



**International Committee Electric Wheelchair Hockey  
(ICEWH)**

**Sport Section of the IWAS**

*The international Electric Wheelchair Hockey movement*



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**ICEWH Newsletter  
April 2007**

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This newsletter is written to inform you about the ICEWH affairs of the last months.

**Contents**

- Sports Assembly 2006
- Development Event 2006
- Development Events 2007 & 2008
- Referee Course
- Trainers handbook "Principles of Electric Wheelchair Hockey"
- Calendar 2007-2014
- Next Sports Assembly & Elections 2008
- European Championships 2008
- Announcements International Tournaments
- Game Rules & Competition Regulations 2007
- Subcommittees
- IWAS Grants
- Questionnaires
- Finally

**Sports Assembly 2006**



The Sports Assembly (SA) of November 2006 in the Netherlands was visited by 8 nations of 2 continents, incl. 1 new nation: Australia, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Italy, Netherlands and Croatia (new) were present. As new coming up EWH-nation we heartily welcomed Estonia as observer. Anja Wouters, ICEWH Executive Committee member has chaired the 3-days SA and replaced Bruce Ashby because of his resignation as ICEWH Chairman in September 2006. On the last day of the SA John Teunissen of the Netherlands was elected as new chairman of the ICEWH. He and also 13 Subcommittee Members were appointed by the SA till the next elections.

During the SA many agreements were made about EWH rules and regulations and the policy for the coming years was set down. Maura Strange, Radka Kucirkova and Jan Bockweg of the IWAS visited the SA and gave their support, especially on the items which are necessary to reach the full IWAS status.

The IWAS has sent the minutes of this SA to your national member organisation of the IWAS. This organisation should send documents to your national EWH organisation. Please take contact if this didn't happen. You also can contact the ICEWH Secretary Kenny Verbraekel to receive the minutes:  
[icewh@telenet.be](mailto:icewh@telenet.be).

## Development Event 2006



The first ICEWH Development Event of November 2006 was organized by the Dutch member organization of the IWAS, NebasNsg and sponsored by Ernst&Young. Athletes, referees and trainers/coaches of 5 nations (Australia, Denmark, Croatia (new), Slovenia (new), Estonia (new)) participated in the several courses, given by experienced instructors. Nico Teunissen (Coach of the Dutch National EWH Team) gave varied technical and tactical training, based on the new trainers handbook "Principles of Electric Wheelchair Hockey". Marcel van den Muysenberg and Berry Hommel (Athletes of the Dutch National Team) assisted Nico during the training sessions. From their excellent skills and performance the athletes and trainers/coaches really learned a lot. The referee course was given by Niels ten Hagen (Dutch referee instructor). Theoretical sessions were given on game rules and personal contact. In the practice sessions the referees got instruction on the whistled matches, experienced the time- and score keeping duties of the match table and paid attention in controlling players and playing field. All passed their exam! Congratulations and thanks all for your efforts!

### Development Events 2007 & 2008

Development Events are important to expand the sport of EWH world wide and to bring the sport on a higher level. It will give (new) nations the possibility to get acquainted with EWH and/or to develop the current state of EWH activities, experiences and skills. Therefore the ICEWH is willing to offer more nations, athletes-, trainers/coaches and referees this possibility in different regions. The Czech Republic and Australia showed their interest to organize such event and, at the moment, are looking for the possibilities. As soon as more information is available the ICEWH will let you know.

### Referee Course

The Referee Courses of the next Development Events will be used for starting Referees, as well as for experienced Referees who have the wish to lead EWH matches in International ICEWH Competitions (Regional Championships and World Championships). It will be obliged for referees to attend a referee course to get an official ICEWH licence. For the European Championships of November 2008 Referees shall have attended a course. The only exception the ICEWH decided to make, is for the referees who functioned already in the WC 2004 or EC 2005 as Senior Referee and got a positive judgement of the Jury. They don't have to follow a course, but will get automatically their A-licence as soon as ready. "Second Referees" and "new" international referees need to follow a course.

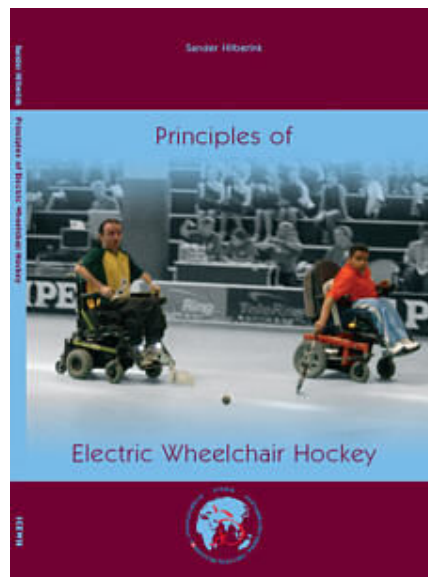
## Trainers handbook “Principles of Electric Wheelchair Hockey”



During the SA 2006 the handover of the trainers handbook “Principles of Electric Wheelchair Hockey” took place. The author Sander Hilberink presented the first copies to Maura Strange of the IWAS, to Gabrielle van Doorn of the International Fieldhockey Federation and to Inge Hazewinkel of Ernst&Young, head sponsor of the DE 2006.

