

EFPM Newsletter 2 / 2015



The European Fair Play Movement (EFPM) is a European non-governmental organisation, established in 1994 in the FIFA House in Zurich. National Fair Play organisations from 40 European Countries have been a part of the EFPM since 1994. The main goal of the EFPM is to promote Fair Play and Tolerance in sports and everyday life at the European level. The EFPM seeks to achieve this goal by supporting its members, by helping to promote Fair Play campaigns where sports organisations take the initiative, by co-operating with the authorities to foster Fair Play themes and by facilitating regular contacts between the various European sports organisations.

The goal of EFPM Flash News is to keep people informed on EFPM's activities and to establish closer contact not only with all the EFPM members but also with all European governmental and non-governmental sport institutions and organisations aiming to support and to contribute to the promotion of Ethics in Sport and encouragement of the Fair Play values and principles in all sporting activities as well as in daily life.

All EFPM members, the above mentioned organisations and institutions, and associations with the same principles, are invited to communicate information relating to EFPM's goals (conferences, congresses, special events or initiatives, Fair Play prizes, books, etc. ...).

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Maribor (SLO) hosted the European Fencing Championships for Cadets and Juniors between 24 February and 5

March 2015. Close to 1000 young athletes from 37 countries participated at these important fencing events. The European Fair Play Movement was represented by Miroslav Cerar, Vice-president of EPFM, and Katarina Raczova, EFPM Treasurer and a former fencer herself. Miroslav Cerar had the pleasure of addressing the athletes at the opening ceremony, stressing the importance of honest behaviour in sports because only a victory achieved with honesty could truly be enjoyed. In this spirit, EFPM honoured the fair behaviour of two young athletes. *Diane Von Kerssenbrock (FRA)* received the EFPM Fair

Play Award from Katarina Raczova, accompanied by František Janda, European Fencing Confederation President. The French fencer corrected the referee's decision to her disadvantage several times. The second EFPM Fair Play award was presented to *Dorottya Berczy from Hungary*. She had been announced winner of her match by 15 points to 14, theoretically allowing her to proceed to the quarter finals. However, her last hit was actually not clearly visible to the referee – even the video replay could not provide clarity whether the score was justified. Dorottya showcased an extremely fair behaviour and accepted to resume the match at 14-14 to avoid the unclear situation.



At the FIS women's ski jumping competition in Ljubno, Slovenia, on 14 and 15 February 2015,

Daniela Iraschko-Stolz (AUT) was presented with a special Fair Play Award.

The Award was presented by Miroslav Cerar on behalf of the Olympic Committee of Slovenia. At a World Cup event in Sapporo, Japan, Austrian ski jumper Daniela Iraschko-Stolz lent her skis to Slovenian jumper Špela Rogelj, who won a medal at the event and also beat her Austrian colleague. Miroslav Cerar also proposed Daniele Iraschko-Stolz for the European Fair Play Award.

Zagreb, the Croatian capital, hosted the EUSA Conference 2015 on March 27-29, 2015. The event was organised by the European University Sports Association (EUSA), in cooperation with the Croatian Academic Sports Federation (CASF) and the Organizers of the European Universities Games Zagreb-Rijeka 2016, amongst others partners. Welcome speeches were given by the President of the Croatian Academic Sports Federation (CASF), Zrinko Custonja, the President of the European University Sports Association (EUSA), Adam Roczek, the President of the International University Sports Federation (FISU), Claude-Louis Gallien, and the Assistant Minister of Science, Education and Sports, Tomislav Paskvalin. Over 180 participants, coming from 34 countries from all over Europe, including guests from overseas, were taking part in the Conference. On behalf of EFPM, Executive Committee member

Biserka Vrbek took part in the event and moderated the workshop on Equality and Ethics in Sport. There, the panelists briefly presented the core mission of their organizations, projects and activities, which aim to raise awareness about diversity in sport with the need for ethics and equal opportunities. Mrs. Vrbek also introduced the wider concept of fair play. The panelists were Ratko Kovacic, Vice-President of the European Paralympic Committee, Heidi Pekkola, Policy Officer of the European Non-Governmental Sports Organisation, and Claudia Krobotzsch, Program Coordinator of the FARE Network.



