



Joint Statement on health and safety in the sport sector by EASE and EURO-MEI

The European Association of Sport Employers (EASE) and EURO-MEI, the European trade union sectoral body with jurisdiction in sport, mutually recognised one another as social partners for the sport sector, including not-for-profit sport, professional sport and commercial sport (active leisure), in Arnhem, Netherlands, 8 February 2008.

In Lisbon, 1-2 April 2009, the two organisations held a joint conference on health and safety in the sport sector in the European Union with some 35 representatives of European employer and worker organisations and of other stakeholders from the sector.

At the conclusion of these two days of discussions regarding a large number of aspects of health and safety in the sport sector in Europe, the two sides were in total agreement that health and safety are of great importance to all employers and workers.

There was agreement that all the subjects raised as mentioned, but not limited to, the issues below, were appropriate issues for discussion in the proposed social dialogue committee.

❖ **There was an agreement that the following principles concerned all the sport sub-sectors - not-for-profit sport and professional sport sub-sectors, and commercial sport sub-sector (active leisure: fitness and outdoor):**

- Health and safety are a joint responsibility between employers and employees in terms of:
 - Rights and duties
 - Risk assessment
 - Work scheduling
- Safety rules and standards must be set up by the employer with reference to European and/or national common laws, sport codes and sport federations/institutions specific rules and regulations.
- The employer should inform the worker of the rules and safety standards.

❖ **These principles should be enforced through:**

- Regular medical checks prior and during employment.
- Training either general or specific on health and safety issues.
- Adequate insurance coverage either collective or individual.
- Catalogues of risks and illnesses specific to each activity and studies on risk assessment and prevention.
- Codes of conduct and ethical practices
- Anti-drug policies

❖ **Issues specific to the professional sport sub-sector**

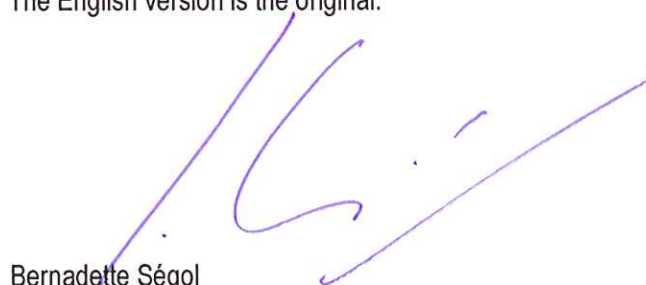
- Permanent medical staff including specialists in sport medicine.
- Freedom of choice of practitioner by the employee coupled with proper communication with the employer's medical staff.
- Liaison with sport bodies (federations/institutions) regarding competition, scheduling, rest, injury statistics to improve safety standards including through amendments to sport rules and regulations.

2nd April 2009

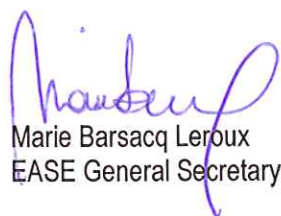
The English version is the original.



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