

International Water Ski and Wakeboard Federation World Barefoot Council

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Minutes

30th Meeting of the **World Barefoot Council** held at Metropolis Resort Hotel. Eau Claire, WI August 2016

Thursday 11th August 8:01pm

Welcome:

Richard Gray welcomed everyone to the 30th Meeting of the World Barefoot Council. New members Brian Heeney & Betsy Gilman were welcomed to their first meeting and Garth Strydom was welcomed to the World Barefoot Council. Advised that the business section will be taken care of quickly to give more time for discussion items. The meetings are being run in a fairly informal manner.

Call to order:

Richard Gray called the meeting to order. 8:01pm

Establish Quorum: 6 voting members, with one from each confederation.

Attendance:

Richard Gray (CAN) **REG**

Geoff Blaauw (AUS) **GB**

Paul Turner (GBR) **PT**

Brian Price (AUS) **BP**

Brian Heeney (USA) **BH**

Claire Mowday (NZL) **CM**

Betsy Gilman (USA) **BG** (substituting for Dale Stevens)

Rob Groen (NZL) **RGROEN** (FRIDAY AUG 12, FRIDAY AUG 19)

Ben Groen (NZL) **BGROEN** (FRIDAY AUG 12, FRIDAY AUG 19)

Svenja Hempelmann (GER) **SH** (FRIDAY AUG 12, FRIDAY AUG 19)

Apologies for absence: Garth Strydom, Rob Groen (Thursday), Dale Stevens (Thursdsy,FRIDAY AUG 12),Ben Groen (Thursdsay). Svenja Hempelmann (FRIDAY AUG 12).

Approve of the minutes of last meeting in Mulwala 2014 Moved **PT/CM**

Matters arising from the minutes

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Page 3 of the minutes states that “Further changes to be made to PPG - rule clarifications from section 9 will come out and be added as an addendum to Rule Book”, however this not included in the 2016 Rulebook – to be discussed further when discussing PPG 2017

In the previous minutes, it was agreed that everyone on the Council would nominate someone for the IWWF Hall of Fame. This has not been done and is why there aren't many barefooters in the IWWF Hall of Fame. All Council Members are to organise a nomination for the IWWF Hall of Fame. Nominations to discussed and brainstormed in Friday's session.

An action sheet will be used to determine which council members are responsible for which tasks. GB to organise this.

Ratify E-meeting ballots since last meeting

All e-meeting ballots are in the forum. The discussion of the future direction of the ratification of e-ballots to be discussed on Friday.

Current Championships – Officials/WBC entitlements, Q&A Feedback, Transport etc. Functions.

It was identified that a team managers list does not need to be delivered to the Chief Judge until 24 hours prior. This means that the Chief Judge is delayed in distributing the running order to the Team Managers.

It would be a good idea to post the draft running order online in the case that no bulletin 3 is issued by the LOC, as was the case with this World Championships.

Chairman's comments/reports. – See Reports Binder

BG – To take over the major events listing and suggests that in the future Facebook is used as a method of communication.

GB - To speak to Andy to determine if he could modify to forum to email notifications to all members for any new topics, and Facebook for the WBC would be a good idea, for the purposes of communication.

Additional Comment: Thank you to Mike Holt for everything that he does for the council. GB – to draft a letter of thanks to Mike Holt.

Confederation reports - sent prior and read by council prior

Asia, Australasia & Oceania: See Reports Binder

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Disappointing that only 1 skier from Asia (Korea) entered Worlds, however will have more teams from Asia at the AO Championships. Huge effort put into Australia, to increase the skier numbers, particularly juniors.

Pan Am: No report supplied.

Europe & Africa: See Reports Binder
60 skiers at the recent European Championships.

Committee reports - sent prior and read by council prior

Administration (PPG & ByLaws) – BP – See Reports Binder

Officials – GB – See Reports Binder

Additional Comments: The duties for roles such as the Chief Judge and Chief Scorer need to be written down in a structured way, so that clear steps can be taken by people who wish to achieve these positions.

