

Flashinfo 131

EDITO



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NOW IS TIME FOR MAJOR WORKS

There is a momentum, headed by the Chairman, supported by the administrative and sporting team, for a European brain storming to launch all the major works to be implemented during this year 2012, which will be vital for FIRA-AER.

First of all, the closer relations between 6 Nations and FIRA-AER, with the possible creation of "Working Group", during the meeting of the management of the two institutions at Heathrow. A vital meeting for the future of European Rugby! With regards to international and presidential activities, let us mention the meeting with the Turkish Chairman and Technical Director during which was discussed the possibility of Turkey's membership. On the national front, an important meeting with GMF was held to discuss insurances. The meeting in Paris, with Michel ARPAILLANGE and Douglas LANGLEY, was a source of satisfaction with the validation of the courses for the Austrian, Swedish, Portuguese and Ukrainian N.T.D., which brings the percentage of the nations having a national technician up to 85%. A policy that was initiated five years ago by FIRA-AER and now almost completed.

At the same time, Michel Arpaillange went to Madrid to finalise the arrangements for the Justin BRIDOU U18 European Championship and Gilles BIZOT had a meeting in Dublin. The joint activities of Michel, Gilles and Douglas LANGLEY, assisted by Amandine GUICHARD, cover many sectors such as GPS; the finalisation of the various competitions' manuals; the commercial strategy to consider all rights to be exploited including broadcasting; the practical implementation of the strategic plan for the next four years; the organization of a conference, next 20-23 March in Liege, with the national coaches, to address the technical conclusions following RWC 2011; the preparation of the General Secretaries and N.T.D. meeting in Budapest (19-22 April) and of the Executive Committee (17-18 April in Paris). For the longer term: let's mention the Women's Rugby XV tournaments scheduled for next May in Sweden and Italy.

It goes without saying that these major works mean 2012 promises to be another very busy year!

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February 4: Resumption of the European Nation Cup



10 days ahead of the opening of the RBS 6 Nations tournament, FIRA-AER is getting ready for the first matches of the European Nations Cup division A. On February 4, not only will France play Italy and Scotland play England, but the program will also see Romania vs Portugal in Bucharest. Ukraine vs Georgia in Dnepropetrovsk is postponed due to weather conditions.

On February 5, 2011, Portugal had won over Romania with difficulty 24 to 17 but this second leg post RWC will be the occasion for Romania to show its progress. Since the two teams are very close in the ranking, it seems like the defeated team will not get the chance to overtake Georgia, comfortably settled as number 1 of the division.

In Dnepropetrovsk, the game between Georgia and Ukraine is postponed due to bad weather conditions in Ukraine.

As a record: Georgia had won over Ukraine 62 to 3 on February 12, 2011. Owing to poor weather conditions, Russia vs Spain will be played on May 19, 2012.

On February 11, Russia, after its first participation in the RWC, will go to Portugal with a desire for revenge. Indeed, the defeat from last year at home (19-21) is still hard to accept. Spain will host Georgia and try to do better than 60-0 in 2011.

Latvia - IRB/FIRA-AER course for coaches



From 18 to 20 November was held in Riga (LV) a IRB/FIRA-AER Course for Coaches in the framework TES "Training & Education Support".

This course was given by Clive Cashell (RFU) with 18 trainees from Latvia. The course included development of theoretical and practical skills and contained a lot of information on RFU system regarding rugby development. Latvian Rugby Union initiated courses for coaches to broaden their vision and give them more information about rugby coaching and development tendencies in IRB

Cross Border Competitions - 2011 Baltic Rugby Cup



The Baltic Rugby Cup (BRC) was held from July to October 2011 in the region of Baltic Sea with clubs from Latvia, Lithuania and Russia.

The champions are Baltrex (Siauliai, Lithuania) by winning MAI team from Moscow with result 51-7.

Final standing:

1. Baltrex (Siauliai) Lithuania
2. Marino (Moscow) Russia
3. Sauliai (Siauliai) Lithuania
4. Vairas (Siauliai) Lithuania
5. MAI (Moscow) Russia
6. Miesnieki (Kekava) Latvia

7. Ovals (Riga) Latvia

8. Klevas (Panevezys) Lithuania

9. Ezi (Riga) Latvia

The competitions were provided in three cities - Division 1 - in Siauliai (Lithuania), Division 2 - in Sigulda (Latvia) and Division 3 - in Panevezis (Lithuania).

The BRC competition is provided since 1998 and best teams from Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, Poland, Finland and Russia have already participated.

The goal is to raise rugby level in Baltic Sea region and strengthen cooperation and fellowship among the rugby players from participating countries.



IRB/FIRA-AER Level 2 Match Officiating Course, Esztergom (Hungary)



IRB Level 2 officiating course was held in Esztergom, Hungary on 02-04. December 2011. Referees took part from Croatia, Slovenia and Hungary.

