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IHF Forum for the "Future of Handball"

The International Handball Federation is organizing a forum which is to take place in Herzogenaurach on 30 September, which deals with the „Future of Handball“ – which is the motto of the meeting. The following issues will, among others, be discussed:

- How can our sport become more attractive?
- Effective presentation of our sport in the media
- New handball and marketing strategies

The IHF invited experts from around the world and different branches to this symposium (coaches, players, media representatives, marketing experts, TV experts, etc).

Draw for the 22nd Men's World Championship in Sweden 2011



The draw for the 22nd Men's World Championship in Sweden 2011 has taken place in the Scandinavium in Gothenburg. The Swedish Handball Player of the Century, Magnus Wislander, and women's Swedish international Johanna Ahlm (both born in Gothenburg) have drawn the lots for the four Preliminary Round groups on the fringes of the youth tournament Partille Cup.

The three former World Champions France, Germany and Spain will clash in Group A. Group C including Croatia and Denmark looks quite tough as well. The host Sweden was allowed to choose its group and the coaches Ola Lindgren and Staffan Olsson decided to choose Group D.

The groups:

- **Group A** in Kristianstad/Lund: France, Spain, Germany, Tunisia, Egypt, Bahrain
- **Group B** in Linköping/Norrköping: Iceland, Norway, Austria, Hungary, Brazil, Japan
- **Group C** in Malmö: Croatia, Denmark, Serbia, Romania, Algeria, Australia
- **Group D** in Gothenburg: Poland, Sweden, Korea, Slovakia, Argentina, Chile





The ticket sale for the 2011 Men's WCh in Sweden has already started



Since 2 August, 20 U-18 teams have been playing for the World Championship title.



The draw was attended by IHF President Dr Hassan Moustafa, Vice President Miguel Roca, Secretary General Joel Delplanque, Treasurer Sandi Sola and a lot of guests from Swedish and international handball like the executive of the European Handball Federation EHF. TV4 broadcasted the draw live on Swedish TV, a lot of representatives of various national federations attended the draw in Gothenburg. The best three teams from group A and B as well as C and D meet in the Main Round, the three other teams will play in the President's Cup. The finals will take place in Malmö. The WCh will be held in Sweden from 13 to 30 January 2011.

2011 Men's World Championship in Sweden: Ticket sale has started



The ticket sale for the 2011 Men's World Championship in Sweden has already started. More information about ticketing and the Men's World Championship 2011 in general can be found on www.handball2011.com

The Women's Youth World Championship has started



The third Women's Youth World Championship has started. Since 2 August, 20 U-18 teams have been playing for the World Championship title in the Dominican Republic. The final will take place on 12 August. The matches of the tournament, whose title holder is Russia, are all held in the Santo Domingo region. The following Preliminary Round groups were drawn a couple of weeks ago:

Group A: Denmark, Netherlands, Angola, Argentina, Germany
 Group B: Norway, Dominican Republic, Japan, Ivory Coast, Uruguay
 Group C: France, Hungary, Sweden, Kazakhstan, Democratic Republic of Congo
 Group D: Russia, Korea, Brazil, Spain, Thailand.



For the third time representatives of top nations and clubs meet in order to increase the popularity of handball.



Norway wins Gold at Women's Junior WCH in Korea



For the first time ever the women's juniors from Norway have won a World Championship title. In Seoul, Korea, the Norwegians won the one-sided final against record world champion Russia 30:21 (14:11) and received the gold trophy from IHF President Dr Hassan Moustafa. The final was decided very early, as the Russians couldn't show the performance they did before, especially in the semi-final against host Korea. Norway lost only one of ten matches – the Main Round game against Korea.

The host didn't only miss the opportunity to fulfill its great dream of winning its first-ever junior's title, but it also failed to win the Bronze medal. The Asians lost the Bronze final against the surprise team of Montenegro 23:24. The Balkan team had clearly lost the semi against Norway, but has taken the biggest-ever success for the team sport of the small country. Top scorer of the WCH was Natalie Hagman from Sweden with 75 goals. Two players of the four semi-final participants each were voted into the All-Star Team.

