



FLASH INFO...FLASH INFO...FLASH INFO

OCTOBER 2002

N. 28

MESSAGE

START OF A NEW SEASON AFTER WORKING HOLIDAYS

FIRA AER's European dimension implies an original operating process taking into account every party's own criteria. Instead of having relaxing holidays, we had a working summer giving way to a heavy new season. The best proof may be our Chairman's summer itinerary, which will be used throughout this Flash Info.

What have we done since the "Romanian" GM? Portugal became our first Seven's European Champions in Heidelberg, Germany after 5 tournaments. We held Experts Courses in Sofia with 9 Russian-speaking nations and in Portugal, with 22 nations) that were as useful as important. Our initial meeting in July with the IRB was delayed due to Vernon Pugh's illness, and the European rugby family would like to send its best wishes of recovery to our dear friend but we kept in touch for the next U19 World Championship and the European Seven's circuit.

We also presented our sporting and financial projects in Dublin during the Regional Associations Meeting to be examined by the Council next November.

In the meantime, the European Regions Cup quarterfinals are due to be played while Italy, Ireland, Romania and Georgia qualified for RWC2003 and Spain and Russia will have to go through repechage. Moldavia, Czech Rep., Belgium and Latvia will compete in the U18 to qualify for the U19 World Championship.

A Commissioners Training was held in Toulouse with 21 commissioners from 16 nations and an Anti-Doping Seminar was held in the Maison du Rugby with Arpaillage, Fabre and Dr Mombet. Did I say working holidays?

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COMPETITIONS RESULTS

By 15 October 2002

RWC 2003 – EUROPE - ROUND 4

<u>POOL A</u>		<u>POOL B</u>					
Spain	03	Italy	50	Russia	03	Ireland	35
Italy	25	Romania	17	Ireland	63	Georgia	14
Romania	67	Spain	06	Georgia	17	Russia	13

Ranking

- 1 ITALY
- 2 ROMANIA
- 3 SPAIN

Ranking

- 1 IRELAND
- 2 GEORGIE
- 3 RUSSIA

*Italy, Ireland, Romania and Georgia are qualified for RWC2003.
Spain and Russia will play a home and away repechage.*

EUROPEAN NATIONS CHAMPIONSHIP

Division 2 - Pool A

SWEDEN V POLAND **07 – 14**

Division 3 – Pool A

LATVIA V HUNGARY **26 - 05**

REGIONS EUROPEAN CUP

1/16 FINALS

	Score
Denmark East v Adjara (Georgia)	00 – 61
Gutland Luxembourg v Eastern Region Russia	00 - 91

8 FINALS

Castille y Leon (Spain) – Pays Basque (Spain) – Adjara (Georgia) are qualified for quarterfinals

	Score
Centre Nord Portugal v Welsh District (Wales)	29 – 15
Tchequia (Czech Rep. v Provence (France)	12 – 56
Mazorie (Pologne v Bourgogne (France)	5 – 58
Western Region (Russia) v Roussillon (France)	24 – 26
Eastern Region (Russia) v Auvergne (France)	26 – 32

Quarter finals to be played 2nd or 3rd November 2002

- Auvergne v Centre Nord Portugal
- Roussillon v Castille et Leon
- Bourgogne v Adjara

- Provence v Pays Basque

U20

The tournament with GEORGIA, UKRAINE, HUNGARY and YUGOSLAVIA was cancelled.

U18

The final qualifying tournament for the U19 World Championship is to be held in Ricany (Czech Rep) from next October 31 to November 3 with Belgium, Moldavia, Latvia and Czech Rep.

U17

A tournament was held in July (24-27) in JYVASKYLA, Finland with Sweden, Netherlands and Finland under the supervision of Michel ARPAILLANGE:

1st Netherlands – 2nd Sweden – 3rd Finland

A tournament was held in September (19-23) in SIAULAI, Lithuania with Latvia, Ukraine and Lithuania under the supervision of Henri KUCZKO:

1st Lithuania – 2nd Ukraine – 3rd Latvia

SEVENS

Six tournaments were held last season in the following places: Lunel, Amsterdam, Madrid, Sopot, Budapest and the final in Heidelberg.

PORTUGAL were declared European Champions

2nd Georgia
3rd Germany
4th France
5th Lithuania
6th Ukraine
7th Poland

8th Malta
9th Denmark
10th Netherlands
11th Czech Republic
12th Luxembourg

COURSES

Stage Experts, Trainers and Referees: 21-25 August 2002 in SOFIA (Bulgaria) :

- 9 participating nations – 31 participants
- Trainers: Antonin – Arpaillange – Lamoulie – Bressy – Morandin – Mitrea – Tchoumbouridze.

