

## Minutes of the Annual Congress of the IWWF Confederation E&A

held at the Gran Hotel Rey Don Jaime in Castelldefels, Spain on Saturday 30 January 2016 - commencing at 09.00 hrs

## 1. Welcome by the President of the E&A Confederation

Alain Amade welcomes everyone in this nice room, that would make Kuno Ritschard (IWWF) jealous, and invites Carmen Ferrer-Bosch (ESP) to speak on behalf of Spain.

Carmen welcomes everyone, and thanks them for coming, and also for their patience with her organisation of this congress, which she did alone. Anthony Lechevallier, the secretary of the Spanish federation, and Ricardo Botas (ESP), whom she thinks everybody knows well, are here today to handle the micro. She explains the organisation of the day and wishes everyone a pleasant congress.

Alain Amade thanks Carmen for her nice words and for organising this congress, as he knows it is difficult. He thanks Anthony Lechevallier and Ricardo Botas for joining us. He goes on to explain that this is an election congress, which will take a lot of time, especially this year, since there are much more votes on the general matters, as Sid Adriaensen will explain. So we will need more time to count all the votes.

As usual the President now has to continue with not the best news, as he has to announce the people who left us last year. Joyce Williams (GBR), a Racing official; Pentti Back (FIN), who was leading the Finnish federation a long time ago; Jacques Cornu (FRA), an international Judge; Willy Stähle (NED), a World Champion, Olympic Champion at the Olympic Games 1972 in Germany and many times European Champion; she was quite a character, one of our top skiers. And then finally, there is Andy Mapple (GBR), a man that every top skier would wish to be like. Because of all that this people brought to us, Alain Amade asks for one minute of applause, because he wants to have a positive memory of these persons.

## (applause)

Our special guests today do not include Kuno Ritschard, the IWWF President. He is very sorry that he cannot be here, but he is busy representing IWWF around the world. Gill Hill, the IWWF Secretary General, is here to speak for him. Also with us today are Jean-Michel Cau, the Chairman of the IWWF Development Committee, and Des Burke-Kennedy, the chairman of the IWWF Media Commission, and also in charge of the IWWF Hall of Fame Committee. This is a very hard job and he will say a few words about this today. He also welcomes Bruno Rixen, patron member and Uwe Goldstein, chairman of the Cable Development Commission. The Honorary Members with us are Gill Hill, Andy Harris, Franz Kuhn, Louis Polome, Franz Kirsch, Chantal Amade-Escot, and Louis Mussach might join us later. He thanks them all for joining us.

Apologies were received from Depy Papadimitriou, Admincom member and President of the Greek federation: she has a big problem with arthritis and could not come. Aubrey Sheena, an Honorary Member, also asks to be apologised, he always likes to join us and take part of the congress. Paul Jensch, another Honorary Member, wrote him a nice letter, and Guy Leprince asked to be excused also, as did the Serbian federation.

Alain Amade thanks everyone present for having joined this congress.

## 2. Verification of attendances and voting powers

Sid Adriaensen confirms that the list of voting powers and all other information was made available on the website. He reads out the countries represented at this congress.

#### No remarks.

List of Delegates: see E&A website under congress 2016.

## 3. Appointment of congress Chairperson

Alain Amade announces that the Admincom proposes Andy Harris (GBR) as Chairman of this congress.

#### Accepted with acclamation.

Andy Harris thanks the Admincom and the congress for appointing him as chairman once more. He will try to do as good a job as he can with our help, and is grateful for the honour. He says that we have a very busy day today at this beautiful venue and explains the house rules. He jokes that no fire alarm drills are planned for today, so he advises to get out when you hear a fire alarm!

## 4. Appointment of Scrutineers

Andy Harris says the Admincom choose to appoint the following scrutineers; Gill Hill, Allesandro Vanoi, Franz Kuhn and Gregory Saint Genies. He jokes that he hopes that they have been told because there will be a lot of counting to do!

# 5. Opening of congress by Chairperson and confirmation properly convened in accordance with Statutes Art 16

Andy Harris confirms that all documents have been circulated in time and declares this congress properly convened according to the Statutes.

## 6. Approval of Minutes of the 2015 Annual congress (Toulouse, France)

Andy Harris confirms the Minutes of the 2015 Annual congress have been circulated, and asks if there are any questions.

Des Burke-Kennedy (IWWF) asks whether in Bye Law 4.5.1.8., regarding the prize-giving ceremony, a penalty could be considered for an empty spot on the stadium during a prize giving ceremony, especially for the winner.

Alain Amade replies that this can be considered as unsportsmanlike conduct, and that we have rules about this. Such an athlete can be sanctioned.

Des Burke-Kennedy is a little concerned that this means the decision whether or not to penalise will be left to someone else. He thinks the athletes should know what the penalty could be, and that a fixed minimum penalty would be better.

Alain Amade replies that sometimes it is not the fault of the athlete, if for example his/her federation has booked the tickets to travel back home that same night, and he/she has no choice. That is why it is left so open.

Des Burke-Kennedy also asks if there will be an update on the Event Management System, as there is a lot of money involved there, and as it is a serious commitment. Andy Harris replies that Peter Frei will update us.

The Minutes of the 2015 congress are approved unanimously by show of hands.

## 7. Discussion and approval of Reports

## 7.1. The President

Alain Amade has no comments and asks if there are any questions. Des Burke-Kennedy asks what the status is on the Mediterranean Games 2017 in Terragona.

Jean-Michel Cau, the technical delegate, was there yesterday with the Spanish federation to meet the organiser, and he explains that the proposed date is the first week of July 2017, but this is not fixed yet. He visited the site and met the representative of the organising committee, and the Spanish National Olympic Committee's Secretary General. It seems their only option is to hold the Games in the port of Terragona, because the other places are too far away. This is indeed a wonderful place for the public and the media and there are lots of facilities etc, but being in a port means big walls all around - worse than in Mersin. So he explained to the NOC that an anti-back wash system would be very important. The Spanish federation will present the budget for having the necessary adjustments for waterski. The next meeting is planned for June, in Terragona, to see how things are getting on and to see if they agree on that budget.

Another problem is that so many NOC did not want to send their waterski or wakeboard athletes to Mersin, where the previous Mediterranean Games were held, that we could only hold the slalom event at the last minute, because there were not enough participants for the other disciplines. So now the "boss" of the Mediterranean Games wants to stick to what happened in Mersin, and only have Slalom. The NOC's now also claim that since there were not enough competitors - whom they choose themselves not to send - they only want slalom!

Similary, the observers of the Mediterranean Games also saw that there were few Wakeboarders and few Trickers at the Beach Games in Pescara; there were only enough slalommers. So this also didn't help convincing them to raise the number of disciplines in Mersin.

Jean-Michel Cau warns that we have to prove that Wakeboard and Tricks are as important as Slalom, as slalom is the worst thing to organise in a port. Nothing has been done yet about this; he realises it is difficult.

As technical delegate he says "no" to the port of Terragona, because it is too dangerous with all these walls around; the organisers will have to prove to him that they can raise the budget to install an effective back wash system.

Alain Amade agrees that the difficulty is that the National Olympic Committees (NOC) decide which athlete they send. If a national federation does not push its NOC enough, it doesn't work. In the Mediterranean Games' organisation, everyone is a member of their NOC and they are the ones to decide what discipline will take part. And there are so many multisport games; the NOC's have to spend a lot of money to get their teams to these games, so they have to select who has a chance to win a medal. A good thing is that an Egyptian girl won a medal in Wakeboard at the Beach Games. This is very positive for Wakeboard and for the development of our sport in Egypt. At this point, Alain Amade thanks Karim Soliman (EGY) for joining us at this meeting.

Des Burke-Kennedy thinks the wider problem is very serious. If they drop us from these multisport games, and that could happen, that would tell the IOC that our sport doesn't fit into the bigger events. The fact that we are only getting one discipline in, is very serious. He says to all federations listening here that we will have to do much better next time, if our ambition is to get into the Olympics. As Jean-Michel Cau said, we have to expand the number of disciplines, and get more people in somehow.

Jean-Michel Cau thinks it is our last chance. He tried to prove to the representative of the Spanish Olympic Committee that it is so much easier to organize Wakeboard and Tricks in that kind of place. The representative finally said that it was not his decision, and that the IWWF and the E&A President should prove to them that Wakeboard and Tricks should be back in the Games. They should write a letter, or organise a meeting

with Mr Addadi, the President of the Mediterranean Games, and with the program commission, to explain that it would be wrong to stick to the conclusions they drew from what happened in Mersin four years ago. Right now they will simply decide to make cuts by looking at a list.

Alain Amade suggests that we invite the IOC at the European Championships in Lleida, Spain, so that they can come and see what really happens in Tricks. We could do the same for the European Wakeboard Boat Championships. He fully agrees with what Des Burke-Kennedy said. If we could have waterski and wakeboard at the next European Games, then we would be very strong, with a lot of countries and with a high level, because we have the best athletes in the world. It could be a very nice show for waterski to be part of the European Games, which Alain thinks are much more important than the Mediterranean Games.

No further questions.

## 7.2. The Secretary General

Sid Adriaensen asks to please consult the website for any information, as all is there. *No questions.* 

## 7.3. The President of the Barefoot Council

Paul Turner speaks for Rob Molenkamp, who has a heavy cold. He explains their report is on the internet and asks if there are any questions.

Barefoot had a successful European Championships that were well attended. They will be held in Sweden this year, in August. He thanks the Swedish federation for hosting them. The World Championships will be held in Wisconsin.

No questions.

