

# KORFBALL

SPORT IN THE MIXED ZONE

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Marco Spelten/actionphotography.nl  
IKF U21 European Championship



Jan Fransoo  
President  
International Korfball Federation

As you are all aware, rugby will be on the program of the 2016 Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro. Rugby will not feature rugby-15. A tournament of rugby-15 is a major pressure on the athletes and therefore takes long. The Rugby World Cup – one of the biggest sporting events in the world in terms of spectators, revenue and TV-audience – lasts about a month. This would not fit into a mere two weeks of Olympic Games.

Cricket is known for its long matches. Its shortest format until recently was the one-day international. Matches still lasted a day. For the test match format, it can last several days – and in many cases still end in a draw. The last Cricket World Cup, held in the Carribean, was less than successful. It took over six weeks for the competition to complete, stadiums were empty, and TV coverage was less than expected. Since then, Twenty20 crickets emerged as a huge success: short matches (within a few hours) and closer results and surprises due to the fact that only 20 over are played. Stadiums have been sold out, the frequency of the Championships increased, and the interest has skyrocketed.

Netball started last year with a similar experiment, called FastNet. The concept called for some rules changes that speeded up the game, the most important of which was the reduction of the playing time to four quarters of six minutes. The concept is only played once a year, in a new competition called the World Netball Series, with the six best countries of the world competing. In three days, a round robin competition, with cross finals and finals is being played.

We need to learn from these successes. I would like the Euro Top 4 event to evolve towards korfball's short format series, with the world's six best countries competing in three days. We need to develop the format, with the spectator's as our only objective in mind. Moreover, to avoid any discussions at length, we need to make clear that the format will be designed specifically for this event series.

I will take the initiative to have the concept developed. Ideas? Drop them in my mailbox: [jan.fransoo@ikf.org](mailto:jan.fransoo@ikf.org)

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## IKF President Vice-President of SportAccord

IKF President Dr Jan Fransoo has been elected Vice-President of SportAccord, the umbrella organization of 90 International Sports Federations and 12 Multi-sport Games Organizers. SportAccord has its headquarters in Lausanne, Switzerland.

The election was conducted by members of the newly appointed SportAccord Council following the re-election of Mr Hein Verbruggen as SportAccord President. Mr Fransoo's term on the Council ends in 2013, when his current second term as President of the Association of IOC Recognised International Sports Federations (ARISF) ends.



## Mongolia new member of the korfball community

The Council of the International Korfball Federation has decided some months ago - subject to ratification by the 2011 General Meeting in Shaoxing (China) - to accept Mongolia as its 58th member nation. Mongolia will become associate member after ratification.

The Mongolian Korfball Federation was founded in Ulaanbaatar - the capital of Mongolia - on 30 July 2010.

The Chief Executive Officer, Mr Onol Byambasuren, presented the development plans to the IKF Council. The introduction of korfball will take place in schools and universities. Chinese Taipei invited the new korfball country to participate in a coaching course. There are close contacts with the IKF Asian Korfball Federation.

Mongolia can be considered as a korfball bridge between the korfball communities of China and Russia.



## The best of Asia's youth set to meet in Adelaide

The 2011 Asia Oceania U23 Korfball Championship, for national teams are scheduled for Adelaide, Australia, from 10-16 July. Eight teams are confirmed for the tournament, with the Asia Oceania champion, Chinese Taipei, and the host Australia joined by the other three countries that took part in the previous equivalent tournament in 2007, China, Hong Kong and New Zealand. These five will be joined by India and Pakistan, and international korfball newcomers Malaysia.

Venue for the tournament is the Adelaide Arena. Located in Findon, just to the north west of the centre of Adelaide, the Arena is one of South Australia's premium multi-functional sports and entertainment venues and was previously known as the Adelaide Dome.

Four teams from the tournament will qualify for the IKF U23 World Korfball Championship in Barcelona in October 2012.





# IKF U21 European Championship showcases youth skills and development

Over the past decade korfball has improved in many ways, as demonstrated at this under 21 event. International korfball's A-countries, Belgium and the Netherlands, confirmed their outstanding ability yet again, proving to be the best. Europe's B-countries, Catalonia, Czech Republic, England, Germany and Portugal, also showed progress since previous events, while the other three participants, Hungary, Turkey and Slovakia, displayed some quality but lacked experience.

