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ONLINE COACHES CERTIFICATION WORKSHOP





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1 - SUMMARY: COACH SELECTION AND TRANSLATIONS

In order to get to the stage of having coaches certified, the various partners had to identify 3 coaches each who would do the training and ultimately obtain certification so as to be qualified to coach children and athletes in Teqsports, specifically TeqBall.

The coaches were selected, and the details thereof were communicated to the EACEA in May 2023. Subsequent thereto we have had some additional coaches join the project and training.

The translations of the TeqBall training material were completed by all project partners and submitted to the EACEA in July 2023. There were 7 translations in total, namely: Bulgarian, Croatian, Danish, Dutch, Greek, Italian and Maltese. The translations were for TeqBall specifically as this is the main sport played but access was given to all coaches and partners to the training material of the other Teq sports being, Teqis, Teqvolly, Teqpong and Qatch.



It is important to note that one partner left the project consortium after the translation deliverable was completed. As a result, instead of having a target of 21 coaches to be trained and certified, this decreased to 18. All further details in this report relate only to 6 multisport club partners in the consortium and their training methods, attendance at the workshops and ultimate certification.



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2 - OFFICIAL TRAINING COURSE

The International Federation of Teqball (FITEQ) is the federation where all training and certification takes place. The project consortium, more especially the coordinator EMCA, have developed a good partnership with FITEQ in terms of their assistance with this project and the continued promotion of the sport. [GL1]

All coaches did their training on the Intro Level for coaches. The training material to train as a coach in Teqball is online, found at www.fiteqeducation.com/teqball-coach, a site affiliated and linked with the main International Teqball Federations website, www.fiteq.com. Once the coaches registered, they had to follow the below 5 steps/modules in order to become certified as a coach:

REGISTER

STEP 1

- The coaches clicked on the link <https://www.fiteq.org/signup>
- A separate registration is/was required for the coaches to access additional educational content, which would be over and above the material already translated by the project partners.



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STEP 2

LEARN FROM EDUCATIONAL VIDEOS

- The introduction level coaching course has 5 videos which the coaches watched. These videos included videos on the introduction to Teqball, Rules and Regulations of Teqball, Introduction to Teqball coaching, Teqtraining and a video known as “zero to hero”.
- In total, the 5 videos take about 75 minutes to watch.
- As there were 5 separate short videos, this allowed the coaches to take their time to watch the videos over more than one session, as well as to easily rewatch a particular video if needed.
- The videos are designed to be user friendly and easy to follow, allowing for the most part, for coaches speaking all different languages to follow. There were some coaches where this was a challenge due to the language barrier.

STEP 3

STUDY RELATED DOCUMENTS

- This step reverts back to the documents that the partners in this project translated previously as this is where the coaches had to read through and study 3 different texts: Introduction to Teqball, The Official Rules and Regulations of Teqball and the Teqball Coaching Coursebook.
- This step is not time specific and therefore each individual was able to take their own time to read, study and absorb the content of the various study material.
- Take note: the main language for the reading material is English and in addition to this, there are 7 other languages – none of which are partner native languages - where reading material is available. We now have 7 additional languages where the training material is translated into. Due to quality control measures we are still awaiting FITEQ’s approval of the translated texts which will consequently be sent to the partner federations.



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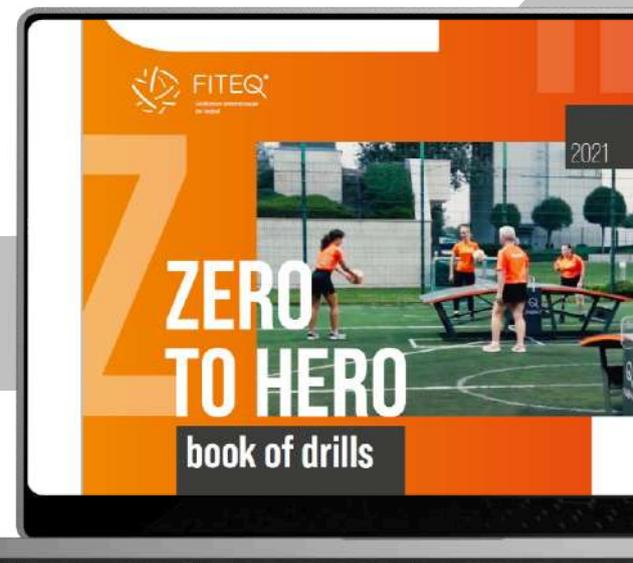
STEP 4

PRACTISE TEST

- Fortunately for the coaches, 2 practise tests are offered to all persons trying to get certified and this gives the coaches an idea of the type of questions asked in the final exam, to help them see which areas they need to focus on more.
- The practise tests include a combination of testing of both the videos and the written training materials.
- The mock test is about 20 minutes long with 30 questions. NOTE: Only 2 mock tests are allowed to be taken. If you fail either of these and take a third test, this is treated as an exam and the coaches would (if they failed) be forbidden from taking the exam again for 6 months.
- This was problematic for some of our project partners as some of their chosen coaches had failed the 3rd mock test and were therefore delayed in their attempts at getting their certification. This was one of the reasons that we encouraged our coaches to become familiar with the rules of TeqBall so that when it came to completing their exams, they would pass first time and not have the 6 month delay due to being unprepared. In certain instances we mitigated this by finding additional coaches who were willing to be trained and to be part of the project, and they completed the training certification timeously.



