



## **MINUTES E&A RACING COUNCIL MEETING** **Gran Hotel Rey Don Jaime, Castelldefels, Barcelona**

**Saturday 30th January 2016 (during/after Congress) and  
from 09.00am on Sunday 31st January 2016**

### **1 To record attendance and apologies**

A warm welcome from our re-elected President Mike Waterman to all members present.

All members of the Council are re-elected again at the Congress yesterday.

Further to the election of the Congress our Racing Council for 2016/2018 will consist of (all members agreed to hold their positions/functions) :

Mike Waterman (GBR)	President Admincom Representative IWWF Representative World Council
Vera Van den Bossche (BEL)	Secretary-General IWWF Representative World Council
Franz Hebenstreit (AUT)	Treasurer
Julius Leysen (BEL)	Council member IWWF Representative World Council
Thea Klarenbeek (NL)	Council member IWWF Substitute World Council
Richard Hernaez (FR)	Council member
Jonas Garcia (ESP)	Council member

Apologies: received from Chris Rydl (Athletes Representative) due to professional commitments.

Thea Klarenbeek had to leave early on Sunday to catch a flight back home.

Luis Mussach was welcomed and attended the Council meeting.

### **2 To approve the Minutes of the Council meeting held at Zaandam in November 2015 and deal with any matters arising.**

Minutes of Council meeting held in Zaandam are approved.  
Pending points of the meeting are taken into this agenda.

Drones : we received an answer regarding Drones being used:  
Excerpt from the 2015 November Admincom meeting minutes :

### **13.7. DRONES**

Racing has been talking about the idea of using drones as an aid to judging the corners. The Admincom believes there will be heavy regulations involved in most countries.

At other events they are a nuisance and could be a danger to the athletes on the water. It is the responsibility of the Chief Judge and the organisers to allow them or not.

We should also beware of our responsibility, if an accident occurs.

As the rules and regulations are different in each country, E&A cannot issue a binding Bye-Law.

However we warn all Federations and officials to be aware of non-official drones and to do all in their power to control or remove them.

Racing Council thinks that unless we have a watertight rule we need to be very careful. Jules will look into this matter and come up with a proposal at the next meeting.

### **3 President's year- end report**

This report was distributed and circulated > Very accurate and nothing to add to this.

### **4 Secretary General's report**

No special remarks to be made, 2015 has run smoothly.

### **5 To consider any points for Any Other Business.**

- Luis Mussach made a report concerning participation of skiers, this was circulated to the members present. He is willing to help any way he can. Council agrees and point taken but it is very difficult to get more countries involved.

Most of the countries are doing International Open races instead of Europe Cup races and this due mainly to cost.

Luis says that it is imperative > look at what happened with the Oropesa Race in Spain > lack of competitors because distance and cost.

- Richard Hernaez confirmed that if Vichy (France) would re-consider to have a race organised, they would charge 500 Euros/team for support.
- Indeed TV coverage is needed to find big sponsors.  
Point taken but it is not easy to find new venues and/or organisations.
- Vera and Olivia Figuera will visit Marc Todoli at Montanejos (Spain) on Monday 01/02 and have meetings with different people involved to find out whether there would be a possibility to hold an event there.  
Upon return home she will make a full report concerning this eventual event.

## **6 Region E & A Racing calendar 2016, including additional data on Championships**

The E&A 2016 Provisional Racing Calendar was already distributed as soon as most of the dates were settled.

The E&A 2016 Official Calendar can now be finalized and add following dates:

Officials Seminar : Following e-mail from Mike Council agrees to hold the Seminar on April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2016 at Viersel (Antwerp – Belgium)

European Racing Championships 2016 – Austria will be held at Krems From 6 till 14<sup>th</sup> of August. Organisers promised to have the LAO signed and the Sanction Fee transferred before the end of the month.

The International Open at Tenerife will be held on 29/31 of October 2016.

Vera will take necessary action and distribute the final version.

## **7 Region E & A Racing Officials Seminar, 19/20 March 2016 @ Viersel Club House.**

The Seminar will be held on April 2<sup>nd</sup> at Viersel Waterski Club (Antwerp) Belgium. The seminar will only be for Officials & Team Captains.

