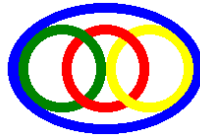


# International Water Ski Federation World Barefoot Council

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## MINUTES OF THE 20th MEETING OF THE WORLD BAREFOOT COUNCIL HELD IN WELLINGTON, NZL ON MONDAY and TUESDAY 28/29 JANUARY 2002

Present:-

### REGION ASIA AUSTRALASIA (AA)

Graeme Dwyer (GLD) – President: IWSF World Barefoot Council  
Clive Stephen (CS)  
Fred Groen (FG)

### REGION EUROPE, AFRICA & MIDDLE EAST (EAME)

Andy Harris (AH) – President: Region EAME and Secretary IWSF World Barefoot Council  
Birte Holter (BH)

### REGION PAN AMERICA (PANAM)

Richard Gray (REG) – President: Region PanAm (via telephone link)  
Dale Stevens (DS)

Apologies for absence:-

Richard Gray (REG) – President: Region PanAm (in person)  
Oscar "Foot" Mann – Region PanAm Delegate  
Candido Moz – Region EAME Delegate  
Rob McGlennon – Region EAME Delegate  
Brian Price (BP) – President: Region AA

In attendance:-

Geoff Davis – Region AA Substitute (GD).

GLD welcomed everyone to Wellington. The Council were most grateful to FG for hosting us in his company board room and putting all his facilities (including his secretary and a conference call phone line to the States) at our disposal. FG had also provided excellent catering facilities for us at no cost.

1. To confirm the voting delegates from the 3 Regions.  
Each Region confirmed its voting delegates as per the above list. Only full members of the WBC are entitled to vote. No proxy votes are permitted.
2. Matters arising from the minutes of the 19<sup>th</sup> meeting in Fergus Falls.  
GLD asked REG about the 20.5 slalom record of Brian Fuchs. REG had investigated this and found the tape review to be correct. Council accepted as valid and this matter is now closed.

Brian Heeney needs to be asked about the format for the World Standings Data submission which was varying from what has been agreed. Noted that Geoff Davis is now the Region AA Standings List Custodian replacing Brent Gallien whom the Council thanked for all his past years work.

3. Chairman's Comments/Report.  
GLD's report had been circulated and was accepted.

Discussion concerning use of GPS for speed measurement/checking during the jump event. Lets use it. Have 2 in the boat to enable accuracy checking in the same way as we have 2 speedo heads. Add in as an additional option in the PPG.

4. To note items for A O B.  
Relationship with IWSF (REG).
  - a) Report from the 2001 World Games in Akita.  
Report tabled from Claire Willard which was accepted by the Council.
  - b) Review of the 2001 World Junior & Senior Championships.
    - LOC very happy with the outcome but acknowledged accommodation problems.
    - Keeping the media updated was a problem due to lack of manpower.
    - Excellent competition web site prior to and during the tournament.
    - It was agreed that the challenge of hosting a Worlds for the first time in NZL had been successful. Many lessons had been learned for when they organise their next Championships.
    - Chief Judge (DS) mentioned safety concerns which had been addressed.
    - The only deviation from the rules was using G P S for speed measurement in the jump event – approved by Council.
5. Reports from the Regions.
  - a) Pan America.  
Report tabled and accepted from REG. FG questioned why the Malibu Response was included as an approved boat in the USA WaterSki Annual Boat Tests when its performance is questionable. AH warned against alienating boat manufacturers.
  - b) Europe, Africa & Middle East.  
Report circulated – nothing to add. EAME are doing all they can on several fronts to ensure that the 2002 World Championships take place this coming Summer in the EAME Region. AH will keep everyone advised of the situation.
  - c) Asia Australasia.  
Report to follow.
6. Ratification of Records.
  - a) REG tabled his reports detailing all the ratified records to date. DS advised the approved records from the 2001 Championships just finished. REG would like to be advised of a second reviewer from each Region so that delays can be avoided if the main reviewer is unavailable. Regions to advise their second reviewers asap. DA suggested we should be aiming for access to the runs via the Internet through a web site. REG will pursue this.  
  
