

Exposing Corruption
in
**International Volleyball:
A Personal Account”**
§ *By Mario Goijman*

§ *“What would happen to the might of the wicked if the just were not so craven?”*

§ *Isaac Bashevis Singer (in The Slave)*

§ *Nobel Prize Literature 1978*

Good Morning:

- **SPORTS** are a tool, put in the hands of society to educate better individuals and a healthier society as a whole.
- **SPORTS** must integrate people and cultures. **SPORTS** must **EDUCATE** individuals to respect others, be tolerant, live in solidarity and achieve meaningful objectives based on personal and group effort.
- **SPORTS** foster and advocate **VALUES**, not **ECONOMIC** but **MORAL** values, in a world that is gradually losing the concept of fundamental values.

- **SPORTS** must not only promote the objective of **HEALTHY MINDS** in **HEALTHY BODIES** but also promote **FAIR PLAY**, and respect for the rules that govern sports.
- **SPORTS LEADERS** must understand these concepts and try to inculcate them to sportsmen and women, but in the same way, to act respecting those patterns.
- To project a good sportsmanship image on millions of youths around the world, we must encourage and promote the creation of **CHAMPIONS** and High Performance Dream Teams, successful Professionals who can prove in front of millions of spectators, that objectives can be achieved through personal effort.

But we, as leaders expect them to also project a **CORRECT IMAGE**, and in the same way this must also apply to **LEADERS**.

But,

For some people, sports have turned into a **BUSINESS**, without rules. It must be made clear to **SPORTS LEADERS**, that is to say **SPORTS OFFICIALS**, and above all, to top World Sports Officials, that sport cannot turn into “the business deal” of some people or Institutions.

If a Sports Organization does not communicate real **VALUES** by setting the example, its **LEADERS** are not fulfilling **THEIR MISSION**.

If the most important goal is to sign “business deals” or make money; if dissent is not tolerated within Organizations, if matters are not handled with TRANSPARENCY, if management is based on verticality and submission, on obedience and elimination of those who think differently, then those LEADERS CANNOT BE THE EXAMPLE TO FOLLOW. LEADERS and their organizations should project a CORRECT, TRANSPARENT, HONEST and RESPECTFUL image.

International Volleyball, is the best, or let me say, the Worst example of these.

- Transparency does not exist.
- Submission is the only organizational rule.
- A Man and his wife had taken the International Federation as their own property; and managed it as a Kingdom.

In 1984, Twenty one years ago, Ruben Acosta was appointed President of the FIVB.-
His wife, Malu de la Fuente, without having any official position became the QUEEN.
Immediately they moved the FIVB from Paris, to Lausanne.

Since then, they have ruled the FIVB, as owners of a private organization; where they decide everything , without consulting or respecting any organized body.-

In these 21 years, many brilliant sport leaders from all over the world that assumed positions in the FIVB Board, and tried to ask difficult questions, or to request transparency, or expressed dissents of any kind, or began to merge as alternative leaders in the FIVB, had lost their heads, with foolish arguments, or without any explanation.-

Many others escape, from the FIVB environment as soon as they realized the SICKNESS of the Organization.

In that way: Yasutaka Matsudaira, from Japan, Carlos Nuzman, from Brasil, Luis Moreno, Peru, Rolf Andresen, from Germany, Herman Van Zwieten, from Nederland, Lasse Svensson, from Sweden, Timo Santalainen, from Finland, Lulo Mendoza, from Puerto Rico, the Italian Fabio Sassi, Miloslav Ejem, from Czek, and many others are not more in the FIVB.-

And also more than 90 efficient and devoted employees had been expelled from FIVB, for being more loyal to the Sport Principles than to the Malu's or Ruben Acosta's unjustified desires.

I am an engineer, and entrepreneur, Voluntary leader, involved in Volleyball as a player, and I became a leader in sport in my country, Argentina.

My main objective as a Sports Leader, was to promote Values and Principles through our Sport.

