



EUROPEAN DRAGON BOAT FEDERATION

Registered Office: c/o HKTA 16 Bruton Street, London W1X 3LB, England

Reply to: De Haukes 100, 1778 KD Westerland, The Netherlands
Tel +31 (0)624 65 8824 or E-mail kim.edbf@xs4all.nl

Minutes 25th EDBF AGA

28 July 2014, Racice, Czech Republic

Present:	Alan van Caubergh	Chairman	NL
	Claudio Schermi	Sr. Vice Chair	IT
	Peter Jarosi	2nd Vice Chair (ex-officio, non-voting)	HU
	Natalia Kravtsova	Treasurer	UKR
	Kimberly Beckwith	Secretary General	NL

EDBF Members:

Founding members (voting):	Robin Magnusson	SWE
	Joerg Froitzheim	GER

Commissions:

ComSpec	Bridget Walter (voting SWI)	SWI
M&M	Nils Asmussen	GER

Members (voting):	Valerii Morgun	UKR
	Julie Doyle	IRL
	Peter Jarosi	HU

Also attending (non-voting):	Edina Hangya	HU
	Nadia Budzynska	UKR
	Roman Vernkhoff (temporary)	EST

Absent:

Petr Klima (2nd VC ex-officio) CZ, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, France, Great Britain, Greece, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Moldova, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, Spain, Turkey

Commissions (non-voting): Antonio de Lucia (FIDB) SmedCom, TechComm (vacant)

(proxy vote given for Norway, Austria – only Austria notified in writing in accordance with Statutes 8.4 so only accepted proxy vote)



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1. Opening of the assembly, including roll call of members and their representatives and formal welcome to temporary members
 - 1.1. Apologies were received from Mike Haslam, EDBF President.
 - 1.2. The meeting was formally opened at 09.21hrs. Less than 1/3 of the governing members were present (6 of 33) so no quorum was attained. The meeting will be seen as preparation for November extraordinary assembly.
 - 1.3. CS proposes that each country attending can represent up to 2 members – asks for mail vote to approve [KB: EDBF statutes 8.4 allow this – if representation is notified in writing to the chairholder]
 - 1.4. An analysis needs to be carried out on our real membership numbers. Some countries are listed as members, but are inactive. The real membership is those countries that actually turn up to the championships.
 - 1.5. AvC welcomed Roman Vernkhoff from Estonia to his first EDBF AGA.
 - 1.6. The lack of attendance by the EDBF members needs to be resolved as a continued lack of a quorum at these meetings is preventing the EDBF from moving forward with decisions.
 - 1.7. KB advised that she was trying to resolve the issue by notifying the members in advance of the meeting in order that they could vote by email.
 - 1.8. It was suggested that the EDBF give financial support to those countries that cannot afford to attend the AGA.
2. Confirmation of the Agenda
 - 2.1. Agenda confirmed as published.
3. Acceptance of the Minutes of the 24th AGA Meeting
 - 3.1. Minute 6.1 – BW requested clarification as to what date it was known that the 11th European Nations Championships was swapped from Brno to Racice in the Czech Republic. This information was unknown [KB: 28 November 2013]. BW advised that she had booked a flight to go to Brno to carry out a site visit in November 2013, all as agreed with Petr Klima. Once the actual date was set Petr then advised he was unavailable. BW to charge the wasted flight costs through to Petr Klima against these championships.
 - 3.2. Minutes of the Meeting of the 24th EDBF Annual General Assembly were accepted as presented.
4. Appointment of Scrutineers for the Assembly



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- 4.1. Bridget Walter (SWI) and Robin Magnusson (SWE) were appointed as scrutineers for the Assembly.

[Nils Asmussen left the meeting at 10.15hrs]

