



WorldHockey
Highlights 2005-2006

A review of strategies, activities and achievements

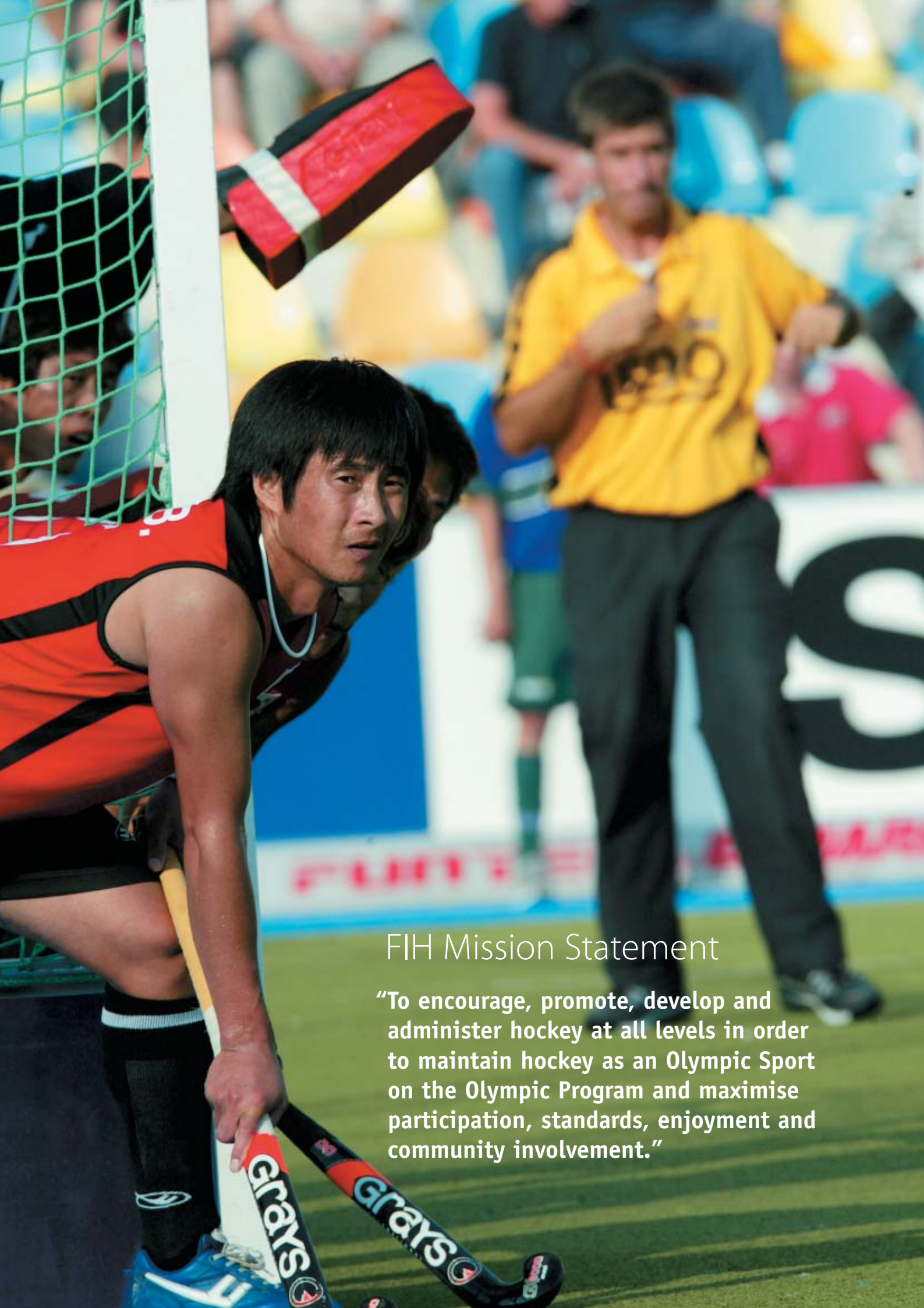
WorldHockey

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FIH Mission Statement

“To encourage, promote, develop and administer hockey at all levels in order to maintain hockey as an Olympic Sport on the Olympic Program and maximise participation, standards, enjoyment and community involvement.”

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Germany captain Timo Wess holds the
men's World Cup aloft

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Foreword



IOC President

At the start of 2005, the IOC welcomed the International Hockey Federation to its new home in the Olympic capital, Lausanne.

Not only has it provided hockey with an impressive new world headquarters, but it has allowed FIH to join other international federations working as neighbours to the IOC in this beautiful Swiss city.

Over the past two years, hockey has again shown it is a sport that illustrates the Olympic ideals, pursuing excellence with a strong administration, hard working professional staff, and a committed network of volunteers.

Hockey's greatest ambassadors however are the athletes of the world who strive to reach their potential in an environment of friendship and solidarity, with a strong emphasis on ensuring respect for health and sporting fairplay.

The International Hockey Federation remains an excellent example of an international sports federation – with its leadership always striving to find new avenues in which to grow the sport.

The recent IOC Executive Board decision to approve an increase in the number of women's hockey teams at the 2008 Olympic Games was an exciting outcome for your sport. This result provides parity and rightly provides women and equal opportunity to participate on sport's greatest stage.

I take this opportunity to express my appreciation to members of the world hockey family for the way your sport continues to flourish around the world. Thank you to those who provide their passion and expertise to promote and develop hockey.

Dr Jacques Rogge
IOC President

Introduction



FIH President

As we look back on the past two years, we can be proud of another successful period for our sport.

Advances have been made in all areas, with increased television coverage, consolidation of our relationship with the International Olympic Committee and the move of

the FIH office to Switzerland three of the many highlights.

Perhaps the most satisfying outcome was the decision by the IOC Executive Board to increase the number of women's teams at the 2008 Olympic Games from 10 to 12.

The decision consolidates hockey's place on the Olympic programme and is recognition of the values of our sport by the Olympic Movement. Importantly, it creates a gender balance between men's and women's hockey at the highest level and is an environment FIH strives to achieve in all aspects of its operation.

Before this decision was made, all Olympic sports were forced into the unfortunate situation of having to survive a vote to determine their future on the Olympic Programme in 2012.

While FIH was always confident that hockey would be rightly retained for the London Olympic Games, the vote was extremely stressful for the representatives of all 28 Olympic summer sports.

The area of television sales is one of which we can be extremely proud. Significant gains were made in all areas, but particularly television, where a new strategy reaped impressive dividends as broadcast agreements were put in place with partners around the world.

The decision to take control of our television rights increased coverage around the world, with quality promotion and exposure in all areas. The ultimate aim is to establish an in-house TV production unit to manage all aspects of this diverse.

The next two years will be one of change for world level events, with a new process to be established in the selection of host nations.

Agreements with host organisers will be based on financial incentives, with an award system implemented to ensure that there are rewards to fulfil the criteria set out in the bid agreements.

There also needs to be a restructure of tournament organisation around the world. I remind all National Associations who organise invitational events that they have a responsibility to promote the sport and not merely use these valuable events as a development tool. Full cooperation is needed between national associations and FIH in order for our sport to reach its full potential.

Events are about more than simply playing a series of matches. They require careful planning, recognition of the importance of commercial aspects and a willingness to be flexible to achieve the best possible outcomes.

This year marks the final stage in the first period of the Global Hockey Partnership. One of our current partners, BDO international, recently renewed its contract until 2010. We have the pleasure that two new partners, ATA Holding and Dubai Sports City have joined us for the coming period 2007-2010.

BDO International's company values closely mirrors that of our own, while Samsung, currently negotiating with us for a new contract, provides a link to the IOC with its sponsorship of the Olympic movement. Hockey's two other Global Hockey Partners, Rabobank and Sahara, have provided specific localised partnerships in two of hockey's strongest markets, The Netherlands and India.

On the development front, the Umpiring Boost was a great success. Designed by the Umpiring Committee, the project was aimed at encouraging, promoting and developing umpiring.

Finally, hockey began a new chapter at the start of 2005, with the FIH office moving from Brussels, Belgium, to Lausanne, Switzerland.

The new office provides staff and our sport with a purpose-built headquarters in the heart of the Olympic Capital.

Apart from the obvious advantage of the proximity to the International Olympic Committee, the secondary benefits include moving to an environment enriched with other international sporting federations.

The FIH professional staff is a team that we can be very proud of and I thank them for their continued efforts over the past two years. My special thanks to the Executive Director for the way in which he has handled a challenging period of transition in FIH's history.

I am pleased to introduce this publication, the third time we have produced this Highlights report.

Els van Breda Vriesman
FIH President

Honorary Secretary General



Introduction

Another two years has passed since the last Congress held in Leipzig in November 2004 and the 40th Statutory Congress is now upon us. The FIH extends its sincere appreciation to UK Sport, England Hockey Limited and David Collier, Chief Executive of the England and Wales Cricket Board, who have made the hosting of the Congress in London possible. Also, thank you to England Hockey for assisting with the arrangements.

I am pleased indeed to reflect on a very successful two years of FIH activity and to look forward to the following period with great optimism.

The year 2005 began with the official opening of the new FIH office in Lausanne, a move that has proved to be a resounding success, thanks in no small measure to the efforts of the President and her husband Eric. This year closes with the 40th Statutory Congress and the successful staging of the Men's and Women's World Cups.

Highlights of the Period

While I mention the following Highlights, I would like to observe that it is more often than not that the unseen efforts of all involved in the FIH organisation ensure its success.

- ▶ The official opening of new FIH offices in Lausanne, Switzerland



Argentina's Mariana Gonzalez (12) and Maria de la Paz Hernandez (15) celebrate Luciana Amyar's (8) goal

- ▶ The 117th IOC Session held in Singapore in June 2005, particularly the impact of the report of the Program Commission and the choice of London to host the Games of the XXXth Olympiad in 2012
- ▶ The drive for new members
- ▶ The growth and development of the FIH website
- ▶ The excellent progress in the development of the FIH Strategic Plan
- ▶ The significant increase in TV coverage
- ▶ Proposal for a new world level competition
- ▶ The WorldHockey Umpiring Boost
- ▶ The conclusion of the Agreement with the Global Hockey Partners and the implementation of a new sponsorship regime

Administration

The business and affairs of the FIH has grown enormously over recent years. The Executive Board, including the Office Bearers,

are charged by Congress with the responsibility for managing the business and affairs of the Federation. This is no simple task. The Board manages a significant budget, a comprehensive Committee structure and a significant professional administration.

Executive Board

The Executive Board met on the following occasions:

- ▶ 25-28 November 2004 in Leipzig immediately following the Congress



Umpire Manager Jane Nockolds chats with umpires Lin Miao (China) and Hyun Young Kang (Korea)

- ▶ 5-6 March 2005 in Lausanne to coincide with the opening of new offices
- ▶ 23-24 September 2005 in Santiago, Chile, to coincide with the Women's Junior World Cup
- ▶ 3-5 March 2006 in Lausanne
- ▶ 5-12 November 2006 in London prior to Congress

The members of the Executive Board have responsibility for the total overview of the FIH. The members of the Board each accept responsibility for an area of activity either by chairing or serving on a Committee, in addition to their responsibility as members of the Board. Their efforts and their contribution I am sure are not underestimated, indeed I am sure they are greatly appreciated.

Of special significance is the responsible management of the Federation's finances. With the cost of the move to Lausanne, including the funding of the acquisition of the new offices, it is pleasing to quote our Hon. Treasurer who reports that the FIH is in a healthy financial situation.

Office Bearers

To these comments I add a special reference to our President and the other Office Bearers. They devote an enormous amount of time to the work of the Federation. They meet on a regular basis, at least three times a year. In particular, I acknowledge and pay tribute to the work of our Honorary Treasurer Jean Pierre Strebel whose guidance during the move to Lausanne, the acquisition of the new offices and the introduction of a new Finance Manager was invaluable. On behalf of the FIH I thank him most sincerely. I understand he will stand for re-election and I commend his nomination to all Members.

Committees

Following Congress, the Executive Board appointed the Chairs and members of the Committees. With the retirement of Alan Woods as chair of the Equipment Committee, the position was advertised and, after an interview process, Jean Claude le Clef was appointed as the chair with John Giles as his deputy. Mercedes Coghen took over from Sean Kerley as chair of the Athletes Panel, supported by Renita Gerard as her deputy. Sean, Mercedes and Renita are all Olympic gold medallists and the FIH is fortunate to have former athletes of their calibre contributing to the work of the FIH.

Thanks to Sean for his efforts and to Mercedes and Renita who very capably represent the interests of athletes in all aspects of the work of the Federation.

The Committees have each faced significant challenges over the past two years, none the least the demand for performance at the highest level but with limited resources. There is no doubt in my mind that the Federation could not

function without the dedication of the Chairs and members of the Committees, especially the Chairs, all of whom give of their time and not inconsiderable energy and expertise freely, willingly and without remuneration or other payment.

When I take a step back and overview the output of the Committees I am truly amazed at their contribution. Their reports appear later and I am sure all who read these Highlights will agree with my comments. There are no words sufficient to praise and thank them each and every one of them.

A feature of the past two years has been the enhancement of the FIH website and the continued drive to make use of modern technology to improve communication and efficiency. I don't claim any expertise in these areas but fully recognise their importance to the progress and development of the whole organisation. I am glad indeed that we have experts in this field who make my task easier.

Again, we see the restrictions placed on us by the lack of resources in the whole field of technology. For example, there is

so much to do to collect statistics of players and their achievements and to have them available for the media and for use at tournaments. The need is recognised, however, restricted resources will result in this information not being available for some little time.

Officers

The work of the Committees, indeed the whole Federation, depends to an ever increasing degree on the team of professionals both within and external to the office. The move to Lausanne brought many challenges and difficulties. It is fair to say that we encountered many obstructions along the way but I am pleased to report that the problems are now behind us.

I welcome the new officers and administrative staff who have joined us in Lausanne and thank all Officers and staff for their efforts. I particularly wish to express my appreciation to our Executive Director, Hans Bertels, who was required to shoulder most of the burden of the move to Lausanne.

Our Officers all serve as secretaries of the various Committees. They each carry a significant work load to support the activities of the Committees and ensure they function effectively and efficiently. Without their efforts the Committees could not manage the large and I should add growing agendas they each have and I add my thanks to the words of appreciation expressed by their respective Chairs.

Committees

After the 40th Congress, the Board will again appoint members of the Committees. This is not an easy task as there are a number of factors to take into account, including continental and gender representation.

Not all members of committees have made an equal contribution and in assessing each nomination the Board, in close consultation with the Committee Chairs and Continental Federations, will pay close attention to the willingness and ability of each nominee to actively participate in and add value to the work of the Committees.

Meeting of Office Bearers and Committee Chairs

At its meeting in Leipzig in November 2004, the Executive Board decided to reduce the number of its meetings from three to two and to replace the third meeting with a meeting between the Office Bearers and the Chairs of Committees. The first of these

meetings was held in Lausanne on 18 and 19 June 2005 and the second in Amsterdam on 14 and 15 July 2006.

These meetings were designed to improve the lines of communication between the Executive Board and the Committees and between the Committees but particularly to carry out a detailed review of the Strategic Plan and the Operational Plans of the Committees.

The Executive Board established a Strategic Planning Task Force comprising Sue Neill, Theo Ykema, Roger Webb and Hans Bertels who were charged with the responsibility of ensuring the coordinated development of the planning process. I am very pleased to say that the Task Force has operated most effectively, the meeting held in Amsterdam in July 2006 proving to be a real success. A vote of appreciation is certainly due to the members of the Task Force.

Continental Federations

At the time of the Executive Board meeting held in Santiago, Chile, the President decided to convene a meeting of Presidents and Hon. Secretaries of Continental Federations to discuss a number of current issues before the Executive Board, including the implications of the report of the IOC Program Commission, proposals for a new world level competition and the development by CF's of Strategic Plans consistent with the FIH Strategic Plan. The meeting was very constructive and positive.

One outcome of that meeting was a call from CF's for greater recognition within the formal FIH structure. I was asked to prepare a proposal to amend the Statutes to achieve the



China women's coach Kim Changback



objective which I circulated to the CF Presidents and the FIH President convened a Presidents' Forum in Amsterdam on 14 July 2006.

The outcome of the meeting was the acceptance of the proposals which will be presented to Congress for approval. If approved, CF's will be accorded formal recognition and a place, as of right, at Congress. This is an important step in the evolution of the FIH because it not only formally recognizes but more importantly acknowledges the 'partnership' between FIH, National Associations and Continental Federations in the global development of our sport.

Each CF faces different challenges but no doubt the greatest of all is the vast distances within each continent coupled with a lack of resources. The decision to appoint Continental Development Officers in each continent, funded by FIH and the CF's, has proved to be extremely beneficial and I foresee that this aspect of our work will assume increasing importance over the coming period.

There is no doubt in my mind that the importance of the work and activities of the CF's cannot but grow. So must the relationship of the triangle of FIH, CF's and National Associations. This triangle of cooperation must mature quite quickly so that we can better develop a consistent and cohesive plan for the growth and development of Hockey throughout the world.

Tournament Officials

Our business and our product is hockey. The evidence is the many tournaments conducted under the jurisdiction of the FIH. It would not be possible to organize and conduct these events without the voluntary support of the many tournament officials throughout the world, Tournament Directors, Technical Officers, Judges, Umpires and Umpires Managers. I thank each and every one of them for their invaluable contribution to the outstanding success of all our tournaments.

Foundation for the Promotion & Development of Hockey

The Foundation assumed an even more important role within the activities of the Federation with the sale of the Brussels office and the acquisition by the Foundation of the new Lausanne office. As part of this process, it was necessary to make some changes to the Foundation's Constitution to comply with Swiss law and to reflect the wishes of the FIH.

This was all achieved with a minimum of concern, thanks again to Els, Jean Pierre and Hans Bertels.

On completion of the process, Etienne Glichitch, Hon. President for life of the FIH and indeed its 'father', retired as President of the Foundation, thus ending his last formal link with the work of the FIH. Etienne's contribution to world hockey has previously been recognized but it is proper and appropriate to again place on record the enormous gratitude we all feel towards him for his many years of incredible work for Hockey.

IOC Program Commission

Following the Athens Olympic Games, the IOC established a Commission to evaluate all sports on the Olympic Program in anticipation of the 117th Session of the IOC held in Singapore in June 2005. At that Session, a ballot would be taken to elect the sports to be included on the program of the XXXth Olympic Games.

The Program Commission established a comprehensive set of criteria against which each sport was to be measured. While the outcome of this evaluation process was not binding on the



Men's World Cup-winning coach Bernhard Peters (Germany)

members of the IOC, nevertheless the whole process brought into sharp focus the potential for sports to be excluded from the program for the 2012 Games.

It is now a matter of record that hockey was successful in securing its place. It is also worthy of note that two sports (baseball and softball) were excluded. The IOC has indicated that this evaluation process will be undertaken for future Olympic Games.

The message is clear. Hockey cannot afford to lose its place on the Olympic Program so we must not be complacent and must take decisive action to ensure we can survive the scrutiny. The Executive Board is well aware of the challenge, hence the first priority in the Strategic Plan "To maintain hockey as an Olympic sport on the Olympic Programme".

FIH has already taken a number of initiatives to achieve this objective. In consultation and cooperation with Continental Federations, a drive to increase the number of members of the

Federation has been implemented, with primary responsibility being assumed by the Development & Coaching Committee.

In recognition of the IOC's desire to have as many countries as possible participate in the qualification process, a new Olympic Qualification system has been adopted and will apply for the 2008 Beijing Games. The new system provides for the automatic qualification of nine nations, including the host, with the remaining three places being determined by a series of three tournaments, each of six nations. Hence, a total of 27 nations will participate in the qualification system, an increase of nine nations.



