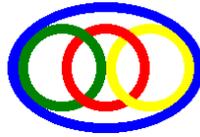


International Water Ski Federation World Barefoot Council

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MINUTES OF THE 19th MEETING OF THE WORLD BAREFOOT COUNCIL HELD IN FERGUS FALLS, USA ON TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY 21/22 AUGUST 2000

Present:-

REGION ASIA AUSTRALASIA (AA)

Graeme Dwyer (GD) - Chairman IWSF World Barefoot Council.
Brian Price (BP)
Clive Stephen (CS)

REGION EUROPE, AFRICA & MIDDLE EAST (EAME)

Andy Harris (AH) - Region EAME Chairman and Secretary IWSF World Barefoot Council.
Candido Moz (CM)
Rob McGlennon (RM)
Steffi Kirsch (SK) – Region EAME Substitute.

REGION PAN AMERICA (PANAM)

Oscar "Foot" Mann (OM) - Region PanAm Chairman.
Dale Stevens (DS)
Richard Gray (REG)

Apologies for absence:-

Brian Carroll – Region AA Chairman.

In attendance for part of the meeting:-

Franz Kirsch (FK) – Chief Judge 12th World Barefoot Championships.
Pat Koch (PK) – LOC 12th World Barefoot Championships.
Dawn Farrell (DF) – American Barefoot Club.
Gary Butler – American Barefoot Club (Judging Video Tapes)
Brian Heeney – Region PanAm Barefoot Council (Video Jump & World Standings)

GD welcomed everyone to Fergus Falls – it was good to be back here again.

1. To confirm the voting delegates from the 3 Regions.
Each Region confirmed its voting delegates as per the above list.
2. To deal with any matters arising from the minutes of the 18th meeting in Houston.
BP asked about progress on funding for the World Rule Book re-print. GD had spoken to Franz Kirsch and everything is in hand with George Blair.
3. Biennial election of Chairman.
GD was re-confirmed unanimously for a further 2 year term as WBC Chairman.

4. Chairman's Comments/Report.

GD tabled his written report which is attached to these minutes. Excellent work by GD, Geoff Davis and John Pennay after their recent trip to Japan to run a clinic and also review plans for the World Games. Many thanks also to the AUS Federation for funding John Pennay's costs. GD will write and thank them for their support.

The role of the Regions needs to be targeted in the Promotion and Development sphere with a goal of seeing Barefoot established in non-Barefoot Water Skiing countries. It was noted that Barefoot was becoming an established sport in Greece and that they had taken part in the 2000 EAME Championships.

GD's report was accepted by the Council.

5. To note items for A O B

a) The WBC and the IWSF.

6. Current Championships.

a) Report from the Chief Judge.

FK reported. Many thanks to the fantastic LOC. All looking good. FK was enjoying great support from his assistant Chief Judge - DS. The course length is longer than the rule book calls for – in particular, the run in from the start-dock-end of the course. This is an exception to rules which was accepted by the Council. The Council endorsed provisional scores from the boat and publication of printed results asap. Council endorsed calls for speed in either MPH or KPH. Speed tolerance will be ± 0.5 MPH or ± 1 KPH. Speeds can be called in whole KPH or half MPH increments. FK announced that this tournament will be his last one as an official of the sport. The Council formally acknowledged FK's 25 years of service to Barefoot Water Ski.

One item for FK to think about is that we need to be sure that the best judges are in the boat for the final rounds regardless of their Region or Country.

b) Welcome from LOC.

Pat Koch welcomed all and highlighted the support from the Fergus Falls City Council for these World Titles. GD asked PK to take the Council's best wishes and thanks back to all concerned for another wonderful Championships. The hospitality extended to everyone was incredible.

7. Reports from the Regions.

Region Pan America.

The Emailed report from OM was accepted. He added that the US Nationals held recently had been a great success. Some International officials attended and it was hoped that this would continue in the future. Canada are holding their Nationals next week. Promotion & Development missions to other countries within the Region are being planned; the first country to be visited will be Colombia. The Men's World trick record had been broken twice, first by Keith St. Onge and then, last week, by Ron Scarpa.

Region Europe, Africa & Middle East.

As attached – nothing to add.

Region Asia Australasia.