Council ratified all records approved as per the attached lists.
  - b) Records Review/Processing Procedure (EAME).  
EAME withdrew this item as it was felt that we should allow the new system to run bearing in mind the undertaking that REG had given to have a record processed to completion with 30 days of receipt by REG.
7. Promotion and Development.
  - a) WBC Web Site.  
CS cannot fulfil this role as web page writing is not his profession and he is at full stretch keeping the NZL Web Site up to date. GD offered to assist with this using the page space we have available at iwsf.com GD will also talk to Evan Berger who can help with web page design.
  - b) World Cup Brochure.

GLD had not attempted to secure the funding for this initiative as he agreed he would at our last meeting. GLD will do so immediately he returns home and will make contact with RM as to the outcome.

c) Barefoot in Colombia.

REG is handling this project. GLD reminded the Council that this is not just a case of sending a coach down there; we must aim to see a formal Barefoot division set-up. REG to put a costing together for GLD to take back to the IWSF so he can seek funding.

- d) Barefoot in Turkey & Israel.  
AH advised that there was now Barefoot activity within these 2 federations.
- e) Barefoot in Japan.  
Grateful thanks to GD for his brilliant work in Japan which is now seeing skiers entering international competitions.
- f) Barefoot at the Moomba Masters.  
BP is still trying to get this returned as a feature at the Moomba Masters.
- g) Combined Elite, Junior & Senior World Championships.  
GLD had requested some figures from CS on his proposal. GLD had done some research on this idea and he presented his findings based on 150 competitors. We would have to restrict the entry down and the staffing burden would need careful consideration. A tournament like this would take 2 weeks in its present form – this is unrealistic.

A huge topic for serious thought and much discussion (again). DS to prepare a S.W.O.T. analysis for consideration. GD will produce a paper detailing his thoughts as well.

- h) The financial burden of running a World Championship.  
Another big discussion. How can we reduce the cost of running a Worlds? Very difficult subject. Agreed to produce written evidence of the costs involved for GLD to take to the EB. AH requested detailed profit and loss account from these championships which CS and FG agreed to provide. AH emphasised that the figures must show a total true cost analysis of all income and expenditure relating to the tournament we have just finished.
- i) The Final round - Conventional or Xtreme Format?  
Council do not want to change the format of the 3<sup>rd</sup> round. Keep the existing format but let's include "other" formats of competition within a Worlds in future. FG has demonstrated to us that this can work. We could include this within our own supplementary obligations in the PPG. But there is a time consideration and it was confirmed that the primary objective must always be the completion of the World Championships.

8. P P G and Rule Book Items.

- a) C407/C1806/1906 – Exception.  
Agreed to keep this exception in for the 2002 Worlds.
- b) Approval and adoption of 2002 Edition of the P P G.  
Accepted and approved.
- c) Evaluation forms for Officials.  
BP had promised to send them to AH electronically so they could be included within the PPG but they have not yet arrived.
- d) Proposed Rule Change for Towlines from Peter Fleck (USA).  
All members had studied Peter's suggestions. Agreed that we will permit a longer line in the slalom event but not at a World Championships. The PPG will be amended to suit.
- e) The Slalom Event - Audio Slalom Trials.  
AH is looking at this as a possibility for Barefoot. GLD asked how do you adjust for different wakes and speeds? AH will find out.
- f) Clarification of Imperfect toe-hold a.k.a. touch strap.  
New wording will be added into the PPG as follows:-

There is now a downgraded version where the skier, having placed his foot inside the toe strap, and is unsuccessful in releasing his hands from the handle, will incur a 50 point deduction. This is not a separate trick and is classed as an imperfect toe hold. It must be emphasised that this manoeuvre must be seen by the judges as the skier truly attempting the toe-hold trick. A toe-handle must be used appropriate to the trick being attempted. Only one imperfect toe hold may be credited in any one 15 second pass.

Note: DS would like this item re-visited at the next meeting as some USA skiers are using front-toe handles to do back-toe tricks.

g) One foot 180° tumbleturn deduction.