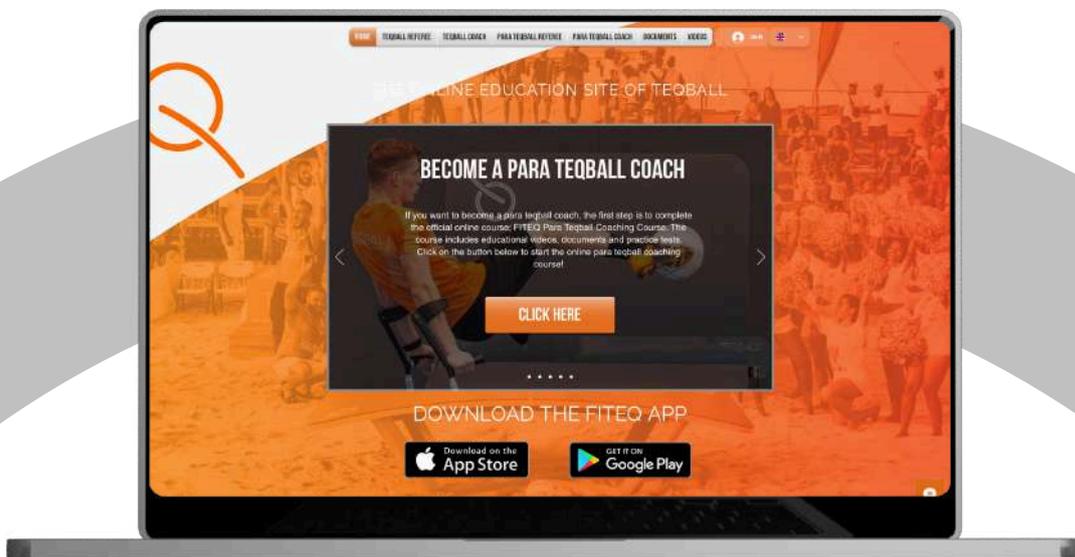
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STEP 5

THE OFFICIAL COACHING TEST

- As with the mock tests, this official final exam/test consisted of a combination of content from the videos and written modules. The test itself is only 20 minutes and you only have 1 attempt at this. 30 questions are asked, and 85% minimum is required to be considered a pass. Anything less and the coaches had failed the official final exam/test.
- The majority of our coaches passed the exam first time but there were a few that did not and had to wait or are still waiting for the 6 month period to pass so that they can retry.
- By passing the first exam, the coaches have become Introductory level coaches. There are options to become more advanced coaches but this is not catered for specifically in this project and the coaches have not been asked to proceed with the advanced courses.



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3 - UNOFFICIAL TRAINING

All of the above 5 steps are the official steps to training. Our partners however have had the Teq tables in their respective clubs or schools with whom they are collaborating since the first half of 2023. This has generated a lot of interest from the club members and especially children as to how to play the game. Whilst they might not have had the exact rules at the time or be certified, the coaches have encouraged people to play around and on the Teq Tables, for people to get a feeling how the game works, how the body moves differently when playing around a table and how much fun it is!

Below are some examples of these unofficial training sessions that the coaches had with the players and children.



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4 - ONLINE TRAINING WORKSHOP

Some coaches were able to obtain certification without the assistance of the online training workshop. There were however a large number of coaches who chose to wait for the workshop in order to get clarification on any particular item of concern before taking the certification test.

Together with FITEQ Education, an online workshop was organised in late 2023. One of the FITEQ representatives that works with coaches ran the online workshop, sharing the videos and taking the coaches through them whenever there were questions. He also made reference to the written material and gave some “tips and tricks” in terms of learning about the games.