5. EDBF Chair Holder's Report

A. the work of the Council and Board

- 5.1. AvC visited Norway to try and resolve the Norwegian issue with the Canoe/Kayak Federation. A friendly meeting was held and they assured AvC that they were not interested in taking over dragon boating in Norway.
- 5.2. In October 2013 AvC visited Bucharest in Romania. Romania is now starting to move forward with dragon boating in the country.
- 5.3. AvC attended the International Sports Forum in Lausanne in November 2013 with the intent of strengthening international connections with other countries.
- 5.4. In December 2013 AvC visited the principality of Monaco with Mike Haslam on behalf of the EDBF and IDBF. Monaco is a small community of approximately 8,500 people whose population at times swells to 200,000. Although small it means that everyone normally gets involved with new activities. Clarence John of Monaco is starting at the schools level with the dragon boating and developing up from there. No event dates have yet been set as they would like to develop the sport more slowly. It was noted that Monaco only has a harbour to race in, as there are no lakes or rivers suitable.
- 5.5. In February 2014 AvC visited Ukraine and met the new President and Vice President of the UDBF which has now re-structured. The UDBF want to step up and within the next 3 years show Europe that they are capable of running an international event. Intend to bid on 2015, but EDBF/IDBF want them to develop further first; they are planning on holding an Eastern Europe Championships.
- 5.6. On 22nd and 23rd March 2014 AvC visited Dragon Boat Innovate in Murcia, Spain. The scheduled meeting with the ICF to discuss how dragon boating could come under the governing body of the Spanish DBF rather than the Spanish CF did not happen as the ICF representative did not turn up.
- 5.7. AvC advised that there is still currently a problem with the way the French federal sport governing system is set up. Team France would not be allowed to be represented at an EDBF or IDBF Championships, they would have to come under another name and if they were to win, their national anthem could not be played. AvC is staying in contact as France would like to run an EDBF Nations Championships in 2017. Currently dragon boating is under the control of the French Canoe Federation and they want to charge for everything.



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5.8. Situation in Turkey is similar – under control of Turkish CF who want lots of money from each db participant (\$15) for their “ responsibility”. JF wants to know if there is a way to notify IOC of these questionable practices. AvC says no, we are not yet an IOC member.

5.9. On 27th July 2014 in Racice, Czech Republic AvC had a meeting with Vladimir Taraschenko from Moldova. They currently have a group of 20 members who are interested in the sport, but need assistance with equipment. AvC to forward the details to the IDBF to see if they can assist with some development boats.

5.10. RM advised that he had tried to make contact with Denmark and invite them to one of the competitions in Sweden, but had had no response.

B. List of new members for approval

5.11. New member Monaco has requested approval from Temporary to Basic Member – Approved????

6. Reports from the EDBF Commissions

6.1. No reports were presented.

7. Financial Report, Approval of Account and Budgets

7.1. It was noted that it was important that time was made to review the Financial Report.

7.2. JD advised that she had requested the 2013 Accounts in January 2014, but had only received a copy a few days ago, therefore no audit has been carried out.

7.3. NK presented her Financial Report. [KB: NK please provide copy for sec gen archives]

7.4. It was noted the importance for the Treasurer to keep chasing unpaid membership bills. An invoice should be sent out to all European countries in January/February requesting payment of annual membership and making it clear that countries will not be allowed to race at Championships without their bill being settled.

7.5. A query was raised regarding the outstanding fee of €6,345.00 from Sabaudia 2008. It was explained that this was where the Czech Republic had said they had paid their admin fee, but the Italian organising committee said they did not receive it. Neither party were able to produce any documentation to substantiate their claims. It was decided that this debt would remain in the accounts until CS held another event and then the Treasurer would chase once again for payment. Following this incident it was decided thereafter that all Registration Fees would be paid direct to the EDBF.

8. Confirmation of Annual Fees proposed by the Board



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8.1. NK advised there would be a deficit at year end against the 2014 budget forecast, therefore there is a need to raise the paddler fee at an EDBF Championships from €10 to €15/head.

Proposal to go forward to November extraordinary general assembly. [KB: will have to go to Summer 2015 AGA]

9. Elections of Officers and Member's Representatives of the Council

9.1. Ref: Election scheme dated 21/8/13 15:59: It was proposed that the 2nd Vice Chairman is also elected in November along with the Chairman in order that there is not such a big changeover of committee members all in one year, as is currently detailed in the election scheme. Vote: For 9 (people present & proxy vote) / Against 0 (in room). KB to make this clear when sending out nomination papers. **Proposal to go forward to November extraordinary general assembly. [KB: will have to go to Summer 2015 AGA]**

10. Motions before the Assembly, including Appeals, Statute Amendments

10.1. No motions were put forward.

11. Confirming the Time and Place of EDBF Championships

11.1. Under the EDBF rules bids for an EDBF Championship should be submitted at least 2 years in advance of a Championships date, therefore any new bids recently received i.e. Ukraine for the 2015 European Club Crew Championships cannot be considered. Also with the 2015 championships only one year away the host nation has to be one that we know can be trusted to deliver a championship to the required standards.

