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SO FAR SO GOOD AT WORLD CUP

With rugby news dominated by the magnificent spectacle unfolding at the Rugby World Cup on the far side of the globe, all other rugby activity, including that of FIRA-AER, has taken a back seat. From a European point of view things are going well for our representatives in New Zealand, with the more experienced nations looking strong and the less experienced ones making significant progress.

Ireland caused the sensation of the qualifying stages at the expense of Australia, hotly pursued by Wales who gave the South Africans a serious run for their money, gaining great praise despite their narrow defeat. Following a rather slow start, France, rarely out of the news due to its inconsistent performances, ultimately did enough to fulfil its brief, as did England. These four nations surpassed Scotland and Italy whose journeys have unfortunately come to an end.

Apart from a few unfavourable score lines, the other so-called "minor" European nations deserve great credit for the outstanding progress they have made, which proves that participation in the World Cup leads to an overall improvement in standards. This improvement is a result of the hard work put in since the last World Cup, thereby proving how vital this competition is.

First in line for praise is Georgia, which despite being a minor nation with limited financial and structural resources, made life difficult for its opponents with solid, tenacious, and brave performances in addition to the sheer physical strength of its front row. This tough, warrior-like team has more than justified its inclusion in a competition of this level.

Romania's performance, however, was rather disappointing. Despite the resources at its disposal and its improved administration, the team is still failing to bridge the gap between its current standard and the next level.

Russia, which at the very least deserves credit for having qualified for this elite competition, put in some brave performances and there is no doubt that this experience will open new doors for the team in the form of some significant matches in the future. This is a most encouraging start.

While there is still more to be analysed and learnt from this first phase of the competition, the European representation so far has been of the highest standard, both in terms of the quality of play from the experienced nations and also the improvement on the part of the smaller rugby nations.

In conclusion, I think it is safe to say that it is a case of "so far so good" for Europe's Rugby World Cup campaign.

HENRI GATINEAU



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ENC - Season 2011-12 begins

RWC 2011 Quarter final games start this week-end, but the ENC also starts on 8th October. At the end of this season, the European Champion title will be given and some countries will be promoted for a new round 2012/14.

First game is Cyprus Vs Luxembourg, Saturday 8th October. Then 3 games on 15 October, 3 games on 22 and 5 games on 29 October to finish the month. 12 ENC games will be played during the month of October. If you add the Final U19 Tournament in Romania started on 29 October, plenty of Rugby in European Grounds.

<http://www.fira-aer-rugby.com/events.php> <<http://www.fira-aer-rugby.com/events.php>>



FNOC - Article on European Rugby

RWC2011 is now running and a lot of media are interested by our sport. One of the large number of Press Releases produced has to be reviewed and highlighted because you can see it on the French Sports and Olympic National Committee web site.

This 3 pages report highlights the preparation of Rugby for Olympic games, the FIRA-AER and the portrait of Jean-claude Baqué..

The French Olympic Committee has also chosen to insert this article on they Newsletter which is disseminate in France and over seas.

http://franceolympique.com/art/2078-leurope_du_rugby_se_prepare_aux_jeux_olympiques.html



U20 - 2011 Final in Poland

2011' FIRA-AER U20 Final will be held close to Warsaw (PL) in Siedlce from 14 to 19 November. The four countries will be the three winners of pools, Poland, Moldova and Ukraine and the best runner-up Lithuania.

The schedule under further notice, is as followed:

Monday 14/11: Teams arrival

Tuesday 15/11: Semi finals

Wednesday and Thursday: rest

Friday 18/11: Ranking games

Slovakia - Rugby 7s Course for coaches Level 1

A TES FIRA-AER/irB Workshop Level 1 for Rugby 7s Coaches was held in Bratislava from 3 to 4 September 2011.

This course was managed by Ivan Torpey (RFU) and Eduard Krutzner (SK) on Rugby Club Slovan Bratislava ground. Slovak coaches are now ready to manage 7s Competitions.



Ukraine - highlights on Women referees



On 11 September 2011, on Kiev Spartak Stadium, from a Ukraine Union decision, women referees were appointed for the 7s Tournament.

This tournament was the Stage 3 of the Ukraine League. The 7 Rugby in Ukraine is fully developed and needs women referees. Anastasia Gontar was the main referee of the last game of the Tournament.

Norway: FIRA-AER Workshop for Referees



From 16 to 18th September, Klaus Blank (FIRA-AER/Germany) led a Referee workshop in Oslo.

