sports Organising Commission.

Decisions:

For the Men's competition:

- The proposal to include an elimination round with the strongest team playing against the weakest is approved.
- Should European teams qualify for the Olympic Games through the World Cup, the proposal concerning the qualification for the European Qualification tournament of the best losers of the pre-qualification rounds under certain conditions, is approved.

For the Women:

- Should European teams qualify for the Olympic Games through the World Cup, the proposal concerning the qualification for the European Qualification tournament of the best second ranked teams of the pre-qualification rounds, is approved.



European Cups

2007/08 Registration Report

Mrs Riet OOMS reports that the registration deadline was fixed to the 6th June 2007 and that around 200 teams registered in total for the different competitions. The ECC and CEV Office are however still checking to see if all teams registered fulfil all the conditions and do not have any outstanding debts towards the CEV.

Concerning the new ranking system put in place and directly determining the number of places each National Federation has in each competition, Mr Maris PEKALIS takes the floor and remarks that the new system is aiming at encouraging more teams to participate, yet it seems to be penalising certain National Federations.

Considering that this remark was made by other Federations as well, Mrs Riet OOMS explains that the regulations will be reviewed in the next ECC meeting in order to accommodate more Federations.

IECL Drawing of Lots 2007

Mrs Riet OOMS reports that a new system for the Drawing of Lots was approved in order to avoid the confusion that occurred in 2006 and taking into consideration the new format adopted.

The Drawing of Lots will take place on Friday, 22nd of June 2006 at the City Hall in Vienna (AUT) and will be broadcasted live as usual.

CEV – EUROSPORT IECL project

Mr MEYER briefly explains that EUROSPORT proposed to the CEV a partnership program on EUROSPORT 2 for the 2007/08 season of the Indesit European Champions League. The basic idea would be that there will be a live or delayed transmission on Wednesday nights of one Women's and one Men's match.

Teams who have registered in the IECL were requested to give their opinion of this proposal upon registering, and it was found that the majority was in favour.

This proposal, which will guarantee a good coverage of the event across Europe, will be considered as a trial this season and may be extended depending on its success.

IECL Calendar 2007/08

Due to the overloaded calendars of certain National Federations, the CEV received requests to review the competition format of the Men's IECL. Mr MEYER reminds his colleagues that such requests should be submitted as early as possible in order to avoid organisational problems and additional work.

European Beach Volleyball

U-18, U-20 and U-23 Organisers

Mr POTYKA only confirms that inspection visits for these organisations are planned in July.

Qualification Tournament in St. Pölten

Mr MEYER informs his colleagues that the title of "Austrian Masters" initially used for the Qualification tournament in St. Pölten was a title already used for another national competition. An agreement was found for this season, but the case is still being handled by an Austrian court.

Cancellation of classification matches & future competition format

Following the discussion which took place during the last Board of Administration meeting in Warsaw on 27th January 2007, EBVC proposes to cancel the classification matches for the rankings 17 to 24 in all 3 age groups starting in 2008 because a general lack of interest was displayed by the teams.

Decision: The Board of Administration approves the proposal to cancel classification matches for ranking 17 – 24 in the U-18, U-20 and U-23 categories.

Action:

- Modify accordingly the respective regulations. – Competitions Dept.
- Collaboration CEV - GSM

Mr MEYER explains that CEV is again encountering communication problems with its partner GSM, including problems regarding visibility as GSM is trying to push its own brands instead of respecting CEV's partners. One specific problem concerns the Mikasa logo and the colours which display the brand and are not quite compatible with GSM's colours.

As there are no qualifications for the ECH finals, these finals should be played with 32 teams in the future.

Mr POTYKA takes this opportunity to mention a problem which arose with GSM in the St. Pölten tournament. GSM apparently informed the Austrian federation very late that only 32 teams should play this qualification tournament instead of 64 because arrangements had already been made. An agreement was finally found 2 days before the tournament that 42 teams would play.

Following this problem, Mr POTYKA underlines the need for EBVC to have better communication with GSM and to be informed well in advance of special situations like that.

Minutes & Activity Reports – CEV Commissions

Legal Commission – Mr Aloys FISCHER

Mr FISCHER shares that the Legal Commission had a meeting during which the statutes were reviewed and correction proposals were made as discussed in this meeting.

He also points out that organisation procedures received at the beginning of the year should be updated according to new changes adopted in the scope of this meeting.

He also explains that the Working Group Regulations and Fines met twice in 2007 and has finished its work. Mr FISCHER underlines that it is now necessary to maintain those regulations by controlling and updating all the related articles when a regulation changes.

Finally, Mr FISCHER asks what the status of the new database is, knowing that the work concerning the regulations is complete and that they should now be included in the new database according to the initial plan.

Mr FISCHER also confirms that the next meeting to review the financial regulations is set for the 13th of October 2007.

Action: Contact and invite a lawyer to be present in the meeting on 13th October 2007. – A. MEYER

Financial Commission – Mr Philip BERBEN

Considering that all points were discussed under Financial Matters, Mr BERBEN does not have any additional remarks to make.



Cups Commission – Mrs Riet OOMS

Following the minutes of the meeting of the ECC on 2nd – 4th March 2007, the following proposals were submitted to the Board of Administration:

- Form for the Inspection visit (Point 3, page 2) : The ECC thinks it would be better for the ECC and ESOC to use the same form for inspection visits - approved
- Extra Set (Point 5, page 3): To send a questionnaire to all the teams that played an extra set last season is no longer valid because the Golden Set will be introduced as a test in the CEV Cup next season.
- ID Card (Point 5, page 4)

Proposal to the BoA: It is necessary to analyse the use of only the accreditation cards of the players, before the game, to check the identity of the players.

Decision: The proposal is approved.

- Licenses for the IECL (Point 5, page 4):

Proposal to the BoA: The maximum number of the players' license for the teams during the IECL season should be: 16

Decision: The proposal is amended to 18.

- Table of Financial Sanctions for Cup II and Cup III (Point 7, page 5)

Proposal to the BoA:

- ❖ For the delay in providing the required information: 175 EUR
- ❖ No CEV flag: 175 EUR
- ❖ No competition title: 175 EUR
- ❖ No presence of a team guide (speaking fluent English): 350 EUR

Decision: The proposed new sanctions are approved.

- Names of European Cups (Point 7, page 5)

Proposal to the BoA: Should there be no proposal for new names of the Cup II and Cup III for the season 2007 – 2008 the ECC proposes to the BoA that the working names for these competitions will be used: Cup II will be called: CEV Cup, and Cup III will have the working name: Challenge Cup.

Decision: The proposed names are approved.

- Technical Delegates Seminar (Point 12, page 7)

Proposal to the BoA: The Commission proposes to organise a Seminar for the Technical Delegates of the national federations. The costs of this seminar will be around 5/ 6,000.00 EUR

Decision: The proposal to organise a Technical Delegates seminar is approved. The seminar should be organised at the start of the 2008/09 season.

Sports Organising Commission – Mr Pierre MULHEIMS

Mr Pierre MULHEIMS goes over the minutes of the last meeting held on 27th – 29th April 2007 in Riga (LAT) and refers to the main points.

Junior European Championships 2008 (Point 6, page 3-4) – Competition formula:

Proposal to the BOA

Item	Actual	New proposal
Drawing of Lots	only seeding following the previous ranking with avoiding same teams in the same pools	Drawing of Lots followed by a calendar conference; (can be together with Senior)
Calendar conference		Organisers of the 1 st and 2 nd Round tournaments to be fixed in the calendar conference in presence of the representatives of the participating teams; Applications as Organiser for the 3 rd round, to be presented by the participating countries; Organisers to be fixed after the 2 nd round;
1 st round	Depending on the definite number of teams registered - 1 [ONE] up to 4 [FOUR] 1st Round pools will be played (P1 to P4). The 1st round pools shall consist of at least 3 [THREE] teams and at most 6 [SIX] teams. The number of teams to play in the different pools shall be as equal as possible according to the number of teams participating in the 1st round.	Depending on the definite number of teams registered - 1 [ONE] up to 8[EIGHT] 1st Round pools will be played (P1 to P8). The 1st round pools shall consist of at least 3 [THREE] teams and at most 4 [FOUR] teams. The number of teams to play in the different pools shall be as equal as possible according to the number of teams participating in the 1st round.
2 nd round	4 pools with a maximum of 6 teams each; 1st and 2nd ranked teams will qualify to the Final Round. Teams ranked 3rd, 4th, 5th or 6th are eliminated.	4 pools with a maximum of 6 teams each; 1st ranked teams will qualify to the Final Round. The 2 nd and 3 rd ranked Teams will play the 3 rd round. The teams 4th, 5th or 6th are eliminated.
3 rd round	Not foreseen	2 pools (E and F) with 4 teams each: Pool E is composed of: 2 nd of Pool A 3 rd of Pool B 2 nd of Pool C 3 rd of Pool D The 1 st and 2 nd ranked teams are classified for the Final Round Pool F is composed of:

Item	Actual	New proposal
		2 nd of Pool D 3 rd of Pool C 2 nd of Pool B 3 rd of Pool A The 1 st and 2 nd ranked teams are classified for the Final Round
Drawing of lots for the Final Round	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a drawing of lots to allocate the Champion and the team classified second in the previous Championships; - a drawing of lots to allocate the team classified third in the previous Championships and the Organising National Federation's team; - a drawing of lots to allocate the teams classified first in each of the 4 [FOUR] 2nd Round pools. <p>to prevent that teams coming from in the same 2nd round pool meet again, the teams placed second in the 2nd round pools shall be allocated to the pool opposing the one of the team stemming from the same 2nd round pool.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a drawing of lots to allocate the Champion and the team classified second in the previous Championships; - a drawing of lots to allocate the team classified third in the previous Championships and the Organising National Federation's team; - a drawing of lots to allocate the teams classified first in each of the 4 [FOUR] 2nd Round pools. - a drawing of lots to allocate the teams classified first in each of the 2 [TWO] 3rd Round pools. <p>to prevent that teams coming from in the same 3rd round pool meet again, the teams placed second in the 3rd round pools shall be allocated to the pool opposing the one of the team stemming from the same 3rd round pool.</p>
Final Round	No change	No change

Junior European Championships 2008 (Point 6, page 5) – Registration & Competition Dates

Proposal to the BOA

Item	Actual	New proposal
Registration date	30 September	15 October
Drawing of lots	Only seeding following the previous ranking	Until 15 th November (can be together with Senior)
1 st round	During Easter period	First week-end in January But to avoid any travel on 1 st January, otherwise the following week-end;
2 nd round	Last full week in May	In the week after Easter (last competition day on Saturday or Sunday)
3 rd round	Not foreseen	2 nd weekend in July
Drawing of Lots for Final round	At the latest 2 weeks after the last match of the 2 nd round	At the latest 8 days after the last match of the 3 rd round
Final Round	From 1 st August - 15 th September	From 15 th August- 15 th September

The ESOC is proposing new dates to better accommodate teams in the junior competitions following a survey sent to the National Federations.

Mr Jacques SHAW (FRA) believes that the new formula spreads the competition over a period that is too long, thus making it too expensive, and that teams have to wait a long time before finding out if they are qualified or not.

Mr MARTIN SANTOS (ESP), supported by Mr PEKALIS (LAT), agrees that the most important thing is to protect young players and guarantee that their studies and exams are not affected by the competitions, and the new formula covers that aspect. They also support the idea of introducing a 3rd round which gives more opportunities to the players to play and qualify themselves.

Mr ARENA also believes that as was decided in Beach Volleyball, the classification matches for rankings 5-8 should be cancelled.

Mr MULHEIMS agrees that this new formula with one extra round will be more expensive for some teams, but underlines that it also creates more matches and increases the chance for the best teams to qualify for the final round. Concerning the proposal of Mr ARENA, he says this point will be discussed at the next ESOC meeting.

Mr MEYER reminds his colleagues that the CEV should aim at helping develop junior competitions and should therefore be careful not to restrict the opportunities available to play.

Decision: The proposals concerning the format and dates of the Junior European Championships are approved with 17 votes in favour and 1 abstention.



Mr ADLER requests that such technical proposals be presented in a more visual way in the future as to help all Board of Administration members clearly follow and understand the subject at hand.

Junior European Championships 2008 (Point 6, page 5) – Financial Matters

Proposal to the BoA: Given the great difference in the costs for just participating as opposed to organising a tournament ESOC proposes to the CEV Board of Administration to an increase of at least 20% in the contribution fee (actual amount: 35 Euros per day for each delegation member) in the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and final rounds.

Decision: Rejected at this time. Mr MEYER asks ESOC to further analyse the impact of such an increase, both for the organiser and for the participating federations.

Action: Study the costs of accommodating this new increase and present a clear budget to the next Board of Administration meeting. – ESOC

Youth European Championships in 2007 – Warnings (Point 7.3.1, page 6)

Proposal to the BoA: Federations must be warned in case “severe” remarks are written in the reports of the CEV Technical Delegates.

Decision: The proposal is approved.

Youth European Championships in 2007 – Regulations (Point 7.3.2, page 6)

Proposal to the BoA: ESOC proposal (to add to the YOUTH Regulations) - Hotel accommodation with 3 bedded rooms must have also the adequate facilities (wardrobe, hangers, and chairs) for three persons.

Decision: The proposal is rejected. This item should be correctly handled by the official conducting the inspection visit.

Veterans European Championships in 2007 (Point 7.4, page 7)

Proposal to the BoA: If a country registers 1 team in the Veterans European Championships Category A Men or Category C Women, a player born before the 1st January 1958 for Men and the 1st January 1963 for Women can participate in the Category A Men respectively Category C Women, only if this National Federation has not registered any team in Category B Men respectively Category D Women.

- A player cannot participate in 2 Categories
- A country register with 2 teams Men (Women), one team in Category A (C) and one team in Category B (D), these players must participate in the competition following their age.

Decision: The proposal is approved.

Men's European Championships U-20 in 2008 – Small Countries (Point 7.5, page 8)

Proposal to the BoA:

ESOC proposal

- to cancel in the addendum of the Official Regulations: RIGHT OF PARTICIPATION OF PLAYERS: To cancel from Regulations: 3 players aged under 23 years for male players and 22 years for female players;
- to change in the addendum of the Official Regulations
 - ❖ QUALIFICATION ROUND: between 15th December and 15th January preceding the Final Round.
 - ❖ FINAL ROUND: in each even year and mandatory be comprised between the weekend before Easter and the weekend following Easter.

Decision: The proposal is approved.

Men's & Women's European Championships 2008/09 (Point 7.7, page 9 and 10) – Competition formats

Proposal to the BoA:

For the Men:

- No Home and Away matches to be played in the 2nd round.
- The different pools are played in 2 tournaments (H/A) with 4 teams each.
- For the Drawing of lots the 2 organisers of the World Olympic Qualification Tournaments (GER and POR) should not be drawn in the same 2nd Round Pool.

For the Women:

- No Home and Away matches to be played in the 2nd round.
- The different pools are played in 2 tournaments (H/A) with 4 teams each.

Decision: The proposal is rejected. It will be necessary to wait until after the Sports Events Council and to fix the calendar according to the decisions made in that meeting.

Action: Wait until after the Sports Events Council in September 2007 and fix the format in the next ESOC meeting. – ESOC

Player Licenses in CEV Competitions (Point 12, page 13)

Proposal to the BoA: The Licenses for the European Championships 2006/2007 are valid for the Continental European Qualification Tournament (Elimination Round until Continental Qualification) for the Olympic Games 2008.

Decision: The proposal is approved.

To conclude, Mr MULHEIMS informs his colleagues that the next ESOC meeting will be taking place from 25th to the 28th of October 2007 in Luxembourg at the same time as the Drawing of Lots for the Junior and Senior European Championships and the European League meeting.

Concerning the European League meeting, Mr MEYER reminds Mr MULHEIMS that the meeting for the European League will from this year on be organised after all participants have confirmed in writing, in order to avoid making decisions regarding the formula and organisation and later have to change them due to a withdrawal.

Beach Volleyball Commission – Mr Stefan POTYKA

In the absence of a meeting of the Commission since the last Board of Administration meeting in January, Mr POTYKA underlines that the next meeting will be organised after the end of the season.

Medical Commission – Prof Manfred HOLZGRAEFE

Referring to the minutes of the last EMC meeting which was organised in Luxembourg on 14th April 2007, Dr HOLZGRAEFE briefly summarises the main points and proposals of his Commission:

- An updated anti-doping questionnaire should be sent out to the National Federations. The last one was sent in 2003 and the Medical Commission believes it is important to gather updated information concerning the anti-doping regulations and procedures available in each European federation - Approved.
- A questionnaire regarding medical services should also be sent to the European clubs to have an inventory of the medical services and facilities available to each club - Approved. A questionnaire will be sent to the IECL participants.



