



M I N U T E S
OF THE MEETING OF THE EUROPE & AFRICA TOURNAMENT COUNCIL
held at the HOTEL RADISSON BLU, SPLIT, CROATIA
on Saturday 10th and Sunday 11th November 2018

1. Attendance and apologies for absence

Candido Moz *Chairman*
Dimos Alexopoulos
Hannu Rintanen
Stian Lilleberg
Nigel Talamo
Ricardo Botas
Manon Costard *Athlete Representative*

Apologies for absence:

Donal Connolly – family illness
Inessa Potes – no federation support
Christophe Duverger – personal problem

Candido welcomed Manon Costard as a new member of the TC, having been elected as the new Athlete representative at the European Championships. The TC would like to formally thank Clémentine Lucine for all her hard work during her tenure as Athlete Representative.
In the absence of Inessa, Nigel took the minutes.

2. Approval of the Minutes of the March TC meeting

The minutes of the TC meeting held on Thursday 22nd and Friday 23rd March at the Wellness Hotel Step, Prague, were approved and signed as a true record

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes and items from Other Business

a) **Athlete altercation.** At the European Open an incident arose between 2 athletes which resulted in one athlete receiving an injury from the other. The injured athlete's federation considered escalating this situation to higher authorities. (Safe Sport).

The TC had a discussion with the injured party who does not want to take this further. Since no charges were pressed by either party, the TC is happy to drop the matter.

b) Organisation of Entry fee payments in E&A Championships. Following concern from organisers, TC representatives attending titled events and the office, we realise that there has been considerable confusion this year concerning entry fees. The system led to organisers being out of pocket (temporarily) and much extra administration work for Brit at the office and for the TC reps and the Federation representatives at the tournaments. The office has asked the TC to come up with a simpler system.

The TC believes that the current system is durable provided that the protocols are followed precisely. We believe that with further education of Federations, these teething problems can be avoided in the future. Candido will make a presentation at the Belgian seminar to this end. In the meantime the TC has agreed to reimburse the Office for the extra costs accrued this year.

Some federations had written to the TC with questions regarding fees. These have all been dealt with and resolved.

c) Situations Database. This is an ongoing project initiated by Hannu. The proposal is to create a database of tricky situations and how they were resolved. This will be presented at the next seminar.

d) E&A Trick tournament 11000 limit. It was proposed last year that all trick scores above 11000 points at any competition will be reviewed by 3 offsite judges to monitor for big mistakes. (This will try to be done during the competition by a pre-arranged panel). These changes would mean that it would be possible for skiers to score above 11000 points at RL tournaments. The proposal was initially rejected by WTC Co-Chairman Bob Corson. However the TC feels that this amendment is important to encourage trick skiing in Europe. WTC Co-Chairman Candido will present a streamlined development of this proposal at the next WTC online meeting.

e) Fines. Hannu and Candido had prepared a final short list of competitions and federations to be fined for late entry, cancellation, change of homologation level et c. These were discussed and agreed.

f) Missing Judges. Appeals for officials' vacancies to be filled were sent out when needed this year, however at the Youth championship in Ukraine, an Italian judge could not attend at the last minute. Another Italian judge who was at the site anyway stepped in and filled the vacancy.

The TC received a letter from the appointed ACJ at the forthcoming 35+ worlds. He is unable to attend due to a medical issue. It was decided that time is too short to find and appoint another European. There are several PanAm judges available in the area and it is proposed that one of these is appointed to ACJ.

4. Distribution of paperwork

The following circulars had been sent out by the E&A Office and Inessa:

2018 TC March Meeting Minutes
E&A Championships Bulletins- sent to the Office and published
2018 Additional Rules published
2018 World Rules published
Letters to neighbouring Federations proposing sharing officials
2019 Calendar registration Reminder
Judges replacement *Judges needed* letters

5. Review of 2018 Major Competitions

a) Mediterranean Games. Tarragona, Spain

The site conditions were very difficult there and slalom was the wrong discipline for the site. In an attempt to make the event safer, speeds were lowered and skiers were warned about the conditions but this did not help the event. The TC feels that when conditions are dangerous for the athletes then it is not good for the sport. It is important that Waterski is included in Multi-Sport games such as this but we must find a new approach to dealing with organisers and ensuring that minimum standards are met. We must consider that if conditions are seriously difficult, whether to make the event an exhibition rather than a competition.

b) E&A Open Championships. Ioannina, Greece

The CJ sent in a comprehensive report.

