

E&A Congress Thessaloniki, Greece

27th - 29th January 2012

ECWC Minutes

E&A Council Members:

Ms. Varna Laco

Mr. Lucien Gerkau (attended the meeting over skype)

Ms. Carole Marmonier

Mr. Nenad Tanaskovic

Guests & newly elected members:

Mr. Franz Kuhn (Vice President E&A)

Mr. Uwe Goldstein (Cable Development Committee Chairman)

Mr. Alex Koester (JDC Member & New E&A Council Member)

Mr. Aaron Armorst (JDC Member & Administrative Secretary)

Mr. Daniel Fetz (E&A Riders Representative)

Ms. Natascha Kiel (co-opted on Sunday January 29th , all voted in favor)



1. Welcome, comments & apologies (Varna) (short)

Apologies from Julie and Ferdie, who will not stand for election this year. We sincerely thank both for the long years of involvement and quality they brought to our group and we hope to keep working together.

Apologies from Luci who can't be here but who is following the discussion via Skype.

Introduction to Natasha who is given voting powers for Friday and Saturday as a guest and was co-opted on Sunday (with voting powers).

Reminder of the meeting rules by Nenad (timekeeping, following the agenda, asking for talking time, one conversation at a time).

2. Minutes from the last meeting (Varna) (short)

The texts were long but they were quickly published. Carole and Alex will take notes for this meeting.

3. Judge Clinic Antalya (Aaron) (short)

As previously noted, it was a problem to combine a clinic with a 4* event as the 2 interfere.

Aaron prefers to have clinic separate from a big event. They were 5 persons coming :

Argy, Kai Kissman, Philip Kunte, Stephan Lebwhohl

A new judge guide and a new riders guide were created.

Perfect judging sheets were created for the last EC runs so that people can see what a perfect judge sheet is. Varna asked Luci to upload the sheets on line.

The cost was 7,5k€. Varna thinks it is far too expensive and that we have to review the clinic system, and that we should have cancelled it.

Aaron thinks that we should open the clinics to the 4* judges (paying their own costs).

Luci explains that those clinics were made to make faster and better judges, train them for Technical and Event Set up to be chief judge at big international events. For Luci, this aim is still valid and that if we want to change the clinic system, we should find a new solution to help the top judges to be good & fast.

4. World Ranking 2011 (Varna) (short)

Varna : the ranking is not ready as the rankings are still wrong (using the old rules + mistakes). Varna will meet the php guy in Croatia next week and will sit with him 3 days in a row. The aim is to correct the system. If they don't succeed, we will have to create the rankings by hand again. Then, Varna suggests that if the php is not working, we should give up on the online ranking.

Cash for Best World ranked riders : Varna announced that the accounts are negative by 660€. Also, she thinks we should not travel anymore with too much cash.

Varna thinks the ranking money should be paid afterwards.

Aaron says that we should make an official announcement about when the money is paid.

Varna says either we do it officially through IWWF or we don't.

Nenad says that the event prizes are the event organizer responsibility. The overall tour money and the Tour Money are our responsibility to find 1. legal and 2. easy way to do it.

Luci wants us to ask the organizer to pay either by cash or to IWWF in advance.

Varna says that for 4* and above event, the ranking money should go through the IWWF (lump sum + prize money).

Explanations to Carole about which money goes where... (see rule 8.2 from the 4 star events rulebook).

5. Council Roles 2012-2014 (all) (long)

During lunch break at the Congress, after the election, the officials' positions have to be fulfilled. Luci is stepping down as Secretary for personal and business reasons. Also, as there is more young blood in the council, he thinks that someone else should take up on some of his duties. He will stay as Secretary on the world level.

We opened the new document of 'roles and duties' from Aaron. Discussions around tasks, roles, time, etc.... Addition of "meeting chairman" role, and many more.... and we filled a large part of the chart. The aim is to determine who is responsible for what.

Nenad said that one thing is the official title (role), the other thing is covering the tasks.

Nenad adds that we usually work by project in companies and that we should work by project management (with one person in charge).

Varna says she also wants to give out some of her work and that it would be good that Natasha works in pair with Nenad to learn about the treasurer work.

The secretary takes the responsibility to take the initiative to expand our image and communicate to everybody, answer the emails and re-direct them to other council members, publish everything on line (new rulebook, press releases, etc).

