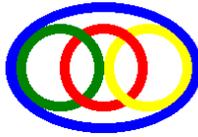


International Water Ski Federation World Barefoot Council

President: GRAEME DWYER
737 Princes Highway, Blakehurst, NSW 2221, AUSTRALIA
Tel: +61 2 9500 5397
Fax: +61 2 9547 0427
Email: gldwyer@optusnet.com.au



Secretary: ANDY HARRIS
9 Bennets Lodge
Chase Court Gardens, ENFIELD, EN2 8DB, UK
Tel: +44 20 8367 8534 (Home)
Tel: +44 20 8482 4892 (Office)
Fax: +44 20 8364 0170
Email: andy@matelot.demon.co.uk

MINUTES OF THE 21st MEETING OF THE WORLD BAREFOOT COUNCIL
HELD IN WALLSEE (AUT) ON MONDAY and TUESDAY 19/20 AUGUST 2002

Present:-

REGION ASIA AUSTRALASIA (AA)

Brian Price (BP) – President: Region AA
Geoff Davis – (GD)

REGION EUROPE, AFRICA & MIDDLE EAST (EAME)

Andy Harris (AH) – President: Region EAME and Secretary IWSF World Barefoot Council
Bob Gregory (BG)
Candido Moz (CM)

REGION PAN AMERICA (PANAM)

Richard Gray (REG) – President: Region PanAm
Dale Stevens (DS)
Dawn Hartman Farrell (DHF)

Apologies for absence:-

Rob McGlennon – Region EAME Delegate
Graeme Dwyer (GLD) – President: IWSF World Barefoot Council
Fred Groen (FG)

In attendance:-

Oscar "Foot" Mann (OM) – Region PanAm Alternate.
Kuno Ritschard (KR) – President IWSF.
Franz Kuhn (FK) – President IWSF Region EAME.

In the absence of GLD, AH welcomed all to Wallsee. During the past few days, the LOC had worked so hard to make the Championships site ready to host our World Titles. The tremendous support from the local community, the Army, the fire department etc. etc. was greatly appreciated. No one could have imagined the terrible damage and turmoil caused by the recent floods in this part of Europe and the fact that only 48 hours have past since the waters have subsided, to have the site ready now is an amazing achievement. Everyone involved is to be congratulated.

GLD was unable to be with us due to personal and business commitments back home. The Council passed their very best wishes to GLD and his family in these difficult times. GLD was hoping to represent us at the IWSF Executive Board (EB) meetings in France next month. If he could not make it then CM and AH would both do their best to attend in his place. Action: AH/CM

Everyone was disappointed that Team NZL were not present at these Championships. Nor were they represented at this meeting within the AA Delegation which was even more of a surprise after the recent appointment of Fred Groen as a full member and Rob Groen as the alternate member of the AA WBC Delegation. People who are elected to the WBC must understand the responsibilities involved in being elected. BP to fully investigate what went on in the decision making process and the subsequent failure of his member and alternate to meet their obligations to both the WBC and their Region. Action: BP

- 1 To record attendance and apologies for absence.
 - a) To confirm the voting delegates from the 3 Regions. The list as above was confirmed as correct. There are therefore 8 valid votes available to be cast at this meeting.
- 2 Biennial Election of President & Secretary of the Council.

It was agreed unanimously that for this meeting and these championships, AH will be acting President of the WBC. Also agreed that both GLD and AH remain in office for a further 2 year term as President and Secretary respectfully. AH was asked what his plans were for the future with regard to him being in a position to replace GLD as President at the next elections in the Summer of 2004. AH advised that he would be prepared to take the Presidency in 2 years time provided that he can step down as a member of the EAME Barefoot Council. He could not actively be part of both bodies. This would therefore depend on the EAME Barefoot Council agreeing to AH being a part of their delegation to the WBC without him being a member of the EAME Council at the same time. AH added that if any other member wished to come forward he would happily let them take the Presidency instead of him, but he reminded prospective candidates of the extra commitment both financially and in time that is part of the "Presidential Package." There is at least 1 IWSF EB meeting each year and the correspondence and information exchange between the EB, the IWSF Bureau and the other Divisions means that email traffic and post increases considerably. This needs to be borne in mind as does the ultimate responsibility of representing Barefoot Water Ski in what is quite a hostile environment.
- 3 Matters arising from the minutes of the 20th meeting in Wellington.
 - a) Requested Income/Expenditure accounts from the 2001 Junior & Senior World Championships.

