

# WORLD BAREFOOT COUNCIL

## MEETING MINUTES



Meeting of the WBC  
On September 19th 2021

### Items and Actions

#### 1. ATTENDEES

**Geoff Blaauw - GB**

**Mike Molepske - MM**

**Svenja Hempelmann -SR**

**Rob Groen – ROB**

**Brian Price - BP**

**Gustavo Serrano -GS**

**Richard Gray- RG**

**Mark Shank - MS**

**Andy Harris - AH**

**Claire Mowday - CM**

**Ludo Vrancx - LV**

**Paul Adams - PA**

**Ben Groen - BG**

#### 2. 2022 JUNIOR OPEN WORLDS

The Victorian BWC had a meeting a couple weeks ago regarding hosting the event which was positively received.

There is still work to do with the amendments of the letter of agreement to suit the needs of the committee.

The event is being supported as a host committee and by WAWA.

All main parties in Australia support the event.

GB stated it is proposed for Feb/March 2023.

BP confirmed it will be held at Mulwala, with lots of work done in preparation including a new judge's facility and a new jump set up which has been installed.

#### 3. COMMITTEES

**GB** advised there's been a restructure in the committees, have a look who needs to be on those committees.

Thank you to Mike Molepske and Ludo Vrancx who have joined the world records committee, they will be under the guidance of AH & RG to settle into that position.

Whilst there are not a lot of records being set currently, GB proposes that we work on some quality runs and potential records in the past to train these gentlemen and maintain consistency moving forward.

**GB** mentioned plans on revising the structure and working on these committees and updating them. The following is the revised committees:

### **WORLD RECORDS**

Geoff Blaauw – (Chair) Oceania	<a href="mailto:geoff.blaauw@icloud.com">geoff.blaauw@icloud.com</a>
Richard Gray – Pan Am	<a href="mailto:g1footer@gmail.com">g1footer@gmail.com</a>
Andy Harris – EA	<a href="mailto:andy@matelot.demon.co.uk">andy@matelot.demon.co.uk</a>
Mike Molepske - Pan Am	<a href="mailto:mike.molepske@hotmail.com">mike.molepske@hotmail.com</a>
Ludo Vrancx - EA	<a href="mailto:go2foot@icloud.com">go2foot@icloud.com</a>

### **RULES**

Mark Shank – Chair - Pan Am	<a href="mailto:markshank@sbcglobal.net">markshank@sbcglobal.net</a>
Andy Harris - EA	<a href="mailto:andy@matelot.uk">andy@matelot.uk</a>
Claire Mowday -Oceania	<a href="mailto:claire.w@outlook.co.nz">claire.w@outlook.co.nz</a>
Ben Groen -Oceania	<a href="mailto:bgroen224@gmail.com">bgroen224@gmail.com</a>
Betsy Gilman - Pan Am	<a href="mailto:betsybarefoots@aol.com">betsybarefoots@aol.com</a>
Mike Molepske - Pan Am	<a href="mailto:mike.molepske@hotmail.com">mike.molepske@hotmail.com</a>
Richard Gray – Advisor - Pan Am	<a href="mailto:g1footer@gmail.com">g1footer@gmail.com</a>
Oscar Mann -Oceania	<a href="mailto:oscarfootmann@hotmail.com">oscarfootmann@hotmail.com</a>

### **ADMINISTRATION (PPG)**

Brian Price – Chair - Oceania	<a href="mailto:B.J.Price@bigpond.com">B.J.Price@bigpond.com</a>
Mike Holt - Pan Am	<a href="mailto:Mike@MikeHolt.com">Mike@MikeHolt.com</a>
Claire Mowday - Oceania	<a href="mailto:claire.w@outlook.co.nz">claire.w@outlook.co.nz</a>

### **OFFICIALS**

Mike Molepske – Chair - Pan Am	<a href="mailto:mike.molepske@hotmail.com">mike.molepske@hotmail.com</a>
Lyn Blaauw - Oceania	<a href="mailto:lynetteblaauw@icloud.com">lynetteblaauw@icloud.com</a>
Shannon Klahn. -	<a href="mailto:sklahn@bankfirstwi.bank">sklahn@bankfirstwi.bank</a>

