

Minutes IWWF Region Europe Racing Council Meeting Monaco

Feb 6th 2022 at 9.00 AM (partially over Microsoft Teams for those not able to attend in Monaco)

1. Attendance, resignations, apologies & confirmation of the new RC steering-committee.

This is a mixed meeting (whereby, due to travel restrictions and/or illness, some council members joining the meeting online via microsoft Teams). In these minutes, Racing Council going forward is abbreviated by RC)
Chris RYDL exceptionally chairs the meeting.

RC noted the resignation of : Mike Waterman – Vera Van den Bossche & Julius Leysen

RC expresses their “BIGGEST **THANK YOU MIKE**” for over 20 years of dedication to the sport. He has been a true inspiration to all involved in Racing. We hope that going forward we can still go to Mike for advise, as his endless knowledge will for sure come in handy. The RC also congratulates Mike for being accepted as Honorary Member to European Confederation and wishes Mike a happy and more importantly healthy retirement.

RC express their thanks to Vera – she and Mike were a perfectly oiled machine. Vera will stay on the RC as advisor and help Chris grow in to the role of new Secretary Genera, combining this, with her role as World chair of Racing. Vera is the “Waterski Racing Wikipedia” – in other words, big shoes to fill.

“**THANK YOU VERA**” for everything you have- and will still be doing for Racing !

RC thanks Julius for his contribution and hard work – wishing him happy retirement in Spain.

RC also noted Thea’s husband Henny is having some health issues and wish Henny a speedy recovery and hope to catch up with both Henny and Thea at our next meeting venue.

RC congratulates Steve Bird for being elected – welcome to the team Steve !

Further to the election of the Congress, the Racing Council Steering-committee for 2022-2026 will be as per below :

Richard Hernaez (FR)	President Admincom Representative IWWF Representative World Council
Chris Rydl (BEL)	Secretary General IWWF Substitute World Council
Franz Hebenstreit (AUT)	Treasurer
Vera Van den Bossche (BEL)	Council member IWWF Representative World Council (World Chair)
Thea Klarenbeek (NL)	Council member IWWF Representative World Council
Steve Cox (GBR)	Council member
Steve Bird (GBR)	Council member
Chris Rydl (BEL)	Athlete’s representative

2. Approval Minutes of the Council meeting held via “Microsoft teams” Nov.2021.

Minutes of the Nov 2021 still to be published – to follow asap.

3. Presidents’ Report to Congress

Report was distributed and circulated accordingly – nothing to add.

4. Secretary General’s report

Report was distributed and circulated accordingly

Incoming correspondence: Mail UK Derek Blackmore – insurance issues

5. To consider any points for AOB (Any Other Business)

UK issues – insurance/license issues/Mail Derek Blackmore

LAO Beringen for European Championships – feedback Admincom (Patrice Martin/Sid Adriaensen)

6. Treasurer’s Report and revised budget for 2021/2022

Franz shared overview of RC financials.

2021 grant EC – agreed to only accept 50% //2022 full grant to be considered.

7. 2022 Racing Calendar including the European Championships in Belgium (2022)

Viersel (BEL)	June 26th 2022	Belgian Nationals/possibly European cup (European Cup – if foreign skiers are participating)
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Kings Lynn (GBR)	August 6&7th 2022	Waterski Festival/possibly European Cup (European Cup – if foreign skiers are participating)
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Beringen/Wepion (BEL)	August 18-28th 2022	European Championship (TBC*) Races will be run back to back SAT/SUN Beringen/Wepion & Beringen/Wepion
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* subject to COVID rulings & sufficient foreign participation
Final confirmation latest 60 days prior to Championship date

8. IT /website/social media

Vera to share login and access code website with Steve Bird

Steve B to update website with new RC steering committee (Individual/group photo('s) to be selected/shared)

Steve B will make some recommendations on how to “refresh website”

Is advertising a possibility – can we attract sponsors ? (to be further discussed)

9. WARAC update

Check with Belgium Martine C - which enhancements, if any, need to be considered.

