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Dear All,

I would like to invite you all to an **IRB Level 1** referees training weekend to be held in Vienna on the 25th – 26th August 2001. The course will be aimed at beginner to intermediate referees i.e. those who have done some refereeing and would like to improve. There will also be the opportunity for more advanced referees to learn from a senior FIRA referee / referees assessor, Mr. Kees Blaas from the Dutch Union, who is coming to help run the course. A rough time schedule is below.

Saturday 25th August

12:00 - Welcome

General principles

Scrum

Ruck/maul

On the ground

18:00 Finish

19:30 Informal dinner

Sunday 26th August

09:00 Start

Line Out

Off Side

Advantage

Dealing with trouble

Questionnaire

Marking + closure

The cost will be 200ATS per delegate so that we can provide lunch on both days and dinner on Saturday. I will be sending out a detailed schedule in the coming weeks. However, I should be grateful if you would send me an estimate of numbers as soon as possible. I will also be trying to sort out reasonably priced accommodation and I will let you know in due course.

I hope that you will be able to send several referees / potential referees so that we can take another step forward in improving the standard of refereeing and as a result the standard of rugby in the region. Kees Blaas, who will be the main coach, is a very experienced international referee, who is now one of FIRA's main referees' assessors. At the end of the course, the successful participants will receive their IRB Level 1 certificate.

I look forward to hearing from you all very soon.

Craig Morgan

Chairman
Austrian Referees Society