## 7.4. The President of the Cableski Council

Marie-Anne Persoons has no comments to her report and there are no questions.

## 7.5. The President of the Council for Disabled

Paul Airey has no comments to his report and there are no questions.

## 7.6. The President of the Racing Council

Mike Waterman has no comments to his report and there are no questions.

## 7.7. The President of the Tournament Council

Candido Moz explains to the congress that there are important changes to the Bye Laws concerning Tournament. He does not like penalizing someone because they do not fulfil a rule, and urges all federations to read the Bye Law changes carefully.

There were 8 candidates for the Tournament Council, but at the TC meeting yesterday Hannu Rintanen decided to withdraw his candidature, so now there are 7 candidates left. The council will continue to invite Hannu to all their meetings, and he will still take care of the website. He thanks Hannu for all his work *(applause)*.

Carmen Ferrer-Bosch (ESP) is concerned about the homologations after reading the minutes of the last TC meeting. She wonders if the Tournament Council can send very clear instructions about this to all federations, as several countries had problems at their competitions. She appreciates that all these problems were solved, but found that some homologators got poor information from their federations. Candido Moz replies that a summary will be sent to the federations, so that they understand the duties of the homologators.

## 7.8. The President of the Wakeboard Boat Council

Colin Hart speaks for Florian Butty, who has had a baby boy 10 days ago. Colin is glad to announce that they had a super year last year, culminating with the World Championships in Mexico, with a gold medal for Italy as the team event, which he believes to be the first time for Europe at the World Championships. (*applause*)

Des Burke-Kennedy asks if Colin could make an update on the E&A ranking system that is being developed. Colin Hart replies that the remaining problem with this system is that the print out is very big, and they hope the Event Management System will solve this. As it stands at the moment, they don't have a ranking system.

Alain Amade has a small remark to the report, in which Florian Butty says that he signed the MasterCraft contract, whereas in fact Alain Amade did this, in his function as President, together with Florian. He thanks Florian for this very important contract.

Marie-Anne Persoons suggests applying the same ranking list system as in Cableski, being the performance based ranking list or who beats who. She thinks it would work perfectly for Wakeboard also. There is no scoring or results; it's based on placements. Colin Hart agrees to discuss this with her later.

Karim Soliman (EGY) has a question about the MasterCraft partnership that ends in 2020. But we learned last week that Centurion is now the official boat for the Worlds. Will this affect the European Wakeboard Championships in the future? Colin Hart replies that there have been a lot of changes in MasterCraft regarding sponsoring events. But they assured him, when they met in Mexico, that they will honour everything they signed, and he trusts them on this. Alain Amade adds that the contract that IWWF signed with Nautique – because Centurion is part of the Nautique family - is only for the Worlds, not for the Confederation Championships, so there we can use any boat we want. But in Europe, we have a contract with MasterCraft, and that means we have to use their boats at the African and European Championships in the next years.

## 7.9. The President of the Wakeboard Cable Council

Varna Laco takes the stand for Carole Marmonnier, who apologises for not being able to be here today. She has nothing to add to their written report. *No questions.* 

The reports are approved unanimously by show of hands.

## 8. Financial Report

## 8.1. Presentation of Accounts up to 30-11-2015

Dominique Lakens Douwes: the financial report was circulated on the internet, and we tried to make it as clear and concise as possible, with as many explanations as possible. She asks if there are any questions.

Alain Amade explains that there was a big increase of income from the MasterCraft contract, and there was also a big expenditure from the Shanghai World Cup. He thanks Dominique for all her work.

Andy Harris adds that Sven Van De Velde, the accountant, backs Dominique, and so do Sid Adriaensen and Brit Horemans at the administrative office, that have our accounts tabled in a easily readable format. He thinks it's a first that there are no questions this year, and he requests a round of applause for the finance team.

(applause)

## 8.2. Honorary Auditor's Report

Franz Kuhn says that he had a meeting in the Antwerp office to prepare his report, as he thinks it is better to see how the treasurer and the bookkeeper work, rather than go through the papers only. He saw how Dominique does the work perfectly, and he considers Sven Van De Velde to be a very professional bookkeeper, which he thinks is very important for our confederation. Franz checked income and expenditures, and found everything is ok, and he thanks Dominique and Sven for their very good work.

## 8.3. Appointment of Honorary Auditor

Andy Harris announces that the Admincom would be very grateful if Franz wants to continue. Franz Kuhn accepts.

The financial reports are approved by show of cards.

## 9. Admission of new members and resignation of members

Alain Amade says this item concerns Africa more than it does Europe, and invites Louis Polome to expand on this.

Louis Polome explains that he mentioned in his report as E&A Vice-President for Africa that they are making good progress in bringing Cameroon on board, which now has a structure, a constitution and a committee in place, and are now going to the process of being recognised by their NOC and their national sports' council. He will visit them together with Jean-Michel Cau later this year to help them put all that in place, and they hope to have them as a new member at the next congress. There are a few other leads, but more time will be needed there.

Des Burke-Kennedy asks what the situation is with Nigeria, that attended last year's congress, but who are not here at this time. Louis replies that the federation is in place and it is operational. He spoke to Rachel, a member of the committee. The big problem in Nigeria is that the security in the country has deteriorated quite drastically the last year, and that there has been a significant change in the government. The new president is making a lot of changes to fix the financial mismanagement that was in place, and there has been a total freeze on any funding from the government for a big project like waterski. The Nigerian federation is basically waiting for things to settle in and to find out what money will be coming from the government for their development. They are still very enthusiastic and there is no doubt for Louis that there is a huge potential in Nigeria, which we need to manage.

Des asked if they are a full-paid member? Louis confirms this, and adds that they have given a proxy to Sid for this congress.

Alan explains that there is a problem with Sudan because they did not pay their membership fee. But we did receive a letter from the NOC of Sudan, asking us to keep Sudan as a waterski federation.

## 10. Elections

## 10.1. The procedure

Andy Harris explains that, under Bye Law 3.1.1., the current election procedure consists of the election of the President, the Secretary General, the Treasurer, the divisional council members, and then finally of the election of the members of the Admincom.

In view of the large number of votes now available at the congress for General Business, and the time it will take to hand them out, the Admincom recommends to congress this morning holding the Admincom member elections *after* the election of President, Secretary General and Treasurer, but *before* the council members.

Andy Harris asks if congress would agree to allow this small change in the voting procedure for the 2016 congress.

#### Unanimously accepted by show of cards.

Andy Harris explains that voting at the elections is done by secret ballots, with a maximum of three rounds. In all cases, a candidate needs at least 50% of the total number of ballots returned to get elected. The ballots returned will be ranked in order, and the candidates with the highest number of votes will be elected to fill the vacant places. If there are still places to be filled, the candidates not elected in round one will go through to round two.

Sid Adriaensen explains that there are now 332 votes with the new system. Austria, for example, has 17 votes for General Business. To avoid everybody having to fill out so many voting slips, we have prepared envelopes with voting slips for 5, 4, 3, 2 or 1 votes, in order to reduce the number of voting slips. There are white slips for the election of the President, Secretary and Treasurer of the Executive Board, and green slips for the Admincom.

Andy Harris confirms to the congress that all the current members of the Executive Board are offering themselves for re-election to the same positions. All candidates have the support of their federation. If you do not want to elect someone, you have to strike out the name.

## 10.2. President, Secretary General and Treasurer

Andy Harris confirms that the votes have been counted and verified as correct by the scrutineers. There was a total of 280 votes returned.

For the Executive Bureau, Alain Amade, Sid Adriaensen and Dominique Lakens Douwes all have the maximum of 280 votes *(applause)*.

For the Admincom, Peter Frei has 262 votes; Andy Harris 280; Patrice Martin 216; and Depy Papadimitriou 271 votes *(applause)*.

Andy Harris congratulates everyone with their re-election and thanks the congress for its confidence.

Alain Amade also thanks everyone for their confidence, and adds that this will be his last time, because he has been E&A President for a long time now. He is very pleased about working with this team, and he is glad that it has almost always been possible, within the Admincom and the EB, to come to an agreement, and that it has hardly ever been necessary to take a vote on anything, even after long and tough discussions. His aim is always to find a positive solution for the sport and for the skiers and the riders. He is pleased that all Admincom members agreed to stay, because this means that they are happy about the way we work. He reminds the congress that everyone is working very hard for the sport, not for themselves.

Andy Harris jokes that since this vote was for 4 years, Alain is stuck for another four years with us.

## 10.3. Council members

For the council elections there are a few amendments to the list that was circulated on the E&A website.

Hannu Rintanen will not re-stand for the Tournament Council anymore, so his name should be struck out, leaving only 7 candidates on the list.

For the Wakeboard Boat Council, there are 8 candidates for 7 places. Alain Amade explains that there is a difficult situation since we have two confederations here: Europe and Africa. Sid Adriaensen and the Admincom already did a lot of work on the Statutes and the Bye Laws for this new system, but we are still missing some rules. Our current Bye Laws say that we can have a maximum of 7 members per council. In this case, we have 8 candidates standing for elections; but seven are from Europe, and one is from Africa. This is not in the spirit of the new Confederation system. The Admincom discussed this and decided that we are not going to run an election for the African delegates, because they should be presented by the African Confederation, as this is an African matter. This must be the rule in the future. This is a first step; the second step will be for the next elections. We will adapt the Bye Laws to the new system, having Europe on one side and Africa on the other, both with their own representatives. We discussed this with Louis, Karim and the Wakeboard Council, and Karim Soliman (EGY) will not stand for elections this year, but he will attend the meeting as an African delegate to the Wakeboard Council. And we would welcome any delegates that Africa would send to the other councils as well.

