

WORLD BAREFOOT COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES



WBC Conference Call
On 18 July 2021

Items and Actions

1. ATTENDEES

Geoff Blaauw - GB
Richard Kaufman - RK
Paul Adams - PA
Mike Molepske - MM
Tina McCauley - TM
Richard Gray - RGRA
Ludo Vrancx - LV
Andy Harris - AH
Oscar Mann - OM
Brian Price - BP
Rob Groen - RGRO
Claire Mowday - CM

APOLOGIES

Svenja Hempelmann

NOT PRESENT

Paul Turner
Gustavo Serrano
Mark Shank

2. OPEN JUNIOR WORLDS

Under 23's was passed.

3. OFFICIALS COMMITTEE – Mike Molepske

Nothing to report.

GB – Asked AH to clarify what is required for a rankings list tournament.

MM – Presented a document to the participants about what is required for a rankings list tournament.

GB – It's clear that if your judges aren't in the EMS and the Lion programme, it is not a rankings list tournament.

MM – Advised that he is willing to run remote Judge's clinics and conduct mentoring. He is also able to conduct remote practical exams.

AH – Commented that it is difficult to determine at the moment, whether the Rankings List is accurate, as there is no way of checking the live data that is being uploaded from tournaments through Lion and the EMS.

RGRA – Commented that this may be an improvement that is needed in the scoring system software. The software may be able to determine whether the required officials are included in the competition, to qualify as a Rankings List tournament.

AH – Commented that this is not possible in the scoring system currently.
RK – The software has never done this in the past. The Federations should be taking responsibility to ensure that the required officials are present at the tournament to deem it a Rankings List tournament.
RGRA – Commented that the EMS has all officials in the system, with their rankings. He doesn't see why the software couldn't be doing the checking on behalf of the Federation.
TM – Currently a tournament can't be approved until all the Chief officials are entered. The Federation or Confederation running the tournament needs to enter them into the EMS to approve the tournament.

4. AWARDS COMMITTEE – Claire Mowday

Outstanding Service awards are available, please keep an eye out for people that may be deserving.

GB – Asked where will the next Outstanding Service awards be presented?

CM – Usually at World Championships, however presenting them at the upcoming Masters will be considered.

RGRA – Commented that a note about outstanding service awards could be included in an upcoming newsletter.

CM – Will send the information regarding nominations for outstanding service awards to RGRA with the deadline, date, and nomination form to be included in the upcoming newsletter.

Are we all in agreeance that the next presentation should be at the Masters?

GB – If the recipient will not be at the Masters, their award will be presented at the next World Championships.

CM – Requested that an announcement be put on the WBC Website about the Outstanding Service awards after an announcement about the IHOF nominations.

GB – Requested that CM speak with John O'Neill about the IHOF as the Representative for Barefoot.

RGRA – Requested that Claire review the awards page and provide any required updates.

5. IHOF – Geoff Blaauw

Barefoot, Cable Waterski, Cable Wakeboard & Showski are being called for this year and will be announced in January 2022.

6. RULES COMMITTEE – Oscar Mann

Under 23 rules are waiting on one more confirmation.

The PPG will include both the EMS and Lion for the moment, however, will only include the EMS in future, once the EMS have developed the rankings list.

7. JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT

GB – Commented regarding the under 23s. Looking at the 2020 rankings list, there are 31 males in the under 23s. This drops to 13 in the 2021 rankings list. The current drop-out rate is significant.

There aren't any current female skiers born in the years 1998 or 1999.

RGRA – if we look back at the history, we will be able to see a pattern of what age people leave the sport.

Ski schools have a big impact on whether people stay in the sport.

GB – Junior development is also an area that can keep people in the sport.

RK – Commented that the people going to the ski schools aren't then making it to tournaments. The cost of getting to and competing in the tournament can be a deterrent.

GB – The Come N Trys and the gathering of people is where people fall in love with the sport because of the community that it provides.

Every Federation needs a representative to communicate and share ideas around Junior Development.

8. ADMINISTRATION – Brian Price

Working on section 4 of the PPG around the EMS. Will hopefully have something out in a month or two.

9. IWWF CONCUSSION PROTOCOL – Geoff Blaauw

Does everyone have a concussion protocol in place?

RGRA – WSWC Canada has protocol that has recently been discussed.

TM – There is nothing in the US – they are working on it.

GB – We've been instructed to put a concussion policy into the rule book.

BP – WAWA are working on the policy currently. If we run the policy as it is, it would shut down our sport.

RGRA – After reading a protocol in Canada, he also discovered that if we were to run with that policy, the tournament would be shut down after one skier has a fall, at the speeds that we are running.

TM – Can the protocol be put in the rule book, and a skier signs off that they take responsibility?

OM – Even if a skier signs a waiver, it does not stand up in court. Unless they've signed a dozen waivers.

RGRA – You can't sign something to waive the responsibility of the tournament organisers. The Tournament Organisers still have a duty of care.

OM – They had a skier in the past who was concussed and taken to hospital. The skier then left hospital against medical advice and returned to continue skiing and won the tournament.

RK – The Safety director has the responsibility to pull the skier from the tournament.

He has also had a skier who fell and hit his head on the jump. He was no longer allowed to ski at that tournament.

RGRA – This protocol stops the whole tournament. Not just the skier from skiing.

GB – The Rules Committee will need to make some choices on this moving forward.

10. FOOTVID21 – Geoff Blaauw

This is approaching quickly. If everyone can be reminding their Federations.

11. GENERAL BUSINESS

RK – Commented regarding the standings list. Are we looking at changing the standings list to a rolling 12-month standings list? The current rule book says that it will be a 'rolling' 12-month standings list.

The PPG mentions that the standings list would be presented on a rolling 12-month period. The prior QTR's on the WBC were reported on a rolling 12-month basis.

AH – The rules state that the rankings list runs from 1 January-31 December.

GB – This favours PanAm and EA, and there are no complaints from AO.

BP – Commented that he believes it should be a rolling a standings list, not a calendar year. This should be able to be done easily in the EMS software.

GB – It is a huge chore to integrate new technology across the World with the EMS.

AH – Barefoot is asking for something more dynamic than a live calendar year standings list.

GB – Is someone willing to put up their hand to make this happen? Asking the EMS to programme it may not be possible.

BP – Perhaps we should be returning to the Heeney programme?

RK – Running into a World Championships, skiers want to see current results, not just the results of the previous calendar year.

OM – There is someone in our sport who can write this in the Lion programme, we just need to ask.

RK – The information is there, it's just a matter of writing the programme.

RGRA – Asked why don't we just ask Lion to do this?

AH – Will ask Lion if he can create this as a dynamic report in the Lion Programme.

Re: under 23s

GB – We have approval from the IWWF that we can run two World Championships without the additional sanction fees.

OM – Why not just let them compete? He doesn't see the need to have them qualify as an individual.

LV, RK & CM – In agreeance.

Anyone can ski under 23s providing they're in the age group and on the rankings list.

The postal vote for under 23s all approved and formalised.

Confirmed where all IHOF presentations are happening.

BP – When do we have to submit nominations for the Barefoot IHOF?

GB – Commented that it would be best to follow up with the Barefoot selectors to confirm when the nominations are required.

12. MEETING ADJORNED