Stronger national competition results in better performance at the international level. Countries that prioritise the intensity of their domestic competitions in the

various age categories will reap the benefit and youth development is the key to raising the standard.

The Hungarian Korfball Association is celebrating its twentieth anniversary in 2011 and took the initiative to bid for two major European events, accepting a huge challenge in exchange for an excellent opportunity to show Hungary some high level korfball. After the IKF Europa Cup in January, the IKF under 21 European Championship was Budapest's second major event in 2011.

Played from 8-14 May, the tournament began with 11 participants following the unfortunate late withdrawal of Russia, which created extra work for the organisers, the jury and the IKF

**Budapest's second major event in 2011**

co-ordinating officer. They, however, rose admirably to the challenge to carry off an excellent event that was received very positively by the players, the referees and the spectators.

### **The Netherlands win IKF U21 European Championship**

In the final, the Dutch made a typically strong start to have the match effectively won by midway through the first half, by





which point they held an 8-0 lead. Belgium halved the deficit in the next ten minutes, narrowing the Netherlands' half time lead to five goals at 10-5. In the second half scoring between the teams was equal, although Belgium could draw no closer and with nine minutes left their great rival was

still six goals up at 16-10. Over the next four minutes the Netherlands scored four unanswered goals to lead by ten, eventually leaving Belgium defeated by a final score of 22-13 and the holders retaining the trophy by the widest winning margin in the history of this event.

#### England takes bronze

England against Germany was a highly anticipated game that failed to meet expectations. Both teams over-did the aggression and, apparently, forgot to play korfbal. Once England found something of their normal level they built a 6-0 lead and it took Germany 17 minutes and 45 seconds to score their first goal. After a 12-4 half time score line, play in the second half continued to be too physical, preventing almost any scoring. Germany came back to 12-7 before England scored their first of the half in on 45 minutes, a goal that proved to be their only one in the whole second half. However, with Germany only managing to score twice after that, the match ended 13-9, giving England the bronze medal for the first time since 1990.



After they were comfortably defeated in their pool match against Portugal, the Czechs improved with each game they played so before this play off anything seemed possible. Unfortunately, however, for the Czechs, the battery seemed empty. Once they had negotiated the difficult first 20 minutes, the Portuguese became totally





England takes the bronze medal for the first time since 1990

dominant. Their women, especially, were too quick for their Czech opponents. A 13-10 half time advantage was transformed to an emphatic 23-15 final victory, giving Portugal fifth place and a chance to qualify for the IKF Under 23 World Championship in Barcelona in October 2012.

Hungary met Catalonia in the match for seventh and eight place. After an early lead for the Catalans, Hungary dominated play for a long period, and at 15-11 after more than 40 minutes had secured a four-goal lead. That, however, was a signal

for Catalonia to show their form, which they did, scoring six times in a row. As expected, Hungary fought back but Catalonia won in the end 20-19, scoring the winner less than 30 seconds from the final whistle.

Poland and Turkey met for the most intense match. Through the course of the tournament Turkey's improvement was clear and for a long period the Turkish players believed they would win. Halfway through the second half though, Poland managed to take over. Turkey fought back and at the end, at 15-15, the event's first

golden goal was required to separate the two teams. Poland was the team to score it, but only after Turkey had a goal disallowed, meaning Poland achieved ninth place.

Slovakia was not able to win a match in this tournament and as result finished in eleventh place.

Top scorer of the tournament was Bruno Amaral of Portugal with 33 goals, while the top female scorer was Dorota Szkalska of Poland with 23 goals.