These have been received but are they total true cost? We suspect that they do not include a substantial amount of expenses for services donated in kind. AH will go back to FG and check. Action: AH/FG.
 - b) Outcome of voting for the Overall, the procedure and policy on voting .

It was wrong that we waited 7 weeks after the deadline for the agreed vote on the overall. The PanAm Delegation asked why some votes are taken quickly and it seemed that contentious issues had to wait? AH accepted that the delay in the vote taking place on time was unacceptable. He had asked GLD more than once to go ahead with it but for whatever reason, this had not happened. We will re-visit the email voting procedures to prevent this from happening again.
 - c) Web Page - News at iwsf.com

The LOC will be sending results to iwsf.com for these Championships. Several members expressed their dissatisfaction with the current www provision for Barefoot within the IWSF Site. WBC still needs it's own stand-alone site called wbc.com. The WBC were grateful to the EAME WebMaster for hosting our information-only pages within the EAME Site. AH stated that he had been in touch with Evan Berger (AUS) after GD had spoken with him on our behalf. AH reminded the Council that what we need is someone (ideally a WBC member) to take care of this whole issue for us and until that happens things are unlikely to get much better than what we have now which whilst acceptable, is not what we want.
 - d) 180 to 1 tumbleturn downgrade from 100 to 25 points for >180 but <90 degree rotation.

Agreed that this clarification requires more thought and the Rules Committee were asked to have a look at it again. Action: OM
- 4 Chairman's Comments/Report.

Understandably, no formal report from GLD had been received.
- 5 To note items for A O B.

6 2002 World Championships - Meeting with Assistant Chief Judge and LOC Chairman.

Hilmar Wehner and Georg Wimmer were welcomed. It went without saying but a million thanks again to the LOC for delivering our Championships, firstly at such short notice and then after the terrible floods the previous week. Everything looks good - the site, the boats, the water and even the weather! The following was noted for the minutes...

- There will be a formal closing ceremony and dinner on Sunday evening. Formal dress requested.
- Problems with the analogue speedos due to dirt in the pipes from the flood waters. We will use GPS (in KPH only - one for driver and one for the judges). Suggest we call all speeds in either MPH/KPH and drivers convert back to KPH as necessary.
- Panel changes: Chief Scorer : REG, Toggle AH/OM as Assistant Scorer/judge as required by the Chief Scorer.
- Chief Judge (BP) wishes to use his Driver Evaluation forms to assist him in checking the drivers.
- It was confirmed that the rules for the flying start apply for tower starts. This had already been clarified in Wellington.

7 Reports from the Regions.

a) Pan America.

Not much to report since Wellington. Visit to Colombia has not happened yet. Participation is on the increase for men, women, senior men and senior women but junior numbers are a little down on last year.

b) Europe, Africa & Middle East.

The competitive circuit remains healthy through the Meridian Challenge Series. Officials numbers are steady with 4 new international officials coming though this year from France. Low numbers of skiers within each Federation is still a concern. Awesome European Championships 2 weeks ago in France. Talking to HUN, ISR, GRE, TUR. Clive Wilsdon's (GBR) innovative "Splash of the Titans" looks set to be the start of an annual "Pro" type event on the international calendar if this years first timer is successful.

c) Asia Australasia.

Number of skiers within the Region is increasing again. The low number of officials is being addressed. Disappointment at NZL absence at these Championships. Japan is being monitored and thanks for this go to GD in particular. There will be a Region Congress in September prior to the World Congress.

8 Combined World Championships.

PanAm feel that if we don't change from the 12 month format cycle, then our Sport will suffer serious consequences. REG had done a paper showing achievable timings although he had not included familiarisation. DS had done a SWOT analysis which was interesting. BP had circulated a paper on the subject which raised several questions as to whether we could deliver the desired outcome at a combined Worlds.

