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NO HIBERNATION, FIRA-AER IN THE HEAT OF THE MOMENT

If the cold wave which hit Europe may have disrupted the competitions (many matches were postponed, in particular in Romania and Ukraine), it did not affect the activities of the senior officials! First, the "working group" met with the 6 Nations Committee before the final sign off, to have only one European voice, led to very positive results both in terms of (financial, material, human) assistance for the U18 Justin Bridou Championship and for the Elite. The duo EPALZA-MORARIU has been charged to prepare a synthesis of the work.

Jean-Claude BAQUE went to oversee the venues for the Women's European Championship (12-20 May in Rovereto, Italy) before visiting Turkey, with referee F. MACIELLO who officiated at the championship final, for the finalisation of the Turkish RU membership to be examined by the Executive Committee in April and at the July General Assembly. These two observers noted the excellent playing standards, which must allow Turkey to participate in the European competition, and the good performance of two U18 teams which played a Sevens match as the curtain

With Michel ARPAILLANGE, this time, the FIRA-AER President went to Grenoble where all the regional institutions signified their agreement for the 2013 U18 Justin Bridou Championship. All is OK! The Alps intend to organise a successful event and emulate the previous hosts: Midi-Pyrénées, Côte Basque-Landes, Côte d'Azur, lle de France, Flandres, Lyonnais, Armagnac-Bigorre.

Among the other projects, let's note the Sevens Student World Championship, also in collaboration with FFSU, will be held in Brive, 11-13 July and the Games of the Small States (May or June 2013) in Luxembourg for which the IRB support was officially requested before a possible agreement of the local public institutions. Douglas LANGLEY and Michel ARPAILLANGE are to facilitate a training course dedicated to the national coaches in Liege (Belgium, 20-23 March) to analyze the evolution of the Game based on Rugby World Cup 2011. Patrick ROBIN will lead a meeting with the FIRA-AER referee managers to discuss their training and competition management roles.

From 19 to 22 April in Budapest, the annual conference for NTD and General Secretaries will be held. General Manager Gilles BIZOT attended, at the UEFA's headquarters, the graduation day of the MESGO diploma (Sciences Po Paris, Centre du Droit Limoges, Germany, England, Catalonia) of which FIRA-AER is a partner,

The Paris-based administrative team redoubled efforts for the drafting of the manuals so that they are all available along the signing of the participation/host agreements. The only concern for this matter relates to the constant visas delivery problems with Russia. To conclude, let's flag out an improvement - one more - in the Internet site with a better visibility of the sevens

These many achievements prove that the extreme cold has not numbed our operations but have, on the contrary, energised our European leaders.

HENRI GATINEAU



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FIRA-AER - President JC Baqué in Turkey

In the second half of February, the President Jean-Claude Baqué has scheduled visits in Italy, Turkey then France. In Istanbul, Jean-Claude Baqué has met M Sakin Komurcu, Turkey Rugby Union Chairman and M Salim Kosar, Deputy Chairman. The day after, he was in stadium to see the final game of Turkish League.

From 15 to 16 February, Jean-Claude Baqué has visited the premises and grounds in Rovereto in Italy, closed to lake of Garde, where will be played from 11 to 20 May the European Cup of Women XV Rugby, Group A. The participants are England, Spain, France and Italy.

From 18 to 19 February, Jean-Claude Baqué was in Istanbul (Turkey) to meet the Turk Rugby Union Chairman to prepare the admission document of Turkey to FIRA-AER. On 19 February, Jean-Claude Baqué has shown the final game of Turk League in Istanbul. Frank Maciello (FR-Top

14) was the referee of this final game. This was a tight game, 8 to 5 with an acceptable level of rugby.

Then on 21 February, with Michel Arpaillange, Jean-Claude Baqué has visited the premises in Grenoble (grounds, hotels ...) in view of the organisation in 2013 of "Justin Bridou" U18 Tournament



IRB/FIRA-AER Level 3 Coaching Courses 2012

It was decided this year to organise 3 parallel courses of this level in three separate areas of Europe. Unions invited to nominate participants were from the IRB "High Performance", "Performance" & "Targeted" bands as well as FIRA-AER "Key Development Unions".

Two of the three courses were completed at the Part 1 phase on 27th-29th January in Frankfurt & Bucharest. The Course "Analysis & Preparation of Coaches" is a mixture of theoretical and practical sessions to further develop coaches in their planning & practising of coaching sessions. There were 10 delegates from Czech Republic & Germany at the Course in Frankfurt which was delivered by IRB licensed Educators Jason Lewis (WRU) & Lofty Stephenson (DRV). Douglas Langley (IRB/FIRA-AER) also assisted on the Course. Thanks must go Peter lanusivici who acted as the Course Local Manager & Educator as well as the DRV for hosting the Course. The Course in

Bucharest had 7 delegates from Belgium, Romania, Russia & Ukraine. Unfortunately some delegates were unable to attend due to the weather in Romania. The Course was delivered by Educator Dusty Miller (RFU) who was assisted by Daniel Mitrea (FRR). Daniel also acted as the Course Local Manger. Thanks must go to him and the FRR for hosting the Course. Delegates will now be observed and evaluated coaching in their own Rugby environments as part of the accreditation process, before returning to complete Part 2 of the Courses later in the year. The third Course will be taking place in Madrid (Part 1) in July.



Société Générale new sponsor of Czech Rugby

Komercní banka (Société Générale) has signed a new agreement on partnership and cooperation with The Czech Rugby Union for 2012

KB became general partner of the Czech Rugby Union. The rugby premier league will be called "KB Rugby Extraleague" (KB Extraliga rugby).

Rugby is one of the most progressive sports in the Czech Republic, our sport has a great potential and is gaining more and more fans and public attention every year.

Info IRB



FIRA-AER presents in Infos window in this web site, a serial of Web sites managed by IRB and available for the Rugby World.

To access to the application, please click on visible link.

Below see sites with a link available:

- Laws of the game
- The refzone for the referees
- IRB Coaching for the Trainers
- Keep Rugby Clean on antidoping
- IRB Player Welfare

- Rugby ready

- ..

Feel free to click on link available on INFO window.



RESULTS