Chico Cohen asks if must we scratch out the name. Alain Amade replies that you can do that, but that the votes for Karim Soliman will not be counted anyway.

Andy Harris then announces that Sergio Malu is not standing for elections again for Wakeboard Cable Council.

Frank Tengberg-Hansen (DEN) asks if it would be possible for the new candidates to stand up and present themselves, because he doesn't know any of them.

Donal Connolly (IRL), standing for the Tournament Council, says he has been involved for 25 years in water skiing as competitor, judge and homologator, and that he is

involved in the technical side as well through Splash Eye, and runs a successful business.

Christophe Duverger (FRA) is not here; he is represented by Patrice Martin (FRA), who explains that Christophe has a good background, being the head coach of the French water ski team and an E&A judge.

Varna Laco says that the Wakeboard Cable would be delighted to have their new candidates on their council because they are excellent. Manuel Orlando from the Italian federation explains that he has been involved with Wakeboard Cable since 5 years now.

Karim Soliman (EGY) says he has been judging for 3 years now and that he wants to help develop federations in the Middle East and in Africa.

Dimos Alexopoulos (GRE) would not want the new candidates to feel bad, but he thinks new candidates should be present, and that it is not proper to go for an election and be at home.

Sid Adriaensen calls out the votes for the different councils, which are handed out to the representatives of the federations according to their voting rights. There is 1 vote per voting slip. Since not all federations are represented, some votes cannot be handed out.

Andy Harris reminds the federations that they can strike out a name if they do not want to vote for someone.

## Barefoot

Out of total of 28 votes, there are 25 votes for Aartsen Evert (FIN), 25 for Harris Andy (GBR), 25 for Hempelmann Svenja (GER), 25 for Molenkamp Rob (NED), 28 for Saracco Nicola (ITA) and 28 for Turner Paul (GBR). All are re-elected.

## Cableski

Out of total of 31 votes, there are 31 votes for Caine Nicky (GBR), 31 for De Leyer Joost (NED), 30 for Graw Martin (GER), 31 for Kunert Elena (SVK), 31 for Mos Michal (POL), 30 for Persoons Marie-Anne (BEL) and 31 for Tal Maoz (ISR). All are reelected.

## Disabled

With of a maximum of 27 votes, there are 27 votes for Airey Paul (GBR), 25 for De Bakker Dany (BEL), 24 for Ferrer Carmen (ESP), 24 for Fosse Ivar (NOR), 27 for Rossi Dario (ITA), 27 for Turchet Philippe (FRA) and 27 for Van Der Ploeg Toon (NED) who had been co-opted. All are elected.

## Racing

With of a maximum of 22 votes, there are 22 votes for Hebenstreit Franz (AUT), 22 votes for Hernandez Jonas (ESP), 19 votes for Klarenbeek Thea (NED), 22 votes for Leysen Jules (BEL), 22 votes for Hernaez Richard (FRA), 22 votes for Van Den Bossche Vera (BEL) and 22 votes for Waterman Mike (GBR). All are elected.

## Tournament

With of a maximum of 63 votes, there are 60 votes for Alexopoulos Dimos (GRE), 55 for Connolly Donal (IRL), a new candidate; 47 for Duverger Christopher (FRA), also a new candidate; 43 for Lilleberg Stian (NOR), 61 for Moz Candido (ITA), 61 for Potes Inessa (BLR) and 63 for Talamo Nigel (GBR). All are elected.

## Wakeboard Boat

Out of 42 possible votes, there are 42 for Bulgakova Maryia (UKR), 42 for Butty Florian (SUI), 42 for Chocun Frank (FRA), who was co-opted; 41 for Duranti Stefano, who was also co-opted; 40 for Eca Nuno (POR), 39 for Hart Colin (GBR) and 41 for Johnston Linda (IRL). All are elected.

## Wakeboard Cable

Out of 47 possible votes, there are 45 for Armborst Aaron (GER), 43 for Gerkau Lucien (GER), 47 for Laco Varna (CRO), 43 for Marmonier Carole (FRA), 46 for Nightingale Suzi, a new candidate; 45 for Orlando Manuel (ITA), also a new candidate; and 33 for Sivieri Simone (ESP). All are elected.

Andy Harris confirms that all votes were verified and all correct, and he asks the congress' permission to destroy the ballot slips.

Accepted unanimously.

## 11. Other reports & presentations

Andy Harris announces that the Council certificates will be handed out this evening.

## 11.1. The Chairman of the International Hall of Fame

Des Burke-Kennedy, Chairman of the International Hall of Fame, would like to change our perception of the International Hall of Fame.

He explains that there are about 60 million people involved in our sport, but only if you have done some miraculous things, you might get into the Hall of Fame. It almost goes beyond a gold medal at a World Championship; it's a tremendous honour, if all your colleagues in your sport around the world think that you are worthy to be appointed.

The Hall of Fame committee likes to find a very prestigious place to hold the event, because it is so important to get these people together and show them how much we value them. At the ceremony, every person gets a short presentation about why they have been inducted and what they have achieved, and care is taken to have a nice atmosphere at a beautiful setting. In Dubna, Russia, it was held it at the cultural centre, a beautiful building. In 2015 Chapala, Mexico, a beautiful disused railway station was chosen for the location of the ceremony. The next time will be 2017 at the World Championships.

The categories for this award, handed out since 1989, are athletes, officials and pioneers, and there is an order of merit. The nine members of the selection committee are appointed for a certain term by their Confederation, and they come from all over the world. So one has to be a very special person, and be known on the international scene, to receive this award.

We make sure that all federations know when the next award presentation will be held, so they can really scratch their heads to see if anybody should be put forward. Before this only involved a small number of people. But the rules have changed: everybody who is affiliated can now submit the details of the person he/she thinks should be considered by his/her federation.

Des is pleased to announce that we actually have some Hall of Fame people here with us today: Franz Kirsch (2001), Bruno Rixen (Order of Merit 2007), Chantal Amade-Escot (1999) and Patrice Martin (2007) *(applause)*.

He shows a short presentation about the history of the Hall of Fame, and he is proud to announce that Mike "Slam Dunk" Kjellander (SWE) from our Region was inducted in 2015.

For 2017, he asks everybody to spread the word that we want to have a large number of people put forward, who are worthy, but that we might not have considered before and that have been forgotten for many years.

There are on-line forms, so that you can submit somebody that you think should be considered as an athlete, an official or a pioneer. This is open to everybody: the only restriction is that your form has to be approved by your own federation. Details will soon be on Facebook and on the IWWF page. Please also check the special YouTube page, iwwf.tv.

## 11.2. Medical Commission

Dr. Benassa explains that he travels the world as medical doctor for the Italian team. He faces the problem of every medical team; his degree is valid in Italy and in Europe, but not everywhere in the world. There is a proposal of provisional licenses by host countries to solve this problem. He will send this proposal to Gill Hill and it will be discussed further.

Alain Amade thinks this is very important. Lorenzo Benassa is very well known in our sport, and many federations, who don't have a doctor, use him as an official doctor. He thanks Lorenzo for all his work and confirms that there is no problem in Europe, but in the US or Mexico our doctors have no recognition. Alain, Sid and Gill will try to help him as much as they can.

## 11.3. Chairman of the Cable Development Commission

Uwe Goldstein presents as short report about the new international tour of Cableski, because some of the organizers asked him to do so.

He explains that the founders and organisers of the ITC tour are Thomas Bauer and Jana Wittenbrock, both involved in the sport for many years. Thomas Bauer is the owner of the Cable park in Kiefersbergen, Germany, and he is a former European and World record holder in jumping. Jana Wittenbrock is the actual European and World record holder in slalom.

The main objective of the ITC with this tour is to increase the number of international classic Cableski competitions and participants, and make it fascinating and easier to understand for the media and the public. We also want to standardise the event time table, and show the Cable park owners how to connect the competitions with their business, because this is very important to them. We want to minimise expenditures for the owners, and a chance for new Cable parks to spotlight their venue with a big event.

What is new compared to former international events in Cable waterski? There is a maximum of 90' per discipline for the finals. The number of referees went from 5 to 3. There was a transformation of the ranking list system in a scoring system with points; shorter cables; the two tower system for three event competitions; shorter courses up to 4 buoys, and a simple homologation. There was permanent media presence during the whole tour, with tv spots, newspaper articles and social media coverage. And the Finals were be organized like a World Cup. There was a new design of trophies and medals.

The tour idea started with the Cableski World Cup in 2014. Some skiers were afraid Cableski was going down, and would no longer be on the list of International sports one day.

The first World Cup took place in Shanghai, China, as an invitation competition for the best skiers. There were 35 starters from 14 countries. Two new World records were set in Ladies Jump. New bad weather rules were set for Slalom, since there were almost typhoon conditions in Shangai. There was 30.000 EURO in prize money. This was a great experience that showed what the ITC Tour means, and that there is a future for our sport.

The first ITC Tour had four stops in Germany, Austria, Great Britain and China. The finals took place as a World Cup in jumping in Shanghai. There was already 50.000 EURO in prize money, only for the ITC starters, and with 18 nations from 4 continents we set a new record: never before have there been so many countries and nations competing. In Shanghai there were 80 athletes from 14 countries, also a new record in participating nations.

Sponsors have been included in the ITC tour, which is very important. The advantage for the sponsors is that we now have world-wide attention of their brands; that we have increasing sale figures in the sport segment; that they have the opportunity to gain Cable park owners as distribution partners; the cooperation with the ITC; and a positive image as a sport supporter.