FIRA-AER is sending referee expert all over Europe to help local referee societies to improve. Klaus Blank, from the German Referee Committee, has been sent by Patrick Robin, FIRA-AER referee manager, to work together with Norwegian referees.

On Friday evening, Klaus led a discussion on positioning and the work of the team of 3. The aim was to share experience, ideas, tips to bring all referees to the same level. On Saturday, everyone was in action, either during the Women NorgesCup 10s stage or during one of the 2 15-a-side games of the Norwegian Championship. Both Blindern RK v Stavanger RK and Oslo RK v NTNU/Trondheim RK games were filmed. On Sunday, videos from Saturday's games were watched

to discuss about the performance of the referees. Rather than an evaluation, it was an open and constructive discussion on positioning, management, signals.

All participants really appreciated the week end, it has been very fruitful for all of them.

Ukraine - Workshop for trainers beginners



From 22 to 23 September was held in Sports University of Kiev (UA) a seminar for trainers beginners.

11 personnes including 8 women followed this seminar given by Dasyuk Stanislav, Melnichuk Victor, Muha Vladimir managed by Oleg Zaiiznyi.

This workshop was based under the Rugby Ready Guide provided by IRB.

U17 - Camp in Croatia



From Wednesday 28 of September until Sunday 2nd of October the U17 Camp with Croatia and Bosnia took place in Josipdol (Croatia).

Under the Adriatic sun 52 players, 6 coaches and 10 match officials worked together for 5 days around the theme of continuity of the game in open play.

In the match between the two teams on Saturday 8 tries were scored! The weather was excellent and all could train on the pitch next to the hotel where the delegations stayed.

IRB FIRA/AER Educator Philippe Ernst and Trainer Johnny Meersman (both Belgium) educated the coaches and match officials. They would like to thank the Croatian rugby union for the organisation and facilities, and all participants for their motivation, commitment and friendship.



Ukraine - Women Ukraine winner of Coupe de l'Amitié



On 1st October was held in Lviv (UA) the Coupe de l'Amitié for the Rugby 7s women teams.

National teams of Poland, Moldova, Hungary and Ukraine have registered to the Tournament completed by clubs teams from Ukraine.

In pool phase, Ukraine has beaten, Moldova, and Poland, then Hungary in semi-final. The final was played and won against a clubs selection from Ukraine.

Ukraine won the coupe de l'Amitié two times now.



U20

2011 U20 European Championship

Europe

South Group

Semifinals

21/09/2011 - THESSALONIKI (EL)

Hungary **34 - 3** Greece

21/09/2011 - THESSALONIKI (EL)

Ukraine **36 - 0** Serbia

Play-off games

23/09/2011 - THESSALONIKI (HE)

Hungary **10 - 36** Ukraine

23/09/2011 - THESSALONIKI (HE)

Greece **3 - 47** Serbia

Teams	Score			Tries		Conv.		Pen.		Drops		Cards	
	f.	a.	Diff.	f.	a.	f.	a.	f.	a.	f.	a.	Y	R
1 - Ukraine	72	10	62	9	2	6	0	5	0	0	0	3	0
2 - Hungary	44	39	5	7	4	3	2	1	5	0	0	1	0
3 - Serbia	47	39	8	9	5	1	4	0	1	0	1	2	0
4 - Greece	6	81	-75	0	14	0	4	1	1	1	0	1	0

Cross-Border Competitions

2011-12 RRC - Regional Rugby Championship

Balkans

Pool A

Pool A

17/09/2011 - BATTAI (HU)

z_Battai Bulldogok RC **20 - 0** z_Bezigrad Ljubljana

01/10/2011 - LJUBLJANA (SI)

z_Bezigrad Ljubljana **0 - 20** z_Partizan Beograd

24/09/2011 - BEOGRAD (RS)

z_Partizan Beograd **8 - 42** z_RK Nada Split

18/09/2011 - BEOGRAD (RS)

z_Partizan Beograd **8 - 12** z_RK Rudar Zenica

01/10/2011 - SPLIT (HR)

z_RK Nada Split **25 - 14** z_Battai Bulldogok RC

24/09/2011 - ZENICA (BA)

z_RK Rudar Zenica **20 - 0** z_Bezigrad Ljubljana

Teams	Matches							Score			Tries		Conv.		Pen.		Drops		Cards	
	No	W	D	L	Pts	Bonus	Total	f.	a.	Diff.	f.	a.	f.	a.	f.	a.	f.	a.	Y	R
1 - z_RK Nada Split	2	2	0	0	8	1	9	67	22	45	7	3	4	2	8	1	0	0	0	0
2 - z_RK Rudar Zenica	2	2	0	0	8	0	8	32	8	24	2	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
3 - z_Partizan Beograd	3	1	0	2	4	1	5	36	54	-18	2	8	0	4	2	2	0	0	3	0
4 - z_Battai Bulldogok RC	2	1	0	1	4	0	4	34	25	9	2	1	2	1	0	6	0	0	0	0
5 - z_Bezigrad Ljubljana	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	60	-60	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Pool B

