



**Minutes IWWF Region Europe Racing Council Meeting
(by Microsoft Teams) on Saturday 7th November 2020 at
12.00 hours (Belgian Time).**

1 To record attendance and apologies

Our President gives a warm welcome to all members joining this zoom meeting. Instead of a physical meeting there is, for the moment, no other way seeing the COVID situation. Mike thanks Chris for setting up this meeting.

Mike Waterman (GBR)	President
Vera Van den Bossche (BEL)	Secretary-General
Franz Hebenstreit (AUT)	Treasurer
Thea Klarenbeek (NL)	Council member
Steve Cox (GBR)	Council member
Chris Rydl (BEL)	Athletes Representative

Apologies received :

Richard Hernaez (FRA) due to professional commitments.
Julius Leysen (BEL) due to personal commitments.

2 To approve the Minutes of the Council meeting held by “zoom” 5th June 2020 and deal with any matters arising.

Minutes of the zoom meeting held on June 5th , 2020 are approved.
Most of the matters arising are to be found in the agenda points of today.

3 Presidents’ report including year requirements of Admin Com

Report was distributed to all. It gave a good reflection of the 2020 season.

4 Secretary General’s report

Nothing special to report as Items of importance always promptly copied to Council by email. All outstanding matters are on the agenda for further discussion.

5 **Treasurer's Report and revised budget for 2020/2021.**

Franz gives explanation regarding the situation for the moment. Since we have no major expenses this year the balance of our Council budget is still very healthy.

Mike think the Bureau are inclined to cut back on the budget for all disciplines for next year, as all disciplines have significantly underspent in 2020, but this still has to be confirmed by the Admincom.

We have however no income from Int. licences as there were no races. And the boat numbers fee has to be discussed > see point 16.

6 **2021 Racing Calendar including the European Championships in Belgium (2022)**

Already 2 dates are on the European Calendar :

- 26-27/07/2021 Diamond Race Viersel (BEL)
- 31/07-01/08/2021 Hanseatic Race (GBR)
- Austria (Wolfram Kittl) has showed interest for a race in Vienna. But this still has to be confirmed, nothing final yet.

European Championships 2020 postponed till 2022. For the moment Belgium (Beringen) still has the intention to organize this event.

Of course, due the COVID situation all is very uncertain for the next year. But we hope that we will be able to race again in a near future.

7 **Correspondence,**

Mail from Austria (Wolfram Kittl) regarding Calendar 2021 > point 6.

8 **Insurance for water ski racing- GB/Belgium**

- Belgium has their insurance in order and are able to race abroad as well.
- GB has still no insurance in place and will be quite difficult to find. Question was raised whether GB could race in Belgium ? Yes indeed they can if they have a membership at a Belgian club and affiliated with the Federation they can have their insurance over here. However this insurance can only be used in Belgium NOT in another country.

9 **Any pressing IT issues/website/social media—Jonas—(also update on IWWF Racing World Website initiative).**

- Received the invoice for the websites from Jonas.
 - a. IWWF Europe Racing : paid by our Council (Franz)
 - b. IWWF Racing : Vera contacted Paul Fong and Peter Frei (IWWF) and the treasurer of IWWF has kindly paid for the IWWF website, because there is always a small budget available.
- Taking over Jonas job :
- Jonas always worked on a free basis for all matters concerning websites and Facebook pages.
- The Facebook pages have been followed up and updated by Vera.

For our Europe Facebook page we gave also Hannah Bird access.

- It is however, imperative that we find someone to follow and update our website page !. Suggestion was made to invite Steve Bird/Hannah Bird later on to this meeting (Steve Cox has contacted). He will join us later when we come to the point of Social Media.

10 WARAC update-any progress, following November report?

Nothing to report. Hope we can have an update after the planned meeting.

11 Report from Region Europe Athletes' Representative, Chris Rydl-

- Seeing the circumstances at the moment there is not much moving and/or happening.
- Chris would like however to release a message to all competitors that we are still working on the sport and the future of it ! Mike will make a text and send this to Chris for publication.
- We still should see what can be done to organise club races, but for the moment there is a lack of effort to get something done.
- The two races in Beringen (BEL) and the fun race in Hasselt (BEL) were very successful although there were severe regulations due to the Covid.
- Maybe also organize an online "Fit to Ski" program !

12 Minutes & Outcomes of WRC meeting in Vichy held on 13/09/2019--update.

- Update given by Vera (Racing Chair) on ongoing matters.
- Cannot find further help to the minutes, but will try again to make something out of it.
- Changes to the 2021 Rules : Juniors, wetsuit, 1000 point system. Have annexed to these minutes the proposals accepted. (but NOT for publication yet !!).
The final 2021 IWWF Racing Rule Book will be published end November 2020.
- Other matters are taken in the Agenda and will be responded to.

