

WORLD BAREFOOT COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES



**Meeting of the WBC
On 6/7 February 2021**

Items and Actions

1. ATTENDEES

Paul Turner (PT)
Geoff Blaauw (GB)
Brian Price (BP)
Claire Mowday (CM)
Richard Kaufman (RK)
Richard Gray (RG)
Andy Harris (AH)
Mike Molepske (MM)
Ludo Vrancx (LV)
Ben Groen (BGR)
Rob Groen (RG)
Svenja Hempelmann (SH)
Mark Shank (MS)
Gustavo Serrano (GS)
Betsy Gilman (BGI)
Paul Adams (PA)

2. 2022 JUNIOR OPEN WORLDS – Geoff Blaauw

No host has been secured as yet. The aim is to secure a bid from Europe as the host.

2022 is potentially too early to secure a host for the Junior Open Worlds. 2023 may be more suitable.

3. 2020 JUNIOR WORLDS TOURNAMENT – Geoff Blaauw

The 2020 Junior Worlds Tournament was a great success.

The Tournament was addressed as a World Championships in a number of online posts.

It was confirmed that this should have been advertised as a Tournament, not a World Championships.

It was simply not possible to police all posts online.

4. 2021 MASTERS – Mark Shank

The 2021 Masters are currently proceeding with bookings and signing contracts with hotels etc.

With multiple countries under strict lockdown, the question is whether the Championships should continue.

As a Council, it is time to make decisions about upcoming events, and what should happen moving forwards.

It is important to note that Waterski NZ & AUS aren't able to obtain any insurance at this stage, which is making it challenging to book any events.

MM suggests pushing the masters to 2022 and pushing the opens to 2023, so that there is more certainty.

RG commented that the message going out should be that we are postponing all championships until COVID Restrictions allow events to be run.

MS commented that he would like to postpone indefinitely. He feels that it is unrealistic to expect to hold a Tournament in Florida this October.

The Council agreed to postpone the Masters indefinitely.

The Masters were planned to be held in Winterhaven as a very social event.

MS commented that he would require a minimum of 10 months to plan this event once re-scheduled.

MS will write an entry for the newsletter, which will be reviewed by RG and endorsed by the Council.

The Newsletter will contain the announcement that the Masters has been postponed indefinitely.

The Council intends to meet in 6 months' time to discuss further.

Question from AH – What is happening with the World Waterski Championships?

GB advised that the IWWF have a dedicated COVID-19 group, which includes Medical Advice on which direction the disciplines should take.

GB commented that Racing & Disabled have been postponed – Wakeboard, Under 21s, & Waterski are still continuing at this stage.

BGI commented that she wouldn't suggest considering the US for Tournaments for some time, with their current COVID-19 statistics.

The next Junior and Open Championships will be run together. If this Championships is run in 2023, The Under 19's and Under 21's may also join the Championships.

5. IHOF – Geoff Blaauw

All is travelling smoothly.

Barefoot Nominations will be due end of 2021. Confirmation that Barefoot IHOF is in the odd years, to then be presented in the even years at the World Championships.

Closing date for nominations will likely be 31 December each year. Confirmation of this is yet to be announced.

6. HISTORY – GB

Travelling well.

7. TECHNOLOGY – Rob Groen

Nothing to add.

8. RULES COMMITTEE – Mark Shank

Nothing to add.

9. OFFICIALS COMMITTEE – Mike Molepske

Currently updating the WBC Officials list, including updating new officials. The Officials in the US, Canada, Mexico, NZ & AUS, are all up to date.

Once the European Officials are up to date, all Official's details will be uploaded to the EMS.

Moving forward, all upgrades to current Officials, and adding new officials, will go through the Officials Committee of Mike Molepske, Shannon, Lyn Blaauw & Paul Turner.

Once all details are uploaded into the EMS, there will be new quizzes available, and regular reminders will be sent out to Officials to complete the quizzes.

The Officials Committee are going to run a competition.

Anyone who gets 80% in 4 quizzes will go into the draw to win one of 5x \$200 vouchers for Brendan Paige's company.

Oscar Mann is offering a Homologated Line to any official who gets 100% in any of the Official's quizzes in 3 minutes.

Asking the Records committee to make sure that the appropriate officials are present for records, ensuring those present can verify the record.

10. AWARDS – Claire Mowday

The IWWF are looking at announcing the Athlete of the Decade and the last 25 years in early April.

The recipients are to be kept confidential until that time.

There are 2 Outstanding Service Awards, for Geoff Davis & Dale Stevens which have not been presented as yet. These were originally planned to be presented at the 2020 Worlds.

One of these will hopefully be presented at the Australian Nationals.

Presentation of the Athlete of the Decade and 25 years awards were supposed to be at the 75th which is now postponed indefinitely.

11. WEBSITE – Richard Gray

Quiz links etc are in the process of being updated, however have not been fixed as yet.

RG has sent some questions to GB for other website details.

12. ADMIN – Brian Price

BP had no intention of reviewing the code of conduct. GB Commented that other Confederations may need a reminder to assess their code of conduct for relevancy and to ensure that everything is up to date.

There are some forms that are being updated online currently. RK Suggests that these forms be available to complete online, rather than forms to be downloaded, completed, and uploaded.

13. EMS – Geoff Blaauw

EMS - the skier will register themselves in the competition, and in the coming months the skier will also pay their tournament fees in the EMS at the same time as registering. GB would like to see people familiarising themselves with the EMS and Registering themselves. Moving forward, the organiser will set a deadline that the skier will have to have register and pay by, through the EMS.

AUS, NZ and Oceania will be the first to run tournaments on the EMS.

Each Federation will be required to have at least one person from their Barefoot Division as the EMS Administrator for their Federation.

Each club is responsible for educating their skiers on how to register for the competitions.

NOTE: WAWA negotiated a one-off fee for all Australian skiers so that the skier didn't have to pay the \$25USD to be on the ranking list.

MM noted that Officials in the EMS, should not have Administrative rights in the system. GB will look at these rights and come back to MM.

14. GENERAL BUSINESS

RG asked BGR for a report on the Ski School industry. BGR reported that the industry is currently devastated. The Ski School would usually have a lot of people through from Canada and Europe over Christmas. US Schools and Colleges have already chosen not to have a Spring break, as they are discouraging travelling.

As a Ski School the past year has been down on previous years, online sales have been positive.

Proposal to the council to run a tournament where skiers submit their best 2 passes. Doesn't matter the boat, doesn't matter the people in the boat. This would be run for Juniors, Opens and Seniors.

Geoff will draft the tournament and circulate to the Council.

If the video is not of high quality, the video won't be used.

RK suggested organising a Zoom with all the skiers from the 2020 Junior Worlds Tournament, including bringing in some mentors to have a dinner together. RK is going to put something together. Certificates and videos are going to be sent out shortly. RG is happy to chat with RK as he has attended something similar for a UNI Graduation.

RG thanked GS for the last tournament in Mexico. It was very memorable.

15. MEETING ADJORNED