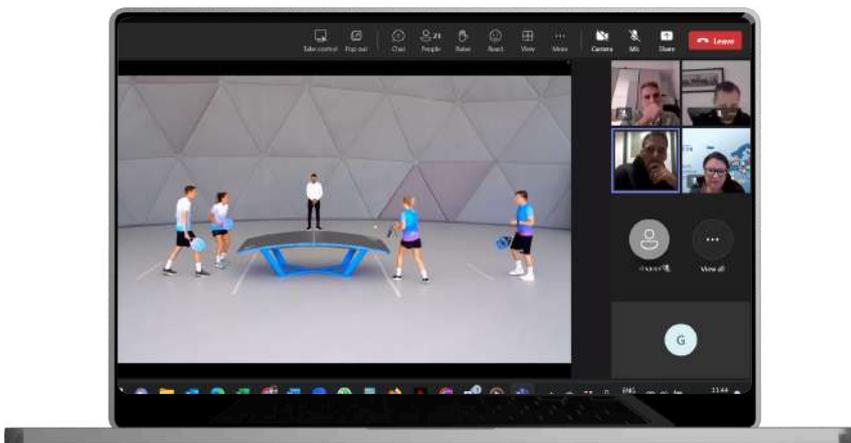
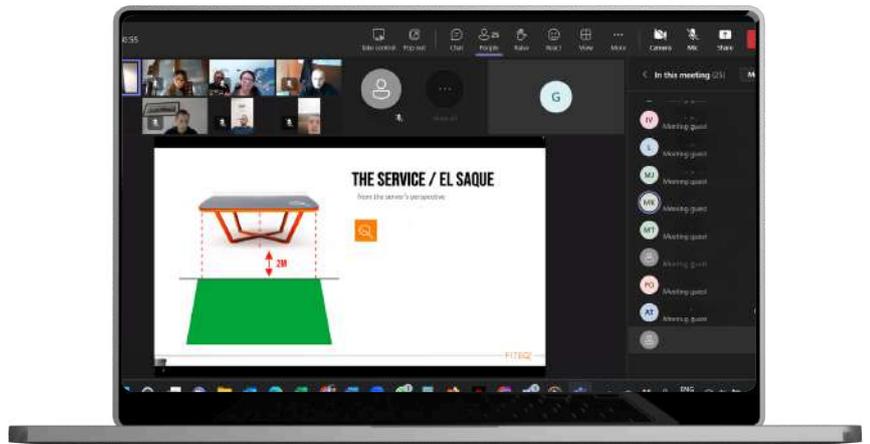
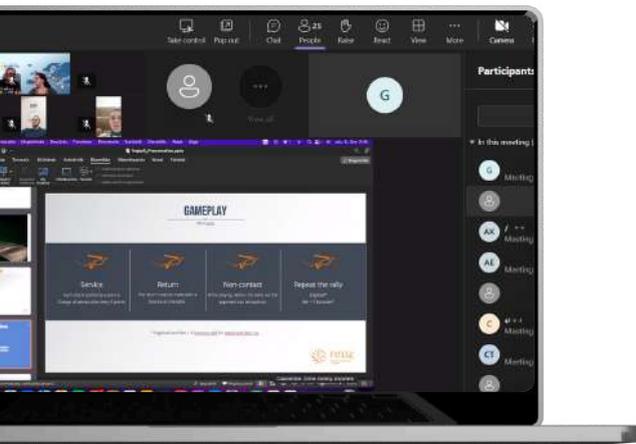
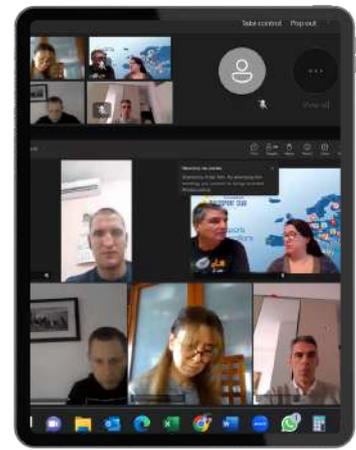
A challenge we faced was that some of the coaches didn't have a good understanding of English and the project coordinators had to help with translations. Fortunately, as the videos are self-explanatory, this assisted in getting the information shared.

The workshop was well attended with 25 coaches attending in total. This excluded one partners coaches who unfortunately could not attend due to other commitments. We did however record the training session, and this was shared with this club for them to catch up and use for their certification exam.

On the other page are some screenshots from the workshop with all names removed:



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5 - COACHES CERTIFICATION

In line with the above, the different individual coaches took the coaching certification course either before or after the online workshop. This all depended on whether or not the individual concerned was confident or not as to their knowledge of the game.

Some feedback we received was that whether or not certain people took the certification course before or after the workshop depended on the individuals understanding of English as it made the understanding of the videos harder than for those that understood English. The videos from FITEQ are a key part of the training material and as none of the videos were translated, this made things a bit more difficult for certain participants.

In total, 25 coaches obtained their certification in Introductory Teqball coaching. Of these, 18 were male and 7 were female. The majority of the partners had at least 1 female coach and the balance were males. We had 2 partners with 4 coaches (1 additional to the requirement) and one club had huge interest with 8 coaches obtaining their certification (being 5 more than required). All certificates were obtained before the end of January 2024.

An example of what the coaches certificate looks like is listed below, with all identifying details removed for GDPR purposes.



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6 - SUMMARY

Overall, the coaches training and ultimate certification in coaching Teqball was very successful, especially considering that we exceeded our target of 18 coaches, reaching 25 coaches in total. This number may increase with added interest in the sport with the upcoming open days taking place.

The number of female coaches is low relative to that of the male coaches. The level of interest and willingness to get involved in Teqball by females in general is limited. A greater interest for females was shown in Teqvolley specifically. The rules for TeqVolley (and all other Teq Sports) were provided to the partners and the partners were able, should they so wish or need, to translate these rules and regulations into their own languages.

The deliverable of having coaches trained and certified was successful.

