

E&A RACING COUNCIL

**Minutes of the E&A RACING OFFICIALS SEMINAR held in Scandic Hotel,
Antwerp (Belgium) on March 16th , 2013 from 09.00 h till 17.30 h**

Present:

- Belgium: Anna Abinante, Marino Lacroix, Kim De Witte, Martine Ciroux,
Gust Lacroix, Peter Van Gastel, André Hendrickx, Inge Swolfs,
François Van den Bossche
Team Captain: Dominique Gathy
- Great Britain: Derek Blackmore, Frank Fleming, Sue Fleming, Barry Frame,
Cathy Bird
Team Captain: Karen Brooks
- Netherlands: Henny Klarenbeek, Casper Van Gorkum
- Spain: Olivia Figueroa, Manuel Tarrida
- Racing Council: Mike Waterman (Chairman)
Vera Van den Bossche (Secretary)
Franz Hebenstreit - Jules Leysen – Thea Klarenbeek – Chris Rydl

Mike Waterman welcomes everybody to the Seminar and expresses his hope that the meeting will be a success and all present find it beneficial

He thanks the Royal Belgian Waterski Federation and Technical Committee, and especially Vera Van den Bossche for the efforts made towards the hotel and other arrangements. Also thanks to Vera Van den Bossche (Secretary) in preparing this meeting and making the sets of documents and correspondence needed for the meeting.

1) General information

o IWWF & E&A Jury exams:

During the weekend, one of our experienced International Judges, who has not before been on a Worlds Jury, Derek Blackmore sat and passed the new World Judges exam, whilst another Belgian lady, Inge Swolfs took and passed with flying colours the International Judges theory examination, which is excellent news. We continue to strive in finding more judges to cope with our sport, at all levels.

o E&A Racing - Jury Panel 2013

This has been announced and agreed upon during the Racing Council the day before. As explained we will let the Jury nominated for the Worlds have more responsibilities to have a good basis of preparation for Tenerife. Special consideration has to be given towards the dossier check of teams. All necessary documents will also be sent to all Officials by Vera Van den Bossche on Monday.

o **IWWF Racing – Worlds Jury Panel 2013**

The World Championships Waterski Racing will take place in Tenerife (Spain) from the 5th – 15th September 2013. Jury panel has been announced by IWWF. The Region is providing no less than 10 officials for these Championships.

2) **E&A Racing Rules 2013** – Vera Van den Bossche and Jules Leysen

Vera is going through the whole rule book and gives further explanations of the Rule changes towards the 2012 book.

Input of our officials will be much appreciated and where necessary will be also taken into consideration to improve our rule book. So following suggestions where agreed to and implemented as from E&A Racing Rules 2012:

5.06 Sharp Edges

All mascots, lights, bow fittings, **cameras and other sharp edges shall be adequately protected or removed.**

6.03 Either one or two skis may be used. But skis must be:

- a) In serviceable condition.
- b) The skis **must be fluorescent flame orange** except fins and bindings and running surfaces. The underside of the ski from the tip must be orange for at least 20cm - **the top front at least 40 cm . PENALTY 12.02 FIXED: 6%**

6.04 The minimum length of the tow line is 21 metres, including handles, with a maximum length of 75 metres also including handles. Length of ski tow line to be limited and governed by safety and venue. **Races on Canals, Rivers and circuits with tight corners the ski rope length, including handle will be a maximum length of 60 metres** for FI, FII, FIII, Men and Ladies, **Juniors** and Seniors. For Euro-Kids 50 metres maximum including handles. Allowing a 5 % discretion after measurements. **PENALTY 12.02 Fixed: 6%**

8.13 Grid Positions:

For first race Federation's nominees by means of a Draw, after first event grid positions will be allocated on each competitor's accumulated performance.

9.19 Random alcohol testing will take place, at a time determined by the Chief Judge, on race day of officials and competitors by the on site doctor. **E&A operates a policy of ZERO tolerance on alcohol.** Failure or refusal to take the test will result in disqualification

PENALTY 12.01: Disqualification

5.01 Specification of competing boats

Jules Leysen made a full explanation of rule 5.01 – boat lengths. This item was thoroughly discussed in great detail and we hope everybody understands the meaning of the new IWWF rule. Although for E&A prior to 2010 existing boats are allowed to race for the duration of their life time.

At 14.00 hrs a delegation of our Seminar will visit Bernico to scrutineer the new Bernico Extreme at Fevaca / Bernico premises.

This subject was again discussed at length towards the new drawing received from Nico. We will see at the scruteneering session what happens with the measurements.

Jules has, in the meantime, written an e-mail to Dusty regarding the updated drawing.

