

ADMINCOM MINUTES
12-13 November 2023

Attachments

- = 02.1 Participation of Russian and Belarusian athletes.
- = 09.1 Updated list of the composition of the Admincom & Councils.
- = 11.4 Guideline 12 – Councils & Commissions.

00. Practical arrangements.

00.1 Decision as to who is to chair this meeting.

12/11 – Sunday : Patrice Martin.

13/11 – Monday : Andy Harris.

00.2 Sid Adriaensen to take the Minutes (Marie-Anne Persoons to take notes).

As agreed.

00.3 Practical information about this weekend.

Sid explains the arrangements made with the organizers.

00.4 List of presence, absence, apologies, open invitations, guests.

Present :

= Board member	The President	Patrice Martin
= Board member	The Secr-Gen	Sid Adriaensen
= Board member	The Treasurer	Dominique Lakens Douwes
= Supervisory Board member (Vice-Pres)		Andy Harris
= Supervisory Board member		Morten Froulund
= Supervisory Board member		Ivar Fosse
= Supervisory Board member		Stefano Duranti
= Barefoot Council representative		Ludo Vrancx
= Cableski Council representative		Marie-Anne Persoons
= Disabled Council representative		Ivar Fosse
= Racing Council representative		-----
= Wakeboard Boat Council representative		Nuno d'Eca
= Wakeboard Cable Council representative		Varna Laco
= Waterski Council representative		Gavin Kelly

Apologies :

- = Gill Hill has declared that she will not be able to attend our Admincom meetings anymore, at least for the foreseeable future, because of the health problems of her husband.
- = The African Confederation informed us that this time around no representative will join us.
Too expensive to come.
- = No news from Richard Hernaez (RAC Council Representative).

01. Approval of the Admincom Minutes of 09-10 June.

Approved without dissent.

The Board met with all councils except Wakeboard Boat (Europeans last week) and Racing (Worlds currently) as they were not present. Good meetings with the different councils, proving the importance of all being together for the November meeting and having face-to-face meetings.

02. Follow-up on the Admincom spring meeting.

02.1 Spring minutes 3.1 The UKR situation and its consequences – update.

Participation of Russian and Belarussian athletes.

See attachment 02.1 - Participation of athletes from Russia and Belarussia.

BLR and RUS athletes can ski under the white flag (IWWF flag) for any non-titled events.

They need to sign a document with Louis Polome (the IWWF Secr-Gen) to dissociate themselves from any of the political issues, before entering a competition.

The Participation of Russian and Belarussian Officials in IWWF competitions under the IWWF flag has been approved with the following conditions:

Officials will apply individually to the IWWF's Secretary General (= Louis Polome).

Each application will be submitted to the IWWF Bureau for review and resolution.

For the duration of the war in Ukraine, the officials can perform under the IWWF flag in IWWF events except for IWWF World Titled Events and IWWF Confederation Titled Events.

Officials must refrain from publicly showing support for the conflict. Any public statements, including those made on social media, will result in the authorisation being revoked and further sanctions under IWWF rules.

Officials will not speak on behalf of the IWWF.

In case of any infringements, the application by the officials to participate under the IWWF flag will be reviewed by the IWWF Bureau and the approval could be revoked immediately.

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.

For contact requests, emails or phone calls from people who have questions or comments on the subject, please ask them to get in touch directly with Louis Polome, IWWF Secretary General secgen@iwwf.sport, who is in charge of all related administrative tasks (including questions related to EMS) and will handle them accordingly.

As a result of the situation in Ukraine the Board & Admincom had agreed for 2022 that :

= The UKR federation didn't have to pay its 2022 subscription, whilst keeping in good standing.

= The subscription fees to be paid by RUS & BLR were deferred for the time being.

The same applied in 2023.

How to deal with the UKR/RUS/BLR 2024 subscription fees ?

As restrictions have been lowered, BLR/RUS can have their own national competitions with results not towards the Rankings Lists.

Feeling at present is that they remain lapsed and thus do not have to pay the subscription fee.

This may change in view of the Olympic Games. If the sanctions further get lowered, and they can participate again, we can still invoice them. To be reviewed at the Congress. We need to have a good chat at the Congress as some countries still may prefer to "ban" these skiers.

If a BLR/RUS delegate shows up at the Congress, we will let them in as observer (not allowed to speak up or to vote).

In 2022 the UKR athletes didn't have to pay the entry fee at E&A Titled Events.

Our 2023 June Admincom put a halt to that. So they did pay the normal entry fees themselves.

02.2 Spring minutes 9.1 Transgender athletes.

So far no cases yet known in EC.

At the EB meeting on World level there was some discussion, but no decision yet. The idea is that we need a rule before a case happens. This way the rule will not be made in a hurry and hopefully will be better set.