### **HISTORY**

John Cornish – Chair - Pan Am	<a href="mailto:jmcscornish@gmail.com">jmcscornish@gmail.com</a>
Brian Price - Oceania	<a href="mailto:B.J.Price@bigpond.com">B.J.Price@bigpond.com</a>
Phillip Poyet -EA	<a href="mailto:poyetphilippe1@gmail.com">poyetphilippe1@gmail.com</a>

Greg Brown - Oceania	<a href="mailto:greg_waterski@y7mail.com">greg_waterski@y7mail.com</a>
Richard Gray - Pan Am	<a href="mailto:G1footer@gmail.com">G1footer@gmail.com</a>

#### AWARDS

Claire Mowday – Chair - Oceania	<a href="mailto:claire.w@outlook.co.nz">claire.w@outlook.co.nz</a>
---------------------------------	--

#### FEDERATION DEVELOPMENT

Gustavo Serrano	<a href="mailto:gustavoserranom@gmail.com">gustavoserranom@gmail.com</a>
-----------------	--

#### Lion Programme & EMS COMMITTEE

Tina McCauley - Chair - Pan Am	<a href="mailto:mccauleytina@gmail.co">mccauleytina@gmail.co</a>
Terry Jones – Pan Am	<a href="mailto:terry.jones@utoronto.ca">terry.jones@utoronto.ca</a>
Andy Harris– EAME	<a href="mailto:andy@matelot.uk">andy@matelot.uk</a>
Svenja Hempelmann - EAME	<a href="mailto:svenja.hempelmann@hotmail.de">svenja.hempelmann@hotmail.de</a>

#### SYSTEMS AND TECHNOLOGY

Rob Groen –	<a href="mailto:rob.groen193@outlook.com">rob.groen193@outlook.com</a>
-------------	--

#### SAFETY

Charlene Portman (Char)	<a href="mailto:ziggy48327@icloud.com">ziggy48327@icloud.com</a>
-------------------------	--

#### WEBSITE

Richard Gray	<a href="mailto:g1footer@gmail.com">g1footer@gmail.com</a>
--------------	--

#### JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT

Svenja Hempelmann - Chair - EA	<a href="mailto:svenja.hempelmann@hotmail.de">svenja.hempelmann@hotmail.de</a>
Betsy Gilman – Pan Am	<a href="mailto:betsybarefoots@aol.com">betsybarefoots@aol.com</a>
Pete O’Neill – Oceania	<a href="mailto:skiproshop@me.com">skiproshop@me.com</a>

#### ATHLETES REPRESENTATIVE

Ben Groen – Oceania	<a href="mailto:bgroen224@gmail.com">bgroen224@gmail.com</a>
---------------------	--

**RG** Re: records - clarified there is one representative from each of the regions EA, PanAm and AO, that actually adjudicate the records, the way GB has set it up, its GB, MM and LV that are the adjudicators and AH and RG are there to offer advice.

**GB** Until MM and LV are on the same wavelength, we want to maintain consistency as best as we can. GB would like them to accept the guidance until we are all up to speed.

**BP** Happy with that. Agreed one from each confederation.

#### 4. RULES COMMITTEE

**GB** The rules committee is as follows, Mark Shank, Andy Harris, Claire Mowday, Ben Groen, Betsy Gilman, Mike Molepske, Richard Gray, Oscar Mann.

**MS** mentioned Betsy is leaving the committee and I would like to add 2 more people to the committee. In Principle, we will go over this again, Mark has GB's support in whatever MS chooses to do in taking this forward.

**5. ADMIN COMMITTEE-** BP and MH

**BP** would like more volunteers on the admin, thinks we need to go a bit wider into the barefoot family.

**RG** To clarify, BP is the one doing the work on the committee, MH completes the work and reviews it.

**CM** agreed to help BP on the committee.

**6. LION PROGRAMME AND EMS**

Svenja to join the Lion Programme & EMS Committee.

**7. SAFETY COMMITTEE**

to be offered to Char Portland & Peter Franks, details for Char to be sent to GB from MS.

**8. IHOF**

**CM** IHOF nominations due by the 30<sup>th</sup> of September, 9 nominations to date. There will be no extensions so get the nominations in.

**CM** is in the process of gathering AOTY Nominations, normally due end of November, asked GB if AOTY will still be run this year?

**GB** noted the only discipline that would have nominees is Tournament, as they are the only ones that have held a tournament this year. Not sure how we would recognise athletes during this last year. Has been in contact with Paul Fong. Last year's athlete of the decade and athlete of the quarter century was terrific, we do need to recognise the athletes in our sport.

