



Report to E&A Admincom from the Waterski Council – November 2022

Meetings

The WSC has held a number of adhoc meetings via Zoom to deal with pressing matters of various sorts.

Seminar 2023

The Officials seminar in 2023 will be the first in person meeting since 2019. It will be held in the UK at the Radisson Blu Hotel, Stansted Airport on 24th – 26th March.

Titled Events 2022

The four E&A Championships took place successfully in Greece, Austria and Italy. Notably the Pamvotis Waterski Club in Ioaninna, Greece hosted both the 35+ and Youth Championships in a period of three weeks. Despite the absence of Russia and Belarus the Youth Championships had a record number of entries leading to 12 hour skiing days. We will be considering how we can avoid this for future events. With the exception of the U21 Championships in Austria there were not enough Officials who applied to make up the panels. Notably no one applied to be the CJ at any of the titled events. While these issues were overcome, we need to consider how we can motivate more Officials, particularly Judges, to come forward for future events.

Verbal update after Council Meeting

Titled Events 2023

The current Waterski Calendar for 2023 is as follows. We have no acceptable bids to host the E&A U21 Championships at the time of writing. Also, there is no final decision about the dates and venue for the 2023 Open World Championships.

- **05/01 - 08/01 World U17 Championships: Chile**
- **12/06 – 18/06 World U21 Championships, Mexico**
- **09/08 – 13/08 E&A Youth Championships: Sesena, Spain**
- **11/09 – 17/09 E&A 35+ Championships: Cazaux, France**
- **E&A Open Championships: San Gervasio, Italy (Dates to be confirmed)**

Verbal update after Council Meeting

Officials Travel Expenses

The level of Travel Expenses for Officials, particularly for long haul destinations such as the U17 Championships in Chile, is becoming a major problem with few officials applying due to travel costs. Fares to Chile from Europe in January are around 2,000 euro and so any Official who applies has to find around 1,500 euros of their own money. Consequently, it is only those Officials who can afford this and are prepared bear this cost that are applying. We need to find a better solution and have written to the Admincom about this.

Verbal update after Council Meeting

35+ World Championships 2022

The first 35+ Worlds since 2018 were held in Baurech, France in September. The unexpectedly high number of entries (Initially over 280) led to a late change to the schedule with two additional days added to the programme and the familiarisation schedule. This clearly inconvenienced a number of competitors but without this change the competition could not have been completed. A review of entry criteria **and/or a different site selection** for future events will be undertaken to ensure that the entries are manageable and to avoid late changes to the Competition schedule.

Verbal update after Council Meeting

“Around-the-Buoys”

A third edition of the new WSC Occasional Newsletter was published in October.

New Technology

Donal Connolly has continued the development of the Trick Judging system “EyeTrick” and it has been tested successfully at a few events during the season. The system facilitates rapid timing and judging processes and gives confirmed scores between each skier. The build of the scoring can also be shown live on webcasts. Its adoption will require the acceptance of the WSC and a number of rule changes.

EMS

A number of welcome improvements have been made to EMS during the year but much needs to be done particularly for Intention to Enter functionality for Titled Events and entry fee payments.

Gavin Kelly

November 2022