



MINUTES IWWF EUROPE RACING COUNCIL MEETING **Hotel TBA, Minsk (Belarus)**

From 09.30 am on Saturday 9th November 2019 till 18.30 h

1 To record attendance and apologies

Our President Mike Waterman gave a warm welcome to all members present. It is good to see you all again.

Mike Waterman (GBR)	President
Vera Van den Bossche (BEL)	Secretary-General
Franz Hebenstreit (AUT)	Treasurer
Thea Klarenbeek (NL)	Council member
Julius Leysen (BEL)	Council member
Richard Hernaez (FRA)	Council member
Chris Rydl (BEL)	Athlete's Representative

Apologies received from:

Jonas Garcia (ESP) due to work commitments/travel costs.
Vera has spoken with Jonas in Tenerife and he has decided to retire from the Council as a member. He will however still help us with website & Facebook. Trying to find a successor for him.

Mike also apologizes for his absence from recent events due to his illness. He hopes it will be better in a short time, his current treatment has been stopped.

Congratulations are in order to Vera Van den Bossche on her election as new IWWF Racing Council Chairman.

2 To approve the Minutes of the Council meeting held at Hotel Mercure in Vichy, France in February 2019 and deal with any matters arising.

Minutes of the meeting held in Vichy on February 2nd, 2019 were duly approved.

Remark on Point 5 : there are still some invoice to be received.

3 President's report

Report distributed to all. It gave a good reflection of the season. He wants to especially thank Vera for all the help before/during and after the Worlds in Vichy. Also the F3 demo was well received and a popular event.

4 Secretary General's report

Nothing special to report. Think everything is running smoothly and most of the points are contained in the Presidents report. Items of importance always copied to Council by email, so no outstanding matters.

5 Treasurer's Report and draft budget for 2020.

Franz presented the income, paid and budget. All under control. Some of the invoices are not yet received, will follow up.

6 Review of 2019 calendar and proposals for 2020 including the European Championships in Belgium

- All International races went well. Nothing special to report.
- We need however to consider to implement the use of the International licence when going abroad (also in Europe).
- Also consider to reduce the sanction fee on Europe Cup ?
- Increase the sanction fee for International Open ?
- Find an alternative format for the European races ?
- How to go forward with our sport ?

Proposals 2020 :

- 13-14/06/2020 Kings Lyn (GB)
- 27-28/06/2020 Viersel Diamond Race
- 24-25/10/2020 Tenerife Open (TBC)

European Championships 2020 – Belgium

- Bid received from Belgium to host the Europeans in Beringen and Cheratte from 23rd – 30th of August 2020
- Racing Council will support this bid and Mike will present to the Admincom at this weekends' meeting.
- Draft bulletin was discussed and some points have been discussed.
- Starting date should read 22nd of August (instead of 23rd)
- Entry fee /competitor : 150,- € > maybe they could keep it on 125,- €
- Camping > maybe a little higher amount but electricity included ?
- Some amendments to the LAO were requested, but Council does not see a problem in this.

7 Correspondence:

- Mail received from Jonas Garcia (ESP) retiring from Council
See point 1 of these minutes
- Mail received from Steve Cox (GB) regarding conduct of a competitor at the Worlds in Vichy – supported by a statement of Leanne Wallace (AUS) and confirmed by Gust Lacroix (BEL)
- Mail from Martine Ciroux (BEL) regarding the Tenerife Open 2019
- Mail from Bureau regarding Athlete of the Year 2019

8 Any pressing IT issues/website/social media—Jonas—(also update on IWWF Racing World Website initiative).

Unfortunately we did not receive a report from Jonas.

Although he is resigning from the Council Vera have spoken to him and he promised to help us further with the IT issues.

On the other hand we have to consider young people to help us in these matters.

Hannah Bird (GB) might be a possibility Mike/Vera will contact her and see if this is feasible.

9 WARAC update-

An update was promised before the Worlds in Vichy. However this did not happen. We cannot wait any longer. Vera will contact Rudy Van Poele and Peter Van Gastel to find out what is possible.

Admin Com already agreed in Schinoussa to pay 50% of upgrade costs and either Council or GB will pay balance.

10 Report from Region Europe Athletes' Representative, Chris Rydl,

Besides the F3 demo at Vichy there is nothing special to report.

- There were overall 24 teams involved. All agreed that this should be fun, affordable, less stress.
Unfortunately the entry of youngsters was minimum, missing focus.
Most of the skiers were Masters and/or seniors.
- Steve Bird (GB) is also running "rookies races" for beginners and this is also a success.
- Vera asked why Chris was not invited to the Competitors meeting in Vichy ? Chris said she was only asked the day before and could not attend. Council feels that we need to pass this comment to WRC with recommendation that Athletes reps from every region are most definitely invited. It is a fundamental responsibility of any WRC Athlete rep to engage ongoing with all regions reps, and involve them directly.
- Chris will send out a communication to the skiers and find out their opinion towards the future of our European involvement.