There were some problems with the jump boat not performing properly. This was a new boat that been despatched with a vital control part missing. Eventually a new part was sent from the manufacturer but this did not happen until the competition had started. The spare boat was not available for use except for tricks.

There were some problems with the site which had been replanned. The TC will write a recommendation letter to the organisers to help them improve the site for future events.

The slalom final was the one of the best ever.

b) E&A U21 Championships. Roquebrune-sur-Argens, France. (Monaco Federation)

Jump had to be postponed. There was a visit from Prince Albert.

Patrice conducted the prize ceremonies exactly as prescribed in the proper manner. The TC would like to commend him for demonstrating how protocols should be performed.

There was a discussion regarding skiers taking skis onto the podium. The TC feels that this can be important for skiers and their sponsors and so should be allowed to continue. However it is an Admincom decision and this will be proposed at the Admincom meeting.

c) E&A Youth Championships. Dnipro, Ukraine

A missing a judge was replaced with a visiting judge, an Italian replaced an Italian and all was copasetic. The competition ran very smoothly due to terrific organisation. The only problems were to do with the aforementioned entry fees situation which was not fully resolved until the U21 a week later.

Cyprus had written to the TC with their concern on not being able to book sufficient practice time. Candido replied. This led to a heated discussion regarding practice time which is sometimes booked 10 months in advance. The sites are commercial operations and it is not clear what if anything the TC is able to do to help this situation.

Proposal that federations can only start booking after the competition is published in the IWWF calendar.

d) E&A 35+ Championships. Halle, Germany

Some skiers did not like the boat and had difficulty finding the correct settings because of lack of familiarity with the brand. However, performances were generally good.

There were some issues with the weather causing the course to appear out of tolerance. However the homologator made multiple checks and the installations remained in tolerance at all times. A letter will be written to the organisers to try to improve this situation for future events.

e) World U17 Championships. Seseña, Spain.

There were some issues with some judges not being able to communicate properly in English. The forthcoming 'World' exams should prevent this happening in the future. All Level 1 and Level 2 exams will be in English only (with the exception of Level 2 Homologators). There will be no option for exams to be translated into other languages.

All in all a good tournament.

f) World 35+. Santiago, Chile

This has not yet taken place. The only thing we know is that the European appointed ACJ cannot attend (as mentioned above 3f)

g) There is a proposal that the TC should send recommendations to all organisers on how to improve their sites.

6. Homologated Events 2018

a) Competitions changing Homologation Level, dates, et c.

All competitions that changed these specifics were reviewed and in several cases the federations were fined. Stian will prepare invoices.

There were many cases of competitions not uploading results properly or where components were missing from the scorer. Candido has corrected many of these issues but it is time consuming work which is wholly preventable.

Letters will be written to the federations to ask that they comply in the future.

b) Problem with a slalom competition.

The TC received a letter from a competitor who suspected advantageous driving occurring at a Hungarian slalom event.

The TC has reviewed the end course video and it is clear that one of the 3 drivers was not driving to a sufficiently high enough standard. Most of his passes were out of tolerance and his weaving was helping skiers. The TC has had fruitful correspondence with the Chief Judge who has identified the offending driver and declared which skiers were affected by his driving.

Action taken. Many of the officials were Level 3, so beyond the control of the European TC. However a letter will be written to the federations to ask them to ensure that their judges take more care in noticing bad boat paths. The TC asks that the federation does not allow this driver (D3) to driver any more RL events until he improves.

The TC recommends to Admincom that the scores attained behind this driver be discounted and that the International (L2) officials involved should attend the 2019 seminar and be given a 6 month suspension commencing from the seminar if they do not attend.

If the Admincom agrees to the recommendation, letters will also be written to all the federations who had skiers represented, to explain why scores were discounted.

7. Finance

a) The TC accounts are quite healthy and in excess. Stian presented accounts which were discussed and approved by the TC. So far in 2018 we have spent around €30,000

It was agreed to make a contribution of €1000 to Seseña to help pay for their live streaming of the Junior Worlds.

b) The TC would like to hire a crew to record and webcast all titled events. Some companies,

including the Spanish crew and the World Cup crew, will be approached to see if a deal can be done. The TC feels that providing a streaming service at titled events will help with the promotion of the sport. In addition we discussed making skiers ambassadors for the sport especially at pro events where they are under used.

c) Officials expenses reimbursement (E&A Championships, Med Games, World U17)

All officials were reimbursed up to the amounts agreed last year. Because there are available funds in the TC account, it was agreed to pay all E&A officials attending the forthcoming 35+ Worlds, €400 in advance so that the funds come out of this year's budget.