Qualifying Scores - Geoff Davis / REG – See Reports Binder

Ranking lists – Geoff Davis / REG – See Reports Binder

Additional Comments: To have a rolling rankings list, the scores have to be submitted to the list, and not to the confederations, within a certain time frame. Also committee to work towards moving from using excel, to a dynamic web page.

Record Reviews – REG – See Reports Binder

Federation Development – No Report Supplied

History – REG – See Reports Binder

World Championships Future and Format - GB – See Reports Binder

Friday 12th August 8:11am

Rules – Oscar Mann / REG – See Reports Binder

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Safety – Evert Aartsen – Nothing to Report

Technology & Systems – RGROEN - See Reports Binder

Additional Comments - Alex McClung to be recruited as he could bring a lot to the table regarding video live feeds.

Awards – CM - See Reports Binder

The Honour board, which lists all of the honorary members of the WBC, travels with the Chairman to all of the World Barefoot Council Meetings. Richard Gray is pleased to pass the Honour board onto Geoff Blaauw.

Ratification / voting on committee projects – PPG, Awards ByLaws etc - REG.

There will be an election for the athlete representative. It would be ideal for BGROEN to continue to be the representative, and develop and groom the future athlete representative. BGROEN also to encourage athlete participation in committees. BGROEN can also address the IWWF athletes commission regarding bringing Barefoot back into the world games.

Discussion Topics

The council spent the remainder of the Friday meeting discussing various topics. A summary of the sessions is at the end of these minutes

Officers of the WBC:

The secretary role was discussed in regards to whether the Chairman could recruit someone from outside of the WBC to, not vote, but sit on the council in the role of secretary. In the case that this would happen then an acting chairman would be appointed, if the Chairman was not to be present. Paul Turner expressed an interest in taking on the Secretary role. The council is to canvas for potential secretaries within the barefooting community.

Teleconferences

The WBC should be having 3 teleconferences per year, one every 4 months.

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Late Fees

Austria and Korea, did not return the intention to compete on time, which carries a USD\$200 fine. **BP moved for fine to be reduced to USD\$100, seconded GB & CM. Motion not supported.**

Fines for late definitive entry forms

USA/Watters \$20

USA/Lovatto \$100

USA/Jordan \$250

2020 World Championship Deadline

To have the announcement of the location of the 2020 Worlds on 1st March 2018 the deadline for bid submission will be on 1st September 2017.

Friday 19th August 2:30pm

Ratification of outstanding service awards –

Doug Cook

Ron Scarpa

Dawn and William Farrell

Consensus on all nominations

A selection committee is to be created consisting of the Chairman, the Awards Committee Chairperson and at least two honorary WBC members to select recipients of the awards.

2020 World Championships

There has been an expression of interest from Western Australia, Sydney, Sweden and Korea to host the 2020 World Championships. The bids need to be received by September 2017 for a March 2018 decision. The federation will be sent a guide of what is expected of their bid.

Jeong Jongseop from Korea joined the meeting and is very willing to put on a Worlds 2020 in his Waterski Club site and is willing to buy boats for the tournament. However, the official bid will have to come from a federation. Paul Fong will follow up with Jeong in Korea.

BGROEN – Skiers Meeting – See Skier Meeting Minutes

Al Moynes & Terry Jones – LOC 2018 World Championships Update

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The site is a man-made lake, which is close to a town centre and equidistant from Toronto, Ottawa and Montreal.

There is a possibility of sites nearby being used as training lakes.

Proposed dates are the 12th – 18th August 2018.

Media attention is needed to invite the World to come to Canada for the World Championships.

2016 Worlds Feedback

The scorers found the dual entry format difficult, as some skiers were skiing as opens and seniors, but the scorers were not always aware of this. There need to be a copy of the entries available to scorers.

Some skiers felt that if they had paid twice (eg. Open entry and senior entry) then they should have been able to ski twice. Some skiers did not enter dual entry, as they could ski the same number of times for the \$300 single entry fee.