**CM** Hasn't been issuing reminders for nominations as the current times are unpredictable. Still taking nominations for the outstanding service awards, we may present that at either the worlds or the Senior worlds.

**GB** To clarify, on the IHOF we have John O'Neill, John Cornish and Hilmar Wehner, they're the 3 selectors with John O'Neill being the selector. They will be scrutinising nominations very carefully before submitting it the IHOF Scrutiny Committee

**GB** reminded It is the responsibility of the selectors to have the nominations in to the scrutiny committee by 30<sup>th</sup> November. Then they are passed on to the 2 members who thoroughly analyse the items in those nominations and then in December they will be reviewed, an announcement will take place in early January. Recipients will be aware just prior to the announcements.

**9. AWARDS**

**RG** asked Re: the website, if there was a 2019 AOTY could somebody forward that information to RG so he can update that on the website.

**CM** Will send through the information on 2019 AOTY.

**RG** Assuming there's no 2020 AOTY?

**CM** Correct

**RG** Could we update the page to say the reasons for no 2020 and 2021 AOTY due to the current Covid situation.

**CM** To complete and send to **RG**.

**GB** Will send an email with a few fixes for the website.

**RG** Outstanding service award, the listing of recipients only goes to 2012, CM to forward the missing information.

**BP** asked if the Honour Board had been updated?

**RG** It is only honorary members, the last member added was Oscar Mann, it is up to date.

## **10. RULES COMMITTEE**

**GB** Rules committee, Mark Shank doing an excellent job.

**MS** U23's - these are the 4 big questions they answered.

1. Should U23 skiers be required to qualify or should anyone in the division that signs up and is supported by their federation be allowed to ski?

In making that decision looked at the number of people in the age group that would sign up (it's not that large), so it was decided not to require qualifying.

2. Should there be a federation team for U23 skiers?

It was decided no, as there is a small number of skiers. The next 2 issues, once we designated U23's, we now need to redefine what an open skier is, we have defined that as anyone who's named for a team or qualifies as an independent.

3. Not exclusive to U23, what do we do with dual skiers?

We decided that top 15 skiers on the rankings list will ski in both their age division and opens, the rest will only ski in their age division but if they have a qualifying score in their division they will move up, but they won't replace anyone in open.

**RG** You said the top 15 skiers to ski in age division and opens, did you consider using the opens qualifying score in that cut off instead of top 15?

**MS** If you're not in the top 15, you most likely won't have a chance of getting a medal in the competition.

**RG** The qualifying score for the open division is based off the same philosophy that if you get a qualifying score to be allowed to ski in the open division, then you can make it to the next round and onto the podium. The qualifying score is designed that way.

**MS** asked would we have more skiers being dual skiers?

**RG** you'd have the same number.

**MS** Would we have the same number of skier's skiing at both open and in their age division?

**RG** The rules for a qualifying score are based on the rankings list and a percentage, you may have less women because top 15 in the world, the bottom of that list may not make the qualifying score. On the other hand, the men may have a qualifying score from 20<sup>th</sup> in the world.

**MS** Easy change, however, it is for the council to decide, and I am not on the council.

**GB** It's up to the rules committee, we'll need to take it back to them.

**BG** Clarified when you say the top whatever that will be, you are talking individuals for trick and slalom.

## **11. CHANGES TO TRICKS START POSITION**

**MS** Last year we added the toe sit down stand up and some of the skiers suggested that we allow them to get into the toe hold position before the trick starts. After seeing it done at Nationals MS agrees as that's how we treat a toe back, it wasn't a hard verbiage change it just allows a skier to either do a toe up and immediately do a toe sit down stand up or declare their first trick as the toe sit down stand up. We have changed 214D to accommodate the fact that we now use EMS, MS to send BP some PPG language

New trick- called a leap or a hop switch. Athlete starts in a one-foot BSP, leaps in the air and land on the other foot in BSP. The difference between this and a switch is the foot landed on, you land on the opposite foot. BG has shown us this backwards and forwards and we have decided this would be an easier and more difficult trick than a 1 foot hop, which we would pay 50.

Possible change to the Master's rule. The committee is split on this. The current requirement is that they post a positive score in Round 1. As all skiers ski 2 rounds at the Masters, it has been proposed that we remove that requirement. **MM** and **MS** disagree on this.

