



# MINUTES

of the meeting of the  
EUROPE CONFEDERATION WATERSKI COUNCIL  
held  
ONLINE (Zoom)  
on Sunday 24th May 2020

## 1. Attendance and apologies for absence

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Candido Moz	<i>Chairman</i>
Dimos Alexopoulos	
Ricardo Botas	
Christophe Duverger	
Stian Lilleberg	<i>Treasurer</i>
Hannu Rintanen	
Donal Connolly	
James Timothy	<i>Secretary</i>
Morten Froulund	
Manon Costard	<i>Athlete Representative</i>
Louis Polome	<i>Africa Confederation President</i>

The meeting commenced at 1900 CET.

## 2. Matters Arising from Admincom

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- 1. Medals:** It was agreed that medals could be supplied engraved only with the event name (and disciplines). This means that if an event cannot take place for any reason, the medals are still useable at a later event of the same name.
- 2. Online Events:** Wakeboard & Cable Wakeboard are seriously looking into running tournaments where the judging at least is done online by “remote” judges. This obviously has the potential for greatly reducing costs. Admincom have requested that other disciplines may wish to look into this also. The feeling in the meeting was that if a tournament was completely restructured, this might work. However, doing this for a conventional tournament would be very difficult, particularly with the budgets that might be available. However, it will be kept under review.
- 3. Tournament email addresses:** For members of the WSC, email addresses based on the domain “waterskieurope.com” will be issued. As well as personal addresses, there will be a general email “info@waterskieurope.com”.

4. **Sanctions following Last Year's Events:** Donal will make a proposal to Admincom for applying a 6 month sanction on those involved in the end-course video issues experienced in 2019, outlining the communications and procedures carried out so far by WSC.
5. **Multi-Discipline Learning Platform:** The feasibility of extending the Waterski learning platform to other disciplines was discussed. Donal said it was entirely possible with the proviso that there should be controls on who has admin access and some thought should go into how a common look and feel could be implemented across the different sections. Wakeboard are particularly interested and Donal will liaise with them.
6. **Delaying the 2020 European Championships:** Admincom asked whether it would be possible to delay the championships till the end of August. Ricardo reported that they have been open at Sesena for a week now but with the operating restrictions it is really hard and slow, being only able to ski 2 skiers an hour. He did not believe that under such circumstances it would be possible to run a championships, whether it was as scheduled or delayed until August.

There was an extended discussion on the difficulties of possibly mounting a major competition. Sponsors have had to pull out. Social distancing will be all but impossible in the judging tower given the space available. Who is going to take responsibility for the risk involved in exposing participants to COVID-19 infection. Organisers of this year's events had already incurred considerable costs. How would they cope if they themselves could not hold the postponed event next year.

Candido reported that Admincom would be taking a decision on whether any European Championships would take place this year at their next meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> June.

The WSC will ask Admincom as to whether this decision can be brought forward as a lot of planning depended on it.

### 3. EMS Calendar Updates

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Individual organisers of events should inform their Federation who can then update EMS. However, for European events, Morten(?) agreed to do it subject to getting details from Candido.

### 4. Boat Approval / Judges

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The French Federation have written regarding two points:

1. They have requested a change in the procedure they need to follow to get a new boat approved for tournament use. The current procedure is for the boat to be used in two tournaments, then assessed on that experience for approval. However, since there won't be any tournaments before the French National Championships (at which they also intend to use the new boat), the request is to do the whole approval process within that competition and still homologate the French Nationals event.

The WSC decided that to use a completely untested boat in a RC homologated event would not be acceptable. It is proposed however, that a testing process similar to that used by the AWSA could be conducted before the French Nationals. A number of skiers/drivers/homologators from different countries could spend one or two days with the boat and get data and feedback from which the WSC could make a decision. Candido will respond to the French Federation accordingly.

2. Given the difficulties with international travel due to COVID-19 restrictions, it is requested that the French National Championships be conducted with French only judges.

The meeting decided that this would not be acceptable and that at least 2 non-french judges should be invited to retain RC homologation.

## 5. E&A TC Website

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Currently there are two E&A web sites (the original and also a new one). It was decided to close the old one and just maintain a single site.

## 6. GPS Homologation

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Sure-Path currently has two functionalities. It can provide positional data for homologation purposes and also for boat path monitoring. Candido suggested that for ratification purposes, homologation could be considered separately to boat path monitoring. In the case of the former, Sure-Path (or any other GPS data collection system) is merely providing data for Emmanuel Lion's software for homologation and therefore, there is probably no need to ratify Sure-Path itself for this purpose.

James also brought the meeting up to date on progress towards ratifying Sure-Path for boat path monitoring. Donal is setting up a server and protocol which is intended to be a universal portal via which, all software can use at a tournament to exchange data. Progress on this is well under way and once established, Sure-Path should be ready to be considered formally for approval assuming the scoring applications such as the Lion program are updated as well.

## 7. Skier Surveys

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Manon reported that 2 surveys have been prepared to go out to skiers regarding the 2021 Open World Championships.

They will be asked:

- a. What year should be used to decide which age categories athletes will compete in.
- b. At what speed should 45+ ladies shorten at.

## 8. Any Other Business

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1. Dimos raised the issue of non-european skiers being able to choose multiple categories under which to ski. European skiers are not allowed to do this and are therefore disadvantaged in the world rankings. Dimos proposed that this be raised with the World WSC.
2. Manon reported that the feedback she had been getting regarding a proposed change to the front flip trick score depending on whether the move was started from the "easy" or "hard" wrap was that most were against any change.

Manon also reported that many trickers were considering a much more structured way of scoring tricks, basically breaking a trick down into its component parts and scoring each part accordingly.

3. James asked for clarification on how a boat lane monitoring system should treat situations where the boat goes outside of a 40cm band but not at a position where the skier is considered to be rounding a buoy, ie should it be an optional re-ride or not.

Candido explained that there was probably a case for specifying a tolerance for the gates and

maybe also the pre-gates but one step at a time.

He also pointed out that currently, a tolerance was only specified for the areas 10m before till 10m after the ski buoy and therefore at any other time, deviating outside of the 40cm band was not technically a breach of the rule.

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**Secretary**

James Timothy

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**Chairman**

Candido Moz

Original text: English

The Minutes are subject to approval at the next Meeting.

Federations please note: The Minutes are sent to all International Officials. Please pass on any relevant information to your National Officials.

Meeting session: Monday 27<sup>th</sup> April 1800 - 1945 CET