In 1996, I took on the Presidency of the Argentine Volleyball Federation, and in 1998, I was appointed as one of the 30

November 8th, 2005

Board members of the FIVB, at the Tokyo Congress, through the vote of my pairs of the National Volleyball Federations.

Through my experience in other international organizations in other fields, I was accustomed to fully assuming my responsibilities as a Board member, and I tried to help the development of the sport in my Country and in the FIVB.

In 1998, also, I took on the commitment of organizing the 2002 Men's FIVB World Championship in six cities of Argentina and the Volleyball World Congress in Buenos Aires.

I fulfilled the FIVB requirements, obtained a TV contract that assured a Worldwide broadcasting to 160 countries, for all the games and 4 millions US dollars for the FIVB; signed the Contracts with the FIVB, survived to seven inspection visits, and the NIGHTMARE began.

The World Championship was a Great Success, also declared by Ruben Acosta FIVB President, as the best organized Championship in Volleyball History.

But Acosta and his wife began a war against me; denied the funds that should have been allocated for the organization, from those received by the FIVB in their accounts, from the TV.

And the war was intensified as soon as, immediately after the Congress, five days before the Opening ceremony, I released to the FIVB General Manager, my concerns about the accuracy of the FIVB 2000 annual Statement, submitted to the Congress delegates.

THE DENOUNCE

On December 20th, 2002, I filed a criminal complaint before the Criminal Courts of Lausanne against the President of the FIVB, Dr. Acosta, and the General Manager, Jean Pierre Seppey, for forgery of documents, false information on a commercial enterprise and mismanagement of funds; grounded in the two following issues.

SLIDE

What I discovered was that the Auditors report, for the Annual Statement 2000, that unveiled the payment of commissions for SFr 8.320.000, had been adulterated to eliminate any reference to that payment.

As the figures were netted from the commissions, nobody would realize that payment to the President.

SLIDE

The FIVB's Statements as of December 31st., 2000 were audited by the firm Price Waterhouse Cooper, the Auditors included a Note to the Financial Statements, stating that the amount of SFr. 8.320.000 had been collected as a Commission, and that against accounting regulations, instead of being included as expenses, it had been netted from the income, with which it was impossible to know about that withdrawal.SLIDE

The note included by the auditors appears in the FINANCIAL REPORT presented to the Board of Administration in its May 2001 meeting, including 3 exhibits , the 3^o, the one with the note., in its Auditor's Report.**(SLIDE)**

Instead, in the report to the Congress, which had to approve that Financial Statements, that Note was

excluded, and it was reported that there were only 2 exhibits. **(SLIDE)**

You may see that the front page has been changed, deleting any reference to the 3rd. note from Price Waterhouse. And the note itself was eliminated. **(SLIDE)**

A ROUGH AND SIMPLE FORGERY WAS PERFORMED.

It does not indicate who collected the amount of SFr. 8.320.000 (USD 6,000,000 approximately), but we know now, that it was Mr. Rubén Acosta, the President, and finally, after denying it, in the trial, he also recognized that.

And the intention of hiding this facts from the Congress was to avoid certain questions coming from the National Federations delegates, and the impossibility of justifying such amount, especially immediately before the election for President of the FIVB. The intention succeeded, because nobody noticed the manipulation.

The commissions paid, were on account of Television and Sponsoring Contracts corresponding to different competitions organized by the FIVB. According to a regulation approved by the Congress of the International Federation in September 2000, in Seville at the request of Acosta, those people who bring contracts to the FIVB without the intervention of a Marketing Agency, are to be accredited a commission of up to a 10 %.

Nobody imagined that Acosta would collect that amount himself, simply because it is he the one who, on account of the FIVB statutes, has to sign all the contracts.

And in addition to that , the contracts signed in Seville, included options for events to be performed in more than 10 years, and most of them include OPTIONS for the television companies, and the payments for these options will be collected along many years to come, meanwhile Acosta would have collected these commissions immediately, much before FIVB could collect them.