Stage Experts, Trainers and Referees: 15 September 2002 in LISBON, Portugal:

- 22 participating nations – 56 participants
- Trainers: Antonin – Arpaillange – Lamoulie – De Miranda – Mendes Silva – Carreras - Gade – Borges – Cook (IRB representative).

Stage Referees Level 1 in VIENNA, Austria: 24-25 August 2002, organised by the Austrian RU:

- 23 participants (7 from Hungary, 5 from Slovenia, 3 from Czech Rep and 8 from Austria)
- Trainers: Kees Blaas et Craig Morgan.

Stage Trainer Level 1 in BEER SHEVA (Israel) organised by the Israeli RU (27-29 September 2002):

- 30 participants
- Trainers: David Carreras, (RDO FIRA-AER) – Directeur : Dave Kaplan.

Stage Commissioners in Toulouse Blagnac (France): 13-15 September 2002

- 16 participating nations – 21 participants
- Trainers: Antonin – Arpaillange – Lamoulie – Dr Mombet – Uriarte.

First Sports Official course in LISBONNE (Portugal): 6-7 September 2002 organised by the Portuguese RU:

- 25 participants
- Trainers: Baqué – Antonin - Ataïde – Pegado - Martins

INSURANCE – MEDICAL MATTERS

Players safety was largely discussed during the Commissioners Meeting in Toulouse.

Players safety starts from venue equipment, to refereeing, selection based on the appropriate positions, training conditions, player's individual equipment (gum shield, padding gear, studs etc.0

But Player's safety also depends on the medical monitoring of competitions and courses.

It is compulsory to have a doctor and an ambulance in attendance and competitions and courses shall only start once there is compliance with this obligation.

If, exceptionally, a doctor cannot attend, or should the appointed doctor fail to attend, the organiser shall appoint, under its responsibility, a qualified person vouched by the organiser.

IN BRIEF...

- U19 World Championship 2003 in Paris. A meeting was held last 28 August in the headquarters of Comité Ile de France with the following persons: JENKINS (IRB), BAQUE and ANTONIN (FIRA-A.E.R.) and LESBATS, LORA RUNCO, MARIAUD and ALGUACIL (Organising Committee).
 - Last 29 August the meeting planned with Vernon PUGH was cancelled due to the IRB Chairman's illness.
 - Jean-Claude BAQUÉ and José Maria EPALZA represented FIRA AER in the Regional Associations Meeting in Dublin.
 - Robert ANTONIN and Michel ARPAILLANGE participated in a meeting organised by the IRB (22-27 September) with their colleagues (RDM) from the other Regions.
 - The next Executive Committee Meeting is to be held on November 29 2002 in Amsterdam.
 - The Managers meeting for the U19 World Championship is to be held **next 6 December** at 9 am in the Société Générale headquarters in Paris (La Défense).
 - The next Board Meeting and GM are to be held on **Friday 6 December** (3pm-6.30pm) and on **Saturday 7 December** (9am-12) in the Société Générale headquarters in Paris (La Défense).
- You will receive Invitations with the map and a list of hotels located near the venue. The FIRA AER representative on the IRB Board shall be elected during the December meetings.
- Last **12 October**, in Toulouse, the IRB (Gilles FABRE) organised an Information Day against doping.organise
FIRA AER was represented by Dr MOMBET and Michel ARPAILLANGE.



COMMISSIONERS TRAINING IN TOULOUSE

IMPORTANT – URGENT..... IMPORTANT – URGENT.....

**BOARD MEETING and GENERAL MEETING
6 / 7 December 2002
in the Société Générale Headquarters
in PARIS, LA DEFENSE (92)**

Friday 6 December 2002

Arrival from 8.30am.

9am-12.30	U19 World Championship: Managers Meeting
3-6.30pm	Board Meeting
8pm	Banquet in Hôtel Mercure Montmartre (rue Caulaincourt)

Saturday 7 December 2002

Arrival from 8.30am.

9-12	General Meeting
12	Lunch (in SG Headquarters)

You will receive more details together with your Invitation.

Please note that access within the *Tour Société Générale* is very strictly monitored. It is not possible to enter the Headquarters without a badge to be delivered by Société Générale.

You must send the names of your Union Representatives by next 26 November so that Société Générale may receive such names in time to deliver the required badges that are to be collected at the entrance by your Representatives.

No badge is to be issued on the day. Any representative whose name has not been communicated in time shall not be allowed any access and therefore will not be able to participate in the FIRA AER meetings. It would be such a pity.

PLEASE NOTE: NO ACCESS ALLOWED WITHOUT BADGE