- Dr HOLZGRAEFE reminds all his colleagues to educate themselves on anti-doping and WADA regulations in order to guarantee that any positive doping case is managed as it should be.

Mr BERBEN shares with Dr HOLZGRAEFE that the Belgian Volleyball Federation organises a medical symposium annually and that they would like to organise that symposium in 2007 in combination with a National Championships tournament and with the collaboration of the European Medical Commission.

Mr STAVROU suggests that detailed information regarding the WADA regulations and obligation of doctors should be sent to the clubs along with the questionnaires.

Dr HOLZGRAEFE however underlines that these regulations and other medical information are available on the CEV website and updated regularly.

Action: Send a letter attached to the questionnaire referring to the medical information available on the CEV website. – EMC

Refereeing Commission – Mr Jan REK

The European Refereeing Commission last met on 2nd and 3rd March 2007 in Finland. During the meeting, a presentation was made regarding the education of referees.

The following points are discussed by Mr REK:

- Following the death of a referee, Mr REK requests the possibility for death notices to be made available to the referees through the CEV website - Rejected. Mr MEYER underlines that the information is forwarded to all National Federations and that it is their responsibility to inform their officials accordingly.
- Referring to the presentation regarding referee education, Mr REK explains that the idea is to not only organise the annual seminars, but to reach out to the referees through their National Federations and to include the federations in the learning process.
- A Beach Volleyball Refereeing Seminar was organised in Vienna (AUT) on 20th – 22nd April 2007. Mr Jeff BREHAUT handled the technical part of the Seminar while Mr REK answered more general matters regarding refereeing.
- Mr REK reminds colleagues that the age limit for International Referees is 55. Past that age, the title of International Referee is lost along with the function, and National Federations cannot use this title past the age of 55, even for National Competitions.

Referring to the educational projects of the ERC, Mr MEYER wishes to underline that the National Federations are responsible for the education of their referees inside their country. The ERC's educational role is to maintain that education, and if its project is to reach to the referees inside their country, the Commission should do so through their National Federation by teaching them how to educate referees properly.

Miscellaneous

2007 Best Players Awards

In the absence of any additional suggestions since the January meeting, Mr MEYER postpones this point until the September Board of Administration meeting.

Action: Proposals for the 2007 Best Players Awards should be submitted in time for the BoA meeting in Moscow in September 2007. – BoA Meeting.

Awards Ceremony – Proposals for the future

In analysing new ways to organise the awarding ceremony at the end of a competition, Mr MEYER explains that requests were received from television to organise these awarding

ceremonies as soon as possible after the end of a match in order to include them in the live transmission.

Additionally, Mr MEYER and Mr ROMMES analysed the awarding ceremonies in other team sports and noted that in majority only the competition winner receives an award and is promoted as cup winner.

The following decision is made:

Action:

- Awards Ceremony – European Cups
 - ❖ 1 single cup to the champion in the scope of the awarding ceremony
 - ❖ 2nd and 3rd will receive a commemorative medal without a ceremony
- Awards Ceremony – European Championships
 - ❖ The ranking is kept
 - ❖ Bronze medals awarded in a short ceremony
 - ❖ 1 single cup to the champion
 - ❖ Gold and Silver medals awarded during the main ceremony at the end of the final match

Action: Define who will be responsible for handing the medals and the cup to the winners, and establish a written guideline to be sent to the National Federations and organisers for information. This should be done both for Volleyball and Beach Volleyball – Competitions Dept.

CEV General Assembly 2007 in Moscow

As a reminder, all Board of Administration members should register for the General Assembly by sending the appropriate form back before the 15th of July 2007.

The CEV Executive Director, Mr Olivier MOTTIER also reminds the Commission Presidents that they must send their activity report to be included in the Handbook, and must also send their PowerPoint presentation for the Congress before the 14th of August 2007.

Mr STAVROU thinks that activity reports submitted for the handbook should not again be read in the out at the Congress and that the General Assembly should be made more interactive and encourage the delegates to participate more actively.

Mr MEYER reminds his colleagues that the purpose of the PowerPoint presentations is not to submit the same information as was submitted in writing in the handbook, but to complete the information with new developments.

CEV Head Office – replacement of employees

Mr MEYER informs his colleagues of the situation of the CEV Head Office:

- Ms Birthe MEYER, Events Secretary, has resigned and will be replaced by Ms Isabelle KARMANN.
- Ms Marion MEYERS, Marketing Coordinator, will be on maternity and parental leave through 2008.
- Mr Erik SCHMIDT, Beach Volleyball Coordinator, has resigned.
- Mr Jean-Paul ROMMES, Competitions Director, will be on part-time parental leave starting on October 1st and for a period of one year.

All these employees will be replaced shortly.

Closing of the Meeting

Mr MEYER informs his colleagues that they are invited on Friday, 22nd June for a marketing presentation by Ogilvy who will introduce the new CEV Corporate Identity. Another short



presentation and workshops will then be organised in the afternoon with National Federations' delegates to establish marketing plans for the future.

Mr Eric ADLER takes the floor and explains that after having carefully listened to all discussions throughout the day, he believes that it is necessary for the CEV Board of Administration to decide what its projects for the future are and to establish a vision and a strategy to achieve these goals.

He also suggests that a meeting should be organised in the future to just discuss these projects and strategies.

Mr MEYER fully agrees with Mr ADLER and informs him that a similar discussion took place in the Executive Committee meeting where it was decided that a meeting without an agenda would be organised at the end of the year.

Decision:

- An Executive Committee without agenda will be organised at the end of 2007.
- A Board of Administration meeting without agenda will be organised in 2008.

Mr MEYER thanks all his colleagues for their work and participation and invites them for the Official Dinner offered by the Austrian Federation.

CEV BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION MEETING – MOSCOW (RUS) – 12TH & 13TH SEPTEMBER 2007

The following members are attending:

President: André MEYER (LUX)

Senior Vice President: Philip BERBEN (BEL)

Vice Presidents: Aleksandar BORICIC (SRB) - Jan HRONEK (CZE) - Riet OOMS (NED) - Renato ARENA (ITA) - Banu CAN (TUR)

Members: Eric ADLER (DEN) - Aloys FISCHER (SUI) - Manfred HOLZGRAEFE (GER) - Pierre MULHEIMS (LUX) - Vladimir Patkin (RUS) - Maris PEKALIS (LAT) - Stefan POTYKA (AUT) - Miroslaw PRZEDPELSKI (POL) - Jan Rek (SUI) - Agustin MARTIN SANTOS (ESP) - Jacques Shaw (FRA)

Opening of the Meeting

Mr André MEYER opens the meeting and welcomes his colleagues to Moscow on the occasion of the Board of Administration meeting and CEV Congress. He excuses Mr BELIGRATIS and Mr STAVROU, as well as the members who are officiating as Jury members in the European Championships. He then gives the floor to Mr Stanislav SHEVCHENKO, Vice-President of the Russian Federation.

Mr SHEVCHENKO welcomes the Board of Administration members in Russia and wishes them a productive meeting.

Approval of the Agenda

In the absence of any remarks, the agenda is approved as presented.

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on 20th June 2007 in Vienna (AUT)

The Board of Administration members take note of the approval made by the Executive Committee.

Minutes of the Board of Administration Meeting held on 21st June 2007 in Vienna (AUT)

Mr BERBEN, who took over the floor for a few minutes, explains that due to the late issuing of these minutes, remarks and comments from Board of Administration members could not be received in time. Therefore, a corrected copy was distributed to the members at the meeting for their review and verbal comments.

Taking into consideration the fact that several BoA members are absent and the delay in submitting these minutes for approval, they will be sent again by e-mail to all Board of Administration members with a new deadline for comments and approval.

Activity Report of the Executive Committee

Mr MEYER reports the following points discussed in the scope of the Executive Committee meeting, as well as some activities the different members had:

Extraordinary meetings

- Based on the proposal of Mr BORICIC in Vienna, an extraordinary ExCom meeting will be organised in Belgrade in October 2007. One of the items which will be discussed is the purpose and value of the Board of Administration organised each second year in the scope of the European Championships. Seeing the number of members excused due to their obligations within the jury of the competition, it might be better to delay this 3rd meeting of the year by a few weeks in the years a competition is taking place.
- An extraordinary BoA meeting will also be organised in 2008. The members will discuss a possible date later in the meeting.
- Concerning the work of the European Commissions, Mr MEYER underlines that CEV fully respects the work of the Commissions, but that it is sometimes necessary to make political decisions reversing proposals initially adopted. Indeed for example in the Cups competitions, the Executive Committee decided to review a proposal concerning the eligibility of the teams to participate in the European Cups.

Proposal by the POL federation

The Polish Federation sent a written proposal concerning the possibility for this year's organisers of the Women's Senior European Championships to hand it over to the 2009 organiser (Poland) in an official ceremony as is done for the Olympic Games. While the Executive Committee finds the idea attractive and is in theory not against it, Mr MEYER explains that there is little time left to organise such a ceremony and that the same should have been done for the men's competition.

Beach Volleyball training centre

Following a decision made 2 years ago, a beach volleyball training centre will be built in the city of Alanya to allow beach volleyball players to train in Europe even during the off-season. This project being finalised, Mr MEYER shares that it will be officially presented in the scope of the General Assembly.

Marketing

Mr MEYER informs his colleagues that a company contacted the CEV with the interest to buy the internet rights for the Champions League. If the contract is finalised, it would run for a period of 5 years. Part of the project would be to include a platform online to broadcast matches of the Champions League.



Mikasa contract

The new Mikasa contract will be signed in an official ceremony on Saturday, 15th September 2007. The new contract will include support of the Beach Volleyball training centre in Alanya as well as support for the Zonal Associations.

Azerbaijan

During his visit in Baku on the occasion of the memorial tournament for the former President Heydar ALIYEV, Mr MEYER had the chance to meet the country's President and the Sports Minister and obtain from them a guarantee that a volleyball centre would be built in Azerbaijan.

FIVB World Grand Prix Qualifications

Mr MEYER and Mr HRONEK were in Ankara for the FIVB World Grand Prix Qualifications.

National team of CRO

Mr MEYER explains that problems were encountered with the federation of Croatia who had two national teams, thus causing difficulties to appoint a National team to play in the Senior European Championships. A meeting to discuss the situation was organised in Luxembourg, and Mr BERBEN joined an Executive Committee meeting in Croatia to find a solution to the problem.

Institutions

FIVB – International Transfers – CEV memo

Firstly, Mr MEYER takes this opportunity to inform his colleagues that a Sports Events Council will be taking place on 27th September 2007 in Lausanne, and that a special calendar meeting is organised on this occasion to discuss the specific calendar issues faced by the European Federations.

The problems of international transfers and changes of Federation of origins will also be discussed in the Sports Events Council meeting.

Concerning the calendar meeting, Mr BORICIC believes that it is imperative for all the National Federations concerned to present a clear proposal to Mr MEYER of their problems and expectations to allow Mr MEYER to present the FIVB with a clear overview of the European situation.

Mr MEYER explains that a meeting to discuss calendar issues was organised on 13th July 2007 and was attended by representatives of the Federations concerned, so a consensus could be found and will be presented in the FIVB meeting.

CEV Statutes – Modifications

The statutes in principal adopted by the Board of Administration during its June meeting were sent to the FIVB for approval before being presented to the General Assembly.

The CEV received 3 amendments to its proposed statutes concerning Art. 3.2, Art. 10 and Art. 16.2.

The biggest modification comes with the request of the FIVB to withdraw Art. 10 which was a new addition proposed by the CEV to control the elections of CEV members to the FIVB. This proposed article clashes from a legal point of view with the FIVB Statutes and Code of Conduct, hence why it is rejected by the FIVB.

The topic will be discussed in the FIVB Board of Administration meeting in 2008 in order to find a consensus for all Confederations.

Decision: The amendments requested by the FIVB are approved.

The proposed agenda for the CEV Congress must be approved by the Board of Administration.

The following changes are proposed:

- Welcome speech by Mr Stanislav SHEVCHENKO instead of Mr Nikolay PATRUSHEV.
- The Speech of Mr Viacheslav FETISOV, Sports Minister, will come before the speech of Mr SHEVCHENKO, Vice-President of the Russian Volleyball Federation.
- The affiliation of the new Federation of Montenegro (MNE) needs to be officially confirmed by the General Assembly. Consequently, an additional point will be added under point 1: Affiliation of Montenegro.
- Point 1.2 should be "Confirmation of" instead of "Appointment of".
- Following the resignation of Mr POTYKA, an announcement and the approval of his replacement will be made under point 8.1.2.

San Marino Case

Following the explanations given during the last Board of Administration meeting in June, Mr MEYER is pleased to inform his colleagues that the a General Assembly was at last held in San Marino with new elections on August 20th, 2008. Mr Gian Luigi LAZZARINI was elected as President.

Based on its positive outcome, the national federation of San Marino will again be officially recognised by FIVB and CEV.

Zonal Associations Meeting – 23rd June 2007 in Vienna

Referring to the report handed to the Board of Administration members, Mr MEYER shares that a coordination meeting was organised for all Zonal Associations in June 2007 in Vienna.

Working Group Vision 2012

The last Working Group meeting was organised in Luxembourg on 26th May 2007. During this meeting, the members built their webpage connected to the CEV website (infosys.com.lu). 16 to 18 countries have joined the interface, but it is not possible to evaluate how many people are viewing the database.

Ms Banu CAN explains that it is now necessary to clearly communicate to all National Federations the aim of this project and the importance of the website.

Referring to point 6.1 of the report, Mr MEYER underlines that it is the responsibility of the WG members to seek documents that are available and could be added to the database, rather than asking for Commission members to look for and provide such documents to the working group.

Ms CAN explains that the working group is looking to establish further contacts with the National Federations through the Board of Administration members and to expand the project by recruiting more people and Federations to add documents to the database.

Mr MEYER reminds Ms CAN that only a few federations out of the 55 are represented in the Board of Administration, but that many documents and other relevant information are also available on the different websites of the National Federations.

Decision: In the absence of any other remarks, the minutes of the WG Vision 2012 are adopted.



Financial Matters

Accounts 2006

The accounts were discussed in detail during the June Board of Administration meeting and very little change occurred since.

These 2006 accounts will be presented along with the 2008 budget during the General Assembly for adoption.

EUROSPORT Contract IECL 2007/08

It was announced in June that EUROSPORT 2 will be airing weekly live matches on Wednesday evenings, broadcasting two matches per leg. The general agreement is in place but CEV and EUROSPORT are still waiting for the finalisation of the contract through lawyers in order to avoid legal problems.

Mr MEYER confirms that this agreement was fixed taking into consideration the opinions and desires of the different clubs based on their contracts with local broadcasters.

Mr MEYER also takes this opportunity to share that 19 matches were broadcast live from Turkey despite the absence of Poland in the FIVB World Grand Prix Qualifications.

European Championships

2007 SECH in RUS - Report

Mr Aleksandar BORICIC, President of the Control Committee, shares the following points concerning the organisation in Moscow:

- Good overall organisation and no problems with the accommodation, the food, the transfers or the sports hall. Everything was according to the CEV regulations.
- There is only one coordinator for the organisation, and while this person works hard and communicates instructions to others, it makes things more complicated.
- There were a couple of problems with the security system which was then changed. The zone for the journalists needed to be better protected.
- There were some initial problems with the sponsors as not all the material was available as planned (banners and referee chairs).

Mrs Riet OOMS, Jury President in St. Petersburg, confirms some organisation problems in St. Petersburg as well:

- Only one coordinator and the only one who spoke English, thus making communication sometimes difficult.
- All the hotels were as expected. There were some problems with one team, but Mrs OOMS assures her colleagues that it was not an organisational problem but misbehaviour on the team's part.
- There were some serious problems with the way the competition hall floor was built. The beams supporting the floor caused the floor to have a trampoline effect. It even caved in one part of the field of play at some point, and while efforts were made to try and fix the problem, the playing area remained dangerous. In addition to being a hazard for the players, such problems also reflected a poor image on the competition and the organisation.

Mr BORICIC confirms a very good cooperation between the VIS in Moscow and the VIS in St. Petersburg, but suggests that a better system should be used to communicate documents between the venues as it was a time consuming effort. He therefore suggests starting the preparation work earlier and working out the small details beforehand as to avoid small problems when the competition is under way.

