

IWWF Region Europe Racing Council Meeting Minutes
UK-London /Stansted Nov 12th 2022
9.00 am-18.30 pm

In absence of Richard Hernaez - meeting chaired by Vera Van den Bossche

1. To record attendance and apologies

Present

Chris Rydl (BEL)	Secretary General
Franz Hebenstreit (AUT)	Treasurer
Vera Van den Bossche (BEL)	Council member
Steve Cox (GBR)	Council member
Steve Bird (GBR)	Council member

Apologies received

Richard Hernaez (FR)	President
Thea Klarenbeek (NL)	Council member

2. Tribute to Mike Waterman/Hugo Engelen

- Vera gave a brief roundup of their achievements

3. To approve the Minutes of the Council meeting held in Monaco and partially over "Microsoft teams" Feb. 2022 and deal with any matters arising.

- Approved
- side remark: Monaco minutes did mirror what was discussed

4. To consider any points for AOB (Any Other Business)-UK –

- Steve Sopp BWSW vice chairman to join at approx 10.30 (cfr item 11)
- Warac usage (cfr item 10)

5. Correspondence

- Tim Lisens/Tom Lumley (BEL/GB) - Concerns,Hanseatic & coop
- Darren Isaccs (AUS) new Category World – Masters +35 (possibly better to consider+45?)
- Vera VDB (World Chair) Athlete of the year
- Thea Klarenbeek (NED) Live stream Hanseatic
- Koenraad VN (BEL) candidate coop Racing/BKO – Ostend ?
- Sid A (Buro) document storage

All matters discussed

6. Presidents' Report to Admincom

- Report distributed and approved

7. Treasurer's Report 2022 YTD and budget 2023

- Nothing special to report. Tenerife vs Spain issue was discussed – RC is prepared to assist provided Tenerife pays the outstanding amount first.
- Budget new official uniforms approved
- No income licenses 2022 due to no sanctioned events organized. Futurewise we need to be more strict and ensure that when teams participate abroad – home federation & organizers verify that all competitors are properly licensed.
- Franz to organize/order licenses to cover next 2 years
- Boat number invoice to be issued latest end of November – Thea to share the list with numbers (cfr item 17)

8. 2023 tentative Racing Calendars – European Championships 2024 how/where current format needs to be questioned and needing re-engineering.

Can we think in terms of the old "Grand Prix" 2.0 format.

- July 1-2nd Diamond race Viersel
- International Open Eguzon pending sufficient response/attendance before taking it any further.
- New European Championship format discussion moved to next meeting

9. Any pressing IT issues/website/social media-where do we stand ?-way forward ?

- New website is almost ready – pending issue is the history of the old website Host cost GBP 230/annum (incl VAT)
- Vera to share old website ID with Steve B/Hannah (this to download the history)
- Steve B to check the current website and update the council information.
- Book livestream for Diamond Race – Steve B to check with Hannah
- Can we have drone permission for the Diamond Race ? (VVDB to check)

10. WARAC any updates to be noted?

- Warac maintenance/support is more than likely resolved. Peter VG is discussing a back-up solution.
- Warac program is owned by RC and was shared free of charge to the European Federations and is available for usage by the EC proper trained calculators.

11. Insurance update/issues

- council welcomes Steve Sopp together with Ivar Fosse (NOR) Steve Sopp Vice Chairman of BWSW shares the concerns of BWSW in terms of Racing in general not having adequate insurance. Remarks made by BWSW based on a risk assessment made by Gallowglass were shared. Council stresses again that the Europe Region rules for Racing are adequate and have till now been able to withstand all in depth inquiries held by insurers investigating accidents/incidents. At no time have the racing rules been under fire. It was also stated by council that, based on the adequacy of Racing Rules there is no reason not to organize European/World events. All athletes willing to enter will require a valid third party insurance, medical certificate, international license (issued by their home federation) and a signed waiver of recourse. Meanwhile, Racing Council continues their quest to find a global insurer that offers boat to boat incidents/claims coverage. In this respect Ivar Fosse has offered assistance

and will check with his contacts (International Insurance Broker) if based on current Racing Rules – coverage can be obtained. If not what needs to be done in order get caso insurance. Chris R to share racing rules with Ivar.

12. Report from Region Europe Athletes' Representative, Chris Rydl.

- Nothing new to report.
- Competitor's meeting to be organized at the Diamond Race – where election of new Athlete's rep will take place. Interested candidates are requested to send application to Racing Council Secretary General by latest June 15th 2023.

13. New judges–roundup/availability/performance current judges. Training seminar ?

- In order to encourage new officials it has been decided to divide the current rule book into sections to accomodate the different roles (Jury all sections, Scrutineer and Calculator the relevant technical sections)

14. IWWF news & bids for 2023 World Championships – options

- USA bid has been withdrawn and IWWF is awaiting for other options – closing December 15 th, 2022

15. European Racing Hall of Fame

- Due to Covid the 2019/2020/2021 awards were postponed. The candidates however, have been carried forward to the 2022 induction.
- Same candidates have been retained
 - Carlo Cassa (ITA) European Champion F1 Men 1996 – 2002
 - Miriam Grignani (ITA) European Champion F1 Women 1984 – 1985
 - Mike Waterman (GB) was brought forward/added in this meeting.

to be confirmed/finalized in January '23 - Tentative presentation = Viersel

15A.IWWF Athlete of the year

EB IWWF has asked to put forward our male and female candidates for 2022
No sanctioned events took place for Racing in 2022
Hence results in Premier Ski Races will be taken into account.

- Deadline date for nominations from Councils **-15 December 2022**
- Deadline EB votes on IWWF Athlete of the Year **-10 January 2023**
- Official announcement **-15 January 2023**

Following events count towards nomination IWWF Athlete of the year

1. World Championships
2. Confederation Championships
3. Premier Ski Races:
 - AA: Bridge to Bridge; Australian Nationals, Southern 80 River Race;
 - PA: Catalina, US Open; Parker Race;
 - EAME: Europeans, Veisel Canal Race, UK Championships.

16. Revision of any Region Europe Racing rules for 2023

No changes

17. Boat Numbers regular update.

- Boat number registration is 5€per number/annum. Due Covid 2020 & 2021 RC decided to waive these charges. As from 2022 boat number cost of 5€ is again applicable. Deadline to pay 2022 numbers is November 30th, 2022. If payment has not been received, the owner runs the risk of the boat number being Released (made available to other teams/boat owners). Thea K to share boat number list with :
 - Franz H (AUT)/Steve B (GB)/Vera VDB (BEL)/
 - Chris R to distribute same to (ES)

18. Any other business, including Social Media

- Steve B - can we have overview of by-laws related to eligibility of a skier, procedure in relation to transgender athletes
 - Sustainability to be a fixed item on the agenda going forward.

19. Date and venue of next meeting.

Antalya TR - Hotel reservations to be confirmed latest Dec 15th