As tabled and attached. Participation is increasing again. The World Games is proving to be a big challenge but Japan have some good skiers so the Region is looking forward to seeing Barefoot established there in the run-up to the Games next August. The AA Barefoot Council are having difficulty with the Region AA Bureau in respect to response to correspondence and timely advice of Region meeting dates. GD to take this matter up in Athens.

8. Ratification of Records.

Keith St Onge USA, Men's Tricks 7490 at Sefner, FLA 10 June 2000 - APPROVED

Ron Scarpa USA, Men's Tricks at 7540 at Houston TX, 13 August 2000 - APPROVED

Gizella Halaz AUS, Women's Tricks at 3400, Sacramento CA, 31 July 2000 – APPROVED

Nadine De Villiers RSA, Woman's 3590 – cut the 1ft turn to the front. - DENIED

Matt Wright USA, Boys Jump at 24.6m, Houston TX, 21 August 1999 – APPROVED

There is still a problem with the Brian Fuch's slalom record of 20.5 from 1994. REG will review it again and check its validity.

We need to resolve the situation concerning the Junior and Senior Records. The lack of any decisions is costing our skiers and our reputation dearly. It was the intention to have the WBC Records Portfolio complete and up to date by the end of these Championships.

Junior Records

It was agreed to rescind the decision taken in Houston (Item 8c) and confirmed that the inaugural Junior records would be taken from when the first championships took place in 1995 i.e. Jason Lee's tricks and slalom. 7 for, 1 against and 1 abstention.

Clarified that age division records can be set anywhere so long as it's at a record capability homologation tournament.

Any possible record scores registered since Junior Worlds 1999 can be submitted up to 30 Sep 2000.

Senior Records

Review to be carried out for the slalom and tricks records as per the current procedure using L1 judges available here at the Championships.

See the attached for the complete up to date Records situation.

9. Promotion and Development.

a) WBC Web Site.

CS reported. Worldsport.com site has our information but we hear their future is uncertain. It was agreed that we need to resurrect our own pages within the IWSF site. Graziano Tognala would be asked to clarify the position with WorldSport.com and also how we go about re-launching the WBC Web Site at iwsf.com

b) World Cup.

The Promotion Brochure that EAME have produced looks great. RM explained the project. It was agreed to seek funding for a similar WBC Brochure from the IWSF – the goal being to attract sponsorship and funding for our World Cup Tour. Production and distribution costs would be around GBP3K. GD was requested to take the concept to World EB meeting in Athens and also to seek funding for the production and distribution of the brochure.

BP reported that he had been involved in talks with the organisers of the Moomba Masters. Discussions had centred around possibly running an "X" format competition at the Masters. BP will keep the Council advised of progress.

c) Asia and South America.

The idea is to bring more Federations into the Sport. Each Region to set a goal to get more countries involved with Barefoot by not only running training clinics but also helping to form a Barefoot Association within each Federation. The Council believe this is also a project that should be funded by the IWSF. GD will also raise this matter at the EB in Athens.. PanAm wish to target Colombia.

REG cited the case of an Argentine skier who has been trying to form a Barefoot Division within his Federation. This is (allegedly) being blocked by the Argentine Federation. GD will take this matter to the EB as well.

10. Review of IWSF World Title Obligations and Letter of Agreement.

We need certain exceptions for Barefoot. The financial guarantee is a major problem. Why cannot there be a separate set of obligations for Barefoot? There are three major sticking points:-

- Sanction fee levels – they are unrealistic.
- Drug testing policy – the costs of this should be borne by the IWSF, not the host federation/organiser.
- Financial guarantee – extremely difficult to achieve.

GD will talk with Dawn Farrell who has the latest feeling for these items. GD will take our thoughts back to the EB and see if he can make some headway in getting the levels of obligations reduced, essentially in the finance area.

11. Presentation from Brian Heeney.

a) WBC Standings and Rankings Lists.

The Council thanked Brian for his exceptional work on our behalf. There were a few small problems but Brian had managed to work through these with his associates from the other Regions. Brian wished to review the Excel format for the standings as follows:-

First Name, Last Name, Federation, DOB, Slalom score, Trick score,
Jump score

The ID number is unnecessary and it was agreed that it can be deleted. Brian was asked to communicate the new format to the Region associates. The revised format for the submission of data was approved.

b) Video Jump.

The Council reviewed the excellent presentation from Brian on set-up, record approval and judging procedures. The spreadsheet that he had produced to check the accuracy of the Corson system set-up would be circulated to all Council members. It was agreed that for future record claims, the data needs to be provided so that the spreadsheet can be used to verify the accuracy of the set-up.

