

To: all members of EHF

Utrecht, 18 June 2021

Re: Supporting letter KNHB candidacy Peter Elders Executive Board EHF

Dear Member,

The Netherlands strongly supports the candidacy of Peter Elders for re-election as a member of the Executive Board of the EHF. We are convinced that Peter Elders will again make the difference in contributing to the following areas of European hockey during the years ahead.

The growth of hockey and connecting people

Our joint aim is to get as many people as possible playing hockey. The Netherlands has the highest numbers of people playing hockey in Europe and, together with our clubs, the KNHB is succeeding in giving very many people a lifelong association with the sport. Both Peter and the KNHB are committed to growing our beautiful sport throughout Europe. By enlarging the European hockey network, we will all automatically be able to bring people together through our beautiful sport.

Creating social impact, networks and communities

The KNHB and Peter support initiatives that make a positive social impact using knowledge, capability and equipment. Hockey is seen as innovative, ambitious and socially committed. By building bridges to business, municipalities, neighbourhoods, other sports, schools and other institutions, the KNHB has reinforced this position and allows all parties to make a joint, positive contribution to society in general.

Exchange of knowledge and experience in a sustainable manner

It is vitally important for the development of the sport that we share our knowledge and experience with one another: both specific knowledge concerning hockey *and* centrally held information and data. The KNHB is aware of its privileged position and has developed new opportunities and ways of thinking, thanks in part to its international relationships and exchange programmes. Peter is and will continue to be one of the people driving this knowledge-sharing.

Twinning: development and strengthening the European hockey infrastructure

Peter shares the KNHB's belief that we should help in the development of hockey as a sport worldwide. In the build up to the EuroHockey Championships 2017 in Amsterdam the KNHB started, together with the EHF, a broad Twinning Project focusing on sharing knowledge and resources in order to help ten European countries further develop hockey – the countries involved include Poland, Croatia, Bulgaria, Lithuania, Ukraine, Switzerland and Austria. Substantial progress was being made in areas such as the development of technical staff (trainers, coaches), refereeing, club development and para-hockey. It is the aim of both the

KNHB and Peter to make such Twinning Projects structurally part of daily operations of the highly developed European Nations in order to sustainably focus on strengthening the European Infrastructure. As soon as we have overwon the Covid-19 pandemic, Peter and the KNHB will start the discussions in order to restart and broaden the base of these efforts in order to help as many countries as possible.

Developing umpiring in terms of quality, numbers, image and innovative approaches at all levels

Peter has many years of experience umpiring at the top international level, with a basis in club hockey and umpiring at grassroots level. After finishing his umpiring career, Peter continued to contribute to the development and quality of umpiring at all levels through his membership of the KNHB Board, the EHF Executive Board and of the FIH umpiring and rules committee. Peter is committed to passing on his knowledge in order to develop hockey and umpiring in Europe even further. In so doing, he focuses not only on top-level hockey and highly developed countries, but also on the development of countries that have less experience. In doing so he always looks at the broader perspective from different angles in order to maximize the effects in terms of both quality and quantity of umpires as well as marketing and innovative approaches.

The KNHB is convinced that Peter will again be an excellent member of the EHF Executive Board. Not only because of the knowledge and experience presented above, but also because he is a great team player and a pleasant person to work with.

Kind regards,



Erik Cornelissen
President



Erik Gerritsen
CEO