Quid Martin becoming Martina – how to deal with this, how to find out, how to decide who is a transgender ? Especially when the transgender is a new athlete arriving on the scene.

How to deal with a 'non binary' person, a person say who has the body of a man but wants to be seen as a women ?

Andy proposes not to accept any transgender or non-binary athletes, you ski in the category as per your birth certificate.

We need to know more on how other sports and countries/federations deal with this.

What will be the cost of dealing with this, updating the different programs etc. ?

Today so far as known, no federations have said 'no to transgenders'.

Stefano proposes to look deeper into this and what other federations do, to see what would be the better solution for us.

02.3 Spring minutes 9.2 The Wakesurf Committee.

At its October meetings in Florida, the IWWF has decided to create a Wakesurf Council.

The first Worlds will be in Hongkong in 2024. What will the EC do ?

To establish a Council the EC requires "at least eight federations with a total of minimum 60 athletes must participate in a demonstration competition" (Guideline 12).

The 2025 World Games in Chengdu would like to have Wakesurf in, as it is very popular in China. Even though Chengdu wants to be eco-friendly, which wake surfing is not really !

Maria Bulgakova is working hard on getting recognition from the IWWF.

We already have a committee, chaired by Maria.

Looking at EMS in 2023 there were six nationals and multiple other competitions that took place.

Suggestion is to invite Maria at the 2024 February Admincom meeting in Paris.

Based on EMS, the number of Wakesurf riders and competitions is already good.

02.4 Spring minutes 9.3 Added value at our EC Congresses.

We can add extra value at the Congress by e.g. an outside speaker on a specific topic.

In addition how can we make the standard topics of the congress more attractive ?

Give some extra presentation with the report for example. This should not be too long (3-5 minutes).

When presentations are given, make sure they work, do not make them too fancy. It is not a show. Items that could be interesting, are statistics, trends on # athletes, competitions, important points ...

Other topics, e.g. to find out on how federations feel about, UKR war and RUS/BLR athletes participation, ISR war, transgender athletes, environmental threads and how to deal with ...

Get industry having a 'stand' in the next room, to promote their brand and for the delegates to go and see what they can be for the federation. E.g. Rixen, boats (Nautique, Master Craft, Malibu), ropes, skis, ski gear, boards, ...

Agreed to go for speakers on this 2024 congress, and work out the other ideas in the May meeting for future congresses.

Potential topics, are 'Marketing around the Olympics' and the Rixen presentation as was presented at the 2023 October EB meeting.

03. From the Board : information, decisions, recommendations? and urgent/important topics.

03.1 Approval of Board decisions and recommendations.

Will be dealt with during the other topics on the agenda.

03.2 Paris 2024 is an election Congress for the Board and the Supervisory Board.

The Board to prepare the Congress.

If a new President, Secr-Gen or Treasurer gets elected, the old Board will continue to preside over the Congress they have prepared. At the closing of the Congress the new Board will take over.

The co-opted people will have to get the back-up from their federation. The already elected members do not need the approval from the federation, but it is always good to have this.

Morton stands, Andy stands, Stefano stands, Ivar will work on his approval from NOR, Patrice stands, Dominique stands.

Sid wants to stop - Succession planning for Sid :

The group agrees that even with all the work that needs to be done in this position, this should remain a political, elected position, not a paid position.

Sid prepared a document with scores to receive for potential candidates, based on their involvement in our sport divisions, the admin part, necessary office skills, languages, ...

Marie-Anne came up as the top profile and she is candidate to take over.

Brit Horemans (administration) and Sven Van De Velde (accountant) are prepared to stay on board.

A good working relationship within this group is very important.

It is expected that Marie-Anne will clearly fit in very well, being familiar with all around.

However the election still needs to happen and other potential candidates may pop up.

03.3 Miscellaneous.

Application of guideline 10.1 to the Racing and/or Wakeboard Boat Council ?

Wakeboard boat, having had its E&A Championships and a Council meeting last week in Sicily, did not have a council meeting here, but is represented in the Admincom, as accepted by the Board.

Racing having its Worlds in AUS at present got also an exception not having to meet here as a Council. BUT there are several council members not in AUS, and still nobody is present with no upfront apology. Last year we decided that every council should be present whenever possible and need to come with an acceptable explanation.

In addition there is very little activity in RAC in this and the past years.

Chris Rydl, council secretary, said that Richard H, may come if he gets the authorisation from Patrice. It is believed that this is a money point, since France pays the costs of attending up to 400€. This is however no EC point, so cannot be seen as an excuse.

The Admincom agrees that we should give a sanction to RAC, to make them understand that we are expecting more collaboration from them, nobody present and no report entered. A sanction in terms of reduction of their contribution is on the table. It is believed they have enough money at present.