Pool B

17/09/2011 - WIEN (AT)

z_RC Donau Wien **17 - 17** z_RK Ljubljana

17/09/2011 - LJUBLJANA (SI)

z_RK Ljubljana **18 - 22** z_Zagreb



17/09/2011 - KECSKEMET (HU)

z_Kecskeméti ARC **37 - 31** z_KBRK Beograd

01/10/2011 - BEOGRAD (RS)

z_KBRK Beograd **14 - 24** z_Zagreb

Teams	Matches								Score			Tries		Conv.		Pen.		Drops		Cards	
	No	W	D	L	Pts	Bonus	Total	f.	a.	Diff.	f.	a.	f.	a.	f.	a.	f.	a.	Y	R	
1 - z_Zagreb	2	2	0	0	8	1	9	46	32	14	7	4	4	3	1	2	0	0	2	1	
2 - z_Kecskeméti ARC	1	1	0	0	4	1	5	37	31	6	4	5	4	3	3	0	0	0	0		
3 - z_RK Ljubljana	2	0	1	1	2	1	3	35	39	-4	5	6	2	3	2	1	0	0	1	0	
4 - z_RC Donau Wien	1	0	1	0	2	0	2	17	17	0	2	3	2	1	1	0	0	0	0		
5 - z_KBRK Beograd	2	0	0	2	0	2	2	45	61	-16	7	7	5	7	0	4	0	0	1	0	

Pool C

Pool C

17/09/2011 - ZENICA (BA)

z_RK Celik Zenica **20 - 0** z_Athens Rugby FC

25/09/2011 - ESZTERGOM (HU)

z_Esztergomi Vitezek **15 - 14** z_Pobednik Beograd

01/10/2011 - ATHENS (GR)

z_Athens Rugby FC **0 - 20** z_Mladost Zagreb

24/09/2011 - ZAGREB (HR)

z_Mladost Zagreb **5 - 24** z_RK Celik Zenica

01/10/2011 - ZENICA (BA)

z_RK Celik Zenica **27 - 24** z_Esztergomi Vitezek

Teams	Matches								Score			Tries		Conv.		Pen.		Drops		Cards	
	No	W	D	L	Pts	Bonus	Total	f.	a.	Diff.	f.	a.	f.	a.	f.	a.	f.	a.	Y	R	
1 - z_RK Celik Zenica	3	3	0	0	12	2	14	71	29	42	9	5	3	2	0	0	0	0	3	0	
2 - z_Esztergomi Vitezek	2	1	0	1	4	2	6	39	41	-2	7	7	2	3	0	0	0	0	2	0	
3 - z_Mladost Zagreb	2	1	0	1	4	0	4	25	24	1	1	4	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	
4 - z_Pobednik Beograd	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	14	15	-1	2	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	
5 - z_Athens Rugby FC	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	40	-40	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

2011-12 North Sea Cup

Belgique - Germany - Netherlands

2011-12 North Sea Cup

Day 1

05/09/2011 - KITURO (BE)

y_Kituro Schaerbek **7 - 38** y_SC Frankfurt 1880

05/09/2011 - HILVERSUM (NL)

y_RC Hilversum **34 - 20** y_RC Boitsfort

05/09/2011 - HEIDELBERG (DE)

y_Heidelberger RK **53 - 3** y_s'Hertogenbosch

2011 - Vikings Tri-Nations

Norvège, Suède, Danemark




2011 - Vikings Tri-Nations

2011 Competition

03/09/2011 - BERGEN, NORWAY

Norway **7 - 18** Sweden



Teams	Matches							Score			Tries		Conv.		Pen.		Drops		Cards	
	No	W	D	L	Pts	Bonus	Total	f.	a.	Diff.	f.	a.	f.	a.	f.	a.	f.	a.	Y	R
 1 - Sweden	2	2	0	0	8	1	9	73	22	51	11	3	6	2	2	1	0	0	0	0
 2 - Denmark	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	15	55	-40	2	9	1	5	1	0	0	0	0	0
 3 - Norway	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	7	18	-11	1	2	1	1	0	2	0	0	0	0