Aside from that, Mrs OOMS wishes to underline that there were some very positive points as well, including the large spectator attendance even in St. Petersburg where the Russian team was not playing, as well as the entertainment provided.

Mr HRONEK also wishes to comment that the TV production of the event was remarkable.

2007 Women's SECH Final Round in BEL and LUX - report

Mr Jan HRONEK reports that everything is ready in Belgium in Luxembourg and the competition will start as planned on Monday, 17th September 2007 with the arrival of the officials.

2008 Junior ECH in CZE - report

Mrs OOMS explains that as she was appointed as a CEV Representative for Beach Volleyball in Brno, she took the opportunity to conduct an inspection visit for the 2008 Junior European Championships.

As the competition halls are well known by the CEV now, no problems are anticipated.

The first meeting of the Organising committee will be taking place in October 2007 in Brno.

2008 Junior ECH in ITA - report

Referring to the report of his inspection visit, Mr BERBEN confirms that there is nothing out of the ordinary to report and that the organisers know what is expected of them.

2009 SECH in POL – report

Mr Jan HRONEK reports that the first meeting was organised in combination with the World League while the next meeting will take place on 24th January 2008.

Action: The minutes of the 1st meeting in Poland should be forwarded to Mr MEYER. – Mr PRZEDPELSKI

As the Polish Federation is considering Organising the 2009 SECH in 4 different cities, Mr PRZEDPELSKI takes the floor to make the proposal to the Board of Administration.



He reports that there is a great interest from many cities to host this event, and that 4 cities are currently under consideration: Lodz, Katowice, Wroclaw and Gdansk. The city of Lodz would host the final in a new hall currently under construction

Mr PRZEDPELSKI is convinced that the popularity of volleyball in Poland fully supports this proposal and believes that the competition will benefit from more exposure in terms of marketing and media if it is played in 4 cities.

Mr MEYER draws the attention of Mr PRZEDPELSKI to the organisational problems may arise if there are 4 venues, including the fact that the agreement with Gerflor only allows for 5 floors and not 8 as would be needed, and that more officials will be needed.

Decision: The proposal to organise the 2009 SECH in 4 cities is adopted by the BoA, taking into account the views expressed by the CEV President.

2009 SECH in TUR - Report

For the organisation of the Men's Senior European Championships 2009, two venues are currently planned in Izmir and Ankara. A competition hall is also under construction in Istanbul, making it another possible venue.

Mrs OOMS explains that it was suggested to organise the first inspection visit in combination with the inspection visit for the Olympic Qualification, but as this date is not suitable for her, she discussed with Mr PEKALIS and Mr MULHEIMS the alternative of conducting the first inspection visit and Organising committee meeting in January 2008 on the occasion of the Olympic Qualification, thus enabling a visit to the competition hall when a tournament is underway and to have an overview of the organisation in Turkey.

Other inspection visits may be organised in Ankara and Istanbul as needed.

European Veterans Championships

Mr Renato ARENA confirms that the Greek Federation sent out the first official bulletin and that there are a total of 29 teams registered for the competition which will start on 7th October 2007.

Two National Federations however withdrew their teams from the competition after the Drawing of Lots and should be sanctioned accordingly.

Based on an analysis conducted by the ELC President and the facts at hand, Mr MEYER explains that it is necessary to apply a sanction higher than the one foreseen in case of a withdrawal before the Drawing of Lots, following the Championships regulations. The Board of Administration therefore confirms the proposal of the Executive Committee:

The National Federations of UKR and NOR will be fined 750 EUR each.

Mr BORICIC reminds his colleagues that this is a test event, but that it is necessary to foresee such situations in the future and protect the organisers from situations such as those.

Finally, Mr MEYER asks Mr REK to take note of the fact that one Greek referee nominated to officiate in the SECH in Moscow arrived only to go home the very next day due to illness. This referee who was also appointed to officiate in the Veterans Championships might therefore no longer be available and it might be necessary to replace him.

CEV Official Nominations 2007 – 2009

Mr Jan HRONEK adds some nominations to the existing charts.

ACTION: Clarify the dates of the 2nd – 3rd rounds for the JECH Qualifications. – ESOC

European League 2007 and future

Final Four in Portimao (POR)

Referring to his report, Mr Jan HRONEK confirms that the Final Four in Portimao benefited from a good organisation and was visited by the Spanish President. The only real problem was the very low number of spectators.

The problem of lack of spectators could also be said of other countries as well. Referring to the spectator attendance statistics, Mr MEYER also notes a particularly low spectator attendance in Greece which he feels is not acceptable for a competition of this level, and explains that it might be necessary to substitute the Greek team in the competition if this problem cannot be resolved.

He also confirms that a required minimum number of spectators will be added to the competition's regulations, and shares that many teams have already expressed their interest in participating in the 2008 European League.

Mr BORICIC believes that the federations of Romania and Slovenia which have a long experience of hosting big volleyball events will definitely have more spectators.

Mr MARTIN SANTOS believes that the European League is an important competition and should be held to higher standards with stricter regulations.

Additionally, he explains that the home and away system is more favourable to the competition and facilitates the understanding of classifications in each group, especially for the press. He therefore recommends avoiding the format of tournaments if possible, or to think about ways to explain the system better to the press.

Mr MEYER confirms that tournaments are not ideal for promotion and are only out of necessity due to the calendar problems.

FIVB World Grand Prix Qualification Tournament 2007

Concerning this competition, Mr MEYER explains that there were unfortunately some last minute problems when it was decided by the FIVB during its Council in China to grant a wild card to Poland for 2008, thus making it necessary for Poland to play in the qualifications. The competition format therefore had to be changed to the single round robin format to accommodate the 7 remaining teams. Based on the qualifications, the federations of GER, ITA and TUR won their place in next year's edition of the World Grand Prix.

Mr Jan HRONEK, Jury President, refers to his report and shares the following points:

- Excellent organisation in Turkey with good hotels near the competition hall
- Over 39,000 spectators and excellent TV production
- There was unfortunately no Press Officer at the competition venue, due to the fact that Mr Philipp SCHÜTZ was asked to replace Ms Shelly BICKENDORF in Russia and that no substitute could be found for Turkey.
- There also was no medical doctor onsite following the illness of the Italian doctor initially appointed. The anti-doping tests were therefore conducted by a Turkish doctor, but no report or feedbacks have yet been provided on those tests.

Mr MEYER explains to his colleagues that the anti-doping tests are conducted differently in Turkey. Samples are collected on each day but analysis does not start until all samples have been collected.

Mr BERBEN underlines that such problems can occur and that it is necessary to follow a clear guideline according to the WADA regulations

Action:



- Check with the Turkish doctor what the outcome of the tests was, and make sure a full report is sent. – EMC
- Clarify what the Jury should do in the absence of a medical doctor with full knowledge of the procedure to follow. – EMC

Mr PATKIN takes the floor to discuss the dates the FIVB Grand Prix qualifications were organised on. In his opinion, placing a competition of this importance, with the possibility to qualify for the Olympic qualifications, just a week before the Senior European Championships disadvantages the teams.

Mr MEYER confirms that there is a calendar problem that he will discuss with the FIVB, especially concerning the requirement by FIVB to organise the qualification tournament 1 year before the start of the next edition.

The only other solution to this problem is to not play FIVB qualifications and automatically qualify the first 4 ranked teams of the European Championships. But in this case, there would be no competition organised for women the year before the European Championships.

Mr MARTIN SANTOS takes this opportunity to say that he is in favour of Organising a European League for women.

Mr MEYER confirms that this option has been under analysis and that CEV also supports this idea, but he explains that the problem would be to find a competition format that would benefit the teams and the competition. The problem is that with a pool system, the first 4 teams would be automatically qualified, leaving the question of whether there would still be an interest to play a Final Four.

Going back to the suggestion to qualify the first 4 ranked teams of the European Championships, Mr PEKALIS wonders if it would be possible to just qualify the teams for 2 consecutive years.

Mr MEYER believes that this would restrict the chances of other teams to qualify. He reminds his colleagues that the purpose behind organising the qualifications was to give more teams a greater chance to participate in the FIVB World Grand Prix, explaining that teams used to be invited by the FIVB preventing others from participating.

Mr PRZEDPELSKI confirms the need to organise more European competitions and therefore supports the idea of a European League for Women. He also suggests establishing a general ranking of European national teams and qualifying teams to competitions such as the Grand Prix based on this European ranking.

Olympic Pre-Qualification & Qualification Tournaments

The following organisers have applied:

Men: HUN, POR, ITA, TUR

Women: TUR, NED, BUL, GER

European Cups

Drawing of Lots IECL 2007/08 - Report

Mrs Riet OOMS confirms that the Drawing of Lots in Vienna was successful and that the problems encountered the previous year were avoided thanks to the new drawing system.

Mr MEYER also shares that from his point of view, the overall organisation was better and the event ran smoothly.

The 2008 Gala will be held on Friday 4th of July 2008 in Vienna.

Official Regulations

Ranking System European Cups

Mrs OOMS explains that as is the case any time a new system is put into place, some discrepancies or possible problems were not foreseen, and it is therefore necessary to review the system in order to improve it. A letter announcing the amendments to the regulations was therefore sent out to all National Federations after the ECC meeting in June.

Action: Submit the definite amendments to the European Cups regulations for approval by the BoA during the January 2008 meeting. – ECC

Remarks of NFs

BEL – Club of VDK GENT Dames

A letter was received from the BEL federation on behalf of the club VDK GENT Dames which was given a place in the CEV Cup instead of the Challenge Cup as expected.

Mrs OOMS explains that another Belgian club was initially given that place in the CEV Cup but did not take it. It was therefore decided by the ECC to grant the place to the next ranked club, VDK GENT. Following a discussion during the Executive Committee meeting, Mrs OOMS explains that the ECC thought this solution would please the clubs and did not expect teams not being ready to step up. The ECC will therefore discuss during its next meeting the possibility to give the choice to the teams to step up if they want to, rather than to force them up as was done here.

The same club also discovered following the Drawing of Lots that it would be playing against the club of Samorodok KHABAROVSK, thus having to travel over 9 hours by plane for the match.

The Executive Committee discussed this issue and recognised that the Russian club is registered and has the right to play the European Cups, and as such, also has the right to play at home according to the Cups regulations and like other clubs which are farther away. It was therefore decided to leave the regulations as they are and to allow all registered clubs to play home and away matches.

However, Mrs OOMS underlines that a solution was already found beforehand to allow the club of VDK GENT to play both matches at home, but that it was an exception.

Mr MEYER takes this opportunity to ask Mr MARTIN SANTOS, President of the Spanish Federation, whether it is true that the clubs of TENERIFE receive subsidies from the Spanish government to travel to mainland Spain in order to compete in the National Championships. Mr MARTIN SANTOS confirms that the Spanish government financially support the travel of the Spanish teams coming from Spanish islands to the first airport in mainland Spain.

SVK – Club of Policie BRATISLAVA

A letter was also received from the club of Policie BRATISLAVA concerning their competition hall which was refused by the ECC after having been used for many years. Mrs OOMS explains that although the hall meets many of the requirements, the court itself is not big enough according to the regulations so it had to be rejected.

FRA

A letter was received from the French Federation with a proposal to allow the runner-up of the National Cup to qualify for the CEV Cup or Challenge Cup if the same club wins both the National Cup and the National Championships during the same season.

Mrs OOMS explains that this is initially not foreseen in the regulations as it is clear that there is only one Cup winner therefore eligible to play in the European Cups. The decision to change



this is mainly political and will need to be made by the Executive Committee after discussing it in the scope of the extraordinary meeting planned in October.

Concerning this matter, Mr MEYER reminds his colleagues that the idea was to promote the National Cups by granting one place to the winner to participate in the European Cups. On the other hand, if the winner also won the National Championships, that place is lost and he therefore wonders where the idea of promoting the Cup is in this case.

He also underlines that National Federations should refrain from telling their clubs that they will be granted a place in European Cups if they win the National Cup, as it is against the CEV rules.

Mr SHAW also suggests that the National Federations should consider comparing the results of a team in both the National Cup and the National League in order to guarantee that truly the best team is granted a place in the European Cups.

ISR

Following the letter received from the ISR Federation, Mr MEYER confirms that considering that there are not enough teams registered, the possibility will be given in the future to National Federations to register more teams if they so wish. The problem of Israel is therefore solved for the future.

Mr Jean-Paul ROMMES, Competition Director, underlines that details concerning the registration process for next year were sent to all National Federations with a deadline before which they had to submit any comments or questions. In the absence of any such remarks, it is understood that there should not be any such problems next season.

European Beach Volleyball

U-18, U-20 and U-23 EC – Report

U-18

Mrs OOMS confirms that the organisation in Brno (CZE) was very good. The weather was unfortunately not ideal, with very high temperatures and a storm one evening that caused the court to sustain damage which thankfully could be repaired.

She also underlines that the closing ceremony was not professionally done. The Supervisor was on the court handing prizes and could therefore not properly check that everyone was following the protocol.

Mr MEYER takes this opportunity to clarify that the Supervisor in a Beach Volleyball competition continues in this role until the end of the competition and must therefore fulfil all their obligations including the closing ceremony. They cannot therefore be asked to be involved in a ceremony they are supposedly managing.

U-20

The U-20 competition took place in Scheveningen (NED) and benefited from good organisation from this National Federation, who had just organised the Nestea European Championships Tour 3 weeks prior. The weather was very good, and no problems were noted, except for the absence of certain players on the podium.

U-23

Mr HRONEK reports that the weather in Cyprus was unfortunately not favourable to the competition with lots of wind, but the organisation itself was good and the competition level was very high.

Referring to the report written by Mr Henrique GOMES, Mr MEYER notes that a player complained on court about a physiotherapist, leading to his replacement. Mr MEYER is

surprised that the player who displayed such behaviour was allowed to continue and play normally.

Mr HRONEK is not aware of the case, but takes this opportunity to suggest that it should be mandatory to have a medical doctor present at all junior Beach Volleyball competitions.

Mr POTYKA confirms that there were several problems in Cyprus and that he received several complaints.

Mr MEYER confirms the need to guarantee that there is always an accredited doctor on site.

Action: Add this requirement to the competition's regulations. – EMC

Nestea European Championship Tour and Final 2007

Mr POTYKA explains that in general, GSM did a good job at organising this competition but failed to guarantee a good local organisation teams and communications at the different venues. However, the final this year was organised under difficult conditions with no local promoter, resulting in a stadium that did not meet the CEV requirements and also the hotels being unconfirmed just weeks before the event.

Additionally, the weather was bad, resulting in few spectators, it was apparent that there was very little local interest for the event.

Mr POTYKA therefore firmly believes that it is necessary to have more management onsite and local involvement with the help of a local promoter in order to give this event the status it demands.

Action: Send a letter to GSM concerning this particular problem and the need to work with a local promoter next time. – Administrative Dept.

Mr MARTIN SANTOS underlines that the ESP Federation informed GSM that in the first year a Masters was organised in Spain the local promoter, they had chosen, was not reliable, but a contract was signed despite this warning. When there was no local promoter in the second year, the ESP Federation proposed to change venues and recommended hosting the event in a city with more local support and financial means, but the offer was not accepted.

Mr MARTIN SANTOS therefore believes that GSM should take into account the opinions and advice of the hosting Federation in the future.

Mr HRONEK, Jury President in Valencia, confirmed what was said above supports the following points:

- Excellent collaboration of the ESP Federation with GSM
- Very high competitive games
- Improved refereeing in Beach Volleyball. Mr HRONEK recognises the work of Mr Jeff BREHAUT in this area.

Activity Reports – CEV Commissions

Legal Commission – Mr Aloys FISCHER

The last ELC meeting took place in April 2007 and the minutes were adopted in the June Board of Administration meeting in Vienna.

The next meeting will be organised on 13th October 2007 in Luxembourg in the presence of a Luxembourg lawyer to discuss the CEV Code of Discipline and specific laws connected with A.S.B.L. associations.

Referring to the ELC minutes distributed (late) to all Board of Administration members, Mr FISCHER reminds his colleagues that it was agreed it is no longer necessary to wait until the Board of Administration meeting for the minutes to be sent to the Commissions members.



They can be sent directly after being published, and any decisions or remarks will be noted in the minutes of the following Board of Administration meeting.

Referring to the minutes of the last Board of Administration meeting, Mr FISCHER who was absent during this point of the agenda inquires about the decision of the Board of Administration and whether the remarks he submitted were taken into consideration.

Financial Commission – Mr Philip BERBEN

All documents concerning the financial status of the accounts were sent to the members of the Commissions for analysis and comments. In the absence of any such remarks, all financial matters are considered as approved by the Commission and will be presented as such during the CEV General Assembly.