We concluded that Aaron is the best suited to take this position, as long as we all manage to separate this from his position as administrative assistant.

Aaron is voted as secretary : ALL IN FAVOR

Varna is voted as a president and Nenad as a treasurer : ALL IN FAVOUR

Nenad is stepping down from CWWC and Alex will take his place. We will nominate Alex to continue Nenad's work of the treasurer.

6. Events 2012

6.1. Coaching Seminars (Fetzy) (short)

Fetzy met with John Wood & Jean Michel Cau. He is wondering what the goal is for the coaching seminars as the only result is an 'attendant certificate'. Egypt will be difficult as there is no cable there To create a cablewake part in the coaching seminar would be around 200 pages to prepare, it is a lot of work so maybe it is better to do it late in the year, with time for riding, and an exam.

Fetzy thinks that it is not a role for him as Rider representative but more as a consultancy job (maybe a part of the registration fee should go back to him as a consultant : possible , should be organized).

Nevertheless, he will try to go to the coaching seminar in Egypt.

The German federation will organize their coaching seminar over 3 Week-ends in March (total is 9 days) and it will give the participants the level C of official coaching level. Price is 75€ per course per participant.

We have to communicate to the Coaching commission that Fetzy will try to go to Egypt but to listen not to teach a cablewake part.

If we want to do a Coaching Seminar, a good place in October could be in Antalya. The cable could change every year...

It should be announced very soon and be officially announced that Fetzy is not doing this as a Rider Rep but as a consultant.

Aaron thinks Fetzy should participate in the German seminar. Luci think it is not necessary as Fetzy already has the Austrian qualification....

Varna asks if we do 'beginner' coach program or an advanced coach program....

Varna says that Fetzy should prepare before April 15th a structure for the coaching seminar to be organized in October in Antalya.

Nenad says that it should result in a list of coaches with different levels that will be public.

Fetzy will try to participate in the Cairo event and the 3 German coaching WE.

In the first year, there will be no money for ECWC to reimburse this investment. But on the next years, there will.

Discussions on how much the coaches' instructor should be paid.

Then from this, we discussed how to create a system to evaluate the level of the allowances of all the officials. See further...

6.2. World Championships (Uwe) (short) :

As discussed in last week's Skype meeting, it appears that the situation in Manila is not clear. Uwe talked to Kuno yesterday about what should / can be done. Kuno said that Uwe should ask them to sign the contract before February 21st and that this is going to be the deadline.

Varna agrees but adds that we should start to look for other options.

Nenad agrees we need a back up option. He offers Belgrade as a last resort.

We were informed that Israeli team has already booked their tickets for Manila.

Uwe would like the LOA to be modified to request the partial payments earlier than at the moment. Varna says that Uwe should discuss that with Kuno.

Conclusion : Uwe will send a strong letter and proposal for LOA to include earlier payment date. If they don't book the signing, we cancel it on 15th Feb. If they sign and don't pay, we cancel it on 10th of March. If they sign and pay, then we can wait and see what will happen.

6.3. Int. Events (Luci) (short)

International Marbrurg

Karlsruhe mid Feb in a pool

Leipzig 3*

June 9th-10th, 3 or 4* event in Germany

17-18th August, 4* in Germany

EC 5-8 September TNS

WC Nov : See above

6.4. European Championships (Carole) (short)

Short presentation of the budget: at this very moment, we have not secured any money but contacts have been made with town, department and region and Alain Amade and the local organization is getting confident.

We need to decide who organizes the riding for the days before the competition

Who is doing what in the sports part.

What about the allowances / official transportation (from home to Toulouse) ? The LOA did not include this so we have to bring it slowly to the French Comorg (=Organisation Committee).

We will not ask for the allowances. Varna says that we could ask that if the budget goes over some limit, then the organization could offer some additional services like transportation and catering for officials for more days...

Varna wants the first bulletin very soon. 6 month before will be early March

Carole to organize for a Press release next week.

Patrice Martin is President of the Comorg, Carole is secretary.

6.4.1. Schedule (Aaron) (short)

See file. We need an extra day for the official training: Tuesday.

Aaron calculated 4 full days of competition. So practice has to start on Tuesday. CM to ask for Tuesday for official training/reserve day. VL to ask Admincom to set the deadline for entry forms earlier.