*Frans Walvis*

# Development News

Henk Welmers, Chair of IKF Development and Promotion Committee

## Korfball is progressing

### Sharing korfball knowledge

Sixteen national teams attended the well organised third IKF European Korfball Championship in the Netherlands (22 – 31 October 2010). Five national teams - Ireland, Scotland, Serbia, Turkey and Wales - made their debut, which shows the progress and strong network in Europe. It was an excellent opportunity to organise clinics for coaches and referees, a Sport Medical Symposium, sessions on marketing, the structure of a national organisation, youth development and athletes recruitment, and Self Supporting Korfball Promotion. IKF President Jan Fransoo addressed opening speeches to the participants and the IKF volunteers and Committee Members were informed on the progress to reach the goals for the period 2008 – 2011. The Competitions Committee organised a hearing to set up a new structure for the IKF Europa Cup for club teams. Most of the meetings were well attended.

Many interesting matches, the elite players showed their talents and the inexperienced korfball athletes could learn a lot from their elite colleagues. The spectators



appreciated the high level of the games and the media paid a lot of attention to the event. A very successful tournament!

### Korfball in Northern Europe.

Many efforts were made to restart korfball in **Finland**. In the meantime korfball is introduced in ten primary schools in Helsinki, in four universities spread over the country and there are korfball activities in the city of Turku. Plans are made to organise the first Helsinki korfball tournament and a Finnish student tournament. A new board will be founded, a monthly newsletter will be issued, Finnish korfball activities will be discussed on Facebook and in the near future a website will be set up. We expect a strong Finnish korfball community in the future.

Korfball in **Belarus** is growing. The ministry of sport and the National Olympic Committee recognised korfball. Representatives of both organisations attend the coaching course conducted by Mr Rob Lof (the Netherlands). Thirty nine Physical Education teachers / students participated. The event was well organised by Mr Sergey Mironovich, President of the Belarus Korfball Federation.

### Mongolia new Asian korfball country

Mongolia is the new korfball bridge between Russia and China. The country is landlocked, with vast desert areas, grassy steps and mountains. Ulaanbaatar is the capital and the population counts about three million inhabitants. The well known elite referee Mr Jorge Alves visited the country and made an appointment with Mr Onol who is interested in korfball. Alves and Onol spent some days on sightseeing and long discussions about korfball. Onol has contacts with Sport

Physical and Training Agency of Mongolia, the responsible organisation for promotion of sports in schools and universities. Teachers were very enthusiastic and started with korfball. Onol informed the National Olympic Committee and tries to find sponsors. He has close contacts with Chinese Taipei and some korfball coaches will attend courses in Taipei. Mr Onol prepared statutes and other documentation and explained his korfball promotion plans to the IKF. The Council decided to grant provisional membership to the Mongolian Korfball Federation. The final decision will be made by the General Meeting in Shaoxing (China) in November 2011. Good luck Mongolia!

### Korfball in Africa

New trips are planned to **Zambia** and **Namibia**. These two countries belong to the Zone 6 area (Southern Africa) with korfball activities in South Africa, Malawi, Botswana and Zimbabwe. It would be great to welcome Zambia and Namibia in the IKF family, it will strengthen the position of korfball on the African continent.

Surprising is the interest from Nador city and Province to introduce korfball in Morocco. The cooperation agreement between the Dutch clubs PSV and Synergo with the Nador korfball promotion Committee is a new milestone on the route of Morocco Korfball to become an IKF member. The start of a new korfball area at the north coast of Africa! European countries are invited to support the new korfball region.

*Many things are happening in korfball, the world's only mixed team sport! The doors are open for new korfball athletes and national organisations!*





## Korfball in the earthquake zone

New Zealand's Under 23 representatives will put earthquakes behind them to participate in the 2011 U23 Asia Oceania Korfball Championship in Adelaide.

While five of the squad members are based outside Christchurch, nine of the 14 players preparing for the tournament do live in the country's second city and have been dealing with the series of earthquakes that have hit their Canterbury region in the past ten months, including a 7.1 magnitude quake on 4 September, 6.3 quakes on 22 February and 12 June and over 7,500 other aftershocks.

Most sports in the quake ravaged city have struggled to continue as people have prioritised bringing their lives back to normal ahead of sport and many sports facilities have been badly damaged.

Korfball has been no exception. Many of the players' homes have been badly damaged, including some completely wrecked, others have been put out of work because their workplaces are affected, school and university study has been badly disrupted and two of the squad's training camps were cancelled as they were scheduled directly after the two most devastating shakes, in September and February, the latter of which resulted in the deaths of 182 people. Finding gyms to train in has not been easy either, with so many damaged or awaiting inspection when the players needed to be training as hard as possible.

