



To: Members of Touch Switzerland-affiliated Clubs
From: The Touch Switzerland Executive
Wednesday, May 18, 2016

Re : Newsletter, May 2016

Dear Touchies,

This letter is intended to keep you informed about what's been going on and what's coming up for players of Touch in Switzerland. For example, some of you may have heard things about the ups and downs of our Euros 2016 preparation. Hopefully, we can help you understand what's going on.

MXO Squad

In the last month, the MXO squad withdrew from the Euros 2016 competition. The MXO is still active and still training, but their focus has shifted to next year's Mainland Cup. Why did this happen? Well, the short answer is that some late withdrawals by key squad members depleted the squad of considerable depth of experience. The coach, Nick Gray, decided that with too little time remaining to reconstruct sufficient depth it would be counter-productive to send the squad to the Euros this year. The Board of Representatives stands by Nick's decision and looks forward to the continued development of the MXO squad.

If you have the desire and the will to represent Switzerland, Nick is always interested in trying out new candidates. Contact him for details.

A final note on this issue; some players have expressed the belief that it was policy for Touch Switzerland to deny re-consideration for players to join a squad if they had previously dropped out. *This is not true* and we apologize for any miscommunication or misunderstanding that led to this belief.

W27 Squad

The W27 will be our sole representative squad at the 2016 Euros. Coach Jay Tanoa has been holding regular trainings and several clubs have also hosted mini-events to help the W27s along on their path. Jay will also be taking his squad to next month's seniors' tournament in Strasbourg. Touch Switzerland is encouraged by their progress and are dedicated to supporting Jay and the W27s where-ever possible.



Touch Switzerland Roadmap

Club representatives met (over Skype) for a Board meeting on May 4. A major point of discussion was designing and enacting a workable Roadmap for player and club development in Switzerland. The Executive has circulated a plan of objectives to club representatives to aid them. It was decided that working out the details of the Roadmap needed to be done at a face-to-face meeting dedicated to the issue. The club representatives therefore resolved to find a date and location for this purpose. We will keep you updated with details as they become available.

Swiss Cup

We are happy to announce that some dates have been posted for Swiss Cup events this year. All clubs are strongly encouraged to attend these tournaments. National bragging rights are on the line!

- Banditos will host a Swiss Cup on **August 20**
- Lakers will host a Swiss Cup on either **July 2** or **September 17**

We strongly encourage other clubs to volunteer to host a third Swiss Cup event this year. Please have your representatives contact us.

Referee Development

The Baden Banditos recently held a two day L1 referee course, which was successfully run by Matt Boesen. Irene Waelti recently got her referee coaching qualifications too, so opportunities for players to obtain referee accreditation are improving.

The Lakers Old Boys will be hosting a Level 1 course in Lausanne soon (May 28/29).

Finally, we encourage all players to get involved in the running of their clubs. Consider that the people who are actively engaged are giving up their time and effort for free, just to improve your enjoyment of the sport. Help them and you'll be helping everyone.

Best wishes,

Matt Boesen (President)

Sabine Glagau (Treasurer)

John Knox (Referees Director)

Keith Hoek (Communications Director)