The administration of an international sporting institution lies on the confidence placed in its administrators, who - it is supposed - respond to that confidence acting with HONESTY AND TRANSPARENCY.

In the case of the FIVB, that transparency does not exist, NOBODY has ever seen the Contracts, not even the BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION, and the simple request of information about them, meant for the FIVB President a lack of loyalty. And this allows the fact - for example- that nobody knows the amount of the contract with MIKASA, exclusive supplier of the only authorized Volley-balls , that would have paid USD 9,000,000 on account of its contract, from which USD 900,000 (10%) would have been directly collected by Acosta.

The lack of any information about who received those SFr. 8,320,000. was in order to elude taxes , because the FIVB, is exempted from paying taxes but not Acosta when he received such amounts.

Lets go to another denounce:

ANOTHER ILLEGAL FACT DENOUNCED

The case of the Epalinges Villa.

The FIVB, Board of Administration, in its May 16th. 2001 meeting approved a Finance Committee's recommendation, advising that **"taking into account the uncertainty of the exchange rates and the small benefit obtained from Bonds and Shares, it should be convenient that the FIVB invested part of its fortune in Real Estate"**.

Immediately recommended to buy a property in Lausanne, of 44 years of age at the "very good" price of SFr. 1,700,000 (more or less USD 1,250,000 at that time), taking into account that they already had two quotations and that the operation was convenient.

The said village located in Route Montblesson 30, parcelle 278, EPALINGES in Lausanne, could also serve as residence for the FIVB's presidents.

IT WAS APPROVED, PLACING THE CONFIDENCE IN THE HIGHEST AUTHORITIES.

NOBODY REPORTED THAT THE MENTIONED REAL PROPERTY HAD BELONGED SINCE February 10th, 1984 to Jose de la Fuente Parres y Weber, the father of Mrs. MARIA DE LOURDES (MALU) DE LA FUENTE DE ACOSTA;

SLIDES Certificates

And that :

Her father has died a couple of month before, and to avoid legal troubles with his INHERITANCE, and many TAX COSTS, IT WAS CONVINIENT FOR MALU ACOSTA , TO CASH THE MONEY, (and the FIVB immediately paid her).

¿Who signed the transference on July 1st 2001, if the owner was already dead?

Now we know that Acosta has been living in that property since 1984, when the FIVB moved to Lausanne, every time he was in Switzerland, (was this the reason, for moving to Lausanne?) and collecting for his family the rental of the Villa, for Seventeen years.-

And now he stills lives there, but he cashed out the 1.7 millions

With my criminal denounce, the Instructing Judge Nicolas Cruchet, acted quickly and efficiently, and on February 4th, 2003 a formal visit and search by the Police was made to the FIVB headquarters.

They took all the available informations, records, documents and the Hard disks of Mr Acosta and Seppey's computers..

Acosta and Seppey had been interrogated by the police and by the Judge, and a lot of surprising information went to the Criminal file.

But after the initial efficiency, something strange happened with the investigation.

And it took 24 months for the Judge, until December 10th 2004, to consider in his resolution , that despite the fact that the accusations had been proved, the actions taken by the accused had not criminal intention, and then did not constitute any offence.

To arrive to such surprising conclusion, the Judge received a lot of declarations, my permanent pressure to speed up the investigation, but refused to produce very important testimonies, offered by my lawyers.

I decided to appeal such decision with the Tribunal of Accusation of Vaud, in Switzerland, which is composed of three independent judges and is the supreme instance in this province of Switzerland supervising the activity of the investigating judges in all criminal matters.

And this Court accepted my appeal; and ordered the immediate criminal indictment of Mr Ruben Acosta, FIVB President, Mr. Jean Pierre Seppey, FIVB General Manager (today dismissed by Acosta), and Mr. Franz Schmied former treasurer, and current controller, for forgery of documents and false information about a commercial enterprise.