On top of that, New Zealand korfball is largely self-funded by the players and because most of them are students with part-time or casual work, the disruption experienced over the past few months has put many of them out of their jobs, making it more difficult to raise the money they

need to pay for their participation in international korfball. Coming four days after a major 6.3 magnitude aftershock, last minute changes were needed to ensure the squad's final training camp, in June, was able to proceed. Then, to top it all off, it seemed that Mark Garrett, the Australian-based New Zealand coach, would not be able to attend the camp due to a cloud of volcanic ash preventing international flights in the three days before the camp. Fortunately, however, the ash cloud passed over, flights resumed, and the camp was able to take place, more or less as planned.

Despite the quakes, the players have been working hard and are really looking forward to representing their country at the tournament, which will be a welcome relief after the recent difficulties they, their families and their city have faced.

*Rob Smith*

# Behind the scenes at a big IKF Event



The IKF European Championship 2010 as an example through the eyes of the IKF Coordinating Officer, Mr. Frank Buvens.

During one of the Exco meetings of the IKF the question was raised as to whom to appoint as the coordinating officer for one of the biggest events ever in the history of korfbal.

As the bid for the tournament was granted to the Royal Dutch Korfbal Association (KNKV) the IKF Exco expressed the wish to have a native Dutch speaking Exco member that was not a citizen of The Netherlands. It became obvious that Mr. Frank Buvens from Belgium was to be selected to what would be a tough and demanding assignment to have a successful big IKF event. The first IKF European Championship with 16 participating nations from Europe.

In the beginning when only drafts are proposed you have a feeling of relief that a strong organization with a professional crew and much know how prevents you from worrying too much.

This perception was also based on my first meeting with the chairperson of the Organizing Committee (OC), Mr. Johan Wiegerink, former top korfbal coach and with much experience with the preparation of major events in Athletics.

During the year before the event I joined the monthly meetings in Zeist where I could get acquainted with the organising team, a mixture of volunteers and professionals, under the guidance of Johan Wiegerink. During these sessions one of the major tasks of the coordinating officer was to safeguard the IKF criteria in relation to the OC plans. The cooperation was good and most of the time I had the feeling that most of my IKF demands were taken into consideration.

Trips to Almelo and Tilburg and meetings with local organizers convinced both Johan Wiegerink and Frank Buvens that there was absolutely no need to doubt that the preliminary round preparations were covered.

Furthermore, much media attention was generated for the presentation of the new MIKASA K5-IKF in Rotterdam during which the brilliant idea to tape the inaugural speech of the IKF President was realized.

During preliminary rounds, where the officials were centrally lodged, things became more hectic. Teams that played in Tilburg were unable to get footage of the matches from the website and, as a consequence, DVDs were not ready in time.

It was to be expected that in Rotterdam, due to a mutual and easy location, things would continue in a smooth way. The

actual situation proved that Johan Wiegerink and Frank Buvens needed a lot of time to communicate with each other and with the personnel in the OC. One more time it was made obvious that clear and constant communication is vital for success. A lack of communication creates misunderstandings and irritations. The in depth preparations by the OC in combination with the power to adapt to changes was a great contribution to the huge success of the event.

An incident within the referees committee needed tact and a lot of time to come to acceptable conclusions.

Other issues to worry about; trainings sessions were planned with two teams at the same venue. An unfortunate situation, especially for Belgium that saw their Dutch rivals spreading over the entire playing field. But this difficulty was solved by Johan Wiegerink. He did a great job as chair of the Organising Committee.

The built in shot clock posts not performing in all matches according expectations.

The seating plan for the invitees of IKF and KNKV for the final day can only be prepared at the last moment due to changes. It consumes a lot of time to do it right and to keep it up to date.

Organizers, spectators, IKF, KNKV saw a thrilling final game at high level. Many of the behind the scene issues became less important. The spectators in the venue, TV and Internet TV viewers were big winners.