AH said that the Council have seen lots of paper on this and now its decision time.

It was agreed in principle that we need to aim for a combined World Championships. Target date for the first combined titles was suggested as 2006. This would all be subject to the acceptance of an amended set of rules pertaining in particular to the number of competitors and whether those competitors who qualify (by age) to ski in more than one age category can do so. The number of officials would need to be looked at. The Rules Committee were asked to get to work on this right away. Action: OM

9 Overall placement with 1 or 2 event scores (Email from GLD).

The eventual outcome of this was that we would not be changing any rules. GLD had suggested a separate listing called the "Combined Results List" be produced as a compromise. Proposed BP, Second REG. For 7 against 2. Trial only for now and access feedback.

10 Ratification of Records (REG).

REG was congratulated for having our Records Portfolio complete and right up to date. He would email the up to date position to all members after these Worlds.

REG would like to create a DVD of all our records with funding from IWSF. A costing is being prepared and will be submitted to GLD/AH asap. WBC supports this concept. Action: REG.

REG has not received any paper-work or tapes from the Records set/reviewed in New Zealand last January. BP/DS advised that they understood that all the paperwork had been passed to the LOC for onward transmission and were surprised to learn that REG had not received it. BP/DS/REG would make contact with FG to ask him what has happened. Action: REG/BP/DS/FG.

REG also mentioned the outstanding application from Sheri Morse (USA) in Slalom from the 2001 Jnr/Snr. Worlds which AH recalls having reviewed and denied but the paper-work is missing. AH will also email FG regarding the video tapes. Action: AH/FG

a) The required standard for multiple turns when reviewing Records (REG).
A little difference in opinion between the 3 Regions Record Review Reps who would look at some examples this week and try and agree on some common ground.

b) Skiers setting records at events abroad.
Following a request from Region EAME, the WBC confirmed that foreign skiers can set records and take part in a separate division within another Region's titled events. The Council confirmed that they are happy with the 3 applications from Keith St.Onge received from Region EAME after Keith took part in their EAME Championships the previous week.

11 IWSF Executive Board & IWSF Extraordinary Congress in September.

a) Letter of Agreement (LOA) for Titled Events.

A small working group comprising AH/DHF/DS/GD would meet during this week to agree the main points which we would like appended to the Barefoot LOA. This would be sent to GLD/AH/CM for delivering to the IWSF EB in France next month.

Thus far, the following had been agreed by the Working Group...

- A separate LOA for Barefoot.
- Remove sanction fee completely.
- LOC retains all commercial Boat, TV and Sponsorship rights.
- Small deposit to be paid at time of bid to act as performance guarantee, fully refunded once the Championships have been completed (say US\$1K).
- A capped entry fee (maximum US\$200 for 3 events or US\$70 per event entered) fixed for the next 2 years at least.
- All entry fee revenue shared with IWSF at ratio of say 60% LOC/40% IWSF.
- IWSF to provide, pay for and deliver Championship Medals.
- No entry fee if adequate sponsorship can be found.
- Remove obligation to provide skier's lunches.
- WBC members hosted by LOC for one day before, 2 days (max) and the day following their meeting.
- IWSF Guest (one only) hosted by LOC only for the days they attend the tournament on-site.
- Obligation on IWSF to ensure that all World Championships take place per our Rules.

On-going action: AH/DHF/GD/DS

b) Financial support for Sponsorship/World Cup Brochure.

There has been no movement on this so we are now dropping the brochure idea. We have other projects we need funding for that are frankly more realistic.

12 W B C Officials Division (BP).

a) Judges' Training Video.

BP would like each Region to contribute along with the IWSF to produce this. Region PanAm and EAME were not keen on this idea as they have their own systems in place for the training of officials which they were happy to share with AA if they need anything. EAME had already sent copies of all their training material to AA for them to do with as they wish.

b) Judges' Manual.

BP wants to progress this idea which would include assessment criteria for officials and a directory of World Officials.