SLIDES

And the Open and Oral Trial will take place on March 8th and 9th, 2006. (One year after the resolution of the Court of Appeal, and three years and two month after I filed the denounce)

THE IOC FUNDS

Under the framework of this investigation, the acting Judge requested that the IOC indicate the figures paid by the IOC to the FIVB in concept of subsidies after the 1996 Atlanta Olympic Games and the 2000 Sydney Olympic Games.

The IOC's official response to the acting Judge's request is detailed below, together with the official FIVB accounts:

4 Slides

It became evident that, apart from the more than 15.000.000 dollars withdrawn from FIVB accounts by Mr. Acosta in the past years, and of his efforts to conceal these withdrawals with the safeguard of his clean and honest image, there were serious discrepancies between what the International Olympic Committee paid the FIVB in terms of subsidies, and what the FIVB recorded in its audited accounts.

With these elements I submitted a denounce to the IOC President Jacques Rogge, on September 22nd 2003, and October 15th 2003; with copies to the IOC Ethic's Commission, explaining those **serious discrepancies**.

In such letters I explained:

“in 1996; the IOC paid to the FIVB, u\$s 4.670.000 as a result of the Atlanta Olympic Games but the FIVB recorded SFR 3.613.198 which represents a difference of 2.650.000 Swiss Francs at the exchange rate applicable in 1996”.

“And in 2000, the International Olympic Committee paid the FIVB SFR 15.212.000 for the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games but the FIVB recorded SFR 13.013.987, which represents a difference of 2.200.000 Swiss Francs”.

These discrepancies can not be justified, but in the same way that it cannot be justified that IN LIGHT OF THE VERIFICATION OF THESE FACTS, THE MAXIMUM AUTHORITIES OF THE OLYMPIC MOVEMENT DECIDE TO "SWEEP IT UNDER THE RUG".

Mr. President, I am a 58-year-old sports official who has been voluntarily working for the past 30 years in favor of world sports, without any monetary compensation whatsoever precisely because I believe that sports are an essential tool for the education and development of individuals.

It is because of these principles that I made public Mr. Acosta's irregularities as leader of our sport, I lifted the veil on corruption, I faced all the risks and have paid the consequences of aspiring to a HEALTHY AND TRANSPARENT sport, an example to our youths.

It is also due to this, that Argentine Volleyball as a whole was sanctioned in the person of honest officials, and even the Argentine players have had to bear the consequences because we, as their leaders, stood by our principles and values, and have been separated from numerous tournaments and competitions, which represents an open violation of the OLYMPIC CHARTER All this has been presented to you in our letters dated June 5, August 13 and August 27, requesting your intervention as the maximum authority in WORLD SPORTS.

Why you, Mr Rogge?

Because you are the President of the International Olympic Committee.

Because you have repeatedly stated in your speeches that you are a strong advocate of transparency in sports, clean procedures, fair play and honest leadership.

Dr. Jacques Rogge, to this day, you disappointed me, YOU have privileged a false sense of “sprit de corp” in defending the IOC members at all costs, instead of favoring transparency and fair play. Until today, you have done absolutely nothing to change the current status of things.

It would seem that you don't care about what the members of the IOC do, about the final use given to IOC funds, supposedly intended for the promotion and development of world sporting activities, that is of no concern to you, and that it is completely irrelevant whether or not it ends up in the pockets of some unscrupulous IOC member.

What happened with this denounce?

Nothing inside the IOC Executive Committee.

No reply from Jacques Rogge.

But the IOC Ethic Commission launched an investigation, and produced two excellent documents.

Ethics Slides 4

The first one, firmly declaring “that money from sports must go to sport” and the second one requiring a strong sanction against Ruben Acosta.

Let's say that the IOC Ethics Commission was composed of FIRST CLASS INDEPENDENT INDIVIDUALS.

Keba Mbaye	Senegal (Chairman)
Robert Badinter	France
Andrew Young	USA
Ninian Stephen	Australia
Javier Perez de Cuellar	Peru
Kurt Furgler	Switzerland
Chiharo Igaya	Japan
Pernilla Wiberg	Sweden
Paquerete Girard Zapelli	France (coordinator)

The Ethic Commission recommendation was sent to the IOC Executive Committee,and there “a deal” was made.