Educator Colin Brett from SRU held also theoretical and practical sessions, with even a game analyze. All 22 participants agreed that these information will help them in their own development and will push them to be better and better referees. Many thanks for the Educator Colin Brett, organiser Csaba Priskin and host club Esztergomi Vitézek Rugby SE.

Serbia - FIRA-AER/IRB Match Officiating Level 1 course



FIRA-AER/IRB level 1 Match Officiating Course was held in Belgrade, in facilities of Royal Belgrade Rugby Club on October 29-30, 2011.

The facilitator of the course was IRB local licensed Educator Mr. Predrag Stiglic. There were seven referees who took participation at this course. Main reason why the course was divided in two halves was the fact that on 29th of October played ENC Match Serbia /Slovenia. Attendees took opportunity to watch that game and afterwards they had group work regarding some very important aspect of the referring, both in theory and in practice later on the field. They had very fruitful discussion regarding positioning, communication and especially risk management. On the field they had practical exercises to cover technical points of refereeing (e.g. advantage, scrum, line out...). As far as foul play, safety and the spirit, we had good examples to discuss about, since there were 2 yellow

cards and one red card at the game.

Switzerland - IRB/FIRA-AER Course for coaches



From 19 to 20 November in Lausanne (CH) was held the 3rd Course for Coaches delivered on IRB/FIRA-AER TES programme.

This course was managed by Raphaël Boyé (FR) to 15 Trainees. The Swiss Rugby Union has organised this training to share it view of Rugby Training. Trainees have work in field to place the exercises based on "Player driving plan in general movement".

Poland - Coaching Clinic Lodz (PL)



From 2 to 4 December in Lodz (PL) was held a clinic course for coaches.

As part of IRB/FIRA-AER Training & Education Support "TES" scheme, 24 coaches from around Poland attended a Coaching Clinic.

The clinic was facilitated by Riadh Djait (FFR) and focused on High Performance. Coaches took part in a mixture of theoretical and practical sessions"



Belgium - TES-program Kicking techniques and back play



The Belgium Rugby Union had the privilege to welcome Alan Moses, RFU coach & player development officer, during the weekend of 9, 10 & 11 December. The visit stood in connection with the TES program of the IRB/FIRA-AER.

The requested topic of the weekend was kicking techniques and back play. 27 coaches and players attended the refresher course. A theoretical session was alternated with a practical session so the coaches had the opportunity to coach themselves, Alan served as an educator to give feedback too the coaches.

After the course we watched the game between Boitsfort and Waterloo A sub (2 teams from Brussels) to analyze their kick techniques and black play. The game between the 2 rivals is known

as the "classico cup".

The Belgium Rugby Union would like to thank the IRB/FIRA and in particular Alan Moses for the learn full course.

Belgium - First FIRA-AER/IRB level 1 - strength & conditioning course



On 17 December 2011 the Belgium rugby union organized their first IRB level 1 strength and conditioning course at the university sports centre of Leuven (close to Brussels).

The university was an ideal location because we had access to a classroom, gym, astroturf pitch and running track.

The course was alternated with some practical and theoretical sessions. During the exercises we divided the 15 participants into 3 groups, so micro teaching was applied. Arnaud Laly had set out the program of the course with the help of Gabriel Weemaels, Koenraad Boets, Johan Meersman and Mathias Rondou. Looking back at the course, we can say it was a successful course with some small details to solve. After the evaluation we already look forward to next IRB level 1 S & C course.

We would like to thank the IRB and Fira/aer for their support.

Serbia - IRB/FIRA-AER Level 2 Accreditation Coaching Course, Part 1

The above was held by the Serbian Rugby Union in conjunction with the Training & Education Support "TES" scheme in Belgrade, 17th-18th December.

12 coaches from Serbia attended the Course which was facilitated by IRB licensed Educator, Simon Burns (RFU). The Course which focuses on "Developing Rugby Skills" was a mixture of theoretical and practical work with the outcomes of Coaches being able to plan & coach aspects of the Game.

The delegates will now be required to do some competency based work including being further observed coaching in their team environments before being accredited.

Belgium - Learning week-end for Referees



From 14 to 15 January 2012, the Belgium Referees Comitee took advantage of the winterbreak to organise a workshop around the scrum for their match officials. About 85 referees have participated in this event for the occasion at Antwerp Rugby Club.

In the morning 45 regional referees worked on the field and in the classroom with videoclips of the Belgian Championship. In the afternoon, the national panel referees digged a little deeper into the subject. The educators insisted on the technics of the players, body positions, binding and specific laws concerning the scrum. The interventions made by Philippe Tollet, front row specialist and surgeon were much appreciated by the match officials. Mr. Tollet shared his experience as front row player and also explained the safety and medical aspects of the scrum. In all presentations the safety aspect was very much present. The Belgian Referees Comitee likes to thank Antwerp Rugby

Club for the hospitality, all the educators for their engagement, Philippe Tolet for his clarifications and Tom De Clercq vidéo specialist of the Belgian Union, who's work is necessary tool to work with.