6.4.2. Disabled discipline (Varna) (short)

VL -qualification criteria is a problem if we allow less competent riders we will lose a lot of time. We should only run one category this year, seated. Disabled council

should provide criteria ie no special pickups swimming ability etc. this is important for time constraints. CM would like to include them in team scores to not differentiate. VL says that Philippe says it should not be a demo but isn't important about the team scores.

It will be a seated category, and we have to implement a coefficient! Seated (valid) = x1 ; MP3 = 1,2; MP2=1,6; MP1= x2. Disabled Council to check and adjust the coefficients.

MP1: Athletes unable to utilize the majority of their trunk musculature. Athlete is unable to rise from knees without arm support. They lack full use of their upper extremities. Typically, they do not have adequate grip strength and may utilize their forearms or wrists to hold the handle.

MP2: Athletes able to use their upper trunk muscles to partially raise their upper body from their knees in the skiing position. Typically, they have full use of their upper extremities.

MP3: Athletes with good use of the majority of their trunk muscles. Athlete may be able to use partial abdominal musculature. Typically, they are able to raise the trunk from their knees in the skiing position and have full use of their upper extremities.

Qualification criteria : only 20% of able bodied are allowed in the seated category.

Is all the site completely equipped (hotel, parking, area to put their gear, food) ?

Carole will include those topics in the COMORG discussions.

Luci thinks that if everybody agrees, we should do it, but then we need more time for the competition and the training.

Vote for disabled in France EC (but not in all EC to come) and not being included in the team scores: ALL IN FAVOUR

Varna to raise this question to the Admincom.

6.4.3. Training system (Carole) (short)

Varna proposes to do a similar training session as in Belgrade with 3 days (Saturday to Monday) under council control. ECWC could then control the riding times and bookings for the trainings. Carole to ask the cable owner how he feels about it.

VL proposes that competitors can't ride during public hours.

Alain Amade says we will try to organize the best competition possible, with a big screen and professional TV production. We already have good support from Region, department, City. Due to addition of Seated category, council asks for one day more of competition. Alain wants to add 20€ fee for the Saturday night party. It should be included in the registration. We still have to discuss how we deal with under 18 years old as they will not be allowed in the club.

Taskforce budget will cover the Officials' travel costs to EC. All board and lodging for Officials judges will be included by the organization.

Taskforce already received 50k from Rixen and ~10k from other sponsors.

Varna asks that if EC budget had more money, we should include more meals: lunch will be provided, but dinner?

6.5. Judge Seminars

Kuno said that we could have access to 'development fund' to organize a seminar in Asia.. International Seminar to be organized during EC and if possible another session in France earlier in the year. (Carole and Aaron to find a date)

7. World Rules 2012

7.1. Officials (§17) (Luci) (long)

LC proposal in order to simplify seminars and qualifications.

First, we could create a new level of qualification (assistant) for basic level and then you have additional practical and theoretical tests for scorer and judge at each level. Also chief judge must have passed both judge and scorer tests. Discussion was not finished.

7.2. Inclusion of Guidelines (judges and riders) (Luci) (short)

7.3. Inclusion of "Competition requirements" document (Luci) (short)

Put this in additional documentation for event organization, not in the rulebook.

Then we should work in the direction of several documents :

- one for riders with rulebook and riders guidelines
- one for organizer with competition requirements, liability forms...
- one for officials with everything, judge guidelines, calendars...

So we all agree to work towards 3-5 documents, each containing the relevant information.

Carole to try to list which document should go in each book.

7.4. Competition date rule (Luci) (short)

7.5. Inclusion of Competition contract (Varna) (middle)

7.6. Inclusion of Liability Forms (Luci) (short)

Luci wants to put them in appendix to use for all international events.

All vote in favor.

7.7. Inclusion of Heat System (Aaron) (short)

We look at heat system proposal. It should be included in the rules that it is the strongly advised heat system (which means that it is not mandatory but advised). Finally we agree it is mandatory for 4* and higher and highly recommended for 1-3*.

7.8. Inclusion of Indoor rules (Luci) (short)

A lot of the English wording has to be changed... to be re-worked.

7.9. Inclusion of "How to do Startlists" (Luci and Aaron and AK) (long)

Proposal to be reviewed.