For 2016, there is 20.000 EURO in sponsor money, and there will be four stops; the Netherlands, Slovakia, Austria and Germany. If possible, there will be two World Cup stops; in Shanghai again and in Egypt. This will hopefully be confirmed at the end of next month.

The cash prize plan for this year is 70.000 EURO. We want increasing the attention for the ITC all over the world, and increase the number of participants; not only for the finals, but for all the stops.

Uwe Goldstein invites everyone who would be interested to come and talk with him.

Patrice Martin (FRA) wonders if the Cableways where the ITC stops are planned, are a member of their national federation, because he thinks that would help to get them into the circuit. Marie-Anne Persoons confirms that all applications for stops in Europe have gone through the European federations concerned, and the same thing happened in China.

Mohammed Youssef (EGY) is surprised that Egypt is on the calendar for a stop, because the federation doesn't know anything about it. Alain Amade explains that this is a new Cablepark, and that he told Uwe yesterday to not forget to involve the federation, because the cable owner has to go through the federation.

Karim Soliman (EGY) wonders if the national federation is informed after the deal is done, or before? Alain Amade confirms that the rule is that federation must be involved in the organisation, and he thinks Uwe tried to contact the Egyptian federation, but perhaps he did not have the right name or address.

Karim Soliman (EGY) says his federation is looking for the benefit of the sport, and would like to supervise any event, to make sure the rules are obeyed, to not have the same problems like in 2008 with an organiser who does not know what he is doing. Alain Amade says the councils are very much aware of this, and they want to make sure that the federation is in the loop.

Uwe Goldstein explains that he tried many times to contact the Egyptian federation, and only got an indirect answer via Kuno. He sent e-mails and he is in contact with the minister of Tourism in Cairo. He is glad that the representatives from the Egypt federation are here now, but before it was not possible to contact them. He proposes to talk over lunch.

Marie-Anne Persoons explains that Uwe is working on this, it is not officially done yet, it is only a preparation. The other stops are fixed, but not this one, so this congress is a perfect timing to start working together now.

## 12. Nominations by the Divisional Councils

Sid Adriaensen reads out the list of Presidents, Secretaries, Treasurers, representatives to the Admincom, and the three World Council delegates plus one substitute for each division.

## see www.iwwf-ea.eu under Miscellaneous

Alain Amade congratulates the newly elected Council members, and reminds them that they will have a lot to do, since all the technical sports depend on them, so their work is very important. Also, you are not in a council to represent your federation; you are here under the hat of the IWWF E&A Confederation. So the main interest is the sport, it is not one federation. He is sure everyone knows that, he just wants to confirm it for the new people coming here.

## 13. List of meetings

Sid Adriaensen reads out the list of meetings planned by the divisions.

see www.iwwf-ea.eu under Calendar

## 14. Statutes changes - as circulated

Sid Adriaensen announces that there were none.

## 15. Bye-Law Changes - as circulated

Andy Harris explains that Candido Moz already eluded about the changes under Bye-Law 4.4.2., and that we have already dealt with item 3.1.1., when congress agreed to elect the Admincom members before the election of the divisional council members.

congress agrees to vote on block on the changes.

## Bye-Law 4.4.2. - Intention to Enter Form.

Sid Adriaensen explains that the Tournament Council requests this change. Their problem is that the difference in numbers between the intention to enter that were sent in by the federations to the organisers and the Tournament Council, and the actual number that shows up, is too great. The organiser has to plan for catering; he might have to request extra judges; he might need to consider two lakes instead of one, because there is a big number of participants on the intention to enter forms; and then in the end, they don't show up. We need the actual number to be closer to the intention to enter form. That is why the Tournament Council came up with the proposal that the intention to enter form must be accompanied with a deposit of 50 EURO for each athlete mentioned. This amount must be paid to the organiser and is non-refundable. It will be deducted from the entry fees.

It is possible to add a maximum of 2 extra skiers/riders without a fine, if someone still qualifies for example. More than 2 will be fined, because extra people showing up also pose a problem for the organiser. The TC decided yesterday that the fine for this will be set at 50 EURO per extra person.

Candido Moz explains that the Tournament Council wants to respect everyone, also the organizer. It's a waste of money for the organiser and for us, when only half of the people show up. In 2015 extra judges and two lakes were planned for the seniors, but only 93 of the 180 skiers entered showed up. This 50 EURO per skier is not extra money, since it will be deducted from the entry fee at the end. He asks all federations to enter the right number of skiers, so that we can run a competition with the real number of competitors.

Aleco Keusseoglou (MON) wonders if we should not be more flexible for federations that send a very limited number of athletes, who might get injured and cannot come at the last moment, which is nobody's fault. He thinks too many rules and restrictions are not good, especially for the Open and the Juniors, and that there are work related reasons for Seniors not to come.

Candido Moz replies that medical certificates have always been taken into consideration. He explains that there was no problem for the Juniors, with 129 intention to enter and 132 actual entries. Also, there is the flexibility that you can add 2 extra skiers without penalty. But it is a real issue for an organizer when there is a big difference.

Maureen Wright (MON) adds that the organiser also has to pay the hotel rooms for the officials, and that is non-refundable if the officials don't turn up. She understands about sickness and entries, but she doesn't think that accounts for 60% of the turnout.

She wonders if there is a problem for some federations who never send money up front, like Russia and Belarussia? They usually send large groups, but last year Russia didn't turn up at all. Candido Moz replies that we cannot cover all situations, and that these countries can pay in advance, but simply like to avoid the high costs for the bank transfers by carrying cash.

Maureen Wright asks if there is a time limit. Candido Moz replies no, as this would result in too many rules. He doesn't like to fine people, so he asks to please try and make correct entries.

## Bye-Law 4.5.1.3. Rules of Eligibility for competitors

Sid Adriaensen explains that the old rule said that "a competitor who competes in Confederation E&A in a water ski competition not sanctioned by Confederation E&A or a National federation, may not be eligible for any E&A Titled Event for a period of 12 months."

This was very broad, and it also did not formulate the actual goal of the rule.

The new proposal is "A competitor who competes in a waterski or wakeboard competition declared off-limits by either Confederation E&A or the National federation on whose territory the events takes place, may not be eligible for any E&A Titled Event for a period of up to 12 months. Such instances will be reported to the Admincom who shall rule."

This might concern, for example, a competition that is held at a date that is considered to be clashing with another important event. If such a competition is declared off-limits either by E&A or the National federation concerned, then the officials cannot go there and the athletes cannot participate in such an event.

Colin Hart (for the Cable Wakeboard Council) asks if the "*may*" should be changed with "*will*"? And what is the procedure?

Andy Harris: it has to say *"may"*, because the rule also says that such instances will be reported to the Admincom, who shall rule. There may be special circumstances and considerations that should be communicated to the Admincom, so that they can discuss the situation.

Andy Harris specifies that there are two parts to this change; first a change to the existing paragraph of this Bye-Law, and then also an addition.

Sid Adriaensen explains that the additional paragraph says that "A participant who is not a member of an E&A affiliated federation cannot have access to a Final or win a medal which would displace an athlete of an E&A affiliated federation." For example, a rider from Slovenia - which is not a member federation - cannot win a medal and replace an athlete from a member federation.

Aleco Keusseoglou (MON) understands the rules, but he thinks it is discriminating for the participants, since it's not their fault if their country is not affiliated. He thinks that everybody should be entitled to compete, and that we are here to promote the sport and have more athletes, and that this goes against this.

Andy Harris comments that all can enter, but they have to enter through an affiliated federation. That is why we are here; we are a congress of affiliated federations, who make the rules of our sport the way they are. We can't have someone from a non-member country entering a Titled Event. This is not new, this is just plugging a little hole in our Bye-Laws.

Aleco Keusseoglou (MON) understands the rules, he just wanted to know what happens when there is no federation in that country.

Alain Amade replies that we want to push a country to create a federation. We will accept athletes from non-affiliated countries to participate, but they should get a license from another federation if not their own, so that they are insured. When there is no rule, it is the chief judge who decides who can compete and who can make the final, and that's not fair.

Colin Hart thinks this wording should be in the World level as well.

Maureen Wright (MON): so many athletes travel over the world, they live or study in the USA, and are probably a member of the American federation. Do they have to have membership of the federation of their birth to enter in a Titled Event?

Andy Harris: the Rules of Eligibility cover that sort of situation. We try to protect the integrity of federations and their responsibility towards the athletes and their insurance. And to protect the sport, so everyone competes against others that are also members of a federation. A federation can also be very small, run from someone's kitchen, without a big HQ.

Varna Laco says the Cable Wakeboard Council cannot support this view point, because we do not want to penalise an athlete because his/her country has no federation. We want to find

a solution to allow this, even if they would have the E&A flag behind them and not their own, should they win a medal. We cannot expect an 18-year old to go back home and organise a federation, just to be able to compete at a next event.

Sid Adriaensen replies that we already have this solution in place for E&A, in the addendum to the Rules of Eligibility for E&A Titled Events. Such a competitor can be allowed to compete, but has to adhere to strict rules; he/she cannot compete for his/her country; there will be no team result; it will be the E&A flag; his/her results will not appear in the ranking lists; he/she has to pay double entry fees, and he/she has to make sure that he/she has an insurance through the host country.

Varna Laco: thank you, we have already used that rule many times, we just want to keep that door open.

Peter Frei: if there is no federation, then who says who can run for a country? There is no selection process.

Andy Harris reminds the congress that the changes being discussed here concern a competition that has been declared off-limits, and the membership of an E&A affiliated federation to have access to the final or a medal. He asks if everybody is clear on the two parts of this.