Would there be a threat of RAC quitting the IWWF, it is believed this is not the on the table.

The Racing Council got a warning at our Antalya meeting :

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 Euro.

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

No report, no apology ... the Admincom sees no reason to review this decision.

Number of federations participating, dwindling number of competitors, leading to theoretical loss of the Championships status (European Trophy, no medals etc)..

No racing council representation at the last four out of five Admincom meetings, save at our 2023 spring meeting. No racing council representation at the Monaco and Antalya Congress.

Championships : no Titled Event in 2020 – 2021 – 2022.

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

Based on the performances of the Council over the last four years, the Board agrees to reduce their annual grant for 2024 again from 3.000 to 1.000 Euro.

This decision can still get reviewed by the 2024 November Admincom, depending on what happened in the racing division during 2024.

Did all other Councils have enough activity this year ? Yes.

04. Future meetings.

04.1	02/02/2024	Paris, FRA	Admincom
	03/02/2024	Paris, FRA	Congress
	04/02/2024	Paris, FRA	Council meetings

Sid will circulate the Congress convocation before the end of this month, along with the instructions for putting topics on the agenda, election candidates, the Congress bulletin with the hotel & travel information, etc..

Sid will circulate the Congress agenda and its related documents before 04 January, as mandated by our Articles of Association.

Reminder : All written reports ought to be posted on our website by 20 January 2024.

Sid will put the Congress documents on our website, not in a Teams group since they are public and must be accessible to all. The Teams group is a working platform, in this case only for the Admincom members.

On Sunday morning there will be a meeting of the Mediterranean subconfederation, followed by a meeting of all Councils (Racing ?).

Waterski will also meet on Friday.

04.2	18-20/05/2024	Barcelona, ESP	Spring Admincom
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Nantes, FRA, or Lisbon, POR, could be an alternative.

04.3	09-10/11/2024	Frankfurt, GER	Council meetings
	10-12/11/2024	Frankfurt, GER	Admincom

Sid is in contact with the German Federation and we will probably go to Frankfurt.

The hotel rooms are rather pricy (154 € for a single room) but if the meeting rooms are free, we can help all attendees with a 20 €/night extra allowance. Not twice 20 € when doubling up.

04.4	01/02/2025	Rotterdam, NED	Congress
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Sander Jongepier of the Netherlands Federation will make a presentation at the Paris Congress.

The venue will again be the Delta Hotel in Vlaardingen which the Admincom inspected and approved last June.

04.5	...-.../.../2025,	Spring Admincom
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Nothing yet.

04.6	08-09/11/2025,	Council meetings
	09-11/11/2025,	Admincom

Nothing yet.

04.7	07/02/2026	Stansted, GBR	Congress
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We did receive good bid for Stansted, GBR – thank you Gavin.

Gavin Kelly will make a presentation at the Paris Congress.

05. The 2024 Titled Events calendar.

The Admincom discusses what is known and a provisional calendar will get circulated to the federations prior to the Paris Congress.

06. The 2025-2026 Titled Events calendar.

The Admincom discusses what is known and a provisional calendar will get circulated to the federations prior to the Paris Congress.

07. The EC Finances.

07.1 Exchange rate EUR/USD : 1 EUR = 1 USD.

The exchange rate fluctuates but the one-on-one rate seems safe for us.

07.2 List of the 2024 subscription fees (including UKR, RUS & BLR).

Sid has drafted the list, taking into account the new fees (2024-2027) as approved at the 2023 EC Congress and the new voting powers at the 2023 IWWF Congress.

Early December each Federation will get an individual mail about their 2024 contribution, permitting them to seek financial aid from their government, Sports Ministry or NOC.

6.900 € is the total amount not received as result of RUS/BLR/UKR not paying their subscription.

07.3 Cost of drug testing – funding ; the 50% contribution by EC Central.

The total income from the 10 €/athlete participating at an E&A Championships this year is not yet known. Only one event has already declared and proved its testing costs. It is too early to make a statement about this topic.

WAK boat has paid all for the doping control as the organizer, due to the last notice change of location, was allowed to keep the full entry fee.

WAK Cable collected the money but has not transferred it and has paid for the doping themselves as for Varna the wording is not clear in the LAO. Will review the LAO in item 11.

The Board will inform the Admincom asap when the final numbers are known, but it looks as if we can maintain this policy for the next year(s).

07.4 Remarks to the overview of the divisional councils income & expenditures.

Each time we have an Admincom meeting the Councils get shortly before an overview of their financial position. Overview of the Councils financial status per council was sent to all Council presidents and treasurer by mail.

07.5 Potential sponsorship deals by the Councils (info needed to draft the EC 2024 budget).

WAK Boat has a sponsorship contract.