**MM** Thinks it's a lot to remember.

**MS** As the committee is split, MS would like the groups opinion.

**RG** Thinks the current rule provides incentive to get some points.

**BG** mentioned you're really talking about jumps here, it's about landing a jump. Is there a way to say land a positive jump?

**RG** I would say if you're missing your first few jumps and all you must do is land another jump to be able to ski in the finals and you can't land it then you probably shouldn't be jumping.

All agreed, No change to the rule.

## **12. EUROPE UPDATE**

**LV** Ran the Belgian nationals, there was Dutch skiers involved, most of the EU countries have had nationals now, some didn't due to COVID restrictions. Working on Next year's European championships.

Europe restrictions are lifting. LV has been the chief judge on the Italian nationals, he has been talking to the Italians about The 2024 Open Junior World's and there is some interest.

Will update when there is more information. Will be hosting a confederation meeting in Paris in November.

**GB** The goal for LV, is to find a place to host the worlds, Italy would be ideal.

## **13. PAN AM UPDATE**

US nationals have happened, 58 skiers in attendance in Texas, a decent turn out considering Covid, there was 11 other tournaments in the US this year, Canada had their nationals with 22 skiers.

The ABC president and vice president resigned so currently holding an election for the president and vice, the outcome is not known yet.

**GB** Richard Kaufman has stepped down from waterskiing due to injury, Paul Adams is his replacement for PanAm.

## **14. OCEANIA**

**BP** Reports circulated, stability in New Zealand as Ryan Crowe and Sarah Linton were reappointed to president and secretary in the NZB.

Australian AGM is coming up next week, John O'Neill's position is not up for election, he'll stay as president, however vice president and secretary are up for re-election.

Big program organised for Australia, approx. 80 events, same with NZ, still a bit to be finalised. Overall, Covid has still made an impact in Australia.

#### **15. OFFICIALS COMMITTEE**

**MM** EMS is up and running approx. 240 Officials have been verified, about 180-190 have accepted their invites, about 50 still need to accept.

We have a competition in September, if you get an average 80% on 4 quizzes you can win a WBC gift certificate or a vessel corps certificate, get 100% and you win a tshirt.

Note, of 240 officials, 148 have not met their quiz requirements. This means that if they are not passing by the end of the year they will be removed as officials.

MM is willing to do Zoom 1 on 1's. we upgraded 2 officials at nationals to level 2 and are looking to upgrade more to level 3 so we have enough officials going forward.

**SR** Some people are having trouble accessing the quizzes.

**MM** Advised that they will send a pdf version they can circle and send back.

**SR** Identified there may be some problems with officials not wanting to do quizzes.

**MM** the rules state that you must take the quizzes, if you don't take them then you will not be able to be an official, if English is a second language, we are more forgiving on the scores.

**PA** Confirmed website.

**ROB** I'll be completing mine in 2 weeks.

**GB** Clarified a level 2 judge should be at a world standard.

**MM** Correct, they should be able to see small details.

#### **16. WEBSITE**

**RG** any corrections or additions let RG know.

#### **17. ADMINISTRATION**

**BP** I've been working on that new PPG for example, telephonic meetings have been replaced with the words video meetings, committees ranking list has been deleted and replaced with the athletes representative committee, chapter 4 is completely rewritten and a few other minor amendments throughout the document, should be completed end of October with the intent to publish early 2022.

#### **18. THE MASTERS**

**MS** We have access to the venue In San Marco Texas, in May a Barefooter bought the lake and he's going to let us host the World Master's there. We have an excellent contingent of volunteers; we will list various positions needed and I would like some input on who we should assign.

**GB** the week of 25<sup>th</sup> September 2022 is the date of the Masters.

**GB** how far away is Houston Airport from the venue?

**MS** Houston is about 2.5hrs, Dallas is about 3.5hrs, Austin is about 45mins, and San Antonio is about 1hr.

## **19. FOOTVID**

**GB** It's been quiet on the FootVid front.

**BG** I find it quite difficult as tournaments tend to hype everyone up but no one has organised any footage.

**GB** The information is on the website.

## **20. GENERAL BUSINESS**

**AH** Regarding the Rankings and Standings list, we are updating the name on the website to reflect just "Rankings". The rolling rankings list will still have one tournament in Australia that needs to be updated which is the WA state championships.

**GB** Official Grants - Everyone needs to be working on those. It's a little bit of money but we need to make sure we're covering that and doing what we're asked.

## **21. MEETING ADJORNED**