## Bye-Law 4.5.1.4. Rules of Eligibility for Officials

Sid Adriaensen explains that it should be the same sentence for officials as in the proposal for the competitors.

## Bye-Law 4.5.1.6. Teams not showing up

Sid Adriaensen: another change says that teams or individual athletes not showing up, after having being entered by their federation, have to pay anyway. Sometimes complete teams do not show up at a normal competition, like the Open Championships or the Seniors. Now a fine will be put in place to protect the organiser.

Dimos Alexopoulos (GRE): so before we said you pay 50 EURO if you do not show up after you sent in the Intention to Enter, and now you pay the whole thing? Maybe it should be clarified.

Andy Harris: this is not about the same thing. It concerns team or individual that have been entered by their federations already, which means the entry fee shall be payable in full, unless a written excuse is received by 12 noon on the day before the competition.

Paul Airey (DIS): does this only apply if the whole team does not turn up?

Andy Harris: you can replace an athlete of course. The reason for this is, that organizers have received intention to enter and entry forms etc., and they have prepared their start lists etc, and then teams just don't turn up, causing all sorts of problems. That is what this Bye-Law is about, not last minute replacements because of injuries. This concerns blatant disrespect for the organisers and hosts of our Titled Events.

Alain Amade: athletes, organizers and judges make up a competition, we have to respect all of these. Those who have never organised a competition cannot understand, but Alain knows it is a nightmare, also for the officials. We try to make the rules as flexible as possible, but they have to be correct for all, not only for the athletes. The federations and the Organiser have their responsibilities regarding finances and security. That is why we need everyone to be insured. If something happens, the chief judge and the organizer are responsible! That is why we make these kind of rules.

At this point, Andy Harris asks to welcome the new president of the Irish federation, Andrew Mc Quiggan, who wants to ask a question. *(applause)* 

Andrew McQuiggan (IRL) asks who decides whether an excuse is valid?

Sid Adriaensen: the E&A Representative, who is present at the Titled Event, handles this.

Andrew McQuiggan (IRL): but what is valid for one person, may not be valid for another? Why not put it in the Bye Laws?

Sid Adriaensen thinks this a good idea, if put into the right wording.

Gill Hill says this wording is used in a lot of rules. The 2015 European 35+ was really what brought this discussion on, because a lot of money was lost on the organization. There will always be injuries, but it's mass non-turnups that are the problem, and that's when this kind of fee should be payable.

Alain Amade: to have one day less competition, because there are a lot less skiers, is also a big loss for a federation and an organiser.

It is decided that a new text concerning the right wording, about who decides whether an excuse is valid, will be drawn up over lunch, to be voted upon by congress afterwards.

#### Bye-Law 4.15. - National Representation of Officials

Sid Adriaensen: the congress asked the Admincom last year to draw up another text for this Bye-Law, resulting in this new proposal.

#### First principle

The country of representation an Official in the E&A Confederation is the National federation who originally endorsed the application for his/her International Exam. If required by their own federation, International Officials must be members of their National federation.

#### Changing countries

If an official wishes to change his country of representation he/she must apply by submitting the following to the relevant E&A Council:

\*A letter from his original National federation stating they have no objection to the change. A letter from the new National federation stating they accept him as an official of that country. In the event that either document cannot be acquired, the relevant Council shall investigate to see what can be done and make the final decision.

Aleco Keusseoglou (MON): is this going to be from now on, not retro-active?

Andy Harris: yes.

Dimos Alexopoulos (GRE) points out that the word "of" seems to be missing from the first sentence - *this is confirmed.* 

Show of cards for accepting of all these by laws except 4.5.1.6., for which new wording will be prepared during lunch.

Carried unanimously by show of cards.

## Bye-Law 4.5.1.6. Teams not showing up (new text drawn up over lunch)

Sid Adriaensen announces that the new wording will be: *"The Chief Judge shall decide whether or not the excuse is valid."* 

Paul Airey: should it not also include a reference to the E&A representative? Otherwise, it's a lot of responsibility on the Chief Judge.

Sid Adriaensen: we discussed this over lunch, and we think the Chief Judge is the one who is most involved with the excuses from people not showing up. The E&A representative and the Council representative can be consulted of course, but it is up to the Chief Judge. It has to be in his report. He is there from two days before the competition; so he's the one who is there at noon the day before.

Accepted unanimously by show of cards.

## 16. List of Obligations - as circulated

## Article VII. Costs

Last paragraph - old text :

The Organiser shall provide enough cash money to cover the distribution of travel grants to officials (if any).

NOTE: This is not a cost to the organizers as the money to cover this is included in the E&A share of the entry fee.

Andy Harris explains that the Wakeboard Cable Council has requested to remove this note, as this does not actually apply to their division. The Admincom has agreed to propose to congress to delete the note at the end of this article. So the actual article is not being changed, we will just delete the note that explains the article.

Accepted unanimously by show of cards.

## 17. Report from the IWWF

## 17.1. The President

Gill Hill reports for Kuno Richard, the IWWF President, who asks to be excused since he is in Rio, trying to get our sport involved in the Youth Olympic Games. Things seem positive, but of course the IOC has the final decision.

She explains that Peter Frei's report, that will come up next, covers a lot of the stuff they are working on. She can add to this report that the World Junior Championships have been moved back to their original date, 5-8 January.

She wants to address the Presidents of the federations here, to explain that the Multisport Games entries are controlled by their NOC's. If they don't know you or your federation, and they don't understand that you have great skiers and riders, they are never going to enter you into these Games. If you haven't already done so, you must go to your NOC and get to know the people and make them understand what our sport is about. The importance of this can't be stressed highly enough.

She congratulates the Cableski Council, World and European level, on the speed with which they can change rules to improve your sport.

And finally we will have a full time paid IWWF employee. It will be Paul Fong from Singapore, which many of you know well. He is currently the President of the Asian Confederation, but he will have to be replaced in that function, and he will start full-time employment with us from the 1st of March. Gill Hill feels this is a very positive movement forward for the sport, and she thinks that it is important that we know that we can finally do this because of the security of a long-term agreement with Correct Craft, who are now the official boat sponsors of IWWF.

Uwe Goldstein has been appointed on a contract basis, as a commercial director, to help Kuno develop the Cable World Cup series, and to get supporters and sponsors from the industry. She welcomes Uwe as another person on their top level.

The venue for the 2017 Worlds is not known yet, nor the location of the next World congress.

A work group is trying to make the structure of the World Executive Board smaller, to make it less financially burdensome for everybody, but we need to pass these changes by congress. This might be done via electronic voting.

Des Burke-Kennedy: the World Wakeboard Cup stop in China is about to be signed, and Shanghai looks pretty positive; we will have more news within six weeks.

Gill Hills announces that Kuno Ritschard clearly stated at congress in Mexico that he will not continue after 2017 under any circumstances, so we will need a new President. All federations will be asked to propose their candidates, also for Secretary General and

Treasurer. These candidates will then be added to the Bureau mailing list, so that they will know what is happening a year in advance to the elections.

Sid Adriaensen explains to congress that for the IWWF to have a valid electronic vote, 75 percent of the federations have to vote. He requests all federations to please answer when they get this information, no matter if you agree or not.

Lucien Gerkau, Cable Wakeboard World President: what sort of work will Paul Fong do? What will be his duties, and how can he help the Councils?

Gill Hill: he is not there to do the Council's work, of course. His responsibilities are very much aimed at World Championship events, and to a lesser extend World Cup tours, and also anti-doping etc. This will be published, because it's useful for people to know where his focus has got to be. We still have Andréa in the office, who will do your circulars etc., that is not the issue.

Hans Tengberg-Hansen (DEN): is this the same job description that Kuno sent out for the President?

Gill Hill: yes, it is. We hope that Paul Fong will take over a lot of what the President has to do. But nobody would be able to do what Kuno does - he's never at home.

Sid Adriaensen: in 2009 at the World Games, for Tournament the medals were based on the Overall. In 2013, the medals were based on the individual events: Slalom, Tricks and Jump. Is it correct that there was a mail from Kuno Ritschard that it will again be based on overall?

Gill Hill replies that it will be based on Slalom, Tricks and Jump, Men and Women, absolutely *not* on Overall. The biggest problem with the World Games is the limited number of athletes we can take there.

## 17.2. The Vice-President from the European Confederation

Peter Frei confirms that his report is available on the website. He would like to emphasise that some very important things happened on World level.

Although we are always a bit critical about the World Cup, that had three stops and perhaps not a very big profit, the IWWF gained 80.000 US \$ in sanction fees, and that is quite a success.

There is a new contract with Correct Craft. Before it only covered waterskiing disciplines and it was for 5 years. Now it includes Wakeboard Boat and covers all World events. Correct Craft will also provide boats; Nautique for waterskiing, and Centurion for Wakeboard. The substantial amount involved with this contract makes it possible that we can now employ an executive director, like Gill Hill mentioned, which Peter Frei thinks is a major achievement.

At the World congress in Mexico, there was a very challenging election of the new PANAM Vice President for IWWF, with some political struggles involved; finally Jeffry Armstrong was elected to replace Jim Grew, who had been in place for many years.

Andy Harris asks for a brief update on the Event Management System.

Peter Frei jokes that bad news should better be kept for the end. Last year he presented the project, but at that time there was no contract yet with the provider, Emmanuel Lion, who provides many of our programs. Unfortunately a lot of time was spent to finalise the contract, especially because we wanted an agreement in case the project would fail and he could not deliver the system. In June the contract was finally signed. The deadlines were at that time; bundle 1 January, bundle 2 end of March and bundle 3 end of June, so we could have some pilot testing this year.