11 Report on World Championships in Vichy, France 2019.

- Richard confirms that this has been a very good event. Certainly with a lot of European skiers present and even winning medals.
Mike asks whether there is already a balance made up but Richard says it is difficult to get the figures from every one.
- Vera also says that Peggy Piron did a fantastic job and congratulations for that.
- Unfortunately the eventual deal with Peter Butler for live coverage TV and streaming could not happen--It was too expensive for the

organisers and our Council has not the money to support such involvement (20.000 £).

- We must say however that Steve Bird and his team did an excellent job on having live stream on the different Face Book pages.
- Medals were a serious disappointment – purchased by French Federation via European supplier instead of through IWWF. In the future there will be no exception anymore on the medals.
- Mail from Steve Cox regarding Tim Mayers behaviour towards the Chief Scrutineer and Assistant Scrutineer. Racing Council agrees that we cannot accept such behaviour. If the Chief Judge had known he would have been barred from the competition. Council agree that a strongly worded letter will be sent to British Water Ski/Tim Mayers stating that we cannot tolerate such behaviour and sanctions will follow if this happens again.

12 Outcomes of WRC meeting in Vichy held on 13/09/2019.

- As Mike was not present Dusty Schulz acted as President during the whole Championships and the WRC meeting.
- As Mike retired from the Council as Chairman there was an election held. Andrew Donahue (AUS) and Vera Van den Bossche (BEL) were the candidates. After a secret ballot Vera Van Bossche was elected as new Chairman of the IWWF Racing Council.
- A lot of different items were discussed and there are deadlines set forward to answers on most of the matters.
- Rule 6.06 wetsuit will have to be fluoro coloured down to the waste.
- On technical and scrutineering proposals Andrew and Jules will come back to that.
- Our European proposal for the 1000 points system has finally be accepted.
- Full minutes will be distributed as soon as possible.

13 Report on F3 demonstration at Vichy > see point 10 discussed

At this point we welcome the Visit of Sid Adriaensen and Dominique Lakens and Gill Hill.

- Mike brings them up to date on our agenda and explains matters discussed.
- Vera handed over the Meeting Allowances form to Dominique and has given copy to all members.
- Certificates list towards Congress 2019 > Vera will send to Sid and Brit

14 Bids for 2021 World Championships

- Bid from Dunoon > GB Racing committee approved but GB Board waiting on further assurances regarding financial implications- assurances have been promised for early December by Scottish organisers.
We need to have all the facts together before deciding.
- Tenerife also has send a mail to Vera, but gave no precise venue or date information which are fundamental to any decision.

15 European Racing Hall of Fame –consider recipients for 2020.

- Vera thanks the Council for the Hall of Fame award 2019 received it was indeed a surprise and not really expected yet.
- As we did not had the chance to award the 2019 candidates, suggestion is made to keep the same names and award them in 2020:
Carlo Cassa (ITA) European Champion F1 Men 1996 – 2002
Miriam Grignani (ITA) European Champion F1 Women 1984 – 1985
- Award ceremony could take place during the Viersel Diamond Race at the Mayor's Office and invitation towards VIP race day.

16 Revision of any Region Europe Racing rules for 2020 including Rule 3.04

- Since there will be changes in the World Rulebook we will discuss these matters and make final proposals at the next meeting

17 Boat Numbers regular update.

- Thea says that during the Tenerife Open in October she was present and noted that some teams still uses boat numbers which not belong to them : 18 – 19 – 99 this is not acceptable. Thea will write a letter to the Spanish and Canarias Federation^s to explain the procedure.

18 Any other business, and electronic race entry/signing in facility.

- Mail from Martine Ciroux (BEL) regarding the Tenerife Open 2019 There has been different matters going wrong at that event. We will not go into details in these minutes, but the Council agrees that Thea (as Homologation) will write a letter to the judges involved Ana Perez, Cynthia Perez and Aida Ramirez (with copy to the Federation) stating that they still have to do their practical exam urgently in order to retain their accreditation as International Judges.

Athlete of the Year 2019 :

- Male : Tim Lisens (BEL) 3rd place Worlds Vichy Men Open
 - Female : Vicky Leysen (BEL) 3rd place Worlds Vichy Women Open
 - Female : Sylvia de Spiegeleire (BEL) 1st place Worlds Vichy Women F2
- Discussion has been held whether we could nominate a F2 gold medallist? Thea says that in the past this has happened before, Vera is not sure about this, but it could be right. As the vote is not unanimous :
- Sylvia > 2 votes
 - Vicky > 1 vote
 - 3 abstained from voting, and President still to vote.

Vera will do the necessary research and come back to this with the proof that indeed F2 was nominated before.

19 Date and venue of next meeting.

- 01/02/2020 – IWWF Europe Congress in Athens (Greece)
- 02/02/2020 – IWWF Europe Racing Council in Athens (Greece)

Having no other urgent business to discuss the President closes the meeting at 18.30 hrs thanking all members for their attendance, and their work and input for the benefit of our sport.

Vera Van den Bossche
Secretary-General

Mike Waterman
President