Rubén Acosta resigned to the IOC, giving the excuse of his age; and the IOC send the case to sleep.

And a shame pressure came from the FIVB attorney, over the IOC:

“The FIVB challenged the IOC with opening the mouth, if something merges from the IOC, against Ruben Acosta, to the Public Opinion”

Letter from the FIVB attorney to the IOC President.

Lausanne, August 17th, 2004

“I reserve the right to use this letter in all circumstances, including the judicial procedures, that my clients may decide to begin, and in that case to request the

production of the accountings of IOC and the agency Meridian Management SA, for the years 1996 to 2002, in order to prove that the principle “The money from sports must go to sports”, has not ruled the remuneration of the IOC agent charged with the conclusion of sponsoring and television contracts, and that the IOC can not request from the FIVB the respect of a principle that has not been followed by them during the considered period.”

Rossinelli & Capt Lawyers

OUTCOMES of the INVESTIGATION

From this long lasting process, that was called THE VOLLEYGATE; many things have merged, and are now, ABSOLUTELY TRUE and COMPLETELY PROVEN through the legal investigations.-

1-The President of the FIVB, Ruben Acosta is not an honorary President, as he has repeatedly, told to press and Volleyball people. He has been very well remunerated for his position as a President.

2.-Let us see now the attestation signed by the FIVB’s accountant, Francois Guedon, detailing the USD 13.700.000 collected by Ruben Acosta, and that NEVER APPEARED in detail in the FIVB’s Accounts.

*Following the attestation presented to the Judge, ACOSTA at least received: **ATtESTATION SLIDE***

- *CHF 2,000,000 in 1996*
- *USD 750,000 in 1997*

- **USD 5,200,000 in 2000**
- **CHF 1,796,000 in 2002, as part of an invoice for ChF 7,300,000**
- **In total this official attestation is for 13.700.000 USD**

Lets see some transferences of “salaries” for USD 5.200.000 to our honorary president **2 slides**

3. - At least since 1998 he also receives every year CHF 544,000 (USD 430.000) as compensation for honoraries, transportation, and representation expenses, as presented in the TRIBUNAL FILE, however nobody realized **these before my denounces.**

VER DIAPO.-planilla apaisada

IN TOTAL WE MAY ESTIMATE THAT at LEAST ACOSTA COLLECTED USD 19.000.000 until 2004

4. – FALSE ACCOUNTS

The FIVB accounts had not been accurate since 1990.- According with the declarations of the FIVB treasurer and the accountants, both incomes and expenses, had been registered in accounts, without any relation with their respective income or expenses subject, and following the general principle of registering them in the accounts with enough amounts to hide the commissions paid to the President or his expenses.

The commissions paid to Acosta, NEVER APPEARED AS SUCH IN THE ACCOUNTS, they were split in different expenses accounts in the accountancy, in order to make everybody to lose sight of the payment of such commissions

This method has avoided any embarrassing question during more than 12 years (1990-2002), and allowed to maintain the image of Ruben Acosta, as a benevolent sports leader.-

5.- False Invoices:

The FIVB paid such money to its President, following false invoices, submitted by an inexistent office or company, called “Buffet Rubén Acosta and associates”, located in the FIVB offices in Mexico City.

On February 4, 2003, the Swiss Police and the acting Court, carried out a search at the FIVB’s headquarters that resulted in many probative findings, amongst which there were four (4) invoices intervened by the FIVB. Said invoices were later confirmed by Franz Schmied, and are enclosed in the present report.

Acosta INVOICES slides 3

- Note that the Invoice address is at the FIVB offices in Mexico City, which expenses are paid by the FIVB.
- That the Bufets mentioned do NOT EXIST, they are just mechanisms employed by Ruben Acosta to evade paying Taxes over the collected money. *In Switzerland*, the FIVB did not withhold taxes for these invoices issued in Mexico, thus breaking the SWISS TAX LAW. The invoices from these so-called “Firms” should have been subject to tax deductions. *In Mexico*, nobody is aware of the existence of these

“Firms”, and the money was deposited in an UBS Swiss account that belongs to Ruben Acosta.