7.10. New Ranking points (4 Star Event with 600 points) (AK) (short)

It was discussed for the last 2 meetings. Alex sent it by email, no negative responses from ECWC and CWWC. Voted All in favor

Also, all ranking points to be adjusted to smooth curves. We will review Alex' proposal and vote it on the next skype meeting.

7.11. Minimum requirements for titles events (beginning 2014) (Luci)(middle)

8. Homepage (Aaron) (short)

AA asked the host of the German federation website for a quote: the offer Package is €30 a month (see in Dropbox: Council2020 » B_Council » L_Webpage » Webserver). No reply or proposal from Sven for this service. VL will talk to Studi to cancel the service as soon as we're ready. All vote in favor to accept the German Federation Host proposal (LC & VL absent)

Aaron will do the transfer..

VL: Studi wants a licensing fee for the cms : Varna to investigate how much but our contract with him says that the content belongs to us so we should be able to copy the CMS and he can ask ID+MA for the money.

Aaron added an 'organizer' level so they can download the xml riders list in the competition.

Aaron wants to change the approval function. The riders will not be approved automatically when registering, but approved by the organizer.

We need the function to email all riders of the database. AA will activate this function, with the 'no-reply@cablewakeboard.net' address.

9. Budget

Our 2011 budget is in deficit of 1k. Varna asks to spend them, Sid and Alain agrees but told us to remember that then there will be less money next year.

Nenad has to prepare a claim form to be filled and with which to submit the receipts when people ask for expenses refund.

Alex replaced Nenad on the world council so Varna has to write to the world council to recommend Alex as a World Council treasurer. Varna asked Natasha to team up with Alex and Nenad to follow the budget on European and World level. When Natasha feels confident, she can take over as E&A treasurer.

9.1. Registration Fee 2011 (Nenad) (short)

9.2. Paid Jobs (Varna) (short)

9.3. ECWC budget.

ID+MA owes 33k€ to E&A out of which the council already spend 10k€ and ECWC has to pay it to E&A at some point. We want Admicom to pursue ID+MA for the money.

Varna says that the council asked Rixen for financial help.

We must clarify with Dominique how much money is left exactly.

Luci says that the new LOA for the EC contract is ready where it says that the money left will be kept by Council and IWWF.

What are the possibilities we have ? Higher registration fees?

Advertising on the web site? Aaron and Alex to finish the project.

Luci says that we get 5k for the Antalya clinic. The situation is not as clear for Varna.

Travel costs : When we have the budget, we will pay for it but we reviewed the current situation:

Bratislava travel costs : we agreed to pay up to 150€ extra for people who don't get allowances. Varna, Nenad and Luci needs the 150€. Fetzy was driving so he probably doesn't need it. Total is 450€.

Thessaloniki travel costs Aaron will get 100€. Varna 150€. Fetzy? Total is 250€.

We will discuss it again when Dominique will be there.

Varna says that we need money for the next Judge seminars. We can organize them in Alfsee and Toulouse before the international events.

Admin assistant: Varna paid 5 months up to the end of March at 600€ = 3k€. She is happy to loan it to the council until the budget is positive.

We discussed the work that was already done. The list is long and include: all emails from the webpage goes to Aaron's email, uploads and Competition registration is automatic.

Varna wants the officials list to be finished ASAP. To be done before February 13th.

Nenad asks for Aaron to write an induction guide (of what he is doing), with a time sheet (list of projects with the time he spends on it), with a different time sheet for the voluntary work and the paid job. It has to be ready by the end of February.

We voted all in favor to continue Aaron paid job until the end of March.

For the future, Natasha asks if we could work on a 'by project' basis. But it might be more expensive.

Aaron wants to make clear that this money is covering extra tasks from his official Secretary voluntary job.

Do we agree to continue for another 7 months for 600€ if we get additional budget?

We all agree to vote on a next skype meeting that will happen before the end of February.

Unpaid invoices: Nenad asks for payment for Sebastian expense for 2010 Marburg (175€) and old Luci's invoice. It was dealt with Dominique when she stopped by on Sunday.

9.4. Registration Fees 2012

Varna asks if it could be a good idea to charge the registration fees in advance.

Dominique to check if it is possible. Normally it's done once at the end of the year.

In the other disciplines, it is called an homologation fees, and it is 200€ per competition. On all these homologation fees, half goes to the council and half to the E&A central.

Nenad says that 'all expenses paid' should be clarified (= include everything from your home, like food during the trip from home to the event)

Varna thinks the allowances should be paid once a year in November.