12. WBC Medical Officer.

Dr. Jerry Smith (USA) is of great service to the Sport and needs to be recognised. Suggested we have a special recognition award (endorsed with titled event details). This was agreed. GD to discuss this at the next EB meeting.

13. Outstanding items for the Rule Book re-print.

- Deletion of the ride-out buoy as an aid to the judging of the Jump Event.
Approved. "Stable BSP" must remain in the wording.
- Timing of the Boat in the Jump Event.
Agreed that effective immediately, the boat judge decides if the boat speed is in error by visual check of the boat speedos. Timer stays in the boat and times every pass but if the time is out but the judge and driver call it in then the pass stands and is valid; no re-ride for speed needs to be offered. Mandatory timing for all maximum speed (72 KPH) passes and if the time is too fast, regardless of what the speedos say, a mandatory re-ride is given and the jump is annulled, as per the rules.
- Width of the Jump Course.
Reduce jump course width back to 4m to facilitate use of electronic timing – Approved.
- Maximum speed in Jump to be set at 72 kph.
Approved. The timing table needs to be amended – OM to action. Jump speed tables will be produced in both MPH and KPH.
- The "No Advantage" Rule.
It was agreed that this rule is too complex to have written into the main WBC Rule Book but we do need some words in the PPG. The main principle behind this proposal is that we introduce a policy that forbids the penalising of a skier if he/she performs an involuntary action [such as touching the water surface with the hand, unintentional bumming of the ramp] which does not advantageously influence in any way the action being performed.
- Judging philosophy on pauses between tricks.
This item ties in with the "No Advantage Rule" above.
- Tricks Points Review.
It was agreed that REG would be in charge of this item. He will circulate the spreadsheet once completed after receiving feedback from the skiers here at these Worlds, Council members and others. It would then be up to the Council to agree any outstanding issues. The deadline for completion of this task is 30 September 2000.
- Records Review Systems and Procedures.
REG is going to make the system better. For slalom, tricks and jump send the homologation form, the sheets and the tape straight to REG who will action promptly. We must never allow the situation of such a huge backlog of records to happen again.

AH remarked that we must do all we can to support REG in making the present system work. If we cannot provide a reasonable service to the Sport under the present system then the WBC must accept that a workable system needs to be in place that can provide such a service.
- Trimming of the Boat for Slalom.

After much discussion this proposal was agreed unanimously. Boats must provide 72 KPH as per the rules and if this means trimming the engine to achieve the minimum speed then so be it. It was agreed that this rule could be implemented and used at this tournament.

It was further agreed that in future, we permit the trimming of the engine on an individual skier request basis. The skier would have the option of whether they wanted the trim setting raised to achieve their desired speed. The skiers would have the choice to move the trim out from the homologator's default setting. After each pass, where an adjusted trim setting has been used, the driver must return the trim to the original default position as per the Homologator's setting. Rule C1101(a) would need to be amended.

- Force Majeur finals
Region EAME cited the case where a skier had a good elimination round score and a poor semi-final round score. Due to weather, the final rounds could not be run and the semi-final round scores were used to determine the event medal placing. EAME thought this was unfair and proposed that we use the best score of either round if no finals are held. Majority agreement 2 against and 5 for with 2 absent.
- 2-tier scores for turn tricks to the front instead of present 3-tier system.
PanAm proposed that we drop the present system as it was causing problems for judges and skiers alike. Where applicable it was agreed that there be only 2 types of trick – feet-to-feet and not feet-to-feet. Points would be as per the revised Table 1.
- Table 4 – wake definition for slalom.
Slalom is becoming extremely difficult to judge and skiers are finding it increasingly difficult to better their performances. It was proposed that the definitive wake area now be from crest to crest rather than from the current lift-off points half way up the wake curl. Agreed unanimously.
- Introductory level tricks.
It was felt that we should introduce some entry level tricks into the rule book. The trick point review would include these new tricks in Table 1.
- Limit on multiple surface turns.
It was agreed to raise the current limit to 8 x 1 foot turns and 8 x 2 foot turns.
- Reverse flips.
It was agreed to introduce the reverse wake-to-wake flip and the reverse wake flip. There would be a limit of a maximum of 3 flips that could be performed in a trick run (2 x 15 second passes). It was further clarified that any reverse flip could only be performed when it immediately followed the basic. Wake flips can only be performed from the inside out and the reverse could only be performed from the inside out on the opposite side to the basic. There is no reverse surface flip.
- New trick.
Jan Baillien (BEL) presented a new trick for the Council to consider. A video tape was shown and the new trick called the Wake-to-Wake Line Step to the front was

approved. The points value would be agreed later. Jan was invited to suggest a suitable name for his invention which would be recorded in the PPG.

