

ADMINCOM Minutes - Antalya, Friday 03/02/2023

0. Practical things.

0.1 Who will chair this meeting ?

Patrice Martin will chair this meeting.

0.2 Gill Hill being unable to attend this meeting, Sid Adriaensen to take the Minutes.

With the help of notes taken by Marie-Anne Persoons.

0.3 How the weekend will develop.

Congress will be Saturday morning, hoping to be finished by lunch time, so if Councils need extra meeting time, they can meet in the afternoon.

Since we are in an All-In, all meals will be in the hotel.

The Admincom arranges on Saturday evening a special room for the Congress delegates to have a reserved place, at the Italian restaurant in the complex for those willing to join us at an extra cost of 19 € per person.

It turns out that all Congress people did agree to join us – like a nice big family.

1. List of presence, absence, apologies.

= Patrice Martin	President
= Sid Adriaensen	Secretary-General
= Dom. Lakens Douwes	Treasurer
= Morten Froulund	Supervisory Board
= Ivar Fosse	Supervisory Board
= Stefano Duranti	Supervisory Board
= Paul Turner	Alternate representative of the Barefoot Council
= Marie-Anne Persoons	Representative of the Cable ski Council
= Dany De Bakker	Representative of the Disabled Council
= Nuno d'Eca	Representative of the Wakeboard Boat Council
= Suzi Nightingale	Alternate representative of the Wakeboard Cable Council
= Gavin Kelly	Representative of the Water ski Council
= Louis Polome	Observer, Secr-Gen of the African Confederation
= José Antonio Perez Priego	Observer, President of the IWWF
= Karen Mc Clintock	Observer, Secr-Gen of the Panam Confederation

Apologies were received from

= Andy Harris	Supervisory Board & Vice-President
= Ludo Vrancx	Representative of the Barefoot Council
= Richard Hernaez	Representative of the Racing Council
= Varna Laco	Representative of the Wakeboard Cable Council
= Gill Hill	The President's adviser

The UKR war and its consequences for our meeting now and tomorrow's Congress.

The IOC is trying to find a proposal to get RUS and BLR athletes back, but politics are playing. IWWF will stay with following the decision taken by the IOC, as this is believed to be the safest way to deal with this.

The issue is rather hot at present, as José Antonio received even today mails on this topic.

The mail sort of suggest that the decision should be made by each international federation.

Some people feel like the ban is incorrect as sports should not be politics ; the IOC feels they do not have the right to discriminate because of politics.

Past decisions as with RSA, were correct as e.g. the United Nations had put the ban.

The IWWF feels not sure what is the best decision. Before it was easy as we could just follow the IOC decision. Now we need to decide ourselves.

Some disciplines are certainly more impacted than others, like Cable ski with a big team from BLR. Different sports take totally different decisions.

We are a rather small sport, so the political impact (and propaganda) will be negligible.

Proposal coming out of the USA : to allow BLR and RUS athletes to ski as individual under the neutral flag, but not sanction any competitions in these countries. According to José Antonio, Europe is a lot more involved as we are located much closer to the war.

How would the selection be done ? As these athletes should participate as individuals, they should be qualified as individuals, selections done by the relevant World Councils.

In addition to the qualification, we need to make sure the athletes selected do not make any promotion for the war on their social media.

Elected members on councils should be seen no longer as "from their country" but as "international elected member". Officials should be treated similar, though at a competition a country needs to be added. The country chosen should be decided once and then kept. The country proposed should be the country where they pay their taxes, or better the country where they stay/reside, most of the time of the year.

The EC feels that we should find a way for RUS and BLR athletes to participate at our titled competitions and the ranked events (to allow them to get scores to qualify for the titled events).

We should also help with letters if needed, to get these athletes visa's, like we did before.

It is possible that if RUS and BLR athletes participate, UKR athletes may boycott the competition.

If so, that will be their choice.

Action:

In EMS the BLR and RUS flags need to be taken off and international licenses need to become available. Getting the international license needs to be checked clearly case by case as athletes of lapsed federations should not be allowed to get such an international license.

Practical, they will have to become IWWF members because they need an international license.

Otherwise they cannot be entered to competitions if their country (BLR, RUS) cannot enter/approve them in the EMS.

We will not have an IWWF team – if these athletes are allowed to participate it will be as individuals.

2. Approval of the minutes of the Admincom of November 2022.

Approved without dissent.

3. Approval of Board decisions and recommendations.

Future meetings.

08-11/06/2023, Spring Admincom meeting near Rotterdam, The Netherlands.

Following up on our November discussion when we agreed to go to the NED, the Board has reached an agreement with the Dutch Federation.

Hotel name, room rates :

= The Delta Hotel.