Nenad thinks that the allowances should be paid neither at the event, neither in November, so maybe just after competition ? quaterly ?

To fix the amount, the council tried to score every task out of 100 points : coach instructor, official instructor, officials (Delegate, officials, judges, scorers, all of them with their 1 to 6 star rank), Event person.

It has to be clear that council work will not be paid.

The value of the points will have to be decided. The points are based on a 8 hours a day involvement. This will be valid for all registered events (except titled events). The number of points will be rationalized by the number of the officials, and the number of riders participating.

The service fee will be XX Euro per rider, with a minimum by event type. The number of officials will depend on the number of riders.

What's the value of the officials fee per rider ?

Varna to make a full proposal for the next skype meeting.

Then we need to make a contract with the officials listing their responsibilities....

Future work : put in place a form to be filled by organizer with number of national officials he has available, number of international officials needed, number of riders expected. In the future, this form may give an official immediate quote on the internet.

10. Scoring Software (AK) (short)

New version was devised in NL with Ferdie, and AK made a 'user guide'. There is still one problem with the downloading of WS results (see Aaron). It's in the dropbox at the moment, Aaron will tell us when it is safe to download. Aaron plans to put it on the website with a password to download.

Ferdie is working on the final version. Manu's program is good but doesn't have the functions we need at the moment. Manu has looked at our version and is working with Ferdie on a new program.

11. Documents 2012 (Varna) (middle)

12. Congress Items (Varna) (short)

13. JDC 2012

13.1. New level of Officials (Aaron) (short)

All 6 stars are dropped at the end of each year so we have to appoint the new 5 and 6 stars judges for this year.

2011 Clinic Antalya participants : Kai Kissman, Philip Kunte, Stephan Lebwhol, Argy.
Judges at the 2011 EC : Stephan Lebwohl, Argy, Sebastian, Basti, Daniel, Aaron, Simone, Mo

Scorers at the 2011 EC : Ferdie and AlexK

Judge Clinic Marbourg 2010 : Maxi, Lior, Aaron, Ferdie, Loes,

2012 Proposal for 5* : Mo, Lovro, Kai, Philip, Stephan, Argy, Daniel, Simone (Judge),

2012 Proposal for 6* : Sebastian, Aaron (Judge), Ferdie & AlexK (Scorer)

Vote : all in favor.

13.2. New Judging system (Fetzy) (short)

It needs to be tested now. Fetzy will finish the trick list soon.

14. Office 2012 (Varna & Aaron) (middle)

Varna says she thinks that Aaron should continue until the end of March as Administrative Assistant. She thinks that we need ASAP the Officials list. A list of action / reports of activity should be done every 2 weeks.

15. ID+MA, Prize money Izmit (Luci) (short)

IWWF will pay 70% of the money to the riders. Because IWWF does not have the money, E&A will loan them half the money. CWWC should repay the money.

A letter will explain to the riders that the remaining 30% will be paid when / if we retrieve the money one day.

Did ID+MA filed for bankruptcy? Varna asks that somebody check it. Uwe says he did it last year and sent it to Kuno. If they do file for bankruptcy, do we still pursue them?

Varna says we have to ask Admicom to act on it.

16. AOB

16.1. Projects

Several subjects could be treated as projects involving only a couple of persons from the council.

Carole says that the French Fed has been working on a Kids Development program and offers to translate it to English if other federations are interested.

16.2. Cable development commission

Uwe says that we should find 'Official' names for the obstacles to avoid confusion.

Varna says that either it is easy and the name is obvious, or the obstacle is complicated and then it has a complicated name. Varna says we have to make sure we use always the 'normal' names and not slang names.

Uwe says that there are 15 manufacturers of obstacles so it would help.

It will be difficult because of the Signature series obstacle and the always evolving designs...

Luci proposes one list of obstacles: the council decides to work on it further (action Carole).

16.3. Admicom : Alain Amade, Sid and Dominique.

Both ECWC and CWWC have the budget issues. There is the taskforce money, which should be used to promote the sport and the video but Alain agrees we need to cover our daily operations. Alain will ask the taskforce to allow a portion of the budget for the CWWC purposes.

Meeting ended on Sunday, 29 January at 15 hours.

Minutes taken by Carole Marmonier and Alex Koester

Edited by Varna Laco