

31ST EDBF Ordinary Congress

19th July 2020

Report EDBF Women in Sport Commission

Dear President, EDBF Council and Congress Members

What an unusual year we have!

We hope that you all stayed safe during this precarious and difficult time.

In the past 12 months there have been several successes that demonstrate what we can achieve when we successfully combine our global talent with our actions to the benefit of the sport.

We communicate with all nations and so far, we have eleven women representatives that express interest to cooperate with the commission.

We do expect that soon the rest of nations will join us as well when they realize the importance to cooperative with the European Dragon Boat Federation Women in Sport Commission.

We emphasize that we all need your good co-operation in order to create a future where everyone can benefit from sport – regardless of gender and create a happier, healthier future for women and girls – to build an even better world through sport.

A questionnaire is been circulated with focus firstly in statistics, numbers of women registered in all categories, as well as what kind of positions they may hold like as coaches, council etc

As soon as we collect all the answers and information, we will evaluate and focus in issues that may be raised.

Through the year we manage to advertise and promote Dragon Boating by

1. Giving a live interview in local radio stations
2. Media coverage of women's events
3. Submitting photos, details and information's of events in EDBF Media & Marketing commission for publishing same and for history records.

November 2019, during EDBF's excellent organise Forum in Milano we had the chance again to meet many representatives.

The discussions were pleasant and friendly were we able to exchange ideas on how to improve more women's position and encourage future female Leaders at all levels.

Our Mission

Our aim is to develop Dragon Boat through female gender regardless of age, sport awareness or class status.

To help, assist, support for all issues raised and prevent others, when possible.

Every sport has the potential to transform the lives of women and girls for the better.

Moreover, Dragon boat gives the opportunity to relate in a team and be part of it.

Aimed to reach the same goal creating friendship and reliance

The global coronavirus outbreak is a truly challenging and unprecedented situation, and one that continues to affect our families, our communities, our business and our sport.

With this in mind, we are standing by all women athletes with all our means, to encourage and support with kindness and understanding.

Many things have changed in our daily routine due to the spread of Covid-19, but we manage to overcome. Life is wonderful and more wonderful when you enjoy the sport you love!

As the coronavirus continues to spread throughout the world, we wanted to outline some of the steps we were taking to protect you and our sport.

During the lockdown period, we had zoom meetings, training online, consulting and inspiring talks.

When the measures were lifted the priority was keeping again everybody safe.

Among other, social distancing - in and outside the boats, disinfect hands and equipment.

If it has not already, this virus will likely impact us all and we are, of course, concerned about how we can protect ourselves and our loved ones. One thing I am not worried about is our dragon family rising to meet the challenge that this outbreak presents.

The global coronavirus outbreak is a truly challenging and unprecedented situation, and one that continues to affect our families, our communities, our business and our way of life.

I would like to state at the outset how inspiring it has been to see our athletes rise to such challenges, in a way which has ensured we have been able to continue to run an efficient sport.

Recovery planning

As we continue to meet the challenge, it is pleasing to report that most of the countries are taking the first tentative steps towards a return to normality by easing the restrictions introduced to combat the spread of Covid-19.

Responding to the challenge

As we look forward to a phased return to normal, the realities that we are currently operating under due to the Covid-19 outbreak mean we will face several challenges now and in the future.

Remember that we are here for YOU !!!

Thank you

Ms Anna Sokratous

EDBF Women in Sport Commission Chairperson

(Members : Paola Pochesci ,Maria Belem Garcia Carrero, Henriette Pinter)