DIS has a small income from the audio system, entered as sponsorship as that was the easiest to do.

07.6 Special requests by the Councils.

No special projects/requests entered so far.

Waterski is working on a project on re-imburement of officials travel, but they are still working out the details. Expecting to have the details on the gap between what officials get and what they have to pay, by the end of the year. Morton and Gavin are working this out. If they do not have the details available by the time the Board drafts the 2023-2024 budget (half December), the project will be deferred to next financial year.

07.7 List of meeting allowances.

Dominique is on top of this. All OK.

Details of presence at the meetings for the different councils, over the year has been given to Dominique. Allowance is 400 € per council meeting, max three EC meetings : one at Congress, one

in-between and the third one at the November meetings. Plus one meeting a year if there is a World Council meeting. Outside Europe meetings get a double allowance. Details of the meeting allowances are in the Guideline 10.

07.8 Extraordinary expenses to be budgeted by the Bureau for the next financial year.

None specific this year.

08. Report & items from ...

08.01 The President

Patrice Martin

Report not written, due to special circumstances.

2023 was successful with good competitions in all disciplines.

We are making progress in supporting our judges for travel cost. Patrice has analyzed the details on all costs of a competition. Costs should not all go on the shoulders of the organizer, it is the athlete that gets the benefit of getting the title, so they should indeed contribute to this.

Patrice thanks the group for the good work together.

08.02 The Secretary-general

Sid Adriaensen

Cancellation of the WAK Boat championships, needs to be discussed later (see item 11.3)

Several new documents, e.g. code of ethics, code of conduct,... are coming from IWWF.

They need to be discussed as well.

The new disciplinary rules from IWWF, should we take this over or do we stay with our EC document ? It is important that the documents are complete enough and correctly followed as more and more cases are getting legal.

As the IWWF regulations apply to all member federations, we should follow them or at least refer to them in our regulations. Hence some of our regulations and procedures have to be reviewed as they were written before the IWWF regulations were issued.

Proposal is to have these reviewed by a working group within the Admincom.

The working group will be Stefano as the lead, with Andy to support for good English language.

08.03 The Treasurer

Dominique Lakens Douwes

In the past an extra account was set up to limit our assets to 100k € in the bank for safety's sake.

This 100k € limit is no longer there. Agreed to close one bank account to avoid the extra bank costs.

We are paying a lot of VAT for our working, is there a possibility to get VAT back ?

If we would be VAT registered we will probably pay more than we can get back.

Besides it is a lot of extra work for our financial staff. So it was decided not to do anything on this.

08.04 The elected members

Andy Harris

+ Project management system

Andy expresses his concern on losing information of the results by moving all to EMS.

The current results list is produced by Manu Lion.

IWWF currently pays the contract fee with Manu but he still owns the program, which is the reason why the IWWF would like to go away from it and move all to EMS.

Positive about the EMS is that everything can be found in one place, but the new setup should be at least as good as what we have.

Andy says that he is working on ticking off the topics in the project list during the meeting.

08.05 The elected members

Morten Froulund

+ EMS ; Teams

EMS

Morten shows the presentation made by Peter Frei for the IWWF congress.

Still a long list (> 700) of improvements to be done, all this takes time and cost money.

General feeling is that it is getting there, but the system is not yet user friendly.

Cable Wakeboard needs the inclusion by the beginning of the year as they have no longer a license for their current system. So if the EMS system does not work by early next year it will be impossible to have cable wakeboard events next year.

There are concerns about the speed of progress and ease of working with Qubitec.

Teams (software).

Lot of people are not using the system in the councils. Councils are requested to re-visit their need of Teams. Some councils use it a lot, it looks like some do not use it at all.

Is the money correctly spent ?

Councils are requested to make sure the licenses are correctly used and if members do not use it, the license should be stopped. Council reps should check on Morton's report on who is not active and check with the council members the need of their license.

Feedback to be given by the end of this year.

General feeling is that it is used, but not to the full capacity of what can be done with it.

For people who have more Teams accounts, it sometimes gets messy as Teams moves from one to the other, seemingly unexpectedly.

Should we move to another system, e.g. google ? Better not as it gets too complicated.

Extra cost for Teams for the more than three council members have not yet been transferred to the council budgets. This will be done on a once a year basis.

08.06 The elected members

Stefano Duranti

Nothing to report.

08.07 The elected members

Ivar Fosse

+ Insurance

Insurance is running now. Still some issues with RAC.

RAC is complicated and it is also difficult to get responses.

Ivar is now also working on the insurance for the World.

Athlete insurance for the world has been put on hold for now, still work in progress.

Also looking for travel insurance for the IWWF board.

