

## Minutes of the E&A Wakeboard Boat Council Meeting

Time: January 31, 2010  
Place: Brussels, Belgium  
Present: Claes Scheffer Secretary  
Colin Hart  
Florian Butty President  
Maria Bulgakova  
Nicolas Subjobert Treasurer  
Nuno Almeida d'Eca  
Remi Breivik  
Simona Valerio

### 1 Visit by IWWF E&A President and Secretary

#### 1.1 Electoral Congress

Alain Amade and Sid Adreanssen paid the Council a visit at the beginning of the meeting in order to discuss what possibilities the Council had following the electoral Congress the day before.

The Council's near term strategy and plans has been prepared by Florian Butty and is based on him being a member of the Council and its President. Unfortunately the Council was without a Chairman for over a year, after the Chairman resigned, resulting in no leadership. It was agreed that Florian had shown good co-ordination of communication since this date and no other Council member wanted to take on the role.

It was concluded that the Council has to respect the decision of the elections and the decisions made by the delegates at the Congress. It was also noted that the Council will have to do what is necessary to function properly in the future and to be able to execute the already settled plans.

#### 1.2 Calculation Program

Alain Amade explained that the Tournament Council's contract with the developer of their calculation program lasts until the end of 2011. There is some political issues with regards to the current supplier. After 2011 it is the intention to develop a new program that will be possible to use by all disciplines, or at least that one single supplier is used. It is therefore necessary for the Wakeboard Boat Council only to have a program that can be used until the end of 2011. Colin Hart has promoted the Wakeboard UK program and wanted the Council to adopt the program and commented on how good the online concept would be. But Florian Butty will talk to Jeremy Nevill regarding the UK program that we have been promised to use. The Wakeboard Boat Council was also asked to talk to Ferdie Jansen who is the developer of the program used by Wakeboard Cable, to see if that can be used by us, or modified so that is possible.

#### 1.3 Italian Federation and Wakeskate

In 2008 IWSF Region E&A received an official letter from the Italian federation stating that it "will not authorize any athletes to take part in wakeskate competitions". Simona Valerio was asked by Alain Amade to look into this matter.

#### 1.4 World Wakeboard Association

Colin Hart has been approached by WWA regarding different matters. It was discussed what out standpoint is with regards to WWA and what we can do in order to be as attractive as possible for riders. Alain Amade concluded that it is impossible for WWA to become a recognized federation in any country in Region EA as there can only be one federation for each sport.

## 2 Inaugural Meeting

The Councils inaugural meeting was held on Sunday morning. A number of new members of the Council were elected at the electoral Congress.

The Council decided to elect Florian Butty as Riders Representative and, as such, full member of the Council.

After the electoral Congress and the Councils inaugural meeting the Council consists of the following persons with the associated positions:

Claes Scheffer	Sweden	Secretary
Colin Hart	England	World Wakeboard Council representative
Florian Butty	Switzerland	President and World Wakeboard Council representative
Maria Bulgakova	Ukraine	
Nicolas Subjobert	France	Treasurer
Nuno Almeida d'Eca	Portugal	World Wakeboard Council representative
Remi Breivik	Norway	
Simona Valerio	Italy	

## 3 President's Opening

The Council's new president Florian Butty welcomed everyone to the Council and to the meeting.

## 4 Approval of the Minutes from Montreux

The Minutes from the Council's last meeting in November, 2009 in Montreux, Switzerland have been completed and distributed through Brit Horemans after being reviewed.

## 5 The Wakeboard Boat Council and New Members

Florian Butty collected email addresses and phone numbers to all the Council's members. This list will be distributed to all members.

Florian Butty also delegated the following areas of responsibility.

<b>Item</b>	<b>Responsible</b>
PR Eastern Europe	Maria Bulgakova
PR Western Europe	Colin Hart
Website	Nuno Almeida d'Eca
Homologation and ranking	Remi Breivik and Simona Valerio



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## 6 Egyptian Judging Seminar

The Council has been approached by an Ehab Ghali from Egypt were 8-10 persons wants to organize a national Judges & Officials Seminar. The Council agreed that these persons shall be asked to attend the International Judges & Official Seminar in Birmingham in April instead. Florian Butty will contact Ehab Ghali and explain the situation.

## 7 International Judges & Officials and Boat Drivers Seminar 2010

Colin Hart gave the Council an update of the progress of the planning of the Seminars. A maximum of 10 drivers will be able to take part in the Boat Drivers Seminar and they will have a joint session together with the Judges & Officials during Saturday morning.