Delta Hotel Vlaardingen, Maasboulevard 15, 3133 AK Vlaardingen, Nederland

Website : www.deltahotel.nl

Email : info@deltahotel.nl

Phone : +31 (0)10 – 434 5477

= Single room 120,00 €, breakfast included (+ 5 € city tax)

Double room 140,00 €, breakfast included (+ 5 €/pp city tax)

11-14/11/2023, November meetings in Budapest, HUN

Sid did circulate the bulletin to all Admincom members & permanent invitees.

Hotel name, room rates :

= The Danubius Hotel Helia.

Karpat utca 62-64, 1133 Budapest, Hungaria.

= Single room 119 - 149 €, breakfast included (depending on your choice of room)

Double room 129 - 159 €, breakfast included (depending on your choice of room)

Agreed to accept this offer.

02-04/02/2024, EC Congress in Paris, FRA.

= Best Western PLUS Paris Orly Airport

4, Avenue Charles Lindbergh, 94656 Rungis Cedex, France

Phone : +33(0)1 49 78 42 06

Email : directioncommerciale@bestwestern-paris-orly.com

Website : www.bestwestern.fr

= Twin rooms @ 125 € single or double occupancy + 2,53 €/pp tourist tax.

Agreed to propose this bid to the Congress tomorrow.

The 2025 Congress in Rotterdam (01 February).

A presentation would be made at the 2024 Congress in Paris.

The next Admincom in June would discuss the Congress proposals for Rotterdam.

We will be staying in the same Delta hotel that has been proposed for the 2023 spring Admincom meeting.

AOY Trophies (Athlete Of the Year)

Franz Kuhn had agreed to purchase the twelve trophies for the 2022 Sports Division athletes of the year. Dominique would purchase the two presents for the general AOY.

GBR boat numbers (racing).

It was agreed to send the invoice for GBR Boat numbers to Steve Cox who would pay.

The invoice would be actually made out to the British Federation.

It was noted that in all cases invoices were only sent to Federations. There were some deals as to who should pay in some cases, but it would always be through the National Federation.

Update of the Memorandum of Understanding EC-AC (Sid/Louis).

The updated MOU gets signed. No major changes, only one important clarification :

Who pays a meeting allowance when attending a meeting ?

Only an ACTIVE member of a council representing Africa is entitled to a meeting allowance from the EC. Active means a voting member.

However, if Africa wished to send a non-voting representative to the Admincom, then no allowance will be made but could be asked for.

Case Erwin Zawadski.

This case has been exactly handled as Stefano laid out.

The letter stating the sanctions had been sent to Zawadski on 17th December.

At this time there was nothing further to do.

In view of the elements studied, the 3 selected members are going to sanction Erwin ZAWADASKI on the basis of article 5.1 Infringements point 4 "Insulting or offensive words or behavior, including, but not only, specific reference to racist or misogynistic language or behavior" and revising the council's proposal as follows:

1. Erwin has to attend in person the Spring 2023 Cable ski Seminar in Frankfurt
2. He will need to sit (and pass) the theoretical Judges 2 exam. This exam gives proof that he has read the rule book. If he fails he will need to re-take at the seminar.
3. If Erwin decides not to fulfill n°1, he will be banned as competitor for 12 months.
4. If Erwin fails the exam on the second attempt, his ban will be suspended for a period of 12 months starting from the date of the last exam. This means that any further infringement of any kind during the 12-month period will result in him being banned as a competitor from the date of the infringement for 12 months.

Document storage.

National Councils on our Teams solution are not covered in our arrangement.

Morten was asked to provide numbers of participants from each council in order to pay the anticipated monthly cost of 300 Euros.

The Admincom decided to get Microsoft office for the Admincom and for three members per council. Any additional participants would have to be paid by the individual councils (about \$ 5 per user per month).

By the end of 2022, four councils had added (nearly) all their members to Teams, the other three had between 1 and 3 participants in Teams.

Since it is impractical to calculate per month which council should pay for how many extra participants and it is unlikely that the number of additional participants will vary much and/or often, Dominique proposes that we choose a cut-off date (say the start of the financial year) to determine the amount a council should pay for that year : the first three users are paid for by EC central, the others will pay € 60 per year per person.

Note 1: the European Cable Wakeboard Council requested that their World Council members would be added to Teams as well, which has been granted and which will be paid from the council budget.

Note 2: The Board decided that it was not desirable to add national councils since they fall under the responsibility of national federations and not the EC.

Cyprus – Nikolas Konstantinides

Out of our wakesurf committee – this is done.

Only Maryia Bulgakova plus two others are now on the Committee.

She should decide if more are needed.

The LAO.

The Board did approve the new lay-out of Appendix-A – Entry Fees, including an extra 10 € for anti-doping test costs. Still needs to be approved by the congress. The organizers will still have to count on paying half of the doping test costs if tests are required at their Titled Event.

