



To: European Footvolley League (EFVL) Disciplinary Committee
Subject: Formal Complaint Against Mr. Yiannis Tsiouris – Breach of EFVL Ethical and Non-Discrimination Principles

Dear Members of the EFVL Disciplinary Committee,

As the official representative of the State of Israel to the European Footvolley League (EFVL), I hereby submit a formal complaint regarding the repeated conduct of Mr. Yiannis Tsiouris (Footvolley.Athens), which breaches EFVL's founding principles, codes of conduct, and commitment to neutrality.

1. Repeated and Coordinated Discrimination Against Israeli Athletes

On multiple occasions, Mr. Tsiouris has sent the following message to Israeli players requesting to schedule footvolley practice or collaboration:

“During the last period of active genocide in the Middle East, we have decided to boycott people who explicitly or implicitly support it.”

This message has been sent not to one, but to **several Israeli athletes**. Furthermore, Mr. Tsiouris has **previously published anti-Israeli content** on his official Instagram page, directly accusing Israel of “genocide,” thereby reinforcing an openly hostile and politically biased narrative.

Such behavior amounts to:

- **Discrimination based on nationality and political association,**
- **Defamation of a member state,** and
- **Encouragement of political exclusion and division** within a sports community.



2. Violation of EFVL’s Code of Conduct and International Norms

According to EFVL’s principles—and in line with UEFA, FIFA, and IOC standards—members are required to:

- Refrain from **bringing politics into the game**,
- Treat all individuals equally, without regard to **national origin**, and
- **Promote inclusion and safety** for all participants.

Mr. Tsiouris’s actions violate these obligations, especially:

- EFVL Code of Ethics – Section 2.1 and 2.3 (Discrimination and Respect),
- The principle of **political neutrality in sport**,
- And obligations under the **Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union**, which prohibits denial of services based on nationality or belief.

3. Risk to the Safety and Cohesion of the EFVL Community

By promoting the notion of “genocide” without any legal basis in international law, and linking that claim to a **boycott of individuals**, Mr. Tsiouris:

- **Stigmatizes and isolates Israeli players**,
 - **Potentially incites** other members to adopt similar discriminatory conduct,
 - And **creates an unsafe environment** for Israeli athletes traveling abroad—both physically and socially.
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4. Israel's Commitment to EFVL

It is important to note that:

- **Israel has always upheld** all EFVL rules, commitments, payments, and behavioral codes.
- **Israel is the leading footvolley nation in Europe**, with the **top two players in the league**, both of whom are **four-time European champions**.
- Israeli participation has **consistently contributed** to the growth, visibility, and competitiveness of the EFVL across Europe.

It is therefore unacceptable for EFVL members to engage in systemic targeting of Israeli athletes, especially based on personal political interpretations of a conflict far beyond the EFVL's scope.

5. Requested Measures

In light of the ongoing nature and severity of Mr. Tsiouris's behavior, we respectfully request the EFVL Disciplinary Committee to:

- Launch an official **disciplinary inquiry** into Mr. Tsiouris's conduct,
- Issue a **formal written warning**,
- Consider **temporary suspension or disqualification** from EFVL-affiliated events,
- And publish a clear **reaffirmation of EFVL's commitment to neutrality and non-discrimination** across all member states.



Thank you for addressing this issue with the seriousness and impartiality it warrants. We remain fully committed to the values of sport, fair play, and coexistence—and expect the same from all EFVL members.

Sincerely,

Gal “Hofu” Levi

Ambassador of the Israel Footvolley Association (IFVA) to the European Footvolley League (EFVL)

Raphael Ankona

Jonathan Menashe

Board Members, Israel Footvolley Association (IFVA)

