

## EHF DEVELOPMENT VISIT AND COACHES SEMINAR 26-29 June 2010 in Batumi - GEORGIA

Arriving in Tbilisi at 3.15am on 26<sup>th</sup> June the CDO was met by 3 officials from Georgian Hockey Federation who kindly drove over 6 hours to the Black Sea resort of Batumi.

After 4 hours a stop off in Kutaisi the "capital" of Georgian Hockey allowed a visit to both the Sports Palace- a very good indoor arena and also the main outdoor sports complex which comprised the main soccer pitch, an indoor pool, tennis courts and a very old Regopol hockey pitch. CDO discussed the potential of refurbishing the pitch with a second hand carpet and this discussion cropped up later during a meeting with high ranking officials of Kutaisi

### **Kutaisi Sports Palace- an excellent Indoor facility**



**We needed to buy water/wine holders for all delegates**

After a large breakfast the group continued onto Batumi to the Sports Marina complex which houses an artificial soccer pitch used at present by Georgian HF as the base for the outdoor National Championships.

## Batumi Sports Complex Pitch



The Coaches seminar started at 6pm and 24 delegates attended (20 from Georgia and 4 from Armenia). The topics covered included:

- Coaching styles and methods
- The needs of young players
- Coaching for U12 players
- Coaching for U18 players
- Penalty Corner Defence and Attack
- Playing styles of various nations
- The Rules of Hockey



**The Coaches**

The seminar closed with a visit from both the Sports Minister of the region and his Deputy. Interviews were televised and again discussions took place about good sites for a second hand hockey carpet. CDO explained what support EHF could offer Georgian Hockey if the local and National government also offered financial support.

In summing to close the seminar discussions took place to hold an Indoor seminar in December in Kutaisi Sports Palace.

Vice President Avtandil Tevdoradze drove the CDO back to Kutaisi for meeting with the Mayor and Sports Minister. Here televised discussions took place about the need for quick action so that a good quality second hand pitch could be collected from Scotland. The Mayor agreed to ensure that transport of the carpets was arranged and that a good site in Kutaisi would be finalised. The Mayor was proud of the achievements of the hockey family in Kutaisi as the clubs here regularly win the Georgian National Championships. He was keen to support EHF Indoor events in the Sports Palace and welcomed the idea of a seminar in December.

## **The old Regupol hockey pitch in Kudaisi needs complete refurbishment**



**Avtandil and Norman in Kudaisi**

The 5 hour drive to Tbilisi airport followed to catch the 4am flight home via Munich.

CDO wishes to thank Georgian Hockey Federation and in particular Vice President Avtandil and Interpreter Marike who did a wonderful job during the 3 days. The hospitality of the Georgian hockey family was incredible.

**CDO Ends 30 June 2010**