



Dear all,

WELCOME to the 2nd EWS e-newsletter!

We would like to improve information and communication with this newsletter.

A quick look at the topics in this newsletter:

- EWS Steering Group Meeting in Vienna
- EWS Guidelines
- Women Sports Projects in Austria
- Women and Media
- Interesting Dates

EWS Steering Group Meeting in Vienna

The first Steering Group Meeting during Austrias chairship was held in Vienna from September 3rd – 5th. All members from the Steering Group were present and a lot of work was done. The new guidelines, as proposed in Paris, were discussed and last alterations were included.

Topics to focus on at the Open Meeting in Athens 2005 have been a big point of interest and the Steering Group came up with the following:

- medical needs of women in sport, top level and low level sports
- get & keep girls in sport, especially in the countryside
- psychological aspects
- doping, especially „amateur-doping“
- education during sports-career for a career after the sports life

2 - 3 of this topics will be picked for discussion in the prepration of the open meeting.

The exact date of the next EWS Conference 2006 was discussed in the light of the wish to change the time table.

Liese Prokop, EWS chairwoman, informed us beginning of November that the EWS Conference was accepted by the government to be an official theme of the Austrian EU presidency! We are confident that this will have a very positive effect on the conference and the topics presented.

The date of the conference was chosen in co-operation with the foreign ministry and was fixed for 24th – 26th March 2006.

EWS Guidelines

The new guidelines, as proposed at the meeting in Paris, were approved and some points were added. Most important are the changes to the timeline which includes a transition period till the year 2009.

Reasons for these changes were the clash with the IOC Women and Sports Meeting and the IWG conference both held every 4 years.

2005 Open meeting Athens 24-26 September, new chair elected

2006 Conference in Vienna, new chair takes over

2007 Open meeting

2008 autumn, at Steering group meeting election of the new chair

2009 in the first half of the year the Conference, new chair takes over

2009 in the second half of the year the new chair organises the constitutional Open Steering Group Meeting at the ESC

Women Sports Projects in Austria

The Austrian working group presented their projects concerning women in sport at the Steering Group Meeting. On top sports level, the project deals with the medical aspects of being a female top athlete. Plans are to publish guidelines and a booklet with addresses from medical doctors all over Europe that have experience with female athletes. Also medical doctors will conduct seminars on a national level for female athletes. The first of this seminars was organised 29th – 30th October and was a great success. A detailed report on this seminar can be found in the download section of our homepage.

<http://www.ews-online.org>

The sports for all group aims at sports during work, joyful movement for girls/women and the developing of a “sports bag”. The sports bag should be the female equivalent to the usual sporting equipment that boys carry with them (usually a ball).

The third project deals with structures in sports clubs and sports federations. A “gender questionnaire” is planned to evaluate the number of women in decision making boards and the number of female coaches. Follow up studies and projects are planned.

Women and Media

Women's Sports Foundation: Britain's best kept secrets

This report done by the women's sports foundation focuses on how often the media reports on women sports. Also the question is raised if more reporting can make a difference on how women sports is perceived in the public and if it could lead to more girls/women participating actively in sports.

An investigation into coverage of women's sport on the BBC sport website

A review of stories from 25 February to 10 March 2004

As part of its ongoing *Campaign for Coverage*, aimed at highlighting the massive disparity that exists between media coverage of men's and women's sport, the Women's Sports Foundation wanted to establish how much space the BBC devoted to coverage of women's sport on its main sports website and launched this investigation. The results can be found in the report on our homepage and the Women's Sports Foundation website.

Both reports can be downloaded from our website:

<http://www.ews-online.org>

The website of the Women's Sports Foundation is a great source for more information:

<http://www.wsf.org.uk/>

Table Tennis Projects

The International Table Tennis Federation's film „Breaking Down Barriers with Table Tennis Balls“ produced in rural Egypt about the Ishraq project has been selected for presentation at the Sport Movies & TV 2004 – 22nd International Festival in Milan.

The film "Breaking Down Barriers with Table Tennis Balls - Ishraq" received 92% of the on-line votes and thus won the People's Choice Award for that category. In addition, the film won the "Honourable Mention Award".

The ITTF had organised a table tennis course in Afghanistan where the women and girls were allowed to participate, together with the men. A first in Afghanistan sports history. The course has paid off, the women are supposed to be very active and they have now held their very first women's tournament.

More information can be found at the International Table Tennis Federation website:

<http://www.ittf.com/>

Sports, media and stereotypes

The Icelandic Centre for Gender Equality started the “Sports, media and stereotypes” project. Partners of this project are Iceland, Norway, Lithuania, Italy and Austria. The main targets are to explore the representations of women and men in sports in the media and enlightening the most influential target groups. This will be done by national studies. The results should be available for discussion at the EWS conference 2006.

Interesting Dates

EWS Open Meeting will be held end of September 2005 in Athen.

The 15th Congress of the International Association of Physical Education and Sport for Girls and Women (IAPESGW)

August 10-13, 2005

University of Alberta Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

<http://www.iapesgw2005.org>

International Children's games 2005 – Symposium on child welfare in sport

The Symposium will take place alongside the Games, which will be the biggest sporting event in the UK in 2005.

<http://www.childrens-games2005.org.uk>

Yemen awarded the Third Asian Conference on Women and Sport in 2005

The Conference will be held in Sanaa, Yemen on May 11-12, 2005.

<http://www.iwg-gti.org/e/archives/012-3ACWS.htm>

The next EWS Conference will be held in Vienna from 24th – 26th March 2006 during the Austrian presidency of the European Union.

If you have access to information concerning other interesting projects or events concerning Women and Sports please share this information with us.

I hope that you find the information provided in this newsletter interesting. If you have any questions to some details please feel free to contact me.

On behalf of the Austrian chair

Kind Regards,

Martin Kasika