



Region EC Wakeboard Boat Council

AGENDA -

EC Wakeboard Boat Council Meeting, 12/13/14 November 2021

1. Apologies – Cyril Cornaro

2. All members of Council were welcomed to the EC Council meeting in Paris. CC has apologized for his absence at this meeting. He has informed LJ of his intent not to stand for re-election to the EC Council at the upcoming Congress in Monaco, 5th February 2022.

3. Minutes – January / June 2021 had been circulated and were agreed

4. Conflict of Interests – None were declared

5. Reflections of 2021

Once again 2021 was a challenging year and unfortunately the full calendar that had been planned for a seminar and a series of international events was cancelled. The most disappointing was the late decision to cancel the E&A Championships 2021 in Toutainville, France. Risk assessments were conducted with the Organizer, the Chief Judge and the Chair of the Council, however with only 3 weeks to go before the start of the Championships the permission of the local Prefet (French authority) had not been granted to host the event in the area.

This was a joint decision between the EC Council, the Chief Judge and the Organiser and Admincom were informed at the earliest opportunity of the decision.

The EC Council have been very mindful of the disappointment of all Federations and the athletes who had been training and looking forward to the opportunity to compete at international level for this prestigious titled event. This was not a decision taken lightly.

SD had also consulted with other officials who had officiated in international events run by other disciplines to learn from their experiences and the measures and responsibilities that were fulfilled.

SD as Chief Judge emphasised the need to be cognisant of the health and safety measures and the risks to all concerned.

6. 2021 Athletes of the Year

As there were no international events held during the 2021 season, we agreed that it was not possible for the Council to nominate Riders of the Year.

Further discussion followed about the possibility to make this a broader award and to present an award for outstanding contribution to the sport. This could be any contributor to the sport: an organizer, a council member, a rider or an official. We will discuss the potential to make such an award further with Admincom.

Potential recipients were discussed.

6. 2022 Wakeboard Boat Rules

- Officials

It was agreed to introduce an additional level of National Judge.

National Judge 1 can be Chief Judge at Nationals without the requirement to attend an International Seminar. This will offer greater flexibility to Federations.

There will be 5 levels and we will move to the Star grading of all officials.

- 1 star judge cannot be Judge 1 in the boat, there must be at least one 2 star judge in the boat
- 16 is the youngest age for National Level Judges
- 4 star Judges (Int 2) can be judges at Regional Champs
- 5 star Judges (Int 1) will be the highest level

Discussion took place around the maintaining of the qualifications obtained by international officials. It was agreed that we should learn from the requirements of other disciplines, such as the Tournament rules for officials. Following a discussion, it was proposed that a written exam would be required every 3 years, and attendance at an international seminar in order to maintain standards and updating of rules and experience of the increasing levels achieved by the athletes.

- Safety Protocol

A written safety protocol for each event should be created and signed by Organizer and Safety Director. This is covered in the rules but will be added as an annex to the LAO to ensure that this responsibility is clear.

Paperless Events

We agreed that in the future we need to explore the options to move to paperless event management. This will pose some challenges with regard to the single noticeboard and the posting of notices and signed results sheets.

This will be explored through practical work and linking with the EMS

- Wakeboard Boat Course

It was agreed to move to a timed run rather than the use of buoys to mark the beginning and the end of the course.

There will also be a limit to the number of tricks per pass

The wording of this section of the rules will be amended by Nuno

- Registration

Agreed that registration will close at 6pm, 1 1/2 days prior to the commencement of the event.

- Concussion

The guidance and process for assessment for concussion will be added to the rules.

- Safe Sport Policy

The terms and requirements of the Safe Sport policy will be included in the rules for all participants.

7. 2022/2024 Malibu Partnership Contact

A draft contract has been sent to Malibu for comment/ consideration.
It includes a Council fee as well as requirements to provide sponsorship and technical support to each event.

8. 2022 Wakeboard Boat Events Schedule

Hillside Resort, Turkey – CH has been in contact with the resort regarding the opening event of the season being hosted in May – an Invitation only event.
CH will discuss the “all covered” format with Organisers.
The format for this opening event can be different from our classic approach.
NE and PJ will bring forward ideas for alternative formats.