The budget for 2019 will be prepared by Stian and presented at the January meeting.

8. Calendar

All registered competitions can be found under the Calendar tab at: <http://iwwfeatc.com/>

Dates for the E&A Titled events and meetings 2019

DATES	EVENT	COUNTRY	TOWN
01/02 & 03/02*	Tournament Council meeting	ISR*	Tel Aviv*
02/02	IWWF Europe Congress	ISR	Tel Aviv
02/02	Admincom Meeting (after congress)	ISR	Tel Aviv
28-29/03	Tournament Council meeting	BEL	Antwerp
29-31/03	Tournament Seminar	BEL	Antwerp
??/05	Admincom Meeting	GRE	Shinoussa
01-03/08	E&A Under 21 Championships	UKR	Dnipro
18-21/07	E&A Open Championships	ESP	Seseña
25-28/07	E&A 35+ Championships	GRE	Ioannina
12-18/08	World Open Championships	MAS	Putrajaya
27-29/08	Mediterranean Beach Games	GRE	Patras
27-31/09	E&A Youth Championships	MON	Roquebrune sur Argens
12-14/10	ANOC World Beach Games	USA	San Diego
9-10/11	Tournament Council meeting	BLR**	Minsk**
10-12/11	Admincom meeting	BLR**	Minsk**

*There was concern that the price of attending the meeting in Tel Aviv will be substantial. In addition, our Athlete Representative would not be able to make it to Isreal as it would take too much from her training time in Florida. As it is not an election year, the TC will investigate the possibility of holding a meeting somewhere else in Europe which is easier and cheaper to get to. Nothing has been agreed yet but candidates for the meeting will probably be London, Madrid or Amsterdam. If a decision is made to hold the meeting out of Isreal, the meeting date will be a week before or a week after the Isreal congress.

**Not confirmed

9. Athletes

a) Athletes of the year

The TC have nominated Manon Costard and Sasha Descuns as E&A athletes of the year.

Manon Costard and Ryan Dodd are the E&A TC nominations for World Athletes of the year.

b) Records

On 07 August 2018 the IWWF Tournament Council approved Adam Sedlmajer's World overall record of 2819.76 as the new men's World overall record. To achieve this, Adam slalomed 3@10.25, tricked 10750 and jumped 66.3m in the 2nd round of the July tournament at Isles of Lake Hancock, Winter Garden, FL, USA. This will be approved as the new E&A Overall Record.

Record information will be sent to Brit for preparation of the certificate.

Manon Costard exceeded the European slalom record at a non record event. According to rule 23.1e, the performance cannot be a record and it is up to the TC whether or not to accept the score as is or to have it limited. The TC decided to ask Donal to check the boat paths and if they are all in tolerance, we will accept the score.

There followed a general discussion on how to proceed in the future when someone breaks a record at non record events. An example is when the first place in tricks breaks the record leading to the performance to be reviewed. Some points are deducted bringing that score below the second placed skier, who has not been reviewed. It was agreed that the score for the tournament shall remain. However, should the score on the ranking list:

a/ stand as it is

b/ be reduced to below the second place score or

c/ be reduced to 5 points below the existing record?

Manon will poll the opinions of the athletes.

c) E&A & World Rankng Lists

NT will resume cross comparing and correcting the the E&A and World Ranking lists.

d) Placement Based Ranking List

WTC Co-Chairman Bob has been running a Placement based ranking list as an experiment over the last year or so. When asked about the future of this, WTC Co-Chairman Candido thought that the idea was most probably dead due to the objections of smaller countries whose athletes don't travel.

10. Athletes Commission report and items.

a) Trick scoring

Manon has been in discussion with athletes who have proposed different ways of scoring tricks. An example of a basic concept would be that each judge (of 5) contributes 20% of the score for each trick. Manon will keep investigating and discussing solutions with athletes and present this to Bob at the next WTC meeting as a world issue if appropriate.

A second proposal is to judge tricks according to how well they are performed.

b) Skiers offer of help

Manon reported that there are some slalom skiers who are willing to help organisers promote pro slalom events. They would like to come up with some guidelines to help. After discussion, Botas and Manon will work together on a program to promote the sport and guide it in a good direction. They

will present their proposal at the January meeting and if approved, some funds would be available from the TC to kickstart the project.

c) Skier's forum

Manon has created a private website and forum to interact with skiers. E&A Skiers are invited to contribute. It is early days but things are moving along.

11. Administrative Committee items.

a) **Athletes of the year** nominations were sent to Admincom. This year The E&A TC nominated Manon Costard and Sasha Descuns.

b) **E&A TC reimbursement.** The number of meetings attended by each member was reviewed and the allowances calculated.