Finally we all worked for one outstanding result, for one great winner, korfbal as a top sport, the IKF European Championship Final watched by more than 7,000 spectators present in AHOY Topsport Centre in Rotterdam and many millions throughout the world thru live Tv, Internet Tv, photos, articles.







## Peace and Sport Foundations and IKF partners

The International Korfball Federation and the Peace and Sport Foundation signed an agreement 7 April 2011 in London to conduct joint projects in the realm of sports contribution towards development of Peace.

“Peace and Sport, L’Organisation pour la Paix par le Sport” (known as Peace and Sport) was founded in 2007 by Mr Joël Bouzou, who is the current President of the organization. It works for

sustainable peace, throughout the world. To achieve this, it promotes the practice of structured sport and sporting values to educate young generations and help foster social stability, reconciliation and dialogue between communities. It operates under the patronage of HSH Prince Albert, Head of State of Monaco and Member of the International Olympic Committee.

Peace and Sport and the IKF will work specifically together in establishing

community structures through sports clubs, promoting the value of gender equality and emphasizing the role that women can play in establishing such structures. The International Korfball Federation has experience with such projects in Zimbabwe and Malawi, and intends to involve Peace and Sport into its network. Peace and Sport will offer expertise, some financial assistance, and access to sponsors of such projects.

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Defending the title it won in 2007, The Netherlands is top seed, with the participants initially divided into four pools, as follows:

**Pool A**

The Netherlands  
Germany  
Portugal  
India

**Pool B**

Belgium  
Russia  
South Africa  
Hong Kong

**Pool C**

Chinese Taipei  
England  
Australia  
Poland

**Pool D**

Czech Republic  
Catalonia  
China  
Wales

More information regarding referees, jury members, the co-ordinating officer and the match schedule can be found on the IKF website: [www.korfball.org](http://www.korfball.org).

# Shaoxing prepares for ninth IKF World Championship

From 27 October to 5 November the historic city of Shaoxing, in southern China, will host the 16 strongest korfball countries at the IKF World Championship, the four-yearly highlight of all IKF events, marking China's debut as host of the tournament.

**Introduction to Shaoxing**

Located on the southern sector of the Yangtze River Delta, Shaoxing County is east of Hangzhou and west of Ningbo.



Keqiao is the capital city of the 1,130-square-kilometre county, which has a population of 710,000, governed by four sub-district committees and 15 townships.

One of the first 24 historical and cultural cities in China, Shaoxing County was a centre of politics and culture in southern China from the Qin and Han dynasties to the Ming and Qing dynasties and is renowned as the birthplace of silk making, a land of culture and the home of prominent scholars.

Since reform and opening-up, Shaoxing's economic development has been rapid. Each year since 1991 it has been recognised as one of the top 100 counties and county-level cities in China, frequently making the top ten for the quality of its urban and rural development, primary education,

sporting activities, autonomous village governance, rural healthcare, sanitary work and ecological protection.

Shaoxing County also boasts one of the largest marketplaces in China. China Textile City in Keqiao is Asia's largest textile centre, accounting for one third of the nation's total trade volume, which, in the form of the Shaoxing Keqiao Economic Development Zone, opens the county up to the outside world.

Source: Shaoxing Government



## International Korfball events 2011

2011	IKF Events overview	Country	Place
10 July	16 July IKF U23 Asia Oceania Championship	AUS	Adelaide
12 July	16 July IKF U23 Africa Championship	RSA	Pretoria
23 September	25 September IKF Europa Cup 2012 - First Round	SVK	Prievidza
27 October	5 November IKF World Championship	CHN	Shaoxing

## Championships decided in Portugal

Regular contenders to the national korfball championship of Portugal NCB and Oeiras were challenged this season by up and coming clubs Carnaxide and Cascais. Both 'newcomer' clubs have clearly focussed on their youth development in recent years and managed to build competitive teams to fight for the national medals. While they came just short of reaching that objective, their performances bode well for a promising future for higher level competition in Portugal.