Colin Hart will circulate the budget again after confirming some of the costs.

Remi Breivik and Simona Valerio will manage the calculation session and will present the new heat system during the seminars. Colin stated that no further costs could be added for the calculation session as the budget was too tight and both Remi and Simona would be at the seminar anyway, due to the council meeting.

The Council will have a meeting on Thursday April 8 from 14:00 and onwards.

The Council also agreed to invite all International Level 1 Judges to a meeting on Friday April 9. A majority of the invited Judges will have to accept in order for this meeting to take place. Florian Butty will invite the judges by February 3 with a deadline by February 13. The Council will then be able to make a decision by February 15.

## 8 2010 EA Wakeboard & Wakeskate Championships

Claes Scheffer updated the Council on the progress of the EAME Wakeboard & Wakeskate Championships in Fagersta, Sweden 2010.

The program is the following:

### Wakeskate

Wednesday August 4	Unofficial Wakeskate Practice 07:00-21:00
Thursday August 5	Unofficial Wakeskate Practice 07:00-21:00 16:00 Judges meeting 17:00 Team Captains Meeting
Friday August 6 - Sunday August 8	Competition

### Wakeboard

Monday August 9 - Tuesday August 10	Unofficial Wakeboard Practice 07:00-21:00
Wednesday August 11	Unofficial Wakeboard Practice 07:00-21:00 16:00 Judges meeting 17:00 Team Captains Meeting
Thursday August 12 - Sunday August 15	Competition

The closing ceremonies will be held in Saturday August 7 and Saturday August 14 as suggested by the Council.

The original plan of running the two Championships during the same week but on two different lakes was not possible as it would require three identical boats.

The First Bulletin for the Championships should be distributed before the end of February. Claes Scheffer is responsible for coordinating that with the organizers.

Claes Scheffer should also make a site inspection and present a short report with pictures to the Council.

Florian Butty will distribute a formal invitation to all Judges and Officials in order to see who is able and willing to judge and function as officials at the Championships.

The positions as Chief Judges at the Wakeskate and Wakeboard Championships was discussed but any decision will await the responses from the invited judges.

## **9 Name Change**

The Confederation has changed its name from Region EAME to E&A after Middle East chose to join the Asian Pacific region instead and thereafter consist only of Europe and Africa.

Florian Butty will ask Alain Amade and Sid Adreanssen of an updated list of all federation and their current status as members.

## **10 World Level Update**

Colin Hart gave the Council an update of matters dealt with within the World Wakeboard Council. Florian Butty and Colin Hart attended the World Wakeboard Council meeting in South Korea and both have requested the Minutes on a number of occasions. Colin Hart is expecting to receive these on Monday February 1 2010 after being in contact with Brenda Harris just before leaving for the meeting in Brussels.

One World Cup stop has been confirmed in South Korea.

Italy has applied for World Championships in 2011.

## **11 Outstanding Issues from 2009 E&A Wakeboard Championships**

The cab expenses that the Council decided at its last meeting to cover for Colin Hart and Jean-Philippe Richonnier has not yet been paid out. Nicolas Subjobert will ask for their bank details so that this can be dealt with.

Florian Butty will request a Chief Judge's Report from Graham Creedy. This report will have to include a discussion regarding the complaint put forward by Belgian representatives regarding the obstacles and obstacles scoring. Claes Scheffer also requested that it was discussed in this report the incident were a Swedish rider missed the Finals after a schedule change. The later topic was discussed with Graham Creedy who did not find it necessary as it was not filed as an official protest.

It was also agreed that the situation with the obstacles that appeared at the 2009 Championships will be discussed at the next Seminar. During this event one obstacle was considered too dangerous to use after the event had been started. With only one obstacle another scoring system (33,3/33,2/33,3 instead of 25/25/25/25) should be used according to the Rules. But the scoring system cannot be changed after the competition has been started. This was discussed among all the judges at the competition and it was agreed and understood by everyone.

## 12 Non Federation Wakeboard Events

The Council discussed non-federation wakeboard events and what could make it more attractive for event organizers to make events sanctioned events. The homologation system and the ranking system were discussed as well as how these could be more valuable for event organizers and rider.

Nuno Almeida d'Eca will present to the Council a suggestion of new homologation system where event can be either "sanctioned" or "homologated". The criteria for both will have to be defined.