Cups Commission – Mrs Riet OOMS

Mrs OOMS asks for the approval of the Board of Administration concerning the following matter:

Following the Drawing of Lots, ECC came to the conclusion that it is not possible to always give the home advantage of the first match to the highest ranked team in the different rounds, given the following:

- Golden Set is now played in the CEV Cup and Challenge Cup and that it is consequently very important for the teams to play their last match at home
- The ranking can change after each match
- The teams only find out 2 weeks prior where the match will be played and therefore only have limited time to organise the match.

Decision: The proposal is approved.

In the absence of any other remarks from Mrs OOMS, Mr MEYER takes this opportunity to clarify that it was never planned for an ECC meeting to be organised in Vienna in conjunction with the Drawing of Lots. The members were invited to Vienna to help prepare for the Drawing of Lots.

Mrs OOMS confirms that it was not initially planned to hold a meeting and that the one which took place was informal. The members worked at the preparation of the Drawing of Lots. But as all of them were present one day before, they took the opportunity to start working towards their next meeting.

Sports Organising Commission – Mr Pierre MULHEIMS

Firstly, Mr MULHEIMS notes that the minutes of the previous ESOC meeting were printed without the appendixes concerning the Veterans Competition and the 2008 calendar.

Decision: the minutes need to be re-printed with the appendixes and sent to all BoA members and ESOC members. – Administrative Dept.

At the last Board of Administration, the new system for the junior qualifications was adopted and ESOC was asked to submit an analysis of the financial impact a higher entry fee would have both on the teams participating and on the organiser.

ESOC analysed this impact, comparing the costs occurring with a € 35 participation fee versus a € 50 fee, and this in all rounds of the competition.

The conclusions are:

1st & 3rd Round:

The participating teams pay an extra € 1,020, the organiser saves € 3,060.

2nd Round:

The participating teams pay an extra € 1,530, the organiser saves € 7,650.

Final Round:

Ranking 1-8 the participating teams pay an extra € 2,970.

Ranking 9-12 the participating teams pay an extra € 2,430.

The organiser saves € 30,510.

A team playing through to the end of the competition will spend an extra € 5,520.

Mr MULHEIMS explains that the idea behind this proposal is to help the organiser with the costs of hosting such an event, and to hopefully make it easier to find organisers. He also notes that the per diem will be going up again in 2008, which means more expenses for the organisers.

The floor is opened for discussion:

Mr BERBEN: If such a proposal to increase the entry fee is approved, it will be even more important to guarantee that the organisation fulfils all the requirements so that the extra money paid by the teams is not just cost saving for the hosting federation.

Mrs OOMS: This decision is not only financial and technical, it is also political. The question to answer is whether we are willing to help organisers of junior events and thus develop junior volleyball? Additionally, Mrs OOMS underlines that this measure should not only concern the junior category, but the youth one as well.

Mr POTYKA: This is political indeed, but it is also about marketing. Should we ask the teams to contribute more, or should we follow other strategies by increasing the exposure of the tournament and seeking sponsors?

Mr MEYER agrees with Mr POTYKA, but explains that it is not possible to conduct more promotional activities for the junior categories because most organisers cannot fulfil the TV production requirements. If CEV cannot guarantee the exposure of the competition, it will be difficult to find sponsors. The only solution would be to make it mandatory for organisers to provide TV production.

Mr BORICIC is in favour of this proposal because it will definitely help to find organisers, but also because it is an added argument for making sure these events benefit from a high level and high quality of organisation. Concerning the problem of exposure, he thinks it might be an idea to require TV production for the final at least to get more exposure.

Mr BERBEN warns that not all countries have local television willing to broadcast junior competitions and if it is a requirement, it might limit the number of participating teams.

Mr PEKALIS is in favour of this proposal but shares the opinion of Mr BERBEN that the quality of the organisation must be maintained.

Mr ROMMES just wishes to clarify that the Junior European Championships are subject to several inspection visits and that the quality of the organisation should therefore not be a problem. The Youth Championships do not require inspection visits, but if this proposal is approved, it would be necessary to add that requirement in the regulations.

Decision:

- The participation fee will be raised to € 50 per player per day for the Junior and Youth categories, starting immediately (junior 2008 and Youth 2009).
- Inspection visits will also be conducted in the Youth category from now on.



Action: Change the competitions' regulations and send the official communications to the National Federations with the new amount.

Mr MARTIN SANTOS enquires whether this new measure is also applicable to Beach Volleyball considering that this discipline also encounters difficulties to find organisers for the junior events.

Mr POTYKA explains that the decision to ask a participation fee of € 35 was implemented one year ago and CEV should be careful before increasing that fee.

Mr MEYER confirms the need to first evaluate the new system in Beach Volleyball before considering an increase of the participation fee.

To conclude his report, Mr MULHEIMS confirms that the next ESOC meeting will be organised from 25th – 28th October 2007 in Luxembourg, in conjunction with the Drawing of Lots for the junior and the Senior Championships, as well as with the calendar conference for all 4 competitions.

Finally, Mr MEYER shares with the BoA that the live results statistics show a new record with over 26,600 visitors two days in a row during the Men's European Championships.

Beach Volleyball Commission – Mr Stefan POTYKA

In the absence of any meeting, Mr POTYKA makes a few remarks concerning the last season and suggestions for the future:

- Concerning the cooperation with GSM, Mr POTYKA confirms that the Supervisors and the CEV office did not receive all the relevant information before the tournaments. It might be necessary to organise a joined coordination meeting in the future to avoid problems.
- The decision was made last year to organise a European Beach Cup which would constitute a second level of Beach Volleyball competition. Despite there being 3 potential organisers this year, the competition still could not take place. Mr POTYKA however believes that this project should be pursued.
- The same situation happened with the U-20's. There were 3 organisers available, but the tournaments still could not take place. Mr POTYKA is confident this will be a possibility in the next season.
- There were some problems with regularly updating the rankings this season due to absent staff in the CEV Head Office. Mr POTYKA also believes that the programme used to input results should be changed to one that allows automatic ranking based on the results entered.
- The regulations were updated, but the handbook needs to be improved.
- With the new CEV branding now in place, it is necessary to redesign the medals as to give the winners a higher quality medal.
- Concerning the Junior European championships, Mr POTYKA believes it is necessary to start looking for organisers at least 18 months before the competition, meaning the contracts for the 2009 competitions should be signed soon, this is to give the organisers more time to prepare for the competition and seek sponsors.
- The refereeing has definitely improved as Mr HRONEK underlined based on the training that is being provided.

Mr MEYER asks for clarification about the junior competitions which were planned but did not take place.

Mr POTYKA explains that the idea was to develop a calendar of activities without any financial obligation for the CEV, and that the competitions were seen as qualification events. The first year would be considered as a test. If it works, the idea would be to use the results to contribute to the ranking of the junior teams.

To conclude, and given that Mr POTYKA will officially resign from his position at the General Assembly, he thanks all his colleagues for the cooperation developed over the years.

Mr MEYER thanks him also for his contribution to Beach Volleyball and for the excellent work he accomplished as EBVC President.

Medical Commission – Prof Manfred HOLZGRAEFE

In the absence of Mr HOLZGRAEFE and without any specific medical problems to report in the scope of the European Championships, Mr MEYER confirms the approval of the last minutes.

Refereeing Commission – Mr Jan REK

Mr REK shares the following points:

- Mr Goof VAN VELSEN, ERC Member, is currently unable to fulfil certain tasks due to a serious illness.
- There is no proposal by the ERC since the last Board of Administration meeting.
- One Greek referee had to leave the competition venue after just 2 days because of an illness. The Russian Federation helped him organise his return to Greece. There was no problem to replace him as there were enough referees onsite.

Mr REK takes this opportunity to underline that it is currently planned that each participating delegation be represented by one referee from the same country, meaning that in a competition like the European Championships, there are 20 referees appointed when only 12 + 2 reserve referees are really necessary, and some of these referees do not quite fulfil the level required. Mr REK therefore proposes to remove the regulation that obliges each country to be represented.

Mr MEYER underlines that this condition is currently in the competition's regulations, and if it is changed, the alternative would be to only have 14 neutral referees.

Action: Analyse the alternative and make a proposal. – ERC

Finally, Mr REK shares that the refereeing clinics went well however he believes it might be beneficial to organise a full match during these clinics to allow the referees some practical training and high quality problem solving on site. This item will be revisited in the next meeting following the women's competition.

Miscellaneous

European Youth Olympic Festival

Mr BERBEN confirms that the European Youth Olympic Festival was organised in Belgrade in July. Volleyball was played in a very good hall where the Champions League was also played and benefited from very good organisation by the Serbian Federation. He underlines that he had good communication with the referees and that the matches had a high level refereeing. Since Mr BERBEN was not in the same hotel as the referees, he nominated two senior referees as "captains" to supervise all refereeing activities and problems.

Mr BORICIC adds that the final game of the competition was broadcast on the local TV channel, and Mr BERBEN adds that Mr Jacques ROGGE, IOC President, was present for the final. The next edition will be held in Tampere (FIN) in 2009, but as already explained in the past Board of Administration meeting, the European Olympic Committee is trying to bring some changes to the event by extending the participation rights to both genders in each team sport. The future of this event will be discussed between the European Olympic Committee and the relevant Confederations in the near future.



Extraordinary BoA Meeting & timetable of meetings

The next BoA meeting will be organised in Prague (CZE) on 25th – 27th January 2008. Mr HRONEK shares some information about the programme surrounding the meetings. Details will be communicated at a later date.

Concerning the June 2008 meeting planned for Belgium, Mr MEYER underlines the need to carefully plan the date of this meeting due to the FIVB Congress which will be taking place in Dubai on 15th – 16th June 2008. Mr BERBEN believes the weekend of 6th – 8th June 2007 might be a good possibility.

The last scheduled BoA meeting in 2008 will be organised in Madrid (ESP) in combination with the CEV Congress. Mr MARTIN SANTOS shares that a video presentation will be made at the General Assembly to present the venue, and explains that the two delegates representing Spain in Moscow are also here to observe the organisation and make plans for 2008. The most likely date for the Congress will be 27th September 2008.

Concerning the extraordinary BoA meeting which was decided in Vienna in June, Mr MEYER says that the French federation is offering to host this meeting, and ask the BoA members for their opinion on a possible date.

Decision: The extraordinary meeting will be organised in April 2008.

XXVIII CEV General Assembly

Practical Information

Mr MEYER informs his colleagues of the programme for the next day and asks them to mainly focus their presentation on the items which were not already reported in the handbook.

There will be two additional presentations: one presenting the new CEV Corporate Branding and one presenting the CEV Beach Volleyball training centre in Alanya.

The CEV Executive Director, Mr Olivier MOTTIER underlines the need for the official speakers to be at the Congress Centre on time in order to make their welcome speech, and provides information regarding the accreditations to enter the competition hall. He finally asks for the help of the Board of Administration members to urge the National Delegates to get accredited for the Congress in good time and according to the schedule (and order) in place so as to avoid any delays on the day of the Congress.

Credential Checking Commission - Proposal

After consulting the list of delegates present in the Congress, Mr FISCHER proposes the following delegates as members of the Credential Checking Commission:

Mrs Margaret Ann FLEMING (SCO) - Mrs Agneta ELMEGARD (SWE) - Mr Philippe SCHÜRMANN (LIE) - Mr Lubor HALANDA (SVK)

Remarks from BoA Members

Referring to the proposal of Poland to organise an official “handing over of the flag” ceremony concerning the European Championships, Mr PRZEDPELSKI once again underlines the promotional benefits of organising such a ceremony. Even though the proposal came too late for the men’s competition, he believes that it should still be organised in Luxembourg for the women’s competition as a symbol. He proposes to organise it in the CEV Head Office in order to keep it neutral and not directly linked with the organisation of the competition.

Decision:

- The flag will be passed in an official ceremony in the CEV Head Office.
- The Turkish and Polish federations will both be invited to this event.

Closing of the Meeting

Mr MEYER thanks his colleagues for their contribution to the meeting and thanks the staff of the CEV Head Office for their work to organise the CEV Congress and the meetings linked to it.

CEV XXVIII GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING - MOSCOW (RUS) – 14TH SEPTEMBER 2007

The following members are attending:

President:	André MEYER (LUX)
Senior Vice President:	Philip BERBEN (BEL)
Vice Presidents:	Aleksandar BORICIC (SRB) - Jan HRONEK (CZE) - Riet OOMS (NED) - Renato Arena (ITA) - Banu CAN (TUR)
Members:	Eric ADLER (DEN) - Aloys FISCHER (SUI) - Manfred HOLZGRAEFE (GER) - Pierre MULHEIMS (LUX) - Vladimir PATKIN (RUS) - Maris PEKALIS (LAT) - Stefan POTYKA (AUT) - Miroslaw PRZEDPELSKI (POL) - Jan REK (SUI) - Agustin MARTIN SANTOS (ESP) - Jacques SHAW (FRA)
Excused:	Mr Athanassios BELIGRATIS (GRE) - Mr Andreas STAVROU (CYP)
Internal Auditors:	Mr Michel HENNO (BEL) - Mr Leo DADEMA (NED) - Mr Jacob SHTOFMAN (ISR)
Executive Director:	Mr Olivier MOTTIER
IT Responsible:	Mr Daniel BARTHELS
Competitions Director:	Mr Jean-Paul ROMMES
Secretaries:	Ms Emilie PATRICOLA - Mr Isabelle FIDANZA
Interpreters:	Ms Natalia YEKHANINA (RUS) - Mr Luis MUCHAGA (ESP)
Special Guests:	Mr Jizhong WEI - FIVB 1st Executive Vice-President Mr Viacheslav FETISHOV - Russian Minister of Sports
Honorary Presidents:	Mr Michalis MASTRANDREAS - Mr Georges BOUDRY
Honorary Vice-Presidents:	Mr Yuri DEREVIAGUINE - Mr Hugo FRUITHOF - Mr Carlo MAGRI
Honorary Member:	Mr Franz SCHMIED
Other Guests:	Mr Hasan SIPAHIOGLU - Mayor of Alanya Mr Hilmi TOKUS - Member of the Alanya City Council Mr & Mrs Taketoshi SAEKI - Mikasa Mr Daisuke AKIYAMA - Mikasa Mr Roland ARNOLD - Mikasa Europe Mr Christian SCHOLBROCK - Global Sports Marketin Mr Heinz SCHURTENBERGER - Global Sports Marketing Mr Fabio GANDINO - Mr Domenico MARINI both Indesit



Mrs Silvia SORDELLI - Infront Italy
 Mr Jörg SPREITZER - Ogilvy Marketing
 Mr Pierre LIENHARD - GERFLOR

DELEGATES OF THE NATIONAL FEDERATIONS

<u>FEDERATION</u>		<u>REPRESENTED BY</u>
ALBANIA	ALB	Mr Gjergj LEQEJZA, Mr Leonard TASE
ANDORRA	AND	Proxy to Spain (ESP)
ARMENIA	ARM	Proxy to Georgia (GEO)
AUSTRIA	AUT	Mr Peter KLEINMANN
AZERBAIJAN	AZE	Mr Elshan ISMAYILOV
BELGIUM	BEL	Proxy to the Netherlands (NED)
BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA	BIH	
BELARUS	BLR	Mr Aleksandr BAGRINTSEV
BULGARIA	BUL	Mr Dancho LAZAROV, Mr Ivan TODOROV
CROATIA	CRO	
CYPRUS	CYP	Mr Costas CONSTANTINIDES
CZECH REPUBLIC	CZE	Mr Antonin LÉBL
DENMARK	DEN	Mr Erik JACOBSEN, Mr Jens ALBAGAARD
ENGLAND	ENG	Mr Richard CALLICOTT, Mr Brian STALKER
SPAIN	ESP	Mr Juan Pedro SÁNCHEZ, Mrs Purificación LORENZO
ESTONIA	EST	Mrs Vilja SAVISAAR, Mr Avo KEEL
FAROE ISLANDS	FER	Proxy to Norway (NOR)
FINLAND	FIN	
MACEDONIA	MKD	
FRANCE	FRA	Mr Gil PELLAN, Mr Daniel MURAIL
GEORGIA	GEO	Mr Levan AKHVLEDIANI
GERMANY	GER	Mr Werner VON MOLTKE
GIBRALTAR	GIB	
GREECE	GRE	Mr Achilleas MAVROMATIS
GREENLAND	GRL	Proxy to Luxembourg (LUX)
HUNGARY	HUN	Proxy to Romania (ROU)
IRELAND	IRL	
ICELAND	ISL	Mr Jason ÍVARSSON
ISRAEL	ISR	Mr Jacob SHTOFMAN, Mr Yehonathan ALMOG
ITALY	ITA	Mr Carlo MAGRI, Mrs Manuela ARMINI