Should we look into this also for EC ?

It is believed we need to insure our members for travel for the person, the luggage is more a personal item and should be done personal. Ivar will look into the cost of this and on how to avoid double pay.

Liability insurance. The EC as a company is in NED.

Dominique to find out what the changes are in Dutch law regarding liability and pass it on to Ivar.

The EC is now registered in NED, IWWF is moving to SUI. At present we are not in the process of moving to SUI, this might happen in the future, but not on the agenda now.

Event cancellation insurance.

The WAK boat Europeans in Belgium were cancelled due to a government decision that it was not allowed to go in the water for one month for safety reasons (blue algae present).

The organizers could not foresee the ban ; there was no warning beforehand ; it was a decision from one day to the next. A clear force majeure.

The organizers are not at fault at all when the authorities suddenly forbid a competition to be held.. Only the GRE federation claimed the travel costs.

Most probable the GRE looked for the cheapest flights with no refunds possible.

When one takes a cheap flight with no cancellation policy, one assumes the risk.

In the Bye-Laws there is a line (4.4.2) that says that once the intention to enter has been paid, in case of cancellation after that, the organizer is responsible for the costs related to the cancellation.

In addition to the travel costs of the GRE, there are still discussions with the hotel, as they are not ready to refund the full amount.

To the GRE claim, we will answer them that there is indeed a force majeure and that nothing can be done in terms of re-imburements.

We need to make sure future organizations are insured for these type of cancellations.

In our case the organizer is the organizers federation. But the cancellation is considered force majeure as the decision is outside the organizers control.

08.08 Barefoot

Ludo Vrancx

The Council is looking for funding for the youth competitions.
The next World Masters could be in ITA.
The Council spent 2.000 € to support travel for the officials.
This got a very positive feedback from the officials.

08.09 Cableski

Marie-Anne Persoons

The 2024 E&A Championships in ISR got cancelled because of the war. It was too late in the year for anyone to take over. ISR hopes to have the combined E&A Championships in 2025.
The 2023 age categories (youth only) will hopefully take place in 2024 (at 2023 ages), this besides the normal 2024 age categories championships.

08.10 Disabled

Dany De Bakker

The number of competitors remain about the same, but the number of DIS people skiing is going down, so the pool of people is going down. This is seen in all countries. On the other hand more waterski competitions include DIS, which is good.
In most countries DIS is part of the waterski committee. Some DIS people feel they are not part of the waterski, wakeboard,... group and prefer to be separate. In DIS it is about development and competition, not only competition. This does not always works well though.

08.11 Racing

Richard Hernaez

No report submitted, no RAC representation.

08.12 Wakeboard Boat.

Nuno D'Eca

Europeans changed to Sicily, was successful. The full entry fee was given to the organizer.
The council paid for the transportation of the boat.

For the Europeans 2024 working on GBR and for 2025 ESP.

The council is looking hard in finding more sponsors.

The council invested in livestream equipment, so Nuno worked on learning how to operate this.

The feedback so far is very positive. The equipment can be used by organizers/federations.

Costs for livestream would be just the expenses for people traveling there operating the live stream and the hotel, food etc.

08.13 Wakeboard Cable

Varna Laco

Highest priority is to have the Rankings List for Wakeboard Cable in EMS in order that the 2024 competitions can be entered.

Feedback on the medals was not very positive, especially the color of the medal. The world medals are considered nicer, but they are about four times the costs of the EC medals.

Varna would like to have the medals reviewed. To get the quality of the World medals, that goes with a cost. This has been looked at before.

Patrice says that at the Europeans in FRA it was very good to have the seated women category opened. Will there will be more DIS categories opened, e.g. standing DIS category ?

The council is working on this and would like to know the number of potential riders that would enter. A good start would be to have it in the rules, so people know it exists.

For the team event at the Europeans, the more athletes you have in the different categories, the more chance you have to win. The system gives the same amount of points towards the team, regardless on the number of riders in the category. This system does encourage to find riders in each category for a team to score high.

Varna is going to relook at the system to make it better for the sport.

08.14 Waterski

Gavin Kelly

+ Medals

Waterski events are ¾ of the total number of events in EMS.

The fifth issue of the council newsletter “around the buoys” appeared recently.

This year waterski had four good titled events. Two were in FRA, very close to each other. One was perfect technically, the other was a disaster, with none of the technical stuff really working ; this is no longer acceptable.

Records : especially for the younger skiers, the level is increasing to very high. Joel Poland is at present the best overall skier, with two overall records broken and a third one to be confirmed.

Eye trick is moving on and is a great success. It will probably get used at all four 2024 Championships. More judges need to be trained to be fluent with the system.

The master judge is more complicated.

It is believed that Eye trick will grow faster than any other new system.