Jamie Dwyer (Australia) and Akhtar Ali (Pakistan)

In this context it is also worthy of note that, following representations made by FIH to the IOC, the IOC has agreed to increase the number of Women's teams from ten to twelve for the Beijing Olympics, a result Hockey has been striving to achieve for some time and an outcome that is very pleasing in every respect.

Global Hockey Partners

Some four years ago, FIH concluded sponsorship agreements with four major companies, Rabobank, BDO International, Sahara and Samsung. This was the first time that FIH had secured such major sponsorships and I believe will be recorded in the history of the FIH as one of its most important achievements. It heralded a new era in the organisation and conduct of all FIH tournaments as, for the first time, FIH was able to make a financial contribution towards the cost of hosting these events.

Dr Andre Bolhuis, President of the Royal Netherlands Hockey Association, was instrumental in the formation of the GHP and

the securing of the initial sponsorship agreement with Rabobank. This was the catalyst that enabled FIH to conclude sponsorship agreements with the other three partners. A new approach is now being adopted but I wish to place on record and thank Andre for the critical part he played at the initial and most difficult stages.

Early in 2006 the Executive Board decided that it was in the interests of the FIH to terminate the arrangements with the GHP and seek to negotiate sponsorship agreements directly with our sponsors. This complex process has been capably managed by Peter Paul Lathouwers, President Els and Steven Morris, FIH's Marketing Manager. At the time of writing this report, the negotiations are not concluded but we are extremely optimistic that all four sponsors will remain with FIH and, in addition, some new agreements will also be concluded.

I foresee that one outcome of the new arrangements will be a new approach to the bidding process for and allocation of tournaments. Space does not permit me to elaborate but suffice to say that the FIH tournaments are our product and we must market our product in the most effective way possible. It is likely that the funding agreement between FIH and hosts will see fundamental changes. Hosting fees may be abolished as well as payment by FIH of sponsorship monies. In place may be a system of allocation of funds by FIH based on performance criteria, presently being developed by the relevant Committees.

Global Competition/Marketing

Over the past 12 months considerable attention has been directed towards the renewal of the sponsorship agreements. More and more we came to the realisation of the need for FIH to be more marketing driven as we continued to confront two issues:

- ▶ The need to generate more revenue from sponsorships to enable the work of the FIH, especially the Committees, to be carried out effectively. I have already referred above to the restrictions placed on activities because of the lack of sufficient funds.
- ▶ The lack of continuity in the program of world level events. For example, the long time between Men's events in 2006 and 2007 where the Champions Trophy and World Cup are played in July/August 2006 and the next event, the Champions Trophy, will not be played until December 2007 in Pakistan, a gap of some 18 months. Similar examples exist in women's competitions.

The negotiations with our sponsors, while showing positive indications, nevertheless places a value on hockey below our needs and expectations.

To address this, a number of proposals have been considered and discussions taken place. The end result is yet to be determined although not far away from completion. It is clear that a new tournament structure is required that will enable better opportunities for TV coverage and better opportunities for our sponsors to achieve their aims and objectives.

As part of this process, the Office Bearers convened two meetings with Presidents of some of the major National Associations involved in tournaments, both as organizers and participants. The first meeting took place in Chennai on 14 December 2005 and the second in Lausanne on 3 March 2006. A third meeting was held during the Men's World Cup in Monchengladbach in September at which the new proposal was discussed.

The initiative of engaging in dialogue directly with National Associations on such an important subject is ground-breaking. I am not aware that such a process has been undertaken in the past. It recognizes the need for both FIH and National Associations to be of the same mind and working in the same direction. It is fair to say that there are differing opinions on the subject, however, I am confident that the outcome will be extremely positive.

One very positive sign has been the increase in revenue from the sale of TV rights of our world level events, due in no small measure to the fact that we ended the agreement with Octagon CSI and brought the task in house under the management of Steven Morris. I am sure this trend will continue, especially if we give Steven more product to work with.

Hockey must improve its image and raise its profile, notwithstanding the highly competitive market in which we exist, if we are to succeed in generating more revenue. It is clear to me that the Federation will have to become much more marketing driven if it is to achieve its objectives.

Player Conduct

There is evidence of a trend towards a growth in undisciplined and unacceptable conduct by players on the pitch. Incidents of umpire abuse and attacks by players with their sticks on other players have become more frequent. One such incident resulted in a lengthy and very costly process involving a hearing by the Judicial Commission and an Appeal by the player in question to the Court of Arbitration of Sport. It was somewhat reassuring that CAS rejected criticism by the player of the process within FIH but the process, especially the long time before the matter could be finally resolved, proved quite unsatisfactory.

As a result, FIH will initiate two actions:

- ▶ Tournaments Directors will be made aware of the trend and instructed that firm and decisive action must be taken against offenders including the imposition of severe penalties for what is after all totally unacceptable conduct and behaviour.
- ▶ An examination of the Statutes and Tournament Regulations to find a more efficient and speedy way of dealing with complaints, of course always ensuring due process and the application of the rules of natural justice.

As part of this process, we have again utilized the services of Philippe Verbiest and I take this opportunity of thanking him for his wise counsel and advice on all legal matters referred to him and also for his capable representation of the FIH at CAS during the recent appeal.



Netherlands captain Minke Booij



BDO International



Partners in sporting excellence

in sports accounting

As a global organisation, WorldHockey provides the support and spirit for hockey players of all nations to achieve success at the local level. No wonder BDO is one of the FIH's first Global Hockey Partners. They share that same sense of global spirit that supports local success.

Both are continually developing to secure the future of their members and their organisations. And, as the FIH understands international hockey teams, as well as individual hockey players and their dreams, so BDO understands the need to deliver all the capabilities, network and strength of a large scale global accounting and consultancy service, together with the flexibility, expertise and partner-led delivery typical of a local firm.

BDO and WorldHockey are a winning combination: wholly committed to providing a global spirit that supports local success.



BDO International is a world wide network of public accounting firms called BDO Member Firms, serving international clients in 105 countries. Each BDO Member Firm is an independent legal entity in its own country.

World Grand Masters Association

The WGMA was formed in December 2004 with the objective "to assist the International Hockey federation in the promotion & encouragement of playing Hockey in categories of age sixty years and older".

In a letter dated 14 January 2005, the WGMA wrote to FIH seeking FIH recognition of the WGMA as the sole official representative for over 60's veterans' hockey.

Discussions followed between representatives of both organisations culminating in a decision of the FIH Executive Board to accede to the request subject to certain amendments being made to the Constitution of the WGMA and a Memorandum of Understanding being signed by both organisations specifying the meaning of "recognition".

I am pleased to report that the documentation is nearing completion and that I expect formal recognition of the WGMA will be accorded by the Executive Board when it meets in London in November.

Veterans' hockey is not a new phenomenon and I expect FIH will receive similar requests in the near future from others involved in other age groups. I see this as a very positive development, beneficial in every way for the sport. No doubt there will be initial problems, but none that can't be overcome.

In this context, I should also report that the FIH has become a member of the International Masters Games Association, a multi-sports event for masters/veterans held every four years. Hockey is one of the core sports on the program.

Obituaries

Two years ago I reported that Alain Danet had received an award from the President of the French Republic in recognition of his service to Hockey. It is now my sad duty to record that Alain passed away on 26 March 2006. Alain was a former President of the French Hockey Federation and of the European Hockey Federation, Council member of the FIH a Honour Member of the IOC. He gave of his time, energy and expertise to Hockey, the Olympic movement and sport in general, and he will be sadly missed. On behalf of the FIH I extend sincere condolences to Alain's wife Christian and his extended family.

Other members of the FIH family who passed in 2005/2006

- ▶ Mr Jean-Claude Théry, Secretary French Hockey Federation, March 2005
- ▶ Mr Zahidur Rahman Pushkin, Joint Secretary of Bangladesh Hockey Federation, Councillor & Member Media Committee of Bangladesh Olympic Association and Asian Hockey Federation, March 2005
- ▶ Mr Marek Sledziejowski, President of Polish Hockey Association, April 2005
- ▶ Mr Feroze Khan, Pakistan hockey player and oldest living Olympian who died at the age of 100, April 2005
- ▶ Mr Arthur de Mello, Chairman Uganda Hockey Association, January 2006

Conclusion

Administration of sporting organisations does not get easier, quite the opposite, and this is also true for Hockey. I believe the FIH has made significant progress over the past two years but we face more challenges in the years to come. It seems sometimes that the more we achieve the more there is left to do, but I have a strong feeling of optimism for our future.

Our achievements are due to the dedication and high calibre of the members of the Executive Board, Office Bearers, Committee Chairs and Committee members and band of professional Officers. I pay tribute to them all but particularly our President Mrs Els van Breda Vriesman who continues to provide the leadership that enables the Federation to overcome the many challenges and difficult times and maximize the opportunities that are presented to us.

Peter L Cohen
Hon. Secretary General



A potential star of the future takes part in the 2006 Global Hockey Youth Marathon in Guyana

Major Achievements



BDO International's Frans Samyn and Paul van Elten and FIH President Els van Breda Vriesman

BDO International renews partnership

During a press conference held during the BDO Hockey World Cup in Mönchengladbach, Germany, FIH President, Mrs Els van Breda Vriesman, and Chief Executive Officer of BDO International, Mr Frans Samyn, announced that BDO will continue its partnership with FIH until 2010.

BDO is the first of the original four FIH global sponsors to renew their partnership agreement and have already sponsored numerous global and national hockey events.

The renewed partnership will involve BDO in all of the FIH's 30 major events over the coming four years, 10 of which will bear BDO's name as title sponsor, including the BDO Champions Trophy Women in 2007 and the BDO World Cup Women in 2010.

At the time of printing, advanced negotiations were also being conducted with existing Partners and potential new sponsors.

Hockey boosted by Olympic decisions

Perhaps hockey's greatest successes in 2005-2006 occurred off the pitch with a series of significant decisions relating the sport's participation at the Olympic Games.

The most crucial of these occurred in mid-2005 with the vote to retain hockey on the Olympic Programme for 2012.

After the 2004 Olympic Games, a detailed report card on all sports was issued and while FIH was always confident that hockey would be rightly retained on the Olympic Programme, the vote was still an anxious period.

Played at every Olympic Games since 1928, hockey was not expected to be in danger of losing its place, but with baseball and softball losing their battle in a shock outcome, predicting any sport's survival was an impossible task.

The decision by the International Olympic Committee's Executive Board ensured that both the men's and women's Olympic hockey competitions will contain 12 teams when the Beijing Olympic Games start in August 2008.

The decision was one of two major Olympic-related hockey announcements made by the IOC Executive Board at their meeting in late 2005, with approval also given to a new Olympic qualifying process for the 2008 Olympic Games.

The core component of the proposal will provide a greater number of automatic Olympic qualifiers and an opportunity for more teams to be involved at the second stage of the qualifying process.

Under the proposal, there will be nine direct qualifiers for the Olympic men's and women's competition. The format of the Olympic qualifying tournament will also change, with a single 12-team tournament replaced by three separate events containing six competitors for both men and women. Only the winner of these qualifying tournaments will earn the three remaining Olympic berths.

Record broadcast deals and television coverage

Significant gains were made in all departments throughout 2005-2006, but particularly in television, where a new strategy to distribute TV rights directly to broadcasters reaped impressive dividends as agreements were put in place with partners around the world.

One of the most significant agreements was a four-year deal with Ten Sports, one of the world's leading sport channels, to be the home to the hockey's biggest events.

With the agreement, Ten Sports secured the rights in the Indian Sub-Continent, the Middle East and Hong Kong for both the Men's and Women's World Cup, as well as the men's and women's Champions Trophy tournaments through year 2008.

Also, ESPN signed a deal with the FIH to broadcast all major televised WorldHockey events in Latin America until the end of 2008.

The deal, which is of the highest value ever for international hockey in that region, includes broadcast of both the Men's and Women's World Cups and Champions Trophy tournaments and will guarantee exposure of hockey major events through ESPN's networks in Latin America, which offer the widest pay TV penetration in the region.

These agreements resulted in a record number of broadcasters for almost all events, culminating in widespread coverage of both World Cups, where almost all competing nations had their matches screened live or delayed into their home territories.

WorldHockey Monthly Magazine Program

FIH continued to focus on the importance of television with the development, production and distribution of WorldHockey Monthly, a 26-minute television magazine programme from June 2005.

The programme is distributed to broadcasters globally every four weeks and showcases hockey with a wide range of elements including highlights of major tournaments; the Sahara WorldHockey Team Rankings; news from hockey competitions around the globe and profiles of some of our men's and women's international stars.

WorldHockey.tv launched

The drive to increase the global exposure of hockey was complemented continued with the launch of WorldHockey.tv, an Internet television channel.

Content includes WorldHockey Monthly, FIH's four-weekly television magazine programme, WorldHockey archived events and other material to provide a complete online resource for hockey supporters around the world.

In addition to live content from world-level events, WorldHockey.tv is also the home of a free access service, accessible globally, with FIH proof of the first international sporting organisations to harness to advantages of online broadcasting in such a manner.

FIH Logo

In recognition of the need to further evolve and portray the organisation as a modern, forward-thinking leader, a new FIH logo was developed in late 2005 / early 2006.

While the existing logo served FIH extremely well over the past 84 years with only minor changes, a need was identified to build a stronger relationship between FIH as an organisation and the WorldHockey brand that was launched three years ago.

With the WorldHockey brand becoming an increasingly recognisable and identifiable feature at world-level events, and through the increasing popularity of the FIH website, the timing was appropriate to develop a new logo.

The result is a logo that closely identifies with the existing WorldHockey brand. It will help FIH maintain its reputation as a progressive and innovative international sporting organisation.

Hockey moves to new home

Hockey began a new and exciting chapter in January 2005, with FIH moving to Lausanne, Switzerland, the home of the International Olympic Committee.

FIH President Els van Breda Vriesman and IOC Honorary President for Life Juan Antonio Samaranch open the FIH Office



It was an exciting move, with the opportunity to develop stronger ties with the International Olympic Committee and ensure the sport's longevity at the highest level.

Apart from the obvious advantage of the proximity to the IOC, the secondary benefits included moving to a working environment enriched with other international sporting federations and the ability to share the knowledge with these other organisations to enhance the growth and administration of hockey.

The new home for the WorldHockey family is a new, purpose-built headquarters in the heart of the Olympic Capital. The state-of-the-art premises provide an optimum environment and location from which to promote, develop and administer hockey's interests worldwide.

The sacrifices made were considerable, with six of the 10 staff members from the office in Belgium electing not to relocate to Switzerland.

New staff members were employed from around the globe, with appointments made from Switzerland, Romania, Hungary, Australia and England to further complement the global nature of FIH's operations.

While the relocation to Lausanne ended hockey's long association with Belgium, since the days of Rene Frank, the FIH Honorary Secretary from 1950-1966 and President from 1966 until his death in 1983, the move has enabled the sport to begin another exciting chapter that will help ensure its presence, growth and success on the Olympic stage.

The new FIH Office in Lausanne



Video Umpire used at World Cups

The introduction of the video umpire became a major component of world-level events in 2006. After a trial at the Rabo Hockey Champions Trophy in Amsterdam produced encouraging results, a decision was taken to implement this new initiative at both World Cups.

The initiative was widely applauded by teams, officials and the media, and was further evidence of hockey's willingness to look beyond traditional boundaries for the benefit of the sport.

Record visitor numbers to FIH website

The FIH website recorded a boom in visitor numbers in 2005-2006, with a 57% increase recorded from 2004 to 2005, a figure matched in the following year.

One of the main factors in this impressive increase was a new strategy for the coverage of FIH world-level events.

Tournament 'microsites' were developed, with the first of these unveiled at the women's BDO Hockey Junior World Cup. The microsites are a dedicated event website that is a more user-friendly and visually appealing communications resource than previously available.

In 2006, the tournament microsites increased in popularity throughout the year, culminating in record visitor number throughout the two World Cup tournaments, with more than 350,000 people checking in to view the results, photos, live text commentary, official match sheets and other related information.

FIH family stands united for earthquake victims

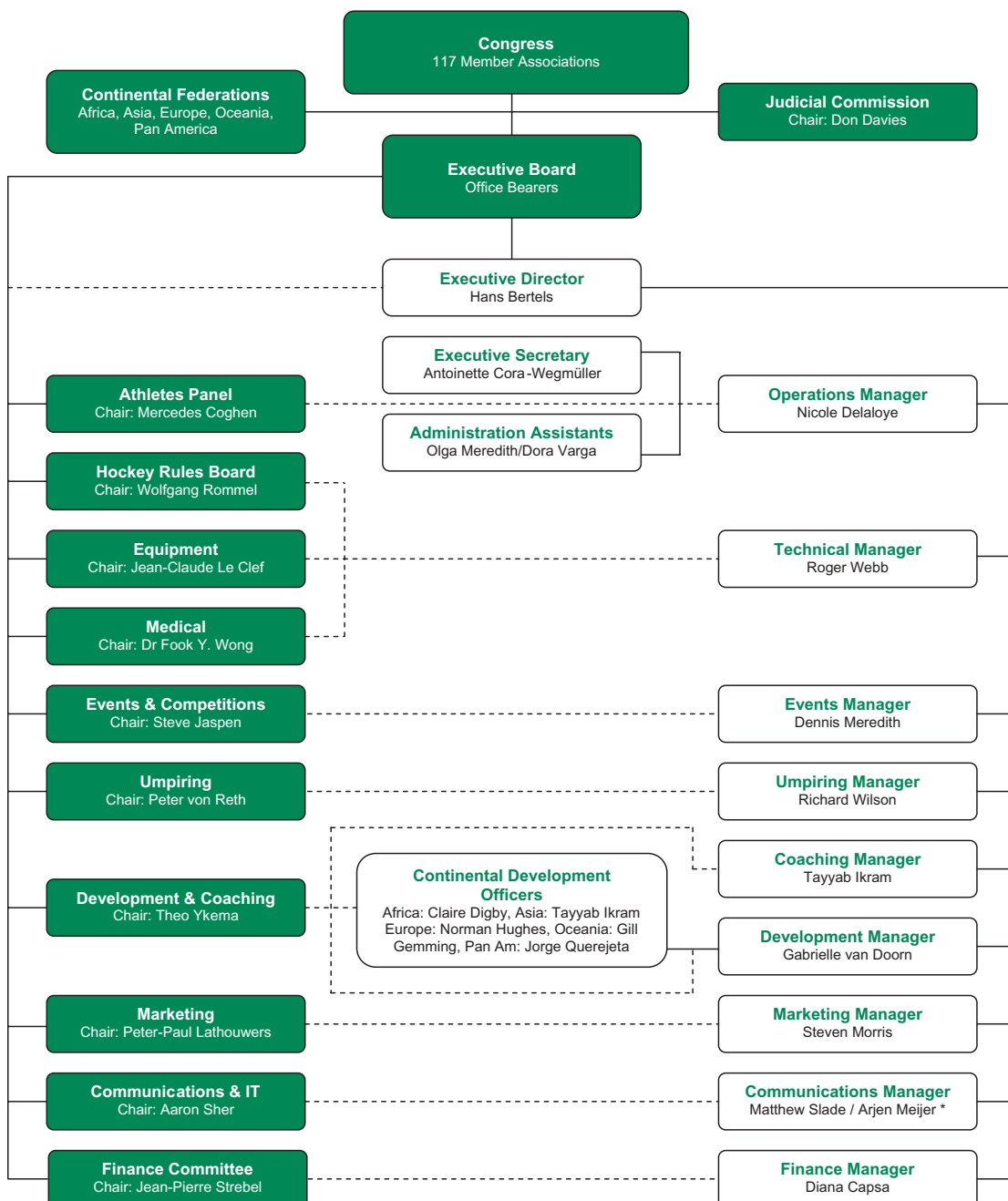
The international hockey family stood side by side in solidarity in December 2005 to support the victims of the earthquake that devastated parts of Pakistan and India two months earlier.