- **The Regulation’s provision, stipulates the payment of commissions for Sponsorship contracts that are negotiated without the direct involvement of a Marketing Agency, and the above-mentioned “Firms” define themselves as marketing consultants, and DENTSU is a marketing Company, perhaps number 1 in the World.**
- **The provision states that the engagement of business deals must be authorized by the FIVB through its President.**
- **Said Regulation specifies that the FIVB’s President must sign contracts, and was never conceived to reward the President of the FIVB himself.**
- **The Regulation states that no commissions shall be paid for “brand exclusivity” rights. The contract signed with MIKASA was for the “exclusive use” of the brand.**
- **All payments made, correspond to sporting events to be held up to the year 2011. These contracts contain “options” for said sporting events, which may very well never take place.**
- **The false invoices for SFr 8.320.000 and SFr 7.300.000 , including contracts signed before, had been issued few hours after the Congress in Seville, August 2000, when Acosta requested the approval of the rule, to fix a limit for the**

commissions to be paid to those people obtaining contracts for the FIVB, but never supposed to remunerate the President of a NON PROFIT organization.

. - The only person that collected commissions was the FIVB President.

BENEFITS FOR WITNESSES

Many witnesses used in the justice process by Acosta, had been incorporated to the FIVB Staff, to obtain and assure their loyalty, such as:

- Mr. Thorteinsson, former auditor, that certified the false accounts and was appointed as FIVB Technical Coordinator.**
- Willy Burckhard who testified falsely has been engaged by the FIVB as Marketing and TV advisor.**
- The Professor Chappelet, testifying for the FIVB was engaged as member of the FIVB Development Commission.**
- Franz Schmiedt, former treasurer, and afterwards Controller, is again remunerated as World League Coordinator.**

It is clear that the auditing report corresponding to the year 2000 was forged because the auditing firm PriceWaterhouse Cooper insisted in mentioning the payment of the commissions for SFr 8,320,000 in that year, and they resigned to the FIVB mandate, in 2003; because of the manipulation of their auditing report.

- The lawyers for Ruben Acosta and Jean Pierre Seppey, in the trials had been the Buffet Michel Rossinelli-Gloria Capt, who at the same time performed as FIVB legal advisors, and this is a flagrant conflict of interest, because the damaged party is the FIVB, and of course the most relevant details of this case had never been clearly informed to the FIVB members.-

Of course, it was the FIVB who paid the legal expenses of Acosta and Seppey defenses.

Ruben Acosta permanently says that everything was legal, but if this was so. Why did they need to forge the accounts, to change auditing reports, and to treat as liars and enemies to those that denounced these attitudes?

And, If the right to take the money should had been so clear and ethic,

Why forge the accounts?

Why the need to silence anybody?

THE FURIOUS REPRISAL

The FIVB let loose a frantic reprisal campaign filled with extremely unfair accusations against the Argentine Federation and its President, who had just recently hosted a brilliant World Congress in the city of Buenos Aires and an internationally acclaimed Men's Volleyball World Championship.

AGAINST MARIO GOIJMAN

Upon my denounces, and at the mere questions made to the FIVB General Manager in Buenos Aires, me and my colleagues in Argentina, had to support the most incredible and furious revenge.

On November 7, 2002, TODAY JUST 3 YEARS AGO. while attending a meeting convened in order to close the World Championship accounts, and pay what the FIVB owes the Argentine Federation, President Acosta, General Manager Seppey, Mrs. Malú Acosta and Vice President Cristóbal Marte Hoffiz, launched a cataract of accusations, ALL OF THEM FALSE, against me, accusing me of innumerable non existent facts and which were completely taken out of context.

They immediately informed me that I was suspended, at National and International level.