A failed 180° one-foot tumble currently scores zero for non-completion of the 180° element of the trick. FG felt this was unfair. AH recalled a discussion on it during the rule book re-write and it was agreed at the time that this was the way we wanted it.

After further discussion, it was agreed that some new wording be put in the PPG as follows:-

A 180° 1 foot tumbleturn shall go at least to 180° before reversing. This shall be judged from the position of the one foot on which the skier intends to stand up on, which must rotate back to a point trailing the skier and at least in line with the rope. A skier will receive a 75 point penalty if the skier passes 90° but does not reach the full 180° when attempting a 1 foot 180° tumbleturn.

h) Back flying start - handle pass.

It was agreed that it is not permitted to trail the handle and line between the legs in preparation for this start. The skier, facing in the direction of travel of the boat, must complete the handle pass while he is in the air and turning in to the back position for his landing on to the water.

i) Tower starts.

It was confirmed that the same rules for flying starts also apply to tower starts. The PPG will be amended.

j) Overall placement with 1 or 2 event scores.

Raised again by CS/FG and supported by REG who feel that all skiers who only score in any two events or even any one event should also place in the overall. AH demonstrated the reasons for the overall rules being the way they are and we had made exceptions on the grounds of possible safety issues for the Juniors and Seniors. The EAME Region will fight any moves to see this extended to the Open divisions. As for skiers with only one score placing in the overall, AH found that idea positively ludicrous! In addition, AH was not happy that we discuss a fundamental item such as this without prior notice.

BH also argued the case from the EAME perspective – she only wished that everyone understood Norwegian!

GLD said that the problem is exacerbated by the way the World Standings are presented in one consolidated spread sheet which sorts on the overall score if one is there. Why are we circulating this list in this format? There should be four separate lists for each age division. AH will speak with Brian Heeney about this in the hope that producing the lists in the desired format as per the PPG will allay the concerns of those members who feel the overall should be for everyone. It was agreed that a decision on this would be taken within 3 months by email vote.

9. Calendar items.

Nominations for the Officials for the 2002 World Championships will be forthcoming once the venue is known.

There were no other bids for World titled events at this time. The 2005 World Games would be held in Duisberg, GER.

10. Any other Business.

a) World Standings List.

Confirmation of the format for the submission of data. Check the PPG for any contradiction. The format below was thought to be the current requirement.

| First Name, Last Name, Federation | DOB | Slalom score | Trick score | Jump score | Tournament  
where set |

The 3 Region Standings List Custodians were responsible for liaising with each other to ensure that the data is submitted in a uniform standard to make the work of the World Standings List Custodian as easy as possible.

10. b) Relationship with IWSF.

REG had raised this item which had been covered elsewhere during the meeting under items 7(g) & (h). The majority of Federations need the IWSF to secure funding so breaking away is not an option. What we have to do is work with Federations and via GLD on the Executive Board to make things easier for Barefoot. It is no good just talking about it, there must be some action and it is incumbent on all members to go back to their Federations via their Region Councils and lobby hard for them to insist on change. At the same time, GLD must continue to strive for change at the EB. We must bring fresh new initiatives to the IWSF EB for them to consider as they are (regrettably) very much a re-active rather than pro-active group, although we hope that with a new President in place things will change.

The Council were grateful for IWSF President Kuno Ritschard's attendance at the Championships. Kuno had been impressed with what he had seen and during informal discussions with WBC members and various others including the Region AA Barefoot Council who had met during the Championships, Kuno had stated that it is important that the 2002 Open Worlds take place. Both he and the IWSF Executive Director were working to seek a bid for the Championships within EAME.

11. Date of next meeting.

The next meeting would be held at the next World Championships wherever they may be.

With thanks again to FG for his wonderful hospitality, GLD closed the meeting thanking all members for attending. We hope to see everyone again in 6 months time.



Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

These minutes were approved by the World Barefoot Council on 3 March 2002 and have been signed by the Secretary on behalf of the Chairman.

Original text: English