EUSA annually awards Fair Play, taking into account the gesture/ situation during the EUSA events which stand out the most. During the 2014 European Universities Games, one situation was specifically noble. After the first day of the competition, the Organizing Committee had to make some changes in the competition schedule. The University of Minho did not have the right information about match timings and were late about 1 hour for the scheduled game. Their opposing team decided to wait for them; even though they would have had the possibility to win without playing automatically be ranked second in their group, giving them theoretical advantage in the next round. The *Norwegian University of Science and*

Technology team showcased a strong fair play gesture, saying “we are here to play, not to win without playing”. The Enno Harms Fair Play Award was presented by Alberto Gualtieri, EUSA Honorary President and Miroslav Cerar, Vice-President of the European Fair Play Movement, and received by Daniel Bach Johnsen, member of the men’s handball team of the Norwegian University of Science and Technology.



On _____ 18 April 2015 the Czech Fair Play Club organised its annual Fair Play Awards

Ceremony. The main price for an act of fair play was handed over by Jiří Kejval, President of the Czech Olympic Committee, and Kveta Peckova, President of the Czech Fair Play Club, to *Patrik Spěšný*, junior ice-hockey

goalkeeper of HC Litvinov. He refused to participate in an act of betting during a match in the Junior Extra-League against HC Motor České Budějovice. A player from the opponent team suggested via SMS that Patrik should bet on the result of the match and then through his deliberately poor performance arrange a defeat of his team HC Litvinov – for which he was to be financially “rewarded”. Patrik refused the proposal and reported the whole matter to his coaches Robert Reichel and Jaroslav Hübl. The coaches did not withhold the information either. The match was postponed and the case investigated both by the police and the

Disciplinary Committee of Ice-Hockey. "Patrik Spěšný is an honest and hardworking goalkeeper, as well as a man of integrity and high moral standards", said Kamil Havelka, the President of the Litvinov hockey club.

The second main Fair Play Award was handed over to *Markéta Vandasová* and *Zuzana Čechová*. In September 2014 these two orienteering runners did not finish the Czech Relay Cup competition in order to rush to help a competitor from another team who had been attacked by a swarm of hornets. While Markéta Vandasová from the Vamberk Orienteering Club was helping the afflicted athlete on the spot, Zuzana Čechová from OK Jihlava ran to the organizers for help, as more and more competitors were attacked by the hornets.

Rudolf Baťa was honoured for his life-long attitude. In the years 1963 – 1977 he was one most respected ice-hockey referees both at home and abroad. He participated in two

Olympic tournaments and at six world championships. He umpired up to 250 matches at the highest international level and more or less the same amount also in the major domestic league. A sense of fair play, polite behaviour, quality of umpiring, impartiality and objectivity - these were the main qualities with which he gradually earned the respect of ice-hockey players, coaches, officials and spectators alike.

Thanks to an invitation by the Czech Fair Play Club Katarina Raczova, Executive Committee Member of EFPM, was present at the event.



On 8 February 2015 the Fair Play Awards



Ceremony of the Club Fair Play of the Slovak Olympic Committee took place in Spišská Nová Ves,

a city located in the Eastern part of Slovakia. In her opening statement Katarina Raczova, Executive Committee member of EFPM and Treasurer, pointed out the importance of Fair Play in everyday's life especially under difficult social circumstances and that nobody should not take fair behavior as granted. The highest award, the Jan Popluhar Trophy for long-life attitude, was awarded by Frantisek Chmelar, President of Slovak Olympic Committee, and Janka Stasova, President of Club Fair Play SOC, to the President of the

Association of Olympic Clubs in Slovakia, *Ivan Čierny*.

He is honorary member of SOC, former athlete and coach and has been official of the Slovak



Olympic Movement for many years. Moreover, thanks to his contribution a memorial was established for deceased Olympic athletes.

Further, the Slovak Table Tennis representative *Lubomír Pištej* was honoured for fair behaviour. In the Czech table tennis championship finals, the standing being 1:1 on sets and 11:11 in the third set, he acknowledged that a ball hit by his opponent had in fact touched the table, thus losing a point that was initially credited to his favour.

Enjoy your read and feel free to provide EFPM with information on your organisation, activities, and events.

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