11.2. 2015 European Club Crew Championships – PJ confirmed that their offer to run this event in Budapest at the same site as the 2009 European Club Crew Championships is still valid. It was agreed that the event will be run in Budapest, Hungary. Before the event date can be set PJ needs to coordinate with the organisers of the World Championships in Canada. **[KB: this was decided with a simple majority vote for practical purposes – EDBF cannot go forward without a championship date and location notified, also covered under EDBF Statutes, article 10.2.2]**

11.3. 12th European Nations Championships 2016 – Intentions to bid have been received from Ukraine, Italy (Genoa or Ravenna) and Estonia (Talin). **It was requested that all 3 countries put forward their full presentation at the meeting in November.**

11.4. 2017 European Club Crew Championships – Ukraine and France have both indicated they would like to bid for an EDBF Championship.

11.5. Petr Kima has also offered to run any future championships in the Czech Republic.



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- 11.6. It was noted that the EDBF wish to go to new countries and support them with their dragon boat development. However sufficient time needs to be given to allow them to develop and market the event sufficiently.
12. Any Other Business notified by Members or the Board or Council
- 12.1. Much discussion went into what we could do to attract more participants to EDBF Championships.
- 12.2. More energy needs to be focused on those developing countries to try and encourage them to send teams to the EDBF Championships. Also to find out why certain countries decline to attend Championships.
- 12.3. Crews are choosing to attend festival type events rather than Championship Events where there are a lot more crews to race against. The EDBF perhaps needs to make their own events more attractive e.g. drinks party or something similar to add to the atmosphere of the event.
- 12.4. It was noted that it is important for crews to have a good experience at the medal ceremony. EDBF/IDBF VIPs should present medals – more respectful for athletes. Race medal presentations far under expectations. Problems with crews racing or watching their country's paddlers racing during medal ceremonies for some classes.
- 12.5. More spectators are required to make the event look more impressive. Europe seems to struggle in this area compared to say China. CS notes that an event is not just the on-water activities.
- 12.6. Do the EDBF run too many races over a short space of time? The GB junior team were exhausted at this event and the officials' team were also tired. But if the number of races is reduced for a team would we lose more paddlers?
- 12.7. How can we attract more IDBF race officials and volunteers to assist at the EDBF events? The officials' team at this event was on minimum numbers, but managed to run the event very well.
- 12.8. KB to send an email out to all the EDBF members and request a list of what they feel could be done to improve the EDBF championships and what they want at a championship. This summarised list can then be discussed in detail at the November AGA. **[KB: I was not aware of this action point – will discuss at November working meeting]**
- 12.9. The event income for the Championship Director is also an important factor when organising an event. The Bye Laws state that the organiser should start with no charge to the competitor and then build up to a maximum figure of €50/head. The organiser should negotiate this figure with the EDBF Board before it is charged. Is this a realistic charge? If a



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country has no money for the championships why are they putting in a bid in the first instance?

12.10. It was noted that most of the cost for crews is associated with travel & accommodation. The event admin fee is not a deciding factor on whether they decide to go to an event or not. The ruling on admin fee charges may need to be changed. **AvC asks members present to submit proposals for rule change regarding funding EDBF champs if they do not agree with current regatta fee structure.**

12.11. **AvC asks members present to prepare proposals for November for ways to increase attendance at championships.**

13. Date and Place of the Next Meeting

13.1. Date of November extraordinary general assembly meeting: Arrive evening of Thursday, 20th November 2014 – Sunday, 23rd November 2014 which would allow the group to work Friday, Saturday and Sunday morning. [KB: After consultation with Chair & Sec Gen, starting time/date meeting moved to 21 Nov, 14:00 to allow for delegates to travel with minimal need to take personal time from work.]

13.2. Place to be confirmed – Options: 1) Budapest, Hungary; 2) Talin, Estonia; 3) Murcia, Spain. All 3 federations would be invited to send in budget proposals to AvC within the next week. Once the EDBF Board has detailed proposals back from the potential hosts a location will be chosen considering ease of access from throughout Europe, value for money and scouting future championship locations.

Meeting formally closed at 12.27hrs.

Respectfully submitted,

K.M. Beckwith, EDBF Secretary General

(with much thanks to Julie Doyle, President Irish DBA for taking the meeting minutes)

Minutes verified at 21 November 2014 EGA (cannot be officially voted on, but informed delegates present and no objections were received to contents)