

### **COURT OF ARBITRATION FOR SPORT : A LEGAL MILESTONE**

**T**he Court of Arbitration for Sport, based in Lausanne, has just delivered a verdict which marks a welcome development towards quicker and simpler settlement of sports conflicts. The case to be resolved started with a protest by a club against a sanction imposed on it by its federation. After exhausting all the possibilities for appeal provided for in the federation's statutes, the club brought a legal action before the civil courts. Rather than pursue a slow and expensive procedure, however — and that is what constitutes the interest of the case —, the parties decided by common assent to instruct the Court of Arbitration for Sport to look into the validity of the federation's decision. The federation agreed, it is important to note, to submit the validity of a decision issued by its highest statutory instance to evaluation by the Court of Arbitration for Sport. After consultation, the CAS delivered its verdict on 30th January 1987, confirming the validity of the decision taken by the highest instance of the national federation. However, the verdict will not be published, as the proceedings took place in camera in accordance with the Statute of the CAS.