The FIH Earthquake Benefit Match in Chennai between a combined India-Pakistan XI and a WorldHockey XI brought further assistance to the victims of the disaster with a bright spectacle enthralling a large crowd.

Broadcast globally, the match was played in good spirit, with spectators appreciating the chance to see the world's best players displaying their skills on the pitch at the same time.

Visitors to the FIH website were able to donate to a special bank account established throughout the Sahara Hockey Champions Trophy in Chennai, with sponsors also contributing generously to a highly successful initiative.

Organisational Chart



*Arjen Meijjer took over the Communications Manager position from Matthew Slade as of 1 August 2006.

Executive Board



Els van Breda Vriesman

PRESIDENT



Peter Cohen

HONORARY SECRETARY GENERAL



Jean-Pierre Strebel

HONORARY TREASURER



Annabel Dillon

VICE PRESIDENT



Tony von Ondarza

VICE PRESIDENT

Office Bearers

President

Mrs Els van Breda Vriesman (NED)

Honorary Secretary General

Mr Peter Cohen (AUS)

Honorary Treasurer

Mr Jean-Pierre Strebel (SUI)

Vice Presidents

Mr Antonio von Ondarza (VEN)

Mrs Annabel Dillon (SIN)

Members

Mr Seif El Dine Ahmed (EGY) -
representing Africa

Mr David Balbirnie (IRE)

Mrs Joke Bougon (FRA)

Ms Mercedes Coghen (ESP) -
representing Athletes Panel

Mrs Anne Ellis (WAL)

Mr Shin Bark Jae (KOR)

Mr Steve Jaspan (RSA)

Brig. Musarrat Ullah Khan (PAK)

Mr Peter Paul Lathouwers (NED)

Mrs Rosa de Massa (ARG) -
representing Pan-America

Mrs Claire Peeters Monseu (BEL)

Mr Leandro Negre (ESP) -
representing Europe

Miss Sue Neill (CAN)

Mr Wolfgang Rommel (GER)

Mr. Aaron Sher (USA)

Mr Muneyoshi Ueda (JAP) -
representing Asia

Mr Derek Wilshere (NZL) -
representing Oceania

Mr Theo Ykema (NED)

FIH Executive Board (absent from photo are Joke Bougon, Anne Ellis, Claire Peeters Monseu and Wolfgang Rommel)





Germany's Silke Muller (20) scores to the delight of Badri Latif (21) and Kerstin Hoyer (8) at the World Cup

Executive Director



FIH Strategic Planning Taskforce

To oversee the implementation of the Strategic Plan including the Operational Plans of Committees, the Executive Board allocated the following responsibilities to the Taskforce:

1. To ensure ongoing development of the Strategic Plan
2. To assist and advise Committees in developing their Operational Plans
3. To monitor, review and report the Achievements as set out in the Strategic Plan and in the Committees' Operational Plans, in order to assist the Executive Board in more informed decision making



FIH KEY OBJECTIVES

1. Maintain Hockey as an Olympic Sport on the Olympic Programme
2. Increase sources and levels of income
3. Increase the sport's appeal
4. Ensure that the FIH is professional and efficient in all it does
5. Provide assistance and guidance to Continental Federations, National Associations and other partner
6. Manage, facilitate and provide for International Tournaments
7. Recognise the role and interests of athletes
8. Ensure Hockey is a safe and fair sport
9. Make the sport more affordable
10. Ensure that Hockey is a sport for all

4. To encourage and assist Continental Federations to develop Strategic Planning consistent with the FIH
5. To advise on budget implications of forward plans
6. To structure and monitor a consistent process of planning and control

The Strategic Planning Task Force was established in November 2004 by the Executive Board with the role indicated above and is presently composed of:

- ▶ Sue Neill, member FIH Executive Board
- ▶ Theo Ykema, member FIH Ex. Board and Chair DCC
- ▶ Roger Webb, Technical Manager
- ▶ Hans Bertels, Executive Director

Olympic Games Beijing 2008 Progress Report

Since the Athens Games in 2004, regular contacts have been established with BOCOG, the Organising Committee for the Games of the XXIX Olympiad in Beijing, especially through Mr. Sun Chengmin, Competition Manager.

In brief, the following was achieved at the moment of writing this report.



Ezequiel Pauzon
(Argentina)

1. 12-Women Teams
The FIH is very pleased with the decision of the IOC to agree with our request to have 12-Women teams playing at the Beijing Olympics; As of 2008, Men and Women competitions are exactly of the same size.
2. Olympic Qualification
The IOC also approved the FIH proposal to have three (3) Olympic Qualifiers for both Men and Women, where the winner of this 6-Nation Tournament can qualify for the Beijing Games. For further details, I refer to the report of the ECC, also published in this brochure.
3. Office Plans
The FIH office plans at the Olympic venue, as presented by the FIH were approved by BOCOG.
4. Venue Plans
The FIH received the revised venue plans from BOCOG, which were forwarded to our Technical Expert, John Giles, whose comments were sent to BOCOG on 11 July 2006. The FIH received the final revised plans from BOCOG in which all comments of the FIH were included.
5. Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)
The FIH commented on the draft MoU, as prepared by BOCOG. A second draft was received and feedback from FIH was forwarded to BOCOG in October 2006.
6. Test Event
The FIH agreed with the proposed dates for the Test Event, 8 – 13 August 2007.
7. Hotel Accommodation
The FIH has informed BOCOG of its strong preference to be accommodated at the YANSHAN hotel. BOCOG's confirmation was received. Also this time, all FIH international technical officials will be accommodated in the same hotel.
8. International Technical Officials
The FIH has advised the IOC and BOCOG of the total number (71) required International Technical Officials (ITOs) at the

Games in 2008. IOC Executive Board approved a number of 67 ITO's and in addition, the appointment of the two Tournament Directors.

9. IF Recognition
The IOC has invited the International Federations to send in their request for IF recognition at the Olympic Games. The FIH has advised the IOC of their strong preference to have the new FIH logo present at the Games.
10. Match Schedule
The proposed Match Schedule, after consultation with BOCOG and Sun Chengmin, Competition Manager, was approved by FIH.
11. BOCOG Representatives at Men's World Cup
Two BOCOG's representatives attended the Men's World Cup in Mönchengladbach.
12. Meetings
The following official meetings were held with a BOCOG delegation:
 - Berlin, April 2005
 - Beijing, August 2005
 - Seoul, April 2006
 - Beijing, October 2006

England's Martin Jones and Ben Hawes (14)





Marion Rodewald (Germany) and Kate Walsh (England) with umpires Minka Woolley (Australia) and Chieko Akiyama (Japan)

New Members

At the moment, there are 117 national association members of FIH. This number will probably increase after Congress, as based on a recommendation of the Executive Board, Congress delegates will approve five new member associations. Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Ecuador and Estonia have sent their applications and are expected to be endorsed.

FIH Communications Manager

Unfortunately Matthew Slade decided to leave the FIH for personal reasons and returned back to Melbourne, Australia. I would like to express my thanks on behalf of the FIH and all my colleagues in the office for his contribution and work for international hockey.

Hans G J Bertels
Executive Director

Japan women's coach and Technical Officer Julia Gill at the women's World Cup



FIH Office and Professional Staff

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Hans G. J. Bertels

The overall responsibility and management of the office and staff

FINANCE MANAGER

Diana Capsa

The management of all FIH Finances

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Antoinette Cora-Wegmueller

Personal assistant to the Executive Director and general secretarial assistance

OPERATIONS MANAGER

Nicole Delaloye

The management of the administrative operations of the FIH

DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

Gabrielle van Doorn

The management of the development initiatives of the FIH

COACHING MANAGER

Tayyab Ikram

The management of the coaching activities of the FIH

EVENTS MANAGER

Dennis Meredith

The management and coordination of FIH activities in the field of events and competitions

ADMINISTRATION ASSISTANT

Olga Meredith

The administrative assistance to various Committees and to the FIH secretariat in general

MARKETING MANAGER

Steven Morris

The management of the commercial activities of the FIH

COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER

Matthew Slade (until 31 July 2006)

Arjen Meijer (from 1 August 2006)

The management, execution and development of the FIH communications and PR activities

ADMINISTRATION ASSISTANT

Dora Varga

The administrative assistance to various Committees and to the FIH secretariat in general

TECHNICAL MANAGER

Roger Webb

The management and execution of equipment, hockey rules and medical activities and of various projects

UMPIRING DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

Richard Wilson

The management of the umpiring development activities



INTERNATIONAL REPRESENTATION

Hockey's interests have been represented internationally at the following events:

TOPIC	DATE	PLACE	FIH REPRESENTATIVES
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INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE (IOC)

IOC Meeting of the Chairs of Sports Federations Medical Commissions	24 May 2005	Lausanne, Switzerland	Dr. Fook Wong
IOC International Athletes Forum	11-12 June 2005	Lausanne, Switzerland	Mercedes Coghen
117th IOC Session	6-9 July 2005	Singapore	Els van Breda Vriesman Peter L Cohen
118th IOC Session	7-10 February 2006	Turin, Italy	Els van Breda Vriesman
IOC Meeting of the Chairpersons of Medical Commissions	13 September 2006	Lausanne, Switzerland	Dr. Fook Wong
First Seminar on the Autonomy of the Olympic and Sports Movement	21-22 September 2006	Lausanne, Switzerland	Els van Breda Vriesman Hans Bertels
5th World Forum on Sport, Education and Culture	22-24 October 2006	Beijing, China	Hans Bertels

ASSOCIATION OF SUMMER OLYMPIC INTERNATIONAL FEDERATIONS (ASOIF)

ASOIF	17 April 2005	Berlin, Germany	Els van Breda Vriesman Tony von Ondarza Hans Bertels
ASOIF Extraordinary General Assembly	7 June 2005	Geneva, Switzerland	Els van Breda Vriesman
ASOIF	4 April 2006	Seoul, South Korea	Els van Breda Vriesman Tony von Ondarza Hans Bertels

GENERAL ASSOCIATION OF INTERNATIONAL SPORTS FEDERATIONS (GAISF)

SportAccord	16-20 April 2005	Berlin, Germany	Els van Breda Vriesman Tony von Ondarza Hans Bertels
SportAccord	3-7 April 2006	Seoul, South Korea	Els van Breda Vriesman Tony von Ondarza Hans Bertels Bark-Jae Shin

WORLD ANTI DOPING AGENCY (WADA)

IF Anti-Doping Symposium	8 April 2005	Lausanne, Switzerland	Dennis Meredith
IF/NADO Anti Doping Symposium	30-31 March 2006	Lausanne, Switzerland	Roger L Webb

OLYMPIC RESULTS INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR (ORIS)

ORIS Meeting	24-26 May 2006	Montreux, Switzerland	Larry Cornofsky Dennis Meredith
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Athletes' Panel



Objectives of the Athletes' Panel

1. Establishing a functioning Athletes' Panel
2. Achieve a real contribution from current Athletes
3. Approach athletes from FIH
4. Establish a functioning Athletes' Panel in each CF and NA
5. Establish a relationship with athletes' panels of other IFs
6. Appoint a Hockey representative to the IOC Athletes' panel

After the last FIH Congress in Leipzig in November 2004, a new Athletes' Panel was established with a different Operational Plan.

The main change comparing the preceding period is that there are two visible heads running the Committee - Mercedes Coghén and Renita Garard are former Olympic gold medallists and are attempting to achieve a real contribution from athletes around the world.

Chairman: Mercedes Coghén (Spain)

Mercedes captained the Spanish women's team for eight years, including their gold medal triumph at the 1992 Olympic Games in Barcelona. She played 165 internationals for Spain before being elected onto the Spanish Olympic Committee in 1996.

Mercedes is a member of the FIH Executive Board and Events & Competition Committee. She was also the Chair of the Organising Committee for the women's Samsung Hockey World Cup in Madrid, held from 27 September until 8 October, 2006.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ Ambassadors recruited to provide advice and guidance
- ▶ Participation at a Forum organised by the IOC Athletes Commission
- ▶ Questionnaire developed and sent to current and former players

Deputy Chairman: Renita Garard (Australia)

Renita is one of the most decorated players in world hockey history, with two Olympic, two World Cup and three Champions Trophy gold medals. She was a member of the dominant Australian women's team from 1994-2000 and played 184 international matches.

Renita is also member of the FIH Events & Competition Committee and the Hockey Australia Board of Directors. She is the current Chair of the HA Athletes Commission and Australian Hockey League Commission.



Young Sil Lee (Korea) and Kim Hubach (South Africa)



Australia's Michael McCann and Mark Knowles

Committee Operation

During the first year and considering the changes in the FIH administration, the main goal was to focus in recovering the work Sean Kerly conducted with the website to refresh it and prepare an internet communication plan.

Taking into consideration how difficult it is for players and recently retired players to travel and attend meetings, an "Ambassadors Net" was created. This group aims to include two representatives, one male and one female, from each country, directly nominated by their National Federations.

A first questionnaire has been sent to them raises some of the most important issues that hockey is facing. The answers, after being analysed, have been distributed to the other FIH Committees.

World-level events is a main topic for discussion and review for FIH and the Ambassadors consulted agreed with the benefits of having more but better distributed tournaments throughout the year.

Sponsors, TV, marketing departments, spectators and National Associations would like to have more and higher standard international hockey, but a balanced calendar is needed to allow players to give their best.

To continue the development of the Athletes' Panel, all the National Associations must contribute by nominating their "Ambassadors". Also the FIH Athletes' Panel is looking to establish an Athletes' Panel in each Continental Federation and to make National Associations aware how important it is to canvass athletes' opinions on what is best for our sport.

Continental nominations should permit FIH Athletes' Committee to have athletes' representatives at every tournament.

Contact with other athletes' representatives from other International Federations was made in 2005 in a Forum organised by the IOC Athletes' Commission and focussed on three points on common concern for all sports:

1. Doping
2. Economics
3. Life after sport

Education and the conscience about the shortness of sporting life have to be always present in athletes mind.

With the FIH number one key objective being to maintain Hockey as an Olympic Sport on the Olympic Programme, athletes can support this aim by encouraging others to share the emotion and spectacular nature of our sport.

We hope to increase the number of athletes involved in our Ambassador programme in the coming period and hope to increase the will of athletes to be part of hockey's future.

Mercedes Coghén Chair

CHAIR

Mercedes Coghén

DEPUTY CHAIR

Renita Garard

AMBASSADORS

David Aguis (Malta)

Paddy Brown (Ireland)

Lindsy Carlisle (South Africa)

Jan-Olof Carlsson (Sweden)

Linda Caulfield (Ireland)

Gregg Clark (South Africa)

Shawn Falzon (Malta)

Brett Garrard (England)

Rodrigo Garza (Spain)

Franziska Gude (Germany)

Aristi Hadjimichail (Greece)

Nikki Hudson (Australia)

Magali Le Clef (Belgium)

Xavier-Charles Letier (Belgium)

Brent Livermore (Australia)

Wayne McIndoe (New Zealand)

Maria Jesus Rosa (Spain)

Kuhan Shanmuganathan (Malaysia)

Christos Sideridis (Greece)

Kate Walsh (England)

Diana Weavers (New Zealand)

Timo Wess (Germany)

Communications and Information Technology Committee



During the past two years, the Communication & Information Technology Committee (CITC) devoted considerable effort into making the FIH website a more effective tool to create awareness of and communicate WorldHockey activities to various audiences.

Expanding and executing the strategic plan of the CITC has resulted in a focus on the website being a more informative and easy

to navigate communications resource.

The Committee has worked with the Marketing Committee to make the work of the Flying Squad available on the website (daily video highlights packages from major events) and to provide entertainment at world-level events.

WorldHockey.org

The number of visits to the FIH website grew by more than 40% in 2006 over the same period in 2005.

A major strategy has been the introduction of tournament specific websites (microsites) for each FIH world-level event. This has created a consistency in appearance and more user friendly approach to tournament communication.

The microsites have become increasingly popular with visitors appreciating the quality of the information presented, live text commentary, results, points tables, photographs and official match sheets the most popular sections.

At the end of 2005, WorldHockey TV was also established. The broadband Internet TV channel has allowed video highlights to be posted online. In 2006 daily highlights clips produced by the Flying Squad from each major event have been posted online. This new feature has resulted in a significant rise in visitor numbers to the TV channel.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ Increased visitor numbers to FIH website
- ▶ Implementation of tournament websites (microsites)
- ▶ Refinement of WorldHockey brand
- ▶ Establishment of Intranet for internal communications
- ▶ Television magazine programme shown on Internet
- ▶ Third edition of WorldHockey Highlights publication

Intranet

The FIH Intranet was established in early 2006. The Intranet is a secure microsite that will enable Executive Board, staff and FIH committees to store documents and information of



Photographers at the men's World Cup

relevance so that they can be easily accessed online when needed. National Associations will also have access to selected sections of the site.

As use of the Intranet increases in the next term, refinements will be implemented to make this tool more effective.

Television and Radio

The FIH has produced 16 editions of the WorldHockey TV magazine programme which have been shown by broadcasters around the world. The programme features extensive highlights from hockey events, as well as profiles of hockey personalities and various development programs throughout the world.

For those nations which do not receive the magazine show on TV, the Committee was able to have the programme made available for free WorldHockey TV. By using the streaming version of the magazine show, the FIH has increased the distribution to the entire world.

Player Awards

At the suggestion of a world class athlete, the selection of the World Hockey Elite 18 was made after the World Cups. Alongside the WorldHockey Players of the Year, this initiative provides another vehicle for the promotion of the world's best players and increases the number of personalities and heroes in the sport.

WorldHockey Highlights Publication

This publication, the biennial corporate report of the activities of FIH, is distributed to all stakeholders in the sport as well as major sporting bodies such as the International Olympic Committee, Association of Summer Olympic International Federations, General Assembly of International Sporting Federations, National Olympic Committees and national and government sports organisations.

WorldHockey Brand

A refinement of the WorldHockey brand was undertaken over the past two years to provide a more consistent external presentation of FIH as an organisation. The result of this project is a new-look FIH logo as well as a corporate image brochure that shows the integration of usage of FIH and WorldHockey.

The Future

- ▶ Implementation of a results data base that will be available for media and fans at all FIH tournaments
- ▶ Improvements to the web site to take advantage of newer technologies
- ▶ Improved communications with all stakeholders of hockey
- ▶ More photos and moving images on the web site promoting the athletes, officials and coaches at all levels.

In the fast changing 21st century world of technology and communications, the CITC's goals are to continue to provide excellent communications to the hockey community. This has all

been possible due to the hard work of an engaged and committed committee. Thank you to all members of the committee for their constructive efforts.

FIH Communications Manager

Matthew Slade left the FIH at the end of July 2006. Arjen Meijer replaced him as FIH Communications Manager since 1 August. We would like to thank Matthew very much for his excellent work and contribution to the FIH and the sport of hockey. And we would like to give Arjen a warm welcome.

Aaron Sher Chair

CHAIR

Aaron Sher (United States of America)

SECRETARY

Matthew Slade (FIH) until July 2006

Arjen Meijer (FIH) from August 2006

MEMBERS

David Burt (England)

David Cristison (Australia)

Lex Donia (Netherlands)

Cathy Harris (England)

Nick Irvine (England)

Sardar Khan (Pakistan)

Arjen Rahusen (Netherlands)

Uschi Schmitz (Germany)

Suresh Sharma (India)

Renato Sirigui (Italy)

Subramanyan Thyagarajan (India)

Alan Waterman (Canada)

Larry Cornofsky (Australia)*

Yan Huckendubler (Canada)*

* Corresponding member



Development and Coaching Committee



DCC's philosophy is:

- ▶ DCC operational plans for activities and projects are designed on the basis of the FIH Key Objectives and the needs of the NAs
- ▶ Good co-ordination of the FIH and the CFs in planning and execution of development activities
- ▶ Constant attention for effective communication with the NAs
- ▶ NAs own preparedness to plan

and to put real effort into structural and sustainable hockey development in their country is a condition for special FIH support like grants

- ▶ International sharing of know how and resources is the key to global hockey development
- ▶ Always aiming at multipliers: know how transferred shall be shared by receivers with others in their country; NAs shall use FIH funding to generate other revenues and sponsoring ; etc.

