



MINUTES

of the meeting of the
EUROPE CONFEDERATION WATERSKI COUNCIL
in conjunction with Admincom
held
ONLINE (Zoom)
on Tuesday 15th December 2020

1. Attendance and apologies for absence

Candido **Moz** *Chairman*
Ricardo **Botas**
Christophe **Duverger**
Hannu **Rintanen**
James **Timothy** *Secretary*
Stian **Lilleberg** *Treasurer*
Dimos **Alexopoulos**
Morten **Froulund**
Manon **Costard** *Athlete Representative*
Louis **Polome** *Africa Confederation President*

Guests:

José Antonio **Pérez Priego** *President IWWF*
Patrice **Martin** *President E&A*

Apologies for absence:

Donal **Connolly**

The meeting commenced at 19:00 CET.

2. Yearly Calendar

A proposal for a general structure to the northern hemisphere Open and U21 yearly calendar was discussed. The proposed structure is trying to make it easier to schedule pro tour events so that they do not clash with titled events. This would be achieved by creating windows in the calendar for each of the main categories of event, titled and pro.

Such a solution would have to overcome many difficulties. Points raised and discussed included:

- Does the proposal suggest too many pro events?
- Should historical events be given any priority.

- Local sponsors such as local government may only be prepared to support an event if it is held on a certain date coinciding with a local festival.
- Local sponsors are generally more prepared to support titled events as opposed to a pro event.
- Amateurs participating in “Pro-Am” events play a big role in making the event financially viable. Therefore, clashes between 35+ Titled events and pro events could have an impact.
- Problems are mainly for Europe and Canada as they have a shorter season.
- There should be a window for national events. Last weekend of July or first weekend of August was suggested. Nationals were often used by Federations to pick their teams for the Worlds. Therefore there needed to be sufficient space between the Nationals and the Worlds in any one year.
- Should World Titled events have priority at any time in the calendar.
- What does a pro tour bring to IWWF and the sport? Cash; publicity; inspiration to the next generation of skiers?
- How do we find the right balance between the needs of a pro tour and Titled events? There is a danger that if pro events take too much priority, we may find that no organisers are willing to put on titled events.
- Should pro event organisers pay a contribution to IWWF for the privilege of having a fixed date in the calendar?
- Is it viable to run titled and pro events midweek? This would possibly lose the amateur attendance.

In the end it was agreed that if the proposed calendar was viewed as a starting point guideline, and that there was due regard for the needs of Federations and Titled events, then it could work. A draft calendar was agreed that could be put forward for further discussion by higher Committees.

3. Pro Waterski Committee

José Antonio clarified that a Pro Tour Committee had been appointed by himself under the prerogative of his office and it was therefore under the auspices of IWWF. The mandate of the Committee was to look at all aspects of the Pro Tour and not just the calendar. It reports directly to the President. Currently, the members are predominantly European in origin and this would have to change in due course to fairly represent athletes from the Americas and other parts of the world. There would still be IWWF representation on the Committee.

4. New Ranking List Proposals

There is a proposal to have two ranking lists, one for amateurs, a so called “score based” list, and one for pros based on points, a so called the “pro” list. This is very similar to the current “ranking list” and “elite standings”. Manon clarified that the proposal was not necessarily to change the way the lists were calculated at this stage. Rather, it was more a matter of renaming the elite list to include the term “pro” to link it more clearly with Pro Tour events and therefore be less confusing. There are many other aspects of the lists which need working out over time.

Although no firm conclusions were reached, it was agreed that the proposals were a good starting point and discussions will continue in other Committees.

5. Any Other Business

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 21.17 CET.

Secretary

James Timothy

Chairman

Candido Moz

Original text: English

The Minutes are subject to approval at the next Meeting.

Federations please note: The Minutes are sent to all International Officials. Please pass on any relevant information to your National Officials.

Meeting session: 19:00 – 21.17 CET