Also need to discuss the support with the developer in regards to which options need to be considered if/when Java would no longer be supported by Microsoft.

10. Report from Region Europe Athletes’ Representative, Chris Rydl

No real news - as no European races held in 21, except :

Raid Pavia-Venezia to be held June 5th 2022.

Austria has confirmed 3 teams intention to participate :

Boat 178 Nash Bernard/Herman Pfennigbauer skiers => Wöss Alexander & Krippel Pavla
Boat 172 Cueto Sepi/Holinka Stefan skiers => Prashingner Martin/Lewalter Tim
Boat 54 Förstl Georg/Revis Jochen skiers => Förstl Michael/Ortlieb Ernst

Registration to close soon, as max participants is almost reached – Maximum 5 ski teams can participate in 2022
Chris to share information with Steve Bird – info to be posted on RC website.

11. Bids for 2023 World Championships - options

No firm bids received so far. Initial intention of Tenerife still pending – however prior to being able to move forward we need to help resolve issue between Tenerife - and Spanish Federation.

RC to act as mediator (Richard and Chris to follow up with Secretary Canarias and Chairman of Spanish Federation)

Australia and US teams have expressed they prefer to have WC held in Europe, this to maximize the number of competitors attending.

12. European Racing Hall of Fame.

As we did not award the 2019/2020/2021 candidates, we decided in June 21 meeting to keep the same names and award them in 2022:

- Carlo Cassa (ITA) European Champion F1 Men 1996 - 2002
- Miriam Grignani (ITA) European Champion F1 Women 1984 – 1985

13. Revision of any Region Europe Racing rules for 2022

Changes to rule 6.06 – wetsuits skiers

Final text is available – Vera to share updated version – rule to apply in Europe as from 2023.

Updated European rules to be published soonest.

14. Boat Numbers

2019 was collected

2020 & 2021 exemption of payment due to Covid

2022 back to normal procedure – billing to Federations will follow by latest November.

Thea to share the list with Chris and Steve.

Chris to address Canarias in regards to use of numbers belonging to other countries and to urge Canarias to comply with the correct boat number procedure.

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

The process in itself has not changed, the only changes to be noted are the actual SELECTORS that have changed.

Selectors for Racing are : Meryl Lee (AUS) – Mike King (USA) – Tom Lumley (GB)

Powerpoint presentation and procedure was shared with RC members.

16. Discussion on possible future formats/formulae of Water Ski Racing in Europe

As the pressure on moving to a carbon neutral world is an actual hot item, we need to consider how we can reduce Racing footprint. A separate committee is to explore options and create report.



(for this we need to involve teams, boat contractors any and all that have ideas on “sustainability” for our sport)
Steve B/Steve C and Richard H will be taking the first initiatives.

17. Any other business

GBR issues seem to continue – GBR will no longer be sanctioning any races.

GBR Skiers that participate in non sanctioned racing are not eligible for International license.

GBR federation no longer wishes to support Ski Racing as cannot provide adequate/acceptable insurance for Ski Racing. This seems to have become an endless story whereby the GBR federation is trying to resolve the issue has decided it was easier to tell Ski Racing they are on their own.

As EC, we cannot get involved in these domestic matters. However, it is wishful to help mitigate from Admincom side. Work in progress, to be continued and hopefully resolved.

LAO Beringen was not fully accepted by Admincom in the submitted format and requires some tweeking.

The relevant obligations to be revisited/discussed with Beringen and RC.

Steve B expresses his excitement on being newly elected to the RC and looks forward to working together with the RC team.

18. Date and venue of next meeting.

Last week March via Microsoft teams – exact date TBC

Beringen – August 2022 – exact date TBC

London – 11,12 & 13th November ? TBC

Having no other urgent business to discuss the President closes the meeting at 13.00 hrs thanking all members for their attendance, and their work and input for the benefit of our sport.