Development and Coaching achievements in 2005-2006

Development and growth in the National Associations

Club and National Association Development Workshops for NAs have been held successfully in all the continents. The topic is: creating national and local structures, which provide to many the opportunity to have hockey as a life time adventure.

In total 150 NA representatives from almost 70 countries participated in these workshops. The FIH Club Development Manual and updates remain available as a support resource.

A recent survey on the effects of FIH and Continental Federation programmes on the status, potential and needs of hockey in the FIH member National Association show satisfactory results.

People having worked with FIH experts or participated in our workshops and courses often speak of "eye opening experiences" and "now we feel really part of global hockey".

More than 80% of all NAs participated actively in FIH and CF development programs. The majority of those show significant growth in quality and player numbers and enhanced potential for further positive development.

HIGHLIGHTS IN 2005-2006

- ▶ D&C programs resulting in hockey development in 60 to 70 % of the member NAs
- ▶ CDOs contributing to the effective communication between FIH, CFs and NAs.
- ▶ NA and Club Development project implemented in all continents
- ▶ 80 NAs with full or basic National Hockey Development Plan
- ▶ A and B grants awarded to 90 NAs
- ▶ Promotional DVD produced and made available to NAs
- ▶ World Hockey Umpiring Boost experiences massive active participation
- ▶ Coaching courses held at various levels

Forty NAs now have a National Hockey Development Plan and 40 more have a basic NHDP. That planning is essential for NAs to identify possibilities, obstacles, priorities, solutions and actions on their way to sustainable growth and improvement of hockey in their country. Guidelines for the making of a NHDP are on the FIH website.

More than 50 countries are now involved in regional co-operation projects, sharing resources and exchanging experience, and in international "twinning".

More than 80 countries received funds or in kind support from the FIH for their hockey development projects.

These are A Grants of CHF 2,500 or B Grants up to CHF 18,000 for a two-year period. The use of those grants ranges from equipment, volunteer expert visits for assistance in development planning, coaches and umpires education, participation in international courses and workshops and youth programmes. Some of the B Grants have been possible thanks to the substantial support of Mr Coen Teulings.

All NAs have access to the FIH information resources on the FIH website, in brochures like "Hockey for All" and guidelines, such as for development planning, coaches and umpires education.

In August 2005, the "Hockey a Sport for Everybody", DVD came to life. The DVD is a user friendly tool for NAs and individuals who wish to promote hockey. FIH's Media Advisor David Christison ensured the content and production was broadcast quality. Two thousand copies were distributed around the world and are available from the FIH Office.

More NAs should work on their relationship with their National Olympic Committees, in order to get access to NOC and Olympic Solidarity funding. Being able to show that it is working on structural development and improvements may often help a

NA to raise more support from government, NOC and private sponsors.

We are supporting to the best of our ability the high priority FIH/CFs project, to reach a significant increase in the number of countries where hockey is being played under the patronage of a National Hockey Association.

The FIH CDOs system, started in 2002, is now in full swing. Much of what has been achieved could not have been done without the devotion and the work of the CDOs in the five continents.

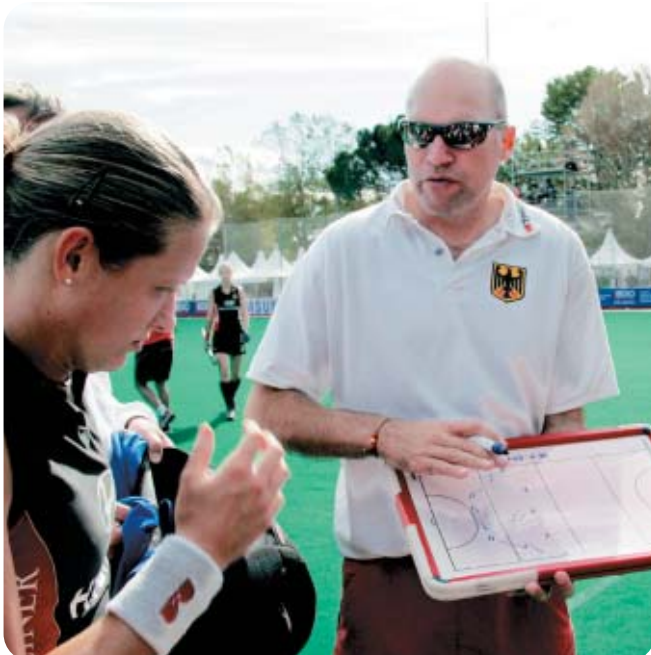
Next to their expert's advices and assistance, the CDOs are also contributing much to the enhancement of the communication between the FIH, the CFs and the NAs. More than 90% of NAs are now in effective contact with their respective CDOs.

World Hockey Umpiring Boost

In co-operation with the Umpiring Committee, it was decided to focus on umpiring development in 2005-2006 which resulted in the World Hockey Umpiring Boost being produced. FIH Umpire Development Manager Richard Wilson, was the Project Manager of the project.

The WHUB manual, includes guidelines and resources for Umpires Education and Accreditation at National Levels, and will serve much longer than the project period.

After its launch during the 2004 Congress, WHUB attracted 80 NAs. Richard also recruited the many expert volunteers who successfully conducted national umpiring courses and international workshops for umpires coaches and umpiring development personnel in the participating NAs.



Germany women's coach Markus Weise

Funding came from a special WHUB budget, partial use of development projects budgets of CFs, and the A and B Grants for the NAs to participation in the project. The WHUB received special support from the IOC.

The evaluation of WHUB and decisions on follow up will take place in 2007. However we feel that WHUB will have a lasting positive impact on umpiring in the many participating NAs.

Coaching

Quality development and high performance coaching is a prerequisite for serious hockey development in a country.

The FIH is happy to enjoy the co-operation of many coaches who voluntarily work in the FIH system of sharing and spreading coaching knowledge.

FIH's Coaching Manager Tayyab Ikram is doing a great job in running and developing the FIH Coaching system and the FIH Coaches network.

In past years, we have had an average of 50 national, regional and continental coaching courses, conducted by one or more FIH Coaches. Courses were either Olympic Solidarity financed (applications for these grants has to be made by NAs to its NOC), or partially financed by either FIH A and B Grants or FIH development projects budgets. There are also NAs in developing hockey countries who are able to cover the travel costs of a FIH Coach and to organise the course.

Each year, three FIH International Coaching Courses and Final Seminars are held in high performance and development coaching. These are conducted in conjunction with major international tournaments.

These are the highest level courses, open for maximum of 30 coaches who already show a good background and experience. Courses are conducted by FIH Master Coaches, the highest grade in the FIH Coaches system.

In the Final Seminars pre-qualified participants can earn an appointment as FIH Coach, again in development and/or high performance coaching. For every participant, an international FIH course is a tremendous experience.

CHAIR

Theo Ykema

SECRETARY – COMMUNICATION

Anne Ellis

SECRETARY – MEETINGS

Niall Sturrock

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Fumio Ogura (AHF)

Claire Peeters-Monseu (EHF)

Derek Wilshere (OHF)

Bev Johnson (PAHF)

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(FIH Development Manager)

Tayyab Ikram
(FIH Coaching Manager)

Richard Wilson
(FIH Umpiring Development Manager)

FIH CONTINENTAL DEVELOPMENT OFFICERS

Africa: Clare Digby

America: Jorge Querejeta

Asia: Tayyab Ikram

Europe: Norman Hughes

Oceania: Gill Gemming

Between mid 2004 and mid 2006, 150 coaches from 50 countries were admitted to a FIH International Coaching Course.

After Final Seminars 15 FIH Coaches and 6 FIH Coaches Grade 1 could be appointed. Based on their performance as FIH Coach in courses and other assignments, as well as on their successes as a coach of teams, 4 more FIH Master Coaches could be appointed.

With the change to the Olympic qualifying procedure, more countries will now be involved in this process. Many of these countries, which may qualify for a 2008 Olympic Games qualifier would benefit from the input of an internationally-experienced coaching consultant.

Securing the funding for these consultants is often difficult for these NAs, so as a result, the DCC started "FIH Coaching Assistance to potential Olympic Games competitors" programme. Funds have been found and have been allocated to offer coaching assistance to seven NAs, in the period of preparation for their 2007 Continental Championship. Again we enjoy IOC support and the voluntary co-operation of a group of FIH Coaches.

The FIH's "Recommendations to NAs for the system for education and accreditation of coaches" will be published soon. It shall be an important tool for NAs to work on enhancement and recognition of coaching knowledge and skills. For NA Coaching Officers Workshops on the implementation of those Recommendations will be organised in the continents.

Every two years, a one-day coaching conference is organised for all interested coaches, where the developments in the game and coaching are presented and discussed. The 2006 edition took place in Mönchengladbach during the BDO Hockey World Cup Men.

Hockey Sixes

The FIH has recognised that a form of (field) hockey, to be played by smaller teams on smaller pitches of various kinds, is a very important way of involving more players in more countries as well as enhancing playing levels.

A project is being developed to define the game of Hockey Sixes in two categories in order to cater for various needs and circumstances.

The first is the 'World Hockey Sixes'. This category will be recommended as performance game, which can also be played in international competitions (FIH World Cups remaining to be limited to Olympic hockey and Indoor hockey). For the second category, flexible rules are proposed in such way that the applicable rules can be easily chosen, depending on the situation (available pitch, equipment and players).

The project is run by the DCC in co-operation with FIH Coaches, the Hockey Rules Board and the Umpiring, Equipment and Medical Committees. Final results shall be available in 2007.

Youth

In September 2005, the third World Young Hockey Promoters Festival took place in conjunction with the BDO Hockey Junior

World Cup Women in Santiago. Forty four participants from 25 countries attended the youth leadership workshops, presented a hockey development project which they are executing in their own country, and strived for the title "Global Youth Hockey Promoter 2005".

This award was claimed by Michael Steinmann from Germany. The hospitality of the Chilean hockey community and the many host families of the participants was tremendous.

The FIH Youth Panel has now 60 members from 34 countries. A new leadership was elected with Mario Rosado (Mexico, Chair) and Lwandile Simelane (South Africa, Secretary) taking over from Mindy Dhanda (England) and Xenia Ulrich (Austria).

The annual Global Youth Hockey Marathon enjoys a steady participation of approximately 50 countries. In 2005 the theme was "The Big Try Out" (Umpiring) and in 2006 "Hockey, a Sport for Everybody", tying in with the title of the promotional DVD.

A brochure about hockey for the underprivileged was published and a highlight of the 2006 Marathon was the number that 27% of countries managed to get their event on national TV.

Subsidised Pitch Projects

In 2005-2006, the subsidised pitch projects in Bulgaria and Venezuela were completed. Indonesia had to withdraw at a very late stage and the relevant subsidy was re-allocated to Uruguay, while projects in Kenya and Uganda experiences delays due to various circumstances.

Uruguay, Kenya and Uganda are committed to finish those projects successfully late 2006/early 2007.

One of the first pitches installed under this schedule (Accra, Ghana) underwent major maintenance for extended lifetime. The FIH advised on the most economic solution, and the Ghana Hockey Association was able to obtain funding from their government.

Acknowledgements

The DCC thanks all who provided support throughout 2005-2006:

- ▶ FIH Office Bearers and Executive Board for their guidance and encouragement.
- ▶ Many NAs for their communication and co-operation and their representatives on the FIH Development Council for their input
- ▶ Developed NAs for their preparedness to make their resources available and for their hospitality during international D&C events in their countries.
- ▶ All the experts who voluntarily gave their advice and accepted assignments in Development & Coaching events.
- ▶ FIH Staff for their devotion and energy for the benefit of hockey around the world.
- ▶ Members of the DCC for their team spirit.

Theo Ykema Chair



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Equipment Committee



The Equipment Committee (EC) operates at the crucial interface between the playing needs of the game and the manufacturers, suppliers and laboratories which meet many of those needs. This involves a fine balance between being a regulatory body and being the vehicle by which developments can be encouraged in the interests of the game. This report reflects the range of activities which this generates.

Approved Synthetic Turfs

Synthetic turf continues to be a major focus for the Equipment Committee's work. Among other things, it involves maintaining close contact with manufacturers and FIH accredited laboratories.

The 2005 meeting of the committee was therefore held during the major sports goods and facilities fair which took place in Cologne, Germany.

In association with the 2006 FIH Congress, a meeting was held in London. In between these meetings, officers of the Equipment Committee visited a large number of the currently approved turf manufacturers and accredited laboratories.

These meetings enable concerns about existing performance requirements and testing procedures to be discussed. They also enable developments in turf design and production to be explored. In particular, we have been able to discuss FIH objectives for a water-free turf.

"Water-Free" Synthetic Turf

In January 2006 we announced the aim of being able to play top level hockey on water-free synthetic turf within five years. Top hockey has been played on synthetic turf for 30 years primarily on water-dressed pitches.

The standard of pitches has improved over the years but turf technology has developed considerably in the last two or three. At the same time, concern about the environment has grown and sport bodies such as FIH need to develop an adequate environmental policy which in this case means avoiding the required use of water on pitches.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ Established a programme to develop a specification for a synthetic turf which does not have to be watered to achieve performance requirements
- ▶ Created a focus for the development of a multi-sport synthetic turf
- ▶ Reviewed mechanisms for assuring the quality of installed fields
- ▶ Produced handbooks for outdoor hockey facilities and indoor hockey facilities
- ▶ Began reviews of specifications for sticks and balls

Water is an increasingly scarce resource throughout the world and the cost of providing watering systems for pitches is also significant. The aim is therefore to develop pitches which do not need to be watered while keeping the fundamental playing characteristics required for today's top level hockey.

Consultations have taken place with the turf industry and specialist advisers who indicate this is a challenge but should be feasible.

Draft performance requirements (essentially the specification against which a turf is tested for FIH approval) have been drawn up and are being discussed with manufacturers and laboratories. We are also consulting with players and coaches to correlate measurable performance characteristics with their perception of playability differences for various types of pitches.



Watering of the pitch at the women's Junior World Cup in Chile

In the latter context, we are aware that we may not be able to replicate exactly the characteristics of current water-dressed turfs which might therefore necessitate some adjustments in the way the game is played. This work is ongoing but we are hopefully of agreeing an appropriate turf specification within the next year.

Multi-Sport Turf

We have also been looking at the possibility of adopting a filled turf with a medium length pile which might suit other levels of hockey in addition to soccer and perhaps rugby and tennis.

We are aware that schools, colleges and local communities cannot afford to install turfs for individual sports but want to use synthetic surfaces which enable play throughout the year, suit the skills of a game and which are durable.

Among other actions, we are liaising with other sports bodies about this possibility.

Quality Assurance for Installed Fields

For some time, we have been concerned that even though an approved turf product is used in construction of a field, the end result is not a quality surface. This is because it is also dependant, among other things, on design specifications, the standard of workmanship during installation and the quality of materials used in the sub-base.

We are therefore considering the introduction of a list of approved installers. We also plan to give the accredited laboratories a more direct role in this process both to monitor quality and to feed more information back to us about installed fields.



Germany's goalkeeper at the men's Junior World Cup

Beijing Olympic Games Facilities

There is an important role to play during the design of the stadia and hockey facilities for the Olympic Games to ensure that operational and playing requirements are met.

John Giles, Deputy Chairman of the Equipment Committee, has done a considerable amount of work commenting on the designs for Beijing using his outstanding knowledge and experience.

Sticks, Balls and other Equipment

If the use of synthetic materials revolutionised playing surfaces 30 years ago, similar materials have revolutionised stick production in the last 10 years.

Using precision moulds, manufacturers can now produce sticks in virtually any shape and with any performance characteristic.

We therefore have to be alert to extreme shapes and playing characteristics which are not beneficial to the game. Accordingly, we have embarked on a review of the stick specification which aims to provide appropriate controls in a way which can be easily and effectively monitored.

Currently, there is only one ball approved for use in FIH events. To provide for choice, we would like to see other manufacturers supplying an approved ball so we have been conducting discussions with some of them.

To meet playability requirements, we are also aware that the ball specification may need to be revised in the light of developments in a water-free turf.

The Equipment Committee also keeps a watching brief on other equipment issues and has, for example, commented on protective equipment for players.

Advisory Materials

Advisory handbooks and other materials are revised and developed as necessary.

In 2006, an "Indoor Hockey Facilities Handbook" was produced. This is an area for which in the past we have not had any materials available. Effort has also been put into a similar handbook for outdoor facilities ranging from project design and costing through choice of turf and lighting to implementation and maintenance.

Updates of other materials are in the pipeline including the pitch maintenance and lighting guides.

Jean-Claude Le Clef Chair

CHAIR

Jean-Claude Le Clef (Belgium)

SECRETARY

Roger Webb (FIH)

DEPUTY CHAIR

John Giles (Australia)

MEMBERS

David Balbirnie (Ireland)

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Wolfgang Hillman (Germany)

Zvonimir Kaic (Croatia)

John McBryde (Canada)

Mohamed Shaheen (Egypt)

John Stapley (Hong Kong)

Pauline Wetton (England)

Events and Competitions Committee



Key Responsibilities

The Events/Competitions Committee (ECC) comprises 15 members, with the Committee's operations streamlined following the 2004 FIH Congress by reducing the number from 22. The continental balance of membership was enhanced and gender balance retained.

The Committee's key responsibilities include:

- ▶ Supervision of all FIH competitions and continental competitions, including the appointments of technical officials, composition of pools and approval of match schedules.
- ▶ Tournament regulations guidelines and resource materials for the organisation, management and evaluation of tournaments.
- ▶ Tournament qualification procedures and requirements for tournaments so as to optimise participation, including multi-sport events.
- ▶ Technical Officials, including appointments to world level, continental and invitational tournaments and appropriate training courses and seminars.
- ▶ Implementation of IOC guidelines for the Olympic Games in relation to the Olympic hockey competition.

World Level Events

FIH continues to stage very successful world level events. The relationship between FIH and host nations continues to be excellent and from a technical point of view, high quality tournaments are being hosted.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ Olympic Qualification system and equal number of teams for men and women
- ▶ Technical, quality and organisation of World Level Events
- ▶ Support and assistance to Continental Federations, National Associations and Multi-Sport Associations
- ▶ Quality of top technical officials
- ▶ Ongoing review/innovation with regard to Tournament Structure
- ▶ World Ranking System

However, if the sport is to continue to grow and develop, tournaments should not only be technically perfect, but should also focus on the marketing and promotion of the sport to enhance media and television exposure. This aspect falls under the auspices of the Marketing Committee who are actively pursuing this matter.

The ECC continues to monitor the tournament calendar, the structure and composition of world-level events and makes suggestions for improvements where possible.



Germany's Bjoern Emmerling dives during the World Cup semi final against Spain

Olympic Games

FIH was successful in increasing the number of teams from 10 to 12 for the women's competition for the Beijing 2008 Olympics. There is now equality in the number of participating teams for all men's and women's world level events.

The classification matches for 5–12 positions were reviewed and the IOC has approved a reduction in these matches. In lieu of cross-over matches between 5–8 and 9–12, final classifications from 5–12 will be determined by 3rd Pool A v 3rd Pool B (5/6), 4th Pool A v 4th Pool B (7/8), 5th Pool A v 5th Pool B (9/10) and 6th Pool A v 6th Pool B (11/12).

Qualification Procedures

A new qualification procedure proposed by the FIH has been approved by the IOC. The qualification process will now involve 27 National Associations in lieu of the previous procedure involving only 17 National Associations.