A covered area may be required in the future for posting scores, to prevent needing to replace sheets if they get wet.

The entry list closing date should be reviewed, in relation to the advising of reserve skiers, as reserve skiers can be changed up until 1 minute before the tournament, which can affect seeded scores.

Technology should be improved for better internet connection on sit and for shore judging.

The video was great, thanks to Richard and Vicky Kaufman.

Election of Officers

Geoff Blaauw to be the new WBC Chairman Effective of the Completion of the Championships– **All Agreed**

Thanks given to Richard Gray for everything that he has done for the council.

Brian Price advised that he had canvassed for potential candidates for the secretary position and had received interest from Claire Mowday and Dale Stevens. Dale Stevens advised that he was not interested in the position, but he had a potential candidate that he wished to discuss with Geoff Blaauw after the meeting. Paul Turner also advised that he was interested in taking on the position. Richard Gray suggested Geoff Blaauw take up the discussion after the meeting and advise the council.

Brief discussions took place about conducting a further meeting on the Saturday.

Richard Gray advised the meeting was closed and the next meeting would take place in Canada in 2018.

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Next Meeting

Canada 2018

Adjourned

Summary of discussion sessions

Technology RGROEN -

There has been a focus on rules and officials, and now technology has to be a major focus.

RGROEN to write up a 5-year plan and work to improve “ship to shore”.

New formats need to be investigated that include a subjective scoring system.

The WBC Officials Committee would have to work with the judges and officials to get them to accept instant scoring.

Future Formats/Cable Jumping

Cable Wakeboard is a IWWF World Cup Package, and they are trying to find World Cup Cable stops to do this. If there was a barefoot Cable Jumping event, Barefoot could be included in the World Cup.

BGROEN Will outreach to cable parks and establish how this event will work.

Race Numbers

RGROEN – Wants to propose to have a race number. Every skier is allocated a number and that number is used to identify the skier across all tournaments worldwide.

As fundraising for technology, skiers can pay for their lifetime number and RGROEN can research how to work this number into the technology.

Subjective Scoring Tournament

In the next 2 years the aim for the WBC will be to have a subjective scoring tournament.

Similar to the Australia Open Tournament held at the Australian Nationals.

This sort of a format does not need as many rules or requirements. These events need to be run over the next 2 years to develop the format using the feedback.

GB Will write out what Australia has done in the past as a model of these sorts of events.

BGROEN Will speak to the IBA regarding having an event in this format after the US Nationals.

Video in Tournaments

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Moving forward the quality of the video needs to be enhanced to provide the option of having judges in the tower.

The WBC need a standard set for video at world championships, eg how many frames per second.

1003(A) Conditions of Malfunctions

At this stage the rule is not achievable due to the time restraints of the tournament.

GB (as chief judge) - Ideally the first and second event would be comparable, in regards to conditions, however you wouldn't compare the first and fourth event, as the competitors are not in the same league. We have tried to design the schedule so that the same events are skiing at roughly the same times over the different days.

Committees and Recruitments 2017/2018

The committees need people who are committed. There are a lot of people who could be spending time on barefooting, and could contribute; those people aren't being asked to join. If more people could be introduced into the committees it would help lighten the workload.

BGROEN – Would like there to be an Athletes Committee within the council, with representatives from each federation who can go out and get the word out and help people join and get involved in the WBC.

Jump Qualification Rule

Rule 2004 is being interpreted that a ranking list score can come from any time in the past, eg 10 years ago. Which is not the intention of the rule, which is intended for safety.

Part B states that "The Chairman of that Confederation shall certify skiers entered in the jump event from countries that have not held WRL tournaments during the qualifying period"

The rule will need to be modified so that it applies to all federations, not just those who have not held WRL tournaments.

RULE CHANGED TO: "The skiers entering the jump event must have a positive jump score in a rankings list tournament between the start of the previous world championships and up to 7 days prior to the current world championships. If they do not the Chairman of that skiers Confederation shall certify that the skier is proficient to jump."