Unfortunately no delivery took place. Emmanuel Lion let us know on Friday that the new deadline will be bundle 1 and 2 by the end of September of this year, and to have the

system fully developed by the end of the year - bundle 3 - and fully corrected by March 2017 for productive implementation of the system.

Admincom is not happy about this, as no implementation will be possible in 2016. We hope to at least have some material to test in July-August 2016 with some pilot version. We want to put a penalty in place in case he does not deliver on time. Emmanuel Lion is very capable, with a lot of expertise in our sport, but his weakness is that he is not good keeping at deadlines and always works alone.

We have not paid anything yet, as was stipulated in the contract.

#### **17.3. The Vice-President from the African Confederation**

Louis Polome: we still maintain a strong operational and administrative link with Europe, for which we are very grateful. We are in the process of tidying up our Bye-Laws and Statutes.

He mentions that he already gave an update on Cameroon and Nigeria this morning, and adds that it was quite encouraging to see that Egypt is now more interested in what they are doing on the World scene.

There was a bit more interest in the sport in South Africa and Namibia. They had been worried the last couple of years by the decline in the number of skies/riders. Namibia went to a very difficult stage, where the government wanted to impound all their water ski facilities and nationalize them; it looks they have been able to sort out some of their problems. Things look better now, and we are looking forward to a few successful years ahead.

There are still issues with Mauritius and Sudan, as there has been no payment of their membership fees, despite changes and a lot of requests.

In Cameroon, and especially in the francophone part of West Africa, there is a lot of interest; Senegal, Benin also. Jean-Michel Cau and he have to go there face to face and talk to people, to the NOC, to the Ministry of Sports, and get them recognised to move forward. The plan for this year is to focus on West Africa.

Des Burke-Kennedy: has the arrival of Cable had much impact so far on Africa?

Louis Polome: there is a lot of interest, Uwe is probably the best person to update on that. But he has no doubt that this is where we are going to see the growth of the sport. People, especially on the recreational level, cannot afford to buy expensive Tournament and Wakeboard boats etc. In South Africa, for example, there is a development program in place where every week two or three dozen of previously disadvantaged youth - young black persons - come and train. We are really making good process there, and Cable helps to very quickly develop the sport.

## 18. Items raised in writing by the federations (deadline = 45 days prior to the congress)

## 18.1. Monaco - Organising a competition on a foreign territory

Aleco Keusseoglou, the President of the Monegask Waterski federation, thanks for this opportunity to address the congress. He explains that he used to have the Greek citizenship, but when he became Monegask in 2008, he regrets that he had to abandon any other citizenship. He has been involved in waterskiing for more than 35 years as competitor. He then created the Monegask federation that now has 55 members, with 2 competitors under 14 and 2 seniors. These numbers might seem very low, but the Snow Ski federation of Monaco for example, has 75 members after 60 years of existence, so it's not that bad.

In 1985 the World Championships were organised at the Lake Roquebrune, for which he thanks Alain Amade, president of the FFSN at that time, and Jean-Michel Cau, who

was one of the main organisers. If he is not mistaken, Patrice Martin had an overall title there.

The lake and the buildings around it had unfortunately degraded a lot over the years. In 2013, a private company bought 2/3 of the lake and got a lease from town hall for the remaining middle part. The owner asked us if we were willing to invest to put the lake back in order.

There are only two lakes in our region, namely this man-made lake, and a natural lake, called le Lac de la Rena, so it would be a pity to lose a lake. The next lakes are in Montpellier, which is 3 hours away, and Recetto and Torino in Italy. So when we started the federation in 2008, we first started exploiting the Lac de la Rena and invested a lot of money there. And with private sponsors and backup from the Monegask government, the Roquebrune lake was put back into order for a budget of over 600.000 €. A lot of mud and sea weed was dug out and the buildings were redone. The lake is fantastic now, it reopened July 2013.

The Monegask federation, through a French company, got a lease from the private owner to manage the lake for the next 17 years. Now there is the rule that a federation cannot organize a competition in another federation's soil without the approval of this federation. He thinks this rule is justified, but he would like to discuss on how to clarify this rule, and to define the parameters for granting or not granting this permission. Otherwise too many non-sport related concerns can interfere.

We would like to organize events such as a Titled Championship again, but under the current conditions we are quite restricted.

Martin Graw (Cableski) responds that such a co-operation was done between the Netherlands and Germany very often, without any problem. He suggests reaching a good agreement, or a contract of a longer time.

Aleco Keusseoglou (MON) agrees, but he thinks there should also be a clear set of rules, permitting a country that has no suitable lakes to organise competitions elsewhere.

Chico Cohen comments that Belgium and the Netherlands do this also. He thinks it should be neighbours who do this and that is should be agreed upon by both federations.

Lucien Gerkau (Cable Wakeboard) adds that Germany and Austria do this very often, they just ask the owners of the ski resorts.

Gill Hill thinks the question is about what is the definition of a reasonable refusal or acceptance. Des Burke-Kennedy wonders where the final decision is made about this.

Sid Adriaensen and Andy Harris think the power of the congress is that they can decide on these matters, and ask Aleco Keusseoglou what he is looking for in this situation.

Aleco Keusseoglou specifies that the Monegask federation is an E&A and IWWF member, that they manage the lake now and are willing to organize major competitions on that lake, but that the French federation does not allow them to up to now. So he would like to have a clear set of rules on why such a permission can or cannot be granted.

Des Burke-Kennedy understands that there are two cases here, and the matter is where the documents go for a decision.

Andy Harris asks Patrice Martin (FRA) to reply, now that this matter has been brought to congress.

Dimos Alexopoulos (GRE) is not sure what the international law is. Is any private lake under the sanction or control of the local federation?

Gill Hill: under Bye-Law rule 4.4. it says that all competitions have to be registered, and when a federation organises an event on the territory of another country where there is an existing federation, it needs to have the authorisation of the host federation.

Aleco Keusseoglou repeats that he has no problem with this very logical rule, but with the feeling that it is not clear why the permission will be denied, and that's unfair.

Andy Harris summarizes that the Bye-Law about the jurisdiction is clear, but that it is too open according to the Monegask federation. But E&A cannot instruct federations about how to run their federation; we cannot interfere and we need to very careful in this regard.

Alain Amade says that there normally is no problem. When he was president of FFSN, there was a general agreement with the Swiss federation, for example, to organize competitions on French soil. But they asked permission every time. He knows Roquebrune is a specific case, and that there is a long history behind this, it's not the same situation.

Chico Cohen asks if the rule also applies for nationals, because in his opinion that is not fair, because that is very different situation.

Andy Harris replies that it also applies.

Aleco Keusseoglou feels there is no problem between our federations, but that we are taken hostage by the town hall of Roquebrune.

Gill Hill understands that the reasonableness of the refusal really is the problem here.

Patrice Martin thinks this is a matter we can discuss this year. At the Admincom meeting yesterday we couldn't change the wording of the Bye-Laws changes, because it was sent to all the countries already. But we can discuss it, and make a proposal for next year. He doesn't think the solution can be found right now in the congress.

Aleco Keusseoglou wasn't suggesting that, he just wanted to bring up the point as a matter of discussion, and hopes a reasonable solution will be found within a short time.

Dimos Alexopoulos agrees with Patrice Martin that the congress cannot change this Bye-Law now, and he thinks Admincom should deal with this and sit down with the two federations.

Varna Laco (Cable Wakeboard): it sounds confusing to us. The problem started because of a Bye Law, and now we are saying it is a problem between two federations?

Andy Harris thinks the Bye-Law is there for a very good reason. He asks Aleco how long is this been going on.

Aleco Keusseoglou (MON): a long time.

Andy Harris: under article 7 of our Bye-Laws, we have our own rules concerning arbitration, and I would suggest the EB/Admincom start that process, with the permission of the countries concerned.

Patrice Martin (FRA): up to now, the Monegask federation never formally asked our permission to organize a tournament.

Andy Harris: so we will have to look into a formal representation from the French federation first. And then, if congress and both countries agree, we can discuss this and hopefully come to a solution within the next year. If we can't resolve it within our own internal arbitration Bye-Laws, we can take it outside if the federations concerned agree. He thanks Aleco Keusseoglou for his presentation and asks the permission of congress to move into arbitration.

Agreed.

## 19. Calendar of Titled Events

Sid Adriaensen reads out the changes to the Calendar of titled events *(see Calendar at www.iwwf-ea.eu)*. The November Council and Admincom meetings will be in Belfast, not in Dublin.

Carmen Ferrer-Bosch shows a presentation for the E&A Tournament Open Championships in Lleida, Spain, 1-4 September 2016. She explains that there is a lake for slalom, tricks and jumps, and another one for wake and training tricks. You can come by motorway or TGV. There now is a connection straight to Lleida from Barcelona Sants train station in about one hour. There will be 4 days of competition, not 5, and 2 days official training before competition. The new boats are MasterCraft 6.2 liter. It will be the same official hotel as before, and there is another hotel in Lleida, located 10'-15' from the site.

The organisers were very grateful for the cooperation with Alain Amade, the officials and the Tournament Council in 2015, and Carmen welcomes everyone in the name of the organisers to the 2016 Championships. All information is on the internet, and the bulletin will be sent out in due time.

Des Burke-Kennedy requests that someone be appointed for media.

Carmen Ferrer-Bosch: the speaker at these Championships is a newspaper man and reporter, and he will be in charge of this as well. The results will also be handled better this time.