A review was conducted following the Junior World Cups in 2005 and as a result new qualification criteria have been adopted. Quotas have been fixed to ensure that all Continental Federations and National Associations are aware of what places are available at the time of the Continental Federation qualifying tournaments.

A review has also taken place in relation to the qualification criteria for future World Cups. In principle, it has recommended that the qualification criteria be identical to that of the Olympic Games qualification procedures.

Official FIH World Rankings

The Sahara WorldHockey Teams Rankings lists are updated following each FIH world-level event and Continental Federation championship. The system is now well accepted as open and transparent and is being used more extensively than in the past, including determination of quotas for Continental Federations in the Olympic qualification criteria.

Consideration is currently being given to the introduction of inter-continental tournaments to enable ranking points to be gained by National Associations not currently able to compete in the FIH world-level events. This will obviate the constructive criticism that it is far easier for the top 10 teams in the world to accumulate points than teams ranked below that.

Bidding Procedures

The Executive Board has approved a change in the procedures for the allocation of FIH world-level events. The new procedure will involve the Marketing Committee

concluding sponsorship agreements with relevant sponsors and those agreements will specify the specific events allocated to the sponsors for title sponsorship.

Before finalising those sponsorship agreements, the FIH will consult with the National Associations to secure an agreement to host the events. For those sponsors who do not have specific location requirements, the FIH will call for expressions of interest from National Associations willing and interested to host the events in question and will then allocate the events to the National Associations who are chosen as the best candidates.

In other words, the emphasis has shifted to marketing-driven forces taking precedence. However, the ECC has stressed that geographic spread and the strategic importance of traditional hosts should not be ignored.

CHAIR

Steve Jaspan (South Africa)

SECRETARY

Dennis Meredith (FIH)

MEMBERS

Col. Syed Mudassar Asghar (Pakistan)

Alberto Budeisky (Argentina)

Guido Braca (Italy)

Sun Chengmin (China)

Janet Ellis (Canada)

Keith Gorringer (New Zealand)

Martin Gotheridge (England)

Stephanie Martens-Hodges (Singapore)

Ken Read (Australia)

Gavin Stephens (Zimbabwe)

Marijke Fleuren Van Walsem (Netherlands)

ATHLETES' REPRESENTATIVES

Mercedes Coghén (Spain)

Renita Garard (Australia)



Korea, winners of the women's Junior World Cup in 2005

TOURNAMENT DIRECTORS – WORLD LEVEL EVENTS (APPOINTED DURING 2005-2006)

Guido Braca (Italy)	3rd Men's Champions Challenge (Alexandria, Egypt)
Mathavan Devadas (Singapore)	8th Men's Junior World Cup (Rotterdam, Netherlands)
Stephanie Martens-Hodges (Singapore)	3rd Women's Champions Challenge (Virginia Beach, USA)
Julia Gill (England)	5th Women's Junior World Cup (Santiago, Chile)
Laura Pigretti (Argentina)	13th Women's Champions Trophy (Canberra, Australia)
Ken Read (Australia)	27th Men's Champions Trophy (Chennai, India)
Björn Isberg (Sweden)	11th Men's World Cup Qualifier (Changzhou, China)
Sheila Brown (South Africa)	11th Women's World Cup Qualifier (Rome, Italy)
Carola Meyer (Germany)	14th Women's Champions Trophy (Amsterdam, Netherlands)
Wiert Doyer (The Netherlands)	28th Men's Champions Trophy (Terrassa, Spain)
Ken Read (Australia)	11th Men's World Cup, (Mönchengladbach, Germany)
Janet Ellis (Canada)	11th Women's World Cup (Madrid, Spain)
Harald Steckelbruck (Germany)	7th World Games (Duisburg, Germany)
Julia Gill (England)	XVIII Commonwealth Games (Melbourne, Australia) – Women
Eric Donegani (Canada)	XVIII Commonwealth Games (Melbourne, Australia) – Men

Tournament Regulations

Ongoing updates continue to be made to the tournament regulations (indoor and outdoor) to incorporate new initiatives, ensure anomalies are corrected and to ensure there is consistency between outdoor and indoor regulations.

Technical Officials

The list of FIH Tournament Directors (TDs) and Technical Officers has been updated. The FIH Appointments Committee has adopted a principle that it will not recommend the appointment of either Tournament Directors or Technical Officers if the nominated people are not on this current list. The list comprises four categories of TDs and Technical Officers.

The ECC is extremely concerned about declining discipline and behaviour of players on the field of play and has stressed the need for firmness by technical officials and suitable action.

Seminar for Tournament Directors

A seminar involving the elite Tournament Directors was conducted in London in conjunction with Congress. The aim of the seminar was to develop and define management and leadership models for the elite Tournament Directors of the FIH. The major objectives for the seminar were:

- ▶ To provide sufficient and competent TDs for the years 2007-2011
- ▶ To provide a seminar using an interactive model
- ▶ To produce an electronic record of proceedings for use by the hockey family
- ▶ To develop consistency in approach by TDs.

It is hoped that this will form the basis for the ongoing training of technical officials within Continental Federations and, where possible, training during tournaments in the years ahead.

Indoor Hockey Working Group

Chairman: Guido Braca (Italy)

Members: Martin Campbell (Scotland), Elisabeth Fuerst (Austria), Ingeborg Grüner (Austria), Harald Steckelbruck (Germany)

Ex Officio: Steve Jaspan, Chairman ECC, Dennis Meredith, Secretary ECC

All technical matters relating to indoor hockey fall within the responsibility of this Working Group. Key issues for the Working Group have been the expansion of indoor hockey on a global basis, the updating of the Indoor Hockey Tournament Regulations and the forthcoming 2nd Indoor World Cup to be played in Vienna, Austria, in February 2007.

Indoor hockey was included in the World Games in Duisburg, Germany, in 2005 and looks set for the next World Games in Taiwan in 2009.

It is pleasing to report the significant increase in indoor hockey in Pan America, together with the planned 1st Asian Hockey Federation Indoor Cup staged in Iran in November 2006.

Acknowledgements

The professionalism of tournament presentation and organisation is improving all the time. We have to maintain the highest standards while constantly seeking innovation. The blend of professional staff and volunteers that is a characteristic of hockey has been one of the ongoing success stories of the FIH.

I pay tribute to Dennis Meredith, FIH Events Manager, and the ECC. Their commitment and support have been fantastic as well as the Executive Board, led by the Office Bearers.

To all the National Associations and Continental Federations who have hosted tournaments and co-operated wonderfully our grateful thanks. The same sentiments go to our excellent technical officials.

Steve Jaspan
Chair



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Hockey Rules Board



To some extent, the two-year period covered by this report has been one of consolidation. However, the HRB continues to actively review and develop the rules and in particular has been working on the rules for the period 2007/8.

2005 Rules of Hockey

The 2005 rules continued to use the well received new format implemented in 2004. To consolidate publication of the rules and related information, the specifications of the field, stick, ball and other equipment were re-introduced in the main rules book as a distinct section.

The rules changes incorporated in 2005 were essentially the two mandatory experimental rules first introduced in 2003, hence the opening comment in this report about consolidation.

One of these rules permitted a defender to use the stick to stop or deflect a shot at goal at any height. The other rule concerned the penalty corner where the change required the ball to travel outside the circle before a shot at goal but did not require it to be stopped.

The latter change is a good example of the simplification of a rule without compromising a fundamental characteristic of the game or safety which is one of the Hockey Rules Board's continuing aims.

The Rules of Indoor Hockey were also re-published in 2005 and included equivalent changes to those mentioned above.

2006 Rules of Hockey

When the Hockey Rules Board considered options for the 2006 rules, it concluded that it did not wish to make any significant changes. Indeed, the only change which was necessary was to confirm the reduction to 25mm in the permitted bow/rake in hockey sticks which had been pre-announced earlier in 2005.

Because of this, new rules books were not printed for 2006. Instead, a consolidated set of 2006 rules (for outdoor and for indoor hockey) was made available on the FIH website.

Otherwise, a small insert was prepared for placement in 2005 rules books to bring them up to date for 2006.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ No significant changes in the rules for 2005 and 2006
- ▶ Introduction of a two-year cycle for rules changes with effect from 2007/8
- ▶ Input collected from coaches at world level events and other interest groups on rules developments
- ▶ Rules changes to take effect in 2007/8 include revision of goalkeeping options and actions

This experience contributed to the HRB decision to move to a two-year cycle for publication of the rules.

Two-Year Rules Cycle

In some ways, a two-year cycle is already in place because significant changes are not introduced in the periods leading to each Olympic Games and Hockey World Cup.

By formalising this cycle, the HRB is also acknowledging that it is better to allow a slightly longer period between rules changes for any changes to be evaluated and reviewed.

The next set of rules (which was published in the middle of 2006) therefore applies for the period 1 January 2007 to 31 December 2008 at international level. As before, National Associations have discretion to decide the date of implementation at national level.

The HRB will avoid publishing changes during the two-year period but in exceptional circumstances retains this right. Any such changes will be notified to National Associations and published on the WorldHockey website.



Rules Developments

Although the comments so far in this report have focused on rationalisation and consolidation of the rules, the HRB continues to proactively review rules and respond to issues which arise.

An example of the latter situation was the use of the edge of the stick to hit the ball hard on the forehand. This was brought to the HRB's attention and was discussed at the December 2005 HRB meeting when the opportunity was also taken to consult some of the top coaches.

As a result, a rules interpretation was issued and a rules change agreed for immediate implementation by the Executive Board after its March 2006 meeting which makes this action an offence. It is important that the HRB can act in this responsive way in addition to considering longer term options.

Some of those options are included in the 2007/8 Rules. For example, three clear goalkeeping possibilities have been specified: playing with a goalkeeper wearing full protective equipment; a goalkeeper just wearing protective headgear; or playing entirely with field players in which case no player has goalkeeping privileges.

A goalkeeper will in future also be permitted more flexibility in their actions when defending their goal. Other examples of developments include a review of the protective equipment field players are permitted to wear and clarification of certain rules such as not penalising a defender if they are genuinely trying to play the ball in a legitimate way when saving a shot at goal above shoulder height.

More broadly, the HRB has already referred in its discussions and will continue to consider such things as ways of avoiding crowded defensive circles.

The penalty corner is also being scrutinised and is a good example of where the HRB is challenged to strike a balance between something which is skilful and exciting but which should also be safe and not too complicated.

In addition, the HRB's objectives require it to consider ways of encouraging more attacking play.

Indoor Hockey

In these deliberations, the HRB bears in mind that the rules apply to all levels of the game but also that there are rules for outdoor hockey and for indoor hockey.

In principle, the HRB believes that the rules of indoor and outdoor hockey should be the same unless the playing requirements are explicitly different.

However, it has been some time since detailed consideration was given to these differences. Early in 2007 in association with the Indoor World Cups, the HRB will devote at least one of its meetings to the rules of indoor hockey.

Consultation and the Future

The HRB has a diverse membership which includes playing, coaching and umpiring the game at many levels. Its meetings are therefore always thoughtful and stimulating.

However, it is recognised that many people can potentially make a contribution to the development of the rules because it is one of the few things about the game which affects every one of us.

Providing for consultation and input in a structured and meaningful way is not easy but is something we continue to pursue. Steps have been taken to consult particular interest groups and to use the WorldHockey website to collect views.

This report therefore ends by confirming that the HRB is open to ideas and will do its best to develop the rules in ways which make the game even more enjoyable to participate in and watch.

Wolfgang Rommel Chair



Emily Halliday (Australia)

CHAIRMAN

Wolfgang Rommel (Germany)

RULES DEVELOPMENT SECRETARY

Peter von Reth (Netherlands)

SECRETARY

Roger Webb (FIH)

MEMBERS

Richard Aggiss (Australia)

Jorge Alcover (Spain)

Gill Clarke (England)

Eric Donegani (Canada)

Yousef Essamat (Egypt)

M P Ganesh (India)

Eduardo Guelfand (Argentina)

Masako Kamisuki (Japan)

Michael Krause (Germany)

Evlyn Raistrick (Scotland)

Alain Renaud (France)

Yung Hee Shin (Korea)

Islah-Ud-Din-Siddiqui (Pakistan)



Judicial Commission



I am pleased to present this report of the Judicial Commission (JC) following its establishment at the FIH Congress in 2004.

In the intervening two years, the JC has dealt with one matter which involved an incident of misconduct by a player during the course of a match.

The player was found guilty by the JC and suspended for three matches. The player appealed to the Court of Arbitration for Sport which dismissed the appeal.

The conduct of this matter has raised a number of issues which need to be considered for the future.

Prior to this particular hearing by the JC, it established basic procedures for the conduct of proceedings before it. Those procedures were helpful to the parties and the JC, and they will be further developed as a result of these experiences.

The procedures will also need to be further considered depending on the future role of the JC, particularly in relation to onfield player misconduct matters.

It is of concern that in relation to the matter which was considered by the JC, the incident occurred in an international match on 14 August 2005.

The matter was referred to the JC on 19 August 2005. The hearing before the JC took place in late November and its decision was given on 30 November 2005. The decision of the Court of Arbitration for Sport was not given until 5 May 2005.

It must be of concern to our sport that it took a total time of nearly eight months to achieve finality in relation to an incident of player misconduct during a tournament.

Consideration needs to be given as to whether there is a more expeditious way to deal with those types of matters at first instance, than having them referred to the JC followed by appeals to the Court of Arbitration for Sport.

I am aware that the Events & Competitions Committee is giving consideration to a disciplinary process at the tournament level to deal with these matters at first instance. It may then be that an

appeal lies to the JC and this may obviate the need for a further appeal to the Court of Arbitration for Sport.

I think there is merit in such a process and the JC will work with the Executive Board and its committees to try to produce more expeditious outcomes in the future.

The decision of the Court of Arbitration for Sport in this particular matter did also raise an issue as to the extent to which it is appropriate for regard to be had to a player's conduct history when considering an appropriate penalty. This is a policy issue and should be considered as part of the review of processes for disciplining player misconduct, to which I have referred.

There is also a question as to whom should perform the prosecutorial role before the JC hearing of those matters which are referred to it.

For the matter which was dealt with by the JC, this function was performed on behalf of the FIH by its lawyer. Consideration should be given as to whether there might be a specific officer attached to the JC who is responsible for presenting the case against the party or parties in the matter.

This is an important policy issue which needs to be considered by the Executive Board and it may involve some amendment to the Statutes in relation to the JC, as well as its rules and processes.

It is important that the members of the JC are a broad representation of the National Associations. I encourage the National Associations to consider if there are suitable candidates for the JC in their midst and, if so, to nominate those persons.

I thank my colleagues on the JC and, particularly, the Honorary Secretary, Martin Gotheridge and those members of the JC who sat on the panel for the matter heard by the JC. I also acknowledge the assistance received by the JC from the Honorary Secretary General.

CHAIR

Don Davies (Australia)

SECRETARY

Martin Gotheridge (England)

MEMBERS

P.S. Gill (Malaysia)

Eduardo Guelfand (Argentina)

Luthira Gueta (India)

Shahida Jamil (Pakistan)

Michael Krause (Germany)

P.T.M. Litjens (Netherlands)

Leonid Penchuk (Russia)

Ken Read (Australia)

Jerry Matos E. Silva (Portugal)

Gurcharan Singh (Singapore)

Vidya Stokes (India)

R.P.G.L.M. Verbunt (Netherlands)

Vincenzo Vitale (Italy)

Don Davies
Chair



Marketing Committee



Years 2005 and 2006 have seen new ground broken by FIH in the Marketing Committee's main areas of responsibility, those of sponsorship and television.

Global Partners

The area of sponsorship is fundamental to a sport's ability to develop globally and despite its global appeal,

hockey has traditionally struggled in this area.

BDO International, Rabobank, Samsung and then Sahara became hockey's first Global Partners in 2003, in a four-year deal, making 2006 the renewal year. At the time of writing, negotiations are at an advanced stage with all four current Global Partners. We also expect to announce two new partnerships, one a Global Partner,

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ In-house TV distribution strategy increased long term broadcast agreements
- ▶ Total revenue from television sales doubled in 2005-2006
- ▶ Increased quality of television production at world-level events
- ▶ Commercial exposure opportunities for sponsors at FIH major events increased
- ▶ Birth of WorldHockey magazine programme and WorldHockey.tv
- ▶ Advertising sites on team strips increased to allow National Associations to gain more sponsors

the other an Official Supplier. FIH's official clothing supplier, TK has already renewed its inaugural involvement with FIH.

FIH's first global sponsorship programme has already begun to change the way major FIH events are organised and presented. Commercial partners demand the highest standards and events that act as vehicles for them to achieve their objectives.

Commercial exposure opportunities for sponsors at FIH major events have also been increased, with the appearance of in-goal and pitchside advertising sites.



Germany's Moritz Fuerste (9) and Tibor Weissborn (14)

Furthermore advertising sites on team strips have increased to allow National Associations to gain more sponsors and offer them greater exposure. And it's not just about money.

More commercial partners in our sport can increase our opportunities to promote hockey via consumer promotions and also, give our broadcast partners a greater pool of advertisers to fund hockey programming.

Television Distribution

Of course, the key driver of global hockey's sponsorship potential is its television exposure.

Following many years of having its television distribution handled by global agencies, FIH took the bold step in 2005 to bring this operation in-house.

The key advantages were as follows:

- ▶ Instead of the agency-approach of trying to sell hockey in all markets, FIH could differentiate its distribution strategy, depending on the territory.
- ▶ FIH could build relationships with future host broadcasters of its major events from its direct relationship with the same organisations as client broadcasters.
- ▶ In also taking over satellite delivery for the international signal, FIH could cut delivery costs, encouraging broadcasters to show more hockey.
- ▶ FIH's TV distributors would only sell hockey and hence, hockey would be at the top of the sales sheet.

Already, FIH has multiplied the number of its long-term contracts, vital to give hockey's Global Partners a guarantee of global exposure, with long-term deals in key territories such as India, Pakistan, China, Malaysia, Europe, Australia and South America.

Despite sometimes offering hockey at no cost in marginal territories in order to gain exposure, there was no overall reduction in revenues.

Due to more rigorous negotiation in key territories, total revenue doubled, improving FIH's ability to fund projects.

Television Production

Fast paced and on a large pitch, hockey can be a challenge for television producers. FIH continues to maintain an in-house production unit to assist host broadcasters in bringing out the skill and emotion of our game, showing off our greatest asset, our players to greatest effect. Viewers and client broadcasters across the globe can depend on FIH major events to deliver colour, excitement and dynamism of the highest quality.

WorldHockey Magazine

One of hockey's weaknesses as a global offering is its lack of continuity. Many of hockey's major invitational events do not achieve quality TV coverage or coordinated distribution.

FIH's monthly television magazine programme "WorldHockey Monthly" addresses this. Each issue of the magazine brings hockey

news, major event previews and reviews, player focuses and features to a global hockey audience in over 100 countries via 13 broadcasters.

WorldHockey.tv

Since our first experiment with pay-per-view streaming to broadband customers in 2002, Hockey has been at the forefront of technological developments in new media. It is also one of very few, if any, of the sports federations which has always offered unembargoed, internet-streamed video in parallel with its TV distribution.

At the end of 2005 FIH also added WorldHockey.tv, a dedicated internet TV-channel offering 24 hour and on-demand broadcast of FIH archive, events highlights and WorldHockey Monthly magazine.

What's next?

Apart from continuing to improve the gains in television and sponsorship outlined above, our next priority in future years is to improve hockey's appeal by encouraging better presentation of FIH's major events.

A sport should not only deliver value for the price of a ticket, it must strive to make that ticket the hottest in town.

As our sport has innovated, adding artificial surfaces and changing its rules to improve spectator and player appeal, we must also keep pace with the spectator experience off the field.