Both these items would need funding and BP suggested USD3K from each Region and USD6K from IWSF. BP would like to see a representative from each of the 3 Regions to assist in delivering these 2 projects with BP acting as facilitator. Sue Carne (NZL) had been nominated to represent the AA Region. Both the PanAm and EAME Regions would be advising their representatives soon. Action: REG/AH

13 P P G and Rule Book Items.

a) C407/C1806/1906

Agreed to continue with this exception until further notice.

- b) Use of Level 1 Judges at World Junior & Senior Championships (AH).
It was confirmed that all judges at both the elite and Junior/Senior World Championships and the World Games have to be qualified to WBC Level One standard. Regrettably, this had not been the case at the 2001 World Junior & Senior Championships.
- c) Email voting procedure.
The following amendments were agreed and the PPG would be updated asap...
- An email vote can only be called by the President or Secretary.
 - Regional Chairman may instigate a vote.
 - There will be a max. 30 day discussion period from the date the second for the motion is received after which the call for votes will be announced by the President or Secretary.
 - Voting delegates will have 10 days to cast their votes. If all 9 are not received in time then phone calls to members will be made.
 - Regional Chairman must ensure their delegation cast their votes in time.
 - An extended discussion period may be granted it is felt required by the President or Secretary.
- d) C 204(b) - Request for Clarification from Region EAME.
Council confirmed that it is possible for a skier to deliberately opt out of skiing the semi-final if he so wishes. A skier does not have to ski in the semi-finals to be eligible to ski in the finals.
- e) 12 second pass (REG).
REG asked the Council to consider this option as it would make a lot more sites accessible for Barefoot. It would also mean that we could use the standard 3-event size lake as well. This idea found no favour with the Council but Regions were asked to solicit views and opinions and come back. Action: ALL.
- f) Positional turns during Reverse 540 turns and tik-tok 540's.
Why does the skier have to do the positional 180 turn when performing tik-tok 540's? Confirmed that he doesn't have to from now on. The positional turn can also be the reverse 540 in the tik-tok 540 sequence. A PPG clarification would be added asap stating that C1609(f) needs to change i.e. addor 540.... Action OM/AH

KR & FK joined the meeting. GLD's lack of communication is a problem for both the IWSF and the WBC. Whilst everyone is sympathetic to GLD's personal situation there are important issues that need attending to. If GLD is unable to meet the commitment then he must let AH know who may be able to respond or attend meetings in his place. The WBC were again grateful to KR for attending our Worlds, securing our hosts and also to FK for not only attending but also assisting in finding the venue for us, all at very short notice.

AH reminded KR that the IWSF must reduce the sanction fees to more acceptable levels as the present rates are too high and the money is not there to pay them. Ultimately, the IWSF should change the sanction fee system altogether to a much fairer system that sees all those Federations who participate via their Teams in a World titled event, contributing towards the costs.

14 Calendar items.

- a) Future World Championships - to consider any bids received.
Bid presented by PanAm on behalf of USA WaterSki for the 2003 Junior & Senior Worlds. Dates: 23-29 September 2003. Venue: Cyprus Gardens, USA. It's a short site - out of tolerance on length. Not very sheltered from the wind. Boats would have to be MasterCraft; although an outboard may be available. Entry fees: \$175.00 for Juniors and \$255.00 for Seniors. IWSF has been advised. WBC would not be hosted. In favour 7, none against with 1 abstention but not with the entry fees as they are. AH asked that a detailed

copy of the bid application exceptions be forwarded to all WBC members asap. Action:
DS/REG

Expression of interest for the 2004 Open Worlds in March/April 2004 from the AUS Federation via BP. 250K's north of Melbourne, 700K's south of Sydney at Mulawa Ski Club Lakes. Negotiations with the IWSF will begin soon after any possible changes to the LOA are known.

- b) Obligation of each Region to ensure their member federation(s) host future Championships.

Agreed as a good idea from REG. The cycle is now established as follows:-

- 2003 All IWSF Regions *
- 2004 AA (Open)
- 2005 EAME (Jnrs/Snrs)
- 2006 PanAm (Open)
- 2007 AA (Jnrs/Snrs)
- 2008 EAME (Open)
- 2009 PanAm (Jnrs/Snrs)
- 2010 AA (Open)...etc. etc.

