



Minutes of the IWWF World Barefoot Council Meeting

Date: October 12, 2024

Location: 2024 IWWF World Barefoot Championships, Auburndale, Florida, USA

Attendees

- Rob Groen
- Claire Mowday
- Oscar Mann(Honorary member)
- Lauren Ehlers
- Gustavo Sereno
- John Cornish
- Paul Turner
- Ludo Vrancx
- Richard Gray : Apology needed to leave Early
- William Leigh : Late Arrival 20 minutes
- Christina Nadalin
- Brian Price (Honorary member)

Agenda Items and Discussions

1. Review of 2024 World Championships:

- Scoring and Streaming: The scoring system was effective but required significant pre-event preparation. The live streaming needs simplification for future events.
- Event Setup: The LOC setup was praised for its excellence. However, a site map for positioning and layout was suggested to improve pre-event coordination at future events.
- Officials' Timing: It was suggested that officials arrive a day earlier to reduce last-minute rushes.

2. Scoring and IT Challenges:

- Scoring System: Issues with the speed of starting lists and results dissemination were noted. There is a need for dedicated IT personnel to handle scoring and data entry.
- Provisional Scores: Discussion on implementing live scoring from boats to improve real-time results sharing.

3. Tournament Format and Structure

- Two-Lake System: While logistically challenging, using two lakes was considered effective for the tournament's flow.
- Future Format Changes: Consideration of separating junior and under-23 competitions from open divisions to streamline events and reduce costs.

4. Regional Championships Integration:

- Proposal to include regional championships within world tournaments by awarding medals based on regional performance without altering the main event structure.

5. Judging Innovations:

- Slalom Judging Proposal: A new subjective scoring system was proposed to improve accuracy and reduce reliance on video reviews. This would involve a trial at select clubs or video trials before further broader consideration or implementation.

6. Future Events and Locations:

- Discussion on potential locations for the 2026 World Championships, emphasising the need for new venues to maintain skier interest.

7. Council Leadership Transition:

- John Cornish was proposed as the new secretary, with a transition plan in place until the conclusion of the Masters Championship in Chartres.

Decisions Made

- Adopt New Scoring Trials: Agreed to trial a new slalom judging system.
- Regional Championships Proposal: To be further developed with council input.
- Leadership Transition Plan: Approved transition plan for council secretary role to Chairman of the World Barefoot Council Effective 14th September 2025.

Action Items

- Develop detailed site map templates for future events.
- Recruit additional IT support for scoring tasks.
- Prepare guidelines and video presentations for the proposed slalom judging system trial.
- Finalise regional championship integration details for further discussion at WBC meeting.

Closing Remarks

The meeting concluded with discussions on improving marketing strategies and sponsorship acquisition for future events, emphasising the importance of digital presence and athlete engagement.