The interactive big-screen and audio presentation at the BDO Hockey World Cup Men in Monchengladbach, Germany set a new standard for hockey events. Hockey's new challenge is to roll-out the same standards at all its major events.

Peter-Paul Lathouwers Chair

CHAIR

Peter-Paul Lathouwers (Netherlands)

SECRETARY

Steven Morris (FIH)

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Johan Wakkie (Netherlands)

HONORARY CONSULTANT

S.S Dasgupta (India)



Medical Committee



The health and welfare of hockey players at all levels is an important focus of FIH activity in which the Medical Committee plays a key role.

Player Safety

The data collected at FIH events has been rationalised in the last two years. One set of data is collected by officials at the technical table and covers all injuries which result in a stoppage of play.

In addition, team medical officials complete a summary of injuries sustained during a tournament. The FIH Medical Officer provides a more detailed report on any significant injuries.

Patterns in the data are starting to emerge. For example, most injuries are from "natural hazards" such as twisted ankles and accidental collisions between players. Some relate to the rules of the game and these are reviewed in consultation with the Hockey Rules Board.

In a similar way, the Medical Committee looks at hockey playing equipment and accessories in liaison with the Equipment Committee. This has resulted, for example, in clearer guidelines about field player face-protection in the 2007/8 Rules of Hockey.

Medical Advice and Information

Whenever possible, opportunities are taken to review and improve information available. Strong contacts are therefore maintained with the International Olympic Committee, other sports federations and relevant sports science agencies.

In this context, links to information about Concussion Assessment and Sudden Cardiovascular Death in Sport have been added to the WorldHockey website together with updated and extended information on other medical and health subjects.

Various publications have been reviewed. In particular, the manual for Medical Officers and the format of the reports they produce at and after tournaments have been significantly revised and included on the website together with the various forms used at FIH events.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ Mechanisms for collecting data about injuries at FIH events were reviewed and reinforced
- ▶ The FIH Anti-Doping Policy was revised to standardise in-competition testing requirements and to streamline TUE procedures
- ▶ Monitoring of adverse analytical findings ("positive" dope tests) and of TUE handling through the FIH office was greatly improved
- ▶ The reputation of hockey as a sport at low risk of doping was reinforced
- ▶ Initial steps were taken to improve awareness of doping issues among athletes, team and association officials

The website information on anti-doping activity has been extended to include more guidance about prohibited substances and methods, links to other sources of information such as the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) website and explanations of Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE) procedures.

Anti-Doping Policy

The period 2005/6 is the first full biennium in which the WADA Anti-Doping Code and the FIH Anti-Doping Policy have operated.



Iain Davidson looks on as Colin Hennessy scores for Australia at the Junior World Cup

During this period the Code and Policy have been closely monitored.

As a result, the Policy was revised in March 2006 mainly to simplify TUE procedures and to be more specific about the number of tests required in-competition at all levels.

The Code itself dates from 2003 and WADA has set out a timetable and process for review culminating in adoption of a revised Code at the WADA World Conference in November 2007. The FIH, through the Medical Committee, will take appropriate opportunities as specified in the timetable to comment on issues for review.

Dope Testing

Testing takes place "in-competition" at all FIH world-level events. It is gratifying to report that no anti-doping rule violations occurred.

It is important that the in-competition testing programme is complemented by out-of-competition testing. In 2005, WADA conducted 38 tests on international hockey players with no adverse analytical findings.

To facilitate out-of-competition testing, it has been agreed with WADA that the current "registered testing pool" for hockey comprises the top 12 ranked women's and men's teams.

The relevant national associations are asked to provide information ("whereabouts") for team training camps and competitions. Some associations have not been very responsive to this request so we shall continue to take steps to remind them of their responsibilities under the WADA Code and FIH Policy.

In turn, the FIH may in future have to undertake more anti-doping activity. At present we rely on the WADA out-of-competition tests whereas, strictly applied, the Code requires the FIH to establish its own out-of-competition testing programme. It is planned to include an FIH programme in future years.

In addition to the activity focussed on FIH events and elite teams, testing takes place at other levels under the auspices of national anti-doping organisations.

It is a condition of this testing that FIH is informed of any adverse analytical findings ("positive" results).

In the 12 months July 2005 to June 2006, 20 such reports were received (one of them for two substances). Twelve reports related to cannabinoids (the main psychoactive substance found in cannabis) and four to beta-2 agonists (a common treatment for asthma but a prohibited substance because of its potential anabolic effects).

Three cases were for elevated testosterone/ epitestosterone ratios, one for an oestrogen inhibitor and one which relates to a stimulant.

In the latter instances, follow up of the circumstances indicates that drug abuse did not take place. Required sanctions have therefore only mainly applied to the cannabinoid cases.

In fact, taking all the issues above into account, it is fair to say that although there is evidence of the use of social drugs by recreational hockey players, there is no evidence of the use of performance enhancing substances in hockey.

Athlete Doping Welfare

Athletes, like other people in the general population, may have illnesses or conditions which require medications or treatment methods which are on the WADA Prohibited List. In that case, they can apply for a Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE). Over the last two years we have consolidated our procedures for handling TUEs.

We now handle approximately 300 applications a year of which some 250 are "abbreviated" applications (ATUEs) usually for the treatment of asthma.

This is a significant workload for the FIH office and for the doctor members of the sub-committee of the Medical Committee which constitutes the TUE Committee.

In common with many other sports, FIH will be pressing WADA to revise the ATUE policies and procedures so that scarce resources can be directed elsewhere.

An activity on which we would like to spend more effort is anti-doping education. In this context, a leaflet for athletes was prepared towards the end of 2006.

It is hoped to expand this activity in 2007/8 and also organise a sports-medicine conference and briefing opportunities for team medical personnel.

Dr Fook Wong Chair

CHAIR

Dr Fook Yen Wong
(United States of America)

SECRETARY

Roger Webb (FIH)

MEMBERS

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Dr André Bolhuis (Netherlands)

Mrs Roser Coll (Spain)

Dr Adrian Lorde (Barbados)

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Dr Lilia Nunez (Venezuale)

Dr Giuseppe Palmieri (Italy)

Dr Alain Tetard (France)

Dr Jerzy Smorawinski (Poland)

Dr Mark Gavin Wotherspoon (England)
(to September 2005)

Umpiring Committee

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ Video Analysis for the Coaching of Umpires at WorldHockey events
- ▶ Video Umpire
- ▶ Umpire Development at International level
- ▶ WorldHockey Umpiring Boost



Video Analysis for the Coaching of Umpires

Video analysis has been regularly used at WorldHockey major events, where full TV coverage has been available, including the 2006 Champions Trophy tournaments, World Cups and their Qualifiers. The aim is to assist in the coaching of the Umpires and the review, assessment and improvement of their performances.

Just as teams use video analysis to analyse match performances, the umpiring team is increasingly looking to computer video analysis to assist in the coaching of the umpires

Specifically, we are able to highlight the main issues which the umpires need to focus upon, in order to help achieve consistent decision making throughout each tournament.

At the end of each game we have the whole match captured and it is also possible to provide a 5-10 minute movie for each umpire showing the main items of interest from their game. These may either be used for individual match reviews or for group sessions with the whole umpiring panel.

The clips are used help positively reinforce what the umpires are doing well, in addition to showing them match incidents they might like to review.

The use of video analysis has been a very useful tool for umpires and umpires managers and is contributing positively towards the more professional approach being taken by the umpiring teams.

Video Umpire

A full trial of the Video Umpire was conducted at the 2006 Women's Champions Trophy in Amsterdam.

Following this, the Video Umpire was approved for use at the 2006 Men's and Women's World

Cups, in Monchengladbach and Madrid and integrated into the respective Tournament Regulations. The Video Umpire uses the existing TV camera coverage, supplemented by in goal cameras.

The decisions for referral have been restricted to three scenarios; whether the ball has crossed the goal-line when attempting to score a goal, whether the ball is inside or outside the circle when attempting to score a goal; whether the ball has been touched inside the circle by the stick of an attacker, following a deflection which results in the ball crossing the goal line. All other decisions remain with the match umpires.

The only possible outcomes of referrals are 'Goal', 'No Goal' or 'No decision possible'; if the video footage is inconclusive in that scenario, the decision of the match umpire stands.

Hockey now falls into line with sports such as Cricket, Rugby Union, Rugby League and Tennis that have adopted video technology for reviewing decisions at their premier events.



Umpires at the women's Junior World Cup

Umpire Development at International level

The last two years has seen a more radical approach with younger, less experienced umpires being appointed to international tournaments than ever before. Indeed, some tournaments have been used specifically for umpire development purposes.

The increased number of development opportunities has resulted in significant progress for some of the younger umpires on the FIH Umpires Lists.

National Associations have been encouraged to appoint younger umpires to their own continental tournaments. The net result is that the proportion of umpires under 35 years of age as a percentage of the total number of FIH International Umpires has increased over the 2005-2006 period – from approximately 36% up to 40% for men, and from approximately 29% to nearly 40% for women. This gives considerable cause for optimism for the future.

With the Trainee Umpire Manager Workshop, held in Vienna, Austria, over Easter 2005, and the various individual Umpire Manager traineeships in 2006 we have had success in increasing the numbers on the FIH Umpire Managers list.

The number of suitably trained and experienced Umpire Managers has a significant impact on the coaching and performance of umpires at tournaments. There are plans for 2007 to extend the scope of Umpire Coaching by appointing Umpire Managers to selected 4-Nation Tournaments (with umpires specially selected for development purposes).

WorldHockey Umpiring Boost

The WorldHockey Umpiring Boost is the FIH project, jointly organised by the Umpiring and the Development and Coaching

Committees, whose overall objective is to help as many National Associations as possible to encourage, promote and develop umpiring in their own country.

Launched at the FIH Congress in Leipzig in November 2004, and taking place over 2005 and 2006, it recognises the twin needs of addressing the worldwide shortage of umpires and the requirement to maintain an improvement in umpiring standards.

The WHUB Handbook, which is posted on the Umpires section of the WorldHockey website in English and Spanish), contains three sections; FIH Recommendations and Guidelines for a National Umpiring Structure (including Umpires and Umpire Coaches Education and Accreditation Schemes, with templates and supporting resources; Information regarding the types of FIH supported Umpiring Courses that can be offered to National Associations; and Ideas to help National Associations recruit, retain and develop umpires at all levels and of all ages (supported by templates and other resources to assist NAs to put these ideas into practice).

The project budget supports 12 national/regional courses per year for Umpires and Umpire Coaches (over and above those due to be run via FIH NA Development Fund Grants awards).

It is also being used to help fund five National Umpiring Development Officer Workshops (one per Continent). These Workshops are being used in order to introduce the FIH Recommendations and Guidelines for a National Umpiring Structure.

The target group of the Workshops are the National Umpiring Development Officers or the people who, within their National Associations, are responsible for umpiring education and development.

One result of the WHUB has been the increase in the number of umpiring courses held worldwide.

From the handful that took place in 2004, 23 were held in 2005, and it is anticipated that a similar number will be staged in 2006.

All of these Courses have had FIH appointed Course Conductors, which helps to achieve a consistent message worldwide, and also contributes to one of the FIH key objectives in providing assistance and guidance to National Associations and Continental Federations.

CHAIR

Peter von Reth (Netherlands)

SECRETARY

Richard Wilson (FIH)

MEMBERS

Resham Singh Bains (Kenya)

Joke Bougon (Executive Board) (from January 2006)

Gill Clarke (England)

Santiago Deo (Spain)

Billy Dillon (Hong Kong)

Ian Faulkner (New Zealand)

Bobby Gagel (South Africa) (until February 2006)

Masako Kamisuki (Japan)

Richard Kendrick (Ireland)

Richard Kentwell (United States)

Marianne Kooijman (Netherlands)

Mi Ok Lee (Korea)

Antonis Mavrides (Greece)

Clive McMurray (South Africa)

Alain Renaud (France)

Horacio Servetto (Argentina)

Ermanno Silvano (Italy)

Kukoo Walia (India)



Richard Wilson performs the video logging for umpires at the men's World Cup Qualifier

Peter von Reth
Chair



Presentation ceremony at the men's World Cup



Financial Report



Consolidation and development

Internal organisation

As I took over the responsibility of the financial thoughts which have to be conducted by the FIH Office Bearers, I limited myself first to an inventory of the finance department, checking in priority the internal organisation to ensure the reliability of the information that needed to be provided.

I was aware of the natural difficulties of implementation linked to the move from Brussels to Lausanne and to the change of the internal finance manager. At the time I am writing this report, I am happy to note that we are provided with a quality financial organisation, led by a professional staff member, who can fulfil her tasks with competence and efficiency.

That was related to the operational side of the internal financial activities. I emphasise however that the responsibility of the budget follow-up of course rests upon our Executive Director.

Finance Committee

Concerned about having an external professional, but also (why not) critical, think tank, I could, with the support of the Office Bearers, complete my thoughts by consulting the members of the Finance Committee, especially regarding the implementation of a cash management which fits our needs and our external resources.

I wish to continue these consultations on a regular basis and to thank at this stage all members of this group for the quality of their advice:

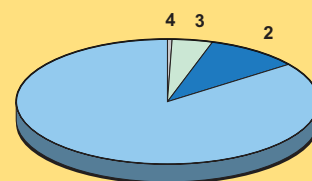
- ▶ David Appleby, New Zealand
- ▶ Marcel Egloff, Switzerland
- ▶ Joachim Hürter, Germany
- ▶ David Kennedy, Australia
- ▶ B.J. Shin, Korea

Mission statement and key objectives

Reassured by the quality of the internal financial department and the competences at my disposal within the Finance

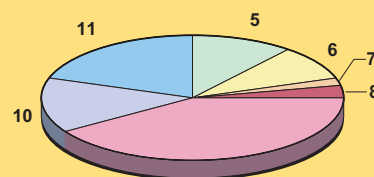
FIH Balance sheet on 31.12.2005

(CHF 10,6 mios = € 6,8 mios)



ASSETS

1	Cash and bank deposit	85,0%
2	Receivables	10,0%
3	Prepaid exp. / Income to receive	4,5%
4	Guarantees	0,5%



LIABILITIES

5	Liabilities	11,0%
6	Accrued exp. / pitches	9,0%
7	Provisions	2,0%

Fortune: 78%

8	Dev. funds	} 44,0%
9	OG funds (operations reserve)	
10	General reserve	} 34,0%
11	OG funds (general reserve)	

Committee, I am now able, in my activity for the Federation, to favour the Strategic Plan and the Key Objectives 2004 – 2008, respecting the Mission Statement which is the base of the main activities of the FIH.

Patrimony and resources allocations

Evolution of our balance sheet

It is not useless to remember that the controlled evolution of our patrimony is from year to year dependant on the proper use of the budgets allocated to FIH management.

In addition, the four-year evolution of our financial means is relatively simple to apprehend if we have the guarantee that the first objective of our list of priorities is maintained.

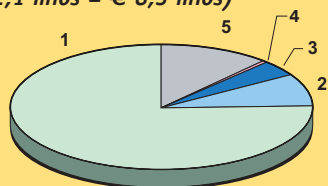
It is appropriate to remember that the marketing and TV rights from the Olympic Games represent a major part of our operations costs. However, it is positive to be able to assert that the sum allocated to our costs from the OG subsidies does not cover internal administrative costs, but exclusively costs for development and sports activities.

These heartening criteria of financial health and of limitation of our operating risks are of course reassuring.

However, we cannot just content ourselves with waiting for the Olympic manna, but we have to permanently tend to seek financial autonomy, at least by the guarantee that we are able to cover our annual operations costs, while having the opportunity to build up reserves.

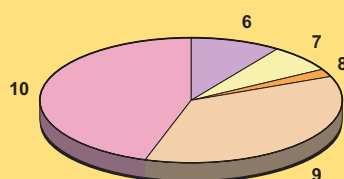
FIH and Foundation consolidated balance sheet on 31.12.2005

(CHF 12,1 mios = € 8,3 mios)



ASSETS

1	Cash and bank deposit	75,5%
2	Receivables	8,0%
3	Prepaid exp./ Income to receive	4,0%
4	Guarantees	0,5%
5	Office building	12,0%



LIABILITIES

6	Liabilities	10,0%
7	Accrued exp./ pitches	7,0%
8	Provisions	2,0%
9	Alloted funds	36,0%
10	Reserve funds	45,0%

Speaking about that, it is worth noting that our predecessors had the wisdom to constitute the Foundation for the promotion and development of hockey which already has at its disposal a substantial patrimony. The Statutes of this Foundation are broad enough for us to propose its Council, if necessary, to help us implement projects in the framework of the strategic missions of the FIH.

As a result, we can evaluate the reality of our patrimony taking into account not only the net assets of the FIH, but also the values (reserves) shown as assets of the balance sheet of the above-mentioned Foundation.

The following charts will allow us to better analyse the FIH financial capacities in order to define our long-term objectives:

FIH resources involved (example 2005)

Working on the principle that our main resources are depending on one hand, on the good progress of the Olympic Games and on the other hand, on the ranking of our Federation by the IOC, I think it is worth considering a budget planning over four years, i.e. for the running period, from 2005 to 2008.

Our "manoeuvring capacity" is therefore clearly linked to our "Marketing Committee" performance, in view of its sponsoring investigations, the high quality of the hockey image through successful events and good selling of our TV rights, in particular.

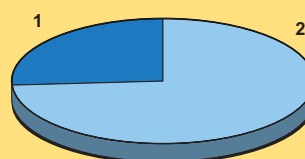
Schematic assessment

We have allocated FIH revenues for the year 2005 into 6 income categories, in order to appraise among others the source of the resources and above all their growth potential.

Even though this analysis should be based on a several years statistics, we think it is realistic enough to come to useful conclusions.

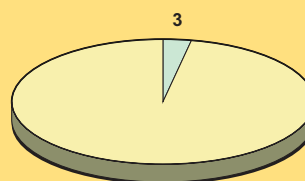
Balance sheet of the "Fondation pour la promotion et le développement du hockey sur gazon" on 31.12.2005

(CHF 2,3 mios = € 1,5 mios)



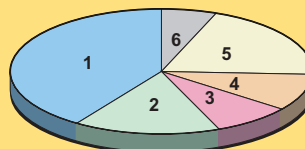
ASSETS

1	Cash and bank deposit	26,0%
2	Office building	74,0%



LIABILITIES

3	Accrued liabilities	3,0%
4	Capital cover	97,0%



1	TV and Marketing Rights OG	40,4%	<i>Income from OG spread annually to cover FIH operational expenses</i>
2	Sponsors	16,0%	<i>Growing income, but linked to precise expenses</i>
3	Licensing	8,3%	<i>Substantial development potential</i>
4	TV rights, others	9,5%	<i>Revenues allocated in priority to the Flying Squad costs</i>
5	Internal revenues	19,8%	<i>NA affiliation fees, increase not very opportune (accounting revenues 12.5%)</i>
6	Events	6,0%	<i>Concept of revenues to be developed</i>

Potential development

The potential development of the FIH income would be more particularly conceivable if supplementary marketing efforts would be tackled, putting additional means to the disposal of the Chairmen of the Marketing Committee and Communication and IT Committee.

Indeed we think that the managers employed in the related departments should be able to reinforce their marketing programs on a 4-year planning basis.

At first sight, the income from events seems of little importance - in % of the total. Would it not be possible to better enhance the international competitions, in order to draw additional income.

PROFILE OF STRENGTHS, WEAKNESSES, OPPORTUNITIES AND THREATS (SWOT)

STRENGTHS

The Presidency of the FIH is represented in the IOC and in the ASOIF Council.

The value of the building owned by the Foundation (present reserve) should be reinforced long-term.

The installation of the FIH headquarter in Lausanne, close to the IOC, reinforces our links with this institution.

The Chairmen of the Marketing Committee and of the Communication and IT Committee put in place ambitious development programmes which seem to already bear fruit.

