



Zagreb, 15 July 2013

SUMMARY REPORT OF THE 1st ROUND OF THE HNL FIRST LEAGUE

As part of its project, "Direct Prevention of Fan Violence," observers of the Croatian Helsinki Committee (HHO) monitored the matches in the 1st round of the HNL First League and observed the following incidents:

HNK RIJEKA – NK ISTRA 1961 – 3:0

The match was played on Friday, 12 July at 7:00 p.m. at the Kantrida Stadium in Rijeka in front of about 6,000 spectators, 2,000 of whom were members of *Armada* (the fan group of HNK Rijeka) and about 100 member of *Demons* (the fan group of NK Istra 1961). The match was played in a more or less correct atmosphere with periodic mutual insults by *Armada* and *Demons*: "Istria cunts" and the response from *Demons*, "Fuck you, Rijeka!" In the 22nd minute, *Demons* chanted: "Fuck you, Mami !" alluding to the new players who have come to HNK Rijeka from the Zagreb clubs Dinamo and Lokomotiva. In the second half *Armada* chanted: "HNS faggots, you have fucked up football" and lit several large fireworks.

GNK DINAMO – NK OSIJEK – 3:1

In Zagreb on Friday, 12 July, at 9:00 p.m. at Maksimir Stadium that match between GNK Dinamo and NK Osijek was played in front of about 8,000 spectators. Among them were about 200 member of the fan group *Bad Blue Boys*, who were divided into two groups in the north and south portions of the east grandstand, and about 100 members of *Cohort* (the fan group of NK Osijek), located in the southern portion of the west grandstand.

The match was played with correct cheering by a large part of the public but with several minor "fan" incidents. In the 14th minute, *Cohort* chanted the sexist homophobic message: "HNS faggots, you have fucked up football," which they repeated several times until the end of the match. In the 18th minute, *BBB* began to chant, "Mami , you Gypsy, leave the holy shrine," but the rest of the public followed this with whistling and so "silenced" this kind of "fan behavior." The same thing was repeated in the 33rd minute and several other times in the course of the match. In the 35th minute, *Cohort* chanted: "Mami , you Gypsy, get out of Croatia!" which was also followed by whistling. Although it may be too soon to draw a final conclusion, it seems that Dinamo fans have found a way to neutralize hate messages in the stadiums – whistling their dissatisfaction with such chanting. It is interesting to note that television commentator, Ivica Blaži ko, after praising the positive atmosphere in the stadium, was a target of *BBB*'s chanting: "Blaži ko, Blaži ko, Mami 's pi ko! (pussy)"

NK ZADAR – HNK HAJDUK – 1:5

The match between NK Zadar and HNK Hajduk was in Zadar on 13 July at Stanovi at 9:00 p.m. The match was attended by 6,000 spectators, among whom were about 4,000 members of *Torcida* (the fan group of HNK Hajduk). In the 2nd and 18th minutes, *Torcida* lit flares, which they repeated in the 25th and 37th minutes. In the 53rd minute, *Torcida* chanted: "HNS faggots, you have fucked up football!" and a minute later, "Fuck you, Mami ." In the 59th minute, a massive shower of flares began. *Torcida* lit more than 10 flares, several of which landed on the field and because of which the referee briefly halted the match. In the 67th minute, *Torcida* again lit a seat, but quick intervention by firemen extinguished the flames.

Croatian Helsinki Committee
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President