Note: No skier will be allowed to jump if, in the opinion of the Chief Judge, Safety Director and a simple majority of the Event Judges, his competing would be a danger to himself.

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PPG

The IWWF have stated that the WBC cannot have its own separate bylaws. The only bylaws allowed are from the IWWF. The rules for running WBC meetings need to be policies and procedures, however they cannot be considered by-laws.

Brian to look at putting the IWWF rule directly into the PPG.

Have the rankings list up every 4 weeks. Doing 10 minute videos on the scoring program, to send to the federations as instructions.

Submission of the results will be sent to the ranking list custodian, *via an approved template*, instead of via the World Scoring Program.

With the format of the e-meetings the time limits are not always applicable due to time zones and this will need to be simplified.

Officials Requirements: There is a conflict, as to judge at the World Championships, you must be a level 1 judge, however to become a level 1 judge you must judge at a World Championships. Rule 2202D will read "Nominated judges, scorers and drivers shall be level 1 or 2 judges and appointed to the World Championships". The officials' requirements are to be tweaked during the week and finalised on Friday.

Lunch with Skiers

Skiers in Attendance: Ashleigh Stebbeings, Keith St Onge, Peter O'Neill & Teri Jones.

Senior Divisions – Teri to join a group to discuss the identity of the division of senior divisions moving forward, and to have more senior women coming to championships.

New Point System - Has been run for a couple of years now, and it is being embraced by the skiers. The only negative feedback is that there may be too many multiple turns, and that 8 could be too many. Feedback that flips could be scored higher.

Importance of knowing scores of the previous skier – It is very important to know that, as it would affect the type of runs the skiers are doing. Whether they would risk a higher score to get ahead.

Lee Stone – IBA Update

Proposed that the IBA could function as a technical arm of the WBC. Aiming to get ship to shore reliably on the internet, and looking to a Go Fund Me campaign to raise money for internet on the lakes. Looking to simplify the jump scoring program. Further members to be recruited.

1:00pm Paul Adams Update

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The site is set up, with the last tents going up on Sunday. There is wireless internet set up in the scoring tent, and there will be live streaming on a television in one of the main tents. All the contesters for the finals will be introduced at the bleachers as a group, and after the event having the skiers coming up and the winners receiving their awards on the podium immediately once they return to the bleachers. This would mean that there would have to be a change to the 30-minute protest rule for the open finals at this event. The WBC would have to make a decision on altering the rules. Results will probably be given 5 minutes after the last skier.

Team formats beyond 2018

If there are thoughts about how the current format is not working, then it needs to be done as soon as possible. It should be a goal that there will be separate junior, seniors and open championships.

It may be better for some federations to be able to change their team skiers up until the start of the tournaments.

The senior division can be expanded through seniors/masters tournaments, which can be held throughout the world, to encourage more seniors to participate in the sports. GOAL: 2021 Have a seniors/masters tournament in New Zealand which includes tours of the country etc.

IWWF Hall of Fame

All WBC members should receive an email notifying them of when to submit the online nomination form. The Hall of Fame induction ceremony will be at the World Waterski Championships in Paris in 2017. REG to ensure all WBC members are on the email list.

Rolling Rankings List - A trial will begin of updating the rankings list every 3 months - January, April, July, September. The IWWF could send out the communiqué so that it reaches every federation. The top 10 could also be specifically published on the WBC website and Social Media.

Rankings committee to come up with a format/template for scores to be submitted to the rankings officer.

The ranking list score and the qualifying score should be for the same period. The rule committee is to investigate this.

Franz Kirsch

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In history, barefooters were told that they need to make the sport more attractive. There needs to be a way to make barefooting more attractive for the sponsors and the media. The rules only benefitting a handful of skiers could cause the sport to lose people. The sport needs to be made more spectacular (eg. 10 second trick run) to encourage more participation and support.

Scoring of Tricks – The skiers will be addressed regarding the scoring of tricks.

Aim to reduce the amount of multiple turns in the future. To be rediscussed on Friday.