## **FLASH NEWS**

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

The goal of EFPM Flash News is to inform about EFPM 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 organizations, aiming to support and to contribute to the promotion of Ethics in Sport and to the spreading of the Fair Play values and principles in all sporting activities as well as in daily life.

All EFPM members, the above-mentioned organizations and institutions, and associations following the same goals, are invited to communicate information relating to EFPM aims and to these goals (conferences, congresses, special events or initiatives, Fair Play prizes, books...).

All information should be sent to: <u>katarina.raczova@utanet.at</u>

<u>The International Symposium "Living as a Champion ... until the end"</u> took place in Verona in the magnificent "Palazzo della Gran Guardia" on February 11th, 2011, and was organized by the Municipality of Verona in collaboration with the National Italian Fair Play Committee (CNIFP). The event was on one hand a testimony of the key role that Pope John Paul II played in promoting ethical values in life and sport, on the other hand the first event in a



series to be held in preparation for the 2012 European Fair Play Congress, which is scheduled to take place next year in Rome. The EFPM was represented at this indeed important event by the Secretary General Mr. I. Psilopoulos, who informed the participants about EFPM and its goals and activities. He also spoke about Sport and its influence in people's life, explaining its role as a channel of positive energy, as well as its role as a coveted economic value with all the dangers this involves. Finally, he concluded analyzing the principles of the Code of Ethics, namely fairness and sport as an arena for individual self-fulfillment.



The EFPM was invited to participate at the EU Sports Forum which took place February 21-22, 2011 in Budapest, (HUN), being recognized as "funded organization", and was represented by its President, Mr. Carlos Gonçalves. About 240 participants from the Olympic and sport movement, including leading representatives from International and European sport federations, European and national sport umbrella organizations and other sport-related organizations, came together to discuss topics related to the new EU competence in the field of sport and its implementation. The

participants were welcomed by the European Commissioner for Sport, Mrs. Androulla Vassiliou, who also presented the European Commission's new Communication on Developing the European Dimension in Sport. During the Forum EU studies were presented related to five different areas, among others enhancing health through sport, social inclusion in and through sport and fighting against doping, violence, intolerance and racism. The EFPM took the opportunity to make an intervention, regretting that no study was presented on the topics "sport and education" and "ethics in sport" and stressing the fact that the studies presented focused on "fighting against...", and not the "prevention of" and the "education for..." It was suggested that this subject should get a high priority in the future EU Sport agenda and the creation of a EU Working Group "Sport Education and Culture".

The Organizing Committee of the European Youth Olympic Winter Festival decided to reward the extraordinarily sporting gesture of the Slovenian Alpine skier, *Miha Hrobat*, who informed the jury after finishing the opening slalom ride that he had not passed through one of the gates correctly. Based on his own "statement" he was disqualified. At the Closing



Ceremony he was awarded for his knightly conduct by the famous Czech cross country skier and President of the Czech Fair Play Club, Květa Pecková. "Miha has shown an excellent sense of fair play and is a true sporting role model for his peers," said Květa Pecková.

Organized by the Austrian Fencing Federation, the European Cadet Championships 2011 were held in the Carinthian capital Klagenfurt with approximately 470 fencers from 38 countries participating. Once again the European Fencing Confederation has proven its open and welcoming attitude towards the partnership with the European Fair Play Movement, which is an important step forward to develop sport in the spirit of fairness and tolerance, thus strongly supporting the development of solidarity, mutual tolerance, team work and fair play among young people. In this spirit the EFPM in association with the EFC awarded:



<u>Swedish men epée team</u>: The Swedish team declared their willingness to fence on the piste against the Israeli team, despite the latter facing disqualification because of one of their team members being shown the Black Card for "Offence against sportsmanship". Finally, the Israeli team won the fight.

<u>Philip Marsh</u> from the British cadet epée team: The British team was behind against the French team, fighting for progressing to the quarter finals, when Philip Marsh stepped on the piste against his opponent for the last bout. Despite being two hits behind, he fairly acknowledged his hit on the floor, resulting in the referee cancelling his "hit". In the end the French team won the exciting and close fight by one hit 19:18.



The awards were handed over by EC EFPM member Katarina Raczova and EFC General Secretary Max Geuter.

The Plenary Meeting of the Consultative Committee of the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport (EPAS CC) took place at the Council of Europe offices on March 21st, 2011. EFPM participated for the first time as a full member of the EPAS CC, represented by its Gen.



Secretary, Mr. Ioannis Psilopoulos. Present were as well other member organizations such as ENGSO, UEFA, ESFAN-TAFISA, ISCA, EGLSE and PEACE & SPORT. The Agenda was quite rich, covering especially the development and activities over the last year and months, and planning ahead for future activities, such as organizing seminars /trainings/ conferences, joint projects and their funding by external financial contributions (e.g. Media Against Racism in Sport – MARS - and Peace & Sport Project), and finally the preparation of the next EPAS CC joint meeting with the Governing Board in Strasbourg (7 June 2011), with the topic being Retrospective 2010 and Prospective 2012. Mr. Psilopoulos proposed the organization of a joint Forum together with the European Union authorities under the general title "Ethics in Sport", aiming at a wider participation of the European Sport Organizations and strengthening of the bonds between the European Union and the Council of Europe at least in the field of sports.

On March 23rd the Fair Play Club of Polish NOC organised the 44th edition of the ceremony to grant the Polish Fair Play Awards. The ceremony held at the John Paul II Olympic Centre in Warsaw was attended by Mr. Adam Giesz, Minister of Sport and Tourism and Mr. Andrzej Kraśnicki, President of the Polish Olympic Committee. Amongst the awarded were the well known ski jumper <u>Adam Malysz</u> and the young – 14 years old swimmer - <u>Wojciech</u>



<u>Kaźmierczak</u>, as well as a team of scholars of the <u>Faculty of Sport and Physical Education of Lodz University</u>. During the ceremony, in a very emotional moment the EFPM President Carlos Gonçalves granted "In Memoriam" the European Fair Play Plaque of Merit and Diploma to Mrs. Joanna Perlowska and Justyna Muszynska, the daughters of <u>Piotr Nurowski</u>, former President of the NOC of Poland and member of the EC of the European Olympic Committees who died in the tragic plane accident in April 2010. The ceremony attended by numerous sport officials, coaches, teachers and young students, was covered by a large number of representatives from the Polish media.

I hope that you will visit the EFPM website and enjoy your read!

www.fairplayeur.com