I had no chance to defend myself, and Acosta and Seppey had beforehand prepared and written the decision, which was immediately communicated to the Press.

To complete the planned scenario, there were all sorts of accusations launched against me, none of these accusations are true; they were only intended to silence me.

If I had been responsible for any illegal act, they would have filed criminal claims against me both in Switzerland and Argentina.

After this first decision, they decided my expulsion, also without any right to a fair defense.

They also appointed an International Volleyball Tribunal, that gathers in Lausanne, composed of

people that had not been appointed before, paid by the FIVB, and that as a first measure did not accepted my witnesses declarations.

The Fivb's decision, in relation to my person was contested in the Swiss Civil Court, requesting its nullity. The case is OPEN, because during these three years the FIVB opposed all kinds of tricks to delay the case, and of course the Tribunal is not hurried at all, in going against FIVB.

It is very important to point out that:

The FIVB is TODAY THE ONLY INTERNATIONAL SPORTS FEDERATION THAT DOES NOT ACCEPT THE JURISDICTIONS OF THE CAS. (Sports Arbitral Court)

The rest of the sports federations around the world accept its jurisdiction as a guarantee of impartiality.

Against the Federation Argentina of Volleyball

Upon informing the FAV about the arbitrary sanctions adopted against its President, the FAV's Board of Directors supported Eng. Mario Goijman for considering that the accusations were unfair and arbitrary.

The reaction after repeated threats from the FIVB was to suspend all officials that did not submit their resignation by the end of the year 2002, and so it was done. Twelve people were suspended, and to this day, they still do not know what they were accused of doing.

The Argentine Volleyball Federation was a model entity in its type, with its own headquarters and over thirty (30) people working for it. The suspension and latter expulsion of the Argentine Volleyball Federation itself, for no valid reason and without the right to a proper defense, is simply another illegal abuse of authority perpetrated by the FIVB, aimed at making it disappear.

Economic destruction:

The FIVB arbitrarily resolved to seize the money that was owed to the FAV, especially the money owed for the 2002 World League, which was paid to all the other participating countries since September 2002. The money - USD 101,000 - that belonged to Argentina was withheld. The almost USD 600,000 that should have been paid as a result of the 2002 World Championship balance were also withheld until now.

Said improper retention was not a resolution taken by any valid FIVB entity, it constitutes an arbitrary confiscation aimed at provoking a financial asphyxia within Argentine Volleyball.

In order to accomplish the intended economic asphyxia, the FIVB decided also to authorize the transferences of Argentine players for free,

In addition, all sponsorship contracts, which the Argentine volleyball community had built during the last six years were cancelled, including contracts with VISA, and ESPN among others, because ARGENTINE TEAMS COULD NOT PARTICIPATE IN INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS.

All this is simply a perverse and illegal plan for which the FIVB is accountable, although it was designed by only a couple of its maximum officials.

The destruction of the FAV at a sports level:

- **The Argentine national team was arbitrarily excluded from the 2003 and 2004 World Leagues, for which they already had contracts signed and in effect.**
- **The Youth and Junior men and women teams were excluded from the 2003 World Championships for which they had duly qualified.**
- **Said sanctions imposed on these young athletes went against the basic principles of sport and constitute a barbaric act.**
- **The exclusion of Argentine teams, men and women, from the 2003 Pan American Games hosted by the Dominican Republic was another barbaric act.**
- **Meanwhile, the Argentine Beach Volleyball couple, CONDE-BARACETTI, was authorized to participate, only after they signed a statement repudiating the FAV and giving their support to the FIVB, on June 5, 2003, in Rhodes. This constitutes an act of extortion incompatible with the role of sports leaders.**

Against Luis Moreno President of the South American Confederation

Admiral Luis Moreno was arbitrarily and for no valid reason removed from his position, to which he was elected by the CSV Congress, as well as from the Board of Administration of the FIVB under outrageous accusations and without the right to a proper defense. An honest leader with twenty years of history and experience was removed from office.-

Mr. Luis Moreno was, previous to said suspension, asked to resign from office and accuse Mario Goijman and the FAV of the same arbitrary accusations carried out by Acosta and Seppey, to secure himself an honorable discharge.