IHF President Dr. Hassan Moustafa, Secretary General Joel Delplanque, COC (Commission of Organizing and Competition) President Leon Kalin, CCM (Commission of Coaching and Methods) President Naser Abu Marzouq and representatives from Korea awarded the following players:

- Goalkeeper: Marina Vukcevic (Montenegro)
- Left wing: Sanne Solberg (Norway)
- Left back: Milena Knezevic (Montenegro)
- Centre back: Stine Oftedal (Norway)
- Right back: Tatiana Khmyrova (Russia)
- Right wing: Seonhwa Kim (Korea)
- Pivot: Ksenia Makeeva (Russia)
- Most valuable player: Eunbi Lee (Korea)

Montenegro was favorite for voters on IHF website

"Who will be Women's Junior World Champion?" was the question on the IHF website www.ihf.info before the semi-finals in Korea that were carried out last weekend. Surprisingly the team from Montenegro, later on ranked third at the WCH, was the favorite among the users. 33 % of the users casted their votes for the Balkan team whereas 27 % of the users voted for Norway – and in the end they were right, as the European Champion took their first-ever Junior WCH title thanks to the final victory against Russia (25 % of the votes on the IHF website, ahead of Korea with 16 %).

Meeting with top nations and club representatives

For a third time representatives of top nations and clubs meet in order to increase the popularity of handball by discussing, amongst other topics, the WCH awarding system, the competition calendar and the appearance fee. In addition to GCH (Group Club Handball) President Joan Marin and FCH (Forum Club Handball) President Tomaz Jersic, Presidents from Croatia, Denmark, Spain, France,



Beach Handball is part of the official program of the World Games



Hungary, Norway, Poland, Romania, Serbia and Sweden as well as the President of the European Handball Federation are invited to participate in the meeting which will be staged at the Head Office of the International Handball Federation in Basel on 17 September 2010.

Beach Handball: Part of the Official Program of the World Games



During its meeting which took place in Lausanne on 10 and 11 July, the Executive Board of the International World Games Association unanimously decided to move Beach Handball from being an invitational sport to a sport in the official program of the World Games. Beach Handball was already part of the World Games as an invitational sport in Akita 2001 and Duisburg 2005. The World Games in Kaohsiung in July 2009 were the highlight, as Beach Handball was one of the sports that attracted most spectators.

The next edition of the World Games will take place in Cali, Colombia, in 2013 and Beach Handball is looking forward to establishing itself once again as one of the most prestigious competitions in this event.

Who is the best female handball player ever?

The International Handball Federation wondered about this question and asked its users. On www.ihf.info handball fans from around the world had the possibility to vote on who is the best female handball player ever. The result was surprisingly clear: Svetlana Kitic, born in Bosnia, who celebrated her biggest successes with the national team of Yugoslavia and became Olympic Champion in Los Angeles in 1984, received 84.1 % of the counted votes. Anja Andersen from Denmark came in second (10.34 %). Waltraud Kretzschmar, who was several times World Champion and is the mother of long-time German international Stefan Kretzschmar, ranked third (3.72%). Sinaida Turtschina became fourth (1.84 %).

IHF calendar of events until October 2010

Date	Place		Organizer	Event
August				
02/08-12/08	Santo Domingo	DOM	IHF	3rd Women's Youth World Championship
14/08-26/08		SIN	IOC	1st Summer Youth Olympic Games (incl. Handball)
15/08-22/08		MLI	IHF	Challenge Trophy (Zone II)
22/08-29/08		CIV	IHF	Challenge Trophy (Zone III)
September				
17/09	Basel	SUI	IHF	Meeting with top nations and club representatives
17/09	Basel	SUI	IHF	Meeting of the Executive Committee
17/09	Basel	SUI	IHF	Meeting of the Board of Directors of the IHF Marketing AG
28/09-02/10	Paris	FRA		Global Sports Industry Summit
30/09	Herzogenaurach	GER	IHF	Forum for the future of handball
October				
01/10-02/10	Herzogenaurach	GER	IHF	Council Meeting
03/10-14/10		IND		XIX Commonwealth Games