

Amputee Hockey Exhibition Game in Slovakia. Slovakia – the 9th Member National Association of the ISIHIF

An exhibition game of the International Standing Amputee Ice Hockey Federation approved by the International Ice Hockey Federation, Slovak Ice Hockey Federation and Slovak Paralympic Committee took place on November 23, 2008 in a city of Puchov, Slovakia. The guest Czech players and the newcomers - Slovak players - demonstrated ice hockey of high class in the intermission of a the game of U20 Slovak National Team against the Slovak *Extraliga* team *MHK Kežmarok*, and received the standing ovation from the crowd.

At the meeting of November 24th in Bratislava, with Mark Pitkin, ISIHIF President, and Dusan Kralik, ISIHIF World Coordinator for Slovakia, Dr. Jan Riapos, President of the Slovak Paralympic Committee and Dr. Samuel Rosko, Secretar General of the Slovak Paralympic Committee, expressed commitment of the National Paralympic Committee and the Slovak Association of the Physically Disabled Athletes to initiate development of standing amputee hockey in their country. Practical measures were outlined to achieve this goal.

In a letter of November 27th, Dr. Riapos informed ISIHIF that Slovak Association of the Physically Disabled Athletes has established a Section of National Standing Amputee Hockey, and appointed Mr. Dušan Kralik to be a leader of this Section; an application for admission of the Slovak Association to the International Standing Amputee Hockey Federation has been submitted.

The ISIHIF Council members had considered the application and voted “in favor” unanimously.

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After the exhibition game in Puchov, Slovakia, November 23, 2008