The reason for the attack to Moreno, was his _position that the conflict created artificially against the FAV, should be solved within a legal framework.

The result: the other South American colleagues decided to hide their solidarity towards Argentina, to preserve their respective Federations.

Later: during a sudden Executive Committee meeting, Luis Moreno was expelled for “lack of dignity”.

The arbitrary conception and creation of new Federations

Mr. Rubén Acosta celebrated deals with certain officials so that they would create a new Federation in Argentina , without valid representation, but that would obediently answer to the FIVB.

This was done after two attempts to appoint ghost authorities were unveiled and prohibited by the Argentine legal system.

The condition imposed arbitrarily by the FIVB, was that the only players and teams that should be accepted in international competitions, must have no contact or participation from any person that may had belonged to the old Argentina Federation.

The FIVB following obediently Acosta’s wishes, and scared with the sanctions applied to Luis MORENO and the Argentines, took the decision to expel the FAV and

approved the creation of a new Federation appointed and digitized by the FIVB.

This decision establishes a highly dangerous precedent for any other National Federation.

The last:

Ruben Acosta continues with his speech, that he his managing the best SPORTS FEDERATION and the MODEL for any other.

And in the last Congress in Porto, he proposed a new Code of Conduct, that establishes AN Empire in Sports. Says that this Code must prevail over any National Law, and must be incorporated in all National Federation's Statutes, and Leagues.

He receives full Powers, to decide any disciplinary measure, including expulsions.

He is allowed to consider any negative opinion as an "institutional offense", and may personally suspend anybody.

All the Clubs, and the National Federations and the Regional Federations, and players, and Referees, must demonstrate loyalty to the FIVB, and it's President.

HOW COULD DELEGATES to the Congress, BE SO SCARED TO GIVE HIM SUCH POWERS, and at same time, avoid any censure to him, his enrichment, and his falsifications? IT IS A PITYFULL.

I am very sad.

But JUSTICE WILL prevail, late but sure.

Disappointment

After three years of fight, I am disappointed with

- **The Coward attitude of the Volleyball Leaders from all over the world, that preferred to protect their own heads, instead of defending the truth and the honesty in our Sport.**
- **They used to call me, and told me, GREAT MARIO!!, GO AHEAD!!, WE WISH YOU SUCCESS!!, WE SUPPORT YOU!!, but... never in written, only on the phone.**
- **The Swiss Justice, protecting the income that the International Sports Organizations give to Switzerland, and giving them a PROTECTED TERRITORY, for they abuses and the enrichment of the dirty leaders.**
- **The weak defense that the Argentina Sport Political Authorities, made of the Federacion Argentina de Voleibol, in front of the unjustified intervention of the FIVB, over a National Institution, allowing the destruction of an exemplary organization.**
- **The lack of a strong spreading of the Volleygate, by most of the International Press.-**
- **The speculative position of the IOC, knowing the truth, but allowing an infamous banana republic style, Volleyball President to press them.**

But I am rewarded by:

- **The support of my colleagues in the Federacion Argentina, and in the World Championship 2002 Organizing Committee, supporting all kind of humiliations, and abuses, from the FIVB, but maintaining the principles, and the honor.**

- **The strong position of the IOC Ethics Commission, giving full defense to the moral and ethical principles in Sports, no matter which the names involved could be.**

- **The attitude of the Play the Game Organizers, strongly rejecting the dirty pressures of the International Volleyball Federation.**

Conclusion:

The way I have chosen has been very hard.

I have spent a lot of money, time, prestige, and hopes, trying to defend my principles.

I had to bear offenses, calumnies, defamations, and strong economic damages.

November 8th, 2005

But I am convinced of what I have done.

And strongly believe that I did the right thing.

And that at the very end,

MORAL will WIN

Thank you very much

**Mario Goijman
November 7th, 2005**