*Principles of Electric Wheelchair Hockey* offers a wide variety of basic techniques and defensive and offensive tactics. The ICEWH feels that *Principles of Electric Wheelchair Hockey* is a valuable acquisition for the international development of the sport. Therefore the ICEWH recommends its use for all coaches, trainers and athletes.

The price for sale is € 20,-- (excl. postage costs). For more information or order you can mail to the ICEWH office: [icewh@telenet.be](mailto:icewh@telenet.be)



## **Calendar 2007-2014**

As you probably know, the previous planned EWH World Championships of 2007 in Chinese Taipei shall not take place, because the Organising Committee in Taiwan didn't accept Electric Wheelchair Hockey and other team sports during the IWAS World Games, but invited only individual sports. As result the whole ICEWH Calendar had to change. Attached you will find the new ICEWH Calendar 2007-2014. As you can see the Regional and World Championships will be held every 4 years, which is a usual sports cycle. In the years in-between the Regional and World Championships, the IWAS World Games will take place. These can be used for international Development Event, National and/or Club Team events.

## **Next Sports Assembly & Elections 2008**

As you can see in the ICEWH Calendar as well, the Sports Assemblies are scheduled biannually, with every 4 years elections, with the exception of the elections of 2008.

Because the next big ICEWH Event will be held in 2008, the ICEWH Executive Committee has decided to couple its next Sports Assembly to the European Championships in Belgium in November 2008 and to hold the first official elections.

Because elections normally are held in the year of the World Championships, the 2<sup>nd</sup> elections will be held in 2010. After that year we can continue in the normal 4-years cycle.

During the last SA 2006 was agreed that the next SA with elections should be held in 2007, but because of the above mentioned reasons, the ICEWH Executive Committee is of the opinion that it is more sensible to postpone one year. This means that the previous planned Sports Assembly with elections for this year (2007) will not take place.

## **European Championships 2008**

The European Championships will be held from 8 – 16 November 2008 in Maasmechelen in Belgium. ICEWH Technical Delegates will inspect the accommodation and venues on May 5<sup>th</sup>. After that, as soon as possible, the invitation and "Intend to Participate Form" will be send by the IWAS to your National Member Organisation of the IWAS.

## **Announcements International Tournaments**

In order to prevent any case of contemporary event with other ICEWH competitions or with competitions considered with priority by the ICEWH, we want to remind you of the regulation that the IWAS/ICEWH shall be informed of all international matches and tournaments involving National Teams and/or Club Teams at least six month in advance. Please send the information to the ICEWH Office in time, so that we can take your event in the ICEWH Calendar.

## **Game Rules & Competition Regulations 2007**

Soon the ICEWH will send you the revised ICEWH Game Rules & Competition Regulations 2007 on the agreements of the Sports Assembly of 2006.

## **Subcommittees**

Currently all ICEWH Subcommittees are working on the issues which are necessary to reach the full IWAS status.

### *Technical Committee*

- The Game Rules and Competition Regulations are revised and send to the IWAS for approval.
- Most of the drawings of the EWH equipment are ready. You'll find the drawings of the T-stick, the playing field, the penalty area and the goal net in the Game Rules 2007.
- A proposal to measure the speed of the wheelchairs will be set up.
- A proposal for a Ranking & Qualification system will be set up.
- The proposal to licence Referees and Jury Members will be further worked out.

### *Development Committee*

- The Operational Regulations are revised and send to the IWAS for approval.
- Is working on educational programmes for Athletes, Trainers/Coaches, Referees, Jury Members and Technical Delegates.
- The Organisers Regulations will be revised, especially on the bidding procedure.

### *Medical Committee*

- Is working on the players eligibility and classification system.

### *Media Committee*

- The ICEWH Media Committee is still hard working on the new website. Information will be available as soon as possible.

**IWAS Grants**

From the IWAS the ICEWH received a base, development and incentive grant of € 2600,-- for 2007. The Executive Committee has decided to use this amount for the general work and development of the sport, particularly to support the subcommittees in their work to get the full IWAS status. Unfortunately this amount is not sufficient to support EWH Events. The ICEWH is looking for additional resources.

**Questionnaires**

Soon the biannual questionnaire will be send to the EWH Nations. The questionnaires will give us the statistics of each EWH Nation and a world wide picture of the growth of EWH.

**Finally**

Please note that the email address of the ICEWH office is temporarily out of order. Please send your questions and remarks to Kenny Verbraekel: [icewh@telenet.be](mailto:icewh@telenet.be).