LATVIA	LAT	Mr Atis SAUSNITIS, Mr Guntis LAZDA
LIECHTENSTEIN	LIE	Mr Philippe SCHÜRMANN
LITHUANIA	LTU	
LUXEMBOURG	LUX	Mr Peter EICHSTAEDT
MOLDOVA	MLD	Mr Anatolie MOCRAC, Mrs Olga MOCRAC
MALTA	MLT	Proxy to Italy (ITA)
MONTENEGRO	MNE	Mr Slobodan KOVACEVIC
MONACO	MON	Mr Christian PALMARO, Mr Eric BENCHIMOL
THE NETHERLANDS	NED	Mr M.E. HUIZING, Mr H.J. OONK
NORTHERN IRELAND	NIR	Mr Paddy MURPHY, Mrs Marie MURPHY
NORWAY	NOR	Mr Edgar BROKS, Mr Arne-Morten KNUTSEN
POLAND	POL	Mr Waldemar WSPANIALY
PORTUGAL	POR	Mr Vincente ARAUJO, Mr Teodemiro DE CARVALHO
ROMANIA	ROU	Mr Gheorghe VISAN, Mr Viorel MANOLE
RUSSIA	RUS	Mr Stanislav SHEVCHENKO
SCOTLAND	SCO	Mrs Margaret Ann FLEMING, Mr Kenneth BARTON
SLOVENIA	SLO	Mr Igor DOLINSEK
SAN MARINO	SMR	
SERBIA	SRB	Mr Slobodan MILOSEVIC
SWITZERLAND	SUI	Mr Christoph STERN, Mr Roger SCHNEGG
SLOVAKIA	SVK	Mr Lubor HALANDA, Mr Tomas SINGER
SWEDEN	SWE	Ms Agneta ELMEGARD, Mr Bengt WICKSELL
TURKEY	TUR	Mr Erol Ünal KARABIYIK, Mr Sezgin KAYMAZ
UKRAINE	UKR	Mr Volodymyr TUROVSKYY, Mr Oleksandr BIBER
WALES	WAL	

OBSERVERS:

Mr Karl HANZL (AUT)

Mr Henn VALLIMÄE (EST)

Mr Yair SHARON (ISR)

Opening of the XXVIII General Assembly

Welcome Address by the CEV President, Mr André MEYER

“Dear Delegates, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

In the name of the European Volleyball Confederation and its Board of Administration, I am pleased to welcome you to the XXVIII General Assembly in Moscow.



I express my congratulations to the Russian federation, its President Mr Nikolai Patrushev and its Vice-President Mr Stanislav Shevchenko, to the political authorities of the city of Moscow and all the partners connected with this organisation. I also hereby wish to sincerely thank Mr Vladimir PATKIN, General Secretary of the Russian Volleyball Federation, and the team of the organising committee for the excellent preparation of this Congress and perfect coordination of our needs.

Your hospitality and your organisational competences prove your engagement to serve Volleyball and mark the long history of volleyball in Russia. Remembering the performance of Aleksandr SAVIN, 6 times European Champion, 2 times World Champion and Gold medallist in the 1980 Olympic Games in Moscow, associating with Irina Parkomtchuk, Valentina Ogienko and Irina Smirnoy who shone in World Volleyball for over 10 years, and next to your Women's national team who won a second Gold medal, after 1990, in the World Championships, the European Volleyball Confederation is honoured by your invitation to Moscow and is proud to have given you for the first time of your history the organisation of European Championships.

I would like to thank Mr WEI, 1st FIVB Executive Vice-President, representing the FIVB and its President Dr Ruben ACOSTA H. today. Dear Mr WEI, it is a real pleasure to welcome you for the first time in our Confederation, and I would like to express my gratitude for the excellent collaboration we were able to install with the highest authority in Volleyball.

On behalf of CEV, I would like also to welcome Mr Viacheslav FETISOV, Sports Minister of Russia.

I also acknowledge with a particular attention our guests, honorary Presidents, Vice-Presidents and members, Mr Georges BOUDRY, Mr Michalis MASTRANDREAS, Mr Hugo FRUITHOF, Mr Yuri DEREVIAGUINE, Mr Carlo MAGRI and Mr Franz SCHMIED. Our friend and Honorary President, Mr Rolf ANDRESEN, could unfortunately not be present today due to health reasons.



Delegates in attendance at the 2007 CEV General Assembly in Moscow

The much-appreciated presence of several of our partners, MIKASA, INDESIT, GERFLOR, GSM and INFRONT SPORTS is placed under the sign of our conviviality and represent without any doubt an additional opportunity for your national federations to establish privileged contacts.

As is the norm in odd years, this Congress is associated with the finals of the Men's European Championships, crucial and exceptional moment in the cycle of our competitions. With only a few months to go until the next

Olympic Games, this event is the occasion to highlight the best performances of our athletes and a possible new scale of values of our European teams. The new performances of certain federations, acquired in the scope of the Youth or Junior Championships, indeed promises the arrival of new teams in the European top 10. This renewed success confirms the increasing dynamism of our federations and the excellent work they accomplish, some of which can be highlighted here:

- 4 medals out of 6 won during the last World Championships in Tokyo. Gold medal for Russia, Silver medal for Poland and two Bronze medals for Serbia and Bulgaria
- Silver medal for Russia in the last Junior World Championships
- Gold for Russia and Silver for Italy in the 2006 FIVB World Grand Prix
- Gold for the Netherlands and Bronze for Italy in the 2007 FIVB World Grand Prix
- Silver medal for Turkey and Bronze for Russia in the Youth World Championships Girls
- Bronze medal for France in the Youth World Championships Boys
- Silver medal for Russia in the 2007 World League

All your efforts and the results listed above bring Europe at the top of World Volleyball and confirm our continental dominance.

Additionally, the organisation of our European Cups and more particularly of the Indesit European Champions League, along with the best national championships for the clubs in your own country, represent highly attractive competitions for many international athletes. This shows that the essence of our sport and its development are directly dependent on the good organisation of our national and international competitions.

Taking this into consideration and with the desire to keep this competitive advantage which defines the position of European Volleyball next to the other continents, it is essential to finalise the harmonisation of our respective calendars in close collaboration with the authorities governing our sport.

With this in mind, I address my sincerest thanks to the FIVB, and more particularly to its President, Dr Rubén ACOSTA H. for his support and the privileged attention he gives us. I acknowledge the constructive dialogue which accompanies each of the activities happening within our respective institutions and which corresponds to the vision of the XXX FIVB World Congress and the concrete measures adopted to modernise the management of our sport. The mutual reinforcement of our contact, the privileged perception of European competitions and the importance given to them are all contributing to the success and the development of our sport and its media, TV and promotional audience.

Another very positive sign comes from the healthy financial situation of our institution. As you will see upon reading the closing of the 2006 accounts which will be presented by Mr Philip BERBEN, our Treasurer, this past year once again closes on a net profit, and thanks to the strict management of our accounts and a good distribution of the resources available, CEV is able to conduct all its activities and projects as planned.

In conclusion, I wish to hereby sincerely thank all the members of our Board of Administration, Executive Committee and European Commissions for your work. Your diligence, your continued support and your trust directly contribute to the significant development of our sport, and the European Volleyball Federation is very thankful for your engagement.

To all of you, I wish a very fruitful Congress. Thank you.”

Welcome Speech by the Russian Sports Minister, Mr Viacheslav FETISOV

“Dear Mr MEYER, Dear Mr WEI,

It is a big honour for me to be here today on behalf of the Russian Government and to welcome you to Moscow. I assure you that the Russian government has historically always strongly supported the sports federations and more specifically the Russian Volleyball Federation. Volleyball stems from big traditions and is a popular game in our country, both for men and women, and Russia counts many legendary players who became icons for many generations of young volleyball players and fans.

The Russian federation has done a good job the last 5 years to rejuvenate the games and revive the passion, to increase the popularity of Volleyball, improve the system and bring out talented players. There was recently a big movement in Russia towards the development of



sports in our country, movement in which the volleyball federation played a big role. One month ago, games were organised in four different sports with the participation of over 8,500 young athletes, and Volleyball was present from start to finish, highlighting the future of the boys' team.

The Russian government also works closely with the federation to insert volleyball in the school programs, as we think it is necessary for young boys and girls to practice a sport, be healthy and in good spirits.

We hope to have helped the Russian Federation organise high-quality Senior European Championships, and we thank the European Volleyball Confederation for giving Russia this opportunity and show its competence in organising a competition of this level and in bringing people together around one sport. We are therefore happy to have you all join us in St. Petersburg and Moscow on this occasion.

One year ago, I was surprised but happy to hear that Volleyball is now more popular than football in this country, and I can only hope that you will be able to make Volleyball be number one in the world.

I once again underline that the Russian government will always be a strong supporter of Volleyball, and wish you much success with your work.

Thank you. “

Welcome Speech by the Vice-President of the Russian Volleyball Federation, Mr Stanislav SHEVCHENKO

“Dear CEV President, Dear Mr WEI, Dear Delegates,

On behalf of the Volleyball Federation of Russia, I am glad to welcome the CEV General Assembly representatives here in Moscow. It is a great honour for us to welcome guests of such big and respective international organisations on this occasion and in the scope of international competitions for European teams, continental championships and European Cups for club teams.

All this interest finds response in the hearts of more and more volleyball fans.

This also attracts sponsors to volleyball. Such great achievements show that European volleyball develops in the right direction, thanks to the professional and qualified work of the CEV, and personally your work Mr President, thanks to the administrative work for the development of volleyball on the continent, and thanks to the cooperation of all CEV members.

With this in mind, I wish to the participants of the General Assembly a good session and new successful projects.

Thank you. “

Welcome Speech by FIVB's 1st Executive Vice-President, Mr Jizhong WEI

“Your Excellency Mr Viacheslav FETISOV, Minister of Sports, Dear colleague Mr André MEYER, CEV President, Dear Mr Stanislav SHEVCHENKO, Vice-President of Russian Volleyball Federation, Dear Vice- Presidents of CEV and distinguished guests, Dear Delegates,

I am very delighted to be here at the CEV General Assembly representing Dr Rubén ACOSTA, FIVB

President. He feels sorry not being able to be here today with you due to the different FIVB commission meetings in Lausanne.

Allow me on his behalf to convey his best regards to his Excellency Mr FETISOV, to the Russian Volleyball Federation, to the whole CEV family and all the distinguished guests present here today.

Under the leadership of Mr MEYER, CEV President and CEV Board Members, CEV makes yearly new achievements which are beneficial not only for Volleyball in Europe, but also to the FIVB and the world. We appreciate the contribution of CEV and I would like here to send you my gratitude.

CEV is a constituent of FIVB. All European Volleyball federations are first FIVB-affiliated members. In needing time, CEV shows solidarity with the FIVB and supports the FIVB



The CEV ExCom and then FIVB 1st Executive Vice President Jizhong Wei at the 2007 General Assembly in Moscow

President. In case of need, FIVB always provides constitutional support to the CEV and protects the European national federations. Reciprocal understanding produces interactive collaboration, making FIVB stronger and helping CEV organise and advance more efficiently. The mutual respect is based on the balance of rights and obligations defined in the FIVB constitution and regulations, including the right and obligation of the continental federations like CEV and all the members of FIVB.

CEV has a specific situation, we are aware of that. FIVB is the global governing body. We have been walking together, which proves correct and efficient, and we have to continue and improve.

After the Tokyo Congress, FIVB is entering a new era of development. With new ideas and better conditions, let's join our efforts for FIVB and CEV more brilliant future.

We have a busy agenda today, so I will not take more of your precious time. I wish your General Assembly very fruitful work and wish the Russian athletes much success here and in the Beijing Olympic Games.

Thank you."

Setting up of the XXVIII General Assembly's Office

Record of Attendance

Upon completion of the nominative call against the record of attendance at the beginning of the congress:

- 46 federations are found present or validly represented,
- 9 federations are absent or not validly represented.

Confirmation of MNE's Affiliation as CEV Member

The General Assembly unanimously approves the affiliation of Montenegro and officially welcomes the 55th affiliated federation of the CEV with loud applause.

Appointment of four Members of the Credentials Checking Commission

Beside Mr Aloys FISCHER (SUI), appointed as Chairman of the Credential Checking Commission, the following delegates were designated as members of the Credential Checking Commission:

Mr Lubor HALANDA (SVK) - Mr Achilleas MAVROMATIS (GRE) - Mr Philippe SCHÜRMANN (LIE) - Mr Richard CALLICOTT (ENG)

There being no objection, the General Assembly unanimously confirms the appointment of the above CEV officials / delegates of federation as members of the Credentials Checking Commission.

Report of the Credentials Checking Commission

Mr Aloys FISCHER (SUI), Chairman of the Credentials Checking Commission, explains that all delegates were controlled during the Accreditations procedure and the results were submitted to the Credential Checking Commission.

Mr Lubor HALANDA (SVK) takes the floor and confirms that out of the 55 member federations, 46 federations (= 84% of all CEV member federations) are present or validly represented in this General Assembly. 7 countries have designated a representative by proxy.

The condition laid down in Art. 5.2 - § 3 of the CEV Statutes - at least two thirds of the federations must be present or represented - is fulfilled.

The total number of votes amounting 46, the absolute majority stands at 24. Two thirds equals to 31 votes.

The following 9 federations, neither present nor validly represented by proxy, are considered as officially absent: Bosnia and Herzegovina (BIH) - Croatia (CRO) - Finland (FIN) - Former Y.R. of Macedonia (MKD) Gibraltar - (GIB) - Ireland (IRL) - Lithuania (LTU) - San Marino (SMR) - Wales (WAL)

Official Opening of the XXVIII General Assembly

Based on the report of the credential checking commission, Mr MEYER confirms that the XXVIII General Assembly is officially open.

Approval of the Agenda

Mr MEYER, CEV President, informs the General Assembly that no amendments to the Agenda were received.

There being no objections or comments, the Agenda of the XXVIII General Assembly is approved.

Approval of the Minutes of the XXVII General Assembly in Luxembourg (LUX)

In the absence of any written or oral remarks, the Minutes of the XXVII General Assembly held on 14th October 2006 in Luxembourg (LUX) are unanimously approved and adopted.

CEV Activity Report 2006/2007

General Report of CEV Activities 2006/07 by CEV President, Mr André MEYER

Mr MEYER takes the floor and starts his presentation by reviewing the different competitions which took place since the 2006 CEV General Assembly, first underlining the success of the European federations in the scope of the FIVB World Championships 2006, with 4 medals won by European teams out of a possible six. Mr MEYER takes this opportunity to congratulate Russia for winning the Gold medal in the Women's category, thus marking one of the biggest European successes of the season.

The Indesit European Champion's League, the only such competition in the world of Volleyball, was again in 2006 the most prestigious European Club competition and met an ever increasing success both in terms of participation and media interest. 16 teams registered in the women's category and 24 teams in the Men's disputed a total of 560 matches, many of which were broadcasted on television attracting a record 55 million of spectators.

Mr MEYER then proudly shares that in the 2007/08 edition, the women's competition will increase to 20 teams, thus marking a major success and development in the history of this competition, thanks to the interest and participation of the National Federations and their clubs.

Additionally, he underlines that a new ranking system was put in place this past season and will be operational starting with the 2007/08 season. This ranking system, based on a system of points earned by the National Federations through their clubs' participation in the European Cups will directly influence the distribution of the teams in the different club competitions, newly renamed as the Champions League, CEV Cup and Challenge Cup.

2007 is also the year of the Senior European Championships, with the Men's competition hosted by the Russian Federation and the Women's competition organised in Belgium and Luxembourg. Over 40 National Federations were represented in the prequalification tournaments in 2006, marking yet another success in Europe. Both final rounds will be played with 16 teams instead of the 12 common in previous years.

The fourth edition of the European League, competition created for the teams not qualified for the World League, was yet another European competition which underwent significant developments in 2007 with the participation of 12 teams compared to the 8 teams registered the previous years. Several National Federations have already expressed interest for participation in 2008, so the competition is hoped to continue its fast development.



Mr MEYER then quickly reviews the medal winners of the Youth European Championships held in Austria for the boys and in the Czech Republic for the girls, before reviewing the different competitions organised in Beach Volleyball in 2007.