Vera will make the necessary arrangements to send out the invitations.

No Racing Council meeting will be held during the Seminar, but of course any Council member who wants to attend is more than welcome.

Next Racing Council will be held during the European Championships in Austria.

At this point we welcome the Visit of Alain Amade and Sid Adriaensen.

The President of E&A congratulates the re-election of all our Council members.

- Alain stresses the importance of having more countries / people involved > especially kids are needed to have a consistency in our sport. Mike explained that it is hard to find venues in new Countries but that we are working constantly on this matter.
- The suggestion to hold the Executive Board meeting at the occasion of the Diamond Race in Belgium was a great idea from Dusty Shultz. However seeing that the last meeting was held recently they think it too close to get the people over there. This item will be followed up for the future.

## **8 To finalise Region E & A International Judges appointments 2016?**

Suggestion for the Racing Jury Panel 2016 was tabled.

Vera says that it is a difficult task to fit everybody in as requested. The main objective is to have as many voting countries present as possible.

E&A Racing Jury Panel 2016 agreed upon.

Vera will prepare all documents and distribute to all Officials

9 **Region E & A Rules review for 2016, any final adjustments (including query from Franz Hebenstreit).**

- 1) Further to the e-mail received from Derek Blackmore, herewith the suggestions made and outcome :

**5.34 FII Rules**

q) All engines competing in F2 will be technically inspected after each race and at the completion of the competition *should this read can be inspected or might be inspected should it not?*

Reply : Racing Council agrees > to be amended in “can be technically” .

**8.05**

a) It is obligatory that all turns shall be marked by buoys, moored vessels or permanent sea marks. All course markers shall be passed on the outside.

**PENALTY 12.02 Fixed: 1 LAP LESS**

**In case of repetition Fixed: 3 % This is inconsistent and should be 1 lap less for each repetition or 3% for all transgressions** (*In GB we have no penalty if for safety consideration might be given for this*)

c) If the course turns are considered tight such as on a Canal a Box System (an imaginary line drawn across the Canal dissecting the 100m buoy and an imaginary line drawn across the Canal at 50m past the Turn Buoy) should be used. All skiers falling in this area must be picked up and taken to the SAFEST POSITION outside of the box. The ski line must be retrieved before picking up the skier).

**In case of repetition 12.01: DISQUALIFICATION**

*You may recall when I was CJ I had a situation where the first attempt to retrieve the skier failed and whilst the team had not come out of the Box the Jury insisted it was a DQ for 2 offences, I was of the opinion if they had not come out of the Box it was only one penalty (I would be interested in the opinion of the Council?)*

Reply: Racing Council agrees not to changes this rule. Laps down is more severe than given a 3 % penalty. It is up to the Jury to apply a logical solution..

**8.08** The passing pilot / observer shall acknowledge sight of a fallen skier by raising a hand. Failure to comply will incur a penalty. **PENALTY 12.02 Fixed: 1% :** *whilst I agree with this as a penalty the important thing is that the skier is the person that needs to see a hand to reassure him he /she has been seen if there is doubt the skier should be questioned*

Reply : Racing Council is very aware of this and again it is up to the discretion and logical resolution of the jury members involved.

**9.07** The pilot must keep his attention ahead of him at all times, and both hands on the steering wheel except when operating controls and when complying with rule 8.08

**PENALTY 12.02 Fixed: 6%** : *There are times when it is essential for the Driver to have a quick glance behind I would like to see allowance made for this (perhaps 2 seconds depending on the traffic ahead and not constantly looking around) This is what was agreed at NZ World's for that competition.*

Reply : Racing Council agrees and after a short discussion they propose to amend to 1% penalty if considered necessary at all.

**9.12** Drivers must maintain a minimum lateral distance of 2 metres between their boat and other competing boats after the start. **PENALTY 12.02 Fixed: 5%** : *No mention of distance from skier some are known to try to wash off skiers I would like to see a rule that said boat to be at least 5meters from skier.*

*Reply: Racing Council does not quite understand the meaning of this request ? A lateral distance between boats is obvious, but regarding the skier ? for example. on a canal there is no possibility for 5 metres*

Reply : The Rules will be addressed to at the Seminar. We need to be more specific towards the judges, not all rules are to be applied by the book.