The benefits from homologating an event will have to be clarified and communicated better. This can, to a large degree, be done through the Pre-Event Homologation Dossier.

At homologated events all riders have to have a license from their federation, (and an international license at international events). This license makes them covered by insurance.

Claes Scheffer mentioned that in Sweden it has been suggested to introduce a temporary license that will be possible to get at registration for an event. This would only be valid for that specific event.

## 13 EA Wakeboard Boat website Update

Nuno Almeida d'Eca will take over responsibility from the Council's web site from Alain Nieves. Nuno Almeida d'Eca presented his thought on how the web site should be used in the future. All Council members should send their "wish lists" to Nuno Almeida d'Eca before February 15. He will thereafter compile a list of what functionality that should be introduced.

## 14 AOB

### 14.1 Coming Events

April 8-11	International Judges & Officials and Boat Drivers Seminar
May 7-9	Admincom Meeting
August 5-8	E&A Wakeskate Championship
August 11	Council Meeting
August 11-15	E&A Wakeboard Championships
August 21-22	European Masters, Kiev (Not confirmed)
November 12-14	November Meeting, Paris

### 14.2 Calculation Program

See also point 1.2 "Calculation Program". Remi Breivik stressed the importance of us getting a functioning calculation program quickly. Remi Breivik, Simona Valerio, and Florian Butty will meet with Ferdie Jansen during the weekend of this meeting. If this solution is not viable

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then Florian Butty will contact Jeremy Nevill from the UK. Colin Hart would like to use the UK system instead.

### **14.3 Brother Wakeboard Tour**

7-10 stops are planned in a tour called Brother Wakeboard Tour in the Benelux countries in 2010. These events will be homologated. Remi Breivik suggested asking the organizers if these could be made European Masters stop but Colin Hart explained that this was not possible as the Masters have been set as invited riders only with some of the riders' costs covered and a certain level of prize money, a high standard needs to be maintained..

### **14.4 European Masters**

No European Masters event will be held in Switzerland in 2010 as the organizer of the earlier events held there is no longer organizing any events due to the economic situation.

### **14.5 2009 Ranking**

Claes Scheffer has distributed a ranking list for 2009 and asked the rest of the members of the Council to review this list in order to ensure its accuracy. It was noted during the meeting that the list had been made available in the Council's website. Alain Nieles will have to be contacted to take it off the website until the list has been reviewed.

### **14.6 2010 Rules**

The 2010 Rules have nearly been completed by Claes Scheffer. There are still a few changes to be made that were agreed during the Council's meeting in November, 2009. Claes Scheffer has not yet received the image of a fun box. Anyone that has the 2009 Rules in Word format will have to send these to Claes Scheffer.

A number of additional changes were discussed that will be proposals for 2011:

- It was suggested that the rules for obstacles were made less restrictive or that the intention is made clearer as many believe the obstacles have to be of very exact measurements and that exactly the listed obstacles have to be used.
- Nicolas Subjobert noted that the age categories are not the same as the ones used in tournament. This has been discussed before. It was agreed that in order to discuss this further the age categories used in Tournament as well as the age categories used on a World level and maybe in other disciplines will have to be researched and compared with the ones used today by wakeboard boat.
- Nicolas Subjobert also suggested introducing a professional and an amateur open category. This has also been discussed before and will have to be brought up again when discussing the 2011 Rules.

### **14.7 Judges & Officials Seminar in the Netherlands**

Colin Hart has been in contact with federation in the Netherlands. The International Seminar will not be organized by the Netherlands neither in 2010 nor in 2011 as discussed in the Minutes from the Council's last meeting.

### **14.8 Heat System**

Remi Breivik has distributed a proposal for an illustration of the new heat system. It will be published on the Council's web site as soon as possible.



### **14.9 Working Groups**

Florian Butty has presented a few working groups and appointed responsible persons for those as discussed in point 5 “The Wakeboard Boat Council and New Members”. The focus areas for the near future are:

- Calculation and homologation
- PR and web site
- Development of the sport and seminars
- Championships

### **15 Next meeting**

The Council’s next meeting will be held in conjunction with the International Judges & Officials, and Boat Driver Seminar in April 2010. The meeting will start by lunch on the Friday before the Congress and will continue on Sunday morning following the Congress.

These Minutes were prepared by Secretary Claes Scheffer.