Cost at present is per competition, but can be negotiated with Donal Conolly.

GBR for instance, has made a three year deal with Donal.

The bulletin for the 2024 Seminar in Athens, GRE, has now been circulated.

Medals

Some negative feedback (from WAK Cable only), but most of the feedback was very positive.

1.150 medals were purchased and got stickers. Some shipping was not easy, and there were extra costs for VAT or duty. Total costs was around 9.000 €, which is about the costs we had when the medals came from AUT.

Some issues with RAC, as the full set means a medal for each and this for skier, driver and observer.

WAK boat : the engravement for the move to Sicily is still somewhere in the Italian mail, as they never arrived. Medals were given with the Belgian engravement on.

Left over medals can be used for next year. New lanyards will be provided and can easily be changed. Left over medals therefor need to be sent to Gavin.

Some of the feedback is the visibility of the colour on the front. If needed this can be altered a little by making the rim somewhat thicker. In addition there is a small typo (waterski in two words) on the medal, this can be corrected for next set.

For 2024, as some medals can be re-used, costs will be less.

With re-used medals only the lanyard and the engraving will change.

Agreed to keep the medals from the cancelled cableski championships in ISR for now in ISR, as they are looking at organizing the same format of competition in 2025.

Medals are a lot of hands-on work. After the Paris congress in 2024, with the new elected Admincom, we can see who can take over from Gavin. It should be an elected Admincom person rather than a council representative.

Thank you Gavin for all the work done on the medals, it was really great work done.

08.15 The African Confederation Howard Ramsden

Marocco is now a full member.

Since the last meeting there have been no competition in the Southern African Region.

Jan Johnson (RSA) successfully defended her +65 Ladies E&A slalom title

Robbie Alexander won the +45 Men's slalom title.

Ski Schools are being organised and we concentrate on the entry level development of our sport.

09. Update on the composition of the Admincom & Councils

An updated list is attached to these minutes.

Gill is willing to continue to help if needed but prefers not to have an official position.

Permanent invitation for the EC Congress for the IWWF President and Secretary General.

Composition of the Wakesurf Committee : to be discussed with Maria Bulgakova at our Paris Admincom meeting. Nuno believes that Wake Surf should be allowed to have a European Championships, even though they are not yet a council.

Sid made a proposal to be added to the Guidelines on what is required to become a Council or to stay a Council. The requirement to have eight countries active in RAC is difficult at present. The same with the requirement of having 60 athletes participating in a demonstration competition. These criteria are there to prove activity.

Discussion whether 60 is too much or OK. It is decided that this is OK. A new discipline needs to work to encourage athletes to come to its events.

RAC activity will be reviewed in 2024, as 2023 is a year without an European Championships.

Following up on the decision of our June Admincom (cfr Bye-Law 3.5.1) that each Council should nominate a substitute representative to the Admincom in case the primary one cannot attend : The following are nominated by their Council as the substitute representative to the Admincom :

Barefoot	Paul Turner
Cableski:	Ulf Langrock
Disabled	Ivar Fosse
Racing	-----
WAK Boat	Linda Johnstonn
WAK Cable	Lucien Gerkau
Waterski	Candido Moz

10. The IWWF.

10.1 New rules and regulations.

IWWF Bye-Laws on Discipline, Sanctions and Appeals.

IWWF Appeals Committee Procedure

IWWF Code of Conduct and Ethics

Stefano and Andy will review the new documents from the IWWF and see what is needed in our rules to meet these new rules. If there will be a Bye-Law change, this will be for the 2025 Congress.

10.2 Moving the registration of the IWWF from GBR to SUI.

The agenda for the Extraordinary IWWF Congress got circulated after the deadline.

That is the reason the Extraordinary Congress got annulled even before it started.

Consequently the only agenda point, moving the registration of the IWWF from GBR to SUI could not get voted on.

However, we expect the move to go ahead anyway since it diminishes the costs and the workload.

11. Rules – proposed changes.

11.1 Articles of Association.

The eventual change of registration of the IWWF from GBR to SUI will lead to a one paragraph correction.

After our Paris Congress we must notify the “Kamer van Koophandel” via our Notary about the changes to the composition of the Board or Supervisory Board.

11.2 Bye-laws.

Changes following decisions made by the IWWF.
(See item 10.1).

When the IWWF moves from GBR to SUI there will be some changes in the IWWF Bye-Laws. We have to follow up on this, and maybe we have to adapt ours as well.

Rules of Eligibility : athletes with no official federation.

New participants/athletes, where no federation is set up yet, cannot ski under the white flag. The white flag is specific for the athletes that are changing countries. These athletes who are changing federations cannot go to titled events.