CEV also continues to actively work towards the development of its marketing strategy, and it is with this in mind that a new collaboration was developed with EUROSPORT for the broadcasting of a weekly magazine on EUROSPORT 2 covering the upcoming IECL season.

Mr MEYER then shares a few graphs highlighting the healthy finances of the CEV which directly contribute to many positive changes highlighted above in the different competitions and permit the reinvestment of such benefits in further developments.

To conclude, Mr MEYER wishes all the National Federations much success in the coming year and thanks them for their ongoing contribution to Volleyball.

The complete presentation can be found as appendices to these minutes (Appendix I).

In the absence of any questions or comments, the report presented by Mr André MEYER is adopted and approved.

Presentation of the new CEV Corporate Identity by Ogilvy Representative, Mr Jörg SPREITZER

Mr MEYER introduces this point by explaining that in its strategy for further development, CEV has decided to not only develop its competitions but also improve its image and the perception of volleyball in Europe by creating a new corporate identity. The marketing agency Ogilvy was hired by the CEV to conduct a research about the positioning of Volleyball in the world of sports and in Europe, to direct the CEV towards new goals and to develop its corporate image.

Mr MEYER gives the floor to Mr Jörg SPREITZER, Ogilvy Representative, to present the outcome of the research conducted by his agency.

Mr SPREITZER starts out his presentation by explaining what makes a sport attractive to the media and to the public, and why volleyball does not yet belong in the popular sports category, looking at its business, consumer and cultural contexts.

In order to get rid of the harming clichés associated with volleyball, it is necessary to guarantee that Volleyball will no longer be overlooked in the world of sports by bringing out the power, action and positive emotions associated with it.

Ogilvy developed a trailer, closely resembling a video advertisement, to promote that image of a fast-moving, exciting and powerful sport. Upon analysis of the sport and its techniques, the agency noted that the most powerful action and image to advertise to the public is that of a smash, thus associating the CEV and Volleyball with the slogan "The Big Hit!"

But other factors are necessary to the popularity and development of a sport: the people, the system, the international successes, the staging and the traditions.

Mr SPREITZER analyses each of these contributing factors, highlighting the areas that are lacking and then providing ideas to improve in those areas. He then lists the different short-term, middle-term and long-term goals CEV has to set itself in order to better promote Volleyball in Europe.

The first step towards promoting volleyball in Europe is to develop a new corporate identity for the CEV, starting with a new logo and other printed materials which Mr SPREITZER unveils to the General Assembly.

The next most important step will be to find sponsors to help develop Volleyball and its image through funding and name-brand associating. To conclude his presentation, Mr SPREITZER therefore presents a marketing strategy which consists of reaching out to sponsors through direct mail advertising.

Following this presentation, Mr MEYER confirms that the CEV will try to implement the use of the new corporate identity by the New Year, and ensures the National Federations that they will play a direct role in the development of a new image.

Mr MEYER also takes this opportunity to present the work of Mr Georges BOUDRY, CEV Honorary President, and Mr Jacques SHAW, CEV Board of Administration Member, who are writing a book from 1946 to the present about European Volleyball. Mr MEYER therefore asks all the National Federations to participate in this project by submitting any valuable information they may have, especially covering the 1950's.

The complete presentation can be found as appendices to these minutes (Appendix II).

Financial Report

Financial Report – Accounts 2006 by CEV Treasurer, Mr Philip BERBEN (BEL)

Mr Philip BERBEN, CEV Treasurer, starts his presentation by thanking the people who assist him and his commission in their work, mainly Mr André MEYER for bringing in all the sponsoring and Mrs Sylvie COLLIGNON, Bookkeeper in the CEV Head Office.

Referring to the documents in the General Assembly handbook, Mr BERBEN confirms that the CEV benefits from a healthy financial situation, and details some of the main expenses and incomes recorded in 2006 in his presentation.

Starting with the expenses, Mr BERBEN highlights the few points that caused a slight increase in general management, mainly an increase of the Prize Money and organisation costs in the European Cups competition, the investment made for the development of the new corporate identity and other projects and media activities, and the loss incurred due to the long-term investment made by the CEV in 2005.

Concerning this long-term investment, Mr BERBEN explains to the General Assembly that the CEV is guaranteed to receive the full amount of its investment back, but that it is necessary for bookkeeping reasons to record annually the loss caused by decreasing markets.

In general, the 2006 expenses exceed by 23% the budget foreseen, due to the new CEV investments into the clubs competitions and to CEV external image.

Regarding the incomes reported, Mr BERBEN starts out by underlining that the FIVB has raised its annual financial support to the confederations to 150,000 CHF.

CEV was able to bring in more money from its sponsoring contracts and marketing activities, which brought in 27% more money than was initially foreseen in the budget, despite the termination of the sponsoring contract with Austrian Airlines.

The different CEV competitions also significantly contributed to the CEV incomes, with the European Cups bringing in 17% more income than initially foreseen and the European Beach Volleyball circuit 74%.

Presenting a summarising overview of how the income and expenses reported in 2006 compared to the budget foreseen for the same year, Mr BERBEN underlines that the differences noted are normal considering that the budget is always calculated based on known facts and that unforeseen circumstances can make these numbers differ.

Overall though, 2006 was a good financial year for the CEV with a net income of over 500,000.00 EUR, this despite the reported investment loss of 210,647.00 EUR.

Details of the different expenses and incomes for 2006 can be found in the appendixes to these minutes (Appendix III).

Before asking the General Assembly to approve the above report, Mr BERBEN gives the floor to the Internal Auditors.



Internal Audit Report by Mr Leo DADEMA (NED) and Mr Michel HENNO

Dear Mr President, Dears Members of the Board of Administration, Dear Mr WEI, FIVB 1st Executive Vice-President, Dear Honorary Members and other Guests, Dear National Delegates,

We, the undersigned, Leo DADEMA and Michel HENNO, have audited on 13th March 2007 the accounts of the CEV over the year 2006.

We sincerely thank Mr André MEYER, President of the CEV, Mr Philip BERBEN, CEV Vice-President and Treasurer, Mr Olivier MOTTIER, CEV Executive Director and particularly Mrs Sylvie COLLIGNON, in charge of the bookkeeping at the CEV office, for their assistance and explanations during our assignment.

The CEV accounts were subject to an external audit by Ernst and Young (same auditing company for all the continental federations affiliated to the FIVB).

In the scope of our duty, we also met with Mr Marco Claude, independent consultant of the CEV for the bookkeeping.

We controlled the bank statements and compared the results with the adopted budget. We also checked the invoices using the random method.

The bookkeeping of the different transactions and the running of the financial accounts are carried out according to the rules, with the required precision and clarity.

We would like to make the following remarks:

- The operating profit amounts to €501,561.71. This result is higher than the amount of € 444,552 recorded in 2004, taking in consideration the fact that we always compare the results with those recorded 2 years earlier. Additionally, this result includes a reduction of value of €201,897.09 related to an investment (see point 6.1). In reality, the profit made in the year 2006 exceeds €700,000.
- The dispute with Imago and Sportsite Puleo concerning a sponsorship of €150,000, with €137,500 still unpaid, is in the hands of the court in Italy with a first court date foreseen in April 2007. The missing sponsorship is already reduced in the balance sheet.
- The expenditures related to the Commissions and Working Groups are lower than foreseen in the budget.
- A similar remark can be made for the expenses related to the National Teams competitions, with a difference amounting to €145,000.
- CEV has started its new project for the development of a new corporate identity : a contract was signed with the company Ogilvy and a large amount (€68,704.44 in 2006) has been attributed to sustain this project
- We want to underline the two different investments made by CEV:
 - ❖ Firstly, an amount of €2,700,000 started in July 2005 and ending in early 2009; this investment has been booked in the balance sheet for a value of €2,498,102.91 as per 31.12.2006. We explained last year the conditions of this investment and we have to confirm that the current evolution of the international financial markets for short term investments is not favourable to any returns of investments. But we underline that CEV has the full guarantee to at least receive the nominal amount of €2,700,000 at the end of the term.
 - ❖ Secondly, an amount of €500,000 maturing on 4th January 2011 and based on the evolution of 4 international technological indexes (blue-chips indexes). The foreseen annual coupon will reach 4, 5% as long as the 4 indexes close above their initial level. A good rule here is that any unpaid coupon, due to the indexes not increasing, would be recovered as soon as the condition is met

again and the indexes climb above their initial level. Here again, CEV benefits from a full guarantee to recover at least its investment.

Considering the above remarks, we propose to the General Assembly to approve the accounts and to unburden the persons in charge.

INTERVENTION BY MR ANDRÉ MEYER, CEV PRESIDENT

Mr MEYER thanks Mr DADEMA and Mr HENNO, as well as Mr SHTOFMAN for their report and underlines the transparency of the CEV accounts which are subject to strict controls by different financial bodies. He then opens the floor for questions.

INTERVENTION BY MR MATTIJS HUIZING, NED SECRETARY GENERAL

Mr HUIZING compliments the CEV for its healthy finances, and then asks two questions.

- Regarding the investment of €2,700,000, Mr HUIZING notes the fact that CEV is guaranteed the full amount back, but underlines that there is also no additional revenue that will come from it. He therefore questions if there is any way to actually profit from this investment.
- Looking at the overall income made by CEV over the past few years, Mr HUIZING inquires about the possibility to reinvest some of this profit in the development of Youth volleyball.

INTERVENTION BY MR ANDRÉ MEYER, CEV PRESIDENT

Mr MEYER confirms that CEV has contacted its bank Fortis to discuss ways to recover not only the initial investment, but also make money from it. The bank did make a proposal to reinvest the money into a new fund, but CEV refused this solution as the return was still going to be less than the initial amount invested by CEV in 2005.

Mr MEYER underlines that CEV will therefore not touch the investment until 2009 when the full return is expected, and will in the meantime continue to analyse solutions to this problem.

Mr MEYER explains that the support to the organisers of the Youth and Junior competitions has been increased in the 2008 budget.

He also underlines that part of the income was indeed reinvested in volleyball through the increase of the prize money in the Champions League and European League.

External Audit Report - Accounts 2006 by CEV Treasurer, Mr Philip BERBEN (BEL)

As foreseen in the CEV Statutes and Luxembourg's legislation, the 2006 CEV accounts were also subjected to an external audit by the company Ernst & Young as recommended by the FIVB. The following report was written:

We have audited the accompanying annual accounts of the Confédération Européenne de Volleyball a.s.b.l. (the "Association") for the year ended December 31st, 2006. These annual accounts are the responsibility of the Board of Administration. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these annual accounts based on our audit.

The annual accounts of the Association for the year ended December 31st 2006 have been audited by another independent auditor. This other independent auditor expressed a clean opinion in its audit report dated April 10, 2006.

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the annual accounts are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence support the amounts and disclosures in the annual accounts. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made



by the Board of Administration as well as evaluating the overall annual accounts presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

The Association's policy is to prepare the accompanying annual accounts based on the accounting policies as described in Note 3 to the annual accounts.

In our opinion, the accompanying annual accounts give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Confédération Européenne de Volleyball a.s.b.l. as of December 31, 2006 and of the results of its operations for the year then ended in accordance with the Association's accounting policies as described in Note 3 to the annual accounts.

Luxembourg, May 11, 2007

Ernst & Young, Société Anonyme, Réviseur d'Entreprises

In the absence of any questions or comments, the Financial Report of the 2006 accounts (Item 6.1), the Internal Audit Report (Item 6.2) and External Audit Report (Item 6.3) are unanimously approved and adopted by the CEV General Assembly.

Budget 2008 by CEV Treasurer, Mr Philip BERBEN (BEL)

Mr BERBEN informs the delegates that the budget, which is presented in the official handbook, is calculated based on known facts and foreseen events one year in advance. The CEV Executive Committee and Board of Administration then review and approve the proposed budget, before presenting it to the General Assembly for final approval.

The floor is open for questions.

In the absence of any question or remark, the 2008 budget is unanimously approved.

To conclude the point concerning financial matters, Mr BERBEN asks the delegates their confirmation for prolonging the assignment of Mr DADEMA, Mr HENNO and Mr SHTOFMAN as Internal Auditors.

The General Assembly approves their next assignment with loud applause.

CEV Statutes - Modifications

Mr MEYER explains to the General Assembly that it was initially planned to approve the modifications of the statutes in the scope of the last Congress, but it was then decided to wait until after the FIVB Congress in Tokyo to make sure that the CEV statutes would be in line with those of the FIVB.

Mr Aloys FISCHER, ELC President, takes the floor to present the modifications of the statutes to be approved by at least two thirds of the National Federations represented in the Congress. Referring to the complete statutes and proposed corrections printed in the General Assembly handbook, Mr Aloys FISCHER, ELC President, reads over the different amendments proposed and provides a short explanation as required:

- Article 6.1: Election of the Board of Administration

Mr FISCHER explains that Article 6.1 was modified in order to clarify the election of women as BoA members and guarantee the representation of both genders in the Board of Administration.

- Article 6.3: Term of Office

A clarification was added to article 6.3 underlining that any member elected during the course of the mandate (mid-term) is only elected for the remaining of the term of office.

- Article 16.2: Disciplinary and Administrative Sanctions

This article was modified to clarify and add a few sanctions based on the level of offence. These sanctions can be issued by the CEV against National Federations and any of their members.

Three changes were also made after the proposed modifications were printed in the General Assembly handbook, and Mr FISCHER therefore goes over these 3 changes individually:

- Amend art. 3.2, first part by replacing the text as follows:

A National Federation may become a CEV member after having completed the process of affiliation to the FIVB and following the decision of the CEV General Assembly.

- Withdraw art. 10 (new):

Mr FISCHER explains that Article 10 was added to allow the CEV to determine which CEV members would be eligible to be elected for the FIVB Board of Administration in case there are too many applicants for the number of places available.

Such an article in the CEV Statutes however goes against the FIVB Statutes and Code of Conduct, and it was therefore decided to remove it.

ARTICLE 10: CEV REPRESENTATION IN FIVB

- Article 10.1

CEV is represented in the Board of Administration FIVB by a fixed number of representatives.

The determination of the number of the European Representatives in the Board of Administration FIVB and their election lies in the competence of the Congress FIVB.

- Article 10.2

The election of the candidates of CEV for the FIVB Board of Administration lies in the competence of the General Assembly CEV.

- Article 10.3

The General Assembly which shall take place prior to the Congress FIVB shall elect the candidates from the list of applications of the CEV affiliated National Federations affiliated established by the FIVB. Only candidates who were elected by the CEV General Assembly are proposed to the Congress FIVB.

- To add the following in art. 16.2

Disciplinary and administrative sanctions provided for in the various CEV Regulations may be applied to all those replaced by members of the National Federations as mentioned in Article 1.3.

Upon finishing these explanations, Mr FISCHER asks the General Assembly to approve the proposed amendments by voting.

The amended statutes are unanimously approved and adopted.

Mr MEYER reminds the delegates that they are required to sign a document stating that they have approved the corrected statutes, thus in order to comply with the laws of Luxembourg. He then takes this opportunity to thank Mr WEI for his collaboration as President of the FIVB Legal Commission.

The amended statutes can be found as appendices to these minutes (Appendix XIX).



CEV Commission Reports

European Beach Volleyball Commission

President: Mr Stefan POTYKA (AUT)

As an introduction, a video highlighting the Nestea European Championship Tour 2007 is projected.

Following a brief presentation of the EBVC members, Mr POTYKA shares that the Nestea European Championship Tour was composed in 2007 of 5 Masters in Austria, Russia, Germany, Switzerland and The Netherlands while the finals were played in Valencia (ESP). CEV's marketing partner GSM once again helped organise these events and promote this new edition of the most important Beach Volleyball competition in Europe, which again was very successful. Over 1000 hours of matches were broadcasted on television in 180 countries.

While the level of organisation is stable, the European Beach Volleyball Commission aims to further develop and improve this event. The entry ranking system was modified with this goal in mind, and Mr POTYKA also appeals to the organising National Federations to pursue their efforts in promoting and further developing the local organisation and marketing of this major CEV competition.

Youth Championships were also successfully organised in Paralimni (CYP) for the U-23, in Scheveningen (NED) for the U-20 and in Brno (CZE) for the U-18. Mr POTYKA underlines that the organisers were announced earlier this year, thus allowing more time for the organising federations to plan the event, and informs the National Federations that CEV is still looking for organisers for the next season. Conditions were changed in the past year to facilitate the organisation of such events, and any federation with any interest in organising a Beach Volleyball event might be interested to start by organising a junior competition. Mr POTYKA also explains that these competitions are becoming increasingly more interesting with the growing number of teams registering and the rise of new stars in Beach Volleyball.

