

Lausanne, Tuesday 30 May 2006

To: All International Umpires and Umpire Managers

Dear Friends,

Since the Qualifying Events for the World Cups have been concluded and other major events are now scheduled for the rest of the year, it is time to update you once more regarding the latest news on umpiring matters.

### **Contact Details**

In order to be able to communicate quickly and effectively with all our International Umpires and Umpire Managers, it is essential that we have your up to date contact details.

If you move house, change jobs, or any of your contact details alter (in particular your e-mail address), please let Richard Wilson know immediately at [richard.wilson@worldhockey.org](mailto:richard.wilson@worldhockey.org)

### **Appointments for 2006**

The FIH appointments for 2006 to date are now published on the FIH website, and are being updated on a regular basis.

The Umpire appointments to the Men's and Women's World Cups have been made now that the Qualifiers have both taken place. We send our congratulations to the following Umpires on their appointments as follows: -

Xavier Adell (ESP), Christian Blasch (GER), Henrik Ehlers (DEN), David Gentles (AUS), Murray Grime (AUS), Hamish Jamson (ENG), Hong Lae Kim (KOR), Satinder Kumar (IND), David Leiper (ECO), Sumesh Putra (CAN), Amarjit Singh (MAS), Rob ten Cate (NED), Richard Wolter (GER), John Wright (RSA); with Andy Mair (ECO) as first reserve

Chieko Akiyama (JPN), Julie Ashton-Lucy (AUS), Caroline Brunekreef (NED), Ute Conen (GER), Marelize de Klerk (RSA), Carolina de la Fuente (ARG), Jean Duncan (ECO), Sarah Garnett (NZL), Alison Hill (ENG), Youfang Hu (CHN), Soledad Iparraguirre (ARG), Gina Spitaleri (ITA), Minka Woolley (AUS), Kazuko Yasueda (JPN)

### **Retirement Age Clarification**

Following queries from some Umpires, we would like to confirm that the retirement age for International Umpires (both Outdoors and Indoors) is at the 31<sup>st</sup> December in the year in which you reach 47 years of age.

### **FIH Umpire Managers List**

We are pleased to confirm that the following traineeships will take place in Tournaments over the next two or three months: -

- Steve Graham (GAL) at the EuroHockey Club Champions Challenge in Zagreb (CRO) 1-4 June 2006
- Margaret Hunnaball (ENG) at the EuroHockey Club Champions Cup in Berlin 2-5 June 2006
- Shiraz Yakub (KEN) at the 15<sup>th</sup> Sultan Azlan Shah Cup in Kuala Lumpur 18-25 June 2006

### **FIH Umpire Briefings for 2006**

In the last Newsletter it was advised that the 2006 versions of the Umpires Briefings for both Outdoor and Indoor Hockey had recently been posted to the Umpires section of the WorldHockey website.

We are now able to advise that Spanish versions of the Briefings are also posted to our website, and that they may be accessed by following the link:-

<http://www.worldhockey.org/vsite/vnavsite/page/directory/0,10853,1181-136925-154141-nav-list,00.html>

Our thanks go to Umpires Manager, Antonio Morales (ESP), for the translations.

NB. They may take a little while to download, depending upon the speed of your Internet connection.

### **Rules of Hockey: use of the "Forehand Edge"**

The following information is currently being circulated by the Hockey Rules Board to National Associations and Continental Federations: -

At its March 2006 meeting, the Executive Board agreed proposals for rules changes recommended by the Hockey Rules Board.

Most of the changes will apply from 1 January 2007 but one change was agreed for immediate implementation. It relates to use of the forehand edge of the stick to hit the ball hard. This action had already been referred to and prohibited as an interpretation of current rules but is now reinforced by a formal change to the rules.

This rule change is incorporated in the 2006 Rules of Hockey published on the FIH website (see page 8 of the rules available at

<http://www.worldhockey.org/vsite/vnavsite/page/directory/0,10853,1181-116516-117783-nav-list,00.html>). It will be fully integrated in the 2007/8 rules when they are published later in the year.

With regard to the 2007/8 rules, you will have seen in the announcement of Executive Board decisions that we are moving to a two-year cycle for changes to and publication of the Rules of Hockey. The next set of rules will therefore apply from 1 January 2007 until 31 December 2008. The text is currently in draft form and we plan formally to publish the 2007/8 rules before September this year. Copies will then be circulated to all National Associations and will also be available on the FIH website.

### **Video Umpire Coaching at WorldHockey events**

The May 2006 version of the WHO magazine has already been published. This latest edition includes a report on the Video Analysis, being used to assist the Umpire Managers for

Umpire coaching purposes. This has been taking place at most of the recent World level events including both recent World Cup Qualifiers.

### **FIH Umpiring Committee**

The FIH Umpiring Committee met in Rome (ITA) on Friday 5 and Saturday 6 May 2006. The meeting coincided with the final two days of the Women's World Cup Qualifier.

In this connection, we are sorry to report that Bob Gagel (RSA) has recently tendered his resignation from the Committee. He has been thanked for his many years of service to both the Committee and worldwide umpiring development with a personal letter from Peter Cohen, the Hon. Secretary General.

The FIH Umpiring Committee will also meet again during on Sunday 5 November 2006 in London, as part of the meeting schedule in conjunction with the FIH Congress which is scheduled for Saturday 11 November 2006.

### **Retirements**

As at 30 May 2006 we have been notified of the following retirements from International Umpiring since 13 February 2006, due either to personal reasons or reaching the stipulated retirement age.

#### **Men Outdoor and Indoor:**

Tony Kelleher (ENG)

#### **Women Outdoor and Indoor**

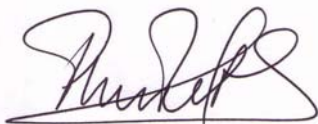
Peri Buckley (AUS), Renate Peters (GER)

All three retiring umpires have been thanked with a letter from the Umpiring Committee, and we repeat our congratulations here to each of them on their outstanding careers.

### **Finally ...**

We wish you all every success for the rest of the Outdoor season, for what we expect will be an interesting and challenging year. With both Champions Trophies and World Cups to look forward to we are sure that there are likely to be more events added to what is already a very busy hockey calendar for 2006.

With kindest regards



Peter von Reth  
Chairman  
FIH Umpiring Committee

cc Members of Umpiring Committee  
Secretaries Continental Federations  
FIH Events Manager  
FIH Technical Manager