12. Officials

a) In 2018, 56 people sat exams either for renewals or for new or upgraded qualifications. New and upgraded officials welcomed in 2018 are:

Name		Country	Qualification
Toni	Beier	GER	H2
Kenneth	Bojare-Rønold	NOR	D2
Mark	Burridge	GBR	D2
Frederic	Cambray	FRA	J2
Oivier	Cheyroux	SUI	H1
Tony	Cise	GBR	D2
Jan	Danihelka	CZE	J2*
Peter	Davies	GBR	D2
Jan	Dooms	BEL	H2
Claire	Genelot	FRA	J2*
Denis	Genelot	FRA	H2
Lukas	Horky	CZE	S1
Runar	Jeistad	NOR	H1
Anders	Kästel	SWE	J2*
Guenter	Kuhnt	GER	H1
Patrice	Legay	SUI	D2
Gary	Lowe	RSA	H1
Eudes	Moulanier	FRA	J1

Lars	Ødegårdstuen	NOR	J2*
Sanchia	Outram	GBR	J2*
Luca	Rauchenwald	AUT	J2
Dario	Rossi	ITA	H2
Pierre	Sonier	FRA	D1
Rob	Spavin	GBR	J2*
Rebeka	Starkova	CZE	J2*

Dimos has written to all officials who passed exams this year.

The review of 2018 Officials' activity will be handled at the January 2019 meeting.

b) 2018 Seminar report. The seminar at Prague was a success and some attendees had responded that they enjoyed the games. Stian will devise some more distractions for the next seminar in Antwerp. There was some concern that the large room was not a suitable place to take exams whilst other activities were taking place in the space.

13. Visit of the E&A Secretary General, Treasurer and Gill Hill

Sid, Dominique and Gill visited the TC meeting on Sunday morning. There was concern that so many TC members were missing and it was explained that all had valid reasons for absence.

There was a discussion about the Mediterranean Games in Patras and concerns about possible backwash issues. We don't want a repeat to Tarragona. Dimos is on top of the situation.

Sid raised the topic of entry fee payment problems encountered this year at titled events. (as above, 3.b).

Candido explained that with correct application, the system will work better next year. We discussed the idea of using an online shop as an alternative. Whatever happens, we must try to stop spending so much on administration.

14. Major Event Panels

Letters will be sent out as soon as practicable to all L1 and L2 officials to invite them to apply to be nominated to the panels of the following events:

DATE	EVENT	SITE	COUNTRY
12-18 August	World Open Championships	Putrajaya	MAS
27-31 August	Mediterranean Games*	Patras	GRE
12-14 October	World Beach Games	San Diego	USA
* Restricted to Officials from Mediterranean countries			

15. EB Meeting Dnipro

Candido attended the EB meeting in Dnipro and was able to give us first hand, details of items which affect tournament water-ski. The main issues are:

- i) **BRANDING.** The IWWF must present a unified and consistent image to the world. As a start, all IWWF sanctioned events should incorporate the appropriate IWWF logos into all publicity, results services, bulletins et c. wherever possible.
- Tournament events will be presented as 'IWWF Waterski'. This is a new logo and should be used in place of the old Tournament Logo. All the new logos will be available to download from the IWWFED.com site in due course.
- The existing 'Tournament' logo should continue to be used for specific applications, for instance for tournament specific rules or correspondence.



The new logo

- ii) **LIVE RESULTS.** The EB decided that all Elite events must use live scoring and that the system used should be the Lion program. This is the system that is currently used in most of the world, excepting PanAm. Live scoring will integrate with the forthcoming EMS.
- iii) **JUDGE TESTING AND EVALUATION.** The universal exams (L1 & L2) which are supervised by Candido will be applied for all regions. Implementation details will be discussed at the next online WTC meeting.
- iv) **SANCTION FEES for L&R Tournaments.** The IWWF in the other regions is considering applying sanction fees for all Ranking List and Record tournaments. Candido explained that this is something we already do in E&A. The rest of the world will consider adopting a similar system.

16. World Rules and other World issues.

- a) **Overall points 35+.** In September the WTC proposed and approved a new formula for calculating overall scores for the 35+ divisions. It concerns the number of points derived from jumping. In brief, the amendment evens out the overall points through the different age divisions so that each metre jumped equates to between 25-35 points. For more details please refer to: <http://www.iwsf.com/iwsftc/2018/overallproposal.xls>
- Since the amendment was approved by WTC members more than 60 days before the 35+ Worlds, it will apply at this year's 35+ Worlds in Chile.

b) Records.