* It was noted that if the current bid from USA WaterSki for the 2003 World Juniors & Seniors did not succeed then, at this time, there are no other known bids or expressions of interest from the PanAm Region Federations. It was therefore agreed that for 2004 all 3 Regions shared the responsibility for finding a host for the 2003 World Juniors and Senior Championships.

It was further noted that as discussed previously, the first combined Worlds may take place in 2006.

It was further agreed that effective immediately, a definitive announcement to host a World Championship can be no later than 8 months prior to the first day of familiarisation of the Championships concerned.

- c) 2005 World Games.

BG is our Delegate/Representative on the WG Organising Committee. The Games will be held in Duisberg, GER in August 2005. The web site is already up and running at <http://www.worldgames2005.org/>

15 Any other Business.

- a) Council MO

It was agreed that all correspondence received from the IWSF should be circulated to all WBC members. AH will ensure this happens with Kuno/Andrea at the IWSF Office in Bologna.

- b) Bids and involvement of WBC in acceptance of same.

The WBC must be kept fully apprised of any on-going bid negotiations between IWSF and the host Federation. It is the responsibility of the President of the Council to ensure this happens. The bid application should be sent to the WBC at the same time it is sent to the IWSF. It was proposed by REG and seconded by DS that any bid for a World Championships be sent to the WBC prior to its submission to the IWSF. 7 in favour, 1 against. It was acknowledged that this would be difficult to enforce as we have no control over Federations and how they propose to submit their bids, however, WBC should do their best to be involved at the earliest opportunity.

- c) 2002 World Championships - OUTCOMES FOR DISCUSSION.

- i) Compassion issue decision.

This decision was taken due to the error made by the Scorers in posting a semi-final start list which was incorrect. Agreed by majority: 5 in favour, 2 against. No precedent for future championships.

- ii) Consultation Paper from Skiers.

This had been presented to REG who will email round to everyone asap. Action: REG

iii) C1004a

To prevent the situation caused under item 15 (c) i. above, OM will redo C1004(a) and circulate this round for approval on his return to the USA. Action: OM

iv) Size of the Worlds Judging Panel.

AH suggested that in light of our discussions concerning the reduction of costs involved in hosting a World Championships, the WBC consider reducing the size of the panel. BP requested that when AH makes his proposal he accompanies it with details supporting his reasoning.

v) Tournament Director.

As CJ, BP had found it very difficult to effectively communicate his requirements to the Tournament Director here in Wallsee. BP accepted that this was mostly due to the language difficulties but this needs to be borne in mind when hosting events in countries where the first language of the CJ and the Tournament Director are not the same. BP was grateful to Christian Antos (AUT) whom he had asked to act as his unofficial interpreter during the tournament.

vi) Scorers Area.

It was agreed that it was not a good idea to have the Scorers and announcers working out of the same location. This must not happen at future Worlds. However, the Chief Scorer (REG) thought that it was a good set-up.

vii) Video operator issue with ACJ.

It was unfortunate that the ACJ at this Worlds was also the video operator. AH explained that he had asked Hilmar Wehner to make sure he found suitable assistants to help him take care of the video equipment during the tournament. Unfortunately, this had not happened.

viii) Sharing rooms in the officials hotel.

Whilst it was understood that due to the lack of rooms, some officials had to be paired up in the hotel, it was agreed that this is not desirable and should not be taken as precedent for the future. LOC's must provide single room accommodation for officials in their hotel.

ix) Use of best judges.

BP (as CJ) felt that he needed more direction from the Council in order to implement what had been agreed previously that the "best" judges from the pool of judges assigned to the Championships be used in the final rounds.

16 Date of next meeting.

The next meeting of the WBC would be held at the 2003 World Junior & Senior Championships.



Signed _____
Secretary

These minutes were approved by the World Barefoot Council on 12 October 2002 and have been signed by the Secretary on behalf of the Chairman.

Original text: English