Lukas Horky (CZE): can the schedule be arranged to stop Sunday afternoon, because we have four skiers entering the University Championships in Akita, and there is a last flight to Japan at 5 PM.

Carmen Ferrer-Bosch replies that they have agreed to do their best to finish on time.

Candido Moz comments that everything should be over by 6 o'clock, so people would be able to leave the site. There are flights going straight to Tokyo until 10 PM. Unfortunately the organizer could not move the date of the competition, because the lake is used for irrigation up until about the end of August.

Carmen Ferrer-Bosch explains that the organisers are supported by their local government, so they cannot go against that.

A video is shown (see https://vimeo.com/153251245).

Alessandro Vanoi (ITA) presents a small movie about the Tournament Youth Championships at Recetto. He explains that Recetto can easily be reached, and that you have the possibility to visit the nearby towns of Turin, Milan and the beautiful Novara. There are two lakes, and we are lucky to have one lake dedicated to the Disabled team. The boats used will be MasterCraft. The Dario ski club organises the Championships in collaboration with the Italian federation.

Candido Moz jokes that on 10-14 August, it will be very hot, and that the mosquitos will be free of charge. He adds that the first bulletin will be sent in the next few days.

Andrew McGuiggan (IRL) makes a presentation for the E&A Wakeboard Boat 2016 Championships. They will be held the 13th of August in Christie Park, Coleraine, northern IRL. You can get there via Belfast city airport or via the International airport. The site was used last year for the qualifier for the Super Finals. The water is 4-5 meter deep, so the wakes are big.

A public park runs the entire length of the park. On the weekend of the championships, a festival is being held there, meaning many extra spectators. The site is very close to the town, so those that want to can go shopping. That moment of the year is very touristic, so please book early. Andrew McGuiggan jokes that it's best to provide clothing for any sort of weather! All information will be in the bulletin that will be sent out shortly.

Alain Amade agrees with Des Burke-Kennedy on the importance of having the media present. He feels internet is very important. When a connection for good streaming is available, this is a big success with the family and fans who follow the results on-line. Unfortunately such a good connection is not always available. Sesena, for example, needs to do some work to allow for live streaming, this is very important. He encourages Ireland also to provide this to promote our sport. TV is too expensive to promote our sport, but internet is a good alternative. Alain would like to find a sponsor to help us have our own connection, with a parabole antenna, even in the middle of nowhere. If the organizer cannot, maybe a provider could. He thinks it should be put into the list of obligations also.

Peter Frei comments that a link for live streaming is provided in Emmanuel Lions' result system.

#### 20. Future congresses

#### 20.1. January 28th 2017 open to bids

Alain Amade spoke to Florian Butty about hosting the 2017 congress in Lausanne (SUI), where a visit of the Olympic museum and city could be arranged. There is another proposal, for Halle (GER). Monaco also proposes to organise the congress, but the main problem there is the hotel price. Aleco Keusseoglou (MON) says he will try to get us a reasonable deal, and will keep us informed.

Colin Hart observes that Monaco might be expensive, but that the exchange rate makes Switzerland also very expensive for some countries.

#### 20.2. January 27th 2018 open to bids

#### 20.3. January 26th 2019 open to bids

Andy Harris announces that 2018 and 2019 are still open for bids, and that it would perhaps be nice to go to some countries that we haven't been to for a while.

## 21. Budget 2016 (01/12/2015 - 30/11/2016)

D. Lakens Douwes explains that the provisional budget, which was drafted in Antwerp, was discussed at the Admincom meeting. The final version, with lots of notes to clarify things, was handed out this morning to everyone. She asks if there are any questions.

Louis Polome suggests reminding congress that a document regarding the calculation of fees is on the website. The document "How the yearly subscription fees are calculated" will replace Appendix-C of the Bye-Laws.

No questions. Approved unanimously by show of cards.

## 22. Distribution of Certificates & Awards

#### 22.1. By the divisional councils

The distribution of certificates and awards will be done tonight at the gala dinner.

#### 22.2. Announcement of the Athlete of the year awards

Sid Adriaensen explains that the athlete of the year is chosen by the Admincom members from amongst the proposals made by the divisional councils.

He announces that the male athlete of the year is Adam SedImayer (CZE) from Tournament, the current World champion; the female athlete of the year is Julia Rick (GER) from Cable Wakeboard.

#### 22.3. Honorary members

Alain Amade: there are no nominations for Honorary Members this year.

## 23. A.O.B.

Andy Harris announces that Dimos Alexopoulos would like to speak on behalf of the Mediterranean Confederation.

Dimos Alexopoulos thanks Gill Hill for speaking about the positive impact for our sport by participating in Multi Sport Games, such as the Beach games or the Mediterranean Games. The Mediterranean Confederation is small, but it tries to promote the less strong countries of Europe, located around the Mediterranean Sea. The European Games may get a lot of exposure on television, and this will help our sport more. But the smaller Games have an equal exposure of our sport to the NOC's, because they are under NOC patronage.

Tomorrow at 8 o'clock the General Assembly of the Mediterranean Confederation will be held. What we will discuss tomorrow, is that we collect some money from the Mediterranean federations to promote the sport for children of less strong countries. A five day water ski training camp is planned this year in Greece. The cost is 200 EURO per skier/rider, including food, lodging, low-level skiing for age about 12-16 years, for 2 skiers or riders per country, and other activities.

## 24. Colloquium : Cableski parks and the federations

Alain Amade comments that this is the first time we organize such a discussion in congress. Every year there are more cable parks in Europe and in the World, thanks to Bruno Rixen and all other cable constructors. The problem is that these cable parks are not a member of their federations.

So the real question, and the reason for this colloquium, is: how can E&A help to have cable owners become member of their national federation? A huge amount of memberships is concerned, much more than we used to have in ski clubs.

He invited Marie-Anne Persoons (Cableski Council), Varna Laco (Cable Wakeboard Council), Günther Kuhnt (GER) and Patrice Martin (FRA), who saw an explosion of new cable parks in their countries, to speak at this congress about their experience with this subject. He hopes that all federations will feel concerned.

Marie-Anne Persoons: at the November meeting, when all councils met, the Cableski and the Cable Wakeboard Council brainstormed about how we can bring cable parks closer to their federations and get more memberships. She made a presentation about the ideas that came up, and about what we have to offer.

She thinks the matter should be looked at globally, it's not just something for E&A.

She realized that squash and tennis clubs have similar problems; a lot of people there play for leisure; they are not interested in official competitions or becoming member of a federation.

Another thing is that cable park owners are running a business. They invested money in their installation, and they want to make money out of it. It is their living, it is their work. They are not so interested in things that don't make money. The federation, on the other hand, is a non-profit organisation; we do it for free, with volunteers. We are more sport-oriented; we want to make the sport grow, we want to have practice and competitions, and show our sport to the world. We, as a federation, need to be the link between the cable park owners and the sport.

A ski school is different, the focus is on training. It is expensive because only one skier can go at once and boats are expensive. A cable park, on the other hand, is low cost. People don't go there so much to make progress in their sport, they go for leisure.

But still, a cable park owner could benefit from competitions, so we need to make them understand this.

We can give training sessions or camps, and give advice on anything that is on the water. By the way, it's not much use handing out licenses for people that have attended these sessions

or camps; if we give it to them for free, they're not interested in continuation in paying for it the next year.

A cable park needs very specific maintenance and machine integrity control; it's not so easy to find out exactly what is needed. We can help with this, getting them into contact with knowledgeable persons. A cable park can run a couple of years longer with the proper maintenance!

We can also help with making the cable safe, with communication on incident investigations, helping us how to learn from incidents to avoid these happening again . And we can offer the advantage of having an extra insurance when you are a member of your federation.

We also have reports on environmental studies. Leon Larson, the chairman of the IWWF Environmental Committee, can help make environmental impact reports.

Some national associations of cable owners make group purchases at a very interesting rate. We could co-ordinate such deals ourselves, and negotiate very interesting prices for cable park owners for ropes, buoys, ramps, kickers, sliders, skis or wetsuits etc.

When addressing interested parties, it helps to say that you are representing an official organisation like IWWF.

We can help cable park owners to organise competitions and events on the water.

She warns not to try to get all the members of a cable park registered. The cable park owners don't want you to know how many members they have. It is better to work out an incentive to incite them to register members, like benefits per quota, and let them be free to register as many persons as they want.

It is not only about cable parks becoming members ; also about cable park visitors. We thus should work on finding advantages for the customers of the cable park themselves to become member of their federation, such as reduced rates at their club or when going to other member clubs.

Marie-Anne Persoons asks if there are any suggestions.

Des Burke-Kennedy thinks this is very interesting, and that many of us are struggling with this issue. Many of us come from a standard, conservative water ski federation, and we do not have the knowledge to offer these suggestions. Will there be a standard manual, covering many of these points, to help our federations who do not have a lot of experience with this?

Marie-Anne Persoons: there is book, written in German by Petra Trautman, which is very complete, and which is something we could base our own manual on. Patrice Martin (FRA) has somebody in his federation that is working on that; he is collecting all that kind of information.

Varna Laco thanked Marie-Anne Persoons for making this presentation and said that she had nothing to add.

Günther Kuhnt, president of the German Waterski and Wakeboard federation, thanks for inviting him to speak. He explains that he is a bit frustrated in this matter. When he first started as president of his federation, Adolf Marx, his predecessor, told him that we have to do a lot with the cables. There are 3.000 members in Germany who are officially registered with the Olympic Committee. There are 80 cable parks. If about 100 skiers from every cable park would register with the federation, that would mean 8.000 members easily!