More generally in the field of Beach Volleyball, Mr POTYKA explains that the EBVC aims at developing more tournaments to give players more opportunities to play. One project is to develop a European Beach Volleyball Cup, and although this could not be launched in 2007, the commission will work towards developing this tournament in the coming year.

The commission also focused its efforts on improving refereeing in Beach Volleyball with the help of the European Refereeing Commission through a seminar. The goal is to continue educating referees to improve the level of refereeing and increase the number of qualified International Beach Volleyball referees.

To conclude, Mr POTYKA shares that he saw more emotions on the courts, more enthusiasm from the players and interest from the public, and that these are the factors that contribute to the success of a sport.

The complete EBVC presentation can be found as appendices to these minutes (Appendix IV).

In the absence of any further remark, the report presented by the European Beach Volleyball Commission is adopted and approved.

Confirmation by the GA of the Nomination of the New EBVC President

Mr POTYKA informs the General Assembly that he is resigning from his position as President of the European Beach Volleyball Commission and will be replaced by Mr Renato ARENA, who he knows will pursue the same efforts to take further develop this sport.

The General Assembly applauds Mr POTYKA for his work.

Mr MEYER thanks him for his presentation, for his work and dedication to European Beach Volleyball and for directly contributing to the latest developments in Beach Volleyball in Europe. He then explains that Mr POTYKA will remain a member of the commission, and asks the General Assembly to approve the nomination of Mr Renato ARENA as new EBVC President.

The General Assembly approves with loud applause. Mr ARENA thanks the delegates and the CEV Board of Administration for this opportunity.

Training Centre in Alanya

Mr MEYER reminds the General Assembly that it was decided to develop a training centre for Beach Volleyball in Europe to allow European players to train during the off-season in ideal conditions. The project was finally agreed, and Mr MEYER takes this opportunity to thank Mr SIPAHIOGLU, Mayor of Alanya, the city of Alanya and the Turkish Volleyball Federation for making this project possible.

Mr SIPAHIOGLU takes the floor and presents a brief video and computer simulation of the project which was approved and the project should be completed by the end of April 2008. It consists of a hotel and sports complex destined to welcome players in a leisurely and peaceful environment to combine relaxation and sports in ideal conditions. The complex will be built in the city of Alanya, located in the South of Turkey by the Mediterranean Sea. The city is known for its history, culture and sports involvement.

The General Assembly welcomes this project with loud applause.

Mr MEYER clarifies that only the first leg of the project consisting of one of the hotel towers and the outdoor swimming pool will be completed by April/May 2008. This will however already allow players to start training in this location for the next Beach Volleyball season.

He also underlines that the qualified people will work in this training centre with the support of the Turkish Federation and Turkish government. The CEV has an agreement with the government that states that the City of Alanya, the Turkish Federation and CEV together will run this complex to the benefit of European athletes. The costs will be maintained at a reasonable level to be accessible to all National Federations, and Mr MEYER encourages them all to already start considering this new option for 2008.

Practical information and further details will be sent to the National Federations shortly.



European Cups Commission

President: Mrs Riet OOMS (NED)

Following the detail activity report printed in the Handbook, Mrs OOMS makes a brief recollection of the different activities which took place between the time the handbook was printed and the unfolding of the General Assembly:

- IECL Drawing of Lots in Vienna on 22nd June 2007
- IECL Seminars on 23rd June 2007
- Drawing of Lots for the CEV Cup and Challenge Cup on 30th June 2007 in Luxembourg
- Meeting of the ECC on 28th June – 1st July 2007 in Luxembourg.

Mrs OOMS then shares some figures highlighting the number of teams registered to participate in the different cups competitions, with a total of 184 teams in the Men and Women categories combined. Mrs OOMS underlines that the number of participating teams in the Indesit European Champions League was increased to 20 in the Women's category, up from 16 the previous year. While a maximum of 15 National Federations were represented in the Men's IECL, up to 35 National Federations were represented in the Women's Challenge Cup, thus proving the continued success of the Cups competitions. Mrs OOMS also underlines that this active participation is also due to the new ranking system in place which attributes points to the National Federations based on the number of their teams playing in the Cups.

The change in ranking system also was combined with a change of procedure for the inscriptions, based on the ranking list and on the duly filled in and approved application forms. Mrs OOMS underlines that this change of procedure also implies that the teams no longer have the liberty to choose which Cup competition they will participate in. This is determined based on the ranking list. Additionally, she explains that the first season with this new system showed that there were some problems that occurred due to these changes and that the commission is continuing to work on improving the system to avoid the same problems in the future.

Mrs OOMS then highlights the new system by listing each Cup competition and its specificities:

- IECL: The system itself does not undergo any major change, except that CEV now has the possibility to allocate 2 wild cards per gender, to allow teams that may not otherwise be allowed to register to play in the competition anyway. The competition will be played in 2007/08 with 20 teams for the women, and 24 teams for the men.
- CEV Cup: Formerly known as the Top Teams Cup, this cup must always be played with 32 teams in order to allow the inter-connection of the CEV Cup and Challenge Cup. Indeed, the 16 teams eliminated from the CEV Cup will go on to play against teams in the Challenge Cup.
- Challenge Cup: Formerly known as the CEV Cup, this 3rd cup competition was recently changed to welcome all National Federations and accepts up to 64 teams. More than one club from one National Federation can register in this competition as long as the maximum quota is not reached.

Mrs OOMS then briefly lists some of the regulations changes which were decided, including one that was already implemented for the 2007/08 season. Indeed, although it was initially possible for the strongest teams to play the last match at home in the CEV Cup and Challenge Cup, it was decided that this should no longer be a possibility as this was limiting the time for the teams to organise their travel.

Additionally, following the introduction of a Golden Set as a test the previous season, it was decided to maintain the Golden Set in the CEV Cup and Challenge Cup in cases of a tie in the number of matches won and lost to help determine the winner and avoid uninteresting matches.

Lastly, Mrs OOMS explains that starting in the 2008/09 season, CEV will widen the possibilities for National Federations to register teams in the Cups competition. Up until now, if a limited number of clubs could register per National Federation but it happened that one club was not interested, CEV was not allowing any other team of the same National Federation to fill the vacancy.

Having listed the main changes, Mrs OOMS concludes her presentation with a brief video of the IECL Drawing of Lots which took place in the City Hall in Vienna on Friday, 22nd June 2007.

In the absence of any question, the report presented by the European Cups Commission is adopted and approved.

European Financial Commission

President: Mr Philip BERBEN (BEL)

Taking into consideration the fact that Mr Philip BERBEN, EFC President, covered all the financial items under Point 6 of the agenda, there is no separate report from the European Financial Commission to be made.

European Legal Commission

President: Mr Aloys FISCHER (SUI)

Mr Aloys FISCHER takes the floor to briefly present the members of the EFC and lists the different items the Legal Commission has worked on.

One big part of the commission's work consisted of amending the statutes to include new regulations and be in line with the statutes of the FIVB. These amendments were then submitted to the CEV Board of Administration and the FIVB for validation, before being approved the General Assembly under Point 7 of the agenda.

The Legal Commission is also working on updating and aligning the General Regulations of the CEV, as well as the CEV Code of Discipline. Both projects are already under way and should be finalised in the near future.

Finally, Mr FISCHER explains that the European Legal Commission worked in close collaboration with the European Medical Commission to discuss the legal matters connected with doping. The purpose of such collaboration is to guarantee that all National Federations, Clubs and athletes are well informed of the anti-doping procedures and consequences of a positive case.

Mr MEYER thanks Mr FISCHER for his presentation and for the work of his commission.

In the absence of any further remarks, the report presented by the European Legal Commission is adopted and approved.

European Medical Commission

President: Prof Dr Manfred HOLZGRAEFE (GER)

Prof Dr HOLZGRAEFE starts his presentation by explaining that the EMC mainly focused its work on collaborating with the ERC and ELC to further develop certain common areas.

The EMC and ERC held a common meeting in Brno (CZE) to specifically discuss any medical matters related to refereeing.

He explains that an Italian psychologist was responsible for properly informing all the referees of the medical problems they could encounter in the scope of their function. Indeed, Dr HOLZGRAEFE explains that the referees, like the players, are subject to a certain level of stress while on the court. It was therefore necessary to prepare the referees to anticipate possibly stressful situations and be given the tools to cope in such situations.



Additionally, Dr HOLZGRAEFE underlines that the maximum age of active referees is 55 years old, and explains that this age range is at a higher risk of heart diseases and strokes. Referees are required to provide a certificate of good health, but it was decided to implement an additional check-up for the referees in the scope of the European Championships. This additional check-up in Moscow showed that some referees are indeed not in the best condition and at a higher risk of encountering medical problems.

The EMC also held a meeting with the ELC in Zurich to discuss all the legal items such as the WADA regulations, the Olympic Games out of competition testing. In the course of this meeting, it was identified that a lot of teams still do not know the consequences positive doping results can have on the concerned players.

Dr HOLZGRAEFE explains that still many positive cases could be avoided if players knew to always use the Therapeutic Use Exemption form in order to obtain permission to use medicine. He therefore reminds all National Federations to properly inform their clubs and players of the necessity to declare any drug use in the scope of an official competition to the FIVB directly as to avoid any problems.

The Medical Commission continues its fight against doping and conducted anti-doping controls in the Indesit European Champions League 2006, the European League 2006 and the Champions League 2007.

Additionally, in 2007, 72 CEV accredited medical doctors representing 20 countries could be accounted for. Dr HOLZGRAEFE however underlines that still too many teams do not come accompanied by a doctor, and explains that physiotherapist often do not know much about anti-doping.

An investigation will be conducted in the near future to inquire about the steps taken by each club to guarantee that the health of all the players is properly monitored in the scope of official competitions.

INTERVENTION BY MR RICHARD CALLICOTT (ENG)

Mr CALLICOTT congratulates Dr HOLZGRAEFE and the Medical Commission for its work and efforts on medical issues in Volleyball.

He then reminds his colleagues that there remains a conflict with regard to anti-doping and the Therapeutic Use Exemption. He explains that in many countries, the local anti-doping agencies are still requiring the athletes to register the TUE through the national agency. In Volleyball, it is also necessary to register the TUE with the FIVB. Mr CALLICOTT explains that it is extremely important to take care of fulfilling both these obligations as to avoid situations that would directly harm a player who may not be at fault.

Dr Manfred HOLZGRAEFE approves the intervention of Mr CALLICOTT by explaining that as a member of the FIVB TUE Committee, he has seen that very few Therapeutic Use Exemption are received from European federations despite the much wider use of medication in players. He therefore joins Mr CALLICOTT in urging all National Federations to make sure the form is used any time it is needed and sent to both the local agency and the FIVB as required.

In the absence of any further remarks, the report presented by the European Medical Commission is adopted and approved.

European Sports Organising Commission

President: Mr Pierre MULHEIMS (LUX)

After projecting a short video highlighting the Finals of the European League 2007 in Portimao (POR), Mr MULHEIMS invites all the delegates to be present in the Olympiski Stadium in Moscow on 15th and 16th September 2007 to watch the semi-finals and finals of the Men's European Championships.

After briefly introducing his colleagues of the European Sports Organising Commission, Mr Pierre MULHEIMS shares that ESOC held two meetings since the last General Assembly, in Luxembourg in November 2006 and in Latvia in May 2007. He explains that the main work of the Sports Organising Commission consists of over viewing the organisation of the different National Teams competitions, to suggest competitions formulae as needed, and to harmonise the National Teams competitions with the competitions of the FIVB.

ESOC also had the added task of over viewing the organisation of European pre-qualification and qualification tournaments to the 2008 Olympic Games. He briefly explains that 27 Men's teams and 20 Women's teams will be fighting for a ticket to the 2008 Olympic Games, thru a 3-step qualification process, first with an elimination round in September 2007, following by pre-qualification tournaments in November 2007 and qualification tournaments in January 2008.

The pre-qualifications will be played in 3 tournaments with 6 teams in each tournament for the Men, and 5 teams in the women's tournaments. However, in order to define which teams will be playing in which tournament, it is necessary to know who the organisers will be before the end of the week following the Congress, and Mr MULHEIMS takes this opportunity to remind the National Federations that organisers are still needed for these tournaments.

The qualification tournaments will be organised in Izmir (TUR) for the Men and in Halle (GER) for the Women. A Drawing of Lots will be organised on 4th December 2007 in Halle (GER) and Mr MULHEIMS invites all the teams participating in the competition to attend.

In the scope of the European Championships, Mr MULHEIMS once again underlines that the Men's competition in Russia is underway and that semi-finals and finals will be played in Moscow (RUS) over the next two days. The Women's competition will start the following week in Charleroi and Hasselt (BEL), with the finals played in Luxembourg (LUX) on 29th and 30th September 2007.

Junior European Championships will be held in 2008, and Mr MULHEIMS takes this opportunity to share that the Drawing of Lots will be organised in combination with the Drawing of Lots for the Senior European Championships in Luxembourg on 27th October 2007. A calendar conference for the junior competition will also be organised on this occasion.

Mr MULHEIMS explains that the Junior Championships will be played according to a new competition system with the addition of a 3rd round. An official communication and registration form will be sent out to all National Federation within the coming week, with a registration deadline of 15th October 2007.

Mr MULHEIMS then briefly summarises the different competitions which were played the previous year, starting with the Boys Youth Championships in Austria. France won this competition and qualified with 4 other European teams for the Boys World Championships. The Girls competition was played in Germany and allowed 6 teams, including Germany as the winner, to qualify for the World competition.

Mr MULHEIMS takes this opportunity to congratulate all the European teams who competed in the World Youth Championships, some of which successfully climbed on the podium.

ESOC also organised European qualifications which allowed 4 junior teams in each gender category to win a ticket to the Junior World Championships. With the idea to increase to 16



teams the number of participants in the Junior World Championships, Mr MULHEIMS is confident that more European teams will be represented in the World competition in the future.

The 4th edition of the European League was successfully organised in 2007. 12 teams, distributed into 3 pools of 4 teams, played this year to reach the podium through the finals organised in Portimao (POR). Mr MULHEIMS presents a chart highlighting the participation of the teams in the past 4 editions. Out of a total of 16 federations represented at least once in the past 4 editions, 3 teams (GER / SVK / TUR) participated all four years.

The last competition overviewed by ESOC, the Qualification for the FIVB World Grand Prix 2008, were just played in Ankara (TUR) in September 2007. Following the unexpected direct qualification of the team of Poland which was registered to play the qualifications, this just one week before the competition, CEV and the European Sports Organising Commission had to find an alternative competition formula. Alongside Poland, the teams of Germany, Italy and Turkey also qualified for the 2008 FIVB World Grand Prix.

To conclude his presentation, Mr MULHEIMS thanks his colleagues of the commission for their excellent collaboration and hard work, the CEV President and Board of Administration for its support, and the CEV Head Office.

There being no further comments, the report presented by the European Sports Organising Commission is adopted and approved by the Congress.

At this point of the agenda, Mr MEYER closes the morning session and invites all the delegates and guests to the Official Lunch offered by Gerflor.

He reminds all the delegates that they are requested upon leaving the room to sign the protocol adopting the new statutes.

The afternoon session will start at 15.00 hrs.

The afternoon session is open at 15.00 hrs following the call of delegates. 44 National Federations are found present. Cyprus and Russia are excused due to their involvement in dealing with an accident which happened during the break.

European Refereeing Commission

President: Mr Jan REK (SUI)

Mr Jan REK starts by sharing that in 2007, Europe counted a total of 384 International referees representing 46 countries, who are available every year to officiate in more than 2000 matches in Europe. Based on the statistics, Mr REK underlines that CEV is still missing referees to represent 9 European National Federations, and that the quota of women referees could still be improved, and therefore calls to the National Federations to help promote women refereeing.

The ERC identified 4 main goals to work on, including two that were given priority: the development of refereeing in Europe and the improvement of refereeing in Beach Volleyball.

In 2007, the ERC mainly focused on the development of the second project, and with this in mind, organised a Beach Volleyball Refereeing Seminar in Austria in April 2007. 33 National Federations were represented in the seminar which was led by Mr REK, Mr BREHAUT and Mr COX and included a review of 2006 including the problems currently faced. Specificities of refereeing in Beach Volleyball were also covered and targets for 2007 were discussed.

Mr REK then explains that the development of refereeing in Europe is mainly done through educating the referees both using direct and indirect methods. While direct education mainly consists of face-to-face training, usually in the scope of referee clinics and onsite evaluations, indirect education includes information through the National Federations and seminars. The ERC met during a 2-day workshop to discuss the main objectives and focal points of this

development and resulted in a list of structural concepts, basic work on contents for the education to be accomplished in the future and concrete immediate actions.