We need also flexibility and logical thinking for interpretation of these rules.

2) Further to the e-mail received from August Lacroix :

Asking whether it would be possible to give the different champions something to wear above their skiing gear (dosart ??) so the spectators can recognise the reigning champion in each category ?

Reply : Racing Council has considered this in the past, but this is not really feasible. However we could keep it in mind for the future.

The E&A Racing Rules 2016 were reviewed and following additions and/or amendments will be made:

- **RULE 4: JUDGES - RACE OFFICIALS – add :**

**Conflict of Interest – rule 4.02 a)**

Should any Judge/s find themselves in a position that could be deemed to be, or has the potential for, a conflict of interest, they must advise the Chief Judge accordingly. It is recommended that the Chief Judge ensure that any member of the voting jury with family members competing in any capacity steps down from the jury panel for the race in which their family member is competing. The Chief Judge shall appoint a reserve member for each jury to replace a member stepping down.

- **5.34 Formula II Rules.**

q) All engines competing in F2 can be technically inspected after each race and at the completion of the competition.

- **9.07** The pilot must keep his attention ahead of him at all times, and both hands on the steering wheel except when operating controls and when complying with rule 8.08

**PENALTY 12.02 Fixed: 1%**

- Rules on Europe Cup & European Racing Championships:

**Categories will be run as follows:**

- Euro Kids A - B
- Juniors / Men FIII and Masters
- Ladies F I/ FII/ FIII
- Men FI and FII

If the time table at an event permits and numbers taking part justify Juniors/Men and Masters categories could be separated at the discretion of the organiser.

- 3) Query from Franz Hebenstreit > Technical Bulletin see point 10

Vera will do the necessary and have the documents distributed as soon as possible.

**10 Region E & A Technical Bulletin 2016.**

Technical Bulletin has been reviewed and following amendment to be made :

- Rules on Europe Cup & European Racing Championships:

**Categories will be run as follows:**

- Euro Kids A - B
- Juniors / Men FIII and Masters
- Ladies F I/ FII/ FIII
- Men FI and FII

If the time table at an event permits and numbers taking part justify Juniors/Men and Masters categories could be separated at the discretion of the organiser.

- Query from Franz Hebenstreit:
  - Titled events have to go through the E&A Bureau for the LAO to be signed and an advance of 1.000,- € should be paid. The 3.000,- € should then be paid no less than 6 weeks before the venue.
  - Europe Cup events will go through the Racing Council.

**11 Correspondence.**

- Mail from Derek Blackmore regarding the rules > see point 9
- Mail from Gust Lacroix regarding the rules > see point 9
- Mail from Peter Van Gastel regarding Warac > see point 13

No other correspondence received.

**12 Report on IT issues/website/ Face Book—Jonas-- including planned provisions for Congress please?**

- USB sticks distributed at the Congress (promotional video on Racing) Mike thanks Jonas for the work done, it was well received at the Congress.
- Diamond Race – Live Stream  
Jonas has new ideas for the program with seeing on screen results and include a connection with the speaker, etc  
Would there be eventual a budget for this ? > See point 16
- Waterskiringeurope is also to be found on You Tube with several footages.

**13 WARAC update including a new facility now added for Team Captains to sign in their teams directly to the system. (Our thanks to Peter Van Gastel for this work).**

The intention was Peter being present at this meeting, but unfortunately he could not make it. As already discussed with Mike :  
Peter made a tremendous progress in adding the possibility of having all official documents s available in the WARAC drop box. A map will be created to hold all the Team Captains documents regarding the Teams.  
By doing so, Team Captains should not bring their dossiers to the different races anymore, only the duly signed entry form.

Vera contacted Peter and necessary arrangements are made with him to have the WARAC item on the agenda and full explanations will be given at the Seminar on April 2<sup>nd</sup> in Antwerp towards all Officials and Team Captains present.