In comparison to another economic activity, the management of an international federation is facilitated by the fact that its revenues are guaranteed for around 60 % at least 4 years in advance.

WEAKNESSES

The FIH must dedicate some expenses to the improvement of its international fame, so that hockey remains an Olympic sport.

If the number of employees of the FIH had to be increased in the departments with high development potential, the costs generated would be guaranteed, while results would remain unpredictable.

The FIH does not have the possibility to increase the number of its employees, without finding before new resources.

OPPORTUNITIES

The income from Marketing and TV rights should increase in 2008 and 2012.

The development potential of the income from sponsoring and events seems important.

The volunteers who cooperate in the various Committees of the FIH offer their know-how without remuneration.

Some Asian countries, members of the FIH, dispose of a strong commercial development potential.

THREATS

The presence of the sports included in the OG programme is permanently called into question.

The income from the OG are guaranteed in US\$ while the expenses of the FIH are for 80 % in CHF and in €.

The average salaries of the employees of the FIH is slightly lower than the market in the Lausanne area, more specifically in comparison with the IOC.

The internal development of the FIH must permanently be adapted to the objectives assigned to the Continental Federations and National Associations (allocation of means).

The main source of income for the FIH must be protected to the maximum against an external threat to the existence of the OG (insurance).

The development of the FIH activities would of course generate additional expenses with professional consultants (lawyers, IT specialist, etc.).

Building up provisions and control the risks

Justification for building up provisions

- ▶ The FIH must dispose of easily negotiable reserves, in order to quickly respond to unexpected happenings (the real estate patrimony must be preserved for the long-term).
- ▶ Mid-term, the FIH must be able to invest freely and quickly in development programmes linked to its mission and its key objectives.
- ▶ Mid-term, the number of employees of the FIH should increase, if the FIH intends to develop new bearing markets and more specifically to achieve the key objectives fixed in its programmes.
- ▶ Long-term, the FIH must at all times be able to react to a decrease, verily a suppression of the Olympic revenues.

Control FIH risks

Contrary to other heavy mediated sports disposing of important cash flow, hockey has to reckon with some risks, hopefully not very costly and above all, that can be kept under control in the mid-term.

Considering the "threats" mentioned in this report, we are confident that they can easily be maintained under control by building up provisions as follows:

Objectives

The FIH should build up reserves equivalent to at least two years of its operational expenses by 31 December, 2012.

Means

- ▶ Present reserves
- ▶ Carry out a detailed sponsoring programme for the years 2008 to 2012 which should allow to isolate in the reserves an annual amount, as of 2008.
- ▶ Study the possibility to reinforce our net income from Tournaments fees
- ▶ Maximise the potential linked to TV rights (non OG)

Constraints

Isolate a part of the TV and Marketing rights of the 2008 OG, by creating a long-term Reserve Fund. Deduct, before finalising the 2013- 2016 budget planning, a substantial amount, in order to complete our long-term reserve account.

Even if the above principles are theoretical, they could constantly be adapted to the annual results, provided the four-year plan is carefully watched out with performing and continuous assessments.

Therefore, I am very optimistic and confident that the actual good financial results of the FIH will confirm in the mid-term, thus allowing the Office Bearers to devote large funds to the strengthening and development of our sport worldwide.

Jean-Pierre Strebel

Honorary Treasurer

SAHARA INDIA PARIWAR

1978	2004
Started from Gorakhpur with 3 workers	All India Presence with over 9.10 lac (0.91 million) workers
15 dependants' livelihood	Over 45.50 lac (4.55 million) dependants' livelihood
Serving 42 esteemed depositors	Serving Over 6.1 crore (61 million) esteemed depositors (1 out of every 17 Indians)
Assets - Rs. 2000 only (43 US\$)	Assets - Over Rs. 50,000 crore (10.87 billion US\$)
1 establishment	1707 establishments
No Trade Union	No Trade Union
No Malik *	No Malik *

* All Promoter Shareholders, Directors and Partners are from the workers' rank and have taken an oath through notary affidavit in the court of law that neither they nor their family members can ever share the profit or assets of the company.

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With Best Compliments



BDO Hockey World Cup

By Cathy Harris

This was certainly a World Cup to savour as World Cup fever once again gripped the country.

Germany, and indeed Mönchengladbach, has never seen anything quite like it as thousands of players, administrators and most importantly, hockey fans, descended on the city.

In a fitting finale, the home team triumphed to become only the second country to win back-to-back titles following Pakistan's feats in 1978 and 1982. Their 4-3 victory over the Olympic champions, Australia, was arguably the best and most exciting World Cup final ever played.

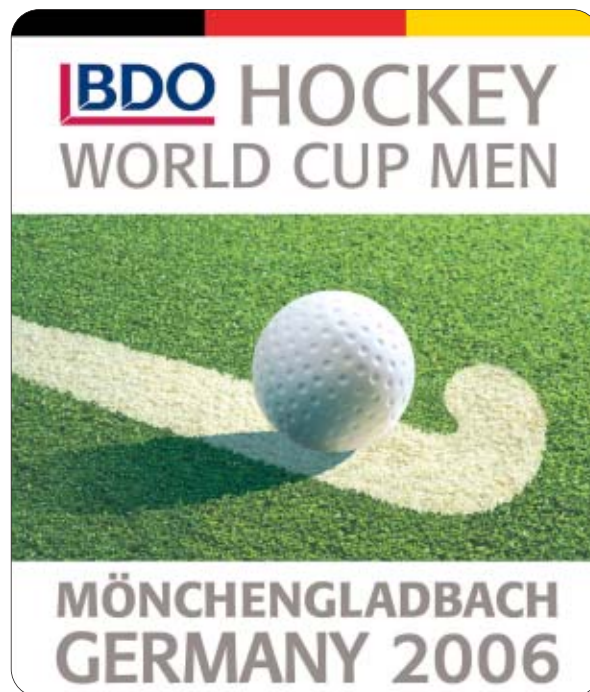
With more than 100,000 tickets sold and the hugely impressive purpose-built Warsteiner HockeyPark sold out for both weekends, hockey made the most of its moment, registering record hits on the DHB and FIH websites, and television pictures were screened around the world including Asia, Europe, the Middle East and an incredible 55 countries in Africa.

In common with all major sporting events, there were shock results and heartache for some, while others experienced the joy of beating old rivals or those ranked well above them.

Controversy also reared its head following the dull 0-0 draw between Korea and Germany which bored the stadium to tears but was enough to put both teams in to the last four.



FIH cameraman Michael Deegan at the men's World Cup



The Dutch were indignant and the Koreans and Germans unrepentant, but it did ignite the debate about fair play and the duty to entertain thousands of paying spectators.

Korea pulled off the first surprise result of the tournament, stunning the hot favourites the Netherlands on the opening day with a 3-2 win.

Germany, too, had an anxious moment in their first game against India before Christopher Zeller rescued them with a last gasp winner against India.

Later, and in front of a partisan capacity crowd the Germans hit back from 2-0 down to equalise against the Dutch and effectively end their hopes of clinching a semi final berth.

In the group stage, Australia moved serenely into the semi finals leaving Pakistan, New Zealand and Spain to battle it out for the second place. The European champions eventually clinched the second spot to keep alive their hopes of improving on two silver medals (1971 and 1998) and capturing their first World Cup title.

Along the way, crowds were treated to replays for the video umpire which was used for the first time in a World Cup.

Umpires could only refer decisions which met three criteria and from the number of times it was used, there is no doubt it will become a regular fixture in future. For the uninitiated, there should perhaps be more explanation on the giant screen but the wait following a referral only added to the tension and atmosphere among the fans.

While the Dutch penalty corner ace, Taeke Taekema, returned empty handed, he could at least console himself



Dutch coach Roelant Oltmans



Germany captain Timo Wess



The victorious German team

with a couple of achievements after finishing as the event's top goal-scorer and equalling the record number of goals scored in a match.

The hapless opponents in this case were India who lost 6-1 as Taekema helped himself to five goals to equal his compatriot Taco van den Honert's record set in 1994 when the Netherlands thrashed Belgium 8-0.

India's demise continues to alarm the world of hockey as they slipped to 11th place in the tournament and with apparently little chance or capability of restoring former glories.

Japan, the lowest ranked side in the competition were delighted to finish eighth, while England celebrated a similar rise with a creditable fifth place.

In two hotly contested semi finals, Germany squeaked through on penalties against Spain and Australia were more comfortable winners against a plucky Korean outfit.

And so to a pulsating final between the reigning Olympic champions and the World Cup holders.

In a wonderfully entertaining contest filled with inventive attacking hockey, Australia hit back after conceding an early goal to race to a 3-1 lead.

But in a nine-minute second half blitz, the hosts responded magnificently scoring three times to go 4-3 up.

With the scoreline open to change until the whistle, Germany held on and the game found a new hero in Christopher Zeller following his incredible winner and performances in the tournament.

Zeller, a marketing man's dream with his sultry good looks and silky skills, won the most promising player of the tournament with Australia's Jamie Dwyer voted player of the tournament despite missing the final with a hamstring injury.

Germany's Ulrich Bubolz collected the goalkeeper's award.

The 2010 hosts have a tough act to follow.

FINAL PLACINGS

1. Germany
2. Australia
3. Spain
4. Korea
5. England
6. Pakistan
7. Netherlands
8. New Zealand
9. Japan
10. Argentina
11. India
12. South Africa

AWARDS

Player of the Tournament:
Jamie Dwyer (Australia)

Young Player of the Tournament:
Christopher Zeller (Germany)

Goalkeeper of the Tournament:
Ulrich Bubolz (Germany)

Top Goal Scorer:
Taeke Taekema (Netherlands) 11

Fair Play Award:
New Zealand

SCORES

Final

Germany 4 defeated Australia 3

Bronze Medal Playoff

Spain 3 defeated Korea 2 (Extra time)

5th Place Playoff

England 1 defeated Pakistan 0

7th Place Playoff

Netherlands 3 defeated New Zealand 0

9th Place Playoff

Japan 2 defeated Argentina 1

11th Place Playoff

India 1 defeated South Africa 0

Samsung Hockey World Cup

By **Matthew Slade**

After the excitement, drama and overwhelming support for men's World Cup, the women's event in Madrid, Spain, began with high expectations.

The Netherlands overcame a tough Australian challenge in the final to win the World Cup and confirm their status as the queens of world hockey in Madrid.

The world number one was too strong for Australia in a match that lacked a lot of the drama and excitement that usual accompanies a major tournament final, but still produced a worthy winner as the Dutch completed an unbeaten campaign in style.

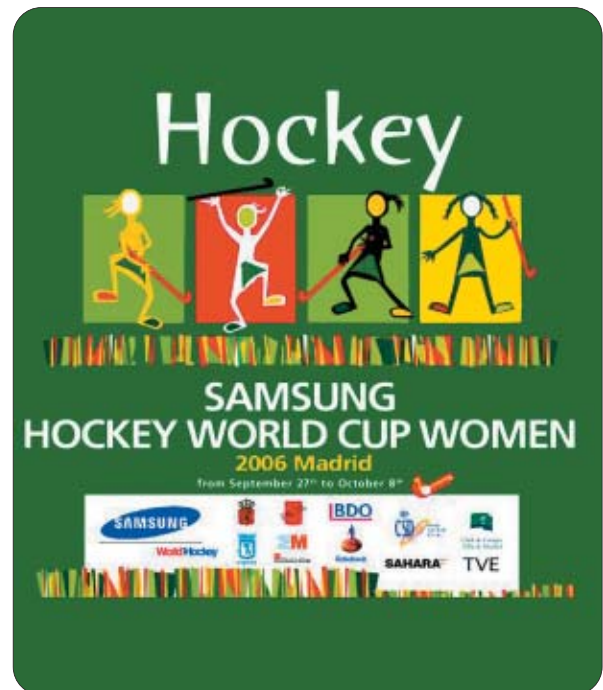
After a slow start, organisational issues were mainly resolved and the tournament came to life in the second week as the performances of the home team attracted larger crowds to Club de Campo.

The standard of play also lifted with most teams sensing their chance to strike after some of the pre-tournament favourites continued to falter. The end of the preliminary phase was a series of tense matches as one by one, each team's hopes were either ruined or realised, often by a solitary goal.

One of the features of this World Cup was the closeness of the results, with 30 of 42 matches decided by one goal or ending in draws.



Sylvia Karres scores in the World Cup final against Australia



Predications of the closing gap between the established and lower-ranked nations were illustrated throughout the tournament.

In the Pool phase, the Netherlands and Australia emerged undefeated to cruise into the final four, where they were joined by Spain and defending champion Argentina.

The tournament host was an unfancied outsider prior to the tournament but qualified for the semi finals around a strategy built on defensive stability and a dogged approach.

As is always the case in a major tournament, controversy was never far away and it erupted on the middle Sunday of the tournament during a Pool A clash between England and India. A disallowed goal to each team (one from the video umpire) and confusion about the awarding and then a reversal of an India goal just prior to half time added a further chapter to a rivalry between the two teams that has been full of drama in past years.

The video umpire was again implemented and although it was used on less occasions than in Mönchengladbach for the men's World Cup, it nonetheless proved its worth with a Dutch goal in the final denied with the score locked at nil-all despite the emphatic nature of the Netherlands' celebrations.

Hoisting the World Cup made amends for a pair of consecutive final defeats for the Netherlands after they were edged in 1998 and 2002 for top spot on the medal dais. It was also the first time that Australia had been beaten in a gold medal match at the Olympic Games or World Cup, after they had previously enjoyed a perfect five out of five record in major tournament finals.



Ellen Hoog (Netherlands)



Julia Menendez (Spain)



Minke Booij lifts the World Cup

Further down the final placings, India and South Africa again filled the bottom two positions to complete a pair of disappointing World Cups in Germany and Spain, while Korea edged China in a battle for ninth place between two teams that many had expected to challenge strongly for a semi final position.

Japan's victory over USA in the fifth place playoff gave it a first ever Champions Trophy spot, earning the emerging force the right to travel to Argentina in January to participate and join the world's elite at the next edition of the six-team tournament.

USA were also a welcome addition to the top six, with a committed approach taking it to a best World Cup finish since 1994.

England edged Germany to finish seventh after coming within a goal of reaching the semi finals.

Champions Trophy finalists less than three months earlier, Germany and China were major disappointments and never found anywhere near their best form before finishing in the lower half of the competition after appearing on track for as strong World Cup.

Spain's Nuria Camon was named the player of the tournament and Argentina Carla Rebecchi and young player award despite the

strong claims of others, while the Netherlands' Sylvia Karres was the World Cup's top goal scorer.

USA's Amy Tran confirmed her status as the world's premier goalkeeper by taking her third straight major award (in addition to goalkeeping prizes at the 2005 Champions Trophy and 2006 World Cup Qualifier), while South Africa won the Fair Play Award

With less than two years to go until the Olympic Games, the Netherlands are the benchmark. However the Samsung Hockey World Cup has given most teams the incentive to ensure that the Dutch face an even stronger challenge in Beijing.

FINAL PLACINGS

1. Netherlands
2. Australia
3. Argentina
4. Spain
5. Japan
6. USA
7. England
8. Germany
9. Korea
10. China
11. India
12. South Africa

AWARDS

Player of the Tournament:
Nuria Camon (Spain)

Young Player of the Tournament:
Carla Rebecchi (Argentina)

Goalkeeper of the Tournament:
Amy Tran (USA)

Top Goal Scorer:
Sylvia Karres (Netherlands) 6

Fair Play Award:
South Africa

SCORES

Final

Netherlands 3 defeated Australia 1

Bronze Medal Playoff

Argentina 5 defeated Spain 0

5th Place Playoff

Japan 1 defeated USA 0

7th Place Playoff

England 2 defeated Germany 1

9th Place Playoff

Korea 2 defeated China 1

11th Place Playoff

India 1 defeated South Africa 0

Events Review



Sahara Hockey Champions Challenge

Men, Alexandria (EGY), 1-9 April 2005

Gold: Argentina

Silver: Korea

Bronze: Belgium

Minor Placings: 4: England, 5: South Africa, 6: Egypt

Three months into 2005, the senior international hockey season took off on 1 April with six nations competing at the Sahara Hockey Champions Challenge in Egypt.

Having assured qualification through their ranking at the Athens Olympic Games, Korea, England, Argentina, South Africa, Egypt, and Belgium (who were granted entry after New Zealand opted not to participate) met at the beautiful, state-of-the-art facilities at Alexandria's Smouha Club.

The prize for the victor was a coveted position in the 2006 edition of hockey's premier annual event, the Champions Trophy.

Korea put forward a convincing string of performances in the pool stage and emerged as clear favourites for promotion with four wins and a draw from the round robin phase.

The tables were suddenly turned on the day of the final however, and Korea quickly found themselves trailing Argentina in what was one of the two best matches in the entire event.

Jorge Lombi almost singlehandedly took his players to victory, scoring from every opportunity – field play, penalty corners and a penalty stroke.

After the final, Argentine captain Germán Orozco, who played in his 200th international match in the final, was presented with the award for Best Player of the Tournament.

Orozco was one of the numerous players who made their mark in the tournament or emerged as players to watch in the future.

With the exception of the final, the most exciting encounter was the battle for bronze between England and Belgium. In a heartstopping back and forth encounter between two equal opponents, Belgium prevailed largely thanks to Brulé's five goals.



Rabo Hockey Junior World Cup

Men, Rotterdam (NED), 29 June-10 July 2005

Gold: Argentina

Silver: Australia

Bronze: Spain

Minor Placings: 4: India, 5: Netherlands, 6: Germany, 7:

Pakistan, 8: Korea, 9: England, 10: Malaysia, 11: Belgium,

12: Egypt, 13: South Africa, 14: Poland, 15: Chile, 16: Mexico

There is no more exhilarating result than a goal scored in sudden death to secure a major title and Pedro Ibarra's penalty corner goal after the full time siren in the final to defeat Australia did just that for Argentina.

Ibarra was a back-to-back hero for Argentina, also scoring in sudden death extra time in the semi final to carry his team to within one match of its maiden Junior World Cup.

Built on solid defence (they conceded the least number of goals in the tournament), Argentina moved unspectacularly but undefeated through the two Pool phases, with draws against Belgium and Pakistan their only minor blemishes.

No team dominated the tournament from start to finish, with India, Spain, Korea, Australia and Argentina all showing glimpses of their top form in the first week.

Of the five, Argentina was the most consistent, methodically working their way through the preliminary rounds towards the playoff matches.

It was the second major title for Argentina in 2005 after their senior men won the Sahara Hockey Champions Trophy in Alexandria, Egypt.

With dual major tournament victories in 2005, the Argentinean men stepped firmly out of the shadows cast by the success of their women's team.

The event itself was a success, with free entry for spectators ensuring that large crowds were in attendance on days when the home team played.

The tournament again proved an important stepping stone to senior representation and an important ingredient in the development of powerful teams.

A number of players would graduate to the senior ranks in the coming 12 months and make their mark at the major tournaments in 2006.



Rabobank Hockey Champions Challenge

Women, Virginia Beach (USA), 8-16 July 2005

Gold: New Zealand
Silver: South Africa
Bronze: Japan
Minor Placings: 4: England, 5: USA, 6: Spain

Under thunderous skies, New Zealand earned a place back in the Champions Trophy fold after winning the Rabobank Hockey Champions Challenge in Virginia Beach.

After being relegated from the Champions Trophy in Rosario at the end of 2004, New Zealand confirmed their pre-tournament favouritism and showed good resolve and experience in pressure matches to overcome South Africa in the final.

South Africa was the front runner in the round robin phase, undefeated until the last preliminary round match against England as the other teams struggled to find consistency.

While thunder storms in the Virginia Beach area delayed the start by 60 minutes, it didn't unsettle the Black Sticks and they were too strong throughout the match.

New Zealand's big match experience was a significant advantage in the tournament decider however and a two-goal second half was enough to ensure their controlled efforts were rewarded.