On the draft LAO of a recent Panam titled event, it is clearly written that doping testing is advised but not mandatory !! The IWWF is looking at another company to work with for doping testing, doing the testing at lower cost. Especially the out of competition tests are very expensive.

Most Councils are now adding amendments to the general LAO, even creating a distinct LAO for each Titled Event. Which makes it very complex if we need to approve these by the Congress. The proposal is to have a very general LAO and the rest is outside the Bye Laws and made specific for each Council. The LAO is negotiable anyway.

Finances

The maximum reimbursement for a trip by car is raised from 0,30 €/km to 0,40 €/km, in line with the raise of the meeting allowances.

The old rate had not been updated since 2015 (!).

EC Bye-Laws review

The Monaco Congress has been asked to vote on all Bye-Laws except chapters 5-6-7 (Discipline, Appeals, Arbitration) which were still under construction.

The wording as approved at our spring meeting now needs to get ratified by Congress.

Bye-Laws Art 1.6 : agreed to insert this remark by Gery Propst :

"I would like to remind and point out that in order to comply with the WADA regulations, it is necessary to explicitly state in the Bye-Laws under the disciplinary rules that the imposition of disciplinary measures resulting from anti-doping rule violations may only be carried out on the basis of the IWWF anti-doping rules by the institutions and adjudicating bodies specified therein. I know that this is already meant in the bye-laws (under 1.6) but to be sure to be code compliant, it is necessary to state this explicitly."

Insert :

The imposition of disciplinary measures resulting from anti-doping rule violations may only be carried out on the basis of the IWWF anti-doping rules by the institutions and adjudicating bodies specified therein.

Cleaning-up : Art 2.1 ; 2.2 ; 2.3 ; 2.6.3 ; 2.6.5 - Sid would handle this.

Chapter 4 – official competitions.

This chapter 4 needs a complete overhaul, in conjunction with the general LAO.

Art 4.4 & 4.4.2 & Art 4.7 : to be reviewed in view of the EMS.

Suggested to ask Morten for his opinion on a general statement about EMS.

Art 4.5.1.1. : this is not what really happens. Bulletin requirements to be updated.

Maybe better to wait for new text by the IWWF and then put us in line with that.

Racing

The insurance problems in GBR lead to no international racing licences for British skiers, drivers and observers.

Gavin gives an update on the revised stance of BWSF, which sounds more positive.

Insurance in the UK for racing competitors is still not OK, so racers in GBR are not insured at present. A study and report on the risk (proved to be a low risk sport) of racing is being done, to see if an insurance can be done. The insurance company working with Ivar is also OK to look into this, but also needs a report on the risk assessment. In AUS for RAC they have insurances on public liability but not boat to boat (competitor to competitor) insurance.

The number of federations participating in racing is getting too low, and combined with a dwindling number of competitors leads to a theoretical loss of the biannual Championships status (instead an European Trophy, no medals etc).

No racing council representation at the last four out of five Admincom meetings.

No racing council representation at the Monaco and Antalya Congress.

Championships:

The last E&A was in 2018 (Dunoon, GBR) ; the last Worlds was in 2019 (Vichy, FRA).

No Titled Event in 2020 – 2021 – 2022.

It was hoped a World Championships could take place in November 2023.

Based on the performances of the Council over the last three years, the Board agreed to reduce their annual grant for 2023 from 3.000 to 1.000 Euros.

This decision can still get reviewed by the November Admincom, depending on what happens in the racing division during 2023.

Years ago, when we replaced the Sanction Fee system with the Entry Fees system for Titled events, the Racing Council opted out of the Entry Fees system and agreed on a fixed sanction fee for the E & A Championships of 4.000 Euro.

Appendix-B of the Bye-Laws (income to EC Central) mentions :

= If no Entry Fees system, a guaranteed income (*to EC Central*) from the Sanction Fees for EC or E&A Titled events.

If the Council doesn't find an organizer, this money comes out of the Council's budget.

It was agreed to issue the Council with a warning that this Bye-Law will be applied if no European Championships is held in 2024.

4. Finances.

All documents are on our Congress website – any remarks ?

= The balance and the profit & loss accounts with their notes.

We have improved on the number of debtors which decreased a lot.

Double payments done by mistake have been corrected.

An extra line for WADA (doping testing) will be added in 2023.

= The report by the Honorary auditor (Alain Amade).

= The report by the Professional auditor (Sven Van De Velde).

The BLR/RUS & UKR 2023 subscriptions fees. UKR does not have to pay and BLR and RUS are not allowed to pay. Was for 2022 and will also be so for 2023 (unless the war situation changes).

Approval of the 2022-2023 budget (no profit or loss).