National Championship of Portugal:

1. NC Benfica
2. Carnaxide
3. Cascais

Portuguese Cup:

1. Oeiras
2. Cascais

## Baby for our secretary Rita ten Brummelhuis

Our secretary Mrs Rita Brummelhuis-Raffai gave birth to a son on June 13th. His name is Andras Jozsef ten Brummelhuis. Mother and baby are doing very well. The IKF family welcomes this new born and we wish him and his parents a healthy future. Rita will come back to the IKF Office in the beginning of September.

## The Rules of Korfball from 1 July 2011

The new rules were announced to IKF members in May 2011. We announce the on line publications of the new rules and updated referees signals as well. You will find the rules in 3 logical parts or in 1 complete document. The PDF's are ready for download as of 4 July.

Go to [www.korfball.org](http://www.korfball.org) and select "Rules & Conditions" the Top menu or "Document Library" under Main Menu.



## Junior National Korfball Championship in India

The 18th JUNIOR NATIONAL KORFBALL CHAMPIONSHIP in India was held from 13th to 17th November 2010 at PALAMPUR, University (In the HIMACHAL state of India) a hill resort, surrounded by snow capped mountains.

17 states of India and around 300 players participated. The HARYANA state was awarded 1st prize.

The best players will be considered for selection and participation in the IKF AOKC U23 Championship in Adelaide, Australia in July and in the IKF World Championship in Shaoxing, China in October / November 2011.





# The Hungarian Korfball Academy

In 2009 Bandor Nagy and Juca Veres were working for the Hungarian Korfball Association when they began thinking about a korfball academy in Hungary to improve promotion of the sport. Juca was on the association's executive committee and Bandor worked as head of the technical division.

Earlier than that, in 2007, the challenge was to improve the quality and quantity of coaches, referees and players within Hungary. At that stage, the plan was to train coaches in the first year and send them out to teach throughout Hungary in the second.

According to Bandor, although that idea was good, it did not attract enough support.

"After a while we found it was much easier to do it for ourselves. We wanted to go faster than could be done within the association. Then the idea to make a private company occurred to us, which is how the Hungarian Korfball Academy was born.

"I was sitting on a hill near an airfield for gliders. I could see them start behind an aeroplane and after a big push they went solo in the air. When they returned the whole process began again. That gave me the idea to promote korfball in Hungary in the same way. Every now and then we need to push the coaches and trainers a little, then leave them alone to work for themselves, and after a period of time return for another push," explains Bandor.

"Recruiting new trainers is a bottleneck. Although many people assume you need korfball players or ex-players to be good trainers and coaches, in my opinion other people can also coach korfball. We focused on the teachers at schools.

"The basis of the Academy is to give presentations at schools or at events for teachers. After that we hold courses and then the teachers can give korfball lessons in school. We also give korfball courses at an orphanage. It gives pleasure to the children in two ways: while they naturally enjoy the sport itself, the attention they receive from the trainers is also very important.

"At the moment we have four korfball cells in Hungary, so the prototype phase is over and has proved effective. Our plans for more korfball cells in our country depend on finding people who want to spend time in our sport. This is our philosophy: we will help initiate activities, then after a while we will leave, at least temporarily, and then others have to do it on their own, like the gliders that have to fly on their own until they are pushed again.

"Of course, we keep helping them every now and then. If this works well, I think that soon, within ten years, we can grow to the level of players in Belgium. That doesn't mean that our national team will be able to beat Belgium, just that we can have a similar number of players in

Hungary as in Belgium," says Bandor with a smile.

He also has another dream for the future.

"We hope that we can make some money for the academy, and in the end to find korfball volunteers to take over the work from Juca and me. We already have some great volunteers. First, though, we have to grow within Hungary. We are now active up to 60 kilometres away from Budapest. It is difficult to find an enthusiast in other parts of our country to be a local korfball advocate, the person who promotes our beautiful sport," he says.

Bandor believes, as the world learns about korfball it will become a better place.

"Korfball has a friendly atmosphere. Everybody smiles and exudes warmth. The heroes are accessible, which is a big difference from sports like basketball and football for example. We will see what the future brings. I am sure we can join forces with the IKF or with local associations in different countries, and we can promote this great sport together," Bandor concludes.





Photo by Cor Mantel - Dutch final AHOY 2011