The immediate actions which were decided were:

- Preparation of videos and pictures to be used in refereeing education
- Use of videos for evaluating referees
- Adjustment of the referee nominations according to the new concepts
- Systematic use and collaboration of 2 Judge Referees per match in tournaments with SRC
- Obligatory SRC-internal "Quality Control" Discussions

Mr REK thanks the delegates for their attention and closes his presentation.

The complete ERC presentation can be found as appendices to these minutes (Appendix IX).

There being no further comments, the report presented by the European Refereeing Commission is adopted and approved by the Congress.

CEV Working Group Reports

Regulations & Fines

President: Mr Aloys FISCHER (SUI)

Mr FISCHER reminds the General Assembly that this working group was formed to unify the different regulations of the CEV competitions (Championships, Cups, Beach Volleyball), and proudly shares that the working group is finally at the end of its project. Over a period of 3-4 years, Mr FISCHER could count 21 days of intensive work to bring all the regulations on the same level.

Mr FISCHER takes this opportunity to thank Mr Achilleas MAVROMATIS, his main assistant in this work, and Mrs Riet OOMS and Mr Jean-Paul ROMMES who assisted him with the work regarding Beach Volleyball.

Finally, he explains that the regulations can be found on the CEV website under the respective competitions.

The complete presentation can be found as appendices to these minutes (Appendix X).

Mr MEYER thanks Mr FISCHER and his working group for their work. He also underlines that the work of this WG is ongoing because while the initial restructuring and corrections are made, it is now necessary to follow and coordinate each modification as it comes and guarantee the continued uniformity of all the regulations.

In absence of any further remarks, the report presented by the Working Group Regulations & Fines is approved and adopted by the General Assembly.

Vision 2012

President: Ms Banu CAN (TUR)

Ms Banu CAN briefly introduces the members of her working group and shares that one meeting was organised in Luxembourg in May 2007.

Following the previous year's detailed explanation of the working groups work and objectives, she briefly reminds the National Federations' delegates that this working group aims at assembling all information available in Europe regarding volleyball and beach volleyball in order to create a big platform of exchange. Anything related to volleyball, whether it be through documents, facts or books treating of subjects such as its history, its practice and its competition, should be made available to all the national federations and to the public through this database.



Ms CAN underlines that in order to further develop the database and collaborate with the CEV to expand this project, it is necessary for every national federation to not only visit the platform, but also contribute to the database by sharing documents and information with the others. With this in mind, each National Federation was given a password to access the database and add documents, and the link was added to the CEV website to be more easily accessible.

Mr MEYER thanks Ms CAN and reminds the delegates that this is an important project that requires the active participation of as many people as possible to bring together under one single platform all the publications available regarding volleyball in all its forms.

In the absence of any remarks, the report presented by the Working Group Vision 2012 is approved and adopted by the General Assembly.

Regional Activities

As an introduction to this point of the agenda, Mr MEYER reminds the General Assembly that the CEV now counts 4 Zonal associations which were created with the idea to develop more activities regionally, specifically in the Youth category. With this in mind, it was decided a couple of years ago to include a small report by each of the Zonal Associations in the scope of the General Assembly to share information regarding these activities and encourage all the National Federations to participate in this development project.

Report from the BVA

Mr Achilleas MAVROMATIS, BVA Secretary General, is proud to take the floor for the 3rd year in a row to present the activities of the Balkan Volleyball Association. He first briefly introduces this regional association which regroups 10 countries with very diverse cultures and political backgrounds, as well as different volleyball history. Indeed, Serbia and Turkey both are predominant nations in the sport of Volleyball with many medals won, including in world competitions, and belong to this regional association next to smaller newer nations like Bosnia-Herzegovina and Montenegro which joined the association at the end of 2006.

In terms of administration, Mr MAVROMATIS explains that elections are held each year in the scope of the BVA General Assembly to name the President, Vice-President and General Secretary and give all nations the possibility to be represented in the Presidency. Aside from the General Assembly which was held in Skopje (FYROM) in December 2006, a meeting of the technical commission was organised in Romania in April 2007, and Mr MAVROMATIS proudly shares that the BVA competitions follow clear regulations that were established this year. Championships were organised in the Youth and Junior categories for both genders, and were completed with U-20 Championships in Beach Volleyball as well as Senior Beach Volleyball Championships.

Mr MAVROMATIS underlines the difficulties encountered in organising such competitions with 10 teams with very different financial means, and explains that the BVA aims at finding ways to support the financially weaker federations, through the FIVB support and annual fees collected from all members. Mr MAVROMATIS takes this opportunity to thank the FIVB and CEV for their support and precious collaboration in helping develop volleyball in the Balkans.

In terms of communication, the BVA continues to develop its website and added the option of live score for most of its competitions. Additionally, the BVA has started to issue an annual yearbook which covers all the developments and activities in the Balkan region in a given year.

To conclude his presentation, Mr MAVROMATIS shares that the next BVA General Assembly will be organised on 15th December 2007 in Bulgaria and the annual technical commission will take place in Serbia in April 2008. He also explains that the BVA works continuously for its development and for the cohesion of all its members. The next step in this progress will be to further develop Beach Volleyball activities and consider the option of organising a club competition in the Balkans.

The complete BVA presentation can be found as appendices to these minutes (Appendix XII).

Mr MEYER thanks Mr MAVROMATIS for his report and excellent work of the BVA. He also confirms that the financial support allocated to the Zonal Associations by the FIVB will double and that more support will also come from CEV and its partner Mikasa following the signature of the new contract.

Report from the MEVZA

Mr Karl HANZL, MEVZA President, starts his presentation by explaining that the composition of the Middle European Volleyball Zonal Association has not changed since its creation, both in terms of member nations and Executive Committee.

Since the last CEV General Assembly in October 2006, the MEVZA held 6 meetings including its General Assembly in December 2006 and two organising committee meeting to prepare the Middle European League.

The Men's competition, with a final four tournament played in Bled (SLO) in March 2007, brought together 10 teams, of which the team of OK Autocommerce Bled (SLO) which won the competition. Of the 8 teams which played in the Women's competition, it was the team of VK Oms Senica (SVK) which won in the final four played in Vienna (AUT).

In the 2007/08 edition, 10 teams will again try to win the Gold medal in the Men's competition, while the women's competition will this time be played with 9 teams. As was the case the previous year, the League Rounds will be played between the months of September and February. The Final Rounds will be played at the end of February / beginning of March.

Mr HANZL explains that one condition for participating in this competition is to also be a participant in the European Cups.

In addition to the League, MEVZA also organises Championships in the Youth and Junior categories, both for boys and girls. While junior competitions are only organised every other year with the next ones scheduled in 2008 in Hungary and Croatia, the Youth Championships take place annually in the month of December.

To conclude, Mr HANZL shares the link to the official website of the MEVZA and thanks the delegates for their attention.

Mr MEYER thanks Mr HANZL for his presentation and congratulates MEVZA for its activities and continued work. He also cites the MEVZA as a good example for the successful organisation of a club competition at the regional level.

Report from the NEVZA

Mr Edgar BROKS, NEVZA President, takes the floor and briefly introduces the 7 countries that constitute the Northern European Volleyball Zonal Association as well as the composition of its administration.

The annual NEVZA General Assembly was organised in October 2006 in Luxembourg and was followed by a General Secretary meeting in June 2007.

U-17 and U-19 Boys and Girls Championships were organised in August and September 2007.

Additionally in 2007, NEVZA continued its work to further develop Beach Volleyball Activities in Northern Europe and to establish a Club League at the regional level. A first test event was organised in 2006 by the Swedish Federation. With this as basis, a new Top Club competition will be organised and will bring the 4 best teams of each country together in a preliminary round in November 2007. The best teams will then meet for the final round in January / February 2008.



Finally, Mr BROKS underlines that all NEVZA activities follow the CEV and FIVB regulations and are approved by the two authorities. He also takes this opportunity to thank them for their support.

To conclude, Mr BROKS takes the opportunity of the General Assembly to address the CEV and its Board of Administration and ask them to consider ways to make the CEV General Assembly an annual meeting and exchange of views and competences between the National Federations. In his opinion, it should be an opportunity to not only report on activities, but exchange information and experiences in order to move forward.

Mr MEYER thanks Mr BROKS for his report and intervention and confirms that the CEV Board of Administration will take into consideration his suggestions to change the format of the General Assembly for the future.

Report from the EEVZA

Mr Maris PEKALIS, EEVZA President, takes the floor and thanks the General Assembly for this opportunity to present the activities of the most recently created Zonal Association in Europe, which regroups 8 Eastern European countries.

In the last year, 4 meetings were organised, including the General Assembly and an Executive Committee meeting. Another General Assembly will be organised on 15th September 2007 in Moscow.

Concerning competitions, Mr PEKALIS underlines that in 2006/07, the NEVZA focused its efforts on the organisation of indoor volleyball Cadets, Youth, Mini-Cadets and junior competitions. With this in mind, it is 7 competitions that were organised in 6 countries during that period. Charts detailing each competition and its final rankings are then displayed. Russia, which participated in 6 competitions out of 7, won a total of 5 gold medals and 1 silver medal, followed by Poland which played 5 competitions and won 2 gold and 3 silver medals. Belarus and Latvia participated in all 7 competitions.

Mr PEKALIS explains that the NEVZA aims to also organise in the future competitions in Beach Volleyball and to develop competitions for the clubs.

The main problem faced by the association for the organisation of its competition is the coordination of a competition calendar in view of the many different levels of engagement of the teams in international competitions. The NEVZA however tries to take these facts into consideration and work in the best interest of all its members.

Mr PEKALIS takes this opportunity to highlight the successes of Eastern teams in International competitions, listing the rankings of the teams in the different competitions in the past year.

To conclude, he underlines the existence of an EEVZA website and a yearbook, and thanks the CEV for its interest and support for the development of the Zonal Associations. He also thanks all the member countries of the EEVZA and his colleagues of the EEVZA administration.

Mr MEYER thanks Mr PEKALIS and his colleagues for their work and the activities already developed in the 2 years since EEVZA was created.

Progress Reports of the 2008 Organisers

Junior Men's European Championships 2008 in CZE

Mr Jan HRONEK takes the floor and starts his presentation by inviting everyone to travel to the Czech Republic for the organisation of the Men's Junior European Championships to be organised in Brno at the end of August and beginning of September 2008, so just after the end of the Olympic Games.

The officials will be accommodated in Hotel Voroněž 1 while the teams will be accommodated in Hotel Voroněž 2. The tournaments will be played in two competition halls, including a new one in which the Girls Championships were already played in 2007. Three training halls will also be available for the teams.

Mr MEYER thanks Mr HRONEK for his report and looks forward to this organisation in Brno.

Junior Women's European Championships 2008 in ITA

Mr Carlo MAGRI, ITA President, explains that Italy applied to organise this junior competition because it believes in the importance of junior competitions and the need to contribute to the rise of young athletes, but also because it was looking to attract through this event national and international attention for the organisation of the 2010 Men's World Championships. Indeed, this important international competition will after 16 years again be organised in Europe, which Mr MAGRI qualifies as the temple of volleyball.

The junior women European Championships will be organised in Umbria, one of the most beautiful Italian region from an artistic and natural point of view, and Mr MAGRI therefore hopes that he will see many people travel to this region on the occasion of the junior competition. He then gives the floor to Ms Manuela ARMINI for the progress report.

The Junior Women's European Championships will be organised from the 5th to the 13th September 2008 in Umbria, with the preliminary rounds organised in Perugia and Foligno and the final round in Foligno. The airport of Rome Fiumicino is the official venue of arrival and is located some 200 kilometres from the competition venues, while the airport of Perugia is only a few minutes away.

Ms ARMINI then shares other distances separating the hotels from the different halls, before individually presenting the different hotels that will accommodate the teams and officials and fully comply with European standards. In Perugia, the officials will be accommodated in the Perugia Plaza Hotel, while the teams will be staying in either the Etruscan Chocohotel or in Hotel Tevere. In Foligno, the officials will be staying in the Antica Dimora Alla Rocca Hotel and the teams will be lodging in Hotel Della Torre.

The Palasport Evengelisti, competition hall in Perugia with a seating capacity of over 3800 spectators, is well known in Volleyball for having already hosted several European competitions. The training hall in Perugia is also very well equipped and offers the advantage of being very close to the hotels and the competition hall.

In Foligno, the new competition hall Palasport G. Paternesi meets all the requirements to host European-level competitions and can welcome up to 3000 spectators.

The training hall, already in compliance with CEV standards, is currently undergoing some changes as suggested by the organising committee in order to make the venue even more efficient.

To conclude, Ms ARMINI presents an overview of the competition's calendar with an arrival foreseen on 2nd September 2008 for the officials. The preliminary rounds will be played from the 5th to the 10th of September with a rest day after the 3rd day. After another rest day on the 11th, the semi-finals and finals will be disputed on the 12th and 13th of September 2008.

Mr MEYER thanks the Italian Federation for this excellent presentation and the good organisation of this competition, and encourages everyone to travel to both the Czech Republic and Italy for these events.

The complete presentation can be found as appendices to these minutes (Appendix XVII).

Proposals from National Federations

No proposals were received within the statutory time limit.



XXIX General Assembly 2008 in Madrid

Mr MEYER informs the delegates that the next CEV General Assembly will be organised in Madrid (ESP) in 2008 and gives the floor to Mr Agustin MARTIN SANTOS, ESP President

“Dear Mr President, Dear FIVB Vice-President, Dear Board of Administration members, Dear Delegates,

It is a great honour for us to host the 2008 CEV General Assembly in Madrid, Spain. With one year to go before the event, we have already analysed all the main issues that we need for an event of such importance, like the hotels, meeting rooms and financial support.

We have selected Madrid because we consider it the best city in Spain with the highest standards needed for such an organisation, including the transportation and communication means. Madrid is also candidate city for the 2016 Olympic Games and we want to show not only Europe but the whole world the organisation capabilities of Madrid.

In the scope of these preparations, we have come to Moscow with two extra people to attend this meeting and record all the details for the organisation of such an event, and we want to take this opportunity to congratulate the Russian Volleyball Federation for its work this year.

We are ready to welcome you in Madrid in 2008 and thank you for your attention.”

A video presenting the city of Madrid is shown to the General Assembly and highlights not only the culture of this Southern city, but also the modern facilities and means available in the Spanish capital. The selected hotel and conference rooms are also presented in the scope of this video.

The General Assembly will be taking place on 27th September 2008. Detailed information will be forwarded to the National Federations in due time.

The complete presentation can be found as appendices to these minutes (Appendix XVIII).

Miscellaneous

Mr MEYER shares a few additional points before closing the meeting.

- In the scope of the 2008 General Assembly in Madrid, the CEV will appoint the 2011 organisers for the Senior European Championships, as well as the organisers for the 2011 YECH and 2010 JECH. The conditions for applications will be sent by the office to the National Federations towards the end of 2007, and evaluations of the candidatures are foreseen around the month of March 2008. An inspection visit will also be scheduled to confirm the validity of the candidatures. The CEV Board of Administration will then decide during its meeting in Madrid the nomination of the organisers. Mr MEYER takes this opportunity to remind the National Federations interested to pay special attention to the deadlines.
- In the absence of the Russian federation delegates who accompanied Mr MASTRANDREAS to the hospital after an accident, Mr MEYER informs the delegates that the Russian Federation is inviting all the delegates to a closing dinner and the departure from the hotel is planned for 19h10.
- On Saturday, 15th September 2007, there will be an official ceremony for the signature of the Mikasa contract followed by cocktail and Press Conference, and Mr MEYER invites all the delegates to be present on this occasion.
- On Saturday 15th September and Sunday 16th September in the afternoon, the semi-finals and finals will be played in Moscow and all the delegates are invited to watch the matches.
- September in the morning. Mr MEYER reminds the people concerned to strictly respect the hours scheduled.

Closing of the XXVIII CEV General Assembly

Before closing the General Assembly, Mr MEYER thanks the CEV Guests and Honorary Guests for their presence, the CEV Office and the translators for their work, the delegates for their attention, and the Russian Federation for its excellent organisation.

Mr MEYER officially closes the XXVIII General Assembly at 17h30.





Confédération Européenne de Volleyball

488, route de Longwy • L-1940 Luxembourg • Phone (+352) 25 46 46 1 • Fax (+352) 25 46 46 40
info@cev.lu • www.cev.lu