25th April, Anna Gay's World trick record of 10700 was approved.

7th August the IWWF WTC approved a new slalom record from Regina Jacquess of 4@10.25.

7th August the overall record of Adam Sedlmajer was approved (see item 9b.)

19th October a new world trick record of 10850 set by Erica Lang was approved.

c) Under 14 and Under 10 divisions. Australia have proposed a ranking list for Under 12 and Under 10. Do we want to have a ranking list for U10? The TC had a discussion and cannot come up with any strong opinion either way. In some countries (eg Scandinavia) it is illegal to compete if U13. We welcome discussion and suggestions.

d) Senior Age Divisions. The USA has proposed that age divisions for 35+ change every 5 years. Eg: 35-39, 40-44, 45-49 et c. The TC feels that this might be a good proposal for skiers aged 65+ but to do it from 35 would mean too many divisions and medals. This proposal will be discussed again after the World 35+.

e) Ladies 55+. There is a proposal to change the shortening speed for 55+ Ladies to 52. Again, this proposal will be tackled after the World 35+.

f) Gate Proposal. Vincent Stadlbaur has proposed a new gate rule which has attracted support from an important number of pro skiers. The proposal is that a skier would be permitted to miss the entry gates on their first two passes provided that the gates are good on the subsequent 2 passes. The TC discussed the merits of this and remain open. In the meantime Manon will consult the skiers on her forum to see if there is sustained support.

g) Equal Prize money for sexes. The WTC approved the proposal that prize money should be equally split between the sexes at Elite tournaments.

17. Correspondence

a) Club ranking. Tobias Aderum from the Swedish Federation has proposed the introduction of a ranking list for European Clubs. The idea is to strengthen the grassroots of the sport. The TC discussed the proposal and is not convinced of the merit as it stands. However we would welcome the introduction of a European Club championship league. Stian will communicate with the Swedes to try to come up with a detailed proposal.

b) Entry fee refund. Ivan Oravec from Slovakia asked for the return of an entry fee for a skier who was injured prior to the tournament. Candido wrote to say that the day before the tournament was too late to apply for a refund. Bye-Law 4.5.1.6 was applied.

c) Slalom EC. A Driver requested to see his own boat path. The driver asked if he would be permitted to keep a copy of his own End Course boat path recordings. The TC has no objection.

d) Trick scoring. Jim Grew (USA) wrote to the TC to ask for an explanation regarding differences between AWSA and IWWF in scoring some tricks. There is concern that the septics have been using their own system in scoring at some international events. Candido replied with a clear explanation.

e) Seniors Familiarisation. Mark Beard from UK wrote concerning familiarisation time. They propose

that familiarisation is strictly controlled and not 'buyable'. They also would like to lower the criteria for entry to senior events. The TC agree with most of his points and Candido has sent a reply.

18. Other Business.

a) World Exams. Level 1 & 2 exams will be made available online only in English.

b) Divisional World Records. At present Junior, U21 and Senior World Records can only be set at World Championships. Do we want to change this so that age division world records can be set at any RC tournament? The discussion is illustrated by an U21 skier who this year exceeded the world U21 slalom record at a pro-am tournament. Because the performance could not be a world record, he did not receive a performance bonus from his sponsor. The TC feels that having more records, dilutes their importance. We feel that the system should stay as it is.

c) Jump Boat Path. There is no tolerance for boat jump boat path so there is a question of when re-rides should be awarded for out of tolerance boat path. Even when jump EC video is used, it is hard to tell the difference between say *wide split* and *2 feet wide*. Proposals include narrowing the width of the jump course boat lane, installing extra buoys. Manon will ask the skiers their opinion and the Drivers Commission will work with the athletes to come up with solutions.

d) Handle measuring. The rule concerning when handles are measured must be split. Slalom handles should be measured after skiing and jump handles/ropes, measured before skiing.

e) Equal Prize money. This was agreed unanimously for Elite events by the WTC. (item 16g above) It is also agreed in principle for other events. However some skiers have other opinions. Manon will consult the other athletes.

f) Jumping for U12. The UK has proposed that there should be no jumping competitions for Under 12s.

Next meeting:

The next council meeting is scheduled to take place around the Te-Aviv congress on Friday 1st and Sunday 3rd February 2019. However this may change to a meeting at a more central location the week prior or the week following the congress. See item 8* above.

Nigel Talamo for Inessa Potes

IWWF E&A Tournament Council Secretary

Candido Moz

IWWF E&A Tournament Council Chairman