New athletes need to be registered in EMS with their federation. If the federation does not exist, participation at titled event is possible, but is limited to two athletes and the entry fee is double.

To change from one to another federation is always minimum 12 months. Any shorter time can only be when the athlete has never represented the first federation at a titled event.

The 2024 Congress will also have to approve an update of Appendix-A – Voting powers.

Over the years new age categories for World and E&A Titled Events got created.

This needs to get reflected in the list of qualified events.

Appendix-A to the current Bye-Laws is to be applied for the 2024 Congress.

In future, for the U-21 means also U-23, but this needs Congress approval.

Do we have to list the qualified titled events for each of the disciplines or should we just mention “EC or E&A/World – any category” ? It is easier and sufficient clear.

Agreed to submit this change to the Paris Congress.

All Bye-law changes made in our spring meeting, also need to be approved by the Congress.

It is advised that the different changes are shown at the congress rather than just referring to the ‘circulated congress documents’.

Sid to prepare a summary.

EC Bye-Laws review (excerpt from our June minutes) :

Chapter 4 – official competitions.

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

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

Work in progress.

11.3 List of Obligations.

Cancellation of the EC Wakeboard Boat Championships.

See also item 08.07.

In order to avoid such future situations it would be best to push organizers to have a cancellation insurance. Stefano will present a rewording to deal with the issue of insurance cancellation policy.

Appendix-B : Anti-doping and drug testing policy at Titled Events.

New drug testing policy at Titled Events : see the attachment.

This policy has meanwhile been discussed with Gary Probst (The IWWF anti-doping chair).

His comments were that this is OK for now, but depending on who he is talking with at WADA, the directives change sometimes.

The support from EC for doping is 50% of the costs, up to a maximum of 2.500 €.

The 2.500 € may be less than 50% in case seven tests have to be done, though it is believed that the cost per test will be lower when more tests are taken.

Varna is convinced the 10 € “WADA fund” is not looking good in the LAO and that it should just be added to the amount going to EC Central. The group however believes it is better to keep it separate and show it clearly.

Agreed to add to note 2 “up to a maximum of 2.500 €” and to keep “from the WADA fund”.

The "WADA fund" will be a separate line in the accounts (income) against another line "doping testing"(expenditure) and if there is excess, this can roll over to the next year.

Procedure when testing occurs : are passports required or is an official national picture ID-card sufficient within Schengen ?

In Croatia the ID card does not mention the nationality, this is why Cable Wake requested passports. Passports are preferred, but official ID-cards in Schengen countries should also be OK.

Other proposed changes.

Each Council can propose their own LAO in view of their needs.

But each separate LAO first has to get approved by the Admincom.

No additional councils have asked for changes in their specific LAO.

BAR however is working on some proposals.

11.4 The EC Guidelines.

Update on guideline 04 (Representation) in view of the needs of each Council.

Each Council can do so, but it is up to them, and the Admincom has to give its approval of all proposed changes. We want to retain unity, but we recognize the fact that a Council might face a particular situation.

Requirements do not apply to all councils, so councils should check it and report back on what is needed for them and not.

E.g. the Technical Delegate in Cable wakeboard is the highest ranked official and responsible for the event, the Chief Judge is head of the officials. The Technical Delegate in Waterski is a totally different function.

As this needs to be clearly reviewed by the different councils, feedback is requested, but should not be given necessarily before the 2024 Congress. Councils to report by our spring Admincom meeting.

Update on guideline 12 (Councils & Commissions).

This is about the requirements to become a council, already discussed under item 03.3.

See the attachment.

12. Common topics for all Councils.

12.1 The "to do" list as send to all Councils.

Every year Sid sends such a list to the councils before our November meetings.

To be added to deadline 20/12/2023 : Each Council to send to Gavin the list of the medals they need for the 2024 season. The 'engravement' wording is not yet needed as this can only be done when the location of the event is known.

12.2 30/11/2023 = Deadline for council expenses.

This is also the deadline for the office to send invoices about 2022-2023

12.3 List of voting powers for the next Congress.

Sid has circulated Appendix-A to the Bye-Laws (Voting Powers) once more to the Councils. It is very important to respect this deadline = 20/12/2023 (Wednesday).

12.4 Written report to the Congress.

Deadline = 20/01/2024 (Saturday).

12.5 Athlete of the Year – nominations by the Councils.

Production and transport of the Trophies and Presents.

The AOY trophies are done by Franz Kuhn through Englebarta. Should we continue with Franz or is it time to change ? What are the requirements and what should be done ? A trophy should be something 'special' but also solid (not fragile) so it does not break.

14 pieces to be budgeted - invoices through Franz for 2023 were ± 100 € each (+ VAT).

Ivar will look at a contact he has in Norway, Varna will also look at possibilities.