Peter Van Gastel request that it would be better to leave the exemptions out of the Rules because this could be confusing. This will be discussed at the IWWF World Racing Council in September.

3) Technical Bulletin 2013 – Vera Van den Bossche

This bulletin has been discussed and following points explained.

11. COMPETITIONS

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS are open to the following categories:

- MEN:** Formula I, Formula II and Formula III.
WOMEN: Formula I, Formula II and Formula III.
 (women are not allowed to race in Men's race)
JUNIOR: Boys and Girls Open Formula The last year of eligibility of a skier is the year in which he/she has his/her 17th birthday.
MASTERS: More than 35 years of age on the 1st of January of the year of competition.

Men and Women will have distinct classifications.

- Euro-Kids A;** 8–9–10–11 years old on the 1st of January of the year of competition.
Euro-Kids B: 12-13-14 years old on the 1st of January of the year of competition.

Maximum FII Outboard engine boats are allowed in this category.

An E&A International Licence is obligatory.

Separate races for Euro A 15min + 1 lap and Euro B 25min + 1 lap on a shortened circuit if possible. Maximum of 10min allowed for competitors to finish race after leader takes finish flag. Time to be calculated to the last full lap. Red flag to be used to stop the race.

Medals for the team: The same as the other categories 3 gold, 3 silver and 3 bronze. It is recommended that all Euro-Kid skiers receive a token for their participation.

Skiers racing out of their natural age group need written permission from their parents and the approval of their Federation.

Euro-Kids B skiers in their last year are allowed to enter the Junior Formula only, subject on approval from their Federation.

If a skier changes his/her category (Junior or Formula) it must be for the whole season with no possibility of reversion to the previous category.

As from 2013 the E&A International licences for Euro Kids A & B will be free of charge. Euro Kids have to receive an E&A International licence through their Federation.

It is possible for a Formula 2 skier to race as Formula 1, and for Formula 3 to race as Formula 2.

Skiers are only eligible to go down 1 (one) category per year.

The winner of each category shall be granted the title of “European Champion” of the considered category.

EUROPE CUP WATERSKI RACING

2.01 A classification will be done for each Europe Cup round on the basis of the 1000 points system.

The winner of the Cup will be determined by adding the points granted at each round with the following ready – reckoned:

<u>Nr. of Organized Rounds</u>	<u>Minimum races to participate and Nr. of Results to count:</u>
3	2 rounds included Final
4	3 rounds included Final
5	3 rounds included Final
6	4 rounds included Final

Competitors are reminded they must participate as stipulated above to be able to qualify for any medal position – for example: if 5 rounds are run, competitors must compete in 3 rounds including the final.

The Europe Cups are open to the following categories: see European Championships

○ **Computer Program WARAC**

The use of the E&A official Computer Program is mandatory to settle the results of National and International homologated races. A brand new much improved version of the race program is now in progress.

At 14.00 h we will have a session – for al interested – regarding this program. Rudy Van Poele and Peter Van Gastel will explain all new elements and we will see where we stand for the moment.

- Documents to be modified or distributed (by Vera):
 - o Scruteneering document 2013
 - o Homologation dossier > will be send (by Vera) to the Chief Judges for filling in all necessary names, rescue, etc...

4) Other points discussed

- o The race name changes from Seniors into Masters.
- o Medical Certificate for drivers and observers
The question was asked why this does not apply for the skiers?
This matter is under investigation cause of liability issued.
- o 11.03 All Protests must be accompanied by 50 Euros. This amount will be refunded if the protest is considered reasonable by the Judges.
Consideration was given to the fact to raise the protest money to 100 Euros.
This item was discussed at length and will be put on the agenda for the next meeting of the E&A Racing Council.
- o Worlds 2013 Tenerife > a few suggestions were made to be asked the organisers regarding this event. Such as: refuelling, paddock, launching, etc.
Mike took notice and will direct an e-mail to the organisers.
- o Team Captains dossiers:
It is imperative that the organisers have all necessary documents on time.
especially the entry list !!
Also NO scruteneering on race day !
Team Captains needs to have their act together or Council will endorse penalties on late and lack of information.
Suggestion was made to enter the dossier as excel and/or PDF file and be administrated by one person. So Team Captains could send by computer all relevant documents. This has to be worked out in winter time to see what is feasible in this case. Martine Ciroux would be candidate to do this.

Having covered all the points on the agenda, Mike Waterman thanks everybody for their attendance and thinks this has proven to be a good format. We hope with inviting the Team Captains they also understand the problems faced by the Officials. The next E&A Racing Officials Seminar will be held in 2015.

Vera Van den Bossche
Secretary-General

Mike Waterman
President