- Preparation of Draw.
It emerged that there was some confusion as to who was responsible for this. It was confirmed that the Chief Scorer together with the Chief Judge are ultimately responsible. BP suggested that we make this clear in the World Rule Book and also indicate the data that is required to be presented in the Technical Obligations within the PPG.

14. P P G.

The Year 2000 issue was approved and adopted. The PPG would now need extensive updating which AH would do and then circulate to all members for approval. BP was asked to send electronic versions of his officials appraisal forms for inclusion in the PPG. There had been some problems with the distribution of the PPG. In future, AH will send it to all Council members and Brian Heeney so that it can be posted on the ABC Web Site.

15. WBC Officials Division.

a) Presentation from Gary Butler - WBC Judges Training Tape.

Gary had prepared tapes for Judging Clinics. We need a Level 1 tape and Gary is prepared to make it for us but needs guidelines on what type of footage to use. It was agreed that the tape needs to demonstrate examples of well performed and poorly performed tricks. BP offered to visit Gary in California on his way home from the Worlds to assist in the preparation of the WBC tape if suitable travel arrangements could be made. The Council thanked Gary for his excellent work for the Sport.

15. b) Seminar for Worlds Officials.

It was noted that the full one day seminar planned at the last meeting had not taken place. The 2 hour session with the officials the previous evening was insufficient and was poorly prepared. We need to do better in future if we are to improve the standard of judging, especially at World Championships.

16. Calendar items.

a) Combined Junior/Senior/Open World Championship.

The thought of running this kind of event was never out of our minds but in reality would be very difficult to achieve.

b) 2001 World Junior & Senior Championships.

i) Venue.

Intention to bid was received from NZL. Dates would be in April 2001. EAME felt it was too early to announce a World Championships in April 2001 now. Dec 2001 would be a much better option. CS to go back to the NZL executive and check. The EAME Delegation were asked to check that their Federations would support the event at that time of year.

ii) Nomination of Senior Officials.

CJ - Nominations: Claire Willard, Dale Stevens, Rob Molenkamp

ACJ – from Boat panel.

Homologator - Chico Cohen, Geoff Davis, Oscar "Foot" Mann.

Chief Scorer - Janet Wright.

c) 2001 World Games – Japan

i) Nomination of Senior Officials.

GD advised that we were allocated 5 officials for this event and the choice of which officials would be invited to attend was this Council's decision. The following names were on the table at this time as being willing to go:-

Richard Gray, Oscar "Foot" Mann, Brian Price, Claire Willard, Rob McGlennon, Birte Holter, Andy Harris, Candido Moz, Gerdy Bongaerts, Rob Molenkamp.

There may be other officials interested in being nominated. Region Chairmen were asked to submit any additional names as soon as possible.

ii. Selection Process for Invited Skiers.

Each Region was asked to poll its Federations to see who was willing to go the World Games. The Council would then make a decision on who would be invited to attend once this data was known.

GD reminded everyone that there were no event medals at the Games, only overall medals. We had been allocated 20 athlete places split between 13 Men and 7 Women.

d) 2002 World Championships.

A bid may be forthcoming from an EAME Federation.

e) 2003 World Junior & Senior Championships.

No bids received.

16. f) 2004 World Championships.
No bids received.
- g) 2005 World Junior & Senior Championships.
No bids received.
17. Any other Business.
a) Future with the IWSF.
It was hoped that the IWSF would look favourably at all the requests that GD is taking with him to the IWSF EB meetings in Athens. If the support from the EB was not forthcoming then several members would be voicing their extreme concern as to the question of why our Sport is part of the IWSF.
18. Date of next meeting.
Our next formal meetings would be held at the World Junior & Senior Championships. It was agreed that 2 full days would be needed prior to the start of the Competition.

Signed _____
Secretary

These minutes were approved by the World Barefoot Council on 25 October 2000 and have been signed by the Secretary on behalf of the Chairman.

Original text: English