Japan claimed the bronze medal over England; a disappointing result for the second-highest ranked team in the tournament. It was a portent of things to come for Japan however, with third place at the World Cup Qualifier and a fifth place finish in Madrid to follow in 2006.

Of the other competitors, USA defeated Spain twice in succession to claim fifth spot, with continual improvement from their first match until the end of the tournament a positive sign for first-year coach Lee Bodimeade.

Also, little did anyone know at the time that the young Spanish team would develop so rapidly and earn a semi final spot at the following year's World Cup.

New Zealand defender Lizzy Igasan was the player of the tournament, with USA's Amy Tran the best goalkeeper, an award she would also claim at the next two world-level events she contested.



BDO Hockey Junior World Cup

Women, Santiago (CHI), 14-25 September 2005

Gold: Korea
Silver: Germany
Bronze: Netherlands
Minor Placings: 4: Australia, 5: Argentina, 6: Spain, 7: USA, 8: South Africa, 9: England, 10: Chile, 11: India, 12: Scotland, 13: China, 14: Belarus, 15: Canada, 16: Zimbabwe

At the foot of the Andes, Santiago presented a stunning backdrop as Korea claimed a second consecutive Junior World with an electric display over Germany in the final.

The first world-level tournament in Chile received exceptional coverage throughout the developing hockey nation as capacity crowds flocked to see the impressive performances of the home team, which eventually finished 10th after proving a tough opponent for the favoured teams throughout.

Korea's success gave it the distinction of being the only team to have won the Junior World Cup more than once after also taking the gold medal in 2001.

Like all teams who win a major title, Korea had their share of good fortune along the way, scoring after the full time siren to draw with India in their last preliminary match to reach the semi finals.

Inconsistency from all teams kept the competition for places in the medal matches tight, but once Korea had safely qualified, they produced a pair of dazzling performances to first overcome Netherlands and then Germany to win a second straight title.

Built on crisp skills, precise ball movement and speed all over the pitch, Korea overwhelmed Germany in the final.

In the playoff for bronze, Netherlands edged Australia to win their second Junior World Cup medal, while Argentina scored a late goal to defeat Spain and claim fifth place.

USA were too good for South Africa and capped an impressive tournament with a seventh place finish – their best-ever at a Junior World Cup.

Netherlands' Maartje Paumen was clearly the top goal scorer, with 11 penalty corner drag flicks finding the net throughout the tournament. The Dutch also had the player of the tournament, with Maartje Goderie a worthy winner.



Samsung Hockey Champions Trophy

Women, Canberra, 26 November-4 December 2005

Gold: Netherlands

Silver: Australia

Bronze: China

Minor Placings: 4: Argentina, 5: Germany, 6: Korea

The Netherlands claimed a second successive Champions Trophy gold medal with a heart-stopping penalty stroke victory over Australia to strengthen their hold on the world number one ranking.

The final day's two medal matches were both decided by penalty strokes, highlighting the competitiveness of teams at the top of the rankings.

After poor weather restricted spectator attendance earlier in the tournament, the crowd steadily increased nearing the final day when it was standing room only around Canberra's newly-refurbished Hockey Centre.

Neither Australia nor Netherlands could breach their opponent's goal line throughout the final, with a handful of penalty corners and limited goal scoring opportunities thwarted by solid defence.

Extra time couldn't separate the teams and the dreaded penalty strokes were called to decide the winner. The first round of penalty strokes was taken without a clear champion being resolved before Australia missed their opening opportunity of the second round to hand the Netherlands the title.

In the bronze medal match, Argentina gave up a two-goal half time before eventually losing to China 9-8 in penalty strokes.

Argentina began the match well but tired after half time as China played consistently in the second period to force the match into extra time.

After two periods of extra time and the first and second round of penalty strokes, China eventually prevailed with their ninth successful attempt to secure a third Champions Trophy medal in the past four years.

In the battle to avoid Champions Trophy relegation, Germany belatedly found their goal scoring touch with a win over Korea after struggling to find the net throughout the tournament.

Argentina's Luciana Aymar continued her stranglehold on the individual awards at major events with the player of the tournament prize, while Soledad Garcia (Argentina) and Sylvia Karres (Netherlands) shared the top goal scorer honour.



Sahara Hockey Champions Trophy

Men, Chennai (IND), 10-18 December 2005

Gold: Australia

Silver: Netherlands

Bronze: Spain

Minor Placings: 4: Germany, 5: Pakistan, 6: India

A year after their withdrawal from their first Champions Trophy as Olympic champions, Australia went into the next edition as favourites and impressively confirmed the predictions.

Before the tournament began however, the world's elite players came together to play in a benefit match for the earthquake victims in Pakistan and India two months earlier; a strong showing of solidarity from the WorldHockey family.

In the qualifying matches, Australia's passage into the final was rarely threatened, while the Netherlands were lucky to scrape past India in their final round robin clash to secure a chance to meet the team that had destroyed their dreams of three straight Olympic gold medals the year before.

Driving rain forced players from the pitch for 15 minutes just after half time of the final with Australia leading by two goals, but it failed to disrupt the Kookaburras as they took their first Champions Trophy title since 1999.

In the bronze medal match, Spain were never in any real danger from their German opponents, the two teams staging an entertaining match despite heavy rain.

The first match of the final day had hosts India take on Pakistan to avoid relegation. Pakistan had not won a match in the pool round and finished on a meagre two points but rediscovered their strength and resolve shortly before the break when trailing by two goals. Scoring four goals and allowing only one more against them, to the great disappointment of the sizeable crowd braving the pouring rain, recorded their first win.

Their victory allowed Pakistan the chance to participate in the 2006 Champions Trophy in Terrassa, Spain, an important preparation for the World Cup less than two months later.

Australia's Bevan George was the player of the tournament for the consistency and solidity he gave his team in defence.



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BDO Hockey World Cup Qualifier

Men, Changzhou (CHN), 12-23 April 2006

Gold: New Zealand

Silver: Korea

Bronze: England

Minor Placings: 4: Pakistan, 5: Japan, 6: France, 7: Belgium, 8: Ireland, 9: Malaysia, 10: Canada, 11: Egypt, 12: China

In the first world-level men's event held in China, the competition could hardly have been closer with the four automatic qualifiers for the World Cup not decided until final round of matches to end the Pool phase.

The industrial city of Changzhou was the venue with the top two places in each Pool earning an automatic place at the World Cup.

The Pool phase was fiercely-contested and when it was completed, New Zealand, Korea, England and Pakistan had ensured their participation in Germany, while Japan, France, Belgium and Ireland were pitched into a sudden death battle for the last remaining qualification place.

Belgium appeared destined for place at the World Cup throughout the preliminary matches but lost by a single goal to England to hand their opponents one of the coveted top two places in the Pool.

France similarly had a chance to seal their qualification but fell to Japan in a result that would ultimately be the pivotal match of their campaign.

In the 5-8 classifications, only the team that finished fifth would qualify, something Japan succeeded in doing thanks to a victory over France – the winning goal arriving 13 minutes from full time.

Japan reacted by dancing with their supporters before adjourning to the second pitch to continue celebrating their amazing achievement. France left the ground devastated knowing they had wasted two opportunities to qualify for the World Cup.

New Zealand would emerge with a strong victory over Korea in the final to give the Black Sticks hope of a medal in Monchengladbach.

In the playoff for the bronze medal, England overcame Pakistan, a feat they would repeat in the fifth place playoff at the men's World Cup.

After their successes in Changzhou New Zealand, Korea, England, Pakistan and Japan looked forward to the challenges ahead at the World Cup in Germany.



Samsung Hockey World Cup Qualifier

Women, Rome (ITA), 25 April-6 May 2006

Gold: England

Silver: Korea

Bronze: Japan

Minor Placings: 4: USA, 5: China, 6: France, 7: New Zealand, 8: Ireland, 9: Azerbaijan, 10: Scotland, 11: Ukraine, 12: Italy

While England won the tournament, it was China that emerged the biggest winner on the final day at the women's Samsung Hockey World Cup Qualifier in Rome after the tournament top seeds belatedly booked their place at the World Cup.

They might have struggled to produce their best form throughout the tournament, but China qualified for the World Cup after defeating France in the fifth place playoff to take the last remaining place at 2006's biggest tournament.

The result of the match was never seriously in doubt, with China dominant against a French team that had played above expectations to be just one win from the World Cup entering the clash.

China, the world number five and tournament top seed, had to endure two sudden death matches in the 5-8 classifications.

In the final, England scored twice in the final 11 minutes to overtake Korea and end the tournament as the only team with a perfect winning record.

Both teams had secured their World Cup participation earlier in the tournament, but maintained their quality of performances throughout their next three matches to be clearly the top two nations.

In the playoff for third place, Japan scored two goals in quick succession to pull clear of USA after was match was finely balanced after half time.

Japan's high placing was further evidence of their rise through the ranks, with USA also continuing their steady improvement with a hard-working, enthusiastic team.

New Zealand were extremely disappointing and failed to qualify for the World Cup despite being the second highest ranked team in the tournament. They were poor throughout and their fate was sealed in a catastrophic loss to France in the classification match.

Japan's Sachimi Iwao was named the player of the tournament.





Rabo Hockey Champions Trophy

Women, Amsterdam (NED), 8-16 July 2006

Gold: Germany
Silver: China
Bronze: Netherlands
Minor Placings:
4: Argentina,
5: Australia,
6: New Zealand

Germany claimed a first Champions Trophy in Amsterdam after a brilliant performance by playmaker Fanny Rinne lifted her team over China to the gold medal.

Germany's first success was a fitting end, with the tournament's two highest scoring teams producing a brilliant decider.

Rinne scored twice and set up Germany's other goal against a Chinese team that impressed all with their energy, speed and attacking mindset.

China twice took the lead – once in each half – only to see Germany respond immediately.

With nine seconds remaining, Rinne put her final stamp of the match with a drag flick from a penalty corner that – for effect – hit the right post and rebounded into the side netting on the other side of the goal.

In the playoff for the bronze medal, the Netherlands outlasted Argentina in a penalty shoot out to claim their 12th Champions Trophy medal.

It was the ninth Champions Trophy in succession that the Netherlands had reached the medal dais, with the streak starting in Berlin in 1997 and including three gold medals (2000, 2004, 2005).

Australia finished in fifth position ahead of New Zealand. It was Australia's worst ever finish at the Champions Trophy with the Hockeyroos consistently unable to find their best form throughout the tournament.

New Zealand appeared certain to become the only team in history to go through an entire Champions Trophy tournament without scoring a goal before Honor Dillon struck with two minutes remaining in their final match.

It was a good reward for the Black Sticks in the farewell appearance of veteran fullback Diana Weavers, who retired after the match following an outstanding international career.

China's Fu Bao Rong was named the player of the tournament while the Netherlands Naomi van As won the most promising player award.



Sahara Hockey Champions Trophy

Men, Terrassa (ESP), 22-30 July 2006

Gold: Netherlands
Silver: Germany
Bronze: Spain
Minor Placings:
4: Australia,
5: Pakistan,
6: Argentina

Less than two months before the World Cup, the Netherlands claimed a record equalling eighth title to finish a complete successful men's Sahara Hockey Champions Trophy in Terrassa.

All teams were at full strength but coaches rotated players freely to give everyone time on the pitch in preparation for the approaching World Cup.

After a slow start to the tournament, Spain breathed life into their title hopes with a remarkable comeback against Australia. It would be the first of three exceptional matches between the pair in the coming eight weeks, with the European champion emerging victorious on each occasion.

The Dutch were the most consistent team in the tournament and were rewarded with the gold medal to gain an important advantage ahead of the BDO Hockey World Cup.

In the final, the Dutch led by two goals at half time thanks to a Taeke Taekema bullet and Teun de Nooijer's exquisite burst of speed and sense of timing just before half time.

While Germany persevered and reduced the margin in the second half, the Netherlands always looked as though they had the match in hand.

The margin of victory was a fair indication of the match, with the Dutch completing an unbeaten tournament to join Australia and Germany at the top of the list of total Champions Trophy titles.

Spain won the bronze medal with a high pressure penalty stroke shoot out win over Australia with the desire and physical exertion both teams showed throughout the contest a highlight.

World number one Australia returned home without a medal and their reputation dented after being overrun regularly in the second half of matches.

In the playoff to avoid last place, Pakistan struck twice before half time and then added another soon after the break to claim fifth position ahead of Argentina.



Pedro Ibarra scores the winning goal in the final of the men's Junior World Cup



The Zeller brothers, Philip and Christopher



Minke Booij and FIH Honorary Secretary General Peter Cohen, 2005 Champions Trophy



England, women's World Cup Qualifier winners



Netherlands, men's Champions Trophy gold medalists



Marion Rodewald, 2006 Champions Trophy

Awards

WorldHockey Player of the Year Awards

The WorldHockey Player of the Year Awards were again presented in 2005 and 2006, with the Netherlands dominated the awards during this period. The hockey superpower claimed five of the eight trophies handed out, with a major contributor to this success being midfielder Teun de Nooijer, who was voted the best men's players in both years.

The awards were determined a ballot of players in both the senior and junior categories in both years.

2005

Aymar collects record third WorldHockey crown

Argentine superstar Luciana Aymar collected her record third WorldHockey Women's Player of the Year award in Canberra in December 2005.

It was the eighth time the International Hockey Federation had presented the WorldHockey Player of the Year awards, with Aymar the runaway winner for the second consecutive year.

Aymar polled more than 55 percent of the votes cast by players and coaches at the Samsung Hockey Champions Trophy to become the only woman to win the award three times. The only other player to win the award more than once is Australia's Alyson Annan.

Maartje Goderie of the Netherlands was named the WorldHockey Women's Young Player of the Year. The award is presented to the outstanding player under the age of 23.

The 21-year-old midfielder burst onto the international stage at the 2004 Champions Trophy in Rosario and went onto to win the player of the tournament at the BDO Hockey Junior World Cup in Santiago in September 2005.

She was also a member of the gold medal-winning Dutch outfit at the European Nations Cup in August 2005 and helped the



John Wright, 2006 Golden Whistle recipient

Netherlands to a second consecutive gold medal in the final of the Champions Trophy in 2005.

Orange men reign in Chennai

The Netherlands dominated the 2005 WorldHockey Men's Player of the Year awards in Chennai, with Teun de Nooijer and Robert van der Horst completing a Dutch double.

De Nooijer's election as the WorldHockey Men's Player of the Year made him just second man behind countryman Stephan Veen to win the prestigious award twice. The midfield maestro also collected the prize in 2003.

He was a clear winner, polling 40 percent of the votes cast by players and coaches to finish well ahead of the chasing pack.

Since making his international debut in 1994 against New Zealand, de Nooijer has been hailed as one of the elite players in world hockey. Earlier in 2005 he became just the fourth Dutchman to reach the rare 300-game-mark.

A stellar career has been littered by a galaxy of gold medals at major tournaments, with two Olympic victories (1996, 2000) complemented by success at the 1998 World Cup and five winners' medals from the Champions Trophy.

Often the barometer of his team's success, de Nooijer's sublime skills and influence over matches has led to a succession of individual accolades.

Van der Horst, 21, was named the WorldHockey Men's Young Player of the Year with 35 per cent of the vote. He quickly established

The awards were presented by IOC Honorary President for life and FIH Honorary Member Juan Antonio Samaranch and FIH President and IOC Member Els van Breda Vriesman.

It was the first WorldHockey Player of the



Christopher Zeller, 2006 WorldHockey Men's Young Player of the Year, with FIH President Els van Breda Vriesman and IOC President Jacques Rogge

himself in the strong Netherlands squad in 2005, with composure under pressure complemented by excellent distribution of the ball and an ability to read the play.

He was also captain of the Netherlands Under 21 team that finished fifth at the Rabo Hockey Junior World Cup in Rotterdam in July 2005.

2006

Booij and Park the world's best

Dutch captain Minke Booij was named the WorldHockey Women's Player of the Year for 2006, with the Dutch defender capping a brilliant day in Madrid by captaining her team to World Cup glory.

The WorldHockey Women's Young Player of the Year award was won by Korean Mi Hyun Park as she became the first Asian player to claim hockey's most prestigious individual prizes.

2005

Women

WorldHockey Player of the Year:
Luciana Aymar (Argentina)

WorldHockey Young Player of the Year:
Maartje Goderie (Netherlands)

Men

WorldHockey Player of the Year:
Teun de Nooijer (Netherlands)

WorldHockey Young Player of the Year:
Robert van der Horst (Netherlands)

2006

Women

WorldHockey Player of the Year:
Minke Booij (Netherlands)

WorldHockey Young Player of the Year:
Mi Hyun Park (Korea)

Men

WorldHockey Player of the Year:
Teun de Nooijer (Netherlands)

WorldHockey Young Player of the Year:
Christopher Zeller (Germany)

Year award for the 29-year-old Booij and the second time a Dutch player has been elected the year's best after Mijntje Donners won in 2003.

For Booij, the final of the Samsung Hockey World Cup was the day of her life with the inspirational defender one of the cornerstones of the Netherlands' victory over Australia.

Despite her team finishing ninth in the Samsung Hockey World Cup, Park was a popular winner of the young player award with attacking threat recognised by her peers in a close vote.

WorldHockey record for Dutchman

Dutch ace Teun de Nooijer created history in 2006 when he was named the WorldHockey Men's Player of the Year for a record third time.

The awards were presented by International Olympic Committee President Dr Jacques Rogge and FIH President Mrs Els van Breda Vriesman at the BDO Hockey World Cup in Mönchengladbach, Germany.

De Nooijer's victory as 2006's best player gives him a third title in four years and confirms his standing as the undisputed king of world hockey.



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PLAYER

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MOST VALUABLE
PLAYER

NISSAN
MOST VALUABLE
PLAYER



Top to bottom:
 Larry Cornofsky, 2005 President's Award recipient
 Egyptian Hockey Federation, 2005 Pablo Negre Trophy recipient
 Mi Hyun Park and Minke Booi, 2006 WorldHockey Players of the Year
 Teun de Nooijer and Robert van der Horst, 2005 WorldHockey Players of the Year

Germany striker Christopher Zeller was named the WorldHockey Men's Young Player of the Year.

De Nooijer was a clear winner in the senior category after votes were cast by players from each of the 12 competing teams at the World Cup.

Zeller was in dynamic form in 2006 with his performances in Mönchengladbach and also at the Champions Trophy one of the main factors in Germany's appearance in two consecutive major tournament finals.

The 21-year-old was a constant threat throughout the year, but especially at the World Cup, where his high standard of play inspired Germany to consecutive World Cup titles.

FIH Awards List

Following is a list of awards conferred by the International Hockey Federation in 2005-2006.

Members of Honour

This award may be given to individuals inside and outside the Federation as a special honour for outstanding contribution and services to hockey.

2006: Dr Jacques Rogge (Belgium)

President's Award

The President's Award may be awarded to individuals who are not members of FIH. For particularly long and valuable services to hockey, whether direct or indirect, or services which have had an indisputable beneficial effect for hockey at international level.

2005: Larry Cornofsky (Australia)

2005: Muneer Sait (India)

2006: Uschi Schmitz (Germany)

Pablo Negre Trophy

This Trophy is dedicated to the memory of Pablo Negre, a leader loved and esteemed and who rendered exceptional services to the Game of Hockey. It was presented to the FIH in 1973 by his family and his friends.

The Trophy is awarded annually by the FIH to the National Association which has, by its activities, initiatives and sportsmanship, served best the course of hockey during the previous two years.

2005: Egyptian Hockey Federation

Golden Whistle

This award is presented to FIH International Umpires who have officiated 100 official international matches.

2005: Murray Grime (Australia)

2005: Lyn Farrell (New Zealand)

2005: Sumesh Putra (Canada)

2006: John Wright (South Africa)



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