The Board presents the budget which gets approved and will get submitted to Congress tomorrow.

Proposal regarding the subscription fees as of 2024.

The 2022 year ends with a surplus and we are asking for more money ?

The new system with EC paying partly for doping tests will already need more money

The subscription fees have stayed the same since 2016. We should look at an increase for 2024 of 10 % instead of the inflation rate of about 25% since 2016.

At present fees are based on GDP Nominal of the country.

The highest group of ten countries has too much of a gap between the lowest and highest ranking country. The proposal is to divide this highest group into two groups (5 +5), with the top group paying more than the 10% increase, say 20% instead of 10%.

The very lowest group and new full member federations will be kept at the extra low rate of 500 €.

Total increase will result in about 7.000 € extra income.

It is believed that this increase will not stop federations from being a member.

The proposal needs to be approved by the Congress.

The new amount will be for four years starting in 2024 and including 2025 - 2026 & 2027.

5. Preparation of tomorrow's Congress.

Chairperson.

Andy Harris being unable to travel, Morten Froulund will chair the Congress.

Lists of deceased, apologies, special guests, honorary members present, etc.

The Admincom improves on the list presented.

Appointment of scrutineers (also handling the sign-in desk) :

Nicky Caine, Christianna Mamali & Karen Mc Clintock will be asked to do so.

Appointment of the Financial Committee for the 2022-2023 financial year.

The Admincom nominates (but the Congress decides) :

Professional auditor = Sven Van De Velde.

Honorary auditor = Alain Amade.

Verification of list of Titled Events 2023 & beyond.

The meeting goes through the Titled Events calendars 2023 & 2024.

Correction : Belgium is not a candidate for the 2023 E&A Wakeboard Boat Championships.

Both calendars will get discussed at the Congress.

Female and male Athlete of the Year 2022.

= Laura Hillenbrand

= William Asher

List of presentations.

= The 2024 Paris Congress.

= Tal Maoz : the 2023 E&A Open & Age Categories Cableski Championships in Tel-Aviv, ISR.

= Marie-Anne comments on the report of the wakeboard cable council : really well made, inviting to be read.

6. A.O.B.

Honorary Vice-President : Depy's first 12 months have now expired.

The president and the Board propose to renew for the final year.

Unanimously agreed.

Application of Bye-Law 3.4.3. ? (A member of the Admincom who is not present ...)

A member of the Administrative Committee who is not present, force majeure excepted, at two consecutive meetings or at three non-consecutive meetings during a term of office, will automatically be considered to have resigned. The Administrative Committee may co-opt a substitute member of its own choice but only with the approval of their Federation.

The substitute's term of office will end at the same time as that of the member replaced.

We never did apply this rule as most apologies were caused by a 'force majeure'.

The same rule should apply to the Councils.

Councils ought to nominate an alternate representative to the Admincom. When the official representative cannot attend, it is important to maintain a high level of information exchanges.

The medals (Gavin).

Finally the design has been agreed, is now much nicer and more modern looking.

Cost for 2023 is acceptable. We need over 900 medals for competitors and over 170 for organizers and officials (boxed without lanyard).

Transportation from GBR is not straightforward. Gavin will have to take care of this and proposes to have all medals for one council be sent to one council member. That way he needs to take care of only six shipments.

It is considered ordering for two years, which allows to re-use some medals from the previous year. We will however start with one year, see how it works and if OK, we can decide to go for more years.

Insurance (Ivar).

All insurances have been reviewed and renewed.

Our broker is looking for a possibility into insurance for athletes including travel insurance, which if OK, could be very interesting for international athletes.

Officials coverage : who are officials is decided via the EMS.

Those officially on the list of the competition in EMS are covered.

Coverage is worldwide for all EC officials.

Ivar to chat on this with José Antonio to see what the possibilities are to make this a worldwide insurance.

Matters to be dealt with if time permits.

Issue with Evert Aartsen, a former Dutch barefooter, now living in Finland.

He has seriously offended the Dutch Federation.

The Admincom proposes the Barefoot Council to deal with it.

Wakeboard Boat has two elected members in the council, one from RUS and one from UKR.

The RUS member has been banned due to the war, the UKR member cannot join the meetings because of the issues in the country. The Council is now asking if they can co-opt extra members to do the work. The “lapsed” members stay as council members, will continue to be informed, but are inactive. The Admincom suggests to have the two extra members for this Council until the next election. These extra people need to be approved by the Congress.

Meeting adjourned at 18.00 hrs.

Depending on what will come up at the Congress, we may not need an extra meeting on Saturday afternoon.

Admincom members and if possible all Council members and guests are requested to come early at the Congress (at 08.30hr), to have their picture taken.

There will be a professional photographer to take the pictures.