Marie-Anne to send a picture of the trophy still at home, with the details and dimensions.

(Done and uploaded in Teams).

Certificates needed, make sure names are correctly spelled – to be sent to Brit, with Sid in Cc.
Deadline = 20 January 2025.

List of officials, for new officials cards. The current ones expire in January 2024.

For new officials, the office needs also a picture.

This are the AOY 2023 (exact spelling of the names still to be checked) :

Division	Female Athlete	Male Athlete
Barefoot	Kimberly Smit - NED	Stefan Wimmer - AUT
Cableski	Phoenix Baumgarten - GER	Aviv Levy - ISR
Disabled	Jill Williams - GBR	Roger Pop - NED
Racing	-----	-----
Wakeboard Boat	Chiara Virag -- ITA	Massimiliano Piffaretti - ITA
Wakeboard Cable	Mariella Flemme - AUT	Oliver Orban - HUN
Waterski	Giannina Bonneman - GER	Joel Poland - GBR

13. Development.

13.1 New Federations and/or prospective Federations ; lapsed Federations, etc..

Bulgaria no further news.

Moldavia, has a waterski club and could be interested in becoming a member. It is believed that the interest will be low as they are small. Stefano will look for contact.

13.2 Mediterranean Games, Mediterranean Beach Games and other multisport Games.

Can Wakeboard be included in the Med Games ?

Before including extra disciplines, we need to get back into the Games.

Dimos, chair of the Mediterranean sub-confederation, plans a meeting on Sunday after the Congress. He would like to resolve, to stop the sub-confederation.

If this goes through, then the work goes back to EC Central.

Is there another person who could take over from Dimos and make it his/her project to go for it ?

From the Admincom we cannot nominate someone, but Stefano might be a good candidate to take over from Dimos.

Patrice will contact Stefano, to get his idea and talk him into taking over from Dimos.

We work on getting back in into the Med Games as these are considered more important than the Beach Games.

14. AOB (if not treated yet).

14.1 List of people who have passed away since last Congress.

Sid recites the (provisional) list.

Members to check with the councils and federations and report back to Sid.

14.2 New Honorary members and Patron members (if any).

Past years not too many new people have been added. Names are cited. No decisions taken. Check with the councils whether there are people that could be eligible to become honorary member. See guideline 13.

Members to come back in two weeks with idea's (before end of November).

Please mail names, nationality and the reason why this person is proposed to Patrice and Sid.

14.3. Pennants, plates, E&A flags, etc.

Andy will take care of the pennants.

Plates, Dominique will organize this.

Flags – the idea is still to give one to the organizer of each titled event.

There are still 20 flags in Sid's office, so no need to urge for 2024.

Could we come with idea's and quotations for flags, also beach flags, banners, during the 2024 season to be ready for 2025 ?

Anybody who has contacts, idea's, please come up with suggestions and costs related.

14.4 Remaining items not yet touched on (everyone).

Initiations – safe guards – safe sport

Documents made by IWWF apply to all affiliated federations.

In the past initiation ceremonies were fun and part of acceptable 'folklore'.

Unfortunately times have changed and not all are anymore accepted.

Some of these could damage the athlete psychologically or physically. Some have lead to complaints, typically from the parents (athletes do not 'dare' to say something).

In GBR, UK sports has asked to ban all initiations. There will also be a three hour training course on what is acceptable and what not.

The suggestion is EC to communicate this to the different member countries and point towards the IWWF documents.

Also refer to these documents in our LAO and other related EC documents.

Who will finally be responsible in case something happens ?

Recommendation is to stay out as much as possible and count the final night party as no longer part of the competition under IWWF.

If no longer part, then the EC, officials etc, should not be there, since being there can be considered as being part.

Patrice will reply to Martin Winter with our view on initiations and refer to the IWWF documents. We will mention this to the federations at the Congress.

In addition it would be good to have a communication around this even before the Congress.

Andy will make a proposal to be inserted in Guideline 5 (Guidelines for bulletins).

We will also add the topic to the Congress agenda.

All Admin members, have a look at these documents and make them part of the discipline seminar.

RUS and BLR officials attending a Seminar.

As they are lapsed they should not be there.

Under certain conditions they can participate under the white flag.

The official should contact Louis Polome to get the agreement to participate under the white flag.

This should not be like the rule of eligibility to change countries, it is more to make sure that the official is signing the list of items as per IOC recommendations (no reference to RUS or BLR, distancing from the conflict, ...).

Morton to contact Louis, so he is aware that these questions may come.

Live TV in FRA during the EC WAK Cable Championships was great.

The combined logo of IWWF EC was shown everywhere.

We should promote our logo more and do more branding.

Nothing more to discuss, Patrice closes the meeting.