**14 Report from Region E & A Athletes' Representative, Chris Rydl, re 2016 Youth Camp and Skier's Corner feedback.**

As Chris is excused for this meeting, she informed Vera saying she had nothing new to add for this meeting.

Mike says that according to our election process we will as usual conduct a Election for our Athlete's representative at the European Championships in Austria. Federations should be asked whether there are any candidates for Athletes Representative and if so to advise our Council. Of course Chris, is eligible for re-election in her own right.

**15 To encourage new judges for 2016 and ahead—**

For the moment we have a good crew on board in the Jury, although this does not mean that we should be looking for countries with non jury listed. Belgium and Great Britain are well represented.

- Steve Cox (GBR) > succeeded in his E&A exam and is on the list
- Julia Avery Ellis (GBR) becomes an Assistant Timekeeper.
- Olivia Figuera (Spain) has succeeded in her IWWF World examination  
E&A Racing Council extends their congratulations all three above.

## **16 To receive the Treasurers report**

Franz explained the current situation.

Budget 2016 approved.

- Shirts for officials at the Europeans in Austria > Vera
- Diamond Race – Live Stream > Jonas
- Hall of Fame – Awards > Vera
- Youth Camp – Eguzon > Chris

Franz will also visit together with Chris on 8/08/2016 will visit the lake for kids training in Austria > with idea of perhaps holding a youth camp there in 2017.

## **17 Update on European Racing Hall of Fame initiative --recognition of next group of past racing stars etc.**

Racing Council agrees on the following nominations for our Hall of Fame:

- Steven Moore (GBR) World Champion 1987
- Stefano Gregorio (ITA) World Champion 1995
- Kim Lumley – Manchet (GBR) World Champion 2005 & 2009
- Hugo Engelen (BEL) – IWWF & E&A Official

They all will be invited to attend the Official Dinner at the Diamond Race 2016 at Hotel Aldhem (Grobendonk).

Vera will do the necessary to purchase the awards and make the invitations.

Des Burke-Kennedy made a presentation during the Congress on IWWF Hall of Fame.

However, Racing is still not involved.

## **18 Racing Council development initiative re increased participation (involvement of more countries)- Promo video/sticks for all nations at Congress**

USB stick have been distributed to the countries and well received.

Luis will help where he can to increase participation.

It is of course our task to pursue this item.

## **19 Council membership Succession Planning- any changes foreseen\***

As the Racing Council is re-elected in full, we will discuss this topic again in the near future.

## **20 Boat Numbers regular update including a) List of boat owners b) List of competitors (address, e-mail etc.).**

Nothing to report, all is going well.



**21 IWWF matters/ issues, rule book, worlds bids, and to discuss nominations for new IWWF Racing President and Secretary General as of 2017 requested by Dusty Schulz, IWWF Racing President.**

- Suggested items for discussion (see previous minutes) will be discussed at our next meeting.
- The World Racing Championship in Seattle (USA) will take place from July 26<sup>th</sup> until August 6<sup>th</sup> , 2017
- Nominations for succession:  
Mike Waterman & Vera Van den Bossche are for the moment, not candidates to take the position of President or Secretary of IWWF Racing. They are quite content in their current positions and have no further ambition towards IWWF over and above their current involvement. Maybe other candidates from our Council members ??  
Will discuss this again next meeting

**22 Any Other Business, and the date/venue of next E & A Racing Council meeting.**

- Richard Hernaez stated that he is no longer President of the Waterski Club in Eguzon. However this changes nothing towards the organisation of the European Cup.

**FUTURE COUNCIL MEETINGS in 2016**

- E&A Racing Council will hold a meeting during the European Racing Championships in Krems, Austria - August 2016 > date to be determined.
- E&A Council Meetings  
8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> November 2016 – Dublin / Belfast (Ireland) or Minsk (Belarus)

Because of Council members had to leave to catch their planes, some of the items which could wait for discussion are carried over to the next meeting.

Having no other urgent business to discuss the President closes the meeting at 13.00 hrs thanking all members for their attendance, and their work and input for the benefit of our sport.

Vera Van den Bossche  
Secretary-General

Mike Waterman  
President