13 Bids for 2021 World Championships- Lanzarote ??

- Vera (as IWWF Racing Chair) is in contact with Tony nearly every week.
- The potential bid from Canary Islands/Lanzarote is still being worked upon.
Date still the same 20 – 29 of August 2021 > Lanzarote.
- The Spanish Federation is always copied in the mails.
- Last mail from Tony Gonzales promises further final information by the 20th of November. So we are waiting for that.

14 European Racing Hall of Fame –confirm recipients for 2020/2021.

- As we did not have the chance to award the 2019/2020 candidates, suggestion is made to keep the same names and award them in 2021:
Carlo Cassa (ITA) European Champion F1 Men 1996 – 2002
Miriam Grignani (ITA) European Champion F1 Women 1984 – 1985
Council members agreed on this proposal.

15 Revision of any Region Europe Racing rules for 2021 including Rule 3.04

- As the World Rules are in the making, Council decides to wait for these and then make any necessary adjustments to the Europe Rule Book if deemed relevant to us.

16 Boat Numbers regular update

- Nothing special to report on the numbers, but problem of getting the money ?
- Thea and Chris think the numbers should be paid by each country.
- Vera says however that only Belgium and Holland collected money for the boat numbers. Belgium only 32 out of the 72 numbers, that means only the competitors that started in the 2 National races. Belgium has no problem to pay for the numbers but then all countries have to do so !
- All other countries did not receive the money for boat numbers.
- Will put the question to the Bureau (which we have a meeting with at 15.30 h) and ask for their advice.
- Advice from the Bureau:
Postpone till next year – the countries who did collect money they carry over to 2021 and exceptionally no invoices this year (2020) for the boat numbers.

17 Region Europe Racing nominees for IWWF Hall of Fame- new selection process.

- Vera explained in full the changes made and selection process.
- As Des Burke (IRL) stepped down the new Chairman is now Geoff Blaauw (AUS) who has completely changed the process.
- Changes in selectors :
Within each IWWF Council they have to choose 3 selectors 1 from each division and a Chair, they however must be from outside the Council, in other words cannot longer be a Council member.
- IWWF Racing have appointed : Meryl Lee (AUS) and Chair, Mike King (USA) and Tom Lumley (GBR) as selectors and they all accepted.
- It is up to them to make a selection criteria and put forward candidates which will then be approved by the Council.

18 Discussion of possible future formats/formulae of Water Ski Racing in Europe—S Cox

Steve Cox suggests that the engine capacities need complete review:

- F1 Open has not changed but is very expensive.
- F2 is relatively underpowered and to step up to F1 is a massive leap.
- FIII are underpowered also too distended
- 1980/1990 boats have the wrong engines

Maybe we should think about this and see whether a change is possible. Vera says that IWWF Racing will probably not change anything to the engines.

19 Any other business, including Social Media

At this point Steve Bird joined the meeting.

- Social media was discussed in full, there are many options we could implement in our system: website, Facebook, Tik-Tok, Blog etc...
- Need to keep people in the loop and up to date so their interest is still going on.
- Steve will liaise with Hannah and also ask whether she would be interested to take over the Europe Racing Website.
- The main thing is the matter of a budget ! we have to invest in media.
- Steve will send a mail including their ideas and the budget needed.

20 Date and venue of next meeting.

- The physical face to face Monaco Congress (February 2nd , 2021) is cancelled.
- Instead the Bureau will organise a video/zoom meeting, on the same date-- more details will be received in due course.

IWWF Europe Bureau Zoom meeting started at 15.30 h

Present:

- For the Bureau :
Patrice Martin, Sid Adriaensen, Dominique Lakens, Gill Hill, Andy Harris
- For Racing Council :
Mike Waterman, Vera Van den Bossche, Franz Hebenstreit,
Thea Klarenbeek, Chris Rydl.

Mike explained all the agenda points and the results so far, of course a lot was discussed seeing the actual situation with Covid.

- Boat numbers advice :
Postpone till next year – the countries who did collect money they carry over to 2021 and exceptionally no invoices this year (2020) for the boat numbers. > see point 16.
- Insurance GB : Gill will take contact with Patrick Donovan of the British Federation to find out were stay stand.
- World Championships postponed :
If in case an event is postponed that has consequences for the Junior category. In other disciplines they are still eligible to participate.
- Patrice ask for pictures of a female and male athlete in action for the Christmas card instead of only the logo a picture of all disciplines.
Vera will do the necessary and send pictures of Sylvia De Spiegeleire and Tim Lisens as they were on the final podium at the Worlds 2019 in Vichy.

Having no other urgent business to discuss the President closes the meeting at 17.00 hrs thanking all members for their attendance, and their work and input for the benefit of our sport.

Vera Van den Bossche
Secretary-General

Mike Waterman
President