Malibu European Tour stops:

June - Moscow

June - Switzerland

Both dates to be confirmed with the organisers.

13-17 July - World Games, Birmingham, USA.

25-30 July - World Championships, Rieti, Italy.

8-13 August - E&A Championships, Cologne, Germany.

24-27 August - FISU World Championships, Belarus, Minsk.

September - Council will seek another host to finalise the European Tour.

9. 2022 E&A Wakeboard Boat Championships

LJ has received a bid from the German Federation to host the E&A Championships 2022. The Federation will delegate the organisation to the organiser of the Eat Play Love music festival – an annual event run alongside the German Nationals.

The name of the event will be

The Malibu 2022 IWWF EA Wakeboard Boat Championships, presented by ‘Eat Play Love’

Further to the previous discussion regarding the rules on safety, there was a lengthy discussion about the safety protocol. It was agreed that the LAO should have an addendum containing the section from the rules concerning safety.

All references in the LAO to “skier” should be changed to “athlete” for all disciplines.

We will request this change to Admincom as this is a universal document.

The LAO will also contain an amendment regards the running of the Unofficial training and the Official Familiarisation to clarify responsibility for the costs and the income.

The lake in Cologne has been booked from 5th to 14th August 2022 to allow for preparation. The Organiser may choose to run 2 days unofficial training for which he needs to supply fuel and may retain the income.

Opening ceremony – the organizer has proposed to hold the opening ceremony on

Sunday evening in order to promote the press and public reception opportunities to promote the profile of the sport

Council discussed the pros and cons of this but then agreed to have the opening ceremony on Sunday. We will ensure that expectations are clear and will inform Federations and athletes that they should arrive on Sunday midday the latest. Officials will also need to arrive at this time.

The official Hotel will be in the city which is approximately 25 mins drive from the site. We will recommend to all Federations to hire cars as transport will not be available. The Organiser will need to ensure sufficient free parking at the site.

Officials will have access to cars provided by the Organiser. A fully equipped officials office is available on site.

On Sunday, August 14th there may be cash prize event with a different format – further discussion will be required.

Official Panel – 2022 invitations will be issued to officials instead as this is new event and new venue.

Bulletin – LJ will ask the organizer to work with MB to produce Bulletin 1

10. 2022 E&A Wakeboard Boat Officials Seminar

This will be a seminar for Judges and Calculators.

Venue: Frankfurt, Germany.

Dates: 27th February

However the German Federation has expressed ongoing concerns about the increasing restrictions during this wave of the covid pandemic. The situation will be reviewed on 14th January 2022.

An alternative date will be proposed - 30 March – 3 April

LJ will confirm the date with the German Federation and then we need to issue the Bulletin. MB will work with the organizer.

11. Finance

CH reports the current position, due to no activity - we had no expenses in 2021.

12. Judging Platform

NE explains the new approach – students working with him are developing the platform.

The video section/ production is taking longer than had been expected.

NE demonstrated examples of videos. Each section broken into short chunks for learning. This will require approx 30 videos – with different tutors presenting. Videos will also be required for the calculation section.

LJ and MB will work on multiple choice questions for calculation exams.

Discussion about levels of judges and changing approach to passing National level – making it easier. Same for calculators

NE suggested providing a helpline for National calculators.

13. 2022 Wakeboard Boat World Championships

Venue: Rieti, Italy

Dates: 25 to 30 July 2022 – confirmed

LJ will issue invitations to officials.

14. European Coaching Proposal – Cesare Comollo, Italy joined the council meeting on Zoom.

He presented the model he has been using to develop coaches and shared the opportunities for working on this throughout Europe with the aim of improving access to high quality coaches in Europe for all riders.

It was recognized that several countries already have a Government/ Federation led framework overseeing the training of coaches, however it was also recognized that many do not have this.

It was agreed that this requires a sub-group and a separate piece of work to develop a pathway for European coaches. It was agreed that we first need to scope the situation in each Federation and then hold a workshop to share all the information available and the content of the coaching framework in more detail.

15. Next meeting

- Congress, Monaco. 6th February 2022