



Wakeboard Boat Council Report – Admincom November 2022

War on Ukraine

Unfortunately, this seems to not have an end in the near future, with implications on all disciplines inside IWWF.

Our special situation, with a council member from Ukraine and another from Russia makes it delicate. Our Russian member has decided to leave Russia and install himself in Portugal, and is in the process of arranging his residency permit, which will allow for a potential Federation change and a solution for this issue.

Hopefully in a nearby future officials and council members, since they are not representing their country, but the sport itself, may be restored full rights inside our sport.

EMS

Through some pushing with some federations, we managed to get some more riders into the system, although there is still a lot to be done with the Federations, so they can make sure all riders in every country in Europe is present in the EMS. Ideally, each Federation should appoint one person in charge specifically for Wakeboarding, so that no riders are forgotten.

Excellent news that the ranking is finally available (many thanks to Peter Frei, that did a tremendous effort for this to happen), which will encourage a lot more events to be managed through the EMS and therefore allowing us to grow the number of wakeboard athletes on it.

For next season, with some changes in the rules, we hope to further develop the use of the EMS and the calculation software by all European Federations in what concerns Wakeboarding.

IWWF – World Wakeboard Boat Championships – July 2022, Rieti, Italy

The Italian Federation run a very successful World Championships, and proved once again excellent organizational skills, with a great venue and a lot of support from the local municipality.

Italy won as a Team, which is excellent news for Europe, since the competition from Australia is always fierce and this is a very good way for us to show that in our region the development of the sport is at least as good if not better than any other region.

IWWF - E&A Wakeboard Boat Championships – August 2022, Cologne, Germany

More than 90 riders from 15 different countries attended the event.

Although the local organizer was a bit strange to deal at the beginning, the German Federation took charge and managed to make everything work properly for us. The event was organized as a part of a music and food festival, however, there should have been more connection between the various aspects of the event, especially since there could have been more audience for the Championships part, if the event entrance would have been free, something that we will have to look into for the future before deciding on a location.

Stefano Duranti did an excellent job as Chief Judge, managing all aspects of the event and always maintaining the trust of all athletes.

Our new boat sponsor, Malibu Boats, in connection with the German dealer, provided all technical support needed and everything went very smooth on the technical side.

Euro Tour

Due to the uncertainty of dates, together with the potential clashing with other events, the tour spot in Switzerland had to be cancelled, leaving us with only one tour stop, held in Belgium.

This was a successful event, with good audience, and the experience was rewarding for all who attended. This event served as a test for what we plan to do in 2023, where we hope to have 3 stops. The principle is to always use one of the stops as the test stop for the next European Championships, in order to ensure the event is always up to the expectations.

2023 International Officials Seminar - Greece

The Greek Federation, through Christiana, has reached out to Stefano Duranti in order to organize our next international seminar. Hopefully we will be able to sort all the details as soon as possible and announce it with a lot of time to allow a maximum number of participants.

We are still pursuing to organize online seminars for national levels, in order to enlarge the number of officials that we can use at the several events in Europe. Specially for calculation, we intend on having online modules that make it a lot easier to establish a good network of European National calculators without the need of participating at the International Seminar.

We will also be focusing on restructuring and redeveloping the driving part of the seminars, so we can set a standard for national drivers in Federations that need them.

Nuno Eça
President
EC Wakeboard Boat Council