In the past he got once 15' to make a presentation to the ICA (the International Cable Owners Association) at a big meeting in Mallorca. He explained how the federation works, the duties, the planning, and especially that a federation needs to work on the political level, with the ministries etc., to get the connection to the government. And the federation should also have connections on business level.

If you have a lot of cable parks, and you can increase your members, and then go to your government with such numbers, it's a lot more interesting. It's also important for the Olympics, as Bruno Rixen knows. Günther Kuhnt was shocked that the ICA did not even look at the

possibility to get water ski into the Olympics, because this was also a question of business. The ICA is more oriented towards the technical side, not the political side.

In Germany, only clubs can be in the federation. If you want to hold a competition, you have to be a member. This can be solved with an extra-ordinary membership, which is easy and not very expensive.

He thinks we need more political influence, and more media presence, to create a win-win situation for everyone, and it was frustrating for him that he could not get the idea across.

We made skier certificates, that were also a one-year membership of the federation, and it was very difficult to do. Lucien Gerkau also created certificates for the operators, so that in case of an accident the insurance will ask what the education of this person was and this can be shown.

He thinks we need to have another organisation for cable owners.

Patrice Martin starts with a reflection on the Roquebrune situation, evoked under item 18. He wants to clarify that it is a difficult situation. Even though Monaco now tries to pressure congress to make a decision, they never sent them a letter. He thinks there is time to solve things, as there is no problem yet. Our actions are against the city of Roquebrune, certainly not against the Monegask federation. There have already been many meetings to find a solution, so far without any success. We have not received any reply to the proposal that was sent to the Monegask federation. Patrice Martin has never said no to any federation. He knows that Monaco organised their competition unofficially anyways last year.

He then shows a presentation, and comments that Marie-Anne Persoons already evoked most of what he intended to say.

The FFSN worked hard these last 4 years to integrate cables into our federation. There are 85 cables in France now. We try to get the clubs to affiliate, and to reach an agreement with the professional/commercial people involved. We are now at 57% of the two towers and at 78% of the full cables. We oriented more towards the full cables at the beginning, because a lot more skiers ski or ride there.

Some of the clubs are not member yet because they do not comply yet with the French legislation, for example because of a lack of coaches on site. Also, the goal of most of the clubs who have become a member, is not to sell memberships to their customers. So we try to get a club on the same site as the professional site, with people doing rooting work and trying to get the people that come often to the site into membership of the federation.

We try to contact a new cable installation owner, and help him and assist. We sign a contract with them, to assure them that they will get information and promotion for the local authorities. We also provide them with a technical adviser. And our national Cable Wake Commission tries to give them new ideas to promote the sport and their site.

These people are professionals, they want to make money, so we need to offer them "products". So we organize, locally and regionally, a Kid's Wake Day etc. to get kids interested. It results in the "Kids to King" final, held every year. We also hold a Clinic where people can meet the best riders from France. There is also the "Chicks on Tour", a girls' only one-day format. This is not only about competing, but also to teach them about judging. We had an in-door final at the Paris boat show last year, and it is working really well.

We edited a small book, the "Wake Pass Cable", whose purpose is to learn the fundamentals and harmonisation of educational models, and to discover new talents. It works with stickers, according to the level a rider obtains, with colours such as in judo belts.

We provide services such as operators' training. There is a specific sport's license or membership for the cable community, with a price that is lower than for boat waterski. It can easily be obtained on-line, even at the last minute.

There is a wiz-event to help organize competitions on-line. We help the organisers with the specifications for tournaments. And of course we have a website, with an interactive map with

all information and with news. We are also on the social media with a specific Facebook page for the cable and cable wakeboard community, that also gets a big article in the yearly federal magazine.

For the future, we will try to get politics, state government, and the ministry of sports more involved. Not only the sport, but also the environment, the economy, the education, the tax etcetera can work on the good side with the ministry.

We created a quality label for the composition regarding the wakeboard, the coaches, the environment, the consumer service, the development etc.

We are working on different sorts of tournaments, to keep people that do not want to really compete, interested.

Our goal is to get 100% of the cables into membership. The forecast is 10 new cable parks opening every year. So in 2020, we will have 120 cable parks in France. If all of them are members, it's going to be pretty good for our federation.

A book that was created five years ago for Wakeboard, from the starter to competition, will be online in a year. It includes parts for operators, for safety etc.

Des Burke-Kennedy thinks it is an excellent presentation, and congratulates Patrice Martin for what he has achieved. Des thinks a starter pack with some of the details would be a great motivator, and says to keep in mind that cable park owners want to make money. Environment etc is not on the top of their list. We have a database to help them with marketing, and we can promote their venues. And if we get into the Olympic Games, it will be with Cable. The IOC will only speak to us, the federations, and not to the cable owners. He thinks we should try and work harder on explaining these benefits to the owners.

Suzy Nightingale (GBR) sits on a cable owner committee in the UK, as well as on the Cable Wakeboard Committee in the UK. From her perspective, she agrees with most of what was said. But she thinks any cable owner will always think he can make a better deal for equipment than we can, just to prove he is an astute business man. What could work, is helping them by making things easy for them around the competitions. She has no problem selling memberships to the federation, partly because they invest a lot in the infrastructure around the coaching. You have to make sure an interface is in place between cable owners and federations, and that is what is working in the UK. She doesn't think it's about cheap ramps etc., but about having this interface and about make stuff easy for the owners.

Frank Tengberg-Hansen (DEN) says that most Danish clubs have abandoned the idea to keep a boat going only for wakeboard, and most people are going to cable. We made a deal with the Danish Olympic Committee two years ago, to set up a four year project to make 2 point cable systems around the country, and the Danish OC would pay half the price. It was quite a success. We had one every year and we need two more. It was a win/win project for the Danish Wakeboard federation.

Gill Hill is glad to hear things are going well in Great Britain. She thinks the bigger federations can handle this, but that the smaller federations are going to struggle to offer this sort of help. She asks Marie-Anne Persoons if she intends to create some sort of info pack.

Marie-Anne Persoons: yes, that was one of the things that came up last year. It would be interesting to offer such a kind of book as a present, whenever they become a member.

Gill Hill: would that be same guide for all federations? The coaching guide, the operators' guide? That really would be a step forward.

Marie-Anne Persoons: as I said, the international cable owners' association is primarily German. The Netherlands also have a cable owners' association, but neither one is working very well. So it's urgent, and it's also perfect timing, for us to come up with an alternative for the cable sites that are not located in Germany. There is for sure a need for something like that. We cannot insist on things as that would risk a liability issue. But if we can make it as consistent as possible throughout the whole of Europe, and preferably even in the world, an English manual could also be used in the USA or Australia. She thinks the time is right to create something like an international cable owners' association, with the link to the federation.

Alain Amade thinks it is not between cableski, 3-event or wakeboard, as they have a completely different public. Waterski or wakeboard behind the boat is mainly a family sport; parents coach their children, or there is a ski school. In cable this is very different: the cable park takes care of the kids. On the cable it is more individuals taking part. So in order to promote competition in cable parks, we need good coaches there.

He confirms that the German and the Dutch cable owners are not very happy about what is going on in the ICA and their cable owners association. It's not a real association; they never have votes; it's just the same people running this association.

Alain Amade agrees with Marie-Anne Persoons that it is time to create our own world association, and make the cable owners member of this association, and then provide a good manual in English, to make it easier for everyone. E&A has to co-ordinate this and make it world-wide. It can help us get good deals with the people who are making obstacles etc, and to provide good equipment for the cable owners. Alain Amade thinks it would be good to organise a meeting with all the cable owners who are already a member of their federation, and start to propose statutes. If we can make this work as an association, then he is sure it will grow year after year.

Marie-Anne Persoons agrees that we need to create a set of statutes, and present them at a big meeting. Alain Amade says he is willing to invest money to organize a meeting with all interested parties, to get things started in an efficient way. He will speak about this with the EB and with the federations and the councils concerned.

Andy Harris is keen to see the future development of this. He agrees with Günther Kuhnt that cable is our only ticket into the Olympics. He thanks everyone for their presentations.

## 25. Closing of the congress

Mike Waterman shows a short video about racing, and comments afterwards that a copy is available for every country. He requests the federations to please come and talk to him about organising a racing competition in their country.

At this point, Andy Harris hands the word over to Alain Amade to close the congress.

Alain Amade thanks everyone for assisting at such a long congress. He thinks there was an interesting discussion on cable parks. Next time there might be a colloquium about another item: next year there will be more time, as there will be no election. All ideas are welcome.

He thanks Andy Harris for being the chairman at this congress and says he likes the way he runs it. He thanks Brit Horemans for taking the minutes, not an easy thing to do! He also thanks the Spanish federation, even though the main people of that federation are not here now. He thanks Carmen Ferrer-Bosch, and also Ricardo and Anthony. He gives Carmen a present for all her work.

Carmen Ferrer-Bosch thanks for the present, and she also thanks everyone for their patience and understanding of her situation. She explains that she has not been on the board of the Spanish federation for 15 years now, so she was only volunteering to help the E&A Confederation. She also thanks Ricardo Botas, who was a great help, and also the technician who did a great job.

The congress ends at 17.30h.

see iwwf-ea.eu for :

<u>under Miscellaneous</u> Composition of Council and Committees

<u>under Congress 2016</u> List of delegates present at Congress Presentation on the International Hall of Fame Tournament Open Championships Lleida: see <u>https://vimeo.com/153251245</u> Cable Parks - presentation